2021-2022

TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE

HUNTING, FISHING & BOATING

REGULATIONS

TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE

SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 – AUGUST 31, 2022

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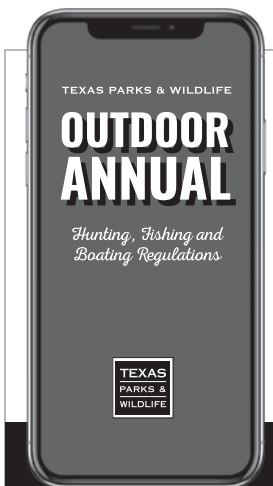
2021-2022 SUMMARY OF
FISHING, HUNTING AND BOATING REGULATIONS

LICENSES, SEASONS, LIMITS, REGULATIONS, CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, BOATING SAFETY
VALID SEPTEMBER 1, 2021 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2022

This guide is a **SUMMARY** of regulations and statutes governing hunting, fishing, and boating. For more detailed information, please contact a TPWD Law Enforcement office (pg. 99) or call (800) 792-1112 (8 a.m.–5 p.m., Monday through Friday). A complete description of current regulations can be accessed at **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/tac** under Title 31 of the Texas Administrative Code. The Parks and Wildlife Code can be accessed at: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/statutes**. Information and/or regulations MAY CHANGE due to action by the Legislature, Commission, U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) or other appropriate authority.

Regulations are also available in Spanish. *Reglamentos también se encuentran disponibles en español:* **tpwd.texas.gov/espanol.**



The most up-to-date regulations summary is available online and in the mobile app.

With the Texas Outdoor Annual App, you can:

- **view regs without internet** once the app is downloaded
- get **location-based info** on hunting seasons and places to fish
- look up your hunting and fishing **license purchase records**

OutdoorAnnual.com

LICENSES, TAGS AND ENDORSEMENTS

Where To Buy Licenses

Recreational hunting and fishing licenses and endorsements are available at **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/BuyLicenses**, at approximately 1,800 retail locations throughout the state and at Austin headquarters and offices listed on pg. 99. Some commercial hunting and fishing licenses are available ONLY at the Austin headquarters and offices listed on pg. 99.

Select recreational licenses may be purchased by phone or online with approved Visa, Discover, or MasterCard. **A $5.00 administrative fee will be charged.** Call (800) TX LIC 4 U (800-895-4248) between 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday through Friday (closed Saturday, Sunday and most holidays), or buy a license online at any time. Many licenses may be purchased for immediate use except where tagging is required (such as for deer and turkey).

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS

4200 Smith School Road, Austin 78744 (800) 792-1112 or (512) 389-4800 (Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–5 p.m.)

TPWD REGIONAL AND FIELD LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICES (pg. 99)

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Mandatory Hunter Education

Every hunter (including out-of-state hunters) **born on or after Sept. 2, 1971**, must successfully complete a Hunter Education Course. Proof of certification or deferral is required to be on your person while hunting, either printed or electronically (including the Texas Outdoor Annual mobile app). Certification is not required to purchase a hunting license. Minimum age of certification is 9 years. In-person course cost is $15. Persons 17 years of age and older have the option of taking the course in person or online. Online course costs vary. Call (800) 792-1112 or visit **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/HunterEd** for information about course options.

If you were born on or after Sept. 2, 1971, and you are:

- under age **9, you must be "accompanied"**
- age 9-16, you must successfully complete a hunter education in-person course or be accompanied
- age 17 and over, you must successfully complete an in-person or approved online-only hunter education course; or purchase a "Hunter Education Deferral" and be "accompanied"

"Accompanied" refers to a resident or non-resident who is at least 17 years of age, is licensed to hunt in Texas, and has passed hunter education or is exempt (born before Sept. 2, 1971), and is within normal voice distance.

HUNTER EDUCATION DEFERRAL	ITEM	FEE
Allows a person, age 17 or older, who has not completed hunter education to defer completion for up to one year. A deferral may only be obtained once and is only valid until the end of the current license year. A person who has been convicted or has received deferred adjudication for violation of the mandatory hunter education requirement is prohibited from applying for a deferral.		
Hunter Education Deferral	166	**$10**

- Certification is not required to purchase a hunting license.
- Bowhunter Education Certification is required on the Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge, Pottsboro.
- Bowhunter Education does not substitute for Hunter Education certification.

MILITARY/LAW ENFORCEMENT HUNTER EDUCATION EXEMPTIONS

The following persons are exempt from requirements to complete a hunter education course to hunt in Texas:

- Active duty members and honorably discharged veterans of the United States armed forces;
- Active duty members or those who have previously served as members of the Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard, or the Texas State Guard; or
- Persons who are serving or have previously served as a peace officer as described by Subdivision (1), (2), (3), or (4), Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure.

Overview of Fishing and Hunting License Items

License fees ARE NOT refundable, exchangeable or transferable. 100% of license fees fund on-the-ground conservation efforts that help make Texas one of the best places in the country to hunt and fish. Thank you for supporting outdoor recreation and conservation.

It is legal to display an image of information from TPWD's website or a photograph of a hunting, fishing, or combination license on a wireless device for the purpose of verification of possessing a valid license.
You MUST have your physical license for any activities requiring tags.

RESIDENT: a person who has lived continuously in Texas for more than six months immediately before buying their license, officially documented members of the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas or members of the U.S. Armed Forces (and their dependents) on **"active duty"** (pg. 96) anywhere. A person who claims residency in any other state for any purpose and is not an officially-documented member of the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas or a member of the U.S. Armed Forces (or dependent) on active duty is not a resident.

Proof that a person has lived continuously in Texas for more than six months (any three of the following):

- a current Texas homestead property tax statement
- the most recent six months of utility bills
- the most recent six months of paycheck receipts
- the most recent tax return from the Internal Revenue Service
- a statement from a parole board or probation officer stating that the person has continuously resided in Texas for the six months immediately preceding the application for a license or permit
- a valid Texas driver's license*
- a current Texas voter registration certificate*
- a current vehicle registration*

** issued at least six months prior to license or permit application*

All documents must reflect the applicant's name and a physical address in Texas. Except for a valid driver's license or other state-issued identification card, additional residency documentation is not required at time of purchase or while hunting or fishing.

NON-RESIDENT: A person who is not a Texas resident (proof of residency requirements, pg. 17). Non-residents under 17 years of age are considered residents for the purchase of the youth hunting license (Item 169).

VALID LICENSE DATES: Most hunting and fishing licenses are valid from the date of sale through August 31, 2022. Hunting and fishing licenses and packages that do not meet the August 31, 2022 date:

- Temporary hunting and fishing licenses and packages
- Year-from-Purchase fishing license
- Lake Texoma fishing license

ENDORSEMENTS (historically called "stamps")
In addition to license requirements, the purchase of a license endorsement may be required to engage in certain hunting and fishing activities:

- Archery Endorsement - required to hunt during an archery-only season (required to hunt deer at any time in Collin, Dallas, Grayson, or Rockwall counties).
- Migratory Game Bird Endorsement - required to hunt migratory game birds at any time.
- Upland Game Bird Endorsement - required to hunt upland game birds at any time.
- Freshwater Fishing Endorsement – required to fish in public fresh water.
- Saltwater Fishing Endorsement – required to fish in salt water.

All fishing and combination packages include one or more endorsements. Additional endorsements may be purchased at any time during the effective dates of the license/package.

LOST OR DESTROYED LICENSES, PACKAGES OR ENDORSEMENTS: may be replaced at any license sales location by signing an Application for Replacement License affidavit. Fees vary from $3–$10.

UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES

It is UNLAWFUL to:

- hunt or fish without a valid license, permit and applicable endorsement(s) on your person and available for inspection by a game warden, unless exempt by age, program, or a reciprocal agreement with another state.
- use another person's license or tag to hunt or fish.
- let someone else hunt or fish with your license or tags.
- purchase or obtain more than one of the following license types:
  - Resident Hunting
  - Texas Resident Active Duty Military "Super Combo" Package
  - Youth Hunting
  - Resident Combination Hunting and Fishing Package
  - Senior Hunting
  - Senior Resident Combination Hunting and Fishing Package
  - Disabled Veteran "Super Combo"
  - Texas Resident Active Duty Military Hunting Package
  - Resident "Super Combo" Package
  - General Non-Resident Hunting
  - Senior Resident "Super Combo" Package
  - Non-Resident Spring Turkey Hunting

Collection of Social Security Number (SSN) is mandated by federal and state law (42 U.S.C.A. 666 and Texas Family Code, Section 231.302) for the purpose of child support collection enforcement; however, state law exempts persons 13 years of age and younger from having to provide a SSN to purchase a license, if they choose. TPWD cannot force persons older than 13 years of age to provide the SSN, but if it is not provided, a license will not be sold. If a license is being purchased for another person, the law requires that the purchaser provide the SSN of the person who will be holding the license.
tpwd.texas.gov/oa/nossn, tpwd.texas.gov/oa/nossnspanish

Combination Hunting and Fishing License Packages

TEXAS RESIDENTS ONLY

The **"Super Combo"** includes a Resident Hunting License, a Resident Fishing License and five state endorsements (archery, freshwater fishing, saltwater fishing with a red drum tag, upland game bird, and migratory game bird) at a discounted price. The Federal Duck Stamp, which is required for waterfowl hunting, is not included. For residents who hunt and fish freshwater and/or saltwater, the "Super Combo" package can save purchasers up to $18. Senior Super Combo license packages are available for residents age 65 and older.

The **"Combo"** packages include a Resident Hunting License, a Resident Fishing License and either the saltwater endorsement (with a red drum tag), freshwater endorsement, or both. Residents who purchase "Combo" packages specific to either salt or freshwater fishing may upgrade to the "All-Water" package by purchasing the additional endorsement not included in the initial package they purchased. Senior Combo license packages are available for residents age 65 and over.

2021-2022 COMBINATION LICENSE PACKAGES	ITEM	FEE
Super Combo	111	$68
Combo Hunting and Freshwater Fishing	503	$50
Combo Hunting and Saltwater Fishing	504	$55
Combo Hunting and All-Water Fishing	505	$60
Senior Super Combo	117	$32
Senior Combo Hunting and Freshwater Fishing	506	$16
Senior Combo Hunting and Saltwater Fishing	507	$21
Senior Combo Hunting and All-Water Fishing	508	$26

TEXAS RESIDENT ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY LICENSE PACKAGES	ITEM	FEE
Available to any Texas resident on full-time active military service in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, Reserves, National Guard or Texas State Guard. Proof of residency for this license is: military service record(s) indicating that the person's home of record is in Texas or that the person's duty station for the six months immediately prior to the time of application is in Texas. Official proof can be digital or hard copy.		
"Super Combo" Hunting and All-Water Fishing Package	510	FREE
Includes five state endorsements. Federal Duck Stamp is NOT included, but is required for waterfowl hunting (pg. 24).		
All-Water Fishing Package	511	FREE
Includes fishing license, freshwater and saltwater endorsements, and red drum tag.		
Hunting Package	512	FREE
Includes hunting license, plus archery, upland game bird and migratory game bird endorsements. Federal Duck Stamp is NOT included, but is required for waterfowl hunting (pg. 24).		

DISABLED VETERAN (RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT) LICENSE PACKAGE	ITEM	FEE
Available to a resident or non-resident qualifying as a disabled veteran, as defined by the Veterans Administration, consisting of the loss of the use of a foot or leg, or a disability rating of 50% or more, and who is receiving compensation from the U.S. for the disability. Official proof of disability (issued by the V.A.) or a Texas Driver License with "Disabled Veteran" designation must be shown each year when applying for this license and must state the rate of disability. Official proof can be digital or hard copy.		
"Super Combo" Hunting and All-Water Fishing Package	502	FREE
Includes five state endorsements. Federal Duck Stamp is NOT included, but is required for waterfowl hunting (pg. 24).		

Lifetime Licenses

Only Texas residents are eligible to purchase hunting and fishing licenses valid for the lifetime of the license holder.

Lifetime Resident - Combination Hunting and Fishing	$1,800
Lifetime Resident - Hunting	$1,000
Lifetime Resident - Fishing	$1,000
Lifetime Resident (Hunting or Fishing) - upgrade to Combination Hunting and Fishing	$800

Non-resident Military, their dependents and non-resident individuals under 17 years of age are not eligible for lifetime licenses. A lifetime license includes all state endorsements other than the Reptile and Amphibian endorsement. Lifetime license holders are not exempt from the Federal Duck Stamp requirement. **Lifetime licenses are not valid for commercial fur trapping or for other commercial fishing and hunting uses.** Lifetime tags may be obtained at retailers each year at no additional fee. The Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification and the bonus red drum tag must be added, whenever applicable. Applications for lifetime licenses are available online at **tpwd.texas.gov** or by calling 1(800)792-1112, option 2, or in person at TPWD headquarters and all TPWD Law Enforcement offices (pg. 99). Lifetime license applications can only be processed at a Law Enforcement office or TPWD Austin Headquarters.

Fishing Licenses and Endorsements

A valid fishing license with a freshwater or saltwater endorsement is required of any person who fishes or takes fish, mussels, clams, crayfish, or other aquatic life in the public waters of Texas. A hunting license is required to take turtles and frogs. In addition, **recreational anglers must have a Texas fishing license and saltwater endorsement** to possess in state water any fish taken in federal waters or possess fish on a vessel in the tidal waters of Texas (see also State Waters – Federal Waters, pg. 49).

RESIDENT FISHING LICENSES

Required of any resident (RESIDENT, pg. 98) who fishes in the public waters of Texas.

A license/package is NOT REQUIRED for:

- a person under 17 years of age;
- a person born BEFORE Jan. 1, 1931;
- a person with an intellectual disability fishing as part of medically approved therapy, under the immediate supervision of personnel approved or employed by a hospital, residence, or school for persons with an intellectual disability. The person with an intellectual disability must carry an authorization identifying the entity supplying the service. This authorization may be in the form of an identification card that contains the name of the sponsoring entity; or
- a person with an intellectual disability fishing under the direct supervision of a licensed angler who is either a family member or has permission from the family to take the person fishing. While fishing, the person with an intellectual disability needs a note from a doctor stating the person has been diagnosed as having an intellectual disability.

NON-RESIDENT FISHING LICENSES

Licenses/packages are NOT REQUIRED for:

- non-residents under 17 years of age;
- Louisiana residents 65 years of age or older who possesses a valid Louisiana Recreational Fishing License (includes Senior Fish/Hunt License); or
- Oklahoma residents 65 years of age or older.

FISHING LICENSES AND PACKAGES

License Year Fishing Packages (Resident and Non-resident)

Includes a **resident, senior resident, special resident, or non-resident** fishing license valid from the date of sale to August 31, 2022, **and** either a freshwater endorsement, a saltwater endorsement with a red drum tag, or both, depending on the package selected.

Senior Resident Fishing Packages

Available to any Texas resident who is at least 65 years of age and was born on or after January 1, 1931. The packages include a senior resident fishing license, **and** either a freshwater endorsement, a saltwater endorsement with a red drum tag, or both depending on the package selected.

Special Resident All-Water Fishing License

Available to any Texas resident who is legally blind. Endorsements are not required for this license. Includes one red drum tag.

One-Day All-Water Fishing License (Resident and Non-Resident)

Valid for the selected day or days purchased. Endorsements are not required for this license. Consecutive days may be bought at the time of purchase. One red drum tag (Item 598) is available at no additional charge (limit one per customer).

Year from Purchase All-Water Fishing Package (Resident ONLY)

Fishing license, a freshwater endorsement and a saltwater endorsement with a red drum tag are all valid from the date of purchase through the end of the purchase month of the next license year.

Fishing Guide License

Required for any person who, for compensation, accompanies, assists, or transports any person engaged in recreational fishing in Texas state waters. For information to apply, refer to the *Texas Commercial Fishing Guide*, or visit **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/CommercialFish.**

TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE OUTDOOR ANNUAL
Get the most up-to-date regulations at **OutdoorAnnual.com**

2021-2022 FISHING LICENSE ITEMS AND FEES

FISHING LICENSE OPTIONS	RESIDENT ITEM	RESIDENT FEE	NON-RESIDENT ITEM	NON-RESIDENT FEE
Freshwater Package	231	**$30**	250	**$58**
Saltwater Package	232	**$35**	251	**$63**
All-Water Package	233	**$40**	252	**$68**
Senior Freshwater Package	234	**$12**		
Senior Saltwater Package	235	**$17**		
Senior All-Water Package	236	**$22**		
Special Resident All-Water License (for legally blind)	244	**$7**		
Year-from-Purchase All-Water Package	237	**$47**		
One-Day All-Water License	213	**$11**	214	**$16**

If you purchase any valid freshwater fishing package, you can also purchase a saltwater endorsement. If you purchase any valid saltwater fishing package, you can also purchase a freshwater endorsement.

SPORT OYSTER BOAT LICENSE

Required when using a sport oyster dredge or tongs to harvest oysters recreationally.
For this license only, residency is based on the boat's records.

	ITEM	FEE
Resident	328	**$13**
For boats with a current registration in Texas or having a current certificate of documentation from the U.S. Coast Guard that shows the owner's address is in Texas.		
Non-resident	428	**$51**
For boats with a current registration NOT in Texas or having a current certificate of documentation from the U.S. Coast Guard that shows the owner's address NOT in Texas. Available only at TPWD HQ or Law Enforcement offices (pg. 99).		

FISHING ENDORSEMENTS AND TAGS

	ITEM	FEE
Freshwater Fishing Endorsement	256	**$5**
Required in addition to a valid fishing license if you take or attempt to take fish in the public fresh waters of Texas. If you are not required to hold a fishing license, this endorsement is not required. This endorsement is automatically included as part of the freshwater package, all-water fishing package, lifetime combination and lifetime fishing license.		
Saltwater Fishing Endorsement	211	**$10**
Required in addition to a valid fishing license if you take or attempt to take fish in the public salt water of Texas. If you are not required to hold a fishing license, this endorsement is not required. A red drum tag will be issued at no additional charge with each saltwater fishing endorsement. This endorsement is automatically included as part of the saltwater package, all-water fishing package, lifetime combination and lifetime fishing license.		
Red Drum Tag	included in package	
Required to take one red drum longer than 28 inches per license year. Included with the purchase of a saltwater fishing endorsement or any package that includes the saltwater fishing endorsement (tagging information, pg. 51). Anglers who want a red drum tag and are EXEMPT from fishing license requirements may purchase an Exempt Angler Tag (Item 257) for $3.		
Bonus Red Drum Tag	599	**$3**
Required to take an additional red drum longer than 28 inches per license year. Can be purchased at any license sales location. Only one allowed per angler per license year.		
Saltwater Trotline Tag	307	**$5**
Required for each 300 feet, or fraction thereof, on all non-commercial trotlines and sail lines placed in the coastal waters of Texas. Available at TPWD Coastal Law Enforcement offices (pg. 99).		
Individual Bait-shrimp Trawl Tag	334	**$37**
Required for trawls used to take shrimp for any purpose under a recreational fishing license. Available at TPWD Coastal Law Enforcement offices (pg. 99).		

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR BORDER WATERS

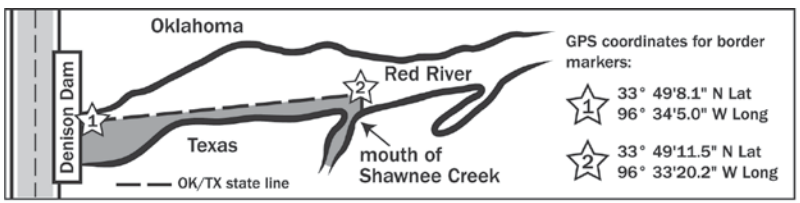
ALL fish landed in Texas MUST COMPLY with TEXAS bag and length limits.

Texas-Arkansas

In Arkansas waters of the Red River, requirements of that state apply.

Texas-Oklahoma

- In Oklahoma waters of the Red River, requirements of that state apply.
- A person may fish in Texas or Oklahoma waters on Lake Texoma only with the appropriate license from Texas or Oklahoma, unless the person possesses a Lake Texoma fishing license (Item 208).
- A person must have a valid Texas fishing license to fish from the Texas bank from Denison Dam to Shawnee Creek. An Oklahoma fishing license is required to wade-fish or fish from a boat in these waters.
- An Oklahoma resident 65 years of age or older is exempt from fishing license requirements in Texas, including on Lake Texoma.
- The upstream boundary of Lake Texoma is at Latitude 33°54.426'; Longitude -96°59.114'.



	ITEM	FEE
Lake Texoma License	208	**$12**

Valid until December 31 following the date of issuance, a person may fish in both the Texas and Oklahoma waters of Lake Texoma without any additional licenses. Texas resident 65 years of age or older does not need this license to fish in the Oklahoma portion of Lake Texoma. Valid ONLY on Lake Texoma.

Texas-Louisiana

Residents of either state, who are properly licensed in their state (or are exempt because of age), or persons who hold valid non-resident fishing licenses issued by either state may fish in any portion of the lakes and rivers forming a common boundary between Louisiana and Texas inland from a line across Sabine Pass between Texas Point and Louisiana Point.

Texas-Mexico (Border States Include Tamaulipas, Nuevo León, Coahuila, Chihuahua)

A recreational fishing license or *Permiso de Pesca Deportiva* [managed by the Mexican federal agency CONAPESCA (*Comisión Nacional de Acuacultura y Pesca*)] is required to fish in Mexican state or federal waters. Recreational anglers can buy permits for a single day, week, month or year: **conapesca.gob.mx/wb/cona/permiso_de_pesca_deportiva**

FREE FISHING OPPORTUNITIES

Free Fishing Day: June 4, 2022

On the first Saturday in June of each year, everyone can fish recreationally without licenses or endorsements. This opportunity exists so that more people can try fishing for the first time. If you already have your license, thank you for your support! Please consider inviting a friend or family member to join you.

Fishing in State Parks

Anglers can also enjoy free fishing all year at more than 70 state parks (park entry fees still apply). All other fishing regulations, such as length and bag limits, remain in effect. A fishing license and endorsement are not required if fishing on state park property or in waters completely enclosed by a state park. On man-made structures (docks, piers, jetties, etc.) within state parks, fishing is allowed by pole-and-line only, and each person is limited to two poles. Please check with the park before participating in any fishing activity and to confirm any additional regulations.

More details: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/familyfish**

Fishing on Private Property

A fishing license is not required to fish on waters completely enclosed within private property (i.e. ponds, lakes).

Hunting Licenses, Permits and Endorsements

All hunting licenses are valid from date of purchase until August 31 unless otherwise noted. In addition to a hunting license, additional endorsements may be required (pg. 24). Specific information on Lifetime, Disabled Veteran, Texas resident active duty military, and Combination licenses (pg. 18).

For more information about public hunting opportunities including an interactive map of over 1 million acres of accessible lands: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/PublicHunting**.

A hunting license is required of any person (resident or non-resident), of any age, to hunt any animal, bird, frog or turtle in this state, **EXCEPT** the following:

- coyotes, if the coyotes are attacking, about to attack, or have recently attacked livestock, domestic animals, or fowl.
- feral hogs on private property with landowner authorization.
- fur-bearing animals, if the hunter possesses a commercial trapper's license.
- depredating fur-bearing animals, if a landowner (resident or non-resident) or landowner's agent is taking fur-bearing animals causing depredation on the landowner's land. No portion of the nuisance fur-bearer may be possessed, sold or retained for any purpose.

All laws and regulations governing hunter education still apply (pg. 17).

HUNTING LICENSES

	ITEM	FEE
Resident Hunting	101	**$25**

Valid to hunt any legal bird or animal (terrestrial vertebrates). Endorsement requirements apply. Required of any resident (RESIDENT defined, pg. 17) unless the resident possesses a valid Senior Resident Hunting License, Youth Hunting License, Super Combo or Resident Combination Hunting and Fishing License Package, Lifetime Resident Hunting License, Disabled Veteran Super Combo Hunting and Fishing License Package, Lifetime Resident Combination Hunting and Fishing License, Texas Resident Active Duty Military Super Combo Hunting and Fishing License Package, or Texas Resident Active Duty Military Hunting Package.

Youth Hunting License	169	**$7**

Valid for any person, resident or non-resident, under 17 years of age at the date of license purchase. Exempt from state hunting endorsement requirements, except for Reptile and Amphibian Endorsement (pg. 24). State endorsement exemptions remain valid for the entire license year. The Harvest Information Program (HIP) certification must be added when applicable.

Senior Resident Hunting	102	**$7**

For residents 65 years of age and older. Valid to hunt any legal bird or animal. Endorsement requirements apply.

Non-resident General Hunting	105	**$315**

Valid to hunt any legal bird or animal (including deer). Endorsement requirements apply. If hunting white-tailed deer or mule deer including MLDP tags, pronghorn or bighorn sheep, this is the only valid license available to participate in those activities for non-residents.

Non-resident Spring Turkey	118	**$126**

Available after Feb 1. Valid to hunt turkey only during the open spring turkey season. Non-residents purchasing this license are required to purchase a $7 Upland Endorsement. It is unlawful to possess both this license and a valid Non-resident General Hunting License.

Non-resident Special Hunting	107	**$132**

Valid to hunt exotic animals (pg. 80), all legal game birds (except turkey), all non-game animals, fur-bearing animals, squirrel, javelina and alligator **(not valid for white-tailed or mule deer including MLDP tags, pronghorn or bighorn sheep)**. Endorsement requirements apply.

Non-resident 5-Day Special Hunting	157	**$48**

Legal for any period of five consecutive days (valid hunting dates will be printed on the license when issued). Valid to hunt exotic animals (pg. 80), all legal game birds (except turkey), all non-game animals, fur-bearing animals, squirrel, javelina and alligator **(not valid for white-tailed or mule deer including MLDP tags, pronghorn or bighorn sheep)**. Endorsement requirements apply.

Non-resident Banded Bird Hunting	120	**$27**

Valid only to hunt banded bobwhite quail, partridge, pheasant, and mallard ducks on private bird hunting areas. Upland and Migratory Game Bird endorsement requirements apply.

Trapper's License – Resident	106	**$19**
Trapper's License – Non-resident	115	**$315**

Required for persons of any age to hunt, shoot, or take for sale fur-bearing animals including pelts and carcasses (pg. 77). See the *Fur-bearing Animal Digest* for more information, available at **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/FurBearing.**

HUNTING LICENSES (continued)

	ITEM	FEE
Hunting Lease License – 1 through 499 acres	132	$79
Hunting Lease License – 500 through 999 acres	133	$147
Hunting Lease License – 1,000 acres or more	134	$252

Required of a landowner or landowner's agent who leases hunting rights to another person on property they own or control for pay or other consideration. The license must be displayed on the property.

Federal Sandhill Crane Hunting Permit	590	FREE

Required to hunt sandhill cranes. Permit can be obtained at TPWD Law Enforcement offices (pg. 99) and TPWD headquarters in Austin. Also available by phone at 1(800)792-1112, option 2 or (512) 389-4820, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday or online any time at **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/BuyLicenses**. A $5 administrative fee will be charged for online orders. Please keep a record of hunting activities because 26% of crane hunters are chosen for a federal harvest survey.

Harvest Information Program (HIP) Certification	137	FREE

Required to hunt migratory game birds. Inform the clerk you intend to hunt migratory game birds and need to be HIP-certified. The clerk will ask a few simple questions. "HIP-certified" will appear on your license.

Experimental Pronghorn Permit		FREE

Required to hunt buck pronghorn on certain properties. Additional info, pg. 69.

HUNTING ENDORSEMENTS

	ITEM	FEE

The Archery Endorsement (Item 135), Migratory Game Bird Endorsement (Item 168), and Upland Game Bird Endorsement (Item 167) are included with a Lifetime Resident Combination or Lifetime Resident Hunting license. They are NOT required for any hunter (resident or nonresident) under 17 years of age. The Reptile and Amphibian Endorsement (Item 178) and the Federal Duck Stamp (Item 138) are required if applicable for your specific activity.

Archery Endorsement	135	$7

Required to hunt game animals during an Archery-Only open season. Required to hunt deer at any time in Collin, Dallas, Grayson, or Rockwall counties.

Texas Migratory Game Bird Endorsement	168	$7

Required to hunt any migratory game bird (waterfowl, coot, rail, gallinule, snipe, dove, sandhill crane, and woodcock). A valid Federal Duck Stamp and HIP Certification are also required of waterfowl hunters 16 years of age or older. A free Federal Sandhill Crane Hunting Permit is required to hunt sandhill cranes, which is available at TPWD Law Enforcement offices, online (**tpwd.texas.gov/oa/BuyLicenses**), or by calling 1(800)792-1112, option 2.

Upland Game Bird Endorsement	167	$7

Required to hunt turkey, pheasant, quail, or chachalaca. MAY NOT be used to hunt turkey with a Non-resident Special Hunting License (Item 107) or a Non-resident 5-Day Special Hunting License (Item 157).

Federal Duck Stamp (Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp)	138	$25 plus fulfillment

Required for all waterfowl (pg. 98) hunters 16 years of age or older; available at most U.S. Post offices, TPWD Law Enforcement offices (pg. 99), Austin headquarters, and all license retailers. Must be signed on its face by the hunter. A valid hunting license, HIP Certification, and Texas Migratory Game Bird Endorsement are also required. If the Federal Duck Stamp is not received within 30 days of purchase, call 1(800)792-1112, option 2.

Reptile and Amphibian Endorsement	178	$10

Required to capture indigenous reptiles or amphibians on the shoulder of a road or on the unpaved area of a public right-of-way.

Annual Public Hunting Permit	173	$48

Required for an adult (age 17 years of age or older) to access designated public hunting lands owned or administered by TPWD for hunting and other recreational purposes.

BOATING AND WATER SAFETY

Game wardens and other peace officers certified as marine safety enforcement officers by TPWD may stop, board, and inspect any vessel to determine compliance with applicable provisions.

Title, Registration and Identification Requirements

TITLING REQUIREMENTS

The following vessels/boats and outboard motors must be titled:

- All motorized vessels, regardless of length (including any sailboat with an auxiliary engine);
- All non-motorized vessels (including sailboats) 14 feet in length or longer; and
- All internal combustion (gasoline/diesel/propane powered) outboard motors.
- Trailers are registered/titled through the applicant's local county tax office.

Title application, bill of sale, and either a Manufacturer's Statement of Origin (MSO) for new vessels/boats and outboard motors, or an original signed title for used vessels/boats and outboard motors, must be submitted to obtain title in applicant's name. **DO NOT** purchase a used vessel/boat or outboard motor without receiving an original title (signed on the front and back) along with a signed bill of sale from the person(s) listed on the title or from their legally documented representative. If a legal representative signs the title or bill of sale for the recorded owner(s), the applicant must obtain a copy of the documentation authorizing the legal representative to act on behalf of the owner(s). Applications for title must be submitted not later than 45 days from the date of purchase.

Purchases or gifts of boats or outboard motors that do not acquire the title and bill of sale (or statement of gift) will not be eligible for immediate transfer. These may be titled through a more expensive and lengthy bonded title process requiring additional documentation to be acquired and supplied. An abandoned boat or outboard motor may be eligible for titling through the bonded title process with appropriate documentation. An "abandoned vessel or outboard motor" means a vessel or outboard motor that has remained on private property without the consent of the owner or person in charge of the property for more than seven consecutive days.

Vessels Exempted from Titling – All U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) documented vessels (documentation must be current), and all non-motorized canoes, kayaks, punts, rowboats, or rubber rafts (regardless of length), or other vessels under 14 feet in length when paddled, poled, oared or windblown.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

A Texas boat registration is valid for two years. The following vessels/boats when on Texas public water are required to have current registration, including when docked, moored, or stored:

- All motorized vessels, regardless of length (including any sailboat with an auxiliary engine);
- All non-motorized vessels (including sailboats) 14 feet in length or longer; and
- USCG documented vessels.

Vessels Exempted from Registration – Non-motorized canoes, kayaks, punts, rowboats, or rubber rafts (regardless of length), or other vessels under 14 feet in length when paddled, poled, oared or windblown. Adding an outboard or trolling motor to one of these vessel types requires titling and registration.

Exempted USCG Documented Vessels – Commercial tugboats; vessels exceeding 115 feet in length; and pilot or crew boats transporting freight, supplies, or personnel to or from cargo ships, freighters, or offshore oil infrastructure.

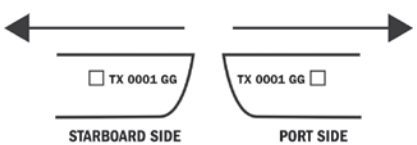
TAX AND BILL OF SALE REQUIREMENTS

TPWD is required by law to collect tax for vessels/boats (65 feet or less in length) and outboard motors purchased in Texas or brought into Texas on or after January 1, 2000. The tax rate is 6.25% of the sales price. Tax is assessed at the time of registration/title transfer and is due within 45 working days from the date of sale or date brought to Texas. Applications filed later than 45 working days are subject to tax penalties and interest. A signed bill of sale or invoice is required for every transfer of ownership. Trailers are handled through the local county tax office and the price of the trailer must be separated from the price of the boat and motor.

New Resident Tax - $15.00 New Resident tax is assessed (not sales tax) for owners bringing their previously titled or registered boat and/or outboard motor from another state into Texas.

For more information call (800) 262-8755 or visit tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/boat.

PLACEMENT OF TX NUMBER AND DECAL ON VESSELS



EXPIRES ON THE LAST DAY OF THE MONTH INDICATED.

- The TX number must be painted on, or otherwise attached to, each side of the forward half of the vessel, in such position as to provide easy identification.
- The TX number must read from left to right, be in **BLOCK** characters of good proportion not less than three inches in height and be of a color that contrasts with the background.
- The numerals must be separated from the prefix and the suffix by hyphens or equivalent spaces such as the following examples: **TX 0001 GG** or **TX-0001-GG**.
- The validation decal must be affixed in line with and three (3) inches towards the rear of the boat from the TX number.

- The number printed on the decal must match the number listed on the certificate of number card issued for the vessel described on the card.
- Vessels registered as antique boats are permitted to display the registration decal on the left portion of the windshield. In the absence of a windshield, the registration decal must be attached to the certificate of number and made available for inspection when the boat is operated on public water.

Decals on USCG Documented Vessels:
May display ONLY the Validation Decal (not the Registration TX Number) on both sides of the bow of the vessel and must maintain current USCG Documentation.

TEXAS CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER

The certificate of number (registration), if required:

- must always be aboard and available for inspection by an enforcement officer;
- is valid through the expiration date shown on the certificate; and
- must also be aboard USCG Documented vessels that require Texas registration.

HOMEMADE BOATS

Homemade boats require an affidavit from the applicant as to the origin of the boat and proof of the materials used in the construction of the boat (*i.e., invoices from marine and hardware dealers for parts, etc.*). Homemade boats are required to be inspected and issued an HIN by a TPWD game warden.

HULL IDENTIFICATION AND MOTOR SERIAL NUMBERS

It is illegal to possess or intentionally sell, offer for sale, or purchase a vessel with a hull identification number or an outboard motor with a serial number that has been altered, defaced, mutilated, or removed. To acquire registration or title for a vessel or outboard motor with a serial number that has been altered, defaced, mutilated or removed, a sworn statement must be filed with TPWD describing the vessel or outboard motor, providing proof of legal ownership, and stating the reason for the destruction, removal, alteration or defacement of the number. **This statement must be accompanied by a fee of $25.00 and an inspection certificate from a game warden stating the vessel or outboard motor has been inspected.** This section does not apply to USCG Documented vessels.

FEE CHART FOR BOATS, OUTBOARD MOTORS AND RELATED ITEMS — FEE

VESSEL REGISTRATION	
Less than 16 feet in length (Class A)	**$32**
16 feet but less than 26 feet in length (Class 1)	**$53**
26 feet but less than 40 feet in length (Class 2)	**$110**
40 feet or more in length (Class 3)	**$150**
Livery Boat less than 16 feet in length (Class A)	**$32**
CERTIFICATE OF NUMBER (registration ID card)	
Transfer of Ownership (any Texas registered vessel)	**$11**
Replacement Certificate of Number Card	**$11**
Corrected Certificate of Number Card	**$11**
REGISTRATION REPLACEMENT DECALS	
Replacement Registration Decals with new certificate of number card (required)	**$22**
TEXAS CERTIFICATE OF TITLE	
Certificate of Title- Vessel / Outboard Motor	**$27**
Certificate of Title- Transfer of Vessel / Outboard Motor	**$27**
Certificate of Title- Replacement for Lost or Destroyed Title	**$27**
Certificate of Title- Correction Transaction	**$27**
Certificate of Title- Bonded Title	**$37**
"Quick" Title (To expedite the replacement of lost or destroyed titles only)	**$64**
TAXES	
New Resident Tax (applies to owner relocating from out of state to Texas)	**$15**
Sales / Use Tax (percentage of the sales price)	**6.25%**
Penalties and Interest (apply 45 business days after sales date – see form PWD 930 to calculate amount owed)	
OTHER	
Game Warden Inspection / State Assigned Hull Identification Number	**$25**
Ownership History Request	**$11**
15-Day Boater Ed Deferral (Item 850)	**$10**

FEE CHART FOR BOATS, OUTBOARD MOTORS AND RELATED ITEMS — FEE

PARTY BOATS	
Annual Party Boat Inspection	**$132**
New Party Boat Operators License	**$132**
Renew Existing Party Boat Operators License	**$53**
Replace a Lost or Destroyed Party Boat Operators License	**$53**
Update an Existing Party Boat Operators License	**$53**
MARINE DEALER LICENSE	
New License Application	**$500**
Additional License Decal and ID Card	**$126**
Replacement License ID Card	**$11**
Renewal of License	**$500**
Transfer Business (New Owner)	**$500**
Transfer Business Location (Same Owner)	**$11**
Correction / Update of Information	**$4**

OWNERSHIP TRANSFER (SALE, REMOVAL, ABANDONMENT OR DESTRUCTION) OF BOAT/OUTBOARD MOTOR

The recorded owner must provide notice to TPWD within 20 days after the date the boat and/or outboard motor are:

- sold, donated or gifted to a new owner;
- permanently removed from this state to another state or country; or
- abandoned or destroyed (the Certificate(s) of Title must be surrendered to TPWD).

Mandatory Boater Education Requirements

Boater Education training is RECOMMENDED for all boat operators and REQUIRED for those born on or after September 1, 1993.

Successful completion of a TPWD-certified boater education course and possession of a valid photo I.D. are required for any person born on or after September 1, 1993 to operate:

- a vessel powered by a motor of more than 15 horsepower; or
- a windblown vessel over 14 feet in length.

No person may operate a personal watercraft (PWC) or motorboat powered by a motor of more than 15 horsepower on public waters unless the person is at least 13 years of age and has successfully completed a Boater Education Course or is supervised by another person who:

- is at least 18 years of age
- can lawfully operate the motorboat
- is on board the motorboat when under way

Proof of completion of the requirements to obtain a vessel operator's license issued by the USCG satisfies the requirement for completing a boater education course in this state.

A person guilty of one of the following **(operating)** violations, **shall be required to successfully complete an approved boater education course AND pay a fine**. Failure to complete the boater education course within 90 days will result in the person committing an offense that is a Parks and Wildlife Class A misdemeanor.

- any personal watercraft (operating) violation
- reckless or negligent operation
- excessive speed
- reckless operation and excessive speed
- hazardous wake or wash
- circular course around any swimmer or occupant of a vessel engaged in water activities
- interference with markers or ramps
- obstructing passage
- operating boats in restricted areas
- operating vessels in scuba diving or snorkeling areas
- skiing during illegal hours
- skiing in a manner that endangers life or property

Boater education courses from other states are acceptable if approved by NASBLA (National Association of State Boating Law Administrators).

For information on boater education courses, call (800) 792-1112, ext. 4999, or visit **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/BoaterEd.**

Paddlers are encouraged to take the FREE comprehensive canoe, kayak, and paddleboard safety course offered online at **boaterexam.com/paddling**. This course is a great way to help make your outing more enjoyable and safer. This course WILL NOT replace the boater education course required by law. Visit **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/paddling** for a complete list of officially designated paddling trails including average float times, public access points, paddler safety and more.

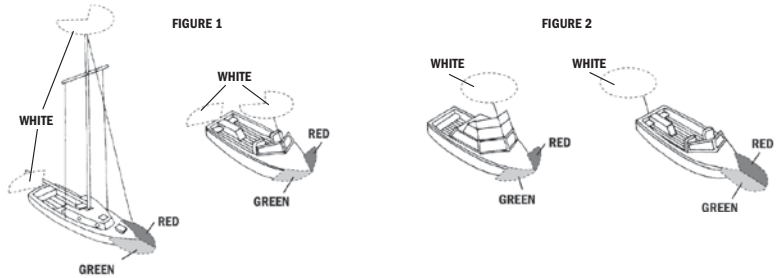
Required Safety Equipment

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT		POWERBOATS (Including electric motors)					SAILBOATS (If any type of propulsion)				MANUALLY PROPELLED (No motor or sail)
Find the column to the right which applies to your vessel. A dot in that column indicates a specific applicable requirement. A letter indicates either a specific exception to the requirement **or** specific additional requirements for the associated equipment.		Personal Watercraft	Less than 16' in length (Class A)	16' but less than 26' (Class 1)	26' but less than 40' (Class 2)	40' but less than 65' (Class 3)	Less than 16' in length (Class A)	16' but less than 26' (Class 1)	26' but less than 40' (Class 2)	40' but less than 65' (Class 3)	Canoes, punts, rowboats, sailboats, rubber rafts, racing shells, rowing sculls, kayaks and other paddle craft
TITLE		•	•	•	•	•	A	•	•	•	A
REGISTRATION NUMBERS		•	•	•	•	•	A	•	•	•	A
PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES	One Type I, II, III or Type V wearable device for each person on board.	B	C	C	•	•	C	C	C	C	C
	One additional Type IV PFD (throwable device) on board.			•	•	•		•	•	•	
FIRE EXTINGUISHERS	One type B-1.	•	D	D							
	Two types B-1 or one type B-2.				•						
	Three types B-1 or one B-2 plus one B-1.					•					
VISUAL DISTRESS SIGNALS	Federal waters and waters under USCG authority.		E	•	•	•	E	•	•	•	E
	Inland waters under State authority.										
SOUND PRODUCING DEVICES	Whistle or horn, or some other sound producing device.	•	•	•	•						
	Whistle and a bell.					•					
LIGHTS	Red and green side lights, white masthead light and stern light.					•					
	Red and green side lights and white all-round white light.		•	•	•						
	Red and green side lights and stern light.						F	F	•	•	F
VENTILATION		•	G	G	G	G					
BACKFIRE FLAME ARRESTOR		•	H	H	H	H					
EXHAUST WATER MANIFOLD		•	•	•	•	•					
ENGINE CUT-OFF SWITCH LANYARD		I	I	I							
MIRRORS		J	J	J	J	J					

A Does not apply to: canoes, kayaks, punts, rowboats, rubber rafts (regardless of length) or other vessels under 14 feet in length when paddled, poled, oared, or windblown.
B PFDs MUST be properly worn by all occupants.
C Passengers under 13 years of age must wear a Type I, II, or Type III wearable PFD while underway on vessels less than 26 feet in length.
D Fire extinguishers not required on outboard motorboats less than 26 feet in length, of "open construction" with no permanently mounted gas tanks.
E Visual distress signals not required on boats under 16 feet in length, unless operated between sunset and sunrise.
F If sidelights and stern light are not practical, it must have and exhibit at least one bright light, lantern, or flashlight from sunset to sunrise in all weather.
G Applies to all vessels, except a vessel of "open construction," using as fuel any liquid of a volatile nature.
H Backfire flame arrestor not required for outboard motors.
I If equipped, cut-off switch or lanyard must be attached to operator, operator's clothing, or operator's PFD at all times when a PWC is underway, and at greater-than headway speed for all other motoroboats other than a PWC.
J Rearview mirror of a size no less than four inches in width and height must be present when towing a person unless an observer, other than the operator, 13 years of age or older is present onboard and acting in that capacity.

NAVIGATION LIGHTS

Power Driven Vessels Underway: Power driven vessels of less than 20 meters (65.6 ft.) but more than 12 meters (39.4 ft.) shall exhibit navigation lights as shown in Figure 1. Vessels of less than 12 meters in length, shall show the lights in either Figure 1 or Figure 2.



Operation of Your Boat

It is UNLAWFUL to:

- operate at a rate of speed greater than is reasonable and prudent or greater than will permit the driver to stop the vessel within the assured clear distance ahead.
- operate in a manner to cause a hazardous wake or wash.
- operate in a circular course around another vessel, PWC, or individual engaged in water activities unless retrieving a downed or fallen water skier or a person engaged in similar activity.
- moor or attach to any buoy, beacon, light marker, stake, flag or other aid to safe operation, or to move, remove, displace, tamper with, damage or destroy the same.
- anchor in the traveled portion of a river or channel so as to prevent, impede, or interfere with safe passage of any other boat through the same area.
- operate within an area designated as bathing, fishing, swimming, or otherwise restricted.
- operate within a designated "no wake" area except at headway speed without creating a swell or wake.
- engage in water skiing, surfboarding or other similar activity between the hours of 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise. This shall not apply to vessels used in recognized water ski tournaments, competitions, exhibitions or trials, provided that the water area is adequately lighted.
- operate while intoxicated (loss of mental or physical faculties, or blood alcohol content of .08 or higher). 1st conviction punishable by a fine not to exceed $2,000, confinement in jail not to exceed 180 days or both; 2nd conviction punishable by a fine not to exceed $4,000, confinement not to exceed one year or both; 3rd conviction punishable by a fine not to exceed $10,000, imprisonment for not more than 10 years or less than 2 years. **Failure to submit a specimen to determine blood alcohol content may result in suspension of your driver's license.
- operate any vessel or manipulate any water skis, aqua-plane or similar device, in a willful or wanton disregard of the rights or safety of others and at a speed or in a manner to endanger or likely to endanger any person or property. (Conviction punishable by a fine of not less than $200 nor more than $2,000 or by confinement in jail not to exceed 180 days or both.)
- swim or dive within 200 yards of any sight-seeing or excursion boat except for maintenance purposes or unless within an enclosed area.
- operate within 50 feet of a "Diver Down Flag" or operate a boat within 150 feet of a "Diver Down Flag" except at headway/steerage speed.
- fail to comply with the USCG Inland Rules of the Road.

The engine cut-off switch must be worn by the operator on any vessel under 26' in length that is equipped with the ECOS, and the vessel is being operated at greater-than headway speed.

ONLINE BOAT SERVICES

Access common boating services, forms and other customer services online:

- Replace lost or destroyed documents
- Renew registration
- Update owner information
- Notify transfer of ownership
- Calculate boat taxes
- Find office locations

Visit: tpwd.texas.gov/oa/BoatServices

Clean, Drain, Dry Your Boat

Boaters are required to drain all water from their boat and gear before approaching or leaving a public fresh water body (pg. 38). Failure to immediately remove and lawfully dispose of any harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plant or animal life that is clinging or attached to a vessel, watercraft, trailer, motor vehicle, or other device used to transport or launch a vessel or watercraft is unlawful. The penalty for the first offense is a fine of up to $500. The penalty for a repeat offense is a fine of up to $2,000, and/or up to 180 days in jail.

It is recommended these steps be followed each time upon leaving the water:

1. **CLEAN.** Inspect your boat, trailer and gear and remove all plant material, mud and foreign objects.
2. **DRAIN.** Remove all water from the boat, including the motor, bilge, livewells and bait buckets.
3. **DRY.** Open all compartments and allow the boat and trailer to dry for a week or more before entering another body of water. If the boat and trailer cannot be dried for at least a week, wash them with high-pressure, hot soapy water.

Personal Watercraft

Personal watercraft (PWC) is defined as a type of motorboat which is specifically designed to be operated by a person or persons sitting, standing, or kneeling ON the vessel rather than INSIDE the vessel. Includes jet skis, wet bikes, etc. Any person being towed by a PWC is considered an occupant of the PWC and is required to wear a life jacket.

OPERATION OF PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

All operational rules for regular motorboats also apply to PWC. In addition to those requirements, it is unlawful for any person to:

(1) operate PWC at night (sunset until sunrise);

(2) operate PWC within 50 feet of another PWC, motorboat, vessel, platform, person, object, or shore except at headway speed (headway speed—slow, idle speed, or speed only fast enough to maintain steerage) without creating a swell or wake; and

(3) operate a PWC and jump the wake of another vessel recklessly or unnecessarily close.

Children under 13 are specifically prohibited from operating a PWC unless accompanied on board by a person at least 18 years of age who can lawfully operate the PWC.

Boating Accidents

To report a boating accident, call: (800) 792-1112 or (512) 389-4848 (24-hour dispatch).

ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES

Operators of any vessel must report accidents and casualties to a local law enforcement agency or to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department within 30 days of the occurrence (48 hours if a fatality occurs) if the collision, accident or casualty resulted in:

- death (or missing person); or
- injury (requiring treatment beyond first aid) to any person; or
- property damage exceeding $2,000.

STOP AND RENDER AID

The operator of any vessel involved in a boating accident must stop and render whatever assistance is necessary unless such action would endanger his/her own vessel, crew or passengers. The operator must give his/her name, address and vessel identification number in writing to any injured person and to the owner of any damaged property. Failure to do so in an accident that results in death or serious bodily injury is a Parks and Wildlife Code felony. Failure to do so in an accident that does not result in death or serious bodily injury is a Parks and Wildlife Class A misdemeanor.

Get the most up-to-date regulations at
OutdoorAnnual.com

OVERVIEW OF FISHING AND HUNTING LAWS

General Laws

The following information addresses some common questions about hunting and fishing laws and regulations.

UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES

It is UNLAWFUL to:

- take, attempt to take, or possess wildlife resources within a protected length limit, in greater numbers, by other means, or at any time or place, other than as indicated within this guide or as may otherwise be provided by law.
- hunt on public roads or the right-of-way of public roads; except for certain reptiles and amphibians (pg. 76).
- store, transport, or abandon an unsecured firearm in a place where children can obtain (unsupervised) access to the firearm. A person under age 17 who has lawful access to a firearm may hunt with the firearm if the youth has successfully completed the hunter education course, or is accompanied by a licensed hunter age 17 or older who has complied with the hunter education requirement, if applicable.
- drive a motor vehicle in the bed of a navigable freshwater stream, unless approved by a local river access plan established by a city, county, or river authority. This law does not apply to the Canadian River and Prairie Dog Town Fork of the Red River. Other exemptions may be found in the Parks and Wildlife Code, Chapter 90.
- fish on privately-owned waters, fish in public water from private land, or hunt on privately-owned lands without the permission of the owner or the owner's agent.
- fish on public water from private land without a fishing license.
- enter property that is agricultural, fenced, posted with a sign(s), or marked (purple paint) without the express permission of the owner (Texas Penal Code §30.05). Posts or trees bearing a purple paint marking of not less than eight inches in length and not less than one inch in width and not less than three or more than five feet from the ground, constitute notice that the property is posted.
- hunt any animal without landowner consent.
- kill a desert bighorn sheep, pronghorn, white-tailed deer, or mule deer without landowner consent (Parks and Wildlife Code state jail felony). Upon conviction, hunting and fishing license is automatically revoked.
- discharge a firearm on or across a public road.
- possess a deer or any part of a deer that has been hit by a motor vehicle.

PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION

While hunting, fishing or trapping, persons 17 years of age or older must carry on their person a valid driver's license or personal identification certificate issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety. Non-residents must carry similar documents issued by the agency in their state or country of residence that is authorized to issue driver's licenses or personal identification certificates.

INSPECTION AUTHORITY

A game warden who observes a person engaged in an activity governed by the Parks and Wildlife Code or reasonably believes that a person is or has been engaged in such an activity may inspect:

- any license, permit, tag, or other document issued by the department and required by the Parks and Wildlife Code of a person hunting or catching wildlife resources;
- any device that may be used to hunt or catch a wildlife resource;
- any wildlife resource in the person's possession; and
- the contents of any container or receptacle that is commonly used to store or conceal a wildlife resource.

WASTE OF GAME

It is an offense if a person while hunting, kills or wounds a game bird or game animal and intentionally or knowingly fails to make a reasonable effort to retrieve it and include it in the person's daily or seasonal bag limit. It is an offense if a person intentionally takes or possesses a game bird, game animal, or a fish and intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly, or with criminal negligence, fails to keep the edible portions in an edible condition.

RETRIEVAL OF GAME

No person may pursue a wounded wildlife resource across a property line without the consent of the landowner of the property where the wildlife resource has fled.

SALE OF INEDIBLE WILDLIFE PARTS

The following inedible wildlife parts may be purchased or sold if lawfully taken or possessed:

- Hair, hide, antlers, bones, horns, skull, hooves, or sinew from the following game animals: mule deer, white-tailed deer, pronghorn, desert bighorn sheep, gray squirrels, fox squirrels, and javelina.
- Feathers, bones, or feet of game birds (turkey, pheasant, quail, and chachalaca) may be used, purchased, or sold for making fishing flies, pillows, mattresses, and other similar commercial uses.
- Feathers from migratory birds may not be purchased or sold for hats or ornamental purposes nor may a person purchase or sell mounted migratory game bird specimens or their parts taken by hunting.

HARASSMENT OF HUNTERS, TRAPPERS, OR ANGLERS

Under the Sportsmen's Rights Act (Parks and Wildlife Code, §62.0125), harassment of hunters, trappers, or anglers is punishable by a fine of $200 to $2,000 and/or 180 days in jail.

HUNTER ORANGE

Hunter orange is **RECOMMENDED** for hunter safety but is not required while hunting on private property.

Criminal Penalties and Civil Value Recovery

If you violate fish and wildlife laws, you may:

- be fined for misdemeanors
  - Class C – $25-$500
  - Class B – $200-$2,000 and/or 6 months in jail
  - Class A – $500-$4,000 and/or 1 year in jail);
- be fined for state jail felonies ($1,500-$10,000 and/or up to 2 years in jail);
- face automatic suspension or revocation of licenses for up to five years; and
- forfeit hunting gear, including firearms, used to commit a violation.

CIVIL RESTITUTION

In addition to the criminal penalty for hunting and fishing violations, the department will seek the civil recovery value for the loss or damage to wildlife resources. Failure to pay the civil recovery value will result in the department's refusal to issue a future license, tag, or permit. Hunting or fishing after failing or refusing to pay civil restitution is a Class A misdemeanor punishable by a $500 - $4,000 fine; punishment in jail (not to exceed one year); or both. For questions call (512) 389-4630.

LICENSE REINSTATEMENT

A person who seeks to reinstate their license after revocation, denial or suspension must apply for license privilege reinstatement and pay a $100 fee.

INTERSTATE WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT

Texas is a member of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact (IWVC) which allows member states to share information about wildlife violators and to deny licensure to persons who have failed to comply with conservation law in member states. For more information call (512) 389-8801.

Operation Game Thief

Operation Game Thief (OGT) is an official Texas wildlife crime-stopper program and a privately funded 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Please consider supporting efforts to protect precious natural resources and keep the waterways safe by sending a tax-deductible donation to OGT, or by becoming an OGT member, **ogttx.org**. Donations can also be sent to TPWD, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744, or received by phone (512) 389-8801.

REWARD HOTLINE: (800) 792-4263

Make a difference by reporting poaching, pollution and dumping, arson in state parks and intoxicated boaters! Up to $1,000 may be paid for information leading to arrest and conviction of a person for a violation of our state's wildlife and fisheries laws, laws related to environmental crime, arson and intoxicated boaters.

Transfer and Importation of Wildlife Resources

TRANSFER OF WILDLIFE AND AQUATIC RESOURCES

A person may give or receive any legally taken wildlife or aquatic resource, or part of the resource, that is required to be tagged or that is protected by a daily bag / possession limit if the resource is accompanied by a **Wildlife Resource Document (WRD)** (pg. 100). A person may use the WRD provided in this guide (pg. 100) or a handwritten document that includes the same required information. The WRD is available online: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/transfer**.

- For deer or pronghorn, a properly executed permit, tag or WRD must accompany the resource (or any part) until it reaches its final destination (pg. 96) and is quartered (pg. 98).
- For turkey, the WRD must remain attached until the turkey reaches its final destination and is finally processed (pg. 58).

For all other wildlife resources, a properly executed WRD must accompany the resource until it reaches the possessor's permanent residence or a cold storage/processing facility, EXCEPT, no WRD is required if a person receiving the wildlife resource does not exceed the possession limit (or bag limit if in the field) and is lawfully licensed or possesses the applicable license. **Migratory Game Birds have different documentation requirements** (pg. 70).

IMPORTATION OF WILDLIFE AND AQUATIC RESOURCES

- It is unlawful to import a wildlife or aquatic resource into this state or possess a resource taken outside this state unless:
  - the person possesses a valid hunting, fishing, or other applicable license, endorsement, tag, permit, or document for the state or country in which the resource was legally taken; and
  - a person produces, upon request of a game warden, a valid driver's license or personal identification certificate.
- See pg. 61 for information related to importation of carcasses from CWD-positive states.
- **IMPORTS FROM MEXICO:** The requirements listed above are waived if a United States Customs Officer's Statement is obtained from the United States Customs Office at the port of entry showing that the wildlife resource was brought in from Mexico. The Customs Officer's statement must accompany the wildlife resource to its final destination.

FISHING

What's New for Fishing

Fresh Water: Allow additional methods to legally possess exotic species such as tilapia and grass carp (pg. 38); modified length and bag limits for blue and channel catfish statewide (pg. 42) and at specific locations (pg. 43-45).

Salt Water: Allow the use up to three crab traps per angler in currently restricted areas of Aransas County. Traps must be securely attached to fixed object such as docks, piers, or bulkheads. Clarify red snapper bag limits. Anglers may never have more than 4 red snapper in their possession while fishing. The entire flounder fishery is closed from Nov 1-Dec 14.

Good Fishing Depends on Clean Water.

Harmful algae blooms can affect fishing spots, creating "dead zones" where no aquatic life can survive. The cause is usually pollution from fertilizers, septic systems, animal waste, and sewage treatment plants. Learn more at **epa.gov/nutrientpollution**. Supporting water quality protection supports great fishing!

Kills and Spills Team

To report saltwater or freshwater fish kills, please contact the Kills and Spills Team (KAST) at (512) 389-4848.

General Regulations for Fresh and Salt Waters

For purposes of this guide, "salt waters" and "coastal waters" mean the same thing.

GAME FISH (includes hybrids or subspecies of listed fish)**:**

Bass (Alabama)	**Catfish** (blue)	**Marlin** (blue)	**Spearfish** (longbill)
Bass (Guadalupe)	**Catfish** (channel)	**Marlin** (white)	**Swordfish** (broadbill)
Bass (largemouth)	**Catfish** (flathead)	**Pickerel**	**Tarpon**
Bass (smallmouth)	**Cobia**	**Red Drum**	**Tripletail**
Bass (spotted)	**Crappie** (black)	**Sailfish**	**Trout** (brown)
Bass (striped)	**Crappie** (white)	**Seatrout** (spotted)	**Trout** (rainbow)
Bass (white)	**Mackerel** (King)	**Sharks**	**Wahoo**
Bass (yellow)	**Mackerel** (Spanish)	**Snook**	**Walleye**

UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES

It is UNLAWFUL to:

- take, kill, or disturb sea turtles. Species found in the Gulf of Mexico include Green, Loggerhead, Kemp's ridley, Leatherback and Hawksbill. If you accidentally catch a sea turtle, immediately call (866) 887-8535 for information on how to help without injuring yourself or causing further injury to the animal.
- take, kill, or disturb any endangered or threatened fish species (e.g., paddlefish, shovel-nosed sturgeon, sawfish, etc.).
- take or kill diamondback terrapin or marine mammals such as porpoises, dolphins or whales. Immediately call (800) 962-6625 (800-9-MAMMAL) to report a stranded marine mammal.

  place any game fish into public waters, other than the body of water where the fish was caught, without a valid permit issued by TPWD. This includes fish caught by pole and line. To apply for a permit to place fish into public waters (no fee required), call (800) 792-1112 (menu 4) or (512) 389-4742, or visit **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/FishForms**.
- use any vessel to harass, herd or drive fish including, but not limited to, operating any vessel in a repeated circular course, for the purpose of, or resulting in, the concentration of fish for the purpose of taking or attempting to take fish.
- uproot or dig out any rooted seagrass plant from a bay bottom or other saltwater bottom by a propeller or any other means. For additional seagrass regulations: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/Seagrass**.
- transport live, nongame fishes taken from:
  - the Red River below Lake Texoma downstream to the Arkansas border,
  - Big Cypress Bayou downstream of Ferrell's Bridge Dam on Lake O' the Pines (including the Texas waters of Caddo Lake), or
  - the Sulphur River downstream of the Lake Wright Patman dam.

  (Nongame fishes collected **from these waters** may be used as live bait on the water bodies where they were collected.)
- intentionally or unintentionally possess or transport aquatic invasive species without a permit; see "Possession and Transport of Exotic Aquatic Species" (pg. 38) for additional information.
- use any game fish or part of a game fish as bait.

Tagging Fish

Although it is legal to place an identification tag (use caution as tags can damage fish) on the exterior of a fish and release it back into public waters, it is unlawful to release a fish with a device or substance implanted or attached to produce an audible, visual, or electronic signal used to monitor, track, follow, or in any manner aid in locating it.

Waste of Fish

It is unlawful to leave edible fish or bait fish to die without the intent to retain it for consumption or bait.

LEGAL FISHING DEVICES AND RESTRICTIONS

Only devices and restrictions listed may be used to take OR ATTEMPT TO TAKE aquatic life. Game fish may be taken only by pole and line (which includes rod and reel), except as otherwise provided in this guide. A person may fish with multiple poles or other devices, except as provided in this guide. In fresh water, it is unlawful to fish with more than 100 hooks on all devices combined. In fresh water, it is unlawful to take fish with a hand-operated device held underwater except that a spear or spear gun may be used to take NONGAME fish.

CAST NET: a net that can be hand-thrown over an area.

- Legal only for taking NONGAME fish and other aquatic animal life (including crabs, crayfish, and shrimp).
- May not be greater than 14 feet in diameter.
- In SALT WATER, nongame fish may be taken for bait purposes only.

CRAB LINE: a baited line with no hook attached
No restrictions.

CRAB TRAPS (for use in SALT WATER only):

- Only six crab traps at a time may be fished for non-commercial purposes.
- May only remove crab traps from the water or remove crabs from crab traps during the period from 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.

Crab Trap Tagging Requirements

Must be used with a valid GEAR TAG, valid for 10 days (pg. 97) and attached within six inches of the buoy or pier to which the trap is tied.

Crab Trap Construction and Design Restrictions

- May not exceed 18 cubic feet.
- Must be equipped with at least two escape vents in each crab-retaining chamber and located on the outside trap walls.
- Escape vents must be at least 2-3/8 inches in diameter.
- Must be marked with a white floating buoy not less than 6 inches in height, 6 inches in length, and 6 inches in width, bearing a 2-inch wide center stripe of contrasting color, attached to the crab trap.
- Buoys or floats may not be made of plastic bottle(s) of any color or size.
- Must be equipped with a degradable panel. A trap is considered to have a degradable panel if one of the following methods is used in construction of the trap:
  - the trap lid tie-down strap is secured to the trap at one end by a simple loop of untreated jute twine, sisal twine or untreated steel wire with a diameter of 20 gauge or smaller. The trap lid must be secured so that when the twine or wire degrades, the lid will no longer be securely closed; or
  - the trap contains at least one sidewall, not including the bottom panel, with a rectangular opening no smaller in either dimension than 3 inches by 6 inches. Any obstruction placed in this opening may not be secured in any manner EXCEPT it may be laced, sewn, or otherwise obstructed by a single length of untreated jute twine, sisal twine or untreated steel wire with a diameter of 20 gauge or smaller knotted only at each end and not tied or looped more than once around a single mesh bar. When the twine or wire degrades, the opening in the sidewall of the trap will no longer be obstructed; or
  - the obstruction may be loosely hinged at the bottom of the opening by no more than two untreated steel hog rings and secured at the top of the obstruction in no more than one place by a single length of untreated jute twine, sisal twine or untreated steel wire with a diameter of 20 gauge or smaller. When the twine or wire degrades, the obstruction will hinge downward and the opening in the sidewall of the trap will no longer be obstructed.

Crab Trap Placement and Location Restrictions

- May not place a crab trap or portion thereof closer than 100 feet from any other crab trap, EXCEPT when traps are secured to a pier or dock.
- May not fish a crab trap in public fresh waters.
- May not fish a crab trap within 200 feet of a marked navigable channel in Aransas County; and in the water area of Aransas Bay within one-half mile of a line from Hail Point on the Lamar Peninsula, then direct to the eastern end of Goose Island, then along the southern shore of Goose Island, then along the eastern shoreline of the Live Oak Peninsula past the town of Fulton, past Nine Mile Point, past the town of Rockport to a point at the east end of Talley Island, including that part of Copano Bay within 1,000 feet of the causeway between Lamar Peninsula and Live Oak Peninsula.
- May not possess, use, or place more than three crab traps in waters north and west of Hwy. 146 where it crosses the Houston Ship Channel in Harris County.
- May not use or place more than three crab traps in public waters of the San Bernard River north of a line marked by the boat access channel at Bernard Acres.
- It is unlawful to place any type of trap within the area in Cedar Bayou between a department sign erected where Mesquite Bay flows into Cedar Bayou and the department sign erected near the point where the pass empties into the Gulf of Mexico.

DIP NET: a mesh bag suspended from a frame attached to a handle.

- Legal only for taking NONGAME fish and other aquatic animal life (including crabs, crayfish, and shrimp).
- May be used to aid in the landing of fish caught by other legal devices.
- In SALT WATER, nongame fish may be taken for bait purposes only.

FOLDING PANEL TRAPS:

- Only crabs may be taken.
- Overall surface area (including panels) may not exceed 16 square feet.

GAFF: any hand-held pole with a hook attached directly to the pole.

- May only be used to aid in the landing of fish caught by other legal devices, means, or methods.
- Fish landed with a gaff MAY NOT be below the minimum, above the maximum, or within a protected length limit.

GIG: any hand-held shaft with single or multiple points, barbed or barbless.
May be used to take NONGAME fish only.

HANDFISHING: fishing by the use of HANDS ONLY

The use of **ANY** other fishing device while handfishing (including but not limited to gaff, pole hook, trap, spear or stick) is unlawful.

- May be used to take channel, blue, and flathead catfish in fresh water only.
- No person may intentionally place a trap (including such devices as boxes, barrels or pipes) in public fresh water for the purpose of taking catfish by handfishing.

JUGLINE: fishing line with five or less hooks and a gear tag tied to a free-floating device.

- For use in FRESH WATER only.
- May be used to take NONGAME fish, channel catfish, blue catfish, and flathead catfish only.

Jugline Tagging and Marking Requirements

- Must be used with a valid GEAR TAG (pg. 97) attached within 6 inches of the free-floating device; gear tag is valid for 6 days after the date set out and must include the number of the permit to sell nongame fish taken from fresh water, if applicable. Properly-marked buoys or floats qualify as valid gear tags.
- For non-commercial purposes, a jugline must be marked with a free-floating device of any color other than orange that is not less than 6 inches in length and 3 inches in width.
- For commercial purposes, a jugline must be marked with an orange, free-floating device that is not less than 6 inches in length and 3 inches in width.

Jugline Placement and Location Restrictions

Juglines **may not** be used in the following:

- Community Fishing Lakes (definition, pg. 96)
- Lake Bryan in Brazos County
- Reservoirs or sections of rivers lying totally within the boundaries of state park
- Bellwood Lake in Smith County
- Boerne City Lake in Kendall County
- Brushy Creek Lake and Brushy Creek downstream from the lake to the Williamson/Milam County line
- Canyon Lake Project #6 in Lubbock County
- Dixieland Reservoir in Cameron County
- South Concho River from Lone Wolf dam to Bell Street dam
- Gibbons Creek Reservoir in Grimes County
- Lake Bastrop in Bastrop County
- Lakes Coffee Mill and Davy Crockett in Fannin County
- Lake Naconiche in Nacogdoches County
- Lake Pflugerville in Travis County
- North Concho River from O.C. Fisher dam to the Bell Street dam
- Tankersley Reservoir in Titus County
- Wheeler Branch Reservoir in Somervell County

LAWFUL ARCHERY EQUIPMENT: includes longbow, recurved bow, compound bow, and crossbow.

- May be used to take NONGAME fish only.
- Any fish that is edible or can be used for bait (includes all gar species, common carp, and buffalo) may not be released back into the water after being taken with lawful archery equipment. See also "Waste of Fish," pg. 33.
- State regulations permit bow fishing in most public waters ("Exceptions to Statewide Freshwater Harvest Regulations," pg. 43, and "Restricted Areas in Counties," pg. 79). Additionally, bow fishers are advised to check with local authorities that may have ordinances restricting use of archery equipment.

MINNOW TRAP:

- Legal only for taking NONGAME fish and other aquatic animal life (including crayfish and shrimp).
- Trap may not exceed 24 inches in length. The throat may not exceed 1 inch by 3 inches.
- Must be marked with a floating, visible buoy of any color other than orange that is not less than 6 inches in length and 3 inches in width. The buoy must have a gear tag attached.
- GEAR TAG (pg. 97) valid for only 6 days must be visibly attached.

OYSTER DREDGE:
May not be more than 14 inches in width.

PERCH TRAPS (for use in SALT WATER only):

- Legal only for taking NONGAME fish and other aquatic animal life (including crayfish and shrimp).
- May not exceed 18 cubic feet.
- Must be marked with a floating visible orange buoy not less than 6 inches in length and 6 inches in width. The buoy must have a GEAR TAG (pg. 97) valid only for 6 days attached.
- Must be equipped with a degradable panel as described for crab traps (pg. 34).
- Buoys or floats may not be made of plastic bottle(s) of any color or size.
- It is unlawful to place any type of trap within the area in Cedar Bayou between a department sign erected where Mesquite Bay flows into Cedar Bayou and the department sign erected near the point where the pass empties into the Gulf of Mexico.

POLE AND LINE: a line with hook, attached to a pole (includes rod and reel).

- May be used to take GAME and NONGAME fish.
- It is unlawful to use a pole and line to take or attempt to take fish by foul-hooking, snagging, or jerking. A fish is foul-hooked when caught by a hook in an area other than the fish's mouth.
- In the Guadalupe River in Comal County starting 800 yards downstream from the Canyon Dam release and extending downstream to the second bridge crossing on River Road, rainbow and brown trout may not be retained

when taken by any method except artificial lures. In this area only, artificial lures cannot contain or have attached either whole or portions, living or dead, of organisms such as fish, crayfish, insects (grubs, larvae or adults) or worms, any other animal or vegetable material, or synthetic scented materials. This does not prohibit the use of artificial lures that contain components of hair or feathers. It is an offense to possess rainbow and brown trout while fishing with any other device in that part of the Guadalupe River defined in this paragraph.

- Pole and line is the only lawful method for taking game fish and nongame fish from Community Fishing Lakes (definition, pg. 96), sections of rivers lying totally within boundaries of a state park, the North Concho River from O.C. Fisher dam to the Bell Street dam, the South Concho River from Lone Wolf dam to Bell Street dam, Wheeler Branch Reservoir, Lake Pflugerville, Brushy Creek Lake and Brushy Creek downstream from the lake to the Williamson/Milam County line, and Canyon Lake Project #6.

SAIL LINE: a type of trotline with one end of the main line fixed on the shore, the other end of the main line attached to a wind-powered floating device or sail (for use in SALT WATER only).

- Nongame fish, red drum, spotted seatrout, and sharks may be taken with a sail line.
- No more than one sail line may be used per fisherman.
- The sail line must be attended at all times the line is fishing.
- Sail lines may not be used by the holder of a commercial fishing license.
- Sail lines may be used seven days a week.

Sail Line Tagging Requirements

Must have a valid SALTWATER TROTLINE TAG for each 300 feet of mainline or fraction thereof being fished.

Sail Line Construction and Design Restrictions

- Sail line may not exceed 1,800 feet from reel to sail.
- Sail and the most shoreward float must be bright orange or red. All other floats must be yellow. No float may be more than 200 feet from the sail.
- A weight of 1 ounce or more must be attached to the line not less than 4 feet or more than 6 feet shoreward of the most shoreward float.
- Reflectors of not less than 2 square inches shall be attached to the sail and floats. They must be easily seen from all directions. This applies for sail lines operated from 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise.
- May have no more than 30 hooks.
- There is no hook spacing requirement between hooks.
- No hook may be placed more than 200 feet from the sail.
- May be baited with either natural or artificial bait.

Sail Line Placement and Location Restrictions

Must meet placement and location requirements for saltwater trotlines (pg. 38).

SAND PUMPS: self-contained, hand-held, hand-operated suction device used to remove and capture Callianassid ghost shrimp.

- May only be manually operated.
- May not be used for commercial purposes.

SEINE: a section of non-metallic mesh webbing, with the top edge buoyed upwards by a floatline and the bottom edge weighted (includes a push net).

- Legal only for taking NONGAME fish and other aquatic animal life (including crabs, crayfish, and shrimp).
- May not be longer than 20 feet.
- May not have mesh exceeding 1/2-inch square.
- Must be manually operated.
- In SALT WATER, nongame fish may be taken by seine for bait purposes only.

SHAD TRAWL: a bag-shaped net which is dragged along the bottom or through the water to catch aquatic life (for use in FRESH WATER only).

- Legal only for taking NONGAME fish and other aquatic animal life (including crayfish and shrimp).
- May not be longer than 6 feet or with a mouth larger than 36 inches in diameter.
- May be equipped with a funnel or throat and must be towed by boat or hand.

SPEAR: any shaft with single or multiple points, barbed or barbless, which may be propelled by any means, but does not include arrows (may be used to take NONGAME fish only).

SPEAR GUN: any hand-operated device designed and used for propelling a spear, but does not include the crossbow. May be used to take NONGAME fish only, not a legal means to take fish in a community fishing lake.

THROWLINE: a fishing line with five or less hooks and with one end attached to a permanent fixture, a float attached at or above the water line, and a gear tag. Components of a throwline may also include swivels, snaps, rubber, and rigid support structures (for use in FRESH WATER only).

- May be used to take NONGAME fish, channel catfish, blue catfish, and flathead catfish only.
- Must be used with a valid gear tag attached. Gear tag is valid for 6 days after the date set out.
- For non-commercial purposes, must be marked with a float of any color other than orange that is not less than 6 inches in length and 3 inches in width.
- For commercial purposes, must be marked with an orange float that is not less than 6 inches in length and 3 inches in width.

Throwlines Placement and Location Restrictions

Throwlines **may not** be used in the following:

- Community Fishing Lakes (definition, pg. 96)
- Lake Bryan in Brazos County
- Reservoirs or sections of rivers lying totally within the boundaries of state park
- Bellwood Lake in Smith County
- Boerne City Lake in Kendall County
- Brushy Creek Lake and Brushy Creek downstream from the lake to the Williamson/Milam County line
- Canyon Lake Project #6 in Lubbock County
- Dixieland Reservoir in Cameron County
- South Concho River from Lone Wolf dam to Bell Street dam
- Gibbons Creek Reservoir in Grimes County
- Lake Bastrop in Bastrop County
- Lakes Coffee Mill and Davy Crockett in Fannin County
- Lake Naconiche in Nacogdoches County
- Lake Pflugerville in Travis County
- North Concho River from O.C. Fisher dam to the Bell Street dam
- Tankersley Reservoir in Titus County
- Wheeler Branch Reservoir in Somervell County

TRAWL (Individual Bait-Shrimp Trawl): a bag-shaped net which is dragged along the bottom or through the water to catch aquatic life.

Only hand-operated trawls are permitted; use of mechanical devices is unlawful. For use in **SALT WATER** only.

- Only one trawl per boat is allowed.
- Must have an individual bait-shrimp trawl tag in one's possession while trawling (pg. 21).
- Must not be greater than 20 feet in width between the doors.
- Mesh size must not be smaller than 8-3/4 inches over a consecutive series of five stretched meshes.
- Boards must not be larger than 450 square inches each.
- Nongame fish (EXCEPT those species regulated by bag or size limits) taken incidental to legal shrimping operations may be retained.
- "Legal shrimping operations" means the use of a legal trawl in places, at times, and in manners as authorized by TPWD (see Shrimp section for details, pg. 52).
- 200 nongame fish taken with an individual bait-shrimp trawl may be retained per person for bait purposes only.

TROTLINE: a non-metallic main fishing line with more than five hooks attached, with each end attached to a fixture, floats attached at or above the water line, and a gear tag.

- Nongame fish, channel catfish, blue catfish, and flathead catfish may be taken by trotline.
- Red drum, spotted seatrout, and sharks caught on a trotline may not be retained or possessed.

Trotline General Construction and Design Restrictions

Trotlines may not be used with:

- a mainline length exceeding 600 feet;
- hooks spaced less than 3 horizontal feet apart;
- metallic stakes; or
- the main fishing line and attached hooks and stagings placed above the water's surface.

Trotlines in FRESH WATER

Trotline (Freshwater) Tagging and Marking Requirements

- Must be used with a valid GEAR TAG (pg. 97). Properly-marked buoys or floats qualify as valid gear tags. Gear tags must be attached within 3 feet of the first hook at each end of the trotline and are valid for 6 days after the date set out.
- For non-commercial purposes, must be marked with floats of any color other than orange that are not less than 6 inches in length and 3 inches in width.
- For commercial purposes, must be marked with orange floats that are not less than 6 inches in length and 3 inches in width.

Trotline (Freshwater) Construction and Design Restrictions

May not have more than 50 hooks on any one trotline.

Trotlines (Freshwater) Placement and Location Restrictions

Trotlines **may not** be used in the following:

- Community Fishing Lakes (definition, pg. 96)
- Lake Bryan in Brazos County
- Reservoirs or sections of rivers lying totally within the boundaries of state park
- Bellwood Lake in Smith County
- Boerne City Lake in Kendall County
- Brushy Creek Lake and Brushy Creek downstream from the lake to the Williamson/Milam County line
- Canyon Lake Project #6 in Lubbock County
- Dixieland Reservoir in Cameron County
- South Concho River from Lone Wolf dam to Bell Street dam
- Gibbons Creek Reservoir in Grimes County
- Lake Bastrop in Bastrop County
- Lakes Coffee Mill and Davy Crockett in Fannin County
- Lake Naconiche in Nacogdoches County
- Lake Pflugerville in Travis County
- North Concho River from O.C. Fisher dam to the Bell Street dam
- Tankersley Reservoir in Titus County
- Wheeler Branch Reservoir in Somervell County

Trotlines in SALT WATER

No more than one trotline may be used per angler.

Trotline (Saltwater) Tagging Requirements

MUST have a valid SALTWATER TROTLINE TAG attached to each 300 feet of mainline or fraction thereof. MUST be purchased at coastal TPWD Law Enforcement offices (pg. 99). MUST be used with a valid GEAR TAG (pg. 97) attached within 3 feet of the first hook at each end of the trotline. Tag does not need to be dated.

Trotline (Saltwater) Construction and Design Restrictions

- Must be marked with a yellow floating buoy not less than 6 inches in height, 6 inches in length, and 6 inches in width, bearing a two-inch wide stripe of contrasting color, attached to end fixtures.
- Buoys or floats may not be made of plastic bottle(s) of any color or size.
- May not be baited with other than natural bait. Natural bait is a whole or cut-up portion of a fish or shellfish or a whole or cut-up portion of plant material in its natural state, provided that none of these may be altered beyond cutting into portions.
- May not be used with hooks other than circle-type hook with point curved in and having a gap (distance from point to shank) of no more than one-half inch, and with the diameter of the circle not less than five-eighths inch.

Trotline (Saltwater) Placement and Location Restrictions

- May not be used in or on the waters of the Gulf of Mexico within the jurisdiction of this state.
- May not be placed closer than 50 feet from any other trotline, or set within 200 feet of the edge of the Intracoastal Waterway or its tributary channels.
- May not be used in Aransas County in Little Bay and the water area of Aransas Bay within one-half mile of a line from Hail Point on the Lamar Peninsula, then direct to the eastern end of Goose Island, then along the southern shore of Goose Isl and, then along the causeway between Lamar Peninsula and Live Oak Peninsula, then along the eastern shoreline of the Live Oak Peninsula past the town of Fulton, past Nine-Mile Point, past the town of Rockport to a point at the east end of Talley Island, including that part of Copano Bay within 1,000 feet of the causeway between Lamar Peninsula and Live Oak Peninsula.
- No trotline or trotline components (EXCEPT sail lines), including lines and hooks, but excluding poles, may be left in or on coastal waters between the hours of 1 p.m. on Friday through 1 p.m. on Sunday of each week, except attended sail lines. In the event small craft advisories or higher marine weather advisories issued by the National Weather Service are in place at 8 a.m. on Friday, trotlines may remain in the water until 6 p.m. on Friday. If small craft advisories are in place at 1 p.m. on Friday, trotlines may remain in the water until Saturday. When small craft advisories are lifted by 8 a.m. on Saturday, trotlines must be removed by 6 p.m. on Saturday. When small craft advisories or higher marine weather advisories are still in place at 1 p.m. on Saturday, trotlines may remain in the water through 1 p.m. on Sunday. It is a violation to tend, bait, or harvest fish or any other aquatic life from trotlines during the period that trotline removal requirements are suspended under this provision for adverse weather conditions. For purposes of enforcement, the geographic area customarily covered by marine weather advisories will be delineated by department policy.

UMBRELLA NET: a non-metallic mesh net that is suspended horizontally in the water by multiple lines attached to a rigid frame.

- Legal only for taking NONGAME fish and other aquatic animal life (including crabs, crayfish, and shrimp).
- May not have within the frame an area that exceeds 16 square feet.

OTHER DEVICES: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) and bait launchers are approved methods for the delivery of bait. Federal regulations apply.

POSSESSION OF FISH TAKEN FROM PUBLIC WATER

Fish caught and immediately released are not considered to be in possession. Any fish that are retained by using any type of holding device such as stringer, cooler, livewell, or bucket are considered in an angler's possession and must adhere to established length and bag limits. While fishing, it is illegal to be in possession of more fish than the daily bag limit or fish that are within a protected length limit.

In order to verify length and species, a fish caught may not have the head or tail removed and may not be filleted until an angler finally lands the catch on the mainland, a peninsula, or barrier island not including jetties or piers and does not transport the catch by boat. For broadbill swordfish and king mackerel, the head OR tail may be removed but the remainder of the carcass must remain intact and may not be filleted. For sharks, ONLY the head may be removed. The remainder of the carcass (including the tail) must remain intact and may not be filleted.

Any fish taken from public water and landed by boat or person in Texas must adhere to the length limits and daily bag and possession limits established for those fish in Texas regardless of the state or country in which they were caught.

The bag limit for a guided fishing party is equal to the total number of persons in the boat licensed to fish or otherwise exempt from holding a license minus each fishing guide and fishing guide deckhand multiplied by the bag limit for each species harvested.

POSSESSION AND TRANSPORT OF EXOTIC AQUATIC SPECIES

The intentional or unintentional possession or transportation of aquatic invasive species without a permit is illegal in Texas. For a list of harmful and potentially harmful aquatic species, visit **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/invasives**.

Learn how to properly dispose of aquarium plants and animals at **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/aquarium.**

It is UNLAWFUL to:

- possess or transport any exotic aquatic plant or animal listed as harmful or potentially harmful. This includes: plants such as hydrilla, water hyacinth, and giant salvinia; fishes such as tilapia and invasive carps (grass, silver, and bighead carp); and zebra mussels.
  - boats with attached zebra mussels may be moved to a maintenance shop for cleaning or other maintenance provided the department is notified at least 72 hours in advance using the Boat Maintenance Movement Notice form: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/zmform**. Boats moving to another lake after maintenance may require inspection and decontamination.
- possess any tilapia, grass carp, or any other fish listed as harmful or potentially harmful without first killing the fish by gutting, beheading, gill-cutting, or other means, or placing the fish on ice, except on those waters where a valid Triploid Grass Carp Permit is in effect. In those waters, it is illegal to possess grass carp, and any grass carp caught must be immediately returned to the water unharmed. For a list of waters with a Triploid Grass Carp Permit: tpwd.texas.gov/oa/gcpermits.
- fail to immediately remove and lawfully dispose of any harmful or potentially harmful aquatic plant that is clinging or attached to a vessel, watercraft, trailer, motor vehicle, or other device used to transport or launch a vessel or watercraft. Violators are subject to a fine of $25-$500.

MANDATORY DRAINING OF WATER FROM VESSELS USED ON PUBLIC FRESH WATERS

Persons leaving or approaching public fresh water are required to drain all water from their vessels and on-board receptacles (includes live wells, bilges, motors and any other receptacles or water-intake systems coming into contact with public waters).

This rule applies at all sites where boats can be launched and includes all types and sizes of boats whether powered or not, personal watercraft, sailboats, kayaks/canoes, or any other vessel used to travel on public waters.

- Live fish, including personally caught live bait, cannot be transported from the water body where the fish were caught in or aboard a vessel in water from the water body where the fish were caught. Personally-caught live bait can be used in the water body where it was caught.
- Transport and use of commercially purchased live bait in water while fishing from a vessel is allowed, provided persons in possession of the bait have a receipt that identifies the source of the bait. Any live bait purchased from a location on or adjacent to a public water body that is transported in water from that water body can only be used as bait on that same water body.
- A vessel leaving a public freshwater body may be transported on a public roadway without water being drained, provided the vessel is transported via the most direct route to another access point located on the same water body during the same day.
- Persons participating in a fishing tournament confined to one water body are allowed to transport live fish in water from that single water body to an identified off-site weigh-in location, provided all water is drained and properly disposed of before leaving that location. Participants must possess documentation provided by tournament organizers that identify them as participants in a tournament.
- Marine sanitary systems are not covered by these regulations.
- Following these procedures does not exempt persons from complying with prohibitions against transporting exotic aquatic species that are visible to the unaided eye, such as adult zebra mussels, which may be attached to boats or trailers.

FISH CONSUMPTION BANS AND ADVISORIES

The Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) monitors fish in the state for the presence of environmental contaminants and alerts the public through bans and advisories when a threat to human health may occur from the consumption of contaminated fish. For a listing of all consumption bans and advisories, and a listing of areas tested where no bans or advisories were issued, visit **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/seafood**, call (800) 685-0361 (shellfish) or (512) 834-6757 (fish) or email: **seafood.regulatory@dshs.texas.gov**.

RESERVOIR BOUNDARIES

- **Buchanan Reservoir** in Burnet, Lampasas, Llano, and San Saba counties comprises all impounded waters of the Colorado River from Lake Buchanan dam upstream to the U.S. Hwy. 190 bridge.
- **Caddo Lake** in Marion and Harrison counties comprises all impounded waters of Big Cypress Bayou from the Texas-Louisiana border upstream to the State Hwy. 43 bridge.
- **Canyon Reservoir** in Comal County comprises all impounded waters of the Guadalupe River from the Canyon dam upstream to the U.S. Hwy. 281 bridge.
- **Lake Conroe** in Montgomery and Walker counties comprises all impounded waters of the West Fork of the San Jacinto River from the Lake Conroe Dam upstream to the FM Road 1791 bridge.
- **Cooper Lake** (Jim L. Chapman Lake) in Delta and Hopkins counties comprises all waters within the Corps of Engineers lands on Cooper Lake upstream from State Hwy. 19/154 and downstream from FM Road 71.
- **Falcon International Reservoir** in Starr and Zapata counties comprises all impounded waters of the Rio Grande from Falcon Dam upstream to the Zapata/Webb county line.
- **Lake Georgetown** in Williamson County comprises all impounded waters of the North Fork of the San Gabriel River from the Lake Georgetown Dam upstream to the U.S. Hwy. 183 bridge.
- **Gibbons Creek Reservoir** in Grimes County comprises all waters within the Texas Municipal Power Agency property boundaries.
- **Inks Lake** in Burnet and Llano counties comprises all impounded waters of the Colorado River from the Roy Inks Dam (Inks Lake Dam) upstream to the Lake Buchanan Dam.
- **Lake Limestone** in Leon, Limestone, and Robertson counties comprises all impounded waters of the Navasota River from the Lake Limestone dam upstream to the Fort Parker State Park Lake Dam.
- **Lake Livingston** in Leon, Houston, Madison, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, and Walker counties comprises all impounded waters of the Trinity River from the Lake Livingston Dam upstream to the lock and dam near State Hwy. 7.
- **Lake Lyndon B. Johnson** in Burnet and Llano counties comprises all impounded waters of the Colorado River from the Alvin Wirtz Dam (Lake Lyndon B. Johnson Dam) upstream to the Roy Inks Dam (Inks Lake Dam) including the Llano River upstream to the State Hwy. 16 bridge and Sandy Creek upstream to the State Hwy. 71 bridge.
- **Lake Marble Falls** in Burnet County comprises all impounded waters of the Colorado River from the Max Starcke Dam (Lake Marble Falls Dam) upstream to the Alvin Wirtz Dam (Lake Lyndon B. Johnson Dam).
- **Lake Murvaul** in Panola County comprises all impounded waters of Murvaul Creek Bayou upstream from the Lake Murvaul Dam and Murvaul Creek Bayou downstream from the dam to the FM Road 1970 bridge.
- **Lake O' The Pines** in Camp, Marion, Morris, and Upshur counties comprises all impounded waters of Big Cypress Creek from Ferrell's Bridge Dam (Lake O' The Pines Dam) upstream to the U.S. Hwy. 259 bridge.
- **Lake Palestine** in Anderson, Cherokee, Henderson, Smith, and Van Zandt counties comprises all impounded waters of the Neches River from the Blackburn Crossing Dam (Lake Palestine Dam) upstream to the FM Road 279 bridge, including Kickapoo and Flat creeks in Henderson County.
- **Lake Pat Mayse** in Lamar County comprises all impounded waters of Sanders Creek from Pat Mayse Lake Dam upstream to County Road 35610.
- **Purtis Creek State Park Lake** in Henderson and Van Zandt counties comprises all waters within the Purtis Creek State Park boundaries.
- **Lake Somerville** in Burleson, Lee, Milam, and Washington counties comprises all impounded waters of Yegua, East Yegua and Middle Yegua Creeks upstream from the Lake Somerville Dam.
- **Toledo Bend Reservoir** in Newton, Panola, Sabine, and Shelby counties comprises all impounded waters of the Sabine River from Toledo Bend Dam upstream to the Texas – Louisiana state line in Panola County.
- **Lake Travis** in Burnet and Travis counties comprises all impounded waters of the Colorado River from the Mansfield Dam (Lake Travis Dam) upstream to the Max Starcke Dam (Lake Marble Falls Dam), including the Pedernales River upstream to the Hammetts Crossing-Hamilton Pool Road bridge.

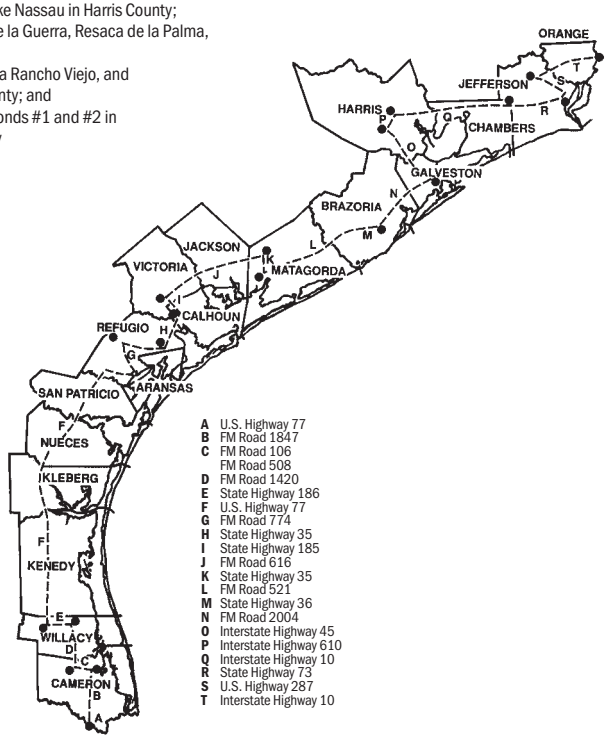
FRESHWATER/SALTWATER BOUNDARIES

All public waters east and south of the following boundary are considered salt water:

Beginning at the International Toll Bridge in Brownsville, northward along U.S. Hwy. 77 to the junction of Paredes Lines Road (FM Road 1847) in Brownsville, thence northward along FM Road 1847 to the junction of FM Road 106 east of Rio Hondo, thence westward along FM Road 106 to the junction of FM Road 508 in Rio Hondo, thence northward along FM Road 508 to the junction of FM Road 1420, thence northward along FM Road 1420 to the junction of State Hwy. 186 east of Raymondville, thence westward along State Hwy. 186 to the junction of U.S. Hwy. 77 near Raymondville, thence northward along U.S. Hwy. 77 to the junction of the Aransas River south of Woodsboro, thence eastward along the south shore of the Aransas River to the Junction of the Aransas River Road at the Bonnie View boat ramp; thence northward along the Aransas River Road to the junction of FM Road 136 to FM Road 2678 to the junction of FM Road 774 in Refugio, thence eastward along FM Road 774 to the junction of State Hwy. 35 south of Tivoli, thence northward along State Hwy. 35 to the junction of State Hwy. 185 between Bloomington and Seadrift, northwestward along State Hwy. 185 to the junction of FM Road 616 in Bloomington, thence northeastward along FM Road 616 to the junction of State Hwy. 35 east of Blessing, thence southward along State Hwy. 35 to the junction of FM Road 521 north of Palacios, thence northeastward along FM Road 521 to the junction of State Hwy. 36 south of Brazoria, thence southward along State Hwy. 36 to the junction of FM Road 2004, thence northward along FM Road 2004 to the junction of Interstate Hwy. 45 between Dickinson and La Marque, thence northwestward along Interstate Hwy. 45 to the junction of Interstate Hwy. 610 in Houston, thence east and northward along Interstate Hwy. 610 to the junction of Interstate Hwy. 10 in Houston, thence eastward along Interstate Hwy. 10 to the junction of State Hwy. 73 in Winnie, thence eastward along State Hwy. 73 to the junction of U.S. Hwy. 287 in Port Arthur, thence northwestward along U.S. Hwy. 287 to the junction of Interstate Hwy. 10 in Beaumont, thence eastward along Interstate Hwy. 10 to the Louisiana State Line.

The following public waters ARE NOT considered salt water:

1. waters of Spindletop Bayou inland from the concrete dam at Russels Landing on Spindletop Bayou in Jefferson County;
2. north of the dam on Lake Anahuac in Chambers County;
3. the waters of Taylor Bayou and Big Hill Bayou inland from the saltwater locks on Taylor Bayou in Jefferson County;
4. Galveston County Reservoir on State Hwy. 146 and Galveston State Park Ponds #1 through #7 in Galveston County;
5. Lakeview City Park Lake, West Guth Park Pond, and Waldron Park Pond in Nueces County;
6. Lake Burke-Crenshaw and Lake Nassau in Harris County;
7. Fort Brown Resaca, Resaca de la Guerra, Resaca de la Palma, Resaca de los Cuates;
8. Resaca de los Fresnos, Resaca Rancho Viejo, and Town Resaca in Cameron County; and
9. Little Chocolate Bayou Park Ponds #1 and #2 in Port Lavacain Calhoun County



SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS FOR ALLIGATOR GAR

Temporary Closures
When conditions are conducive for spawning of alligator gar, the TPWD Executive Director may temporarily prohibit taking or attempting to take alligator gar in a specified area for a period up to 30 days. Examples include water temperatures between 68 to 82°F and occurrence of moderate flood levels as defined and reported by U.S. Geological Survey gauges (**tpwd.texas.gov/oa/WaterTemp**). Notice of this action will be posted on tpwd.texas.gov, distributed to news media, and shared through social media. The notice will specify the area to be closed and the date by which lawful fishing for alligator gar may resume. For current closure notices, visit **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/GarClosure**.

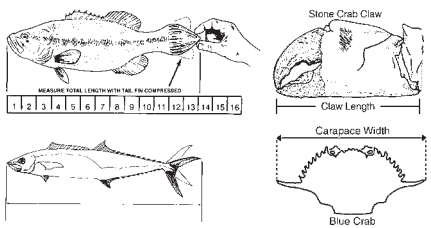
Mandatory Harvest Reporting
All alligator gar harvested from the public waters of the state other than Falcon International Reservoir must be reported within 24 hours to the department via mobile app or online. Report your harvest with "My Texas Hunt Harvest" app (the App Store for IOS devices, or Google Play for Android devices), or visit **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/gar**.

Drawing for Harvest Opportunity on Trinity River
From September 1-30, anglers can enter a drawing that will allow persons selected to harvest one alligator gar over 48 inches in length from the Trinity River. Anglers will be selected through a random draw of applicants and those selected will be notified by October 15. You would have to possess a fishing license (or be otherwise exempted) to enter the drawing. Anglers chosen would receive a non-transferable harvest authorization to harvest one alligator gar from the date of issuance through August 31, 2022. The harvest authorization could be used day or night, and alligator gar could be taken by any legal means including archery equipment and crossbows. **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/GarDraw**

HOW TO MEASURE FISH AND CRABS

Use these guidelines to measure fish correctly:

1. Place the fish on its side with the jaw closed.
2. Squeeze the tail fin together or turn it in a way to obtain the maximum overall length.
3. Measure a straight line from the tip of the snout to the extreme tip of the tail fin.



TIPS FOR CATCH-AND-RELEASE FISHING

Give your fish the best chance at survival by following these tips:

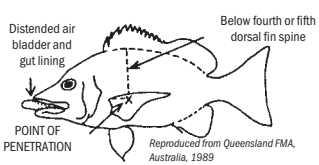
- Play and land fish as quickly as possible.
- Minimize the time fish is out of the water (no longer than you can hold your breath).
- Wet your hands to avoid removing the protective mucus or "slime" on the fish.
- Hold smaller fish (under 5 lbs.) vertically by the lower jaw. Never hold fish horizontally by its jaw unless supporting the fish with a second hand under its body.
- Fish using barbless hooks, or tamp down the barb of your hook using needle-nose pliers.
- Attempt to remove all hooks before releasing a fish (most will not rust out). For details on hook removal, depressurizing overinflated air bladders, and more fish survival tips, see **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/CatchAndRelease**

RELEASING SALTWATER FISHES

When releasing a fish that seems unable to swim, cannot right itself or is showing a distended air bladder:

- Gently insert a thin point or an approved device through the side of the fish immediately behind the upper part of the pectoral fin base. This is usually directly below the fourth or fifth spine.
- Hold fish upright in water and face it into the current, gently forcing water through gills.

For tips on releasing sharks see: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/sharks.**



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SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

- **It is a violation** to move, remove, deface, alter, or destroy any sign, depth marker, or other informational signage placed by the department within the Redfish Bay State Scientific Area or to delineate boundaries of the Redfish Bay State Scientific Area.
- Portions of the **Rio Grande adjacent to the Black Gap Wildlife Management Area** are designated as a National "Wild and Scenic River." Federal fishing rules apply. **nps.gov/bibe/learn/management/fishing_regulations.htm**

Freshwater Fishing

GENERAL FRESHWATER FISHING

- **In fresh water, it is unlawful** to fish with more than 100 hooks on all devices combined.
- Please review General Regulation for Fresh and Salt Waters (pg. 33) for additional regulations, legal fishing devices, and means and methods.

HARVEST REGULATIONS

- Statewide regulations apply for all public fresh waters except for those noted in the "Exceptions to Statewide Freshwater Harvest Regulations" (pg. 43).
- Possession limits are twice the statewide daily bag limits except for striped bass from Lake Texoma and alligator gar from Falcon International Reservoir (pg. 39). For locations that have larger daily bag limits for some species (Caddo Reservoir, Lake Livingston, the Sabine River below Toledo Bend Reservoir, Sam Rayburn Reservoir, and Toledo Bend Reservoir), possession limits remain twice the statewide daily bag limits (pg. 42).
- It is a violation to leave unattended for any period of time or anchor a barge, boat, or fishing platform in the Trinity River below Livingston Dam in an area 1,000 feet from the dam to a point 1,500 feet downstream from the dam:
  - for more than 10 hours in a 24-hour period without moving 100 feet or more during that time, or for five or more consecutive days, whether or not it has been moved.
- For saltwater finfish species caught in the brackish or fresh waters of this state, the same statewide bag, possession, and length limits as listed on pgs. 49-50 apply.

STATEWIDE BAG AND LENGTH LIMITS FOR FRESHWATER FISH

SPECIES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	LENGTH IN INCHES (minimum)
Bass - largemouth *(listing for "Southeast Texas" for largemouth bass limit, pg. 44)*	5 (in any combination)	14
Bass - smallmouth		14
Bass - Alabama, Guadalupe and spotted		No Limit
Bass - striped and hybrid striped (also known as palmetto or sunshine bass)	5 (in any combination)	18
Bass - white	25	10
Bass - yellow	No Limit	No Limit
Catfish - Channel and blue (includes their hybrids and subspecies)	25 (in any combination - only 10 can be 20 inches or greater in length)	No Limit
Catfish - flathead	5	18
Crappie - white and black, their hybrids and subspecies	25 (in any combination)	10
Paddlefish	No harvest allowed	
Gar - alligator *See Special Restrictions - includes mandatory harvest reporting (pg. 41).* *See notes on "Lawful Archery Equipment" (pg. 35).*	1	No Limit
Shad - gizzard and threadfin Collection for bait or other personal use and transport from a public water body in containers that total 30 gallons or more requires the Permit to Possess or Sell Nongame Fish Taken from Public Fresh Waters, **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/FishForms**	No Limit	No Limit
Sunfish - Various species including bluegill, redear, green, warmouth, and longear	No Limit	No Limit
Trout - Rainbow and brown, their hybrids and subspecies	5 (in any combination)	No Limit
Walleye, Saugeye	5 (only 2 can be less than 16 inches in length)	No Limit

For fishes not listed above, there are no statewide bag or length limits. However, there are special requirements associated with the harvest of harmful or potentially harmful exotic fishes (tilapia, grass carp), pg. 38.

EXCEPTIONS TO STATEWIDE BAG AND LENGTH LIMITS FOR FRESHWATER FISH

Bait Fish Exceptions

In Brewster, Crane, Crockett, Culberson, Ector, El Paso, Jeff Davis, Hudspeth, Kinney, Loving, Pecos, Presidio, Reeves, Terrell, Upton, Val Verde, Ward, and Winkler counties, the only fishes that may be used or possessed for bait while fishing are common carp, fathead minnows, gizzard and threadfin shad, golden shiners, goldfish, Mexican tetra, Rio Grande cichlid, silversides (*Atherinidae family*) and sunfish (*Lepomis*).

Exceptions to Statewide Harvest Regulations

How to use the table: First, locate fishing location (listed in alphabetical order). Then check the counties listed to the right to make sure you have the correct location. If those match, note the regulation exceptions. Exception codes are listed beginning on pg. 45. EXAMPLE: Lake Bastrop is located in Bastrop County. Exceptions (to statewide regulations) are **Bass8** and **Gear3**. Please read (and comply with) each exception. MLL = Minimum Length Limit.

If your fishing location is not listed in the exceptions table, statewide regulations apply. If the lake is less than 75 acres and within a public park, it is most likely a Community Fishing Lake (definition, pg. 96). See the Community Fishing Lakes listing for regulation exceptions on these water bodies.

EXCEPTIONS TO STATEWIDE FRESHWATER HARVEST REGULATIONS

LOCATION	COUNTY	EXCEPTIONS		
Alan Henry	Garza	Bass12		
Athens	Henderson	Bass8		
Bastrop	Bastrop	Bass8	Gear3	
Bedford Boys Ranch	Tarrant	C&R2		
Bellwood	Smith	Bass1	Ctfsh1	Gear3
Belton	Bell, Coryell	Ctfsh3		
Bob Sandlin	Titus, Camp, Franklin	Ctfsh3		
Boerne City Lake	Kendall	Gear3		
Braunig	Bexar	RDrm1	Ctfsh4	
Bright	Williamson	Bass6	Ctfsh2	Gear2
Brushy Creek Lake and Brushy Creek downstream from the lake to the Williamson/Milam County line	Williamson		Ctfsh2	Gear2
Bryan	Brazos	Gear3		
Buck	Kimble	Bass4	Ctfsh2	Gear1
Buescher State Park Lake	Bastrop	Bass8	Ctfsh2	Gear1
Caddo*	Harrison, Marion	Bass13 Ctfsh6	Crpie1 S&W5	Ctfsh5
Calaveras	Bexar	Ctfsh4	RDrm1	
Canyon Lake Project #6	Lubbock	Ctfsh2	Gear2	
Casa Blanca	Webb	Bass6		
Choke Canyon	Live Oak, McMullen	Ctfsh4		
Cleburne State Park Lake	Johnson	Bass6	Ctfsh2	Gear1
Coffee Mill	Fannin	Gear3		
Coleto Creek Reservoir	Goliad, Victoria	RDrm1		
Community Fishing Lakes (except Reservoirs totally within State Parks; see State Park Lakes, pg. 44)	Various - definition, pg. 96	Ctfsh2	Gear2	
Concho River (North Concho River from O.C. Fisher dam to the Bell Street dam and South Concho River from Lone Wolf dam to Bell Street dam)	Tom Green	Ctfsh2	Gear2	
Conroe*	Montgomery, Walker	Bass5	Ctfsh3	
Davy Crockett	Fannin	Bass1	Gear3	
Devils River (including tributaries) from State Hwy. 163 bridge downstream to the confluence with Big Satan Creek	Val Verde	Bass3		
Dixieland	Cameron	Ctfsh1	Gear3	
Elm	Fort Bend	Ctfsh2	Gear1	
Fairfield	Freestone	Bass6	RDrm1	
Falcon	Starr, Zapata	Gar2		
Fayette County	Fayette	Bass9	Ctfsh4	Gear4
Fork	Hopkins, Rains, Wood	Bass9	Crpie2	
Fort Parker State Park Lake	Limestone	Ctfsh2	Gear1	

* Reservoir boundaries (pg. 39)

EXCEPTIONS TO STATEWIDE FRESHWATER HARVEST REGULATIONS

LOCATION	COUNTY	EXCEPTIONS		
Gibbons Creek Reservoir*	Grimes	Bass9	Gear3	
Gilmer	Upshur	Bass6		
Grapevine	Denton, Tarrant	Bass12		
Guadalupe River (for additional restrictions on use of artificial lures, see "Pole and Line," pg. 35)	Comal	Trout1	Trout2	
Houston County	Houston	Bass8		
Hubbard Creek	Stephens	Ctfsh3		
Jacksonville	Cherokee	Bass12		
Joe Pool	Dallas, Ellis, Tarrant	Bass8		
Kirby	Taylor	Ctfsh3		
Kurth	Angelina	Bass1		
Kyle	Hays	C&R1	Gear2	
Lady Bird (Town)	Travis	Bass8	Carp1	
Lake O' The Pines*	Marion, Morris, Upshur	Crpie2		
Lakewood	Williamson	Bass11		
Lavon	Collin	Ctfsh3		
Lewisville	Denton	Ctfsh3		
Livingston*	Houston, Leon, Madison, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, Walker	Ctfsh5	Gar3	
Lost Maples State Natural Area	Bandera	Bass3	Ctfsh2	Gear1
Marine Creek	Tarrant	Bass6		
Meridian State Park Lake	Bosque	Bass6	Ctfsh2	Gear1
Mill Creek Lake	Van Zandt	Bass1		
Mineral Wells	Parker	Ctfsh2	Gear1	
Monticello	Titus	Bass9		
Moss	Cooke	Bass1		
Murvaul*	Panola	Bass8		
Naconiche	Nacogdoches	Bass1	Gear3	
Nacogdoches	Nacogdoches	Bass1		
Nasworthy	Tom Green	Bass7	Crpie1	
Nelson Park Lake	Taylor	Bass4	Ctfsh2	Gear2
O.H. Ivie	Coleman, Concho, Runnels	Bass12		
Palestine	Anderson, Cherokee, Henderson, Smith	Ctfsh3		
Pflugerville	Travis	Bass6	Gear1	
Pilant	Fort Bend	Ctfsh2	Gear1	
Pinkston	Shelby	Bass8	Gear4	
Proctor	Comanche	Ctfsh4		
Purtis Creek SP Lake*	Henderson, Van Zandt	Bass1	Ctfsh2	Gear1
Raven	Walker	Bass1	Ctfsh2	Gear1
Ray Hubbard	Collin, Dallas, Kaufman, Rockwall	Ctfsh3		
Red River below Lake Texoma	Grayson	S&W3	Ctfsh8	
Richland Chambers	Freestone, Navarro	Ctfsh3		
Sections of Rivers within State Parks	Various	Gear1		
Sabine River (from Toledo Bend Dam to Sabine Pass)	Newton, Orange	Bass10 Ctfsh6	Crpie1 S&W2	Ctfsh5 S&W5
Sam Rayburn	Jasper	Ctfsh5		
Sheldon	Harris	Ctfsh2	Gear1	
Southeast Texas (includes public waters bordering adjacent counties)	Chambers, Galveston, Hardin, Jefferson, Liberty (south of U.S. Hwy. 90), Newton, Orange	Bass14		
State Park Lakes (includes reservoirs totally within State Parks)	Various	Ctfsh2	Gear1	
Tankersley	Titus	Ctfsh1	Gear3	

* Reservoir boundaries (pg. 39)

EXCEPTIONS TO STATEWIDE FRESHWATER HARVEST REGULATIONS

LOCATION	COUNTY	EXCEPTIONS		
Tawakoni	Hunt, Rains, Van Zandt	Ctfsh3		
Texoma	Cooke, Grayson	Crpie3 S&W1	Ctfsh8 S&W5	Gar1 Wall1
Timpson	Shelby	Bass8		
Toledo Bend*	Newton, Panola, Sabine, Shelby	Bass2 Ctfsh6	Crpie1 S&W2	Ctfsh5 S&W5
Trinity River	Polk, San Jacinto	Ctfsh7	S&W4	Shad1
Trinity River (from the I-30 bridge in Dallas downstream to the I-10 bridge in Chambers County, including the East Fork of the Trinity River upstream to the dam at Lake Ray Hubbard and Lake Livingston)	Anderson, Chambers, Dallas, Ellis, Freestone, Henderson, Houston, Kaufman, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Navarro, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, Walker	Gar3		
Waco	McLennan	Ctfsh3		
Walter E. Long	Travis	Bass8		
Welsh	Titus	Bass6		
Wheeler Branch	Somervell	Bass8	Gear1	

* Reservoir boundaries (pg. 39)

REGULATION EXCEPTION CODES AND DESCRIPTIONS FOR FRESHWATER FISH

BASS (Alabama, Guadalupe, Largemouth, Smallmouth, and Spotted)

Bass1 - For largemouth bass, only bass 16 inches in length or less may be retained. Daily bag = 5 bass. Bass 24 inches or greater in length may be temporarily retained in a live well or other aerated holding device and immediately weighed using personal scales. Bass weighing 13 pounds or more may be donated to the ShareLunker Program; otherwise, the fish must be immediately released in the lake where caught. Anglers wishing to donate their bass must immediately cease fishing and contact TPWD at (903) 681-0550. Anglers may not remove the bass from the immediate vicinity of the reservoir unless instructed to do so by TPWD staff. Bass not accepted by TPWD must be immediately released.

Bass2 - Daily bag for all five species of bass = 8 bass in any combination. Possession limit = 10. For largemouth bass, MLL = 14 inches.

Bass3 - Catch and release only for all five species of bass.

Bass4 - Catch and release only for largemouth bass.

Bass5 - For largemouth bass, MLL = 16 inches, and daily bag for all four species of bass = 5 bass in any combination.

Bass6 - For largemouth bass; MLL = 18 inches, and daily bag for all four species of bass = 5 bass in any combination.

Bass7 - For largemouth bass, length limit is a 14–18 slot. Bass 14 inches and less or 18 inches or greater in length may be retained, and daily bag for all four species of bass = 5 bass in any combination.

Bass8 - For largemouth bass, length limit is a 14–21 slot. Bass 14 inches and less or 21 inches or greater in length may be retained. Only one bass 21 inches or greater may be retained each day.

Bass9 - For largemouth bass, length limit is a 16–24 slot. Bass 16 inches and less or 24 inches or greater in length may be retained. Only 1 bass 24 inches or greater may be retained each day.

Bass10 - Daily bag for all species of bass = 8 bass in any combination. Possession limit = 10. For largemouth bass, MLL = 12 inches.

Bass11 - For largemouth bass; MLL = 18 inches, and daily bag for all four species of bass = 3 bass in any combination.

Bass12 - For largemouth bass, no MLL, daily bag = 5 bass in any combination. However, only 2 largemouth bass less than 18 inches may be retained each day.

Bass13 - For largemouth bass, length limit is a 14-18 slot. Largemouth bass 14 inches and less or 18 inches or greater in length may be retained, and daily bag for all bass species = 8 bass in any combination of which no more than 4 may be largemouth bass 18 inches or greater. Possession limit = 10.

Bass14 - For largemouth bass, MLL = 12 inches.

BASS (Striped, White, and Hybrid Striped)

S&W1 - For striped bass and hybrid striped bass, no MLL, daily bag = 10 and possession limit = 20, and only 2 striped or hybrid striped bass, 20 inches or greater, may be retained each day. Culling of striped bass and hybrid striped bass is prohibited.

S&W2 - For striped bass, no MLL, daily bag = 5, and only 2 striped bass, 30 inches or greater, may be retained each day.

S&W3 - For striped bass and hybrid striped bass, no MLL and daily bag = 5. Culling of striped bass is prohibited.

S&W4 - For the Trinity River from the Lake Livingston dam downstream to the FM Road 3278 bridge, striped bass MLL = 18 inches and daily bag = 2.

S&W5 - For white bass, no MLL and daily bag = 25.

COMMON CARP

Carp1 - For common carp, only 1 carp 33 inches or greater may be retained each day. There is no daily bag limit for carp less than 33 inches in length.

CATCH AND RELEASE

C&R1 - No harvest of largemouth bass, channel catfish, or any sunfish species is allowed.

C&R2 - No harvest of largemouth bass or sunfish is allowed.

CATFISH (Blue, Channel, and Flathead)

Ctfsh1 - For blue and channel catfish, MLL = 12 inches; daily bag limit = 5 in any combination.

Ctfsh2 - For blue and channel catfish, no MLL; daily bag limit = 5 in any combination.

Ctfsh3 - For blue and channel catfish, no MLL; daily bag limit = 25 fish in any combination. In the 25-fish bag, no more than 5 fish 20 inches or greater in length may be retained, and no more than 1 of those can be 30 inches or longer.

Ctfsh4 - For blue and channel catfish, MLL = 14 inches; combined daily bag limit = 15.

Ctfsh5 - For blue and channel catfish, no MLL; daily bag and possession limit = 50 in any combination, of which no more than 5 may be 30 inches or greater in length.

Ctfsh6 - For flathead catfish, MLL = 18 inches; daily bag and possession limit = 10.

Ctfsh7 - For the Trinity River from the Lake Livingston dam downstream to the FM Road 3278 bridge, blue and channel catfish MLL=12 inches; daily bag limit=10, of which only 2 fish can be 24 inches or larger.

Ctfsh8 - For blue and channel catfish, no minimum length; combined daily bag limit = 15 fish. Only 1 blue catfish 30 inches or greater in length may be retained each day. For flathead catfish, no MLL; daily bag = 5.

CRAPPIE (BLACK AND WHITE)

Crpie1 - For black and white crappie, there is no MLL and daily bag = 25 in any combination.

Crpie2 - For black and white crappie caught from DEC. 1 through the last day of FEB., there is no MLL, daily bag = 25 in any combination, and all crappie caught must be retained.

Crpie3 - For black and white crappie, MLL = 10 inches and daily bag = 37 in any combination. Possession limit = 50.

GAR (ALLIGATOR)

Gar1 - During May, no person shall fish for, take, or seek to take alligator gar in that portion of Lake Texoma encompassed within the boundaries of the Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge or that portion of Lake Texoma from the U.S. 377 bridge (Willis Bridge) upstream to the I.H. 35 bridge.

Gar2 - For alligator gar, daily bag = 5. Possession limit = 10.

Gar3 - Only alligator gar less than 48 inches in length may be retained. Daily bag limit = 1. Between one half-hour after sunset and one half-hour before sunrise, no person may take or possess an alligator gar by means of lawful archery equipment or crossbow unless they possess a harvest authorization *(Special Restrictions for Alligator Gar; Drawing for Harvest – pg. 41)*.

GEAR AND METHODS

(Legal Fishing Devices and Restrictions, pg. 34)

Gear1 - Fishing is by pole and line only.

Gear2 - Fishing is by pole and line only. Anglers may use no more than two poles while fishing.

Gear3 - Use of juglines, throwlines and trotlines is prohibited.

Gear4 - Use of trotlines is prohibited.

RED DRUM

RDrm1 - For red drum, MLL = 20 inches and daily bag = 3 and no maximum length limit.

SHAD (GIZZARD AND THREADFIN SHAD)

Shad1 - For the Trinity River below Lake Livingston between Polk and San Jacinto counties, the daily bag for shad = 500 and the possession limit = 1,000 fish in any combination.

TROUT (RAINBOW AND BROWN TROUT)

Trout1 - For rainbow and brown trout in the Guadalupe River 800 yards downstream from the Canyon Dam release and extending downstream to the easternmost Hwy. 306 bridge crossing, length limit is a 12-18-inch slot. Trout 12 inches and less or 18 inches or greater in length may be retained. Daily bag = 5 trout and only 1 trout 18 inches or greater in length may be retained. Harvest of trout is by artificial lures only. Additional restrictions on use of artificial lures, pg. 35 under "Pole and Line."

Trout2 - For rainbow and brown trout in the Guadalupe River from the easternmost Hwy. 306 bridge crossing downstream to the second bridge crossing River Road, MLL is 18 inches and daily bag is 1 fish. Harvest of trout is by artificial lures only. Additional restrictions on use of artificial lures, pg. 35 under "Pole and Line."

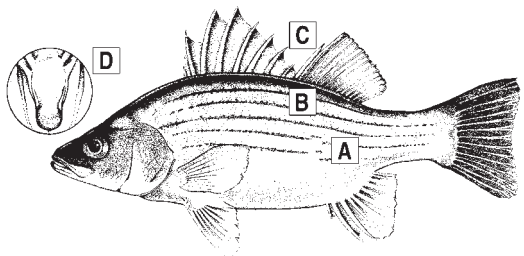
WALLEYE

Wall1 - For walleye, MLL = 18 inches and daily bag = 5.

IDENTIFICATION OF YELLOW, WHITE, STRIPED, AND HYBRID STRIPED BASS

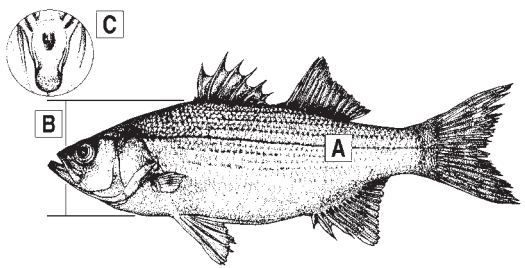
Yellow bass

- **A** Stripes distinct, broken above anal fin
- **B** Color – silvery yellow
- **C** Dorsal fins joined
- **D** Does not have a tooth patch near the midline towards the back of the tongue



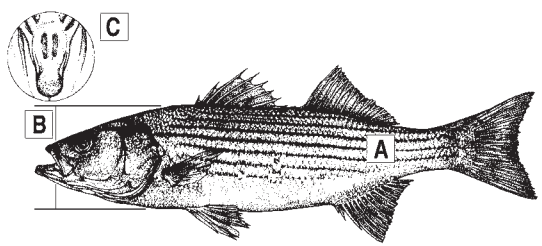
White bass

- **A** Stripes faint, only one extends to tail
- **B** Body deep, more than 1/3 length
- **C** Has one tooth patch near the midline towards the back of the tongue



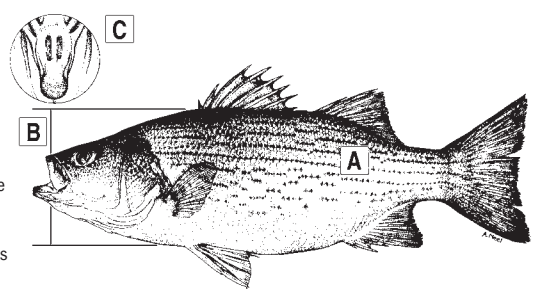
Striped bass

- **A** Stripes distinct, several extend to tail
- **B** Body slender, less than 1/3 length
- **C** Has two, distinct tooth patches near the midline towards the back of the tongue



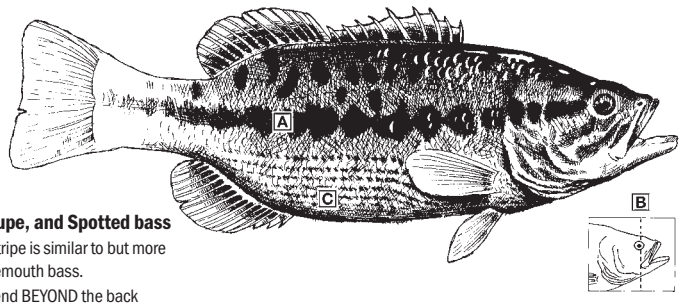
Hybrid striped bass
(also known as Palmetto or Sunshine bass)

- **A** Stripes distinct, usually broken, several extend to tail.
- **B** Body deep, more than 1/3 length
- **C** Has two, tooth patches near the midline on the back of the tongue. Tooth patches may be distinct or close together



NOTE: For hybrid striped bass, all characteristics should be considered for identification, as characteristics in individual fish may vary.

IDENTIFICATION OF ALABAMA, GUADALUPE, SPOTTED, LARGEMOUTH, AND SMALLMOUTH BASS

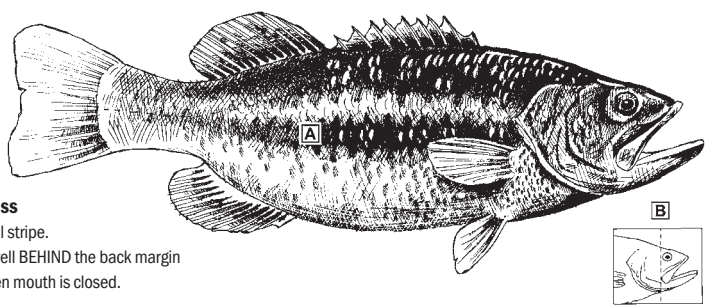


Alabama, Guadalupe, and Spotted bass

A Irregular lateral stripe is similar to but more broken than largemouth bass.

B Jaw does not extend BEYOND the back margin of the eye when mouth is closed.

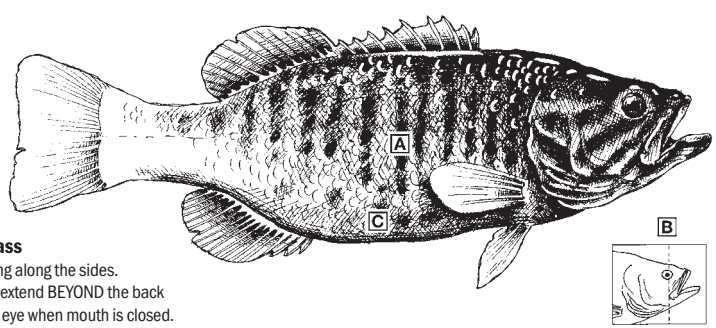
C Spots on scales form "rows" of stripes on whitish belly area.



Largemouth bass

A Definite lateral stripe.

B Jaw extends well BEHIND the back margin of the eye when mouth is closed.



Smallmouth bass

A Vertical barring along the sides.

B Jaw does not extend BEYOND the back margin of the eye when mouth is closed.

C Brownish-green color; white belly area does not extend high on the sides.

Saltwater Fishing

GENERAL SALTWATER FISHING

- It is unlawful to anchor or moor a vessel, barge, or structure for a period exceeding two consecutive days within the area in Cedar Bayou between a department sign erected where Mesquite Bay flows into Cedar Bayou and the department sign erected near the point where the pass empties into the Gulf of Mexico.
- For freshwater finfish species caught in the public salt waters of this state, statewide bag, possession and length limits as listed on pg. 42 apply.
- Please review General Regulation for Fresh and Salt Waters for additional regulations, legal fishing devices, and means and methods.

STATE WATERS – FEDERAL WATERS

Anglers fishing more than 9 nautical miles off the coast of Texas are in federal waters and are subject to rules and regulations that may differ from those in state waters. One example is the federal requirement to use non-stainless circle hooks when fishing for reef fish. Recreational anglers must have a Texas fishing license and saltwater endorsement to possess in state water or land in Texas any fish taken in federal waters. TPWD has the authority to open and close the red snapper fishery in federal water. Anglers may not possess more than 4 red snapper while fishing. For the latest information regarding season dates: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/RedSnapper**. Federal commercial and recreational fishing rules are available at: **gulfcouncil.org/fishing-regulations.**

The limits and restrictions in this guide apply to aquatic life caught in the public waters of Texas out to 9 nautical miles in the Gulf of Mexico, and to aquatic life caught between 9 and 200 nautical miles in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and possessed in state waters or landed in this state. Federal law also regulates species between 9 and 200 nautical miles managed under a Federal Fishery Management Plan. Importation of Wildlife Resources, pg. 32.

Fishing on state-sponsored offshore artificial reefs is subject to the same regulations as other offshore locations: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/ArtificialReef.**

IT IS UNLAWFUL TO POSSESS AQUATIC LIFE IN TEXAS WATERS THAT WAS ILLEGALLY TAKEN IN FEDERAL WATERS.

BAG AND LENGTH LIMITS FOR SALTWATER FISH

The possession limit is equal to double the bag limit unless otherwise noted.

SPECIES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	LENGTH IN INCHES		CLARIFICATION
		Minimum	Maximum	
Amberjack - greater	1	38	No limit	
Bass - Striped, its hybrids and subspecies	5 (in any combination)	18	No limit	
Catfish - Channel and blue, their hybrids and subspecies	25 (in any combination- only 10 can be 20 inches or greater in length)	No limit	No limit	
Catfish - flathead	5	18	No limit	
Catfish - gafftopsail	No limit	14	No limit	
Cobia	2	40	No limit	
Drum - black	5	14	30	No more than one black drum over 52 inches may be retained per person per day and counts as part of the daily bag and possession limit.
Drum - red	3	20	28	During a license year, one red drum over the stated maximum length limit may be retained when affixed with a properly completed Red Drum Tag and one red drum over the stated maximum length limit may be retained when affixed with a properly completed Bonus Red Drum Tag. Any fish retained under authority of a Red Drum Tag or a Bonus Red Drum Tag may be retained in addition to the daily bag and possession limit as stated in this section.
Flounder - all species, their hybrids and subspecies	5	15	No limit	Daily bag is 5 fish except Nov 1-Dec 14 (fishery closed; bag limit = 0). Possession limit = the daily bag.

BAG AND LENGTH LIMITS FOR SALTWATER FISH

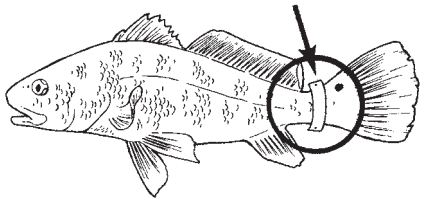
The possession limit is equal to double the bag limit unless otherwise noted.

SPECIES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	LENGTH IN INCHES		CLARIFICATION
		Minimum	Maximum	
Gar - alligator *See Special Restrictions - includes mandatory harvest reporting (pg. 29)*	1	No limit	No limit	
Grouper - black	4	24	No limit	
Grouper - gag	2	24	No limit	
Grouper - goliath (formerly called Jewfish)	0	Catch and release only		
Grouper - Nassau	0	Catch and release only		
Mackerel - king	3	27	No limit	
Mackerel - Spanish	15	14	No limit	
Marlin - blue	No limit	131	No limit	
Marlin - white	No limit	86	No limit	
Mullet - all species, their hybrids and subspecies	No limit	No limit	12 (during Oct - Jan)	May not take from public waters, or possess on board a boat, mullet over 12 inches. No limits apply during other months.
Sailfish	No limit	84	No limit	
Seatrout - spotted	5	15	25	No more than one spotted seatrout over the stated maximum length may be retained per person per day and counts as part of the daily bag and possession limit.
Shark Atlantic sharpnose, blacktip, bonnethead	1	24	No limit	Special Regulation: The daily bag limit is 1 fish for all allowable shark species INCLUDING Atlantic sharpnose, blacktip and bonnethead. Non-offset, non-stainless steel circle hooks MUST be used when fishing for sharks in state waters.
Shark Allowable species		64	No limit	
Shark Hammerhead (smooth, great, scalloped)		99	No limit	
Shark Prohibited species	0	Catch and release only. Non-offset, non-stainless steel circle hooks MUST be used.		Atlantic angel, Basking, Bigeye sand tiger, Bigeye sixgill, Bigeye thresher, Bignose, Caribbean reef, Caribbean sharpnose, Dusky, Galapagos, Longfin mako, Narrowtooth, Night, Oceanic Whitetip, Sandbar, Sand tiger, Sevengill, Silky, Sixgill, Smalltail, Whale
Sheepshead	5	15	No limit	
Snapper - lane	No limit	8	No limit	
Snapper - red	4	15	No limit	May be taken using pole and line. Only circle hooks may be used when using natural bait. Additional regulations, pg. 35.
Snapper - vermilion	No limit	10	No limit	
Snook	1	24	28	
Tarpon	1	85	No limit	
Triggerfish - gray	20	16	No limit	
Tripletail	3	17	No limit	

HOW TO ATTACH RED DRUM TAG

Immediately upon retaining a fish:

1. Remove tag from license and use entire tag.
2. Fill in ALL information spaces on front of tag.
3. Cut out day and month.
4. Attach tag with a string or wire to the narrowest part of the tail, just ahead of the tail fin.



SALTWATER FREEZE EVENTS

When temperatures on the coast are predicted to fall below 32°F, the TPWD executive director may close one or more of the sites listed on the website below for saltwater fishing until the threat from the freeze event is over. This Notice of Closure will be posted online and shared with news and social media. Names and images of coastal waters that may be closed to fishing during freeze conditions can be found at: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/SaltwaterFreeze.**

Shellfish and Other Aquatic Life

CRAB REGULATIONS

- It is UNLAWFUL to place, fish, or leave a crab trap or its components in coastal waters from Feb 18-27.
- Crabs may be taken for personal use (bait or food) with a recreational fishing license but may not be sold.
- With a recreational fishing license, it is lawful to take, attempt to take, or possess crabs and ghost shrimp by means, in numbers, and of sizes ONLY as described below.

RECREATIONAL CRABBING DEVICES AND RESTRICTIONS

Crab Line **Net** **Sand Pumps** **Other Devices**
Crab Trap **Folding Panel Traps** **Umbrella Net**

Full list of definitions of these devices, pg. 34

CRAB DAILY BAG, POSSESSION AND LENGTH LIMITS

SPECIES	DAILY BAG	POSSESSION	MINIMUM LENGTH	EXCEPTIONS
Blue crab	No limit	No limit	5 inches (measured across widest point of body from tip of spine to tip of spine, pg. 41)	No more than 5% by number, of undersized blue crabs may be possessed for bait purposes only and must be placed in a separate container. May not possess egg-bearing (sponge) crabs. May not possess a female crab that has its abdominal apron removed.
Stone crab (right claw only)	No limit	No limit	2-1/2 inches claw (measured from tip of claw to first joint behind the immovable claw, pg. 41)	Only the right claw may be retained or possessed. Body must be immediately returned to the water from which it was taken.
Ghost shrimp	20	20 per person	None	

RECREATIONAL OYSTER REGULATIONS

- Oysters taken for personal use (food) with recreational licenses may not be sold.
- Oysters may be taken by hand, with tongs, or by oyster dredge. Oyster dredges may not be more than 14 inches in width.
- A vessel used while engaged in fishing with tongs or a dredge requires the purchase of an additional "sport oyster boat" commercial fishing license (Resident: Item 328, $13; Non-resident: Item 428, $51). For information, pg. 21.
- Oysters may be taken only from waters approved by the Texas Department of State Health Services Seafood and Aquatic Life Group. tpwd.texas.gov/oa/ShellfishHarvestMaps.
- Oysters may only be taken from marked private leases with permission of the lessee.
- Recreational Seasons: Monday–Saturday, Nov 1 – Apr 30, sunrise–3:30 p.m.

Length and Possession Limits

- Oysters must be 3 inches or larger as measured by the greatest length of the shell.
- Oysters 3/4-inch to 3 inches and dead oyster shell greater than 3/4-inch (measured along any axis) must be culled and returned to the reef from which taken.
- Oysters 3/4-inch to 3 inches and dead oyster shell greater than 3/4-inch (measured along any axis) may not make up more than 5% by number of oysters in possession.
- No more than two sacks of legal oysters may be possessed per person. A sack is defined as 110 pounds of oysters including dead oyster shell and the sack.

The following minor bays are CLOSED to oyster harvest:

- Christmas Bay, Brazoria County
- Carancahua Bay, Calhoun and Matagorda County
- Powderhorn Lake, Calhoun County
- Hynes Bay, Refugio County
- St. Charles Bay, Aransas County
- South Bay, Cameron County
- Areas along all shorelines with state health department approved or conditionally approved areas for shellfish harvest extending 300 feet from the water's edge or exposed oysters inside of the 300-foot area.

RECREATIONAL SHRIMPING REGULATIONS

- Shrimp may be taken for personal use (bait or food) with a recreational fishing license but may not be sold.
- A person taking or attempting to take shrimp from salt water for non-commercial purposes is required to have a valid fishing license and a saltwater fishing endorsement.

Legal Sport Shrimping Devices

- Cast Net (pg. 34 for cast net restrictions)
- Seine (pg. 36 for seine restrictions)
- Individual Bait-Shrimp Trawl with Individual Bait-Shrimp Trawl Tag (Item 334 - $37) (pg. 37 and below)
  - Only one trawl per boat is allowed.
  - Must have an individual bait-shrimp trawl tag in possession while trawling (pg. 37).
  - Must not be greater than 20 feet in width between the doors.
  - Mesh size must not be smaller than 8-3/4 inches over a consecutive series of five stretched meshes.
  - Boards must not be larger than 450 square inches each.

COASTAL WATER AREAS (all the salt waters of the state)

OUTSIDE WATER	The Gulf of Mexico extending from the shoreline seaward to nine nautical miles. May not take shrimp from outside waters during closed seasons (pg. 53)
INSIDE WATER	All bays, passes, rivers, or other bodies of water landward from the shoreline along the Gulf of Mexico. In these waters, the tide rises and falls and saltwater shrimp are found or migrate. Shrimping is not permitted within any natural or man-made pass leading from the inside waters to the outside waters of the state
MAJOR BAYS	Sabine Lake north of Cameron Causeway to south of a line marked by the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (Sabine Neches Canal/Sabine River) between the easternmost tip of Goat Island to the westernmost tip of Stewts Island
	Trinity Bay southward from a line extending from the mouth of Double Bayou in Chambers County to Double Bayou Channel Marker 14, to Separator C-2, to Point Barrow in Chambers County
	Galveston Bay
	East Bay westward from a line extending from Frozen Point to the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Marker 12
	Matagorda Bay westward of a line extending from a location on the mainland (where a line running immediately northwest [bearing 330 degrees] from Shellfish Marker A intersects the mainland), thence southeasterly to Shellfish Marker A located near the mainland, thence to Shellfish Marker B located near the end of Shell Island Reef, thence to the tide gauge located near the Matagorda Peninsula, and thence southeasterly [bearing 153 degrees] to the Matagorda Peninsula
	East Matagorda Bay
	Tres Palacios Bay south of a line from Grassey Point to the mouth of Pilkington Bayou
	Espiritu Santo Bay
	Lavaca Bay southward of State Hwy. 35
	San Antonio Bay southward of a line from McDowell Point to Mosquito Point
	Aransas Bay
	Corpus Christi Bay exclusive of the area bounded by a line extending from the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway at the southwest point of the Dagger Island chain, along Dagger Island to the southeast tip of Ransom Island, then southeast to the westernmost point of land north of Marker 14 in the Corpus Christi Ship Channel
	All exclusive of tributary bays, bayous, inlets, lakes and rivers

COASTAL WATER AREAS (all the salt waters of the state)

BAIT BAYS (includes major bays and those listed here)	Chocolate Bay
	West Bay south and west of Interstate Hwy. 45 Causeway Bridge and the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway inclusive of the area south of a line extending westward from Interstate Hwy. 45 Causeway Bridge at Virginia Point, along the southern edge of Tiki Island to the northeastern tip of North Deer Island at Channel Marker 48
	Trinity Bay northward from a line extending from the mouth of Double Bayou in Chambers County to Double Bayou Channel Marker 14, to Separator C-2, to Point Barrow in Chambers County
	The Old Brazos River lying north of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway in Brazoria County
	Upper Laguna Madre
	Baffin Bay
	Alazan Bay
	Barroom Bay
	Lower Laguna Madre, including the Brownsville Ship Channel
	The entire Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, exclusive of all tributaries
NURSERY AREAS (All Shrimping Prohibited)	Those coastal waters not specifically named above as Major Bays or Bait Bays are considered Nursery Areas. Includes tributary bays, bayous, inlets, lakes, and rivers that serve as significant growth and development environments for postlarval and juvenile shrimp. Does not include outside waters, major bays, or bait bays

RECREATIONAL BAIT SHRIMPING (MAJOR BAYS AND BAIT BAYS)

LOCATION	SEASON	HOURS	LIMITS
Major Bays and Bait Bays	Year-round	30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset	2 quarts/person (heads attached) 4 quarts/boat (heads attached) on boats with individual bait shrimp trawl No count size restriction

RECREATIONAL SHRIMPING FOR PURPOSES *OTHER* THAN BAIT (MAJOR BAYS ONLY)

LOCATION	SEASON	HOURS	LIMITS
Major Bays ONLY	Spring May 15 – Jul 15	30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset	15 pounds/person/day (heads attached) No count size restrictions
	Fall Aug 15 –Nov 30	30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset	15 pounds/person/day (heads attached) No count size restrictions

RECREATIONAL SHRIMPING IN OUTSIDE WATERS — SOUTHERN ZONE

(South of a line from the Corpus Christi Fish Pass [Latitude 27° 40' 34"] to the Mexican Border). Dates may be changed by the department providing 72 hours public notice on new closing dates and 24 hours public notice on new opening dates.

LOCATION	SEASON	HOURS	LIMITS
Beyond 5 nautical miles	Dec 1 - May 15 Jul 16 - Nov 30	Day and Night	100 pounds onboard/day (heads attached)
Inside 5 nautical miles	Jul 16-Nov 30	30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset (closed at night)	100 pounds onboard/day (heads attached)
	CLOSED SEASON Dec 1 - May 15	N/A	N/A
Inside 9 nautical miles	SUMMER CLOSED SEASON May 15 - Jul 15	Day and Night	CLOSED SEASON

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) may close the Exclusive Economic Zone off Texas (9-200 nautical miles) at the same time Texas waters are closed. For additional information call (727) 824-5305.

RECREATIONAL SHRIMPING IN OUTSIDE WATERS — NORTHERN ZONE

(North of a line from the Corpus Christi Fish Pass [Latitude 27° 40' 34"] to the Louisiana Border)
Dates may be changed by the department providing 72 hours public notice on new closing dates and 24 hours public notice on new opening dates.

LOCATION	SEASON	HOURS	LIMITS
Beyond 5 nautical miles	Dec 1 - May 15 Jul 16 - Nov 30	Day and Night	100 pounds onboard/day (heads attached)
Inside 5 nautical miles	Feb 16 – May 15 Jul 16 - Nov 30	30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset (closed at night)	100 pounds onboard/day (heads attached)
	CLOSED SEASON Dec 1 - Feb 15	N/A	N/A
Inside 9 nautical miles	SUMMER CLOSED SEASON May 15 - Jul 15	Day and Night	CLOSED SEASON

NUECES COUNTY RECREATIONAL SHRIMPING RESTRICTIONS

It is unlawful for any person to take or attempt to take shrimp with a trawl in the Laguna Madre north of a line starting on the mainland at the most northeasterly point on the north side of the entrance to Whiteley Channel then proceeding in a straight line to the north end of Pita Island; then continuing on a line to the southernmost point on the westerly most spoil island bordering the north side of the New Humble Channel (commonly referred to as Hap's Channel); then continuing on a line along the north edge of the New Humble Channel (commonly referred to as Hap's Channel) to its junction with the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway; then continuing on a straight line to the Nueces/Kleberg County line marker on Padre Island.

OTHER AQUATIC LIFE (FRESH AND SALT WATERS)

- Aquatic life not addressed in this guide (except threatened and endangered species) may be taken only by hand or with the devices defined as lawful for taking fish, crabs, oysters, or shrimp.
- Anglers and hunters may NOT harvest marine mammals such as porpoises, dolphins and whales.
- In public fresh waters, a fishing license and freshwater fishing endorsement is required to take mussels, clams, crayfish, and other aquatic life for personal use. In salt water, a saltwater fishing endorsement is required with the fishing license.
- A hunting license is required to hunt non-protected turtles and frogs.
- Licensed recreational anglers may take no more than 25 pounds of whole mussels and clams, or 12 pounds of mussels and clam shells per day for personal use.
- Clams, mussels and other molluscan shellfish taken from public salt waters may be taken only from waters approved by the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS). Maps identifying approved areas may be obtained from the TDSHS, Seafood and Aquatic Life Group (512) 834-6757. Additional information concerning area closures may be obtained 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling (800) 685-0361.
- Consumption of clams and mussels taken from public fresh waters is prohibited by the TDSHS.
- Mussels and clams may only be taken by hand.
- Freshwater mussels of the following species may be taken only when they will not pass through a ring with an inside diameter (I.D.) specified for that species.

SPECIES	RING ID IN INCHES
Washboard	4.00
Threeridges and roundlakes	2.75
Mapleleafs and pimplebacks	2.75

SPECIES	RING ID IN INCHES
Tampico pearlymussel	2.75
Bleufer	2.75
All other species of freshwater mussels	2.5

- For information on harvesting native freshwater mussels and clams, including areas closed to harvest, call TPWD at (512) 389-4444.
- It is unlawful to take more than 15 live univalve snails during a day which include no more than two each of the following snails: lightning whelk, horse conch, Florida fighting conch, pear whelk, banded tulip, or Florida rocksnail. Exotic applesnails and giant ramshorn snails cannot be possessed live or dead unless removed from their shells.
- It is unlawful to take or kill shell-bearing mollusks, hermit crabs, starfish, or sea urchins from Nov 1 through Apr 30 within the following boundary: the bay and pass sides of South Padre Island from the east end of the north jetty at Brazos Santiago Pass to the west end of West Marisol Drive in the town of South Padre Island, out 1,000 yards from the mean high-tide line, and bounded to the south by the centerline of the Brazos Santiago Pass.

HUNTING

General Regulations and Information

What's New for Hunting

New CWD Zones and check stations may be established in and around Hunt, Kaufman, Lubbock, Matagorda, Uvalde, and Van Zandt counties. New mandatory reporting for wild turkeys in south central Texas. Expansion of the Special White-winged Dove Days in the South Zone from 4 to 6 days. Elimination of the pronghorn experimental season and extension of the general pronghorn season from 9 days to 16 days. Alignment of the North and South Zone boundaries for the spring and fall hunting seasons of wild turkeys. Additional squirrel hunting opportunities in previously closed counties. Closing of Panola County to Eastern turkey hunting. Alignment of chachalaca and quail hunting season dates. More public hunting opportunity with the addition of Caddo Lake NWR and Neches River NWR to the TPWD's Public Hunting Program.

MEANS AND METHODS

It is LEGAL to:

- hunt animals and non-migratory game birds from a motor vehicle, powerboat, sailboat, or from any other floating device within the boundaries of private property or upon private water.
- use calling devices (including manual and mouth-operated), recordings, and electrically amplified calls to hunt game animals and game birds. Electronic calls may not be used to hunt migratory game birds EXCEPT during the Light Goose Conservation Order season.
- use decoys to hunt game animals and game birds. NO person may use live decoys when hunting migratory game birds.
- bait for game animals, nongame animals, and upland game birds, except for eastern turkey and migratory game birds. (Baiting is unlawful on most public property. Please check specific regulations for that public property.)
- trap nongame/exotic animals (such as feral hogs, rabbits, etc.) on private property.
- use dogs to aid in the hunting of any game bird.

Firearms

Game animals and non-migratory game birds may be hunted with any legal firearm, EXCEPT:

- **rimfire ammunition** (of any caliber) may NOT be used to hunt white-tailed deer, mule deer, desert bighorn sheep, or pronghorn.
- **fully automatic firearms**
- **shotguns** are the only legal firearm that may be used during spring eastern turkey season.
- **magazine capacity (number of shells/cartridges allowed):** there are no restrictions on the number of shells or cartridges a legal firearm may hold when hunting game animals or game birds (except migratory game birds, see Legal Shotgun, pg. 71).
- **muzzleloader** deer seasons are restricted to muzzleloading firearms only: any firearm designed such that a bullet/projectile, and powder can be loaded only through the muzzle (as opposed to breech-loading firearms). A cap and ball firearm in which the powder and ball are loaded into a cylinder is not a muzzleloader.
- **suppressors (aka "silencers"):** may be used to take any wildlife resource; however, all federal, state and local laws continue to apply.

Air Guns and Arrow Guns

Alligator, game animals, furbearers, squirrels, and non-migratory game birds (EXCEPT eastern turkey) may be hunted with air guns and arrow guns provided:

- alligators, bighorn sheep, javelina, mule deer, white-tailed deer, pronghorn, and turkey (EXCEPT eastern turkey) may be taken only with pre-charged pneumatic arrow guns, or pre-charged pneumatic air guns.
- pre-charged pneumatic air guns must fire a projectile of at least .30 caliber in diameter and at least 150 grains in weight with a minimum muzzle velocity of 800 feet per second or any combination of bullet weight and muzzle velocity that produces muzzle energy of at least 215 foot pounds of energy.
- squirrels, pheasant, quail, and chachalaca may be hunted with air guns that fire a projectile of at least .177 caliber (4.5mm) in diameter producing a muzzle velocity of at least 600 feet per second.
- arrows or bolts used with an arrow gun must conform to the same projectile standards for archery.
- arrow guns may not be used to hunt deer or turkey during archery season.

tpwd.texas.gov/oa/airgun

Archery

- Only lawful archery equipment prescribed in this section may be used for taking game animals or game birds.
- Lawful archery equipment includes compound bows, crossbows, longbows, and recurved bows.
- Lawful archery equipment may not be used to hunt deer during the Muzzleloader-Only Deer Season.
- Lawful archery equipment is lawful for non-protected nongame animals (pg. 76).

Longbows, compound bows, or recurved bows:

- There is no minimum draw requirement.
- Lighted pins, sight magnification, overdraw rests, and devices that allow a bow to be locked at full or partial draw are lawful during any season when lawful archery equipment may be used.

Crossbow:

For current crossbow requirements, please refer to the Outdoor Annual Mobile App or visit:
tpwd.texas.gov/oa/MeansMethods

- In Collin, Dallas, Grayson, and Rockwall counties, no person may use a crossbow to hunt deer during the Archery-Only Open Season (Oct 2 - Nov 5) unless the person has an upper-limb disability and has in immediate possession a physician's statement that certifies the extent of the disability. An upper-limb disability is a permanent loss of the use of fingers, hand, or arm in a manner that renders the person incapable of using a longbow, compound bow, or recurved bow.
- An Archery Endorsement is required to hunt deer during the Archery-Only Open Season. An archery endorsement is required to hunt deer, turkey and/or javelina at any time in Collin, Dallas, Grayson, and Rockwall counties, including during the general open season (Nov 6 - Jan 2).
- Any person, regardless of physical ability, may use a crossbow to hunt game animals or game birds in any county, including Collin, Dallas, Grayson, and Rockwall counties, during a general open season or Eastern spring turkey season.

Projectiles (Arrows and Crossbow Bolts)

While hunting game animals and game birds, a projectile may not be poisoned, drugged, or explosive.

- When used to hunt turkey and all game animals other than squirrels, a projectile must be equipped with a broadhead hunting point. An archer may have arrows/bolts with field, target, or judo points in the quiver with the broadhead hunting points.
- There are no restrictions or minimum requirements on arrow or bolt lengths, arrow material, arrow weight, lighted nocks, broadhead lengths or diameter, number of cutting edges, broadhead material, or mechanical broadheads.

Falconry

Please contact (512) 389-4481 for information on falconry permitting and regulations or visit: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/falconry**.

For open seasons and daily bag limits for migratory game birds visit: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/migratory.**

UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES

It is UNLAWFUL to:

- knowingly discharge a firearm causing a projectile to cross a property line, unless the person owns both sides of the property line or has obtained written permission from the owner of any land crossed by the projectile.
- discharge a firearm on or across a public road or hunt from public roads.
- use a computer, or operate a facility that uses a computer, to assist in remote firearm or archery hunting, if the animal being hunted is located in Texas.
- hunt with the aid of artificial light of any form that casts or reflects a beam of light onto or otherwise illuminates a game animal or bird; EXCEPTION: hunters with legal blindness, or hunters who have a documented permanent physical disability that prevents them from using traditional firearm sighting devices may use laser sighting devices.
  - Hunters with blindness must possess a physician's signed statement attesting to legal blindness; and be assisted by a licensed hunter at least 13 years of age who is not legally blind. Legal blindness is defined in section 62.104 (c) of the Texas Government Code.
  - Hunter education and licensing requirements still apply to hunters with legal blindness, hunters with a documented permanent physical disability, and persons assisting hunters with blindness or other disability.
  - All hunters may use battery-powered scoping devices that project a light or dot only inside the scope or pin sight lights on archery equipment.
- use traps to hunt game birds or game animals.
- use dogs to hunt deer in this state.
  - No person may possess a shotgun and buckshot or slugs while in the field with dogs on another person's land during an open deer season in Angelina, Hardin, Jasper, Nacogdoches, Newton, Orange, Sabine, San Augustine, Shelby, and Tyler counties.
  - No more than two dogs may be used to trail a wounded deer in all counties; however, in Jasper, Newton, Sabine, and San Augustine counties, a person may trail a wounded deer with no more than two leashed dogs held by the person in control of the dogs. A "wounded deer" is a deer leaving a blood trail.
- use aircraft (including drones, except by activity-specific permit) to hunt, locate (including wounded animals), manage, harass, drive, trap or photograph any wild animal.
- hunt on Public Hunting Areas without the required permits.
- hunt in a subdivision on lots 10 acres or less in an unincorporated area of a county if prohibited by local ordinance. Contact local county clerk and ask about §235.022, Local Government Code.
- hunt on any area named as a wildlife sanctuary, nesting, or propagation area.
- hunt in state and/or national parks or refuges except during scheduled hunts or under other special state or federal policies.
- hunt any wild animal or wild bird on or over privately-owned land that is submerged under public freshwater due to seasonal or occasional inundation or submerged under saltwater above the mean high tide line. The property must be posted to indicate that hunting is prohibited.
- hunt any wild animal or wild bird, including exotic animals, on foot or from a vehicle on any public road or road right-of-way, or a boat on public water, except that migratory waterfowl may be hunted from a boat or any floating craft (except a sinkbox) under certain conditions (Migratory Game Bird section, beginning pg. 70).

- possess a firearm if a convicted felon, with limited exception. Texas law allows the possession and use of a muzzle loading firearm if it is an antique or curio firearm manufactured before 1899, or is a replica of an antique or curio firearm manufactured before 1899 that does not use rimfire or centerfire ammunition. For questions regarding the possession and use of firearms by convicted felons, refer to Texas Penal Code Ch. 46 and/or seek guidance from legal counsel.

See County Listings table for additional regulations (pgs. 80–95).

TAGGING GAME ANIMALS

Tagging a Deer or Wild Turkey

A tag from the hunting license of the person who killed the deer or turkey must be correctly and legibly completed (including name of property and county) and immediately attached to the animal (exception is properties with issued tags such as MLDP tags).

The hunter MUST:

- complete the mandatory harvest reporting for Wild Turkey harvested in all counties with a 1-bird bag limit on the My Texas Hunt Harvest app: **tpwd.texas.gov/myhunt**
- use the specific type of deer or turkey tag (for example, buck tags must be used only on buck deer, antlerless tags on antlerless deer, etc.).
- have the month and date of kill clearly cut out on the tag by notching the respective month and day. **Do not "ink out."**
- immediately complete, date and cut out the appropriate hunting license tag after a deer is harvested but before the deer is field dressed, moved or tagged.
- after a deer is harvested, but before the deer is field-dressed immediately before moving carcass, complete the log, in ink, on the back of the hunting license. Asterisks in the log indicate bucks with an inside main beam spread of at least 13 inches.

Completion of the log is not required for mule deer, or for white-tailed deer or mule deer harvested under a MLDP tag, TPWD Special Drawn Public Hunt permit, or on a Big Time Texas Hunt.

Where to Attach Tag to Deer or Wild Turkey

The tag may be attached anywhere on a deer or turkey so that it is not damaged, defaced, or lost in transporting or handling. For deer, the appropriate tag or permit must remain attached until the deer reaches its final destination and is quartered. If deer's head is severed from the carcass (body), then the appropriate tag or permit must remain attached to its carcass (Proof of Sex section, pg. 58). If the head does not accompany the carcass, then the head must be accompanied by a Wildlife Resource Document (WRD, pg. 100). For turkey, the tag must remain attached until the turkey reaches its final destination and is finally processed. During a season in which the bag composition for turkey is restricted to gobblers only or gobblers and bearded hens, proof of sex (pg. 58) must remain with the turkey, attached or unattached, until it reaches either the processor's permanent residence or a cold storage/processing facility and is finally processed.

TIP: Remember that if the head and the carcass are separated, the tag from the hunting license goes with the meat and the WRD goes with the head.

NOTICE: Read the tag use description on your license carefully before attaching to harvested deer or turkey.

MANDATORY Harvest Reporting

Harvest reporting is now mandatory for wild turkeys in select south-central Texas counties (pg. 69). Harvest reporting for **Eastern turkey** (pg.69), **antlerless white-tailed deer** (pg. 67) in select south-central Texas counties, and **alligator gar** statewide (pg. 41, except for Falcon International Reservoir) remains mandatory.

Report online or on the My Texas Hunt Harvest app:
tpwd.texas.gov/myhunt

On-site registration for public hunting is also now available online or through the ***My Texas Hunt Harvest app***.

TAG #	USE ON TURKEY ONLY
1	Rio Grande Turkey Only – valid in county with bag limit of 1 or 4 turkeys; NOT VALID in East Texas.
2	Rio Grande Turkey Only – valid in county with bag limit of 1 or 4 turkeys; NOT VALID in East Texas.
3	Rio Grande Turkey Only – valid in county with bag limit of 1 or 4 turkeys; NOT VALID in East Texas.
4	Eastern OR Rio Grande Turkey – valid in any county with bag limit of 1 or 4 turkeys.
TAG #	**USE ON WHITE-TAILED DEER ONLY**
5	White-tailed Deer – Antlerless ONLY
6	White-tailed Deer – Antlerless ONLY
7	White-tailed Deer – Buck or Antlerless
8	White-tailed Deer – Buck or Antlerless
9	White-tailed Deer – Buck or Antlerless
IMPORTANT: Tags #5 and #6 are for white-tailed deer antlerless only. Tags #7, #8, and #9 are for white-tailed deer buck or antlerless. The white-tailed deer tags on the license may be used in any county during an open season for white-tailed deer. Be aware that if Tags #7, #8, and #9 are used on antlerless, you will no longer be allowed a buck that deer season.	
TAG #	**USE ON MULE DEER ONLY**
10	Mule Deer – Antlerless Only *Valid ONLY during archery-only special season in Brewster, Pecos, or Terrell counties*
11	Mule Deer – Buck or Antlerless *Valid for bucks in any county during any open mule deer season AND for antlerless deer during archery-only special season in Brewster, Pecos, or Terrell counties*
NOTE: The mule deer tags on the hunting license ARE NOT mule deer permits and MAY NOT be used in lieu of mule deer permits when required.	

PROOF OF SEX

Deer or Pronghorn

It is unlawful to possess a deer or pronghorn with proof of sex removed unless the deer or pronghorn has reached the final destination (definition, pg. 96) and has been at least quartered. Proof of sex includes one of the following:

- the head (skinned or unskinned) of a buck deer with antlers attached;
- the head (skinned or unskinned) of an antlerless deer;
- the unskinned head of a pronghorn; or
- a completed Managed Lands Deer Program (MLDP) Tag, Antlerless Mule Deer Permit, CWD Check Station Receipt, or TPWD Drawn Hunt Legal Deer Tag.

It is unlawful to remove the head or antlers (proof of sex) of deer or pronghorn at a commercial processor until the carcass has been quartered and entered into the cold storage logbook.

Pheasant or Wild Turkey

It is unlawful to possess a pheasant where applicable with proof of sex removed. The following is considered proof of sex and must accompany the pheasant or turkey until it reaches its final destination and is finally processed:

- Pheasant: one leg, including the spur, attached to the pheasant carcass or the entire plumage attached to the pheasant carcass;
- Wild Turkey: During a season in which the bag composition for turkey is restricted to gobblers only or gobblers and bearded hens, proof of sex must remain with the turkey, attached or unattached, until it reaches either the processor's permanent residence or a cold storage/processing facility and is finally processed. Proof of sex for turkeys:
  - gobbler (male turkey):
    - one leg, including the spur or
    - a patch of skin with breast feathers and beard attached
  - bearded hen (female turkey): a patch of skin with breast feathers and beard attached

EXCEPTION to Proof of Sex

Instead of proof of sex, the hunter may obtain a receipt for a taxidermist or a Wildlife Resource Document (WRD) from the landowner or landowner's agent containing the following;

- name of the person who harvested the wildlife resource;
- date the wildlife resource was harvested; and
- one of the following, as applicable: Whether the deer was antlered or antlerless; the sex of the pronghorn; the sex of the turkey and whether a beard was attached; or the sex of the pheasant.

TRANSPORTING AND TRANSFERRING DEER OR PRONGHORN

IMPORTANT: Special regulations may apply within designated CWD zones (pg. 62).

- A person may transport a deer or pronghorn to a final destination (definition, pg. 96), provided the carcass is tagged and proof of sex accompanies the carcass (pg. 58).
- If any part of a carcass is transferred to another person before it reaches a final destination, then the transferred parts must be accompanied by a WRD (pg. 100).
- The parts retained by the person who harvested the deer or pronghorn must be accompanied by a tag until the carcass reaches a final destination.

PROCESSING OF GAME ANIMALS

Deer and Pronghorn

- A deer and pronghorn may be skinned and quartered (two forequarters, two hindquarters, and two backstraps) for transport, provided the quartered deer or pronghorn is tagged and proof of sex accompanies the deer or pronghorn (see Cold Storage or Processing Facility, below, for exceptions).
- Deer or pronghorn may only be processed beyond quarters at a location that qualifies as a final destination (definition, pg. 96).

All Game Animals (including deer and pronghorn)

- The four quarters and two backstraps are the only parts of a game animal required by law to be kept in edible condition.
- Tagging and proof-of-sex requirements, if required, continue to apply until the wildlife resource reaches a final destination AND is quartered.
- While in camp you may remove and prepare a part of a wildlife resource if the removal and preparation occur immediately before the part is cooked or consumed; however, all tagging and proof of sex regulations apply to remaining parts until the parts reach a final destination.

FACILITIES

A cold storage or processing facility may be established anywhere, including on property where hunting is conducted. It must be stationary and designed to process and/or store wild game. A vehicle, trailer, or other mobile storage or processing arrangement is NOT lawful.

COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE OR PROCESSING FACILITY

- A person may place and maintain, or possess, in a cold storage or processing facility, lawfully harvested game birds and game animals not in excess of the number permitted to be possessed by law, if:
  - the owner, operator, or lessee of the cold storage or processing facility maintains the record book as required by law with:
    - the name, address, and hunting license number of all persons placing game animals or game birds in storage (if a person other than the person who harvested the game bird or animal, places a game bird or game animal in storage, that person's name and address must be included);
    - the number and species of all game animals and game birds in storage, and
    - the date each game animal or game bird was placed in storage (information must be entered into the record book before game is placed in storage)
- tags, permits, or WRDs, when applicable, must remain attached to birds until the birds are finally processed; and
- tags, permits, or WRDs, when applicable, must remain attached to deer and pronghorn until the carcass is quartered.
- the owner, operator, or lessee of a cold storage or processing facility is required to maintain game birds and game animals in an edible condition.

COLD STORAGE OR PROCESSING FACILITY ON HUNTING LEASE

- If a cold storage or processing facility on a hunting lease (Hunting Lease License, pg. 24) is made available to persons other than the landowner, the landowner's nonpaying family members, or the landowner's nonpaying guests, then a cold storage or processing facility record book is required.

  EXCEPTION: Deer, pronghorn or turkey that are properly tagged and accompanied by proof of sex may be temporarily placed in a non-commercial cold storage or processing facility on a hunting lease without being entered in the cold storage record book.
- For turkey, proof of sex and tagging requirements cease to apply when the turkey has been entered in a cold storage record book.
- Once a deer or pronghorn has been entered in the cold storage record book it may be finally processed. Proof of sex and tagging requirements continue to apply until the deer or pronghorn has at least been quartered and entered into the record book.

PRIVATE, NON-COMMERCIAL, FAMILY-OWNED COLD STORAGE OR PROCESSING FACILITY

A cold storage record book is not required for game animals or game birds placed in a private, family-owned, non-commercial cold storage or processing facility that is not located on a hunting lease; however, all tagging and proof of sex requirements apply. If paying hunters are allowed to use the cold storage or processing facility for storage of game animals or game birds, a cold storage record book is required for all game animals and game birds harvested on the property, including game animals and game birds harvested by nonpaying guests or family members.

Deer and pronghorn may not be processed beyond quartering at any place other than the possessor's permanent residence or a cold storage or processing facility where a cold storage record book is maintained.

Save your tag and/or permit. After a wildlife resource reaches its final destination and tagging requirements have ceased, the possessor is encouraged to retain tags or permits in order to prevent delay or problems (cold storage or processor refusing to accept meat, etc.). When taking game (meat/head/hide) that you have processed at home to a commercial processor, simply attach the appropriate hunting license tag or permit to the game.

TAXIDERMIST

Hunters who give any part of a game animal or game bird to a taxidermist for mounting must attach a WRD (not the tag from the hunting license or permit) to the part.

In return, for deer, pronghorn, turkey and pheasant, the taxidermist must give the hunter a receipt as prescribed in "EXCEPTION" (pg. 59). The taxidermist "proof of sex" receipt for the part must accompany the tagged carcass until it reaches its final destination and is finally processed. If the taxidermist places any game animal or game bird in cold storage, then the cold storage or processing facility record book is required by law. Without the appropriate record book and a WRD accompanying the game animal or game bird, a taxidermist may be exceeding the prescribed possession limits for game animals and game birds. Taxidermy information packets may be obtained at **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/TaxidermyForms**.

A taxidermist who accepts a deer or turkey shall retain the accompanying WRD or tag for two years following the return of the resource to the owner or the sale of the deer or turkey mount to recover taxidermy cost.

MANDATORY Harvest Reporting

Harvest reporting is now mandatory for wild turkeys in select south-central Texas counties (pg. 69). Harvest reporting for **Eastern turkey** (pg. 69), **antlerless white-tailed deer** (pg. 67) in select south-central Texas counties, and **alligator gar** statewide (pg. 41), except for Falcon International Reservoir) remains mandatory.

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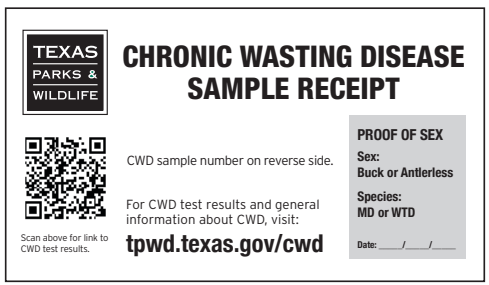
Game Animals

Desert bighorn sheep
Javelina (collared peccary)
Mule deer
Pronghorn
Squirrel (gray or fox)
White-tailed deer

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD)

CWD is a fatal disease that has been discovered in white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, and red deer in localized portions of Texas. To detect and manage this disease, the department has designated CWD Zones.

Hunters who harvest mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, or other exotic CWD-susceptible species (pg. 62) within the CWD Zones are REQUIRED to bring their animals to a TPWD check station within 48 hours of harvest. Hunters must check each animal harvested and receive a CWD receipt before taking any part of that animal from the CWD Zone, including any meat or quartered parts.



Additional regulations may apply, and additional zones may be established without prior notice upon discovery of CWD. The department will make every effort to publicize the designation and location of CWD Zones and check stations, as well as any special regulations that may be adopted following the publication of this notice. For the latest updates, call (800) 792-1112, or visit **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/CWD**. A hunter who harvests a CWD-susceptible species outside a CWD Zone and wishes to have the animal tested for CWD should contact a wildlife biologist in that area: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/biologists**.

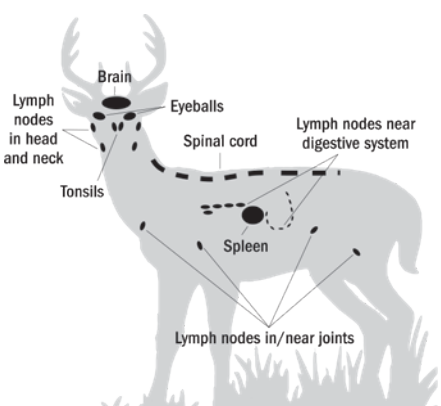
As an alternative to TPWD check stations, a list of Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) Certified CWD Postmortem Sample Collectors who are also TPWD-approved is provided at **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/CWD**.

Please report any symptomatic CWD-susceptible species to your local Texas Game Wardens (**tpwd.texas.gov/oa/GameWarden**) or Wildlife Biologist (**tpwd.texas.gov/oa/biologists**).

CWD Precautions for Hunters

Infectious prions concentrate in the brain, spinal cord, eyes, lymph nodes and spleen. They are shed in saliva, urine, blood, soft-antler material, feces, and from decomposing infected animals. Proper disposal of carcass parts is important to prevent contamination and spread of this disease. Leave these inedible parts at the site of harvest, or preferably, dispose of them in a landfill, or bury them at least 6-feet deep on the property of harvest in any CWD Zone.

Use common sense precautions while handling and processing any species susceptible to CWD. Never eat meat from an animal that appears sickly. Never eat brain, eyeballs, spinal cord, spleen, or lymph nodes from CWD-susceptible species. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports no strong evidence that CWD can infect humans; however, CDC recommends that hunters consider testing CWD-susceptible species harvested in CWD Zones before consumption.



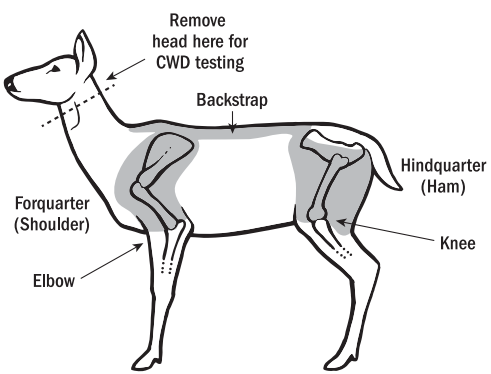
Carcass Movement Restrictions in CWD Zones

No CWD-susceptible species carcasses or parts of carcasses can enter Texas from a state or country known to have CWD, and no CWD-susceptible species carcasses or parts of carcasses can be transported out of a CWD Zone EXCEPT:

- Cut quarters with all brain and spinal cord tissue removed
- Boned meat/cut and wrapped — Texas regulations do not allow processing beyond quarters until reaching your final destination (possessor's personal residence or commercial facility/private cold storage).
- Caped hides with skull not attached
- Skull plate with antlers attached and cleaned of all soft tissue
- Finished taxidermy products
- The skinned or unskinned head of a susceptible species may be transported to a taxidermist (with a Deer Head Waiver), provided all brain material, soft tissue, spinal column and any unused portions of the head are disposed of in a landfill in Texas permitted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The waiver should be kept on your person or with the deer head until it reaches the taxidermist. Obtain the Deer Head Waiver form (PWD 1410) to transport the intact head from a TPWD CWD check station or tpwd.texas.gov/oa/CWD.
- Hunters bringing intact deer heads into Texas from a state or country with CWD should also have this waiver.

How to Bring Harvested Animals to Check Stations

- All CWD-susceptible species harvested within the CWD Zones are required to be sampled for CWD.
- Carcass movement restrictions do not apply if the carcass will not be moved outside of a CWD Zone. However, it is recommended to always properly dispose of unused carcass parts.
- A hunter who leaves a CWD Zone with a harvested animal must quarter the animal and remove the head from the carcass 2–3 vertebrae below the head.
- Place head in a plastic trash bag and keep cool until arriving at a CWD check station.
- Heads can be disposed of at the CWD check stations provided the hunter has a CWD receipt, which serves as a proof-of-sex document.

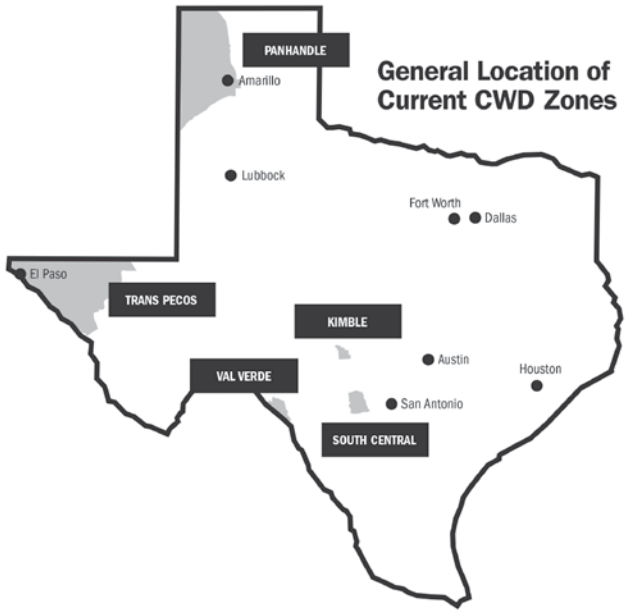


Exotic CWD-Susceptible Species

- Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) CWD rules apply statewide to harvested exotic CWD-susceptible species such as elk, red deer, sika, moose, and reindeer.
- Each calendar year, the owner of any property in Texas is required to have all adult mortalities of exotic CWD-susceptible species, including HUNTER-HARVESTED animals, CWD tested until valid test results are obtained for 3 animals. If the property is located outside of a CWD Zone, the property owner is responsible for sample submission and costs for the first 3 CWD tests and must report those results to TAHC within 30 days of receiving test results.

For more information: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/ExoticCWD.**

CWD CHECK STATION LOCATIONS, DATES AND HOURS OF OPERATION



New CWD Zones and check stations may be established in and around Hunt, Kaufman, Lubbock, Matagorda, Uvalde, and Van Zandt counties. Additional CWD Zones may be established without prior notice upon discovery of CWD. For current information on CWD Zones, including zone maps and locations, check stations, dates, hours of operations, and any special regulations please call (512) 389-4505 or visit tpwd.texas.gov/oa/CWD.

PANHANDLE Check Station Locations

CWD Zone Location Description

That portion of the state lying within a line beginning at the New Mexico state line where U.S. 60 enters Texas; thence northeast along U.S. 60 to U.S. 87 in Randall County; thence south along U.S. 87 to S.H. 217 in Canyon; thence east along S.H. 217 to F.M. 1541; thence north along F.M. 1541 to Loop 335; thence east and north along Loop 335 to S.H. 136; thence northwest along S.H. 136 to N. Lakeside Dr.; thence north along N. Lakeside Dr. to E. Willow Creek Dr.; thence west along E. Willow Creek Dr. to Denton St.; thence north along Denton St. to E. Cherry; thence west along E. Cherry to N. Eastern St.; thence south along N. Eastern St. to E. Willow Creek Dr.; thence west along E. Willow Creek Dr. to U.S. 87; thence north along U.S. 87 to the City of Dumas; thence along the city limits of Dumas to U.S. 287 in Moore County; thence north along U.S. 287 to the Oklahoma state line.

DALHART

(512) 803-5972

Rita Blanca Lake Park (RV Campground) Coordinates: 36.0386489 -102.5053147

VEGA

(512) 803-6158

Walnut RV Park. Business Loop of I-40, 1403 Vega Blvd. Coordinates: 36.038176 -102.506402

Panhandle Check Station Dates and Hours of Operation

Open Dates: Nov 6-8, Nov 12-15, Nov 19-24, Nov 26-Dec 6, Dec 10-13, Dec 17-20, Dec 26-27, Dec 31- Jan 3
9 a.m. to 7 p.m. local time.

Please call TPWD at (806) 420-0439 or either check station to have your animals sampled during dates the check stations are closed.

TRANS-PECOS Check Station Locations

CWD Zone Location Description

That portion of the state lying within a line beginning where U.S. 285 enters from the State of New Mexico in Reeves County; thence southeast along U.S. 285 to R.M. 652; thence west along R.M. 652 to Rustler Springs Rd./FM 3541 in Culberson County; thence south along Rustler Springs Rd./F.M. 3541 to F.M. 2185; thence south along F.M. 2185 to Nevel Road; thence west along Nevel Road to County Road 501; thence south along County Road 501 to Weatherby Road; thence south along Weatherby Road to F.M. 2185; thence southwest along to F.M. 2185 to S.H. 54; thence south on S.H. 54 to U.S. 90; thence south along U.S. 90 to the Culberson County line; thence southwest along the Culberson County line to the Rio Grande; thence northwest along the Rio Grande to the Texas-New Mexico border.

VAN HORN

(512) 221-8491

Van Horn Convention Center, 1801 West Broadway Street

Coordinates: 31.037440, -104.852833

EAST US 62/180

(512) 803-6498

Pine Springs TXDOT Rest Area, US 62/180 - Eastbound, approximately 7 miles from Texas/New Mexico state line

Coordinates: 31.960389 -104.680334

HUECO MOUNTAINS

(512) 803-5822

Located at northern Hudspeth County Sheriff Substation on north side of US 62/180. Approximately 0.15 miles east of Hueco Ranch Road and 3.2 miles west of Border Patrol checkpoint.

Coordinates: 31.839343° -105.969485°

Trans-Pecos Check Station Dates and Hours of Operation

Open during the general mule deer season (Nov 26 - Dec 12), 9 a.m.-7 p.m. local time, and the following Monday, Dec 13, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. local time. Hunters who harvest deer, elk, or other CWD susceptible species in special archery seasons and extended MLDP seasons should contact TPWD at (512) 221-8491.

KIMBLE COUNTY Check Station Location

CWD Zone Location Description

That portion of the state lying within the boundaries of a line beginning on U.S. 83 at the Kerr/Kimble County line; thence north along U.S. 83 to I.H. 10; thence northwest along on I.H. 10 to F.M. 2169; thence east along F.M. 2169 to County Road (C.R.) 410; thence east along C.R. 410 to C.R. 412; thence south along C.R. 412 to C.R. 470; thence east along C.R. 470 to C.R. 420; thence south along C.R. 420 to F.M. 479; thence east along F.M. 479 to C.R. 443; thence south along C.R. 443 to U.S. 290; thence west along U.S. 290 to I.H. 10; thence southeast along I.H. 10 to the Kerr/Kimble County line; thence west along the Kerr/Kimble County line to U.S. 83.

SEGOVIA

(512) 803-6174

North side of I-10, Exit 465 at Segovia, old truck stop on FM 2169.

Coordinates: 30.418925, -99.669696

Segovia Check Station Dates and Hours of Operation

Open Dates: Oct 2 - Nov 5, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Nov 6-Jan 16, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily; Jan 17 - Feb 28, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. local time.

Closed Dates: Nov 25, Dec 24 (12 p.m.), Dec 25, Dec 31 (12 p.m.), and Jan 1.

SOUTH CENTRAL Check Station Location

CWD Zone Location Description

That portion of the state lying within a line beginning at U.S. 90 in Hondo in Medina County; thence west along U.S. Highway 90 to the Sabinal River in Uvalde County; thence north along the Sabinal River to F.M. 187; thence north along F.M. 187 to F.M. 470 in Bandera County; thence east along F.M. 470 to Tarpley in Bandera County; thence south along F.M. 462 to U.S. 90 in Hondo.

HONDO

(512) 803-6184

1701 19th Street (located in the parking lot adjacent to God's Country Pharmacy on Hwy. 90.)

Coordinates: 29.346774 -99.148061

Hondo Check Station Dates and Hours of Operation

Open Dates: Oct 2 - Nov 5, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Nov 6 - Jan 16, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekends and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays; Jan 17-30 from 9 a.m to 7 p.m daily; Jan 31 - Feb 28 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed Dates: Nov 25, Dec 24 (12 p.m.), Dec 25, Dec 31 (12 p.m.), and Jan 1.

TARPLEY - Check Station Self-Serve Drop Box

(512) 389-6184

264 Valentine Road (located next to the Tarpley Volunteer Fire Department)

Coordinates: 29.657711 -99.279426

Tarpley Check Station Dates and Hours:

Open Dates: October 2, 2021 to January 16, 2022

Open 24 hours (self-serve drop box)

VAL VERDE COUNTY Check Station Location

CWD Zone Location Description

That portion of the state lying within a line beginning in Val Verde County at the confluence of Sycamore Creek and the Rio Grande River (29.242341°, -100.793906°); thence northeast along Sycamore Creek to U.S. 277; thence northwest on U.S. 277 to Loop 79; thence north along Loop 79 to the Union Pacific Railroad; thence east along the Union Pacific Railroad to Liberty Drive (north entrance to Laughlin Airforce Base); thence north along Liberty Drive to U.S. 90; thence west along U.S. 90 to Loop 79; thence north along Loop 79 to the American Electric Power (AEP) Ft. Lancaster-to-Hamilton Road 138kV transmission line (29.415542°, -100.847993°); thence north along the AEP Ft. Lancaster-to-Hamilton Road 138kV transmission line to a point where the AEP Ft. Lancaster-to-Hamilton Road 138kV transmission line turns northwest (29.528552°, -100.871618°); thence northwest along the AEP Ft. Lancaster-to-Hamilton Road 138kV transmission line to the AEP Ft. Lancaster-to-Hamilton Road maintenance road (29.569259°, -100.984758°); thence along the AEP Ft. Lancaster-to-Hamilton Road maintenance road to Spur 406; thence northwest along Spur 406 to U.S. 90; thence south along U.S. 90 to Box Canyon Drive; thence west along Box Canyon Drive to Bluebonnet Drive; thence southwest along Bluebonnet Drive to Lake Drive; thence south along Lake Drive to Lake Amistad (29.513298°, -101.172454°), thence southeast along the International Boundary to the International Boundary at the Lake Amistad dam; thence southeast along the Rio Grande River to the confluence of Sycamore Creek (29.242341°, -100.793906°)

DEL RIO

(830) 353-2539

RV park at old Fisherman's Headquarters, 4957 US-90.

Coordinates: 29.43187, -100.90898

Val Verde Check Station Dates and Hours of Operation

Open Dates: Oct 2 - Nov 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Nov 6-Jan 16 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekends and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.on weekdays; Jan 17 - Feb 28 from 9 a.m to 4 p.m daily

Closed Dates: Nov 25, Dec 24 (12 p.m.), Dec 25, Dec 31 (12 p.m.), and Jan 1.

DEER

Buck Deer

A deer with a hardened antler protruding through the skin. Deer with antlers completely covered in velvet (protruding through the skin) are also considered buck deer.

For tagging purposes, all other deer are antlerless deer, regardless of sex.

Mule Deer

Bag limits are established by county (County Listings table, pgs. 80–95). No person may exceed the annual bag limit of two mule deer, no more than one of which may be a buck. The annual bag limit does not apply on MLDP properties.

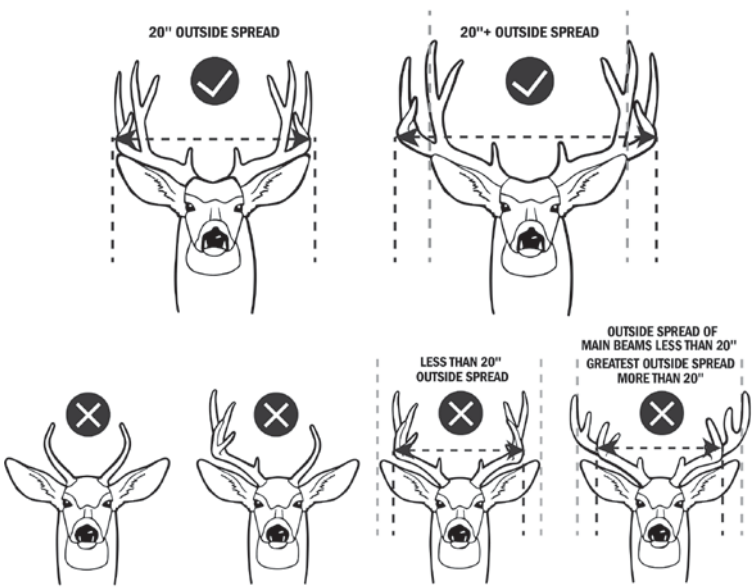
Special Antler Restriction – Mule Deer Bucks

An experimental antler restriction for mule deer bucks applies in Briscoe, Childress, Cottle, Floyd, Hall, Lynn and Motley counties:

- a legal buck deer is defined as a buck with an outside antler spread of the main beams of 20 inches or greater.
- any buck with at least one unbranched antler (e.g., spike) is NOT legal to harvest, unless the outside spread of the main beams is at least 20 inches in width.

The average ear-tip to ear-tip spread of mule deer bucks standing in the alert position is 21 inches, as shown in the buck illustrations. The outside spread is estimated in a similar manner; however, the measurement is taken by using the outside spread of the main beams, as shown by the black arrows/dotted lines below. TPWD requests hunters to voluntarily present the entire head (intact) of any buck mule deer harvested in the experimental antler-restriction counties to a designated check station to help assess the experimental antler-restriction regulation.

For more information on the experimental antler-restriction harvest strategy and locations of check stations: tpwd.texas.gov/oa/MDantlers.



MANDATORY Harvest Reporting

Harvest reporting is now mandatory for wild turkeys in select south-central Texas counties (pg. 69). Harvest reporting for **Eastern turkey** (pg. 69), **antlerless white-tailed deer** (pg. 67) in select south-central Texas counties, and **alligator gar** statewide (pg. 41), except for Falcon International Reservoir) remains mandatory.

Report online or on the My Texas Hunt Harvest app: tpwd.texas.gov/myhunt

On-site registration for public hunting is also now available online or through the ***My Texas Hunt Harvest app***.

White-tailed Deer

Bag limits are established by county (County Listings table, pgs. 80–95). No person may exceed the annual bag limit of five white-tailed deer, no more than three of which may be bucks. The annual bag limit does not apply on MLDP properties.

Mandatory Harvest Reporting – Antlerless White-tailed Deer

Any antlerless deer harvested in the following counties during archery, youth-only, muzzleloader, or the four antlerless deer days during general season is required to be reported within 24 hours of harvest to the department via mobile application or online. Report your antlerless deer harvest with the "My Texas Hunt Harvest" app (Apple App Store for IOS devices, Google Play for Android devices), or online at **tpwd.texas.gov/myhunt.**

Counties: Austin, Bastrop, Caldwell, Colorado, Comal (East of I-35), De Witt, Fayette, Goliad (North of US 59), Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hays (East of I-35), Jackson (north of US 59), Karnes, Lavaca, Lee, Travis (East of I-35), Victoria (North of US 59), Waller, Washington, Wharton (North of US 59), and Wilson.

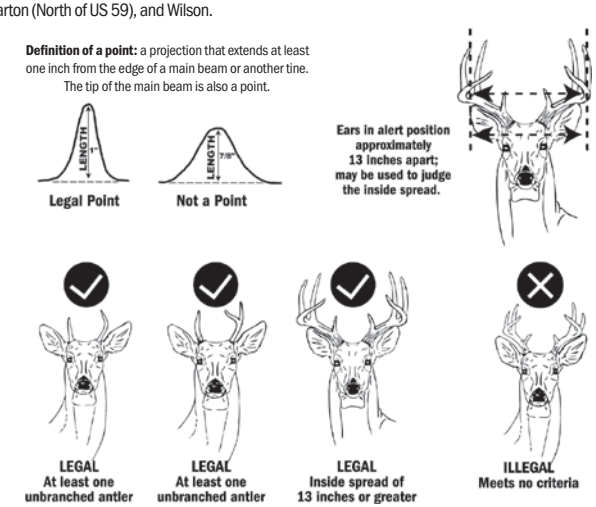
Special Antler Restriction – White-tailed Deer

Antler restrictions apply in certain counties (County Listings table, pgs. 80–95). In these counties, the bag limit is two legal bucks, but only ONE may have an inside spread of 13 inches or greater. In these counties, a legal buck deer is defined as a buck deer with:

- at least one unbranched antler; OR
- an inside spread of 13 inches or greater (does not apply to a buck that has an unbranched antler).

It is unlawful to take more than one buck with an inside spread of 13 inches or greater or having two branched antlers (i.e. a person who takes a buck in violation of the antler restriction regulation is prohibited from subsequently harvesting any buck deer with branched antlers on both main beams in that county during that hunting season).

The distance from the tip of one ear to the tip of the other ear, when the ears are in the "alert" position may be used as a guide to help estimate the inside spread. If the inside spread extends past the ears, it is likely to be at least 13 inches.



Special Late Season

In counties with a Special Late Season (County Listings table, pgs. 80–95), harvest is restricted to antlerless and unbranched antlered deer (a buck with at least one antler that has no more than one point). A point is a projection that extends at least one inch from the edge of a main beam or another tine. The tip of the main beam is also a point.

White-tailed Deer Youth-Only Seasons

- Age Restriction: ONLY licensed hunters 16 years of age or younger are eligible to participate in youth-only deer seasons.
- Youth-only seasons may run concurrently with other seasons (Archery, Muzzleloader, Special Late) but do not prevent any person from lawfully hunting under the provisions established for those seasons.
- Any lawful means may be used, except in Collin, Dallas, Grayson, and Rockwall counties, where lawful means are restricted to lawful archery equipment only.
- Bag limits, type of bucks that may be harvested (branched, unbranched antler, or both), tagging requirements, and any special requirements (e.g. antler restrictions or mandatory harvest reporting) for take of buck or antlerless deer during the youth-only season are the same as the first two days of general season statewide for that county, except for antlerless take in the following counties
- In Austin, Bastrop, Caldwell, Colorado, Comal (East of I-35), De Witt, Fayette, Goliad (North of US 59), Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hays (East of I-35), Jackson (north of US 59), Karnes, Lavaca, Lee, Travis (East of I-35), Victoria (North of US 59), Waller, Washington, Wharton (North of US 59),and Wilson counties the bag limits and other requirements are the same as the period Nov 26-29 (County Listings table, pgs. 80–95).

PRONGHORN (BY PERMIT ONLY)

The harvest of pronghorn is by permit only. The permit must be completely filled out and attached to the pronghorn immediately following harvest. Permits are issued to landowners or their agents in areas where there are huntable populations (Trans-Pecos, Permian Basin and Panhandle).

For more information on pronghorn regulations: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/pronghorn**

For more information on pronghorn permits and harvest reports: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/pronghornpermits**

NOTE: It is the hunter's responsibility to verify the permits are issued to the property where they are hunting.

DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP (BY PERMIT ONLY)

The harvest of desert bighorn sheep (DBS) is by permit only. Permits are issued to landowners or their agents. A limited number of permits are also available through "Big Time Texas Hunts" **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/btth**, and other public hunting: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/PublicHunting.**

No person may possess a DBS ram skull obtained after Sept. 1, 2003, unless the skull has been plugged by TPWD or the individual has proof that the skull was legally obtained outside of Texas. Skulls found in the wild may be possessed, provided the individual did not cause or participate in the death of the ram, and TPWD is notified within 48 hours of the skull/horns being found. Individual horns and hornless skulls may be possessed without identification or documentation.

JAVELINA AND SQUIRREL

See County Listings table, pgs. 80–95.

Alligator

GENERAL INFORMATION

FEEDING ALLIGATORS: Except when engaged in hunting, it is against the law to intentionally feed a free-ranging alligator.

REQUIRED LICENSE: Alligators may be taken under any resident or non-resident hunting license (except for a non-resident spring turkey license and a non-resident banded bird hunting license).

LAWFUL HUNTING HOURS: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset. Between sunset and one-half hour before sunrise, no person shall set any baited line capable of taking an alligator, or remove an alligator from a line set.

CITES TAGS: Required in both "Core" and "Non-core" counties and are issued by TPWD. CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) is an international agreement between governments to ensure that international trade in wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

SALE OF ALLIGATORS: Only lawfully harvested alligators may be sold and only to a licensed wholesale dealer or alligator farmer.

It is unlawful to take an alligator by means of firearms from, in, on, across, or over public water.

MEANS AND METHODS FOR ALLIGATORS

- In non-core counties, no person may employ more than one taking device at any time.
- Alligators may only be taken on private property.
- Alligators may be taken from public water, however, the person and the taking device MUST be on private property.
- Hook and line (line set) must be secured on private property with a portion of the line above water. Minimum 300 lb. test line.
- Hook-bearing lines may not be placed prior to the open season and shall be removed no later than sunset on the last day of the season.
- Each line set shall be labeled with a plainly visible, permanent, and legibly marked gear tag that contains the full name and current address of the person who set the line and the hunting license number of the person who set the line.
- Line sets shall be inspected daily, and alligators shall be harvested, documented, and removed IMMEDIATELY upon discovery.
- Firearms (excluding rimfire), air guns, and arrow guns may only be used to hunt on private land in non-core counties.
- Firearms (including rimfire), air guns, and arrow guns may be used to dispatch alligators legally captured on a taking device in any county.
- Gigs, hand-held snares (with integral locking mechanism), and lawful archery equipment (with barbed arrow), must have a float attached to the line. The float shall be no less than 6" X 6" X 8" or, if the float is spherical, no less than 8 inches in diameter.

NON-CORE COUNTIES

In non-core counties, the open season for alligators is Apr 1 – Jun 30. The bag limit in non-core counties is one alligator per person per license year. Alligators CAN NOT be taken during this season on any property where alligators were taken during the September season.

Upon killing an alligator in a non-core county, a person must IMMEDIATELY affix a WRD (pg. 100) to the alligator, which shall accompany the alligator until it is permanently tagged with a CITES tag. WITHIN 72 hours, complete the Non-Core Alligator Hide Tag Report (pg. 100) and mail it to TPWD, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744, along with a $21 hide tag fee (check or money order only). The department will mail a CITES tag to the hunter. Upon receipt, the tag must be permanently affixed to the alligator within 10 inches of the tip of the alligator's tail.

CORE COUNTIES

In Angelina, Brazoria, Calhoun, Chambers, Galveston, Hardin, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Matagorda, Nacogdoches, Newton, Orange, Polk, Refugio, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Trinity, Tyler, and Victoria counties (core counties), and on properties in other counties for which TPWD has issued CITES tags to the landowner, the open season for alligators is Sept. 10-30. Core counties are those counties constituting the prime historical habitat for the American alligator in Texas, where commercial hunting is viable and the department engages in significant biological monitoring of the resource and manages harvest through tag issuance to landowners.

In core counties and on special properties, no person may hunt an alligator without possessing a valid CITES tag on their person prior to hunting an alligator. CITES tags in these counties are issued to landowners or landowners' agents following a site inspection and evaluation by TPWD. CITES tags may only be used on the property they are allocated to, and cannot be transferred to other properties. For information about tag issuance and requirements, contact the Alligator Program at (409) 736-3625.

ALLIGATORS IN TEXAS: RULES, REGULATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

A department publication that provides additional regulations and information, including how to determine sex of an alligator (required for Alligator Hide Tag Reports). For a copy of the publication, call (800) 792-1112 (menu 5) or visit **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/alligator.**

Upland Game Birds

Bobwhite quail **Gambel's quail** **Scaled quail** (or Blue quail)
Chachalaca **Pheasant** **Wild turkey**

Species with no open season **(cannot be hunted)** include Attwater's prairie-chicken, Mearn's (Montezuma) quail, and lesser prairie-chicken.

It is unlawful to possess a pheasant with proof of sex removed.

It is unlawful to hunt pheasant by the aid of dragging of a cable, chain, rope, or other device connected to or between a moving object or objects.

UPLAND GAME BIRDS SEASONS AND LIMITS

SPECIES	SEASON	OPEN COUNTIES	DAILY BAG	POSSESSION
Pheasant	Dec 4 - Jan 2	See county-level restrictions (pg. 79).	3 cocks	9 cocks
Quail (Bobwhite, Scaled or Blue, and Gambel's)	Oct 30 - Feb 27	Statewide	15 in the aggregate	45 in the aggregate
Chachalaca	Oct 30 - Feb 27	Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties ONLY	5	15

WILD TURKEY

See County Listings table for season dates and special requirements, pgs. 80–95.

NEW: All wild turkeys harvested in Bastrop, Caldwell, Colorado, Fayette, Jackson, Lavaca, Lee, Matagorda, Milam, and Wharton Counties now have mandatory harvest reporting requirements.

It is unlawful to hunt roosting turkeys by any means at any time or to release turkeys without department authorization.

All turkey must be tagged with a tag from the hunter's license IMMEDIATELY upon harvest, and in a secure manner anywhere on the turkey (Tagging Turkey, pg. 57).

Special regulations for Eastern Spring season in certain East Texas counties

Shotgun and lawful archery equipment are the only legal methods of take; no hunting over bait; all turkeys harvested in these counties must be reported within 24 hours to the department via mobile application or online. REPORT your eastern turkey harvest with the "My Texas Hunt Harvest" app (App Store for IOS devices, or Google Play for Android devices), or online: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/turkey.**

MANDATORY Harvest Reporting

Harvest reporting is now mandatory for wild turkeys in select south-central Texas counties (pg. 69). Harvest reporting for **Eastern turkey** (pg. 69), **antlerless white-tailed deer** (pg. 67) in select south-central Texas counties, and **alligator gar** statewide (pg. 41), except for Falcon International Reservoir) remains mandatory.

Report online or on the My Texas Hunt Harvest app: tpwd.texas.gov/myhunt

On-site registration for public hunting is also now available online or through the ***My Texas Hunt Harvest app***.

Migratory Game Birds

Nothing in this publication authorizes any person to violate federal laws governing migratory game birds. Federal regulations related to migratory game birds are located in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20. For more information call the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) (505) 248-7889 or visit **fws.gov/birds**.

Includes all wild species of:

Coots	**Ducks**	**Mergansers**	**Snipe** (Wilson's or jacksnipe)
Doves (mourning, white-winged, white-tipped)	**Gallinules**	**Rails**	**Woodcock**
	Geese	**Sandhill cranes**	

HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM (HIP)

No person shall hunt migratory game birds in this state unless that person is HIP-certified in Texas. The federally-mandated Harvest Information Program (HIP) improves harvest information for all migratory game birds. Hunters who buy a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Endorsement, including Super Combos, will be asked a few simple questions about their migratory bird hunting activities.

Please report Migratory Game Bird bands. Check migratory game birds harvested (especially doves) for leg bands and report them to **reportband.gov**.

MEANS AND METHODS

- Shotguns, lawful archery equipment, falconry, dogs, artificial decoys, and manual or mouth-operated bird calls are legal.
- A shotgun is the only legal firearm for hunting migratory game birds. Shotguns must NOT be larger than 10-gauge, must be fired from the shoulder, and must be incapable of holding more than three shells. Shotguns capable of holding more than three shells must be plugged with a one-piece filler which cannot be removed without disassembling the gun, so the gun's total capacity does not exceed three shells.
- Hunting is permitted in the open or from a blind or other type of concealment or from floating craft or motor boat provided that all motion resulting from sail or motor has ceased. Sails must be furled and motor turned off before shooting starts.
- A craft under power may be used to retrieve dead or crippled birds; however, crippled birds may not be shot from such craft under power.
- No person, while hunting waterfowl anywhere in the state, may possess shotgun shells containing lead shot or loose lead shot for use in muzzleloaders. Approved shot includes steel (including copper, nickel or zinc-coated steel), bismuth-tin, tungsten-iron, tungsten-polymer (e.g. moly-shot), and any other nontoxic material approved by the Director of the USFWS. **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/NontoxicShot**

Baiting Regulations

Directly or indirectly placing, exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them is **prohibited by federal law.** Hunters are responsible for knowing whether an area is baited or not.

For further information on federal regulation regarding baiting: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/DoveBaiting** and waterfowl hunting **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/WaterfowlBaiting**.

A hunter MAY hunt migratory game birds including waterfowl, coots and sandhill cranes:

- on or over standing crops, standing flooded crops and flooded harvested crops;
- over natural vegetation (pg. 97) that has been manipulated (pg. 97);
- on or over a normal soil stabilization practice that is defined as a planting for agricultural soil erosion control or post-mining land reclamation conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA);
- on or over lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as a result of a normal agricultural practice which is defined as a planting, harvesting or post-harvest manipulation conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the USDA. Does not include the broadcast spreading of seed that is normally drill-planted;
- over crops or natural vegetation where grain has been inadvertently scattered as a result of entering or leaving a hunting area, placing decoys or retrieving downed birds;
- using natural vegetation or crops to conceal a blind, provided that if crops are used to conceal a blind, no grain or other feed is exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered in the process.

A person may hunt doves over planted crops that have been manipulated for the purpose of hunting. Waterfowl and sandhill cranes may NOT be hunted where grain or feed has been distributed or scattered as a result of manipulation or livestock feeding.

UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES

It is UNLAWFUL to:

- hunt migratory birds with the aid of bait, or on or over any baited area (pg. 96);
- hunt over any baited area until 10 days after all baiting materials have been removed and a game warden has confirmed removal of baiting materials;
- place or allow the placement of bait on or adjacent to any area where migratory game birds could be attracted for the purpose of hunting migratory game birds by any person;
- hunt waterfowl or sandhill cranes over manipulated planted millet in the first year after planting;
- hunt waterfowl or sandhill cranes over crops that have been manipulated, unless the manipulation is a normal agricultural post-harvesting manipulation in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the USDA;
- use any firearm other than a legal shotgun; use a trap, snare, net, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance; use live birds as decoys; use recorded or electronically amplified bird calls or sounds; or use a sinkbox (definition, pg. 98);
- hunt from or by means of motor vehicles or aircraft of any kind (including stationary) except paraplegics and single or double amputees of legs may hunt from stationary motor-driven conveyances;
- use motor-driven land, water or air conveyances or sailboats to concentrate, drive, rally or stir up any migratory game bird; or
- hunt where tame or captive live ducks or geese are present unless such birds are or have been for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to such taking confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of wild migratory game birds.

DOCUMENTATION

All harvested migratory game birds not in the immediate possession of the person who harvested them must be tagged with a WRD (pg. 100) until the birds reach the possessor's personal residence and are finally processed. If a hunter's personal birds have been finally processed at a cold storage or processing facility and the hunter transports someone else's birds, then a WRD must accompany those birds until they reach the possessor's permanent residence. A person may give, leave, receive or possess (e.g. cleaning or storage) any species of legally taken migratory game birds, or parts of birds, that are protected by a bag or possession limit, if the birds are accompanied by a WRD.

All hunters must keep migratory game birds included in their bag or possession limit separate and identifiable from other hunters' birds while in the field or during transport to the possessor's permanent residence, unless accompanied by a WRD.

PROCESSING OF MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Except for migratory game birds processed at a cold storage or processing facility, one fully feathered wing or head must remain attached to dressed migratory game birds (except doves) while being transported between the place taken and the personal residence of the hunter, the personal residence of another person receiving the dressed birds or a migratory bird preservation facility.

Migratory game birds may be dressed for **immediate cooking** at a place other than a permanent residence (e.g., hunting camp). This does not include placing dressed birds in a cooler/refrigerator for later consumption while at a place other than a permanent residence.

SHIPPING

When shipping migratory game birds, the package must be marked with the name and address of the sender, the name and address of the persons to whom the birds are being shipped and the number of birds of each species contained in the package.

IMPORTATION LIMIT

It is illegal to import migratory game birds belonging to another person into the United States. The number of migratory game birds imported from Mexico or Canada may not exceed the export limit set by the Mexican state or Canadian province from which they were taken. One fully feathered wing or head must remain attached to all migratory game birds imported from Canada or Mexico.
tpwd.texas.gov/oa/MexicoImport

HUNTING ON PUBLIC WATERS

Waterfowl hunters utilizing public water are encouraged to contact a local TPWD Law Enforcement office (pg. 99) or reservoir controlling authority for information on rules or permit requirements before hunting. On public hunting lands owned, administered, or leased by TPWD, a person is required to possess both a valid hunting license and Annual Public Hunting Permit to hunt migratory game birds. Licensed supervised youth under the age of 17 may hunt free of charge on these lands. For more information, check the TPWD Public Hunting Lands Map Booklet available at all TPWD offices, or **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/PublicHunting**.

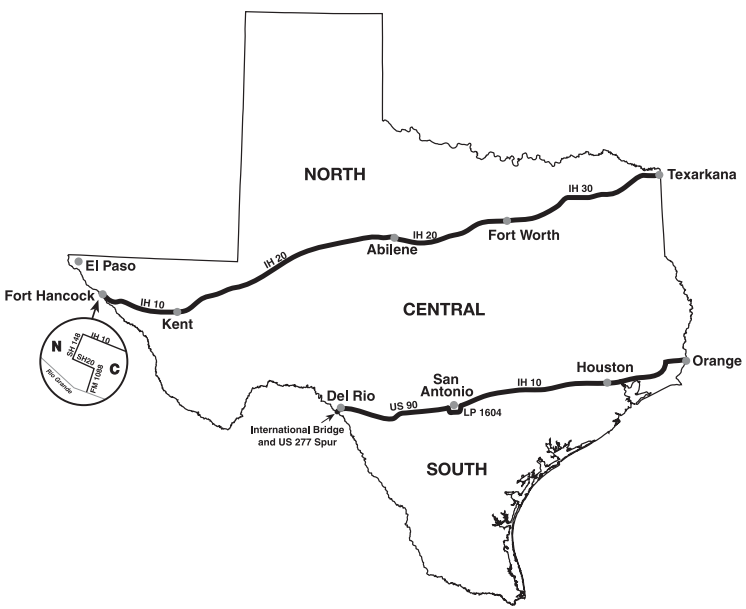
DOVE SEASONS, LIMITS, AND ZONES

There is no closed season or bag limit restrictions for Eurasian collared-doves or common pigeons (rock doves). However, it is recommended that hunters leave plumage on these birds for species identification to verify they are not part of a migratory game bird daily bag or possession limit (pg. 71).

Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

ZONE	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
REGULAR DOVE SEASON			
North Zone	Sep 1 - Nov 12 Dec 17 - Jan 2	15 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, to include not more than 2 white-tipped doves	45 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, to include not more than 6 white-tipped doves
Central Zone	Sep 1 - Oct 31 Dec 17 - Jan 14		
South Zone	Sep 14 - Oct 31 Dec 17 - Jan 21		
SPECIAL WHITE-WINGED DOVE DAYS			
South Zone	Sep 3-5 & 10-12 Shooting hours are from noon to sunset	15 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, to include not more than 2 mourning doves and 2 white-tipped doves	45 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, to include not more than 6 mourning doves and 6 white-tipped doves

HUNTING ZONES - DOVE



DUCK SEASONS, LIMITS, AND ZONES

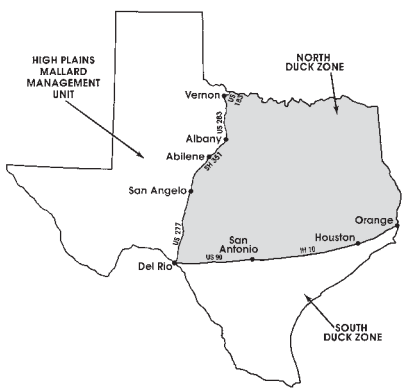
Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

ZONE	REGULAR DUCK SEASON	YOUTH*	DUSKY DUCK**
Early Teal (statewide) Includes blue-winged, green-winged, and cinnamon teal	Sep 11-26		
High Plains Mallard Management Unit	Oct 30-31 Nov 5 - Jan 30	Oct 23-24	Nov 8 - Jan 30
North Zone	Nov 13-28 Dec 4 - Jan 30	Nov 6-7	Nov 18-28 Dec 4 - Jan 30
South Zone	Nov 6-28 Dec 11 - Jan 30	Oct 30-31	Nov 11-28 Dec 11 - Jan 30

* 16 years of age or younger. Regular season bag limits apply for all legal species of geese, ducks, mergansers and coots. Dusky ducks are legal during the youth-only season. Youth hunters must be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years of age. A Federal Ducks Stamp is required for all persons 16 years of age or older.

** A dusky duck is defined as a mottled duck, Mexican-like duck, black duck and their hybrids. Due to similarities in appearance, all dusky ducks will be off limits during the first five days of the season in each zone. Recent concerns about the mottled duck populations by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have forced a delay in harvest.

HUNTING ZONES - DUCKS, MERGANSER, AND COOT



High Plains Mallard Management Unit: West of a line from the International Toll Bridge at Del Rio, north along U.S. Hwy. 277 to Abilene, State Hwy. 351 and State Hwy. 6 to Albany, and U.S. Hwy. 283 to Vernon, east along U.S. Hwy. 183 to the Texas-Oklahoma state line.

South Zone: South of a line from the International Bridge and U.S. 277 Spur at Del Rio, east along U.S. 90 to San Antonio, east along IH 10 to the Texas-Louisiana state line.

North Zone: Remainder of the state.

DAILY BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT

EARLY TEAL - 6 In the aggregate

REGULAR DUCK - 6 **Includes no more than:**

- 5 mallards *(only 2 of which may be hens)*
- 3 wood ducks
- 2 redheads
- 2 canvasbacks
- 1 scaup
- 1 pintail
- 1 dusky duck *(mottled duck, Mexican-like duck, black duck and their hybrids are closed the first five days of the season in each zone)*
- All other species not listed: 6

MERGANSER - 5
In the aggregate, to include no more than 2 hooded mergansers

COOT - 15

POSSESSION LIMIT
Three times the daily bag limit

FALCONRY
Daily bag and possession limits shall not exceed 3 and 9 migratory game birds, respectively, singly or in the aggregate

GOOSE SEASONS, LIMITS, AND ZONES

Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

ZONE	SPECIES	DATES
East	Early Canada Goose Only	Sep 11-26
	Light Goose: Snow (including blue) and Ross's geese Dark Goose: All other geese (not light), including Canada and white-fronted	Nov 6 – Jan 30
	Light Goose Conservation Order	Jan 31 – Mar 13
West	Light Goose: Snow (including blue) and Ross's geese Dark Goose: All other geese (not light), including Canada and white-fronted	Nov 13 – Feb 13
	Light Goose Conservation Order	Feb 14 – Mar 13

Light Goose Conservation Order

During the Light Goose Conservation Order, the taking of light geese will be permitted by regulations established through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Conservation Order. Under the order, the following rules shall be in effect for the taking of light geese:

- No daily bag or possession limits.
- The use of electronic calls is legal.
- Unplugged shotguns holding more than 3 shells are legal.
- Shooting hours will be one-half hour before sunrise until one half-hour after sunset.

It is UNLAWFUL to take any other species of migratory game birds during the Light Goose Conservation Order.

HUNTING ZONES - GOOSE

WESTERN ZONE: West of a line from the International Toll Bridge at Laredo, north following IH-35 and 35W to Fort Worth, northwest along U.S. Hwy. 81 and 287 to Bowie, north along U.S. Hwy. 81 to the Texas-Oklahoma state line.

EASTERN ZONE: Remainder of the state.

DAILY BAG & POSSESSION LIMIT

WESTERN ZONE

Light Geese
10 in the aggregate

Dark Geese
5, to include no more than 2 White-fronted geese

EASTERN ZONE

Early Canada Goose
5

Regular Light Geese
10 in the aggregate

Regular Dark Geese
5, to include no more than 2 White-fronted geese

POSSESSION LIMIT

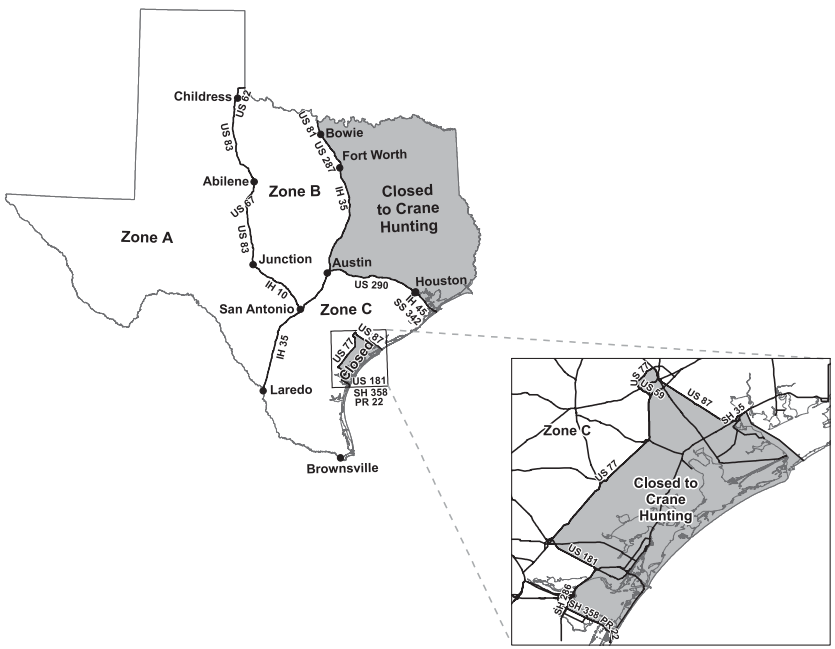
Three times the daily bag limit for dark geese; no possession limit for light geese

SANDHILL CRANE SEASONS, LIMITS, AND ZONES

Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

ZONE	DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
A	Oct 30 – Jan 30	3	9
B	Nov 26 - Jan 30	3	9
C	Dec 18 – Jan 23	2	6

HUNTING ZONES - SANDHILL CRANE



OTHER MIGRATORY GAMEBIRDS, SEASONS, AND LIMITS (STATEWIDE)

SPECIES	DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
King and Clapper Rails	Sep 11-26 Nov 6 - Dec 29	15 in the aggregate	45 in the aggregate
Sora and Virginia Rails	Sep 11-26 Nov 6 - Dec 29	25 in the aggregate	75 in the aggregate
Moorhens (Common Gallinules) and Purple Gallinules	Sep 11-26 Nov 6 - Dec 29	15 in the aggregate	45 in the aggregate
Woodcock	Dec 18 – Jan 31	3 in the aggregate	9 in the aggregate
Wilson's Snipe (Common snipe or jacksnipe)	Nov 6 - Feb 20	8 in the aggregate	24 in the aggregate

Youth Hunting Seasons

- Only licensed hunters 16 years of age or younger are eligible to participate in youth seasons which generally occur before (or directly after) general hunting seasons.
- Youth-only hunting seasons occur for turkeys, squirrels, white-tailed deer (season dates, pg. 80–95), and waterfowl (pg. 73).
- Youth-only waterfowl season requires the youth to be accompanied by a person 18 years of age or older.
- Special requirements, bag limits, and restrictions may apply for youth-only white-tailed deer hunting seasons (pg. 67).
- A Youth Hunting License (Type 169) is valid for the entire license year regardless if the 17th birthdate occurs during the license year. However, ONLY individuals 16 years of age or younger are allowed to participate in Youth-Only seasons.

Nongame Species

A hunting license is required for the take of nongame species. There are no closed seasons, bag limits or possession limits; and, they may be hunted at any time by any lawful means or methods on private property. There may be restrictions for certain species of nongame animals, including possession limits (see below). In addition, be aware that public hunting lands may also have additional restrictions. If hunting at night, as a courtesy please contact your local game warden at **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/GameWarden**.

NONGAME ANIMALS (included, but not limited to the following):

Armadillos	**Flying squirrels**	**Mountain lions**	**Rabbits and Hares**
Bobcats	**Frogs**	**Porcupines**	**Turtles** (freshwater)
Coyotes	**Ground squirrel**	**Prairie dogs**	

UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES FOR TAKE, POSSESS OR SALE OF NONGAME WILDLIFE

It is UNLAWFUL to:

- take ANY nongame species for commercial purposes (sale, offer for sale, barter, or exchange) from public lands or waters.
- possess armadillos for the purpose of sale.
- purchase, sell, trade, transport or ship out of state bobcat pelts without the appropriate pelt tag (CITES) attached. Pelt tags may be obtained from any permitted bobcat pelt dealer, or offices listed on pg. 99. For additional information contact TPWD at (800) 792-1112, menu 7, option 9 or (512) 389-4481.
- transport or sell live coyotes, as they are currently under a statewide rabies quarantine. Additional information: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/TransportWildlife**.
- possess a diamondback terrapin at any time.
- hunt (capture, trap, take or kill) any wild animal or wild bird on a public road or the right-of-way of public roads, except that a person may capture indigenous reptiles and amphibians (for recreational purposes ONLY) on the shoulder or unpaved right-of-way of a public roadway, provided the person possesses a valid Reptile and Amphibian Endorsement, the person employs non-lethal means ONLY to capture the reptiles or amphibians, the person does not possess a trap, and the person is visibly wearing at least 144 square inches of reflective material, both front and back. No person may use artificial light from a motor vehicle to locate, capture, or attempt to capture a reptile or amphibian.
- collect from the wild, sell, offer for sale or exchange certain species of nongame wildlife; however, many species of nongame may be sold, offered for sale, bartered, or exchanged, provided the proper nongame permit has been obtained from TPWD and all reporting and recordkeeping requirements are met: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/CommercialPermits**.
- take or possess any freshwater turtles taken from the wild for commercial purposes.
- possess more than 6 individuals of any species of freshwater turtle from the wild.

For more information on nongame regulations, permit requirements, and lists of lawful and prohibited species, contact TPWD at (800) 792-1112, menu 7 or (512) 389-4481, or go to Nongame Permits online: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/NongamePermits.**

Fur-bearing Animals

A person who possesses a hunting license may take a fur-bearing animal (furbearer), provided the furbearer (or any part thereof) is not to be sold or exchanged for anything of value. There is no bag or possession limit on furbearers. A trapper's license is required for the take of furbearers for the sale of pelts and/or carcasses.

Fur-bearing animals include:

Badger	**Mink**	**Opossum**	**Raccoon**
Beaver	**Muskrat**	**Otter**	**Skunk**
Fox	**Nutria**	**Ring-tailed cat**	

TAKE, POSSESS OR SALE OF FURBEARERS

- Hunter education requirements apply.
- A department-issued CITES tag is required to be attached to all otters taken and possessed in this state. No otters may be taken or collected from a public roadway.
- Furbearers may be hunted at night on private property with the aid of an artificial light.
- No license is required if nuisance furbearers are taken while causing loss or damage to agricultural crops, livestock, poultry, or personal property. However, such animals or their pelts may NOT be possessed or sold.
- There is no closed season for recreational harvest.

For more information on COMMERCIAL seasons, legal means, and other rules for furbearers and their pelts, consult the Furbearing Animal Digest, available at TPWD Law Enforcement offices (pg. 99), calling (800) 792-1112, or online: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/FurBearing**.

Endangered, Threatened and Other Protected Animals

In Texas, animal or plant species of conservation concern may be listed as threatened or endangered under the authority of state law and/or under the U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA). It is unlawful for any person to hunt threatened or endangered nongame species. To sell or purchase goods made from threatened or endangered species, proper documentation must accompany the goods. For a list of threatened and endangered species in Texas: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/endangered.**

PROTECTED BIRDS

All indigenous birds (including, but not limited to, raptors and songbirds) are protected by various state and federal laws and may not be killed, taken from the nest, picked up, or possessed for any reason, and their feathers may not be possessed or sold (except for the unprotected birds listed in the Non-Protected and/or Exotic Species section). Arts and crafts may not include these protected species under any circumstances. A federal depredation permit may be issued to individuals who have evidence clearly showing certain protected wildlife is causing serious damage to commercial agricultural, horticultural, or aquacultural interests, or presents a threat to public safety. For more information, **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/depredation.**

BATS

May not be hunted, killed, possessed, purchased or sold; however, bats may be moved, trapped, or killed if inside or on a building occupied by people. A person may transport a bat for the purpose of laboratory testing if there is a rabies or white-nosed syndrome (WNS) concern. Excluding bats from buildings is discouraged from May 1 – August 15 when young are unable to fly and may be entrapped. Please report suspected WNS cases to **wns@tpwd.texas.gov**.

BLACK BEARS

Black bears are listed as a state-threatened species by TPWD. They are protected and cannot be hunted or killed. Please report black bear sightings or mortalities by calling (512) 389-4505. For more information visit **tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/hunt/resources/bear_safety**

"CANNED HUNTS" (DANGEROUS WILD ANIMALS)

No person may kill or attempt to injure a dangerous wild animal (African or Asiatic lion, tiger, leopard, cheetah, hyena, bear, elephant, wolf, or rhinoceros, or any subspecies or hybrid of these animals) that is held in captivity in this state or that is released from captivity in this state for the purpose of being killed, nor may any person conduct, promote, advertise, or assist in the hunting of a dangerous wild animal.

Non-Protected and/or Exotic Species

On private property, there are no required means and methods of take, state bag or possession limits, or closed seasons (hunting hours) on exotic animals, exotic fowl or other species not included in any of the previously addressed categories.

EXOTIC ANIMALS AND FOWL

An exotic animal is any animal that is not indigenous to Texas, including but not limited to aoudad sheep, axis deer, elk, sika deer, fallow deer, red deer, and blackbuck and nilgai antelope. An exotic fowl is any avian species that is not indigenous to Texas and is also not protected by the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act, including but not limited to ratites (emu, ostrich, rhea, cassowary, etc.). Hunting License required.

It is UNLAWFUL to:

- hunt an exotic without a valid hunting license (Class C misdemeanor);
- hunt an exotic on a public road or right-of-way. (Class A misdemeanor);
- hunt an exotic without the landowner's permission. (Class A misdemeanor); or
- possess an exotic or the carcass of an exotic without the owner's consent (Class A misdemeanor).

FERAL HOGS AND COYOTES

- Hunter Education requirements apply.
- No hunting license is required to hunt feral hogs on private property with landowner authorization.
- Transportation and release of live feral hogs is unlawful, unless in compliance with Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) regulations. The TAHC regulates the movement of feral swine for disease-control purposes. For more information please call TAHC at (800) 550-8242 or visit **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/tahc**.
- No hunting license is required to hunt depredating coyotes on private property with landowner authorization.

MOUNTAIN LIONS

Mountain lions are classified as nongame animals; they are not protected and can be harvested at any time. Please report mountain lion sightings, harvests or mortalities to (512) 389-4505.

UNPROTECTED BIRDS

Birds not protected by any state or federal law include European starlings, English sparrow (house sparrow), feral rock doves (common pigeon), Egyptian geese, Muscovy ducks (except in Hidalgo, Starr, Zapata counties) and Eurasian collared-doves; these species may be killed at any time, their nests or eggs destroyed, and their feathers possessed.

MANDATORY Harvest Reporting

Harvest reporting is now mandatory for wild turkeys in select south-central Texas counties (pg. 69). Harvest reporting for **Eastern turkey** (pg. 69), **antlerless white-tailed deer** (pg. 67) in select south-central Texas counties, and **alligator gar** statewide (pg. 41), except for Falcon International Reservoir) remains mandatory.

Report online or on the My Texas Hunt Harvest app:

tpwd.texas.gov/myhunt

On-site registration for public hunting is also now available online or through the ***My Texas Hunt Harvest app***.

COUNTY LISTINGS

Restricted Areas in Counties

UNLAWFUL MEANS AND METHODS IN SPECIFIC COUNTY AREAS

It is UNLAWFUL to:

- possess, shoot or hunt with a firearm or any archery equipment on all land and water in the Aransas River and Poesta Creek in Bee County; on all land and public water in the state-owned riverbeds of La Salle and McMullen counties; and on all land and public water in the state-owned riverbeds of the Nueces, Frio and Atascosa rivers in Live Oak County; except for waterfowl hunting on any reservoir (existing or to be constructed) owned, operated, or maintained by a government entity.
- discharge a firearm or shoot an arrow in or on the bed or bank of a navigable stream in Dimmit, Edwards, Frio, Hall, Kenedy, Llano, Maverick, Real, Uvalde, or Zavala counties. This law does not apply to persons fishing by means of archery equipment (special gear requirements apply, pg. 35) or shotguns loaded with shot, including buckshot. A shotgun slug is prohibited.
- hunt on water of Stillhouse Hollow Reservoir or land adjacent to the reservoir owned by the federal government in Bell County, except for game birds hunted with a shotgun. A hunter must be 600 feet from the nearest private property line.
- discharge a pistol or rifle in, on, along, or across Wallisville Reservoir, and Lake Anahuac in Chambers County; the water of the Trinity River or Wallisville Reservoir in Liberty County.
- discharge any firearm or shoot any crossbow or bow and arrow on, along, or across the waters of Oyster Bayou in Chambers County from State Hwy. 65 south to the mouth of Oyster Bayou in the East Bay.
- hunt wild animals or wild birds or target shoot on land in Harris County owned by another without having in immediate possession written consent of the landowner of that land. The written consent must contain the hunter's name, identify the land on which hunting or target shooting is permitted, be signed by the landowner or legal agent for the owner, and must show the address and phone number of the person signing consent.

For additional restrictions in Callahan, Cass, Collin, Harrison, Marion Morris, Panola and Wood counties: tpwd.texas.gov/oa/RestrictedAreas.

Hunting on Federal Lands

- It is the responsibility of the hunter to be aware of applicable federal and state regulations on federal lands (Forest Service, National Recreation Areas, Corps of Engineers, etc.).
- On the LBJ National Grasslands in Montague and Wise counties antlerless may only be taken during archery, youth-only, and during the 4-day season (known as doe days).
- On all other US Forest Service (USFS) lands, antlerless deer may only be taken during archery, muzzleloader, and the youth-only seasons.

HUNTING ON FEDERAL OR OTHER GOVERNMENTAL LANDS

When hunting on U.S. Forest Service, Army Corps of Engineers, River Authority properties or other lands owned or administered by units of government (federal, state, or local), additional regulations and/or requirements may apply. It is the responsibility of the hunter to determine if such additional regulations or requirements apply.

- U.S. Forest Service (USFS) - on USFS properties managed by TPWD through the Public Hunting Program, antlerless deer may be taken by special drawn hunt permit. These properties include Alabama Creek WMA, Bannister WMA, Caddo National Grasslands WMA, Moore Plantation WMA, Sam Houston National Forest WMA. **www.fs.fed.us/visit/know-before-you-go/hunting**
- Army Corps of Engineers: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/USACE**
- River Authority: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/RiverAuthorities**

ANNUAL PUBLIC HUNTING PERMIT

The Annual Public Hunting Permit (also known as walk-in) provides nearly year-round hunting on property that TPWD owns or leases from various agencies, corporations, and private landowners. In order to hunt on these public hunting lands, persons age 17 or older must possess a TPWD Annual Public Hunting Permit, a hunting license, and any required endorsements. Youth (under age 17) are required to have a Texas hunting license but are not required to possess their own permit to hunt or fish on these lands; however, they must hunt or fish under the supervision of an authorized adult (age 18 or older) who possesses the permit. **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/publichunting**

COUNTY LISTINGS TABLE

Ⓛ=LATE SEASON Harvest is restricted to antlerless deer and unbranched antlered bucks.

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements) Ⓜ=MUZZLELOADER

County	White-tailed Deer: GENERAL		LATE (Ⓛ)		ARCHERY, YOUTH, MUZZLELOADER			BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS				Mule Deer: GENERAL & ARCHERY SEASON				BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Jan 3 – Jan 16	Jan 17 – Jan 30	Ⓐ Oct 2 – Nov 5	Ⓨ Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Ⓜ Jan 3 – Jan 16	Buck Limit	Antlerless Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Nov 20 – Nov 28	Nov 20 – Dec 5	Nov 26 – Dec 12	Ⓐ Oct 2 – Nov 5	Buck Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations
Anderson	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Andrews	•				•	•		1	2	3		•				1		M1
Angelina	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, FS, W2							
Aransas		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Archer	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Armstrong	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Atascosa		•		•	•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Austin	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Bailey	•				•	•		1	2	3		•				1		M1
Bandera	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	CWD							
Bastrop	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Baylor	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Bee		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Bell - E. of IH35	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Bell - W. of IH35	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Bexar	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Blanco	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Borden	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Bosque	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Bowie	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Brazoria	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Brazos	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Brewster	•				•	•	•	2	4	4				•	•	1	2	M2
Briscoe	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		AR, M1
Brooks		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Brown	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Burleson	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Burnet	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Caldwell	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Calhoun		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Callahan	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								

AC Means/methods restricted to lawful archery. No crossbows during archery season.
AR Antler restrictions (pgs. 66-67).
CWD CWD required checks (pgs. 63-65).
DL Dogs must be on a leash.
FS Restricted season dates for antlerless harvest on USFS lands (pg. 79)

***Antlerless** may be taken during archery, youth and muzzeloader seasons, except on properties where antlerless MLDP tags are issued or counties marked with **W1**.*

HR Mandatory harvest reporting for antlerless deer (pg. 67).
W1 Antlerless by MLDP tag only, except during archery season.
W2 Nov 6-28 antlerless may be taken.
W3 Nov 6-21 antlerless may be taken.
W4 Nov 25-28 antlerless may be taken.
M1 Mule deer general season: antlerless by antlerless mule deer permit or MLDP tag.
M2 Mule deer archery season: antlerless may be taken.

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements)

County	Wild Turkey: RIO GRANDE FALL							RIO GRANDE SPRING					EASTERN	BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		Other Game: SQUIRREL				JAVELINA		PHEASANT
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Nov 6 – Feb 27	Ⓐ Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Ⓨ Oct 30–31/Jan 17–30	Oct 30 – Oct 31	Mar 19 – May 1	Apr 2 – May 15	Apr 1 – Apr 30	Mar 12-13/May 7-8	Ⓨ Mar 26-27/May 21-22	Apr 22 – May 14	**Annual Bag Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1-Feb 27, May 1-31	Ⓨ Sep 25 – Sep 26	**Daily Bag Limit**	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1 – Feb 27	Dec 4 – Jan 2
Anderson																	•	•	10			
Andrews																•			NB		•	
Angelina																	•	•	10			
Aransas		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Archer	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Armstrong	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Atascosa		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Austin																•			NB			
Bailey																•			NB			•
Bandera	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Bastrop										G				1	HR	•			NB			
Baylor	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Bee		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Bell	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Bexar	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Blanco	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Borden	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Bosque	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Bowie													G	1	HR		•	•	10			
Brazoria																•			NB			
Brazos																•			NB			
Brewster									GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Briscoe	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Brooks			ES	ES			ES	GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Brown	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Burleson																•			NB			
Burnet	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Caldwell										G				1	HR	•			NB		•	
Calhoun		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB		•	
Callahan	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			

ES Either sex
GB Gobblers or bearded hens
G Gobblers only

Turkey bag limit: Four, in the aggregate, no more than one of which may be an eastern turkey.

AN Angelina National Forest closed to turkey hunting.
HR Mandatory harvest reporting for wild turkey (pg. 69).
NB No bag limit.

Javelina bag limit: Two per license year. Waste of game provisions apply (pg. 31).

Ⓛ=LATE SEASON Harvest is restricted to antlerless deer and unbranched antlered bucks.

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements) Ⓜ=MUZZLELOADER

County	White-tailed Deer											Mule Deer						
	GENERAL		LATE		ARCHERY, YOUTH, MUZZLELOADER			BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS				GENERAL & ARCHERY SEASON				BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Ⓛ Jan 3 – Jan 16	Ⓛ Jan 17 – Jan 30	Ⓐ Oct 2 – Nov 5	Ⓨ Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Ⓜ Jan 3 – Jan 16	Buck Limit	Antlerless Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Nov 20 – Nov 28	Nov 20 – Dec 5	Nov 26 – Dec 12	Ⓐ Oct 2 – Nov 5	Buck Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations
Cameron		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Camp	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Carson	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Cass	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Castro	•				•	•		1	2	3		•				1		M1
Chambers	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Cherokee	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Childress	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		AR, M1
Clay	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Cochran	•				•	•		1	2	3		•				1		M1
Coke	•		•		•	•		2	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Coleman	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Collin	•				•	•		2	2	4	AC, AR							
Collingsworth	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Colorado	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Comal - E. of IH35	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Comal - W. of IH35	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Comanche	•		•		•	•		2	2	4	AR							
Concho	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Cooke	•		•		•	•		2	2	4	AR							
Coryell	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Cottle	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		AR, M1
Crane	•				•	•		1	2	3	W1			•	•	1		M1
Crockett	•		•		•	•		2	5	5				•	•	1		M1
Crosby	•		•		•	•		1	5	5	CWD		•		•	1		CWD, M1
Culberson	•				•	•	•	2	4	4	CWD			•	•	1		CWD, M1
Dallam	•				•	•		1	2	3	CWD		•		•	1		CWD, M1
Dallas	•				•	•		2	2	4	AC, AR							
Dawson	•				•	•		1	2	3		•				1		M1
De Witt	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Deaf Smith	•				•	•		1	2	3	CWD		•		•	1		CWD, M1
Delta	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Denton	•		•		•	•		2	2	4	AR							
Dickens	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1

AC Means/methods restricted to lawful archery. No crossbows during archery season.
AR Antler restrictions (pgs. 66-67).
CWD CWD required checks (pgs. 63-65).
DL Dogs must be on a leash.
FS Restricted season dates for antlerless harvest on USFS lands (pg. 79)

***Antlerless** may be taken during archery, youth and muzzleloader seasons, except on properties where antlerless MLDP tags are issued or counties marked with **W1**.*

HR Mandatory harvest reporting for antlerless deer (pg. 67).
W1 Antlerless by MLDP tag only, except during archery season.
W2 Nov 6-28 antlerless may be taken.
W3 Nov 6-21 antlerless may be taken.
W4 Nov 25-28 antlerless may be taken.
M1 Mule deer general season: antlerless by antlerless mule deer permit or MLDP tag.
M2 Mule deer archery season: antlerless may be taken.

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements)

County	Wild Turkey															Other Game						
	RIO GRANDE FALL							RIO GRANDE SPRING						EASTERN	BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		SQUIRREL				JAVELINA		PHEASANT
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Nov 6 – Feb 27	Ⓐ Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Ⓨ Oct 30–31/Jan 17–30	Oct 30 – Oct 31	Mar 19 – May 1	Apr 2 – May 15	Apr 1 – Apr 30	Mar 12-13/May 7-8	Ⓨ Mar 26-27/May 21-22	Apr 22 – May 14	**Annual Bag Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1-Feb 27, May 1-31	Ⓨ Sep 25 – Sep 26	**Daily Bag Limit**	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1 – Feb 27	Dec 4 – Jan 2
Cameron		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Camp																	•	•	10			
Carson	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Cass													G	1	HR		•	•	10			
Castro																•			NB			•
Chambers																	•	•	10			
Cherokee																	•	•	10			
Childress	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Clay	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Cochran																•			NB			•
Coke	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Coleman	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Collin																•			NB			
Collingsworth	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Colorado										G				1	HR	•			NB			
Comal	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Comanche	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Concho	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Cooke	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Coryell	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Cottle	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Crane	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Crockett	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Crosby	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Culberson																•			NB	•		
Dallam																•			NB			•
Dallas																•			NB			
Dawson	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
De Witt								GB			GB			4		•			NB		•	
Deaf Smith																•			NB			•
Delta																	•	•	10			
Denton	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Dickens	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			

ES Either sex
GB Gobblers or bearded hens
G Gobblers only

Turkey bag limit: Four, in the aggregate, no more than one of which may be an eastern turkey.

AN Angelina National Forest closed to turkey hunting.
HR Mandatory harvest reporting for wild turkey (pg. 69).
NB No bag limit.

Javelina bag limit: Two per license year. Waste of game provisions apply (pg. 31).

Ⓛ=LATE SEASON Harvest is restricted to antlerless deer and unbranched antlered bucks.

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements) Ⓜ=MUZZLELOADER

County	White-tailed Deer											Mule Deer						
	GENERAL		LATE		ARCHERY, YOUTH, MUZZLELOADER			BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS				GENERAL & ARCHERY SEASON				BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		
			Ⓛ		Ⓐ	Ⓨ	Ⓜ								Ⓐ			
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Jan 3 – Jan 16	Jan 17 – Jan 30	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Jan 3 – Jan 16	Buck Limit	Antlerless Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Nov 20 – Nov 28	Nov 20 – Dec 5	Nov 26 – Dec 12	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Buck Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations
Dimmit		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Donley	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Duval		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Eastland	•		•		•	•		2	2	4	AR							
Ector	•				•	•		1	2	3	W1			•	•	1		M1
Edwards	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
El Paso														•	•	1		CWD, M1
Ellis	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Erath	•		•		•	•		2	2	4	AR							
Falls	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Fannin	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, FS, W3							
Fayette	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Fisher	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Floyd	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		AR, M1
Foard	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Fort Bend	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Franklin	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Freestone	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Frio		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Gaines	•				•	•		1	2	3		•				1		M1
Galveston	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Garza	•		•		•	•		1	5	5	CWD		•		•	1		CWD, M1
Gillespie	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Glasscock	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Goliad - N. of Hwy 59	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Goliad - S. of Hwy 59	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Gonzales	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Gray	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Grayson	•				•	•		2	2	4	AC, AR							
Gregg	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Grimes	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Guadalupe	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Hale	•				•	•		1	2	3		•				1		M1
Hall	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		AR, M1

AC Means/methods restricted to lawful archery. No crossbows during archery season.
AR Antler restrictions (pgs. 66-67).
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W3 Nov 6-21 antlerless may be taken.
W4 Nov 25-28 antlerless may be taken.
M1 Mule deer general season: antlerless by antlerless mule deer permit or MLDP tag.
M2 Mule deer archery season: antlerless may be taken.

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements)

County	Wild Turkey															Other Game						
	RIO GRANDE FALL							RIO GRANDE SPRING						EASTERN	BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		SQUIRREL				JAVELINA		PHEASANT
				Ⓐ		Ⓨ					Ⓨ								Ⓨ				
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Nov 6 – Feb 27	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Oct 30–31/Jan 17–30	Oct 30 – Oct 31	Mar 19 – May 1	Apr 2 – May 15	Apr 1 – Apr 30	Mar 12-13/May 7-8	Mar 26-27/May 21-22	Apr 22 – May 14	**Annual Bag Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1-Feb 27, May 1-31	Sep 25 – Sep 26	**Daily Bag Limit**	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1 – Feb 27	Dec 4 – Jan 2
Dimmit		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Donley	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Duval		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Eastland	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Ector	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Edwards	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
El Paso																•			NB	•		
Ellis									GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Erath	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Falls																•			NB			
Fannin													G	1	HR		•	•	10			
Fayette										G				1	HR	•			NB			
Fisher	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Floyd	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Foard	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Fort Bend																•			NB			
Franklin																	•	•	10			
Freestone																	•	•	10			
Frio		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Gaines																•			NB		•	
Galveston																	•	•	10			
Garza	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Gillespie	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Glasscock	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Goliad		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB		•	
Gonzales		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB		•	
Gray	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Grayson													G	1	HR	•			NB			
Gregg																	•	•	10			
Grimes																•			NB			
Guadalupe									GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Hale																•			NB			•
Hall	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•

ES Either sex
GB Gobblers or bearded hens
G Gobblers only

Turkey bag limit: Four, in the aggregate, no more than one of which may be an eastern turkey.

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Ⓛ=LATE SEASON Harvest is restricted to antlerless deer and unbranched antlered bucks.

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements) Ⓜ=MUZZLELOADER

County	White-tailed Deer											Mule Deer						
	GENERAL		LATE		ARCHERY, YOUTH, MUZZLELOADER			BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS				GENERAL & ARCHERY SEASON				BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Ⓛ Jan 3 – Jan 16	Ⓛ Jan 17 – Jan 30	Ⓐ Oct 2 – Nov 5	Ⓨ Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Ⓜ Jan 3 – Jan 16	Buck Limit	Antlerless Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Nov 20 – Nov 28	Nov 20 – Dec 5	Nov 26 – Dec 12	Ⓐ Oct 2 – Nov 5	Buck Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations
Hamilton	•		•		•	•		2	5	**5**	AR							
Hansford	•				•	•		1	2	**3**			•		•	1		M1
Hardeman	•		•		•	•		1	5	**5**			•		•	1		M1
Hardin	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR, W2							
Harris	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR, W2							
Harrison	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR, W3							
Hartley	•				•	•		1	2	**3**	CWD		•		•	1		CWD, M1
Haskell	•		•		•	•		2	5	**5**								
Hays - E. of IH35	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR, HR, W4							
Hays - W. of IH35	•		•		•	•		2	5	**5**								
Hemphill	•		•		•	•		1	5	**5**			•		•	1		M1
Henderson	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR, W3							
Hidalgo		•		•	•	•		3	5	**5**								
Hill	•		•		•	•		2	5	**5**	AR							
Hockley	•				•	•		1	2	**3**		•				1		M1
Hood	•		•		•	•		2	2	**4**	AR							
Hopkins	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR, W3							
Houston	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR, FS, W2							
Howard	•		•		•	•		2	5	**5**								
Hudspeth														•	•	1		CWD, M1
Hunt	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR, CWD, W3							
Hutchinson	•		•		•	•		1	5	**5**			•		•	1		M1
Irion	•		•		•	•		2	5	**5**								
Jack	•		•		•	•		2	5	**5**	AR							
Jackson-N. of Hwy 59	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR, HR, W4							
Jackson-S. of Hwy 59	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR, W2							
Jasper	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR,DL,FS,W2							
Jeff Davis	•				•	•	•	2	4	**4**				•	•	1		M1
Jefferson	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR, W2							
Jim Hogg		•		•	•	•		3	5	**5**								
Jim Wells		•		•	•	•		3	5	**5**								
Johnson	•		•		•	•		2	2	**4**	AR							
Jones	•		•		•	•		2	5	**5**								
Karnes	•				•	•	•	2	2	**4**	AR, HR, W4							

AC Means/methods restricted to lawful archery. No crossbows during archery season.
AR Antler restrictions (pgs. 66-67).
CWD CWD required checks (pgs. 63-65).
DL Dogs must be on a leash.
FS Restricted season dates for antlerless harvest on USFS lands (pg. 79)

***Antlerless** may be taken during archery, youth and muzzleloader seasons, except on properties where antlerless MLDP tags are issued or counties marked with **W1**.*

HR Mandatory harvest reporting for antlerless deer (pg. 67).
W1 Antlerless by MLDP tag only, except during archery season.
W2 Nov 6-28 antlerless may be taken.
W3 Nov 6-21 antlerless may be taken.
W4 Nov 25-28 antlerless may be taken.
M1 Mule deer general season: antlerless by antlerless mule deer permit or MLDP tag.
M2 Mule deer archery season: antlerless may be taken.

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements)

County	Wild Turkey															Other Game						
	RIO GRANDE FALL							RIO GRANDE SPRING						EASTERN	BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		SQUIRREL			JAVELINA		PHEASANT
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Nov 6 – Feb 27	Ⓐ Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Ⓨ Oct 30–31/Jan 17–30	Oct 30 – Oct 31	Mar 19 – May 1	Apr 2 – May 15	Apr 1 – Apr 30	Mar 12-13/May 7-8	Ⓨ Mar 26-27/May 21-22	Apr 22 – May 14	**Annual Bag Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1-Feb 27, May 1-31	Ⓨ Sep 25 – Sep 26	**Daily Bag Limit**	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1 – Feb 27	Dec 4 – Jan 2
Hamilton	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Hansford																•			NB			•
Hardeman	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Hardin																	•	•	10			
Harris																	•	•	10			
Harrison																	•	•	10			
Hartley	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Haskell	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Hays	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Hemphill	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Henderson																	•	•	10			
Hidalgo		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Hill	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Hockley																•			NB			•
Hood	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Hopkins																	•	•	10			
Houston																	•	•	10			
Howard	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Hudspeth																•			NB	•		
Hunt																	•	•	10			
Hutchinson	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Irion	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Jack	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Jackson										G				1	HR	•			NB			
Jasper													G	1	AN, HR		•	•	10			
Jeff Davis									GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Jefferson																	•	•	10			
Jim Hogg		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Jim Wells		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Johnson	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Jones	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Karnes		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		

ES Either sex
GB Gobblers or bearded hens
G Gobblers only

Turkey bag limit: Four, in the aggregate, no more than one of which may be an eastern turkey.

AN Angelina National Forest closed to turkey hunting.
HR Mandatory harvest reporting for wild turkey (pg. 69).
NB No bag limit.

Javelina bag limit: Two per license year. Waste of game provisions apply (pg. 31).

Ⓛ=LATE SEASON Harvest is restricted to antlerless deer and unbranched antlered bucks.

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements) Ⓜ=MUZZLELOADER

County	White-tailed Deer											Mule Deer						
	GENERAL		LATE		ARCHERY, YOUTH, MUZZLELOADER			BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS				GENERAL & ARCHERY SEASON				BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		
			Ⓛ		Ⓐ	Ⓨ	Ⓜ								Ⓐ			
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Jan 3 – Jan 16	Jan 17 – Jan 30	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Jan 3 – Jan 16	Buck Limit	Antlerless Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Nov 20 – Nov 28	Nov 20 – Dec 5	Nov 26 – Dec 12	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Buck Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations
Kaufman	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, CWD, W3							
Kendall	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Kenedy		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Kent	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Kerr	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Kimble	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	CWD							
King	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Kinney - N. of US90	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Kinney - S. of US90		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Kleberg		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Knox	•		•		•	•		2	5	5			•		•	1		M1
La Salle		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Lamar	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Lamb	•				•	•		1	2	3		•				1		M1
Lampasas	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Lavaca	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Lee	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Leon	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Liberty	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Limestone	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Lipscomb	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Live Oak		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Llano	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Loving	•				•	•		1	2	3	W1			•	•	1		M1
Lubbock	•				•	•		1	2	3	CWD	•				1		CWD, M1
Lynn	•				•	•		1	2	3	CWD	•				1		CWD,AR,M1
Madison	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Marion	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Martin	•				•	•		1	2	3		•				1		M1
Mason	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Matagorda	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Maverick		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
McCulloch	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
McLennan	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							

AC Means/methods restricted to lawful archery. No crossbows during archery season.
AR Antler restrictions (pgs. 66-67).
CWD CWD required checks (pgs. 63-65).
DL Dogs must be on a leash.
FS Restricted season dates for antlerless harvest on USFS lands (pg. 79)

***Antlerless** may be taken during archery, youth and muzzeloader seasons, except on properties where antlerless MLDP tags are issued or counties marked with **W1**.*

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W4 Nov 25-28 antlerless may be taken.
M1 Mule deer general season: antlerless by antlerless mule deer permit or MLDP tag.
M2 Mule deer archery season: antlerless may be taken.

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements)

County	Wild Turkey															Other Game						
	RIO GRANDE FALL							RIO GRANDE SPRING						EASTERN	BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		SQUIRREL				JAVELINA		PHEASANT
				Ⓐ		Ⓨ						Ⓨ										
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Nov 6 – Feb 27	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Oct 30–31/Jan 17–30	Oct 30 – Oct 31	Mar 19 – May 1	Apr 2 – May 15	Apr 1 – Apr 30	Mar 12-13/May 7-8	Mar 26-27/May 21-22	Apr 22 – May 14	**Annual Bag Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1-Feb 27, May 1-31	Sep 25 – Sep 26	**Daily Bag Limit**	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1 – Feb 27	Dec 4 – Jan 2
Kaufman																•			NB			
Kendall	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Kenedy			ES	ES			ES	GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Kent	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Kerr	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Kimble	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
King	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Kinney - N.	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Kinney - S.		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Kleberg			ES	ES			ES	GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Knox	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
La Salle		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Lamar													G	1	HR		•	•	10			
Lamb																•			NB			•
Lampasas	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Lavaca										G				1	HR	•			NB			
Lee										G				1	HR	•			NB			
Leon																	•	•	10			
Liberty																	•	•	10			
Limestone																	•	•	10			
Lipscomb	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Live Oak		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Llano	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Loving																•			NB		•	
Lubbock																•			NB			•
Lynn	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Madison																•			NB			
Marion													G	1	HR		•	•	10			
Martin	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Mason	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Matagorda										G				1	HR	•			NB			
Maverick		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
McCulloch	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
McLennan	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			

ES Either sex
GB Gobblers or bearded hens
G Gobblers only

Turkey bag limit: Four, in the aggregate, no more than one of which may be an eastern turkey.

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County	White-tailed Deer											Mule Deer						
	GENERAL		LATE		ARCHERY, YOUTH, MUZZLELOADER			BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS				GENERAL & ARCHERY SEASON				BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		
			Ⓛ		Ⓐ	Ⓨ	Ⓜ								Ⓐ			
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Jan 3 – Jan 16	Jan 17 – Jan 30	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Jan 3 – Jan 16	Buck Limit	Antlerless Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Nov 20 – Nov 28	Nov 20 – Dec 5	Nov 26 – Dec 12	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Buck Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations
McMullen		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Medina - N. of US90	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	CWD							
Medina - S. of US90		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Menard	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Midland	•				•	•		1	2	3	W1			•	•	1		M1
Milam	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Mills	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Mitchell	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Montague	•		•		•	•		2	2	4	AR, FS							
Montgomery	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, FS, W2							
Moore	•				•	•		1	2	3	CWD		•		•	1		CWD, M1
Morris	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Motley	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		AR, M1
Nacogdoches	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, FS, W3							
Navarro	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Newton	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR,DL,FS,W2							
Nolan	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Nueces		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Ochiltree	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Oldham	•				•	•		1	2	3	CWD		•		•	1		CWD, M1
Orange	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Palo Pinto	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Panola	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Parker	•		•		•	•		2	2	4	AR							
Parmer	•				•	•		1	2	3	CWD	•				1		CWD, M1
Pecos	•		•		•	•		2	5	5				•	•	1	2	M2
Polk	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Potter	•				•	•		1	2	3	CWD		•		•	1		CWD, M1
Presidio	•				•	•	•	2	4	4				•	•	1		M1
Rains	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Randall	•				•	•		1	2	3	CWD		•		•	1		CWD, M1
Reagan	•		•		•	•		2	5	5				•	•	1		M1
Real	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Red River	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							

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M2 Mule deer archery season: antlerless may be taken.

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County	Wild Turkey															Other Game						
	RIO GRANDE FALL							RIO GRANDE SPRING						EASTERN	BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		SQUIRREL				JAVELINA		PHEASANT
				Ⓐ		Ⓨ					Ⓨ							Ⓨ					
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Nov 6 – Feb 27	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Oct 30–31/Jan 17–30	Oct 30 – Oct 31	Mar 19 – May 1	Apr 2 – May 15	Apr 1 – Apr 30	Mar 12-13/May 7-8	Mar 26-27/May 21-22	Apr 22 – May 14	**Annual Bag Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1-Feb 27, May 1-31	Sep 25 – Sep 26	**Daily Bag Limit**	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1 – Feb 27	Dec 4 – Jan 2
McMullen		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Medina - N.	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Medina - S.		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Menard	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Midland	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Milam										G				1	HR	•			NB			
Mills	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Mitchell	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Montague	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Montgomery																	•	•	10			
Moore	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Morris																	•	•	10			
Motley	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Nacogdoches													G	1	HR		•	•	10			
Navarro																	•	•	10			
Newton													G	1	HR		•	•	10			
Nolan	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Nueces		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Ochiltree	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Oldham	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Orange																	•	•	10			
Palo Pinto	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Panola																	•	•	10			
Parker	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Parmer																•			NB			•
Pecos	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Polk													G	1	HR		•	•	10			
Potter	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Presidio																•			NB	•		
Rains																	•	•	10			
Randall	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Reagan	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Real	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Red River													G	1	HR		•	•	10			

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County	White-tailed Deer											Mule Deer						
	GENERAL		LATE		ARCHERY, YOUTH, MUZZLELOADER			BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS				GENERAL & ARCHERY SEASON				BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		
			Ⓛ		Ⓐ	Ⓨ	Ⓜ								Ⓐ			
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Jan 3 – Jan 16	Jan 17 – Jan 30	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Jan 3 – Jan 16	Buck Limit	Antlerless Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Nov 20 – Nov 28	Nov 20 – Dec 5	Nov 26 – Dec 12	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Buck Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations
Reeves	•				•	•	•	2	4	4	CWD			•	•	1		CWD, M1
Refugio		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Roberts	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Robertson	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Rockwall	•				•	•		2	2	4	AC, AR, CWD							
Runnels	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Rusk	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Sabine	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR,DL,FS,W3							
San Augustine	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR,DL,FS,W3							
San Jacinto	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, FS, W2							
San Patricio		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
San Saba	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Schleicher	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Scurry	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Shackelford	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Shelby	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, FS, W3							
Sherman	•				•	•		1	2	3	CWD		•		•	1		CWD, M1
Smith	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Somervell	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Starr		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Stephens	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Sterling	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Stonewall	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Sutton	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Swisher	•				•	•		1	2	3			•		•	1		M1
Tarrant	•		•		•	•		2	2	4	AR							
Taylor	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Terrell	•		•		•	•		2	5	5				•	•	1	2	M2
Terry	•				•	•		1	2	3		•				1		M1
Throckmorton	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Titus	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Tom Green	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Travis - E. of IH35	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Travis - W. of IH35	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								

AC Means/methods restricted to lawful archery. No crossbows during archery season.
AR Antler restrictions (pgs. 66-67).
CWD CWD required checks (pgs. 63-65).
DL Dogs must be on a leash.
FS Restricted season dates for antlerless harvest on USFS lands (pg. 79)

***Antlerless** may be taken during archery, youth and muzzleloader seasons, except on properties where antlerless MLDP tags are issued or counties marked with **W1**.*

HR Mandatory harvest reporting for antlerless deer (pg. 67).
W1 Antlerless by MLDP tag only, except during archery season.
W2 Nov 6-28 antlerless may be taken.
W3 Nov 6-21 antlerless may be taken.
W4 Nov 25-28 antlerless may be taken.
M1 Mule deer general season: antlerless by antlerless mule deer permit or MLDP tag.
M2 Mule deer archery season: antlerless may be taken.

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements)

County	Wild Turkey															Other Game						
	RIO GRANDE FALL							RIO GRANDE SPRING						EASTERN	BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		SQUIRREL				JAVELINA		PHEASANT
				Ⓐ		Ⓨ						Ⓨ										
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Nov 6 – Feb 27	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Oct 30–31/Jan 17–30	Oct 30 – Oct 31	Mar 19 – May 1	Apr 2 – May 15	Apr 1 – Apr 30	Mar 12-13/May 7-8	Mar 26-27/May 21-22	Apr 22 – May 14	**Annual Bag Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1-Feb 27, May 1-31	Sep 25 – Sep 26	**Daily Bag Limit**	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1 – Feb 27	Dec 4 – Jan 2
Reeves																•			NB	•		
Refugio		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB		•	
Roberts	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Robertson																	•	•	10			
Rockwall																•			NB			
Runnels	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Rusk																	•	•	10			
Sabine													G	1	HR		•	•	10			
San Augustine																	•	•	10			
San Jacinto																	•	•	10			
San Patricio		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
San Saba	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Schleicher	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Scurry	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Shackelford	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Shelby																	•	•	10			
Sherman																•			NB			•
Smith																	•	•	10			
Somervell	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Starr		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Stephens	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Sterling	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Stonewall	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Sutton	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Swisher	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Tarrant	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Taylor	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Terrell	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Terry																•			NB		•	
Throckmorton	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Titus																	•	•	10			
Tom Green	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Travis	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			

ES Either sex
GB Gobblers or bearded hens
G Gobblers only

Turkey bag limit: Four, in the aggregate, no more than one of which may be an eastern turkey.

AN Angelina National Forest closed to turkey hunting.
HR Mandatory harvest reporting for wild turkey (pg. 69).
NB No bag limit.

Javelina bag limit: Two per license year. Waste of game provisions apply (pg. 31).

Ⓛ=LATE SEASON Harvest is restricted to antlerless deer and unbranched antlered bucks.

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements) Ⓜ=MUZZLELOADER

County	White-tailed Deer											Mule Deer						
	GENERAL		LATE		ARCHERY, YOUTH, MUZZLELOADER			BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS				GENERAL & ARCHERY SEASON				BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		
			Ⓛ		Ⓐ	Ⓨ	Ⓜ								Ⓐ			
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Jan 3 – Jan 16	Jan 17 – Jan 30	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Jan 3 – Jan 16	Buck Limit	Antlerless Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Nov 20 – Nov 28	Nov 20 – Dec 5	Nov 26 – Dec 12	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Buck Limit	**Max Combined Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations
Trinity	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, FS, W2							
Tyler	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Upshur	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Upton	•		•		•	•		2	5	5				•	•	1		M1
Uvalde - N. of US90	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	CWD							
Uvalde - S. of US90		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Val Verde-N. of 239/90	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	CWD			•	•	1		CWD, M1
Val Verde-S. of 239/90		•		•	•	•		3	5	5	CWD			•	•	1		CWD, M1
Van Zandt	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, CWD, W3							
Victoria - N. of Hwy 59	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Victoria - S. of Hwy 59	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Walker	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, FS, W2							
Waller	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Ward	•				•	•		1	2	3	W1			•	•	1		M1
Washington	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Webb		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Wharton-N. of Hwy 59	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Wharton-S. of Hwy 59	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W2							
Wheeler	•		•		•	•		1	5	5			•		•	1		M1
Wichita	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Wilbarger	•		•		•	•		2	5	5								
Willacy		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Williamson-E. of IH35	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Williamson-W. of IH35	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Wilson	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, HR, W4							
Winkler	•				•	•		1	2	3	W1			•	•	1		M1
Wise	•		•		•	•		2	2	4	AR, FS							
Wood	•				•	•	•	2	2	4	AR, W3							
Yoakum	•				•	•		1	2	3		•				1		M1
Young	•		•		•	•		2	5	5	AR							
Zapata		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								
Zavala		•		•	•	•		3	5	5								

Ⓐ=ARCHERY Ⓨ=YOUTH ONLY (pg. 76 for youth-only bag limits and requirements)

County	Wild Turkey															Other Game					
	RIO GRANDE FALL							RIO GRANDE SPRING						EASTERN	BAG LIMITS & RESTRICTIONS		SQUIRREL			JAVELINA		PHEASANT
				Ⓐ		Ⓨ						Ⓨ									
	Nov 6 – Jan 2	Nov 6 – Jan 16	Nov 6 – Feb 27	Oct 2 – Nov 5	Oct 30–31/Jan 3–16	Oct 30–31/Jan 17–30	Oct 30 – Oct 31	Mar 19 – May 1	Apr 2 – May 15	Apr 1 – Apr 30	Mar 12-13/May 7-8	Mar 26-27/May 21-22	Apr 22 – May 14	**Annual Bag Limit**	Restrictions & Regulations	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1-Feb 27, May 1-31	Sep 25 – Sep 26	**Daily Bag Limit**	Sep 1 – Aug 31	Oct 1 – Feb 27	Dec 4 – Jan 2
Trinity																	•	•	10			
Tyler																	•	•	10			
Upshur																	•	•	10			
Upton	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Uvalde - N.	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Uvalde - S.		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Val Verde - N.	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB	•		
Val Verde - S.		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Van Zandt																	•	•	10			
Victoria								GB			GB			4		•			NB		•	
Walker																	•	•	10			
Waller																•			NB			
Ward	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Washington																•			NB			
Webb		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Wharton										G				1	HR	•			NB			
Wheeler	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			•
Wichita	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	
Wilbarger	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB		•	•
Willacy			ES	ES			ES	GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Williamson	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Wilson		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Winkler																•			NB		•	
Wise	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Wood																	•	•	10			
Yoakum																•			NB			
Young	ES			ES	ES				GB			GB		4		•			NB			
Zapata		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		
Zavala		GB		GB		GB		GB			GB			4		•			NB	•		

AC Means/methods restricted to lawful archery. No crossbows during archery season.
AR Antler restrictions (pgs. 66-67).
CWD CWD required checks (pgs. 63-65).
DL Dogs must be on a leash.
FS Restricted season dates for antlerless harvest on USFS lands (pg. 79)

***Antlerless** may be taken during archery, youth and muzzleloader seasons, except on properties where antlerless MLDP tags are issued or counties marked with **W1**.*

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W2 Nov 6-28 antlerless may be taken.
W3 Nov 6-21 antlerless may be taken.
W4 Nov 25-28 antlerless may be taken.
M1 Mule deer general season: antlerless by antlerless mule deer permit or MLDP tag.
M2 Mule deer archery season: antlerless may be taken.

ES Either sex
GB Gobblers or bearded hens
G Gobblers only

Turkey bag limit: Four, in the aggregate, no more than one of which may be an eastern turkey.

AN Angelina National Forest closed to turkey hunting.
HR Mandatory harvest reporting for wild turkey (pg. 69).
NB No bag limit.

Javelina bag limit: Two per license year. Waste of game provisions apply (pg. 31).

Definitions - Hunting, Fishing, and Boating

Active duty
Full-time military service in the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, Reserves, National Guard or Texas State Guard; includes full-time training duty and attendance while in active service at a school designated as a service school by law or by the Secretary of the military department.

Aggregate limit
A daily bag or possession limit composed of more than one species or a single bag limit that applies to a group of counties.

Aircraft
Any mechanical device used for flight; this includes unmanned aerial vehicles (aka drones). Aircraft may not be used, or any attempt, to hunt, locate (including wounded animals), photograph, count, harass, drive any animal without a department-issued permit.

Air gun
A device that fires a bullet solely by the use of unignited compressed gas as the propellant.

Annual bag limit
(alligator, deer, pronghorn, turkey or javelina)
The maximum number of these species that may be lawfully taken by a hunter during a license year.

Artificial lure
Any lure (including flies) with hook or hooks attached that is man-made and is used as a bait while fishing.

Arrow gun
A device that fires an arrow or bolt solely by the use of unignited compressed gas as the propellant.

Bait
Something that intentionally or unintentionally lures any wildlife resource. Includes, but not limited, to salt, grain, minerals, or other feed, directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered. Does not include scent attractants for animals. It is unlawful to use game fish or any part thereof as bait.

Baited area
Any (public or private) area where bait is found. For migratory game birds, this could include adjacent properties. There is no set distance from a baited area that a bird/animal may be hunted if the flight path or behavior is altered by its placement. It is the hunter's responsibility to know if an area is baited. These areas are unlawful for ALL migratory game birds and eastern wild turkeys and Public Hunting Land.

Buck deer
A deer with a hardened antler protruding through the skin. Deer with antlers completely covered in velvet are also considered buck deer. For tagging purposes, ALL OTHER DEER ARE ANTLERLESS DEER, regardless of sex.

Buck Pronghorn
A pronghorn with black cheek patches below the ears.

Catch
To take or kill and includes an attempt to take or kill.

CITES
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species is an international agreement between governments to ensure that international trade in wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

Community fishing lake
All public impoundments 75 acres or smaller located totally within incorporated city limits or a public park, and all impoundments of any size totally within the boundaries of a state park. For a listing of specific fishing regulations for these waters, pg. 43. For a list of Community Fishing Lakes in a specific area, call (512) 389-4444 or check online: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/LakeFinder.**

Closed season
For any species, the period of time, if any, when fishing or hunting that species is not permitted.

Culling
Release of a fish after it was held in an angler's possession to be replaced with another fish of the same species.

Daily bag limit (Anglers)
Quantity of a species of a resource, such as fish, that may be taken in one day.

Daily bag limit (Hunters)
The maximum number of game animals/birds that may be lawfully taken or possessed by a hunter in one day. No person shall possess more than one daily bag limit while in the field or travelling to or from the field.

Day
A 24-hour period of time that begins at midnight and ends at midnight.

Depredation
Causing damage or destruction to property, commercial crops or native environments.

Final destination
The permanent residence (definition, pg. 97) of the hunter; the permanent residence of any other person receiving the animal/bird carcass part of an animal/bird carcass; or a cold storage or processing facility.

Final processing
The cleaning of a dead wildlife resource for cooking or storage purposes. For a deer or pronghorn carcass, the term includes the processing of the animal more than by quartering.

Fishing
The act of taking or attempting to take aquatic animal life by any means.

Fishing guide
A person who, for compensation, accompanies, assists, or transports a person or persons engaged in fishing in the water of this state. **tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish/commercial**

Fishing guide deck hand
A person in the employ of a fishing guide who assists in operating a boat for compensation to accompany or to transport a person or persons engaged in fishing in the water of this state. **tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish/commercial**

Gear tag
A tag constructed of material as durable as the device to which it is attached. The gear tag must be legible, contain the name and address, or customer number, of the person using the device, and the date the device was set out. Date is not required for saltwater trotlines or crabtraps fished under a commercial license. For juglines, freshwater trotlines, minnow traps, and throwlines properly marked buoys or floats qualify as valid gear tags.

Hunt
To capture, trap, take, or kill, and includes the act of attempting to capture, trap, take, or kill.

Immediate consumption
The preparation process for a carcass portion to be immediately cooked and eaten. This would not include processed portions stored while marinating for later consumption.

Legal shooting hours for all game animals and nonmigratory (upland) game birds
The period from one-half hour before official sunrise to one-half hour after official sunset. For information on sunrise/sunset hours: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/sun**

Livestock
Includes but is not limited to cattle, horses, mules, sheep, goats and domesticated/non-feral swine.

Manipulation
The alteration of natural vegetation or agricultural crops, including but not limited to mowing, shredding, discing, rolling, chopping, trampling, flattening, burning and herbicide treatments. Only lawful for dove hunting, NOT waterfowl or cranes. Manipulation does not include the incidental distributing or scattering of grain, seed or other feed after removal from or storage on the field where grown.

Migratory bird preservation facility
A stationary facility designed and constructed to store or process game birds.

Motorboat
Any vessel propelled or designed to be propelled by machinery, whether or not the machinery is permanently or temporarily affixed or is the principal source of propulsion.

Natural vegetation
Any non-agricultural, native or naturalized plant species that grows at a site in response to planting or from existing seeds or propagule. Natural vegetation does not include planted millet. However, planted millet that grows on its own in subsequent years after the planting is considered natural vegetation (only natural vegetation may be manipulated for waterfowl and crane hunting.)

Nongame fish
All species not listed as game fish except endangered and threatened fish, which are defined and regulated under separate rules.

Normal agricultural planting, harvesting, and post-harvest manipulation
A normal agricultural planting or harvesting undertaken for the purpose of producing and gathering a crop, or manipulation (including post-harvest) after such harvest and removal of a crop, that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Includes commercial harvest, loading and unloading. Does not include the broadcast spreading of seed that is normally drill-planted.

Normal stabilization practice
A planting for agricultural soil-erosion control or post-mining land-reclamation conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.

Open season
The period of time during which it is lawful to pursue, hunt, take, or attempt to take a specified animal, bird, or fish. The dates in this guide are opening and closing dates for the open season which includes all dates between them.

Operate
To navigate or otherwise use a motorboat or a vessel.

Outboard motor
Any self-contained internal combustion propulsion system, excluding fuel supply, which is used to propel a vessel and which is detachable as a unit from the vessel.

Party boat
A vessel, other than a sailboat, of 30 feet or more in length that is operated on inland waters of the state by the owner of the vessel or an employee and is rented or leased for a recreational event for more than six passengers.

Permanent residence
One's principal or ordinary home or dwelling place. This does not include one's temporary abode or dwelling such as a hunting/fishing club, or any club house, cabin, tent, car, truck, or trailer house used as a hunting/fishing club, or any hotel, motel, or rooming house used during a hunting, fishing, pleasure, or business trip.

Personal watercraft
A type of motorboat that is specifically designed to be operated by a person or persons sitting, standing, or kneeling on the vessel rather than in the conventional manner of sitting or standing inside the vessel.

Possession limit (hunters)
The maximum number of any animal or bird that may be possessed by any person at any place. This limit only ceases when a bird or animal is legally finally processed or reaches its final destination. Final processing may only occur at final destination or cold storage facility.

Possession limit (anglers)
The maximum number of fish a person may possess before returning to their residence. Possession limit is twice the daily bag on game and nongame fish, except as provided in this guide, and does not apply to fish in the possession of or stored by a person at their residence.

Pre-charged pneumatic
An air gun or arrow gun for which the propellant is supplied or introduced by means of a source that is physically separate from the air gun or arrow gun.

Pronghorn *(Antilocapra americana)*
In this document, "pronghorn" means "pronghorn antelope."
More information: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/pronghorn**

Residence (anglers)
A permanent structure where a person regularly sleeps and keeps personal belongings such as furniture and clothes, but does not include a temporary abode or dwelling such as a hunting or fishing club, or any club house, cabin, tent or trailer house or mobile home used as hunting or fishing camp, or any hotel, motel or rooming house used on a temporary basis.

Sell
To transfer the ownership or the right of possession of an item to a person for consideration and includes a barter and an even exchange.

Sinkbox
A low floating device concealing a person below the surface of the water. Sinkboxes are unlawful.

Vessel
Any watercraft, other than a seaplane on water, used or capable of being used for transportation on water.

Wildlife resource
Any wild animal, wild bird, or aquatic life.

Wildlife Resource Document (WRD)
A document that allows a person to give, leave, receive, or possess any species (or part of) of legally taken game birds, game fish or game animals; WRD must contain:
(A) name, signature, address, and hunting license number of the person who harvested or caught the wildlife resource;
(B) name of the person receiving the wildlife resource;
(C) description of the wildlife resource (number and type of species or parts);
(D) date the wildlife resource was harvested or caught; and
(E) location where the wildlife resource was harvested or caught (name of ranch; area; county).

Wounded deer
A deer leaving a blood trail.

Youth (for the purposes of participation in Youth-Only hunting seasons or special youth events)
Any person 16 years of age or younger.

Commonly Used Abbreviations

CDC	Centers for Disease Control
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CWD	Chronic Wasting Disease
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
HIP	Harvest Information Program
IWVC	Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact
MLDP	Managed Lands Deer Program
OGT	Operation Game Thief
PFD	Personal Flotation Device
PWC	Personal Watercraft
TAHC	Texas Animal Health Commission
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
TDSHS	Texas Department of State Health Services
TPWD	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
USCG	United States Coast Guard
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WMA	Wildlife Management Area
WRD	Wildlife Resource Document
WTD	White-tailed Deer

TPWD REGIONAL AND FIELD LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICES

Abilene	281 North Willis (79603) (325) 673-3333
Amarillo	203 SW 8th Street, Suite 200 (79101) (806) 379-8900
Beaumont	5655 Eastex Frwy., Suite A (77706) (409) 892-8666
Brownsville	5460 Paredes Line Road, Ste. 201 (78526) (956) 546-1952
Brownwood	301 Main, Suite D (76801) (325) 646-0440
College Station	12815 FM 2154 (Wellborn Road) Suite 160 (77845) (979) 696-4148
Corpus Christi	5541 Bear Lane, Suite 232 (78405) (361) 289-5566
El Paso	401 East Franklin, Suite 520 (79901) (915) 834-7050
Fort Worth	5400 Airport Frwy, Suite E (76117) (817) 831-3128
Garland	346 Oaks Trail, Suite 100 (75043) (972) 226-9966
Houston (north)	350 North Sam Houston Pkwy E., Ste. 100 (77060) (281) 931-6471
Houston (south)	10101 Southwest Frwy, #206 (77074) (713) 779-8977
Kerrville	309 Sidney Baker South (78028) (830) 257-7611
LaMarque	14037 Delany Road (77568) (409) 933-1947
Laredo	5119 Bob Bullock Loop (78041) (956) 718-1087
Lubbock	1702 Landmark Lane, Suite 1 (79415) (806) 761-4930
Lufkin	Old Texas Plaza, 4100 S. Medford Drive, Suite 204B (75901) (936) 632-1311
Midland	4500 West Illinois, Suite 307 (79703) (432) 520-4649
Mt. Pleasant	212 South Johnson (75455) (903) 572-7966
Rockport	715 South Hwy. 35 (78382) (361) 790-0312
Rusk	580 West Sixth Street (75785) (903) 683-2511
San Angelo	3407 South Chadbourne (76903) (325) 651-4844
San Antonio	2391 N.E. Loop 410, Suite 409 (78217) (210) 348-7375
Temple	3615 South General Bruce Drive (76504) (254) 778-8913
Tyler	3330 South Southwest Loop 323 (75701) (903) 534-0388
Victoria	2805 N. Navarro, Suite 600A (77901) (361) 575-6306
Waco	1601 East Crest Drive (76705) (254) 867-7951
Wichita Falls	4822 Kemp Blvd., Suite 1300 (76308) (940) 723-7327

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OutdoorAnnual.com

NON-CORE ALLIGATOR HIDE TAG REPORT

Name of Ranch/Landowner _____

Harvest Date _____ County of Take _____

Hunter's Name _____

Physical Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Address for Tag Delivery _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____

Hunting Lic. No. _____

Customer No. _____

TPWD USE
Hide Tag No. _____

Sex of Gator _____

Carcass Length (unskinned) _____

Hide Use: ☐ Sale ☐ Personal

Skinning Method: ☐ Belly ☐ Hornback

Method of Take: ☐ Hook & Line ☐ Archery ☐ Snare ☐ Gig ☐ Firearm ☐ Other

Dispatch Method _____

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION LISTED HEREON IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

_____
Hunter's Signature

NOTE: Failure to **SUBMIT ALL INFORMATION** or enter a false statement in a government record is a Class A misdemeanor or a felony of the third degree under the Texas Penal Code.

TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department maintains the information collected through this form. With few exceptions, you are entitled to be informed about the information we collect. Under Sections 552.021 and 552.023 of the Texas Government Code, you are also entitled to receive and review the information. Under Section 559.004, you are also entitled to have this information corrected. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Rd., Austin, TX 78744, www.tpwd.texas.gov

PWD 304A–W7000 (5/21)

Complete and submit to the Department, accompanied by a $21.00 payment for a CITES tag within 72 hours of harvest.

Submit to: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department,
Alligator Program
4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744

WILDLIFE RESOURCE DOCUMENT

Refer to sections on Transfer of Wildlife Resources, Cold Storage/Processing Facility, and Taxidermist for an explanation of requirements to complete and possess this document.

I, _____
(1) Name (2) Phone

_____
(3) Address City / State / Zip

give, donate, leave the wildlife resource(s) or parts therof, listed below to: (complete Sections 4 through 12), OR possess the wildlife resource(s) or parts therof, listed below, without other applicable licenses, stamps, tags, or permits (complete Sections 6 through 12):

_____
(4) Receiver's Name

_____
(5) Address City / State / Zip

_____
(6) Number and Type of Species or Parts

which was killed or caught on (7) Date _____ at the following location:

_____
(8) Name of Ranch, Area, Lake, Bay, or Stream and County, State, or Country

_____
(9) Hunt and/or Fish License of person who killed or caught the wildlife resource described in Section 6 (10) State

_____
(11) Signature (12) Date

NOTE: Reproduction of this information is allowed, in any form, including a legible handwritten version.
Form is also available online: **tpwd.texas.gov/oa/transfer**