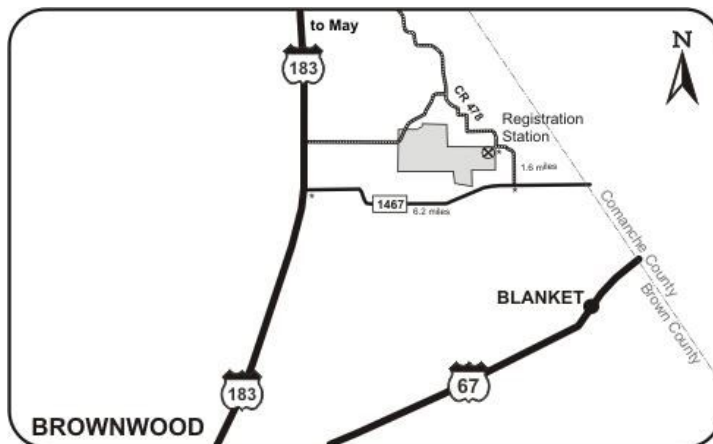




## McGillivray and Leona McKie Muse WMA

### Background

The Muse WMA is located 15 miles northeast of Brownwood and consists of 1,975 acres donated to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department by Leona and McGillivray Muse in 2000. The Area is considered to be in the southern Cross Timbers and Prairies Ecoregion, although the majority of the Area is encompassed by a large ridge of limestone rising above the prairie floor. Diverse topography and



soil types are conducive to a variety of plant types and generally dominated by oak-juniper woodlands, post oak-mesquite flats and small creeks with hardwood bottoms. The Muse WMA's primary purpose is to serve as a research and demonstration area for the Cross Timbers and Prairies Ecosystem. Area staff investigate new techniques for the management of wildlife species and their habitats in the Cross Timbers and demonstrate the results of proven wildlife and habitat management practices to resource managers, landowners and other interested groups.

### Reporting/Orientation

**When:** Hunters should report to the Check Station prior to 11:00 a.m. on the first day of the hunt. **Hunters must contact the area as soon as possible if they are unable to attend their accepted hunt or not able to arrive on the first day for orientation.** The hunt will start following an orientation program at 11:00 a.m. the first day and will end at 11:00 a.m. on the last day of the hunt period.

**Where:** Muse WMA Hunter Check Station. The Muse Hunter Check Station is the first building once you come through the front gate on CR 478 (approx. 0.6 miles from the CR).

**Preparation:** Hunters are reminded that they must have a valid Texas Hunting License and special permit (email or paper copy) issued from Austin. Hunter Education is required of Texas hunters born on or after September 2, 1971. (See Texas Parks and Wildlife Outdoor Annual for more information.) It is no longer necessary to use a hunting license tag or bonus tag on a deer taken during a Special Permit drawn hunt however a TPWD Legal Deer Tag, issued at the area, must be attached to a harvested deer prior to leaving the hunt area. Shooting hours will be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. During hunts, all persons must wear

a minimum of 400 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange material including 144 square inches appearing on both the chest and back and orange headwear.

**Standby:** Positions **may** be available. Contact Muse Wildlife Management Area Headquarters for availability. Standby hunter position(s) will be drawn at 10:30 a.m. at the Check Station. Payment (if required) will be by credit card only.

## **Check Station**

**Hours:** Check Station will open at 10 a.m. on the first day of the hunt.

**Facilities:** Game skinning and processing area, cold storage, first aid station and coffee. The use of area facilities is at your own risk.

**Check In/ Check Out:** All hunters must check in/out with WMA personnel as explained in the orientation.

## **Late Comers**

**Check-in:** Hunters who are unable to report in time for the orientation should notify Muse WMA Staff as soon as possible by calling the WMA office at (325) 203-6926. Late hunters must report to the Muse WMA Check Station upon arrival to the area.

**Orientation:** Latecomers must participate in the same orientation given to all other hunters. An orientation will be given to latecomers at the Muse WMA Hunter Check Station.

## **Hunting Conditions**

**Vehicles:** Transportation to and from the assigned hunting blinds or compartment will be the responsibility of the hunter. Most hunting blinds are accessible by conventional 2-wheel drive vehicles; however pickup trucks and vehicles with high ground clearance will provide easier access to hunting blinds. All-terrain vehicle (ATV) and off-road vehicle (ORV) use is prohibited.

**Stands:** Hunts are conducted by assigned blind or compartment only. Fiberglass constructed blinds (4'x6' and 5'x7' accessible for hunters with mobility disabilities) are provided with chairs.

**Youth Supervision:** Youth 8 years of age and younger must be accompanied. Youth between the ages of 9 and 16 must have completed a hunter education course or must be accompanied. Adults accompanying youth must be 17 years of age or older, possess a valid Texas hunting license, have completed a hunter education course or be exempt and must be within normal voice control.

**Baiting:** Baiting is allowed for deer hunts.

## **Camping Facilities/Lodging**

No overnight stay is allowed on the Muse WMA. Camping facilities **may** be available at Lake Brownwood State Park (325) 784-5223. Commercial accommodations are available in Brownwood and the surrounding area.

## **Other Information**

During these hunts, non-hunting guests may be allowed depending on availability and safety concerns. Contact Muse WMA HQ for more information.

It is an offense for a person to be under the influence of alcohol or consume an alcoholic beverage while engaged in a hunting activity or to publicly consume or display an alcoholic beverage while on a wildlife management area.

Cellular service is available at the Muse WMA Check Station. Verizon users may experience patchy or no service while on the Muse WMA.

If you have any further questions, you may telephone the Muse Wildlife Management Area Headquarters at (325) 203-6926.