



Roger R. Fawcett WMA Special Drawn Permit Hunts

Background

The Roger R. Fawcett WMA is located in southern Palo Pinto County, six miles northeast of Gordon, TX in the western Cross Timbers Ecoregion. The 5,459-acre WMA contains good examples of old-growth Cross Timbers habitat with some trees on the area ranging from 200-300 years of age. The post oak/blackjack oak woodlands are interspersed with areas of open grassland savanna habitat and rocky sandstone outcrops with over 350 foot of elevation across the property, boasting excellent populations of white-tailed deer and upland game. The property consists of several large lakes along with smaller ponds throughout the WMA the provides great habitat for waterfowl, wading-birds and shorebirds. The primary purpose of the area is to serve as a research and demonstration site for the Cross Timbers and Prairies Ecosystem, where staff can investigate new techniques for the management of wildlife species and their habitats and to demonstrate the results of proven wildlife management practices to resource managers, landowners, and other interested groups.

Reporting/Orientation

When: Hunters should report to the Check Station prior to 11:00 AM on the first day of the hunt. **Hunters must contact the area staff as soon as possible if they are unable to attend their accepted hunt or unable to arrive on the first day for orientation.** The hunt will start following an orientation program at 11:00 AM on the first day and will end at 11:00 AM on the last day of the hunt period.

Where: Fawcett WMA Office. The main entrance of the Fawcett WMA is located at 4730 FM 2692, Gordon, TX 76453; and is marked "XO Ranch" overhead. Proceed down the narrow lane to the second set of gates, proceed through the open gate and up the hill. At the top of the hill, turn right and proceed approximately 0.2 miles to the WMA Office.

Preparation: Hunters are reminded that they must have a valid Texas Hunting License and special permit (email or paper copy, paper copy preferred) issued from TPWD. 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 not 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. **Turkey hunters will be required to use their own tags and report their harvest in the Texas hunt and fish app or online.** Shooting hours will be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. During Whitetail deer and exotic hunts, all hunters 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. Spring Turkey hunts do not require hunter orange.

Standby: Positions may be available. Contact the Fawcett WMA office at (325) 430-8373 for availability. Standby hunter position(s) will be drawn at 11:00 AM at the Check Station. Payment (if required) will be by credit card only.

Check Station

Hours: Check Station will be open at 10:00 AM on the first day of the hunt.

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

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

Late Comers

Check-in: Hunters who are unable to report for the orientation should notify Fawcett WMA staff as soon as possible by calling the WMA office at (325) 430-8373. Hunters arriving late must report to the Fawcett WMA Check Station upon arrival to the area. All late hunters must participate in an orientation before their hunt can begin.

Hunting Conditions

Vehicles: Following a brief orientation, Texas Parks and Wildlife staff will direct hunters to their hunting compartments/blind. Hunters will provide their own transportation to and from their hunting blind and hunters must stay within their assigned area. Four-wheel drive vehicles are recommended, especially during wet conditions, but are not necessary to participate in the hunt. Use of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and off-road vehicles (ORVs) is allowed. **ATV's and ORV's must be operated in accordance with state laws regulating the use of them on public land. All ATV and ORV users must have a current ATV/ORV registration sticker, ATV operators must have completed an ATV safety course, must wear approved helmet and eye protection. Follow the link provided to find your decal.** [Buy Decals — Texas Parks & Wildlife Department](#)

Hunting Blinds: Hunts are conducted by assigned blind or compartment only. Fiberglass constructed blinds (4'x6' and 5'x7') with chairs are provided. Mobility impaired hunters may utilize a 5'x7' accessible blind or hunt from a stationary motor vehicle, provided the hunting is not conducted while entering or exiting the hunting area. Please contact WMA staff if you need assistance.

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 and encouraged during deer and exotic hunts. Corn must be certified for livestock and wildlife consumption (aflatoxin free). No baiting will be allowed during turkey hunts.

Camping Facilities/Lodging

No overnight stay is allowed on the Fawcett WMA. Camping facilities **may** be available at Lake Mineral Wells State Park (940) 328-1171. Commercial accommodations are available in surrounding communities.

Other Information

During public hunts, non-hunting guests may be allowed depending on availability and safety concerns. Contact Fawcett WMA staff for more information.

Freshwater fishing opportunities may be available to special drawn permit holders during hunt periods. Fishing will be limited to designated lakes, by rod and reel, and during daylight hours only.

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.

Do not take any plants, animals (other than legally taken game) or artifacts from the WMA, including shed deer antlers or skulls. Any artifacts found should be left as they are; shed antlers or skulls may be brought to the check station.

Cellular service is available at the Fawcett WMA Check Station and in higher elevation areas of the WMA. Lower portions of the WMA will have patchy or no service.

Accommodations for hunters with disabilities on public hunt sites vary between areas. If you would like to request accommodation, please contact each area directly at least 2 weeks in advance of your hunt to discuss the options that may be available.

If you have any further questions, you may contact Fawcett WMA staff at (325) 430-8373.

Roger R. Fawcett WMA

