



## Roger R. Fawcett WMA

### 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, upland game, and waterfowl, 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 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 AM on the first day and will end at 11:00 AM on the last day of the hunt period.

**Where:** Fawcett WMA Hunter Check Station. 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 0.5 miles to the Check Station and Maintenance Shop buildings on the left (north) side of the road.

**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. 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 the Fawcett WMA office at (325) 430-8373 for availability. Standby hunter position(s) will be drawn at 10:30 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 personnel as explained in the orientation.

## **Late Comers**

**Check-in:** Hunters who are unable to report in time for the orientation should notify Fawcett WMA staff as soon as possible by calling the WMA office at (325) 430-8373. Late hunters must report to the Fawcett WMA Check Station upon arrival to the area.

**Orientation:** Late comers must participate in the same orientation given to all other hunters. An orientation will be given to all late comers at the Fawcett WMA 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 during ideal conditions; however, vehicles with high ground clearance and four-wheel drive vehicles may provide easier access to hunting blinds.

**Stands:** Hunts are conducted by assigned blind or compartment only. Fiberglass constructed blinds (4'x6') are provided with chairs. Hunters with mobility disabilities may hunt from a stationary motor vehicle provided the hunting is not conducted while entering or exiting the hunting area.

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

Freshwater fishing opportunity 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.

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.

If you have any further questions, you may telephone the Fawcett Wildlife Management Area at (325) 430-8373.

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