2020-2021 SUMMARY OF HUNTING REGULATIONS

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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 26).
- 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.
- transport a deer, elk, or mule deer without landowner consent (Parks and Wildlife Code, Chapter 90). The following inedible wildlife parts may be purchased or sold for hats or ornamental purposes nor may a person purchase or sell mounted migratory game bird specimens nor may a person purchase or sell mounted migratory game bird specimens.
- feathers, bones, or feet of game birds, turkeys, pheasants, quail, chukars, or chukar hens.
- 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.

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, or feet of game birds (turkey, pheasant, quail, and chachalaca) may be used, purchased, or sold for making fishing lines, 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, §52.0125), 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 laws 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) non-profit. 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.

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. 49). A person may use the WRD provided in this guide (pg. 49) 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. 46) and is quartered (pg. 47).
- For turkey, the WRD must remain attached until the turkey reaches its final destination and is finally processed (pg. 8).

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. 20).

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. 11 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 from Mexico. The Customs Officer’s statement must accompany the wildlife resource to its final destination.

HUNTING

General Regulations and Information

What’s New for Hunting

New for hunting includes a reduction in daily bag limits on scaup and light geese during waterfowl hunting seasons. A new CWD Zone and check station has been established for Kimble County.

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 wildlife animals or game birds (except migratory game birds, see Legal Shotgun, pg. 21).
- muzzleloader: any firearm that is 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. Muzzleloader deer seasons are restricted to muzzleloading firearms only.
- 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/sigun

Archery and Crossbows

- Only the archery and crossbow equipment prescribed in this section may be used for taking game animals or game birds.
- Archery and crossbow equipment may not be used to hunt deer during the Muzzleloader-Only Deer Season.
- Archery and crossbows are lawful for non-protected non-game animals (pg. 26).

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/MeadsMethods
Crossovers are lawful for any person during the Archery-Only Open Season except in Collin, Dallas, Grayson, and Rockwall counties, where no person may use a crossover to hunt deer during the Archery-Only Open Season (Oct 3 - Nov 4) 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-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 7 - Jan 3).

Any person, regardless of physical ability, may use a crossover 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 spotting 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.

MANDATORY Harvest Reporting
Harvest reporting is now mandatory for antlerless white-tailed deer in select south-central Texas counties (pg. 17) and alligator gar statewide (except for Falcon International Reservoir). Eastern turkey harvest reporting also remains mandatory (pg. 19).

Report online or on the My Texas Hunt app: tpwd.texas.gov/myhunt
On-site registration for public hunting is also now available online or through the My Texas Hunt app.
TRANSPORTING AND TRANSFERRING DEER OR PRONGHORN

IMPORTANT: Special regulations may apply within designated CWD zones (pg. 12).
- A person may transport a deer or pronghorn to a final destination, provided the carcass is tagged and proof of sex accompanies the carcass (pg. 8).
- 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. 49).
- 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 counties at a location that qualifies as a final destination.

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, a cold storage record book. A cold storage record book must be included.

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 quarters 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.

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 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.

Mobile or App: OutdoorAnnual.com

TPWD HUNTING REGULATIONS 2020-2021
Mobile or App: OutdoorAnnual.com
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. 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.

**Game Animals**

**Desert bighorn sheep**  
**Mule deer**  
**Squirrel (gray or fox)**  
**Javelina (collared peccary)**  
**Pronghorn**  
**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. 12) 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).
- Capped 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.
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 Ruster Sprinngs Rd./FM 3541 in Culberson County; thence south along Ruster Sprinngs Rd./FM 3541 to FM 2185; thence south along FM. 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 FM. 2185; thence southwest along FM. 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.

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 (29.526552°,-101.871618°); 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 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

MUSEUM \& WILDLIFE DRIVE ONE WAY
Between Loop 79 and F.M. 138.

Closed Dates: Nov 26, Dec 24 (12 p.m.), Dec 25, and Jan 1

HUNTING
HUNTING

TPWD HUNTING REGULATIONS

15

Closed: Nov 26, Dec 24 (12 p.m.), Dec 25, and Jan 1

Open Dates: Oct 3 – Feb 28, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Closed: Nov 26, Dec 24 (12 p.m.), Dec 25, and Jan 1

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**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 (tpwd.texas.gov/oa/counties). 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.

**White-tailed Deer**

Bag limits are established by county (tpwd.texas.gov/oa/counties). 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), Walker, Washington, Wharton (North of US 59), and Wilson.

**Special Late Season**

In counties with a Special Late Season (tpwd.texas.gov/oa/counties), 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.

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, 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), Walker, Washington, Wharton (North of US 59), and Wilson counties the bag limits and other requirements are the same as the period Nov 26-29 (tpwd.texas.gov/oa/counties).
**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.

**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 tpwd.texas.gov/oa/counts

- 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 snare (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”x6”x8” 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. 49) 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. 49) 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**

**Chachalaca**

**Gambel’s quail**

**Pheasant**

**Scaled quail** (or Blue quail)

**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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>OPEN COUNTIES</th>
<th>DAILY BAG</th>
<th>POSSESSION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pheasant</td>
<td>Dec 5 - Jan 3</td>
<td>See county-level restrictions (pg. 29).</td>
<td>3 cocks</td>
<td>9 cocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quail (Bobwhite, Scaled or Blue, and Gambel’s)</td>
<td>Oct 31 - Feb 28</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>15 in the aggregate</td>
<td>45 in the aggregate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chachalaca</td>
<td>Oct 31 - Feb 28</td>
<td>Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties ONLY</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
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**WILD TURKEY**

See County Listings for season dates and special requirements, tpwd.texas.gov/oa/counts.

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. 7).

Special regulations for Eastern Spring season in certain East Texas counties

Shotgun, archery and crossbows are the only lawful means; 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 (the App Store for iOS devices, or Google Play for Android devices), or online: tpwd.texas.gov/oa/turkey.

**MANDATORY Harvest Reporting**

Harvest reporting is mandatory for antlerless white-tailed deer in select south-central Texas counties (pg. 17) and alligator gator statewide (except for Falcon International Reservoir). Eastern turkey harvest reporting also remains mandatory (pg. 19).

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 (mourning, white-winged, white-tipped)
- Gallinules
- Geese
- Mergansers
- Rails
- Sandhill cranes
- Snipe (Wilson’s or pipsiake)
- Woodcock

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, archery equipment including crossbows, falconry, dogs, artificial decoys, and manual or mouth-operated bird calls are lawful.
- 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.

UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES

It is UNLAWFUL to:
- hunt migratory birds with the aid of bait, or on or over any baited area;
- 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-harvest 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;
- 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;
- 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. 49) 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, 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.

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/MexImport

HUNTING ON PUBLIC WATERS

Waterfowl hunters utilizing public water are encouraged to contact a local TPWD Law Enforcement office (pg. 48) 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. 21).

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZONE</th>
<th>SEASON DATES</th>
<th>DAILY BAG LIMIT</th>
<th>POSSESSION LIMIT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Zone</td>
<td>Sep 1 - Nov 12</td>
<td>15 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, to include not more than 2 white-tipped doves</td>
<td>45 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, to include not more than 6 white-tipped doves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Zone</td>
<td>Sep 1 - Nov 1</td>
<td>15 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, to include not more than 2 white-tipped doves</td>
<td>45 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, to include not more than 6 white-tipped doves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Zone</td>
<td>Sep 14 - Nov 1</td>
<td>15 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, to include not more than 2 white-tipped doves</td>
<td>45 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, to include not more than 6 white-tipped doves</td>
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SPECIAL WHITE-WINGED DOVE DAYS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZONE</th>
<th>SEASON DATES</th>
<th>DAILY BAG LIMIT</th>
<th>POSSESSION LIMIT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Zone</td>
<td>Sep 5, 6, 12, and 13</td>
<td>15 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, to include not more than 2 mourning doves and 2 white-tipped doves</td>
<td>45 mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, to include not more than 6 mourning doves and 6 white-tipped doves</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SHOOTING HOURS

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZONE</th>
<th>REGULAR DUCK SEASON</th>
<th>YOUTH*</th>
<th>DUSKY DUCK**</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early Teal (statewide)</td>
<td>Sep 12-27</td>
<td>Oct 24-25</td>
<td>Nov 9 - Jan 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Plains Mallard Management Unit</td>
<td>Oct 31 - Nov 1, Nov 6 - Jan 31</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Zone</td>
<td>Oct 14-29, Dec 5 - Jan 31</td>
<td>Nov 7-8</td>
<td>Nov 19-29, Dec 5 - Jan 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Zone</td>
<td>Nov 7-29, Dec 12 - Jan 31</td>
<td>Oct 31 - Nov 1</td>
<td>Nov 12-29, Dec 12 - Jan 31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 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

DAILY BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT

**EARLY TEAL** - 6 In the aggregate

- **REGULAR DUCK** - 6 Includes no more than:
  - 3 wood ducks
  - 2 redheads
  - 2 canvasesbacks
  - 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZONE</th>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>DATES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>Early Canada Goose Only</td>
<td>Sep 12 - 27</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Light Goose: Snow (including blue) and Ross’s geese</td>
<td>Nov 7 – Jan 31</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Goose: All other geese (not light), including Canada and white-fronted</td>
<td>Feb 1 – Mar 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>Light Goose: Snow (including blue) and Ross’s geese</td>
<td>Nov 14 – Feb 14</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark Goose: All other geese (not light), including Canada and white-fronted</td>
<td>Feb 15 – Mar 14</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Light Goose Conservation Order</td>
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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.

DAILY BAG & POSSESSION LIMIT

WESTERN ZONE

Light Goose
10 in the aggregate

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

EASTERN ZONE

Early Canada Goose
5

Regular Light Goose
10 in the aggregate

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

POSESSION 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.

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<tr>
<th>ZONE</th>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>DAILY BAG LIMIT</th>
<th>POSSESSION LIMIT</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Oct 31 – Jan 31</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Nov 27 - Jan 31</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>Dec 19 – Jan 24</td>
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OTHER MIGRATORY GAMEBIRDS, SEASONS, AND LIMITS (STATEWIDE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>DAILY BAG LIMIT</th>
<th>POSSESSION LIMIT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>King and Clapper Rails</td>
<td>Sep 12 - 27</td>
<td>15 in the aggregate</td>
<td>45 in the aggregate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sora and Virginia Rails</td>
<td>Sep 12 - 27</td>
<td>25 in the aggregate</td>
<td>75 in the aggregate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moorhens (Common Gallinules)</td>
<td>Sep 12 - 27</td>
<td>15 in the aggregate</td>
<td>45 in the aggregate</td>
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<tr>
<td>and Purple Gallinules</td>
<td>Nov 7 - Dec 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woodcock</td>
<td>Dec 18 – Jan 31</td>
<td>3 in the aggregate</td>
<td>9 in the aggregate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wilson’s Snipe</td>
<td>Nov 7 - Feb 21</td>
<td>8 in the aggregate</td>
<td>24 in the aggregate</td>
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<td>(Common snipe or jacksnipe)</td>
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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, tpwd.texas.gov/oa/seasons), and waterfowl (pg. 23).
- 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. 17).
- 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
- Bobcats
- Coyotes
- Flying squirrels
- Mountain Lions
- Porcupines
- Rabbits and Hares
- Frogs
- Turtles (freshwater)
- 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. 48. 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 non-game 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

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<th>Fur-bearing animals:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Badger</td>
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<td>Mink</td>
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<td>Beaver</td>
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<td>Muskrat</td>
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<td>Opossum</td>
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<td>Otter</td>
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<td>Oppossum</td>
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<td>Racoon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ring-tailed cat</td>
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</table>

TAKE, POSSESS OR SALE OF FURBEARERS

- Hunter education requirements apply.
- All species are in the mercy game category. See tpwd.texas.gov/oa/gameRules.
- A department-issued CITES tag is required to be attached to all trappers’ or trappers’ traps and to all collected furbearers. For information on CITES tags, contact TPWD Law Enforcement Division, (800) 792-1112 or online: tpwd.texas.gov/oa/Law.
- Furbearers may be hunted on public lands or 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 Fur-bearing Animal Digest, available at TPWD Law Enforcement offices (pg. 48), 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 anyone 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). Art 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

Bat 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.
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 raptors (emu, ostrich, rheas, cassowary, etc.). Hunting License required.

It is UNLAWFUL to:
- hunt an exotic without a valid hunting license (Class A 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);
- 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.

Eurasian collared-dove is permitted, be signed by the landowner or legal agent for the owner, 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.

MANDATORY Harvest Reporting

Harvest reporting is now mandatory for antlerless white-tailed deer in select south-central Texas counties (pg. 17) and alligator gar statewide (except for Falcon International Reservoir). Eastern turkey harvest reporting also remains mandatory (pg. 19).

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 Alacosa 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, Hail, Kendall, 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. 23) 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.

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 draw hunt permit. These properties include Alabama Creek WMA, Bannister WMA, Caddo National Grasslands WMA, Moore Plantation WMA, Sam Houston National Forest WMA.
- 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

#### White-tailed Deer

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AC = Means/methods restricted to lawful archery and crossbow only. No crossbows during archery season.
AR = Antler restrictions (pgs. 16-17).
CWD = CWD required checks (pgs. 13-15).
DP = All dogs prohibited.
FS = Restricted season dates for antlerless harvest on USFS lands (pg. 29).

#### White-tailed Deer

**General Season**
- Antlerless may be taken during archery season.
- Youth and muzzleloader seasons are issued or counties marked with W1.

**Archery Season**
- Mandatory harvest reporting for antlerless deer (pg. 17).
- Antlerless by MLDP tag only, except during archery season.

**Mule Deer Season**
- Antlerless by archery season: antlerless may be taken.

**Turkey Bag Limit**
- Four, in the aggregate, no more than one of which may be an eastern turkey.
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**AC** | Means/methods restricted to lawful archery and crossbow only. No crossbows during archery season.

**AR** | Antler restrictions (pgs. 16-17).

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**FS** | Restricted season dates for antlerless harvest on USFS lands (pg. 29).

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

**W2** | Mandatory harvest reporting for antlerless deer (pg. 17).

**W3** | Antlerless by MLDP tag only, except during archery season.

**W4** | Nov 7-29 antlerless may be taken.

**W5** | Nov 7-22 antlerless may be taken.

**W6** | Nov 26-29 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.

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

**Other Game**

**Angelfa National Forest closed to turkey hunting.**

**Special regulations for eastern turkey season in certain East Texas counties.**

**No bag limit.**

**Javelina bag limit:** Two per license year. Waste of game provisions apply (pg. 3).
### COUNTY LISTINGS TABLE

#### Restricted season dates for antlerless

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### Archery

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### County Listings Table

#### White-tailed Deer

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#### Deer Bag Limit

- **Antlerless may be taken during archery, youth and muzzeloader seasons,** except on properties where antlerless MLDP tags are issued or counties marked with **M1**.
- **CWD** CWD required checks (pgs. 13-15).
- **DP** All dogs prohibited.
- **FS** Restricted season dates for antlerless harvest on USFS lands (pg. 29).
- **AC** Means/methods restricted to lawful archery and crossbow only. No crossbows during archery season.
- **AR** Antler restrictions (pgs. 16-17).
- **HR** Mandatory harvest reporting for antlerless deer (pg. 17). Antlerless by MLDP tag only, except during archery season.
- **W1** Nov 7-29 antlerless may be taken. Nov 7-22 antlerless may be taken. Nov 26-29 antlerless may be taken. Mule deer general season; antlerless by antlerless mule deer permit or MLDP tag.
- **M2** Mule deer archery season; antlerless may be taken.

### Bag Limit & Season Information

#### Wild Turkey

- **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.
- **SR** Special regulations for eastern turkey season in certain East Texas counties.
- **NB** No bag limit.
- **Javelina bag limit:** Two per license year. Waste of game provisions apply (pg. 3).
**White-tailed Deer**

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<th>COUNTY</th>
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<th>LATE</th>
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### Bag Limits & Regulations

AC = Means/methods restricted to antlerless deer or unbranched antlered bucks.
AR = Antler restrictions (pgs. 16-17).
CWD = CWD required checks (pgs. 13-15).
DP = All dogs prohibited.
FS = Restricted season dates for antlerless harvest on USFS lands (pg 29).
HR = Mandatory harvest reporting for antlerless deer (pg. 17).
MLDP = Mule deer permit or MLDP tag.
W1 = Antlerless by MLDP tag only, except during archery season.
W2 = Nov 7-29 antlerless may be taken.
W3 = Nov 7-22 antlerless may be taken.
W4 = Nov 26-29 antlerless may be taken.
W5 = Mule deer general season; antlerless by antlerless mule deer permit or MLDP tag.
M1 = Mule deer archery season; antlerless may be taken.
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### Turkey Bag Limit:

Four, in the aggregate, no more than one of which may be an eastern turkey.
Definitions - Hunting

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 un ignited 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.

Arrow gun
A device that fires an arrow or bolt solely by the use of un ignited 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.

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

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 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.

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

Hunting
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.)

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 drilled- 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.

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
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.

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, lease, 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.
DEFINITIONS

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
TDHS 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 Frey, Suite A (77706)  (409) 892-8626
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 Eastern Suite E (79901)  (915) 834-7900
Fort Worth  5400 Airport Frey, Suite E (76117)  (817) 831-3128
Garland  348 Oak Hill, Suite 100 (75043)  (972) 226-9966
Houston (north)  350 North Sam Houston Pkwy E., Ste. 100 (77009)  (281) 931-6471
Houston (south)  10101 Southwest Fwy., #206 (77047)  (713) 779-8777
Kerrville  309 Sidney Baker South (78028)  (830) 257-6711
LaMarque  14037 Delany Road (77578)  (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) 632-1111
Midland  4500 West Illinois, Suite 307 (79703)  (432) 520-4496
Mt. Pleasant  212 South Johnson (75455)  (903) 572-7966
Rockport  715 South Hwy. 35 (78382)  (361) 790-0312
San Angelo  3407 South Chadbourne (76903)  (325) 691-4844
San Antonio  2921 N.E. Loop 410, Suite 409 (78217)  (210) 348-7375
Temple  3615 South General Bruce Drive (76504)  (254) 778-8913
Tyler  3303 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) 887-7951
Wichita Falls  4822 Kemp Blvd., Suite 1300 (76308)  (940) 723-7327

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NON-CORE ALLIGATOR HIDE TAG REPORT

Name of Blotter/Landowner ____________________________  County of Take ____________________________
Hunter’s Name ____________________________  Physical Address ____________________________
City ____________________________  Zip Code ____________________________
Address for Tag Delivery ____________________________  Zip Code ____________________________
City ____________________________  Zip Code ____________________________
Hunting License No. ____________________________  Customer No. ____________________________

NOTE: Failure to submit all information on this form may result in a fine. A violation of this law is a Class C Misdemeanor of a felony of the third degree under the Texas Penal Code.

I certify that the information listed herein is true and correct.

Receiver’s Name ____________________________  Phone ____________________________
Address ____________________________  City / State / Zip ____________________________

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

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. Name ____________________________  Phone ____________________________

II. Address ____________________________  City / State / Zip ____________________________

III. Name of Ranch, Area, Lake, Bay, or Stream and County, State, or Country ____________________________

IV. Date of Take ____________________________  State ____________________________

V. Name of person who killed or caught the wildlife resource(s) or parts thereof listed below: ____________________________

VI. (1) Name ____________________________  (2) Phone ____________________________

VII. (3) Address ____________________________  City / State / Zip ____________________________

VIII. (6) Number and Type of Species or Parts ____________________________

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

X. (11) Signature ____________________________  (12) Date ____________________________

NOTE: Complete and submit to the Department, accompanied by a $15.00 payment for a CITES tag within 72 hours of harvest. Submit to: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Alligator Program, 4265 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744.

WMA Wildlife Management Area
WTD White-tailed Deer
WWRD Wildlife Resource Document
WPD White-tailed Deer

WTD-LIFE HIDE TAG No. ____________________________

WMA Wildlife Management Area