

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

MAMMALS

OF

GUS ENGELING
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA



A FIELD CHECKLIST

“Act Natural”

Visit a Wildlife Management Area at our Web site:

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us>

Cover: Illustration of American Beaver by Jeremy Boehm.

HABITAT DESCRIPTION

The Gus Engeling Wildlife Management Area is located in the northwest corner of Anderson County, 20 miles northwest of Palestine, Texas, on U.S. Highway 287. The management area contains 10,958 acres of land owned by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Most of the land was purchased in 1950 and 1951, with the addition of several smaller tracts through 1960. It was originally called the Derden Wildlife Management Area, but was later changed to the Engeling Wildlife Management Area in honor of Biologist Gus A. Engeling, who was killed by a poacher on the area in December 1951.

The area is drained by Catfish Creek which is a tributary of the Trinity River. The topography is gently rolling to hilly, with a well-defined drainage system that empties into Catfish Creek. Most of the small streams are spring fed and normally flow the year-round. The soils are mostly light colored, rapidly permeable sands on the upland and moderately permeable, gray-brown, sandy loams in the bottomland along Catfish Creek. The climate is classified as moist, sub-humid, with an annual rainfall of about 40 inches. The vegetation consists of deciduous forest with an overstory made up of oak, hickory, sweetgum and elm; with associated understory species of dogwood, American beautyberry, huckleberry, greenbrier, etc. Shade-tolerant grasses and forbs make up a sparse cover on the forest floor (see brochure on VEGETATION for a checklist of the plant species found on the management area).

The management area has active bird rookeries, a sphagnum moss bog, and numerous sloughs and marshes along Catfish Creek. Wintering ducks and other waterbirds use the marshes as a wintering sanctuary for food and cover. Catfish Creek contains an abundance of freshwater fishes and other aquatic life.

Other brochures available at the Management Area office include field checklists of VEGETATION, FISHES, AMPHIBIANS and REPTILES, and BIRDS.

LEGEND

- Verified occurrence on the wildlife management area.

All other listed species are of probable or possible occurrence (species examined or observed within Anderson County or adjacent counties within the general distribution and habitat of the species).

FTS – Federal Threatened Species (likely to become endangered).

STS – State Threatened Species (likely to become endangered).

FES – Federal Endangered Species (in danger of extinction).

SES – State Endangered Species (in danger of extinction).

CHECKLIST

Opossums – Didelphimorphia

- Virginia Opossum *Didelphis virginiana*

Shrews and Moles – Insectivora

- Southern Short-tailed Shrew *Blarina carolinensis*
- Least Shrew *Cryptotis parva*
- Eastern Mole *Scalopus aquaticus*

Bats – Chiroptera

- Big Brown Bat *Eptesicus fuscus*
- Silver-haired Bat *Lasionycteris noctivagans*
- Eastern Red Bat *Lasiurus borealis*
- Hoary Bat *Lasiurus cinereus*
- Northern Yellow Bat *Lasiurus intermedius*
- Seminole Bat *Lasiurus seminolus*
- Southeastern Myotis *Myotis austroriparius*
- Evening Bat *Nycticeius humeralis*
- Eastern Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus subflavus*
- Brazilian Free-tailed Bat *Tadarida brasiliensis*

Armadillos – Xenarthra

- Nine-banded Armadillo *Dasypus novemcinctus*

Hares and Rabbits – Lagomorpha

- Black-tailed Jackrabbit *Lepus californicus*
- Swamp Rabbit *Sylvilagus aquaticus*
- Eastern Cottontail *Sylvilagus floridanus*

Rodents – Rodentia

- Southern Flying Squirrel *Glaucomys volans*
- Eastern Gray Squirrel *Sciurus carolinensis*
- Eastern Fox Squirrel *Sciurus niger*
- Baird's Pocket Gopher *Geomys breviceps*
- American Beaver *Castor canadensis*
- Hispid Pocket Mouse *Chaetodipus hispidus*
- Northern Pygmy Mouse *Baiomys taylori*
- Eastern Woodrat *Neotoma floridana*
- Golden Mouse *Ochrotomys nuttalli*
- Marsh Rice Rat *Oryzomys palustris*
- Cotton Deermouse *Peromyscus gossypinus*
- White-footed Deermouse *Peromyscus leucopus*
- North American Deermouse *Peromyscus maniculatus*
- Fulvous Harvest Mouse *Reithrodontomys fulvescens*
- Eastern Harvest Mouse *Reithrodontomys humulis*
- Plains Harvest Mouse *Reithrodontomys montanus*
- Hispid Cotton Rat *Sigmodon hispidus*
- Woodland Vole *Microtus pinetorum*
- Muskrat *Ondatra zibethicus*
- House Mouse (established exotic) *Mus musculus*
- Brown Rat (established exotic) *Rattus norvegicus*
- House Rat (established exotic) *Rattus rattus*
- Nutria (established exotic) *Myocastor coypus*

Carnivores – Carnivora

- Coyote *Canis latrans*
Red Wolf (historical occurrence, FES 3/11/67; SES 5/19/74) *Canis rufus*
- Gray Fox *Urocyon cinereoargenteus*
Red Fox (established exotic) *Vulpes vulpes*
Black Bear (historical occurrence, SES 3/1/87; FTS 1/7/92) *Ursus americanus*
- Ringtail *Bassariscus astutus*
- Northern Raccoon *Procyon lotor*
Long-tailed Weasel *Mustela frenata*
- American Mink *Mustela vison*
- Striped Skunk *Mephitis mephitis*
- Eastern Spotted Skunk *Spilogale putorius*
American Badger *Taxidea taxus*
- Northern River Otter *Lutra canadensis*
- Mountain Lion (tracks seen, 1984) *Puma concolor*
Ocelot (historical occurrence, FES 3/30/72; SES 5/19/74) *Leopardus pardalis*
- Bobcat *Lynx rufus*

Even-toed Ungulates – Artiodactyla

- Feral Pig (established exotic) *Sus scrofa*
- White-tailed Deer *Odocoileus virginianus*
American Bison (historical occurrence) *Bos (= Bison) bison*

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NOTES

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