

Wildlife Regions and Districts

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REGION IV Director

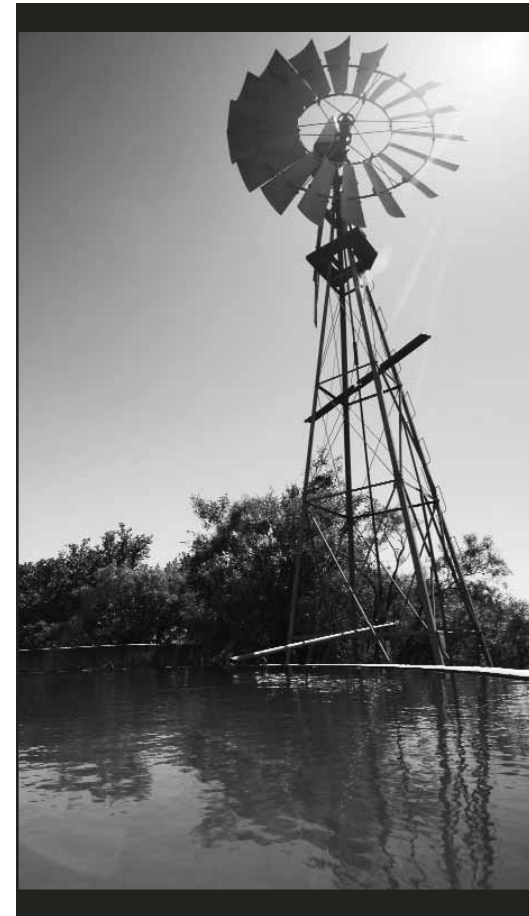
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*For more information,
visit our Web site at*

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landowner



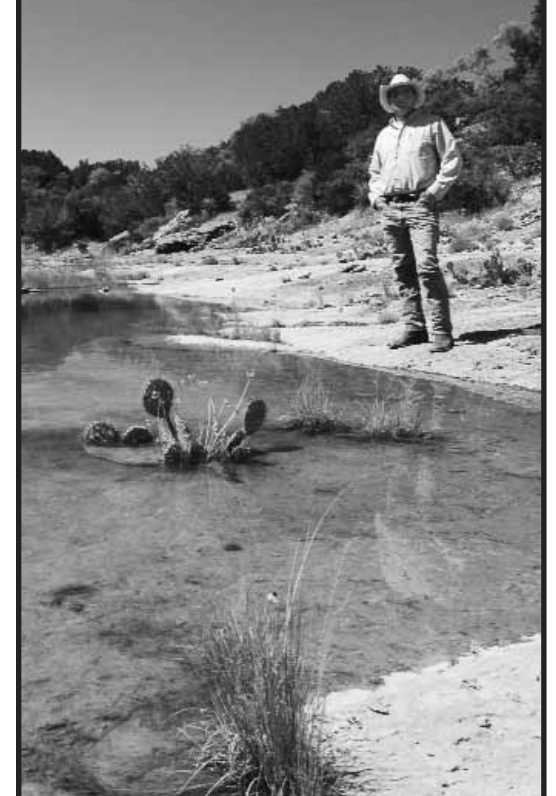
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Austin, Texas 78744
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TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

Landowner Services



*Helping landowners
achieve their wildlife
management goals*



Biologists of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) provide guidance and recommendations to landowners and managers who want to include wildlife management considerations in present or future land use decisions. This service is provided without charge.

The goal of the Private Lands program is to help landowners assess the wildlife potential of their land and recommend ways to improve the land to support a diversity of wildlife. TPWD biologists help landowners achieve their wildlife management goals. Through on-site assistance, biologists provide recommendations to landowners on how to manage the various wildlife populations on their land. By encouraging private land stewardship, TPWD hopes to slow or reverse declines in the quantity and quality of the state's natural resources. Our goal is to provide practical information on ways to manage wildlife resources consistent with other land use goals, ensure plant and animal

diversity, provide aesthetic and economic benefits, and conserve soil, water and related natural resources.

Requesting Assistance

Landowners can request assistance by contacting one of the wildlife district offices (see map). A biologist assigned to the landowner's county will schedule a site visit with the landowner/manager to assess the habitat potential and offer guidance on ways to improve habitats for the species of interest consistent with the landowner's overall land management goals. Once the property's potential has been determined, the biologist will provide recommendations

and, if requested, help the landowner develop a written wildlife management plan (WMP). The WMP is a guide to achieve the landowner's stated goals. Components of the WMP include current description of habitat, land use and management practices, and specific habitat management recommendations and population management goals for various species of interest. The importance of keeping good records to evaluate progress toward management goals is explained. WMPs approved by TPWD biologists are confidential by state law according to Parks and Wildlife Code, Section 12.0251.

Habitat Enhancement and Tools

Habitat recommendations focus on increased ecological diversity benefiting a wide variety of native wildlife, along with specific management practices designed to benefit featured species identified by the landowner. Biologists teach landowners how to recognize plants important to various wildlife species and discuss the relative importance of grasses, forbs (weeds), and woody plants (trees, shrubs, succulents and vines). Unique plants, animals, and habitats are identified and management options suggested to enhance or conserve these resources.



For more information on how you can enhance and conserve your land for wildlife, visit our Web site at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landowner

Biologists explain the use of proper harvest as a key management tool to maintain big game populations in balance with available food supplies. Landowners are advised on how to achieve and maintain desired population parameters such as age structure, production level and sex ratio. Information is provided on survey techniques designed to monitor population levels and support harvest recommendations. The merits of various survey techniques, including their relative accuracy and cost, are explained. Landowners are instructed on how to conduct surveys of various species of interest.

Incentive Programs

Information on various cost-share and incentive programs offered by TPWD and other resource agencies is provided based on the landowner's interests and resource needs. TPWD biologists continue to assist landowners through periodic visits, as needed, to help interpret survey information, formulate harvest recommendations, assess progress toward management goals, and suggest additional management actions and adjustments. They are also available to provide recommendations to landowners interested in managing for wildlife as their primary agricultural use under the 1-d-1 Open Space Agricultural Valuation for wildlife management.