

## CHAPTER 217

## S.B. No. 179

## AN ACT

relating to hunting in state parks.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Section 13.001, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(b) The commission shall establish a classification system for state parks *and wildlife management areas* that categorizes *wildlife management areas*, parks, or a portion of parks as *game management areas*, recreational areas, natural areas, or historical areas.

(e) *The commission shall have the exclusive authority to determine sound biological management practices for all lands under its control.*

SECTION 2. Section 62.062, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 62.062. SEASON. (a) As sound biological management practices warrant *and until August 31, 1995*, the commission may prescribe an open season for hunting in state parks, forts, or sites where size, location, and other physical conditions permit hunting.

(b) *After August 31, 1995, as sound biological practices warrant, and after it has established a classification system for parks in accordance with Section 13.001(b) of this code, the commission may prescribe an open season for recreational hunting in state parks, forts, or sites where size, location, physical conditions, safety, and other uses permit hunting.*

SECTION 3. Section 81.402, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(b) The department from time to time, as sound biological management permits, *and until August 31, 1995*, may allow open seasons for hunting and fishing.

(e) *After August 31, 1995, and as sound biological management permits, the commission may only prescribe an open season for hunting after it has established a classification system for such areas in accordance with Section 13.001(b) of this code.*

SECTION 4. Subsection (a), Section 81.403, Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided in Subsection (b) of this section, permits for hunting of wildlife *or for any other use* on game management areas shall be issued by the department to applicants by means of a fair method of distribution subject to limitations on the maximum number of permits to be issued.

SECTION 5. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed the Senate on April 7, 1993: Yeas 24, Nays 5; the Senate concurred in House amendments on May 10, 1993: Yeas 27, Nays 4; passed the House, with amendments, on May 6, 1993: Yeas 107, Nays 35, two present not voting.

Approved May 18, 1993.

Effective May 18, 1993.