

Get your Wildlife Trail Maps Today!

Download sections of the maps at
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/wildlifetrails/
or purchase maps online at
<http://tcebookstore.org>
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It's like a whole other country.



TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT
4200 Smith School Road · Austin, Texas 78744

PWD BK W7000-1092 (8/05)

For additional copies of this brochure, call (512) 389-4500.

Great Texas Wildlife Trails

Discover the Wildlife of Texas!





With 889 distinct public and private sites, the eight wildlife trail maps will guide you to the best wildlife-viewing spots in the state.

Great Texas Wildlife Trails

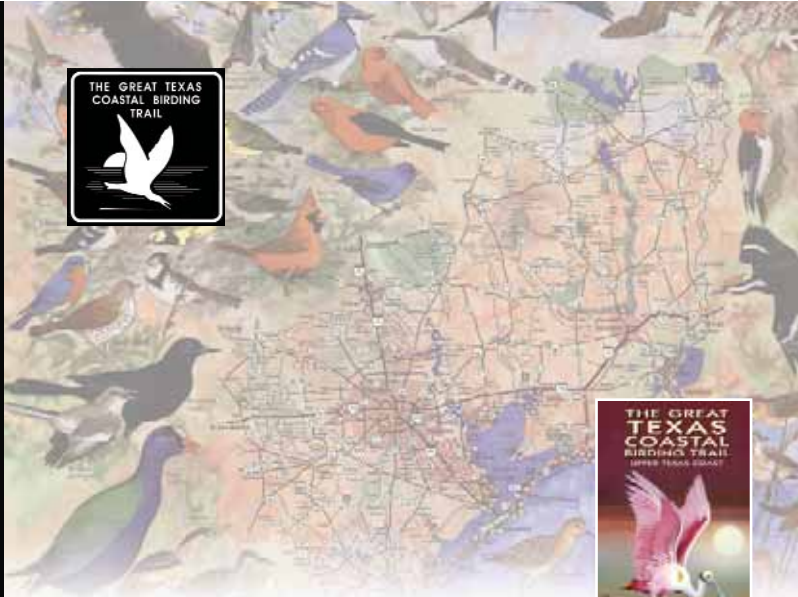
Whether you are a birder, a wildlife enthusiast, or just ready to discover the wildlife Texas has to offer, we have a map that makes it easy for you. These driving trails will direct you to the best spots in the state to observe wildlife such as birds, butterflies, bats or pronghorns. Texas is the perfect place to view wildlife; the Lone Star State is one of the top birding destinations in the world and is rich in its diverse species of wildlife. Along the trails, you will be captivated by all there is to do and local communities will welcome you with plenty of Texas hospitality.



So hop in the car, grab your binoculars and camera, and come explore Texas' great outdoors.



Download sections of the wildlife trail maps at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/wildlifetrails/.



UPPER TEXAS COAST



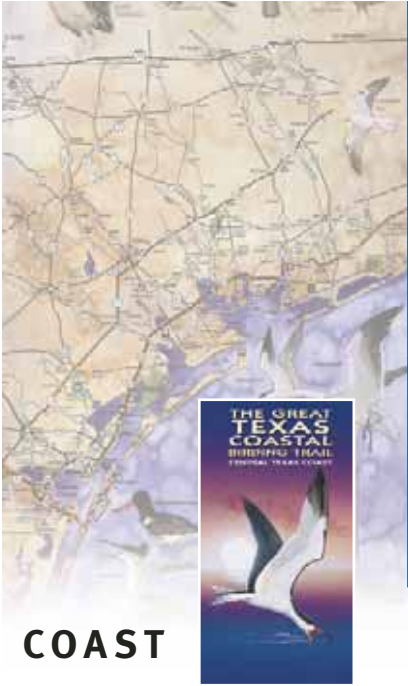
CENTRAL TEXAS

Great Texas Coastal Birdi

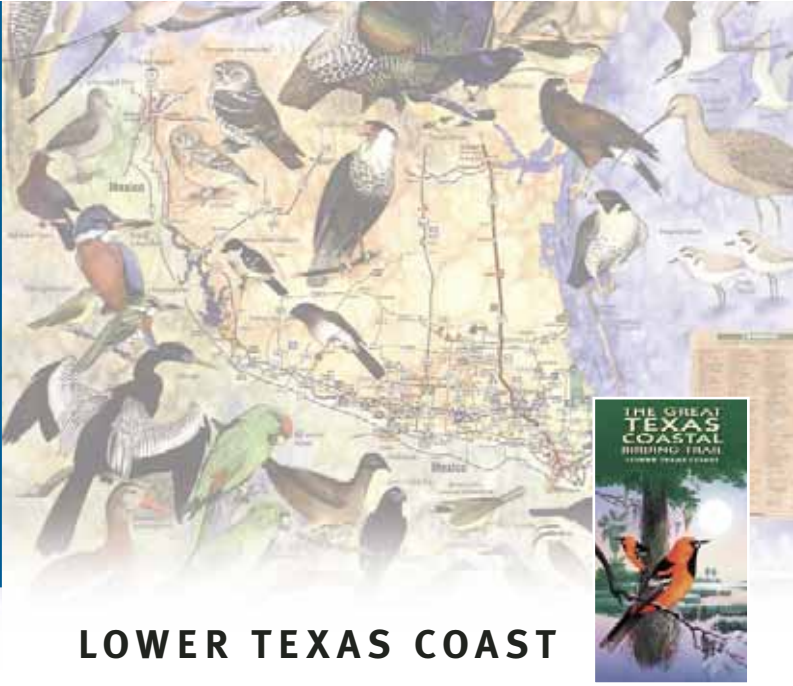
Does visiting some of the most well-known coastal birding sites in Texas sound appealing to you, or would you rather visit some off-the-beaten-path local birding hotspots? The coastal birding trail has it all. Plus, conveniences such as boardwalks, parking pullouts, observation platforms and landscaping to attract native wildlife allow you to get closer to see Texas' breathtaking birds. There are three coastal birding maps to send you on a well-rounded tour of the coast's top birding sites. The Upper Coast map covers driving loops from the Louisiana border, through the Houston and Beaumont coastal areas, and down to Brazosport.

Use these maps to find local parks hidden in the midst of cities that offer shelter to migratory birds passing through. The variety of birds light up area trees with their vibrant colors during spring and fall migration.

Visit heron rookeries and be amazed by the number of egrets, herons and Roseate Spoonbills clearly visible from viewing platforms. You may even get a glimpse of an alligator (from a safe distance, of course!).



COAST



LOWER TEXAS COAST

ng Trails

These trails wind through 308 distinct wildlife-viewing sites, encompassing the entire Texas coastal region.

The Central Coast map starts near Matagorda Bay, traveling through the Victoria and Corpus Christi areas, and ends just south of Kingsville. The Lower Coast map encompasses South Texas along the border with Mexico, from South Padre Island, through Brownsville, Harlingen, and McAllen, and west towards Laredo. The Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail maps are a great way to enjoy your time on the Gulf Coast.

The Coastal Birding Trail maps are essential to viewing the songbirds, shorebirds, raptors and more that grace our Gulf Coast.

These maps also guide you into the old-growth forests of East Texas to seek out the Red-cockaded Woodpeckers and other East Texas specialties.

The Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail maps lead you to sites to view some South Texas specialties such as the Green Jay, Great Kiskadee and Plain Chachalaca, in addition to the occasional Mexican rarity, in the Lower Rio Grande Valley.



Purchase the beautiful four-color maps online at <http://tcebookstore.org> or by calling (888) 900-2577.



Stretching from Central Texas down south to Laredo, these new trails include 239 sites on public and private land to view birds and other wildlife.

Heart of Texas Wildlife Trails

WEST AND EAST



Heart of Texas Trail maps are all you need to discover tucked-away bed and breakfasts with access to nature trails, hiking, mountain biking and perfect views of hill country sunsets.

Grab your camera and visit one of the ranches with wildlife photography blinds. Bring your binoculars or scope and visit the lakes, rivers, wildflower fields and pecan groves to observe a variety of birds, butterflies, dragonflies and more. Even without binoculars, you are sure to have a great time and see an abundance of wildlife in the Heart of Texas!

Download sections of the wildlife trail maps at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/wildlifetrails/.



EAST

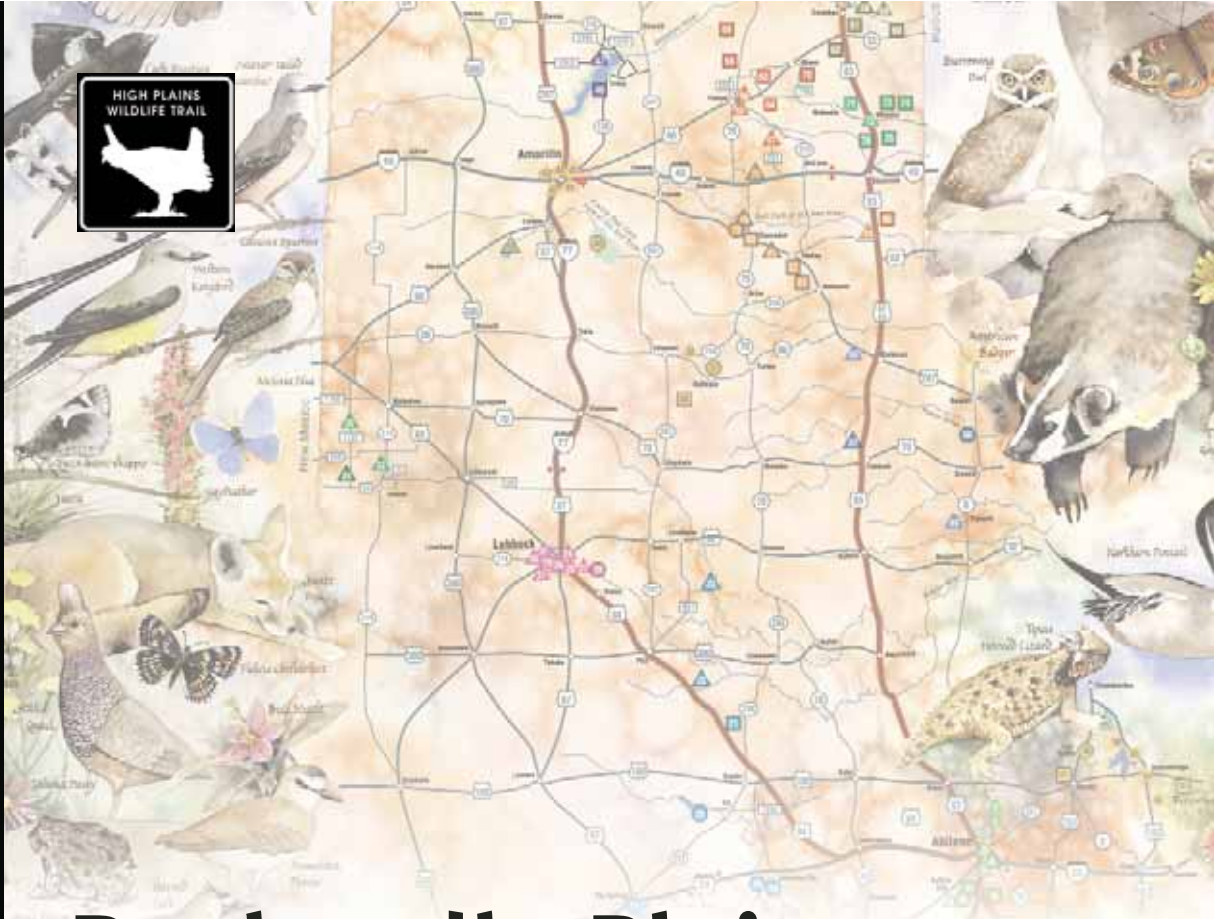
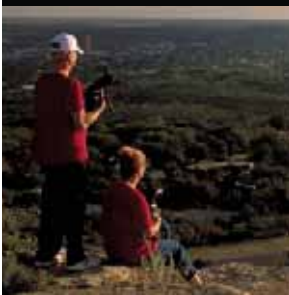
To plan that perfect afternoon drive, day trip, weekend getaway or a lengthier trip, the Heart of Texas Wildlife Trails maps are your passport to Central and South Texas. These two maps offer a variety of driving loops to tailor a trip to your preferences. From the South Texas Plains to the Hill Country, these trails will show you to the best wildlife watching sites in Central Texas.

Bat-watching and cave visits are also highlighted in these maps, so take your family and friends to see the seasonal bat emergence at one of many caves. Or, for a more metropolitan experience, you can visit the largest urban population of Mexican Free-tailed Bats right in the heart of downtown Austin. Other caves in Central Texas offer tours explaining the dramatic cave formations well worth seeing.

Be sure to stop by nature centers, state parks and wildlife refuges to learn about native species, local wildlife and more. You can gain wildlife-watching experience at many of the trail sites, or learn from a guided tour through a nature center or on private property. No matter your interests, the Heart of Texas Trails will give you a great experience and a memorable trip.

Welcome to the Heart of Texas! The scenic landscapes provide a perfect backdrop for wildlife viewing.





Panhandle Plains Wildlife Trail

*This map na
Panhandle site
and*

Visit private ranches on exclusive tours to see the booming grounds of the Lesser Prairie-chicken. While you are out there, keep an eye out for Coyote, Pronghorn Antelope, Sandhill Cranes and more.

Enjoy scenic views of the famous Playa Lakes and take that opportunity to spot migratory waterfowl and shorebirds throughout the vast Panhandle Plains. Truly get away from it all at one of these wonderful lakes and extend your stay at a state park or one of the many private ranches that offer camping.

*Embark on the Texas Plains discovery
you've been dreaming of.*

The Texas Panhandle's best outdoor wildlife viewing areas are now easy for you to find with the Panhandle Plains Wildlife Viewing Trails map. This map not only steers you to great locales to see the birds and other animals of the Panhandle, it also shows you the best places to experience the wide open spaces of West Texas. Take in the unique wildlife and scenery of the Panhandle, at a glimpse or as an in-depth visit, depending on your schedule.



*Investigates you through 97 Texas
sites with information on private
and public lands open to visitors.*



Stop and gaze at one of the many Black-tailed Prairie Dog towns in the Panhandle. While watching these amusing animals scurry about from mound to mound, stay on the lookout for Burrowing Owls and other raptors in the area. A Texas Horned Lizard is yet another fascinating animal that might be found on your visit to one of these sites.

For an amazing view, the winding country roads and even main highways offer a landscape of the canyons, mesas and river corridors found in the Panhandle. Take your time, explore the region and visit some of the most dramatic scenery in all of Texas.

Purchase the beautiful four-color maps online at <http://tcebookstore.org> or by calling (888) 900-2577.



WEST

Prairies and Pineywoods Wildlife Trails

WEST AND EAST



Enjoy access to private lands within hardwood forests and in open grasslands to see prairie birds such as Scissor-tailed Flycatchers, Dickcissels and Eastern Meadowlarks and woodland species such as the Red-headed Woodpecker. For the more casual wildlife viewer, sit back and enjoy native wildflowers and watching butterflies, wild turkeys, wild hogs and soaring Bald Eagles at your leisure. There is something for everyone to see!

Explore the Pineywoods in search of the large Pileated Woodpecker, a great variety of colorful warblers, and raptors such as the Red-shouldered Hawk and Common Nighthawk. As you walk, hike or bike through the woods, keep an eye out for some of the interesting butterflies and mammals that call these forests their home. You are in for a visual treat!



EAST

These maps will guide you through 252 urban and rural, public and private sites.

If you wish to discover more about the North and Northeast Texas birding and wildlife observation opportunities, you will find it in our newest set of maps, the Prairies and Pineywoods Wildlife Trails – West and East. These will navigate you in your discovery of the wildlife and enjoyment of the beautiful forests, lakes and prairies of Texas.

Spend some time at campgrounds throughout Northeast Texas, taking time out to fish at one of the many lakes, rivers and streams of the area. While there, keep an eye out for River Otters, dragonflies and shorebirds such as Great Blue Herons, egrets and kingfishers.

You can also reconnect with nature in the city; Dallas and Fort Worth offer many places to observe wildlife and birds in their parks, zoos and nature centers. See native species of birds, lizards, snakes and mammals in both their natural habitats and in zoo exhibits. Learn more about northeast Texas on guided tours and in informative exhibits. Urban wildlife viewing is another great way to spend an afternoon or a weekend with family and friends.

The Prairies and Pineywoods Wildlife Trail maps will lead you on a memorable journey through native grasslands and into the forests of East Texas.



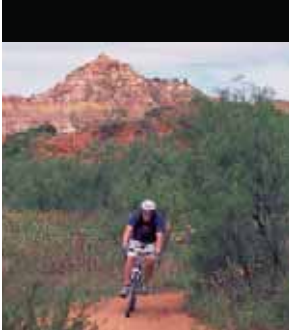
Purchase the beautiful four-color maps online at <http://tcebookstore.org> or by calling (888) 900-2577.

Texas State Parks on the Great Texas Wildlife Trails

Driving the Great Texas Wildlife Trails takes you to a wide variety of state parks in Texas where you can birdwatch, view wildlife, enjoy nature photography and spend a relaxing outdoor experience with family and friends. Most parks also offer “bird checklists” to visitors so you can see what species of birds you might be able to spot at each park. Check with the park’s visitor center to see if there is one available or visit the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department’s Web site at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/admin/pkbirds.htm to download a copy of the Texas statewide bird checklist.

Several parks offer wildlife viewing opportunities of historical “Old West” animals indigenous to Texas. Herds of bison and longhorn can be seen at a handful of state parks in Texas. Several other state parks provide the unique experience of bat-watching at sunset, allowing you to behold the thousands of bats emerging from caves and sinkholes.

For general information about Texas State Parks, please call (800) 792-1112 or visit www.tpwd.state.tx.us/park/. For an online version of our State Park Guide, visit www.tpwd.state.tx.us/parkguide/.



Outdoor Adventure Awaits on the Wildlife Trails!

Texas is one of the nation's leaders in nature tourism and was the first state to create birding and wildlife viewing trails, an idea that resulted in similar projects throughout North America. These trails provide economic incentives for landowners and communities to conserve habitats while providing recreational opportunities for the traveling public. The wildlife trails of Texas promote sustainable economic development and build public support for conservation of wildlife and habitats.

In 2000, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department completed The Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail, which was a great success and continues to be popular with both visiting birders and local naturalists. To date, TPWD and our partners have distributed nearly 400,000 birding trail maps to interested citizens and visitors. Following the coastal trail's success, TPWD released the Heart of Texas, Panhandle Plains and Prairies and Pineywoods Trails maps to make wildlife viewing and nature tourism even easier in more regions of Texas. The wildlife trails are immensely popular because they cater to the specific needs and interests of nature tourists, providing you the information you need to explore the back roads of Texas.

Ultimately, nature tourism leads to conservation by encouraging landowners and communities to conserve habitats, providing wildlife viewers greater opportunity, and inviting you to experience for yourself the abundant natural resources of Texas. We want more and more people to engage in the enjoyment of nature, thereby gaining greater appreciation and understanding of the importance of conserving wildlife and their habitats for present and future generations.



Reading the maps:

Each site on the Trail is marked with a unique sign and site number designed to coincide with the site description on the map. The Trail maps have information about the birds and habitats likely to be found at each site, the best season to visit, and local community information for each driving loop. Additional driving directions to each of the trail sites are also available in the text on each map.

To nominate future sites to the Great Texas Wildlife Trails, please contact the Nature Tourism Coordinator at (512) 389-4500 or by e-mail at naturetourism@tpwd.state.tx.us

The Great Texas Wildlife Trails will lead you to hundreds of special places where you can view the diverse wildlife and landscapes of Texas.



Buy one or more maps today and start an adventure on the wild side of Texas.

Purchase the beautiful full-color maps online at <http://tcebookstore.org> or by calling (888) 900-2577.

Sections of the maps can also be downloaded at www.tpwd.state.tx.us/wildlifetrails/. Get a taste of all that the trail maps can offer to enhance your wildlife adventures before purchasing your own copy of the map.