FAR WEST TEXAS WILDLIFE TRAIL This map furnishes information about the Trail locations, **Fort Stockton** LEGEND FAR WEST TEXAS (FWTX) EL PASO UPLANDS LOOP 21 Chihuahuan Desert Nature Center 39 Big Bend National Park-Franklin Mountains State Park-40 Big Bend National Park-Museum of Archaeology at Cottonwood Campground 23 Davis Mountains State Par Wilderness Park and Indian Lodge 41 Big Bend National Park-24 McDonald Observatory Ross Maxwell Drive Fred Hervey Water Reclamation 42 Big Bend National Park-25 Madera Canyon Trail Ponds (aka Fort Bliss Sewage 25A Sunset Park (Marfa) The Chisos Mountains 43 Big Bend National Park-Hueco Tanks State Park MARATHON - ALPINE LOOP Pine Canvon and Historic Site 26 Elephant Mountain Wildlife 44 Big Bend National Park-Rio Grande Village 27 Gage Gardens Keystone Heritage Park 28 Post Peña Colorado Park SANDERSON - SHEFFIELD LOO Billy Rogers Arroyo Park 29 Black Gap Wildlife 45 Bi-Centennial Park and Wyler Aerial Tramway Terrell County Courthouse Memorial Park 46 Cactus Capital Hiking Feather Lake Wildlife Sanctuary Rio Bosque Wetlands Park 30 Chinati Hot Springs 47 Canyons RV Park 31 Loma Paloma Golf Course 47A Birdsong Outpost Ranch 48 Ranch for the Birds 32 Fort Leaton State Historic Site Mountain View Golf Course PERMIAN BASIN WEST LOOP Okey D. Lucas Memorial Park BIG BEND LOOP 49 Rooney Park and Historic Big Bend 33 Big Bend Ranch State Park Guadalupe Mountains National Fort Native Garden Park-The Bowl 10 Imperial Reservoir Guadalupe Mountains National 34 Rancherias Canyon Trail and 51 Pearson Park Park-Frijole Ranch, Manzanita Colorado Canyon River Access 52 Monahans Sandhills State Park & Smith Spring (Big Bend Ranch State Park) Guadalupe Mountains National PERMIAN BASIN EAST LOOP Park-McKittrick Canyon (Big Bend Ranch State Park) 53 Andrews Bird Viewing Area 64 Comanche Trail Park **B** Guadalupe Mountains National 36 Madera Canyon and Park-Dog Canyon Grassy Banks Campgrounds 55 I-20 Wildlife Preserve and Jenna (Big Bend Ranch State Park) Welch Nature Study Center Inc. DAVIS MOUNTAINS LOOP 56 Wadley Barron Park 38 Barton Warnock Visitor Center Balmorhea State Park 57 Sibley Nature Center (Big Bend Ranch State Park)) Balmorhea Lake 20A Sandia Springs Wetlands 38A Terlingua Ranch Lodge Texas Mountain Trail and the Texas Pecos Trail Regions Developed Camping Available (17) (118) State Highway ▲ Site Open for Day Use Only Site Access Restricted (67) U.S. Highway 170 Farm or Ranch Road One inch equals approximately 14 miles PWD MP K0700-0965 (8/13) ©2013 TPWD



GUIDE TO USING THE MAP

including detailed instructions on how to reach each site. An illustrated highway map shows the designated sites. Each site is marked with a symbol signifying the following:

Circle: The site is open daily, and developed camping is available.

Triangle: The site is open for day use only.

Square: Call ahead, access to the site is restricted: visitation may be arranged by contacting the managing entity at the website and telephone number provided.

NOTE: If the symbol is outlined in black, an entrance fee or donation may be required (subject to change).

In addition, each symbol is colored to distinguish the segment or loop to which the site belongs. Each site has been assigned to one of the designated loops, organized to help travelers

Descriptions of the sites are on the back of the map, and include directions to each location, examples of wildlife that can be seen, and contacts for additional information. The text, like the map, is organized by loops. A list of regional contacts (chambers of commerce, convention and visitors bureaus) begins each section. Information about food, lodging, and local points of interest may be obtained from

To aid travelers, each site is marked with a brown sign illustrated with the familiar Scaled Quail logo, as well as a unique site number that corresponds with the map. Just look for the logo sign to verify that you've reached your location.

TPWD may be contacted about state parks and wildlife management areas (see website and telephone numbers below). Texas Mountain Trail Region and Texas Pecos Trail Region may be contacted for information about cultural sites within their regions (see websites and telephone numbers below). Information about traveling Texas highways may be requested from TxDOT (www.dot.state.tx.us).

To order this and other Trail maps, visit www.tpwd.texas.gov/ wildlifetrails. Maps available include:



Upper Texas Coast – Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail Central Texas Coast -**Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail** Lower Texas Coast -**Great Texas Coastal Birding Trail** Heart of Texas Wildlife Trail - East

Prairies and Pineywoods Wildlife Trail – East Prairies and Pineywoods Wildlife Trail – West Far West Texas Wildlife Trail

Heart of Texas Wildlife Trail – West

Panhandle Plains Wildlife Trail

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

Texas Parks and Wildlife Information: (800) 792-1112 **Trail Map Edits and Updates:** (512) 389-4500 www.tpwd.texas.gov/wildlifetrails

Texas Mountain Trail Region (432) 284-0002

www.texasmountaintrail.com **Texas Pecos Trail Region** (325) 387-3900

www.texaspecostrail.com

Shelly Plante, Nature Tourism Manager, Texas Parks and Wildlife Beth Nobles, Executive Director, Texas Mountain Trail Region Scott Jordan, Executive Director, Texas Pecos Trail Region The Boards of Directors and Map Committee Volunteers of the

Ted Eubanks, Fermata Inc. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Lydia Saldaña, Communications Division Director Linda Hedges, Regional Interpretive Specialist

Tim Peterson, Creative Director Clemente Guzman III, Graphic Artist Chris Hunt, Graphic Designer

Cynthia Banks, GIS Lab Data Librarian

TPWD receives federal assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other federal agencies and is subject to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education national origin, age, sex or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any TPWD program, activity or facility, or need more information, please contact Civil Rights Coordinator for Public Access, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

Clearinghouse and/or Texas Depository Libraries.

www.visitelpaso.com

Entrance is located 3.5 miles east of I-10 (or 7.5 miles west of US 54) on Transmountain Rd.

At the Tom Mays Unit of Franklin Mountains State Park, visitors watch Scaled Quail, Mourning Dove and White-winged Dove coming back and forth for water and food at the Wildlife Viewing Area. Crissal Thrasher, Canyon Towhee, Black-throated Sparrow and Lesser Goldfinch frequent the area throughout the year. The canyons above are home to a diverse sparrow population in winter, including Black-chinned. During spring and summer Black-chinned Hummingbirds can be seen throughout the park, with Rufous, Broad-tailed and occasionally Calliope arriving in later summer. Golden Eagle (primarily in the winter), Red-tailed Hawk, Swainson's Hawk (summer), Norther Harrier (winter), American Kestrel, and other raptors can be observed soaring in the air or perched on top of sotol and yucca stalks.

915-566-6441 www.texasstateparks.org GPS: 31.9079, -106.5270

▲ FWTX 2 MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AT WILDERNESS PARK

8.3 miles to Loop 375/Transmountain Rd. Turn left (west) onto Loop 375 and the museum will be immediately on the right (north). Here an interpretive nature trail leads visitors through native vegetation augmented by the presence of water in the gardens. Look and listen for Cactus, Canyon and Bewick's Wren, Gambel's and Scaled Quail, and Black-throated Sparrow. Depending on the season, Verdin, migratory sparrows and Horned Lark may be present. Flowering vegetation attracts Black-chinned Hummingbird in summer, and additional hummingbird species in fall. Even the shy Crissal Thrasher can be seen with a little patience. During migration periods look for Wilson's, Yellow-rumped (Audubon's), Townsend's and Black-throated Gray Warblers.

From I-10 in El Paso, take exit 23 onto US 54. Follow US 54 north

915-755-4332 www.ci.el-paso.tx.us/arch_museum GPS: 31.9041, -106.4492

▲ FWTX 3 HAWK ALLEY

From I-10 in El Paso, take exit 23 onto US 54. Follow US 54 north 8.3 miles to Exit 9 at Loop 375/Transmountain Rd. Turn right and go east for 1.9. Turn left (north) onto McCombs St./RR 2529 and follow it 6 miles to Stan Roberts Sr. Ave. This route constitutes "Hawk Alley." Along this north-south route, watch the power lines for a diverse array of

park. There are two more parking areas farther down the canal hawks and falcons. Specifically, Hawk Alley provides a great opportunity to observe nesting Chihuahuan Raven, Swainson's Hawk, Red-tailed Some 229 bird species have been seen at Rio Bosque, a reliable place Hawk and Harris's Hawk; the nests are either overhead in the supports to find resident species such as the Gambel's Quail, Harris's Hawk, of transmission lines or in nearby shrubby trees. The route is also a Burrowing Owl, Verdin and Crissal Thrasher. Summer-resident nesting very good place to observe other raptors such as Golden Eagle (usually species include Bell's Vireo, Yellow-breasted Chat, Blue Grosbeak and adults and birds-of-the-year), Burrowing Owl, American Kestrel, and Painted Bunting. In late fall and early winter, approximately 100 acres of the site are flooded, and up to 5,000 ducks can be present. Raptors are Accipiter species. also abundant in winter.

GPS: 31.9015, -106.4057

▲ FWTX 4 FRED HERVEY WATER RECLAMATION PONDS (AKA FORT BLISS SEWAGE PONDS) Go north on US 54 to exit 9 at Loop 375 (Transmountain Rd). Turn right

and go east for about 3 miles. Turn left onto Railroad Dr. and proceed for about 3.5 miles to the plant entrance. As the main road curves left towards a building complex, stay straight ahead on the dirt road toward a grove of trees and series of ponds. Only the southernmost pond is a wetland habitat. The other ponds have reverted back to a desert habitat. Check out the cottonwoods and willows for migrants, particularly during spring and fall migration when flycatchers, vireos, warblers, tanagers, grosbeaks, buntings and orioles feed in the trees. Look for raptors overhead. Typically there are several species of swallows present, except during winter. Once you access the ponds, you will find open water, shoreline, mud flats, and marsh-type vegetation. Usually present are grebes, herons, egrets, ibis, waterfowl, rails, shorebirds and, at times, gulls and terns. The dry ponds are frequented by desert birds such as dove, quail, Greater Roadrunners, Burrowing Owls and raptors.

GPS: 31.9435, -106.3443

■ FWTX 5 HUECO TANKS STATE PARK AND HISTORIC SITE From US 62/180, turn north onto RR 2775 and travel for approximately

The park is 32 miles northeast of El Paso.

Year-round residents include Gambel's and Scaled Quail, Say's Phoebe, four species of wrens, Curve-billed and Crissal Thrashers, Canyon Towhee, and White-throated Swift. The highest diversity occurs during migration; look for raptors, flycatchers, vireos, thrushes, warblers, tanagers, sparrows, grosbeaks, and orioles. Several rare birds have managed to find the park including Olive Warbler, Golden-crowned Sparrow, and Lawrence's Goldfinch. Normal winter populations can be enhanced by the appearance of northern irruptives. Look for woodpeckers, thrushes (Western and Mountain Bluebird and

Townsend's Solitaire), jays, chickadees and nuthatches during invasion

years. Reservations are highly recommended for self-guided access and

5.5 miles. Continue through the park gate to the headquarters building.

915-857-1135 www.texasstateparks.org GPS: 31.9173, -106.0439

required for guided access.

EL PASO RIO LOOP

800-351-6024 **El Paso Convention and Visitors Bureau** www.visitelpaso.com

▲ FWTX 6 KEYSTONE HERITAGE PARK From I-10 in El Paso, take exit 13 to Sunland Park Dr. Turn left (west) on Sunland Park Dr. and go .5 miles. Turn right on Doniphan Dr. and

proceed .8 miles to the Keystone Heritage Park on the right.

Over 200 avian species have been recorded at this archeological site and wetland. The extensive mud flats attract shorebirds that flock to the area in abundance each spring and fall. In the winter months, thousands of Red-winged Blackbirds and lesser numbers of Yellow-headed Blackbirds roost in the extensive reed beds. Watch for "Mexican" Mallard as well. Just across Doniphan Dr., the wooded neighborhoods support nesting Mississippi Kite. The predominantly xeric landscape supports desert residents such as Curve-billed and Crissal Thrasher, Verdin, Greater Roadrunner and Gambel's Quail.

915-584-0563 www.keystoneheritagepark.org GPS: 31.8201, -106.5631

▲ FWTX 7 BILLY ROGERS ARROYO PARK

From I-10 in El Paso, Exit 19A onto North Mesa St. Turn right and follow North Mesa St. 1 mile to E. Robinson St. Turn right and go .3 miles to the park on the right. The park can be accessed through the El Paso

Tennis Club. In El Paso, you will find this city park provides good birding opportunities. This site is typically best for birding during migration; however, some of the most exciting birding can occur during winter when jays, woodpeckers, titmice, chickadees, nuthatches, and finches provide irruptive excursions southward. Migrants expected at this site include flycatchers, vireos, warblers, tanagers and grosbeaks. Otherwise, typical winter birds include, but are not limited to, Red-naped Sapsucker, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Orange-crowned and Yellow-rumped Warbler,

White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Pine Siskin, and American

GPS: 31.7795, -106.4962

▲ FWTX 8 WYLER AERIAL TRAMWAY Take US 54 north from I-10 and exit Fred Wilson Blvd.; turn left on Fred Wilson Blvd., which turns into Alabama St.; follow Alabama to McKinley

Wyler Aerial Tramway is situated on the east slope of the Franklin

Mountains. The surrounding vegetation is primarily desert scrub with

a wide variety of cacti and abundant lechuguilla. The bird populations

are dominated by desert species such as Pyrrhuloxia, Black-throated

Sparrow, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, and Curve-billed Thrasher. The

tram platform provides an excellent vantage point to observe raptors,

particularly during migration. Red-tailed Hawk and Turkey Vultures are

(primarily in winter), Swainson's Hawk (summer), Peregrine and Prairie

In El Paso, you will find this city park provides good birding opportunities.

This site is typically best for birding during migration; however, some of

the most exciting birding can occur during winter when jays, woodpeckers,

titmice, chickadees, nuthatches, and finches provide irruptive excursions

southward. Migrants expected at this site include flycatchers, vireos,

include, but are not limited to, Red-naped Sapsucker, Ruby-crowned

Kinglet, Orange-crowned and Yellow-rumped Warbler, White-crowned

From I-10, take exit 34 (Americas Ave.) and go south on Americas Ave.

1.2 miles to North Loop Dr. Turn right onto North Loop Dr. and go .4

miles to the stoplight at Bordeaux St. The Feather Lake entrance is on

your left. A 1-mile-long trail encircles the lake. Open weekends; can be

Some 219 bird species have been observed at Feather Lake. Resident

wetland birds include Pied-billed Grebe, "Mexican" Mallard, Common

Moorhen, and American Coot. However, it is most dynamic in migration

and in winter. In migration, herons, egrets and thousands of White-faced

Ibis find the location a great spot for roosting and feeding. Water levels

vary, but in winter the site is typically good for a variety of waterfowl,

warblers, tanagers and grosbeaks. Otherwise, typical winter birds

Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Pine Siskin, and American Goldfinch.

▲ FWTX 10 FEATHER LAKE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

closed when lake is dry. Check website for status.

especially large numbers of dabbling ducks.

▲ FWTX 11 RIO BOSQUE WETLANDS PARK

From I-10, take exit 34 onto Loop 375 south. Go 2.2 miles to the

Pan American Dr. exit. Turn left onto Pan American and go 1.5 miles

and cross the bridge that spans the Riverside Canal immediately before

GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS -

VAN HORN LOOP

Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce (New Mexico) 575-887-6516

From I-10 take exit 138 to frontage road. At stop sign between Chevron

Because of the presence of water and the proximity to open desert, the

The Town of Van Horn is located at the crossroads of I-10, US 90, and

US 54. Van Horn has one main street. The Okey D. Lucas Park is located

near the west end at 1804 W. Broadway just across the street from City

The Okey D. Lucas Park is a quiet, small, and open park with trees

and shrubs, with a dramatic background of Turtleback and Six Mile

Mountains. The city has a drip water system that attracts the birds despite

the dry area. There are picnic tables and restrooms available Monday

FWTX 15 GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK—

distance is 110 miles east of El Paso, or 56 miles southwest of Carlsbad,

New Mexico. When arriving in Guadalupe Mountains National Park on

US 62/180, turn towards the Headquarters Visitor Center and park at the

The Bowl is approximately 5 miles from the Tejas trailhead. In order to

hike to The Bowl, begin hiking up the Tejas Trail to Pine Top. From Pine

Top hike the Bowl Trail to reach an open area called The Bowl. The Bowl

is above 7,500 ft. in elevation surrounded by a coniferous forest of pine

and Douglas fir trees. Those willing to make this strenuous hike will be

rewarded by the opportunity to view montane species not usually found

▲ FWTX 16 GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK-

These wildlife viewing areas are located off of US 62/180. The driving

distance is 110 miles east of El Paso, or 56 miles southwest of Carlsbad,

New Mexico. When arriving in Guadalupe Mountains National Park on

Ranch visitors can walk .2 miles to Manzanita Spring and .9 miles to

These springs are reliable places to see bird activity. Bird species that

are frequently seen here include Western Scrub Jay, Western Bluebird

(winter), Mountain Bluebird (winter), Townsend's Solitaire, Spotted

Towhee, and Sage Thrasher. Frijole Ranch and Manzanita Spring are

handicapped accessible and Smith Spring can be reached by hiking a

A FWTX 17 GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK-

McKittrick Canyon is located off of US 62/180. The driving distance is 110

When arriving in Guadalupe Mountains National Park on US 62/180, turn

McKittrick Canyon trail follows a perennial stream in McKittrick Canyon

for approximately 3.5 miles. Expect typical Chihuahuan Desert species

along the beginning of the trail including year-round residents such

as Canyon Wrens, Bewick's Wrens, Greater Roadrunners, Bushtits,

pine. In late spring expect to see Western and Hepatic Tanagers,

Black-headed Grosbeaks, Grace's Warblers, Plumbeous Vireos, and

and White-winged Doves. Further up canyon the trail enters riparian

woodland with big-toothed maple, oak, Texas madrone, and ponderosa

on McKittrick Canyon Rd. and continue for 4 miles to McKittrick Canyon

Visitor Center and trailhead. McKittrick Canyon is a day-use area.

miles east of El Paso, or 56 miles southwest of Carlsbad, New Mexico.

MCKITTRICK CANYON

US 62/180, turn on Frijole Ranch Rd. to Frijole Ranch. From Frijole

FRIJOLE RANCH, MANZANITA &

The trailhead to The Bowl is located off of US 62/180. The driving

station and McDonalds, turn right (south) and follow road to golf

golf course is visited by many birds including raptors, quail, etc.

▲ FWTX 13 OKEY D. LUCAS MEMORIAL PARK

Hall and the Convention Center/Visitor's Bureau.

through Friday, 8-5 at the Visitor's Bureau.

THE BOWL

Tejas Trail/Guadalupe Peak trailhead.

915-828-3251 www.nps.gov/gumo

SMITH SPRING

elsewhere in the area.

GPS: 31.8966, -104.8277

short distance from Frijole Ranch.

GPS: 31.9074, -104.8014

Broad-tailed Hummingbirds.

GPS: 31.9772, -104.7520

915-828-3251 www.nps.gov/gumo

GPS: 31.0379, -104.8562

Van Horn Convention and Visitors Bureau

▲ FWTX 12 MOUNTAIN VIEW GOLF COURSE

www.carlsbadchamber.com

course. Check in at clubhouse

GPS: 31.0291, -104.8558

the water-treatment plants. Immediately turn left onto the levee road.

Go .7 miles to the Tornillo Trailhead at the northeast corner of the

www.trans-pecos-audubon.org

GPS: 31.6913, -106.3050

www.riobosque.org

GPS: 31.6483, -106.3112

the most commonly observed species, but the occasional Golden Eagle

Ave. and turn left. McKinley ends at the park.

915-562-9899 www.texasstateparks.org

From I-10 in El Paso, take Copia north to Memorial Park.

GPS: 31.8095, -106.4783

GPS: 31.7885, -106.4564

▲ FWTX 9 MEMORIAL PARK

Visitors traveling to Dog Canyon can access the area via New Mexico State Road 137. Visitors must turn southwest on New Mexico State Road 137 after driving approximately 11 miles north of Carlsbad, New Mexico on Dog Canyon is at the north side of the park at an elevation of 6,300 feet. This is a rarely visited area in the Guadalupe Mountains that offers

DOG CANYON

FWTX 18 GUADALUPE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK-

opportunities to see deer, javelina, Acorn Woodpeckers and Broad-tailed Hummingbirds. This area also provides easy access to the park's high 575-981-2418 www.nps.gov/gumo

GPS: 31.9945, -104.8335

DAVIS MOUNTAINS LOOP

432-445-2406 The Pecos Area Chamber of Commerce www.pecostx.com 800-524-3015 **Fort Davis Chamber of Commerce**

www.fortdavis.com ● FWTX 19 BALMORHEA STATE PARK

Balmorhea State Park boasts a 1.75-acre spring-fed pool and 5 acres of desert wetlands. The abundance of fresh water and large trees are a virtual bird and wildlife magnet. Common nesting birds during spring and summer include Orchard Oriole, Bullock's Oriole, Painted Bunting, Blue Grosbeak, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Ash-throated Flycatcher and Western Kingbird. Birds seen during spring migration include Western Tanager, Spotted Sandpiper, buntings and several species of warblers. Year-round residents include Black Phoebe, Sora, Virginia Rail, Green Heron, Greater Roadrunner, Black-throated Sparrow, Curvebilled Thrasher, Scaled Quail, Pyrrhuloxia, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, and Lesser Goldfinch. Winter residents include Belted Kingfisher, Snowy Egret, many species of ducks, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Pine Siskin,

Park is located 7 miles south of I-10 (exit 206) on Hwy 17 South.

432-375-2370 www.texasstateparks.org GPS: 30.9454, -103.7867

American Goldfinch, Green-tailed Towhee.

● FWTX 20 BALMORHEA LAKE From Hwy 17 (North Main St.) in Balmorhea, turn south on Houston St. and travel 2 miles.

Balmorhea Lake is a 500-acre reservoir built in 1917 to capture water from San Solomon Springs (Balmorhea State Park). The lake attracts large numbers of waterfowl including Ross's Goose, American White

Pelican, herons, and gulls. This is one of the few locations in the Trans-Pecos to observe shorebirds, although it takes some effort to carefully comb the shoreline. GPS: 30.9669, -103.7129 ▲ FWTX 2OA SANDIA SPRINGS WETLANDS

From Balmorhea, head 2.5 miles east on Hwy 17 to Reeves CR 313, then 0.8 miles south on CR 313 to the site.

provides shallow water and mudflats throughout the year.

Sandia Wetlands' five acres are designed to attract migrant birds during spring and fall. This managed wetland attracts waterfowl, shorebirds, and waders that normally stop at Balmorhea Lake. Due to the smaller size of the wetland, birders are able to enjoy a closer look. The wetland

sandiasprings.wordpress.com GPS: 30.9863, -103.7069

▲ FWTX 21 CHIHUAHUAN DESERT NATURE CENTER Located 4 miles south of Fort Davis on Hwy 118. The center is one mile

The center sits on 507 acres in the foothills of the Davis Mountains. The botanical gardens, a protected canyon with perennial springs, grasslands with mixed desert scrub, and seasonal tanks provide several habitat zones for birds and bird watching. Hummingbird feeders are maintained around the center and primarily attract Black-chinned, but Rufous, Broad-tailed and maybe the occasional Calliope can be seen in the fall. The center offers many nature programs to the public and maintains hiking trails on the center's property.

432-364-2499 www.cdri.org GPS: 30.5567, -103.8664

FWTX 22 MOUNTAIN TRAILS LODGE & OUTDOOR LEARNING CENTER

From intersection of Hwy 17 and Hwy 118, near the Jeff Davis County Courthouse, take Hwy 118 south for .8 miles to the entrance on the left Mountain Trails Lodge & Outdoor Learning Center organizes and leads

outdoor education programs, including regional birding tours. The 10-acre campus is home to several species whose nests can be found around the property: Black-chinned Hummingbird, Say's Phoebe, Cactus Wren, and Curve-billed Thrasher. The natural setting attracts endemic and migrating species, and sightings include American Kestrel, Cassin's Kingbird, Scaled Quail, Canyon Towhee, and many finches and sparrows Horned Lizards, javelina, ringtailed cats, fox, deer and mouflan are often spotted on the property.

800-403-3484 www.mountaintrailslodge.com GPS: 30.5867, -103.8931

■ FWTX 23 DAVIS MOUNTAINS STATE PARK AND INDIAN LODGE

From Fort Davis, proceed north on Hwy 118 for 4.1 miles and turn left onto Park Road 3.

A total of 365 bird species are known to occur within Jeff Davis County and Davis Mountains State Park provides a convenient location to see many of them, particularly during spring and fall migration periods. Commonly seen birds include Montezuma Quail, Acorn Woodpecker, Cactus Wren, Phainopepla, Pyrrhuloxia, Canyon Towhee, Black-crested Titmouse and Curve-billed Thrasher. Davis Mountains State Park has been identified as being significant for world bird conservation and officially designated a globally important bird area by the American Bird Conservancy. The park offers 20 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails and special interpretive programs. Nestled within park boundaries Indian Lodge is a unique adobe-style full-service hotel and restaurant constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s.

432-426-3337 www.texasstateparks.org GPS: 30.5995, -103.9292

▲ FWTX 24 MCDONALD OBSERVATORY

Visitors traveling east on I-10 from El Paso may take Hwy 118 south at Kent for the 39-mile scenic drive to the observatory. Visitors traveling west on I-10 may take Hwy 17 south at Balmorhea to Fort Davis, then Hwy 118 north 16 miles to Mt. Locke.

Birding and wildlife viewing is limited to daylight hours and along public roads on observatory property. Species commonly seen at elevation in the Davis Mountains can be observed on the observatory grounds, including the Montezuma Quail. The Visitors' Center Café has hummingbird feeders for easy viewing by visitors. Birding and wildlife viewing is free; fees charged for astronomy programs.

432-426-3263 http://mcdonaldobservatory.org GPS: 30.6715, -104.0229

▲ FWTX 25 MADERA CANYON TRAIL Proceed northwest from Ft. Davis on Hwy 118 for approximately 24

miles to the Lawrence E. Wood picnic area adjacent to the highway on the left (about 10 miles past the McDonald Observatory.) The 2.5-mile trail is a loop that begins and ends at the picnic area's east side and is marked by a sign and wooden split-rail fence. Hikers will walk through stands of stately ponderosa pines, pinion-

iuniper woodlands and grassy meadows. Wildlife that may be present, particularly at dawn or dusk, includes gray fox, ringtail, Western Scrub Jay, Acorn Woodpecker, Montezuma Quail, Golden Eagle, Davis Mountains cottontail, javelina, white-tailed and mule deer, mountain short-horned lizard and, rarely, mountain lion. At dawn, visitors may listen for the bugeling of elk in the fall or the chorus of coyotes any time of year. The Williamson's Sapsucker has been sighted along the trail in winter. www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/texas/press/

press3142.html 915-828-3251 www.nps.gov/gumo GPS: 30.7072, -104.1039

Presidio Visitor Convention Bureau www.cityofpresidio.com

From the Hwy. 90 (San Antonio Street) head north two blocks on Hwy. 17 (Highland Street). The park is near the corner of Oak Street and Highland Street on the east side, behind the U.S. Post Office. It runs most of the length of Oak Street between Highland Street and Russell Street.

▲ FWTX 25A SUNSET PARK (MARFA)

Mature trees attract birds and other wildlife to this downtown park. Possible birds for the park include Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Cassin's Kingbird, Curve-billed Thrasher, migrant warblers and tanagers that use the trees in the park as stopover habitat. Chihuahuan Raven is common in town during migration and in the surrounding grasslands throughout GPS: 30.3114, -104.0206

MARATHON – ALPINE LOOP

800-561-3712 **Alpine Chamber of Commerce** www.alpinetexas.com

Brewster County Tourism Council www.visitbigbend.com

432-386-4516 **Marathon Chamber of Commerce** www.marathontexas.com

● FWTX 26: ELEPHANT MOUNTAIN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Travel 26 miles south of Alpine on Hwy 118. Turn left (east) at entrance and travel .25 miles to Registration Station. Headquarters is another .25 miles down the road.

An abundance of songbirds inhabit the five different habitat types on Elephant Mountain. The site's bird checklist comprises over 170 species, including the elusive Montezuma Quail. The majority of these birds have been observed during spring, summer and fall. A variety of raptors, such as Red-tailed Hawk, Swainson's Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Northern Harrier, Zone-tailed Hawk, Peregrine Falcon, Golden Eagle, Harris's Hawk, Prairie Falcon, and American Kestrel can also be observed. Special permit required (must be obtained in advance); waived for driving only tour. 432-837-3251 www.tpwd.texas.gov/wma

▲ FWTX 27 GAGE GARDENS

GPS: 30.0369, -103.5723

Gardens is 3 blocks down on the south side. The Gage Gardens is a 26-acre park with plants and trees that capture

the colors of the high country Chihuahuan Desert. It offers a quartermile walking path, lined with recycled crushed glass, a pond, and an organic garden that yields produce for the Gage Hotel's restaurant. The gardens have plants and trees native to the area that flourish year-round, including majestic great white yuccas, ocotillos, sotol, pinions, desert willows and native grasses, and is a welcoming habitat for migrating

Turn south on Ave. D from Hwy 90. Turn east on First St. The Gage

birds and butterflies. www.gagehotel.com

▲ FWTX 28 POST PEÑA COLORADO PARK

GPS: 30.2047, -103.2432

In Marathon, turn south from Hwv 90 onto Ave. D, which becomes Post Rd. on the outskirts of town. Continue south for about 5 miles to the county-city park. Note: this small county park is surrounded by private land; trespassing on private land is not allowed.

Near the park entrance, stop along the road's edge to check for waterfowl, rails, phoebes, Marsh Wren and Common Yellowthroat. In summer, Golden-fronted Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Vermilion Flycatcher, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Cassin's Kingbird, Summer Tanager, Blue Grosbeak and Lark Sparrow should be active. The rare Tropical Kingbird has nested at the site previously. In winter, the site is good for sapsuckers, Brown Creeper, blackbirds and sparrows. Scaled Quail, Roadrunner and Wild Turkey are found year-round. The large trees provide suitable stopover habitat for a diverse array of migrants.

GPS: 30.1537, -103.2882

■ FWTX 29 BLACK GAP WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA From Marathon, take Hwy 385 south for 39 miles to FM 2627. Take

FM 2627 south for about 18 miles to the headquarters entrance. Follow

entrance road for .9 miles to area registration building. Black Gap features a variety of songbirds, quail and raptors. The main road to the river along Maravillas Canyon is great for general birding. Golden Eagles frequent the area during late winter through mid-summer. On occasion Peregrine Falcons can be seen along Maravillas and Horse Canyons and the cliffs overlooking the Rio Grande. Brushy Canyon (open September 1 – February 28) offers a diverse population of seasonal songbirds. Special permit required (must be obtained in advance).

432-837-3251 www.tpwd.texas.gov/wma GPS: 29.6918, -103.1624

UPPER RIO GRANDE LOOP

Presidio Visitor Convention Bureau 432-299-3517 www.cityofpresidio.com 800-650-9696

Marfa Chamber of Commerce www.marfacc.com

FWTX 30 CHINATI HOT SPRINGS

The dirt road to Chinati Hot Springs can be accessed from either FM 170 just north of Ruidosa or off the Pinto Canyon Road east of Ruidosa. Follow the signs to the end of the road and the hot springs, but be careful during the rainy season as dry arroyos can flood in just a few minutes. Located along a creek drainage in the foothills of the Chinati Mountains

the site includes a combination of desert-scrub and riparian habitat. Scattered large cottonwood, willow, and hackberry trees provide good cover for a variety of bird species, including some rarities.

432-229-4165 www.chinatihotsprings.com GPS: 30.0384, -104.5998

▲ FWTX 31 LOMA PALOMA GOLF COURSE AND RV PARK 5 miles east of Presidio on Hwy 170.

shorebirds. With its unique habitat, almost anything can show up at this site. River access to Rio Grande. Adjacent to RV park and golf course. Bird sanctuary and wetland in process of development. 432-229-2992 or 432-229-3632

This is a good site to observe herons, waterfowl, swallows and

432-229-3613 www.tpwd.texas.gov/fortleaton

GPS: 29.5429, -104.3250

GPS: 29.5397, -104.3107

● FWTX 32 FORT LEATON STATE HISTORIC SITE From Presidio, travel 4 miles southeast on FM 170 to the park entrance

the desert. Birds include: Rock and Canyon Wren, Say's and Black Phoebe, and Cliff Swallow (in summer). Outside of the escarpment/ river the habitat changes. During migration, search for flycatchers, Fort Leaton State Historic Site is situated on a floodplain terrace vireos, warblers, tanagers, grosbeaks, buntings, and orioles. In winter, overlooking the Rio Grande. Common birds of the Chihuahuan Desert birds include sapsuckers, flycatcher (Dusky, Gray and Ash-throated), can easily be seen on the premises, such as Roadrunner, White-winged gnatcatchers, kinglets, Hermit Thrush, warblers, towhees and sparrows. Dove and Black-throated Sparrow. The site includes a nature trail that Breeding birds include Lesser Nighthawk, Black-chinned Hummingbird, traverses both Chihuahuan Desert scrub and riparian habitats. Two Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Ash-throated Flycatcher, species particularly sought-after by birders in the Big Bend can be Bell's Vireo, Verdin, Cactus and Bewick's Wren, Northern Mockingbird, observed at Fort Leaton: Gambel's Quail and Crissal Thrasher. Golden-Curve-billed Thrasher, Common Yellowthroat, Peregrine Falcons, Yellowfronted Woodpecker, confined only to a few specialized habitats in the breasted Chat, Summer Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Pyrrhuloxia, Blue region, can be found in the tall cottonwoods lining the riverbank. Grosbeak, Painted Bunting, and Scott's Oriole.

FWTX 40 BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK— COTTONWOOD CAMPGROUND

BIG BEND LOOP

FWTX 33 BIG BEND RANCH STATE PARK (INTERIOR)

From FM 170 go 7 miles east of Presidio, turn north onto Casa Piedra

2 miles to the park entrance. Continue 17 miles east to the Sauceda

Over 300 species of birds have been documented at Big Bend Ranch,

Verdin, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher, Crissal Thrasher, Black-throated

Sparrow and Pyrrhuloxia. In winter, visitors should look for various

species of sparrow. Common spring and fall migrants include vireos,

Varied and Painted Bunting, and Scott's Oriole.

the takeout but no other facilities are present.

GPS: 29.5561, -104.1899

permits are required.

GPS: 29.3333, -104.0507

shade shelter and picnic table.

▲ FWTX 35 CLOSED CANYON

occupy the nearby Rancherias Canyon.

composting toilets are available here.

FWTX 36 MADERA CANYON AND

GPS: 29.3277, -104.0281

432-358-4444 www.texasstateparks.org

FWTX 34 RANCHERIAS CANYON TRAIL AND

swallows, several western warblers, and tanagers. Common breeding

species in summer include Zone-tailed Hawk, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Elf

Owl, Bell's Vireo, Yellow-breasted Chat, Summer Tanager, Blue Grosbeak,

COLORADO CANYON RIVER ACCESS

(BIG BEND RANCH STATE PARK)

Proceed southeast along FM 170 though the community of Redford,

watching for raptors en route. About halfway to Lajitas, look for

the Colorado Canyon takeout on your right or a little further to the

Rancherias Canyon trailhead on your left. A composting toilet exists at

Here the canyon of the Rio Grande narrows and steep volcanic walls

replace the broad floodplain and associated agricultural fields. This is

a good spot to look for migrants such as flycatchers, vireos, warblers,

Rancherias Trail traverses a beautiful canyon that eventually contains

permanent water if you hike far enough. Look for Canyon Wren, Rock

Wren, and Rufous-crowned Sparrow along the route. BBRSP day use

(BIG BEND RANCH STATE PARK)

As the FM 170 heads south from Rancherias Canyon, it is separated from

the Rio Grande by a long, thin mesa. Just ahead of you and on the right,

watch out for the signs directing you to the Closed Canyon parking area,

The canyon was formed long ago when a stream coming off the

mountains to the north cut a deep path through the mesa to the river;

now abandoned by that stream, what is left is the eroded slot of the mesa.

narrow canyon will be worth the effort. Here is a place to escape the heat

of the desert, as the canyon stays shaded throughout the day except when

the sun is directly overhead. You will see many of the same species that

GRASSY BANKS CAMPGROUNDS

(BIG BEND RANCH STATE PARK)

About mile east of the "tepees" rest stop on FM 170, watch for signs

directing you to Madera Canyon and Grassy Banks. Shade shelters and

These campgrounds and river access allow access to mixed desert scrub

flycatchers (Dusky, Gray and Ash-throated), gnatcatchers, kinglets, Hermit

Thrush, warblers, towhees, and sparrows. Thorn-scrub thickets between

the open desert and stream-side woodlands present a very good location to

search for the elusive Crissal Thrasher. Interesting breeding birds include

Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Bell's

Western Screech-Owl, Lesser Nighthawk, Black-chinned Hummingbird,

Vireo, Verdin, Cactus and Bewick's Wren, Northern Mockingbird, Curve-

billed Thrasher, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Summer

and Scott's Oriole. BBRSP day use permits required.

21 miles southwest of Terlingua on FM 170.

GPS: 29.2927, -103.9186

FWTX 37 LAJITAS

GPS: 29.2616, -103.7759

Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Pyrrhuloxia, Blue Grosbeak, Painted Bunting,

The resort has been labeled a "bird sanctuary" and many bird-attracting

facilities exist within the development, including gardens and landscaping

features, trails and Rio Grande stream-side access. At times, a large roost of

Black Vultures can be found around the golf course; during spring, summer

species include House Finch, Pyrrhuloxia, Inca Dove, Curve-billed Thrasher,

(BIG BEND RANCH STATE PARK)

The site is located 17 miles west of Study Butte/Terlingua along FM 170

The Desert Gardens exhibit at the center provides a collection of plants

native to Big Bend. This microcosm of the desert environment acts

as a natural attractor for a number of bird species. Additionally, the

center's courtyard is the only area in Big Bend Ranch State Park that

has approved bird feeders. The widest variety of species can be seen

during the spring, although birding is available year-round. Resident

species include House Finch, Pyrrhuloxia, Inca Dove, Curve-billed

Thrasher, Cactus Wren, Scaled Quail, a few Gamble's Quail, and Greater

Roadrunner. A common summer denizen is the Ash-throated Flycatcher.

18 miles north of Study Butte and Big Bend National Park Gate on Hwy

118, turn east onto Terlingua Ranch Road. Follow the Terlingua Ranch

Observe the many species that migrate through here as well as the resident

being developed and hiking is available into the Christmas Mountains for

more remote viewing opportunities. Cabins, campsites, RV sites, restaurant,

mule deer, javelina, mountain lion, bobcat, and fox. Viewing areas are

and pool make this site a self contained comfortable environment.

SANTA ELENA CANYON

Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive to the end at Santa Elena Canyon.

From the west park entrance travel 13 miles east and turn right onto the

This site offers scenic views of the Rio Grande through limestone bluffs.

The canyon hike is spectacular and, when shaded, offers a respite from

Cactus Wren, Scaled Quail, a few Gambel's Quail, and Greater Roadrunner.

and fall, Turkey Vultures will become the "common" vulture. Resident

▲ FWTX 38 BARTON WARNOCK VISITOR CENTER

432-424-5000 www.lajitasgolfresort.com

or 1 mile east of the Lajitas Resort on FM 170.

RV camping is available with reservation.

GPS: 29.2704, -103.7576

Road 16 miles to the lodge.

GPS: 29.4522, -103.3936

432-424-3327 www.texasstateparks.org

FWTX 38A TERLINGUA RANCH LODGE

432-371-2416 www.terlinguaranch.com

FWTX 39 BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK-

432-477-2251 www.nps.gov/bibe

GPS: 29.1679, -103.6106 (trailhead)

and riparian zones. Both areas were flooded in 2008, which reduced

the riparian vegetation. In winter, expected birds include sapsuckers,

Although, perhaps a less productive birding site, the hike down the vary

tanagers, grosbeaks, buntings, and orioles during migration. The rugged

more than any Texas state park. Common to abundant resident birds on

this 300,000+ acre property include Scaled Quail, Greater Roadrunner,

Ranger Station. All roads are caliche or dirt after leaving FM 170.

Road. Go approximately 8 miles and bear right at the Y. Continue another

Brewster County Tourism Council

www.visitbigbend.com

Located .5 miles west of Castolon on the Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive. Along this road in the mesquite woodlands by the campground are the best locations in Texas to find Lucy's Warbler in summer. Listen for their sweet song in the woodland. With patience, it is not difficult to get good looks at this species, whose range in Texas is very limited. Cottonwood Campground is famous for an array of breeding birds that are concentrated

in this one location, attracted by tall cottonwoods. This list includes Gray Hawk, Golden-fronted Woodpecker, Vermilion Flycatcher, Ash-throated and Brown-crested Flycatcher, Tropical, Cassin's and Western Kingbird, Summer Tanager, Blue Grosbeak, Painted Bunting, Orchard, Hooded and Bullock's Oriole, and Lesser Goldfinch. In winter, expected birds include sapsuckers, flycatchers (Dusky, Gray and Ash-throated), gnatcatchers, kinglets, Hermit Thrush, warblers, towhees and sparrows. GPS: 29.1387, -103.5235

FWTX 41 BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK-

ROSS MAXWELL DRIVE As you head out of Castolon, proceed northeast via paved road though

some of the most scenic areas of the park. Along this road are several good birding spots including Sotol Vista, Blue Creek Canyon, and Sam Nail Ranch. Species include Lucifer

Hummingbird, Gray and Black-Capped Vireo, Crissal Thrasher, and Varied Bunting. Sam Nail Ranch contains a working windmill and remnant woodland that is a hot spot for birds especially during migration. It is also just a short walk from the parking area along the highway. This is a good place to go during the hotter times of the day, as bird activity can be quite intense during non-rainy periods. A majority of the species will be vireos, wrens, thrushes, thrashers, warblers, tanagers, towhees, sparrows, grosbeaks, buntings and orioles. GPS: 29.3219, -103.3831 (start of drive as described)

FWTX 42 BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK-

THE CHISOS MOUNTAINS Located 10 miles west and south of Panther Junction in the Chisos

Mountains Basin There are a number of birding locales within the Chisos that vary from

easy to very difficult. The road passes through Green Gulch, tops out near the Lost Mine Trail, and then descends into the Basin. Locate and become familiar with the following venues: Lost Mine Trail, Oak Creek Canyon and the sewer lagoons, Window Trail, Laguna Meadow Trail, Juniper Flat, Pinnacles Trail, Casa Grande Peak, Emory Peak, Boot Canyon and Spring, East Rim and South Rim. One of the most sought-after species in Texas occurs primarily in Boot Canyon: the Colima Warbler. Other montane specialties that occur here include Band-tailed Pigeon, Flammulated Owl, Whip-poor-will, Blue-throated, Magnificent and Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Acorn Woodpecker, Cordilleran Flycatcher, Hutton's Vireo, Mexican Jay, Bushtit, White-breasted Nuthatch, and Painted Redstart.

FWTX 43 BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK-PINE CANYON

GPS: 29.2705, -103.3006 (trailhead)

Heading east from Panther Junction, the adventurous birder may want to include a side trip to Pine Canyon. Turn right on Glenn Springs Road and

then right again on the Pine Canyon Road. This route is definitely a high clearance road and at times requires four-wheel drive. The parking area is in the desert flats and access to the canvon requires a walk of almost 2 miles. Upon entering the canyon, the habitat changes and vegetation grows thicker as you approach the pour off. Components of the woodland

found above here occur in the upper portions of the canyon as well. This location is visited by hardy birders. The habitat found in the canyon is especially productive during migration. Rarities such as Dusky-capped Flycatcher, Sulfur-bellied Flycatcher and Flame-colored Tanager have been found here. Post-breeding Colima Warblers are usually present. GPS: 29.2669, -103.2276 (trailhead)

FWTX 44 BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK-**RIO GRANDE VILLAGE**

20 miles east from Panther Junction headquarters. About one-third of the way, you will find Dugout Wells which is worth a stop.

The campground nature trail has a boardwalk over a spring-fed lagoon. The location is small but the tall trees and water found are irresistible to birds. Look for grebes, herons, egrets, bitterns, night-herons, rails, swallows, Marsh Wren, Common Yellowthroat, and Swamp Sparrow and kingfishers. Carolina Wrens, an eastern species, have taken up residence. Vermilion Flycatchers are easy to observe at the lagoon and in the campground. Several rare to accidental birds have been observed at this location including Ruddy Ground-Dove, Tufted Flycatcher, Piratic Flycatcher, Thick-billed Kingbird, Rufous-backed Robin, Tropical Parula and Black-vented Oriole. In years past, Gray Hawk and Common Black-Hawk have nested along the main road. First to appear in the evening are abundant Lesser Nighthawks, then Common Poor-wills followed by Western Screech-Owl and Elf Owl.

GPS: 29.1810, -102.9572 (campground entrance)

SANDERSON – SHEFFIELD LOOP

Iraan Chamber of Commerce 432-639-2232 www.iraantx.com

432-345-2509 **Terrell County Visitors Center** www.sandersonchamberofcommerce.info

▲ FWTX 45 BI-CENTENNIAL PARK AND

TERRELL COUNTY COURTHOUSE From intersection of Hwy 285 and Hwy 90, go east on Hwy 90 (becomes Oak Street) for .9 miles, turn left at 1st Street for .2 miles. Park is located at 1st and Mansfield Streets.

Contains picnic tables, pavilion, playground, and swimming pool. Bird species include Red-tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Scaled Quail, Whitewinged Dove, Mourning Dove, Greater Roadrunner, hummingbirds, Vermilion Flycatcher, Loggerhead Shrike, Chihuahuan Raven, Rock Wren,

bluebirds, Canyon Towhee, and many others. Large trees attract Barn

Owl, Golden-fronted Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, and Painted Bunting.

▲ FWTX 46 CACTUS CAPITAL HIKING AND NATURE TRAIL

www.co.terrell.tx.us GPS: 30.1439, -102.3951

From intersection of Hwy 285 and Hwy 90, go east of Hwy 90 (becomes Oak Street) for .9 miles, turn left at 1st street for .2 miles. Cactus Capital Trail Kiosk is located at Bicentennial Park.

A moderately challenging 2-mile walking trail leads up to Hominy

and Javelina Hills and offers views of Sanderson and the surrounding area. Bird species include Red-tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Scaled Quail, Mourning Dove, Greater Roadrunner, hummingbirds, Vermilion Flycatcher, Chihuahuan Raven, Cactus Wren, bluebirds, Sage Thrasher, Canyon Towhee, Pyrrhuloxia, and many others year-round. www.co.terrell.tx.us

FWTX 47 CANYONS RV PARK

GPS: 30.1437, -102.3950

From intersection of Hwy 285 and Hwy 90, go east on Hwy 90 (becomes Oak Street) for 1.6 miles. RV park will be on the right.

RV park is open year-round and offers full hook-ups, tent sites, restrooms/showers, cable, wireless internet and laundromat. This site

includes Sanderson Canyon, where lots of bushes and trees attract birds. Doves, finches, cardinals, wrens, robins, woodpeckers, Bobwhite Quail, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Red-winged Blackbird, tanagers, hummingbirds, Blue Quail, and Purple Martin have been observed. www.sandersonchamberofcommerce.info

GPS: 30.1376, -102.3892

FWTX 47A BIRDSONG OUTPOST RANCH From Sanderson, go east on Hwy 90 (becomes Oak Street) for about 20 miles. Turn right (south) on Shafter Crossing Road; go 7.5 miles to the ranch entrance.

This ranch offers thousands of acres in rugged terrain that's fun for hikers, wildlife viewers, mountain bikers, and more. The ranch's live water attracts wildlife of every type creating excellent opportunities for birdwatching and wildlife photography. Common year-round birds include Red-tailed Hawks, Scaled Quail, Cactus and Canyon wren, Blackthroated Sparrow, and Curve-billed Thrasher. Visitors might also have a chance to see mule deer, horned lizards, and bobcat in the surrounding Chihuahuan Desert.

432-345-2750 www.birdsongoutpost.com GPS: 29.9289, -102.0835

FWTX 48 RANCH FOR THE BIRDS

10 miles south of Sheffield on Hwy 349/Davenport Rd. on the east side. Green gate (auto open). Call for better directions.

Deer, javelina, jackrabbit, and porcupine found year-round. Birds are here year round, but fall and spring migration are especially good. Guided tours are available to areas with water and blinds to sit in for close wildlife viewing. Three-bedroom house and meals make it a place where time is for birding. Permission required for entry and visitor must sign liability release. Reservations required; call for prices. Seasonal operation: October 15 through March 15. 432-836-4579

GPS: 30.6146, -101.9249

Fort Stockton Visitor Center

PERMIAN BASIN WEST LOOP

800-336-2166

Monahans Chamber of Commerce 432-943-2187 www.monahans.org

▲ FWTX 49 ROONEY PARK AND HISTORIC **FORT NATIVE GARDEN**

From the intersection of Main St. and Dickinson Blvd. (Bus. I-10) in Fort Stockton, go south on Main St. .3 miles; turn left (east) on 5th St.; go .3 miles to Spring Dr. and turn right; go .2 miles to Fort Native Garden and .1 mile further to enter Rooney Park. Rooney Park is a large park situated on the site of the ancient and

historic Comanche Springs, which flow annually from about December to March. Just across Spring Dr. from the park is the Old Fort (Historic Fort Stockton) with a small native garden for additional viewing. A variety of birds can be seen (favorites are the Burrowing Owl and the Greater Roadrunner) year-round, in addition to wildlife such as mule deer, raccoon, javelina, ringtail cat, coyote, porcupine, and jackrabbit. The sites are in easy walking distance of the historic downtown area of Fort Stockton. Entry fee only for entering fort buildings.

● FWTX 50 IMPERIAL RESERVOIR

GPS: 30.8854, -102.8758

From Monahans take Hwy 18 south about 25 miles and turn left on FM 2593. From Fort Stockton take Hwy 18 north about 30 miles and turn

species of sparrow. Seasonal operation: March 1 through October 1.

right on FM 2593. Large body of water with accessible upland areas around lake. Species associated with the lake include Common Egret, Killdeer, Snowy Plover, other shorebirds and migratory waterfowl. Upland species include Pyrrhuloxia, Lark Bunting, Mourning Dove, Scaled Quail, and several

GPS: 31.2780, -102.8487

▲ FWTX 51 PEARSON PARK From I-20 and South Stockton Hwy in Monahans go north .3 miles. Turn left at 15th St. and go west .2 miles. Turn right at South Gail Ave. and go

Pearson Park in west-central Monahans has hosted a colony of Mississippi Kites over the last three to four years. The Mississippi Kite is a migratory bird that winters in Brazil and Argentina and nests in the southeastern United States and Great Plains. Park is free and maintained by the City of Monahans. Seasonal viewing from mid-March through September. Other species present include Bullock's Oriole, Western

www.cityofmonahans.org GPS: 31.5834, -102.8966

Tanager, Least Flycatcher, and White-winged Dove.

● FWTX 52: MONAHANS SANDHILLS STATE PARK

From I-20 take exit 86 to Park Road 41 Monahans Sandhills State Park represents the only public access in Texas to this distinctive ecological region. The park is rich in both flora and fauna providing a unique experience for birders and other outdoor enthusiasts. Many birds frequent the park year-round and we provide a birding check list for park visitors, which includes over 120 species. The dunes also provide for a great area for observing animal tracks and illustrating just how abundant life is in the sandhills. The avifauna of the park is typical of scrub habitats in the region, highlight include Northern Bobwhite (western edge of the range), Scaled Quail, Burrowing Owl, Common Poorwill, Pyrrhuloxia, and Bullock's Oriole

432-943-2092 www.texasstateparks.org GPS: 31.6168, -102.8115

PERMIAN BASIN EAST LOOP

432-523-2695 Andrews Chamber of Commerce and CVB www.andrewstx.com

800-624-6435 www.VisitMidlandTexas.com

800-780-4678

▲ FWTX 53 ANDREWS BIRD VIEWING AREA 7 miles east of Hwy 385, along SE Ave. E in Andrews or .5 miles south of SH 115/176, along SE Mustang Dr. in Andrews (Corner of SE Ave. E and SE Mustang Dr.).

A .2-mile walking trail meanders to the Andrews Bird Viewing Area

The site is along the North American Migratory route for birds flying from Canada/Central U.S. through the Texas Panhandle to South Texas, Mexico and Central America. Over 30 species of birds have been spotted by bird enthusiasts, including Cattle Egrets, Great Blue Heron, pelicans, Red-wing Blackbirds, and Osprey. Fortunate visitors may also see mule deer, fox, javelina and even a bobcat. RV camping available. www.cityofandrews.org

GPS: 32.3149, -102.5367

Midland CVB

Odessa CVB

www.odessacvb.com

▲ FWTX 54 COMANCHE TRAIL PARK There are two entrances to the park. One is located on West County Rd.

near the intersection of Clements St. and West County Rd., and the other is off of the south service road of I-20, near the intersection of I-20 and Hwy 385. Comanche Trail Park contains a linear asphalt 6-foot-wide walkway

and terminating at the pond near the I-20 entrance to the park.

Approximately half of this trail system is located in undeveloped draw area of park site that provides a natural habitat for birding. Winter offers multi-species flocks of birds from the Rocky Mountains such as the Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Lesser and American Goldfinches. Pine Siskins, Yellow-rumped and Orange-crowned Warblers, and White-crowned Sparrows. Spring migration in the forest is an excellent "migrant trap" for many species of warblers, grosbeaks, tanagers, buntings, and sparrows. Summer nesters and residents include Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Lesser Goldfinch, Curve-billed Thrasher, Cactus

Wren, Painted Bunting, Blue Grosbeak, Black-chinned Hummingbird

and Lark Sparrows. Fall migration brings in the warblers. The first week

in October is also when the monarch butterflies will sometimes gather in

www.odessa-tx.gov/public/parks-recreation GPS: 31.8263, -102.3792

▲ FWTX 55 I-20 WILDLIFE PRESERVE AND JENNA WELCH NATURE STUDY CENTER INC.

huge numbers (thousands) and spend the night in the trees.

From the east on I-20 take Midkiff Rd. exit 134 in Midland. Stay on north service road heading west 1.7 miles. Located between S. Warehouse Rd. and S. Midland Dr. on the north service road of I-20. The I-20 Wildlife Preserve, located in Midland, is 86 acres of urban

playa habitat that is essential to the survival of local bird populations, native wildlife, and thousands of migratory birds. It is located in the West Central Flyway where migrating birds, waterfowl, and butterflies can be seen throughout the year. The 3.4 miles of trails and viewing platforms provide visitors access to enjoy wildlife feeding in the playa. The trails include canopy walks, boardwalks, bridges, bird blinds, photography blinds, hawk tower, and butterfly and hummingbird paths. Developed site is ADA accessible.

866-97-PLAYA www.i20wildlifepreserve.org GPS: 31.9650, -102.1163

▲ FWTX 56 WADLEY BARRON PARK Go north 2.4 miles on US 349 from I-20 and go past downtown

Midland. Turn left on Cuthbert and go .2 miles to A St. Wintering ducks often use the park. Bufflehead, Wigeon, and Shoveler are common. White Pelicans, gulls, and Canada Geese are sometimes present in winter. Groups of robins, bluebirds, and nuthatches can be

found in the park's trees. GPS: 32.0062, -102.0854

Cassin's Sparrow.

▲ FWTX 57 SIBLEY NATURE CENTER AND HOGAN PARK From Loop 250 in Midland take the Old Lamesa Rd. exit. Go south 1 mile

and turn left on Wadley. Go .2 miles and turn left at second entrance to Hogan Park. The Sibley building is on the corner. The trees at the edge of the playa along Sibley's nature trail are a migrant trap both spring and fall. The trees in Hogan Park often have bluebirds and various woodpeckers in winter. Year-round residents include Greater

Roadrunner, Pyrrhuloxia, Cactus Wren, Curve-billed Thrasher, and

Friends of the Monahans Sandhills State Park

www.tpwd.texas.gov/monahanssandhills/

JP and Mary Jon Bryan Foundation

FOUNDATION

Texas Historical Foundation

Visit Big Bend/Brewster County Tourism Council

www.visitbigbend.com

Your complete information resource for Big Bend National Park,

communities and attractions in Brewster County

432-684-6827 www.sibleynaturecenter.org GPS: 32.0326, -102.0707

Project made possible through the generous donations of our sponsors:



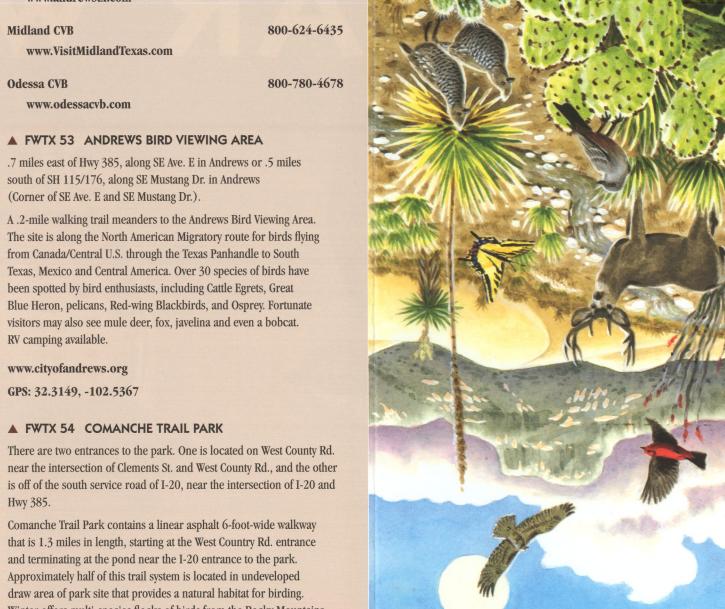
Carlsbad Caverns – Guadalupe Mountains Association www.ccgma.org Providing Interpretation for the Park Visitor and Supporting the Mission and Purposes of the National Park Service



Audubon Society

El Paso/Trans-Pecos Audubon Society

Development Area Texas Master Naturalists



Welcome to the Far West Texas Wildlife Trail! This map was created in partnership with Texas Parks and Wildlife, the Texas Mountain Trail region and the Texas Pecos Trail region of the Texas

Historical Commission's Heritage Trails.

WILDLIFE TRAIL

FAR WEST TEXAS



Texas Parks and Wildlife became the first state to launch a birding trail. Over a

nine-man series of Great Texas Wildlife Trails, giving Texans and visitors over 950

sites in which to recreate outdoors. www.tpwd.texas.gov

decade later, the completion of the Far West Texas Wildlife Trail map concludes the



fosters partnerships among parks, historic sites, museums, small business owners and communities to market the region to travelers, and create lasting experiences for visitors, www.texasmountaintrail.com The Texas Pecos Trail Region develops and promotes quality heritage experiences through partnerships in its 22-county region in Southwest Texas. The unique

culture and heritage of the Texas Pecos Trail Region is preserved for present and

From Big Bend to El Paso's Franklin Mountains, Texas Mountain Trail Region

supports the history, culture and nature tourism resources of Far West Texas. It

www.texaspecostrail.com Founded in 2005, Texas Mountain Trail and the Texas Pecos Trail are regionally based, independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations proudly participating in the Texas Historical Commission's award-winning Texas Heritage Trails Program.

future generations and contributes to the region's economic growth.

TO ORDER MORE MAPS www.tpwd.texas.gov/wildlifetrails





JP and Mary Jon Bryan

beauty, history, and culture of their area and that you appreciate be sure to let the local folks know you are here to enjoy the natural Welcome to the wilder side of Far West Texas! During your visit, foundation for its future. They need and deserve your support. gift shops, and gas stations—champion the Trail and are the campgrounds, restaurants, car rental agencies, airlines, bookstores, service providers—hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts (B&Bs), visit their ranches, parks, and communities. Local goods-andorganizations. The people who live here are inviting you to support of Far West Texas communities, landowners, and This Trail could not have been completed without the continued

The Far West Texas Wildlife Trail is comprised of 10 separate loops habitats for present and future generations. understanding of the importance of conserving wildlife and their the enjoyment of nature, thereby gaining greater appreciation and natural resources of Texas. We want more people to engage in and invite people to experience for themselves the abundant

landowners and communities to conserve habitats upon which the Ultimately, nature tourism leads to conservation by encouraging growing nature-based tourism industry. of wildlife and habitats, and provide a marketing platform for a

communities are there to provide plenty of Texas hospitality. interested in nature, history and culture find lots to do, and local

hnd the best spots to enjoy the outdoor bounty of our state. Texas have been developed to help birders and other wildlife enthusiasts and big sky views, this trail is for you. The wildlife trails of Texas If you like to travel, enjoy wildlife, beautiful scenery, local heritage,

what they are doing to conserve the natural and cultural heritage

developed overnight facilities at each location. access, indicate fees when applicable, and denote the availability of region. Site symbols on the map are shaped and colored to show the map provide easy access to related information for each site and and 57 wildlife viewing sites. The color-coded loops on the back of

industry depends. They provide wildlife-viewers greater opportunity

economic development, build public support for conservation opportunities for the traveling public. The trails promote sustainable and communities to conserve habitats while providing recreational driving trails that provide economic incentives for landowners Texas was the first state in the nation to build wildlife viewing

Texans are known for their hospitality. Along the trails, travelers is known for great birding and wildlife watching opportunities, and

Welcome to the

Fort Davis Chamber of Commerce www.fortdavis.com Fort Davis, Hummingbird Capital of Texas





www.trans-pecos-audubon.org Promoting conservation and appreciation of birds, other wildlife, and their habitats in Far West Texas

El Paso Convention and Visitors Bureau www.visitelpaso.com

Friends of Big Bend National Park

Keystone Heritage Park

www.keystoneheritagepark.org

Midland Convention and Visitors Bureau

www.VisitMidlandTexas.com

Monahans Chamber of Commerce

www.monahans.org

www.nature.org

Trans Pecos Land Surveyors, Inc. United Oil and Grease www.unitedoilandgrease.com

Van Horn Chamber of Commerce

Pecos Valley Resource Conservation Chihuahuan Deser and Development Council Research Institute www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/Programs/rcd/Pecos_Valley.html Chihuahuan Desert Resource

> Conservation & Friends of Rio Bosque Park Llano Estacado Chapter of the **Texas Master Naturalists** Tierra Grande Chapter,

Far West Texas Wildlife Trail!