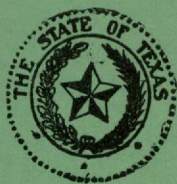


# GAME, FISH AND OYSTER LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF TEXAS



TEXAS STATE LIBRARY

Austin, Texas  
PUBLISHED BY

GAME, FISH AND OYSTER COMMISSION

AUSTIN, TEXAS



SEPTEMBER 1, 1931



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# GAME, FISH AND OYSTER LAWS

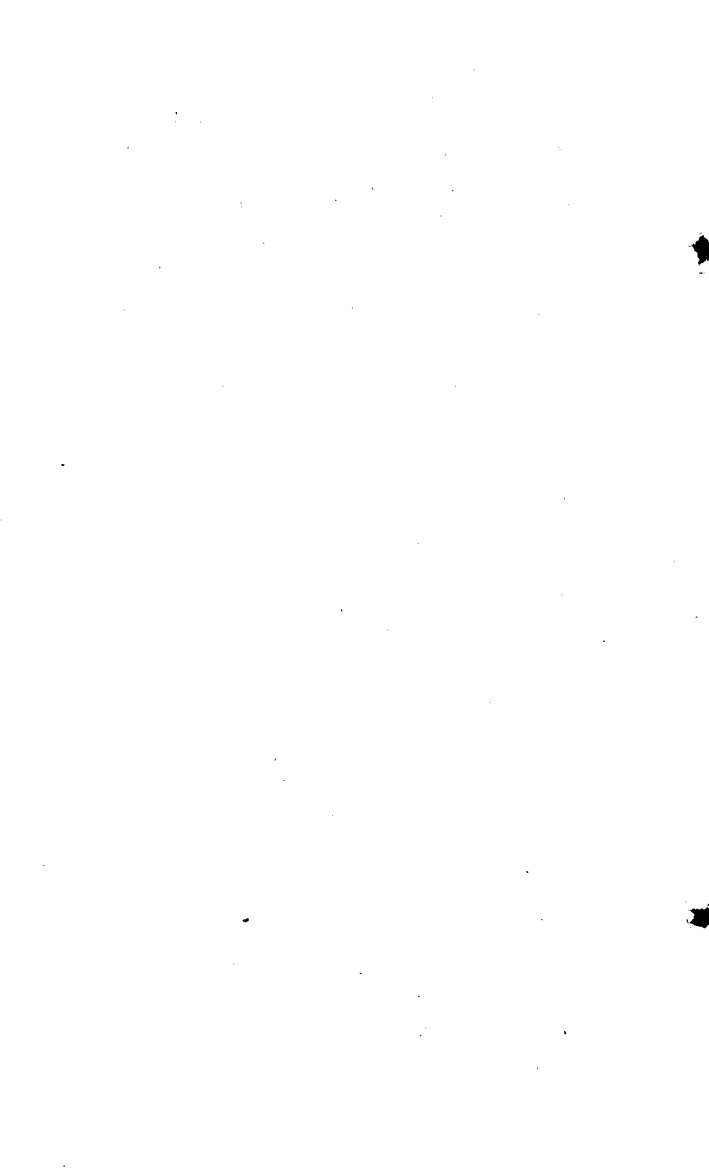
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## CONTENTS

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	Page
PART ONE	
Game Laws .....	6
PART TWO	
Fur-bearing Animal Laws.....	47
PART THREE	
Fish, Shrimp and Oyster Laws.....	58
PART THREE-A	
Special Fish Laws.....	97
PART FOUR	
Artificial Lure Laws.....	121
PART FIVE	
Pollution Laws .....	134
PART SIX	
Sand, Shell and Gravel Laws.....	138
PART SEVEN	
The Commission, Powers, Duties, Misc.	144

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE

**Sec. 7ab. Rails and Plovers.**—There shall be an open season, or period of time, when it shall be lawful to hunt, take or kill wild rail (other than coot or gallinules), wild black-bellied plover and wild golden plover, and yellow legs, during the months of September and October of each year, in both the North and South Zones. (Ch. 215, p. 316, Acts Reg. Ses. 40th Leg.) (Note.—Plover season closed under Federal law.

**Sec. 7ga. Squirrel General Law.**—There shall be an open season, or period of time, when it shall be lawful to hunt, take or kill wild red or fox squirrels and gray squirrels, in both the North and South Zones, in the months of May, June and July, and in the months of October, November and December of each year; provided, however, that nothing in this chapter shall prevent the keeping of squirrels in cages as domestic pets; and provided further, that it shall not be unlawful to kill squirrels in the following counties at any time, to-wit: DeWitt, Caldwell, Guadalupe, San Saba, Mason, Gillespie, Llano, Kimble, Menard, Comal, McCulloch, Brown, Kerr, Burnet, Mills, Schleicher, Edwards, Gonzales, Austin, Real, Kendall, Victoria, Medina, Uvalde, Jackson, Wharton, Bandera, Lavaca, Fayette, Colorado, Callahan, Stephens, Eastland, Bastrop, Travis, Dimmit, Zavala, Blanco, Lampasas, Hamilton, Coryell, Matagorda, Brazoria, Washington, Throckmorton, Karnes, Wilson, Comanche, Hays, Goliad, Erath, Bosque, Hill, Waller, Tarrant, Wise, Cooke, Montague and Fort Bend. (H. B. 248, Ch. 52, page 108, Acts Reg. Ses. 41st Leg.)

Sec. 56, page 49, should read as follows:

**Sec. 56. Trapper Defined and License Required, Tenant Farmer and Land Owner.**—Any person over the age of seventeen (17) years who takes or attempts to take the pelt or pelts of any of the fur-bearing animals of this State for the purpose of barter or

sale, except persons who take the pelt or pelts of fur-bearing animals from their own land, or land on which such person resides, before doing so, shall procure a trapper's license. If the trapper has been a resident of this State for twelve (12) months before applying for such license, he shall pay for such license the sum of one dollar and ten cents (\$1.10), ten (10c) cents of which shall be retained by the officer issuing the license. If he has not been a resident of this State for twelve (12) months prior to applying for such license, he shall pay for a non-resident trapper's license the sum of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars. Such license shall be issued by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission and shall be available on and after September 1st of each year, and shall expire August 31st of the following year. All trapper's licenses shall have blanks for the name of the trapper, his place of residence, age, height, weight, color of eyes and color of hair. (H. B. 625, Ch. 109, Acts Reg. Ses. 42nd Leg.)

**Cottle County Trapping Season.**—Provided, that the open season for taking pelts of fur-bearing animals in Cottle County shall be during the months of December, January and until the 15th day of February of each year, except muskrats, the open season for which shall be from the 15th day of November to the 1st day of April, both days inclusive. (S. B. 469, Chap. 201, p. 416, Acts Reg. Ses. 42nd Leg., Special Laws.) For penalty of violations of this law, see Section 66, page 53.

**NOTE.**—Section 52d, page 46, is void; see Section 7ca, page 9, for correct law governing turkey season in certain East Texas counties.



# PART ONE

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## GAME LAWS

**Section 1. Property of the State.**—All wild animals, wild birds and wild fowl within the borders of this State are hereby declared to be the property of the people of this State. ('25 P. C., Art. 871a.)

**Sec. 2. Game Birds Defined.**—Wild turkey, wild ducks of all varieties, wild geese of all varieties, wild brant, wild grouse, wild prairie chickens or pinnated grouse, wild pheasants of all varieties, wild partridges, wild quail of all varieties, wild pigeons of all varieties, wild mourning doves, wild white-winged doves, wild snipe of all varieties, wild shore-birds of all varieties, wild Mexican pheasants or chacalacas and wild plover of all varieties are hereby declared to be game birds within the meaning of this act. ('25 P. C., Art. 872.)

**Sec. 3. Non-Game Birds.**—It shall be unlawful for any person in this State to kill, catch, wound, take, shoot at, or have in possession, living or dead any wild bird other than a game bird. Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be fined in a sum of not less than ten (\$10) dollars, nor more than two hundred (\$200) dollars. ('25 P. C., Art. 874.)

**Sec. 4. Unprotected Birds.**—English sparrows, crows, ravens, vultures or buzzards, "ricebirds" identified as harmful, blackbirds, pelicans, road-runners, goshawk, copper-hawk or blue-darter, sharp-shinned hawk, duck hawk, jay birds, sapsuckers, woodpeckers, butcher birds or shrike and the great horned owl are not included among the birds protected by this section (Sec. 3); and, provided, further, that nothing in this section (Sec. 3) shall prevent the purchase and sale of canaries and parrots, or the keeping of same in cages as domestic pets. ('25 P. C., Art. 875.)

**Sec. 5. Game Animals Defined.**—Wild deer, wild elk, wild antelope, wild Rocky Mountain sheep, wild black bear, and wild gray and red squirrels, cat squirrels, or fox squirrels are hereby declared to be game animals within the meaning of this Act. ('25 P. C., Art. 892.)

**Sec. 6. Division Into Zones.**—In order to divide the State for the purpose of better regulating the open and closed seasons for hunting of wild game birds and wild game animals of this State, a line beginning on the Rio Grande river directly west of the town of Del Rio, Texas; thence east to the town of Del Rio; thence easterly following the center of the main track of the Southern Pacific Railroad through the town of Spofford, Uvalde, Hondo; thence to the point where the Southern Pacific Railroad crosses the I. & G. N. R. R. at or near San Antonio; thence following the center of the track of said I. & G. N. R. R. in an easterly direction, to the point in the City of Austin, where it joins Congress Avenue, near the I. & G. N. R. R. depot; thence across said Congress Avenue to the center of the main track of the H. & T. C. R. R., where said track joins said Congress Avenue, at or near the H. & T. C. R. R. depot; thence following the center line of the track of said H. & T. C. R. R. in an easterly direction through the towns of Elgin, Giddings, and Brenham, to the point where said railroad crosses the Brazos river; thence with the center of said Brazos river in a general northerly direction, to the point on said river where the Beaumont branch of the Santa Fe Railway crosses the same; thence with the center of the track of the said G. C. & S. F. R. R. in an easterly direction through the towns of Navasota, Montgomery and Conroe to the point at or near Cleveland, where said G. C. & S. F. R. R. crosses the Houston, East & West Texas Railroad; thence with the center of said H. E. & W. T. R. R. track to the point in said line, where it strikes the Louisiana line. All that portion of the State lying North or northerly shall be known as the North Zone and all that portion of the State lying south or southerly of said line

shall be known as the South Zone. ('25 P. C., Art. 878; amended by ch. 222, p. 326, Acts 40th Leg.)

Sec. 7. **Open Seasons.**—There shall be an open season or period of time when it shall be lawful to hunt, take or kill wild Mourning doves in the North Zone during the months of September and October; in the South Zone during the months of October and November, as such zones are defined in Article 878 of the Penal Code of the State of Texas, as amended in Chapter 222, page 326 of the 40th Legislature, Regular Session. All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this Act shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

It shall be unlawful to hunt, take or kill any wild Mourning doves at any time except as provided in Section 1 of this Act.

Any person who shall hunt, take or kill any wild Mourning doves at any time except as provided in Section 1 of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars, and each bird so taken or killed shall constitute a separate offense. (H. B. 68, Acts 4 C. S. 41st Leg.)

Sec. 7a. For the purposes of this Act a line beginning in the center of the main track of the Texas-Mexican Railway at the international boundary line between the United States and the Republic of Mexico, where said Texas-Mexican Railway crosses the international bridge between the United States and the Republic of Mexico at Laredo, Texas; thence, along the center of the main track of the Texas-Mexican Railway to the center of the main track opposite the passenger station served by the Texas-Mexican Railway in the City of Corpus Christi, Texas; thence, due east from said passenger station to the Gulf of Mexico; shall be the division line for the two zones hereby created for the purposes of this Act only. All that territory within the State of Texas lying north or northerly of said division line shall be known as the North White Wing Zone, and all that territory within the State of Texas lying south or southerly

of said division line shall be known as the South White Wing Zone.

Sec. 2. Amend Article 879a of Chapter 74 of the General and Special Laws of the Regular Session of the 41st Legislature, so as to hereafter read as follows:

“Article 879a. There shall be an open season, or period of time when it shall be lawful to hunt, take or kill wild white winged doves in the North White Wing Zone, August 8th to October 31st of each year, both days inclusive; in the South White Winged Zone, August 20th to October 31st of each year, both days inclusive.” (H. B. No. 480, Regular Session, 42nd Legislature.)

Sec. 7aa. There shall be an open season, or period of time, when it shall be lawful to hunt, take or kill wild quail of all kinds, and wild Mexican pheasants or chachalaca in both the North and South zones from December 1st to the following January 16th, both days inclusive. (Ch. 215, p. 316, Acts 40th Leg.)

Sec. 7b. “Article 879e. There shall be an open season, or period of time, when it shall be lawful to hunt, take or kill wild ducks of all kinds (except wild wood ducks), wild geese, wild brant, wild snipe of all kinds (except Ross’ geese and cackling geese), wild gallinules and wild coot or mudhen, in the North Zone from 12:00 o’clock noon October 16th, to the following January 15th, inclusive; in the South Zone from 12:00 o’clock noon, November 1st to the following January 15th inclusive.” (H. B. 1022, Acts Reg., 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 7ba. From and after the passage of this Act, it shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, shoot, or kill any quail in Falls and Johnson Counties, from and including January 1st of any year through November 30th of the same year. Any person violating any provision of this Act shall upon conviction be fined in any sum not exceeding Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars. (H. B. 32, Acts 1st C. S., 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 7bb. That hereafter, for a period of three (3) years from and after the passage of this Act, it shall unlawful to kill or capture or take possession of any quail, doves or pheasants in Howard County, Texas.

Anyone violating the provisions of this Act shall upon conviction in a court of competent jurisdiction be fined not less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), or more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), or imprisoned in jail for not more than ninety (90) days or by both such fine and imprisonment. (H. B. 469, Acts Reg. Sess., 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 7bc. It shall be unlawful to take or kill any wild quail or any specie in the county of Borden for a period of five years from and after the passage of this act.

Any person violating any provision of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by fine not to exceed Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars.

The possession of any quail by any person in said county during said five-year period, or the possession of any dead wild quail in said county during said period, shall be prima facie evidence of the unlawful taking or killing of such quail. (H. B. 693, Acts Reg. Sess., 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 7c. There shall be an open season, or period of time, when it shall be lawful to hunt, take or kill wild turkey gobblers, in both the North and South zones, November 16th to the following December 31st, both days inclusive; provided, however, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to hunt, take or kill turkey for a period of five years, from and after November 15, 1929, in any of the following counties: Callahan, Eastland, Stephens, Palo Pinto and Shackelford. (H. B. 204, Acts 2d C. S., 41st Leg.)

Sec. 7ca. The open season for killing wild turkeys in any county composing the third, fifth, and fourteenth Senatorial Districts, and in counties having a population of over three hundred fifty thousand

(350,000), (Harris county) according to the 1930 Federal Census, or any other census taken hereafter, shall be during the months of March and April. Whoever kills a wild turkey in any of said counties at any time other than during said open season, or whoever kills, in any of said counties, any wild turkey hen, or more than three wild turkey gobblers during any one year, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) dollars nor more than one hundred (\$100) dollars. Each turkey killed in violation of this Act shall be a separate offense. (S. B. 507, Acts Reg. Ses., 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 7cb. From and after the passage of this Act for a period of five years it shall be unlawful for any person to hunt or kill any wild turkey or wild deer in Panola county, Texas.

Any person violating any provision of this Act shall be fined in any sum not exceeding two hundred (\$200) Dollars. (H. B. 736, Acts Reg. Ses., 42nd Leg.)

Sec: 7d. It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, shoot or kill any wild duck, wild geese, wild brant, or any other wild waterfowl from and after 12 o'clock noon each day, until thirty minutes before sunrise of the following day within Harrison and Marion counties. This Act shall apply to those portions of Caddo Lake which lie within the boundary lines of the counties of Harrison and Marion, and anywhere else within the boundary of said counties where the fowls enumerated herein may be found. Any person violating any provision of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than ten (\$10) dollars, nor more than one hundred (\$100) dollars, and each bird or fowl taken, hunted, or killed in violation of this Act, shall constitute a separate offense. (H. B. 851, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Legislature.)

FEDERAL LAW PERMITS KILLING DUCKS, GEESE, BRANT AND COOT IN BOTH THE NORTH AND SOUTH ZONES IN TEXAS FROM NOVEMBER 16TH TO DECEMBER 15TH. OTHER WATER-

FOWLS ARE GOVERNED BY OPEN SEASONS  
ENUMERATED IN PARAGRAPHS ABOVE.

Sec. 7f. It shall be unlawful for any person to take, capture, kill or possess, or to attempt to take, capture or kill any prairie chicken or pinnated grouse at any time other than the open season provided therefor; provided that game lawfully taken during the open season may be held in possession for ten days after the close of the open season.

The open season for prairie chicken or pinnated grouse shall be from the first day of September to the fourth day of September of each year, both days inclusive; provided that there shall be no open season on wild prairie chicken in Collingsworth and Wheeler counties. (H. B. 278, Acts Reg. Ses., 42nd Leg.)

It shall be unlawful to take, kill or have in possession more than ten prairie chickens or pinnated grouse in any one day or during the open season of each year.

Any person violating any provision of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be fined in any sum not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars, and each bird killed or possessed in violation of this Act shall create a separate offense. (Ch. 209, p. 450, Acts 41st Leg.)

Sec. 7fa. From and after the passage of this Act it shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, shoot or kill any prairie chicken or pinnated grouse, within the counties of BRAZORIA and MATA-GORDA, or either of them, for the period of five (5) years from and after the passage of this Act.

Any person violating the provisions of Section 1 hereof, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Five (5) nor more than Twenty-five (25) Dollars. (H. B. 66, Acts 2nd C. S. 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 7g. There shall be an open season, or period of time, when it shall be lawful to hunt, take or kill wild buck deer, wild bear, in both the North and South Zones, November 16th to December 31st of each year, both days inclusive; provided, however, it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to hunt, take or kill wild deer for a period of five years, from and after November 15, 1929, in any of the following counties: Callahan, Eastland, Stephens, Palo Pinto and Shackelford. (H. B. 204, 2nd C. S. 41st Leg.)

It shall hereafter be unlawful for any person to hunt, trap, ensnare or kill any wild deer, buck, doe or fawn within the limits of Bastrop County, State of Texas, for a period of five years from and after the passage of this Act. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon a conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (Ch. 191, p. 410, Acts 41st Leg.)

That for five years from and after the passage of this Act, it shall be unlawful for any person to shoot at, or kill any wild deer in Hemphill, Roberts or Hutchinson Counties. That whosoever shall violate the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars and not more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars, provided each deer so shot shall constitute a separate offense. (Ch. 242, p. 506, Acts 41st Leg.)

That for five years from and after the passage of this Act, it shall be unlawful for any person to shoot at, or kill, any wild deer in Parker or Palo Pinto Counties. That whosoever shall violate the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars and not more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars,



provided each deer so shot shall constitute a separate offense. (Ch. 243, p. 507, Acts 41st Leg.)

**Coryell and Hamilton Counties.**—From and after the passage of this Act, it shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, take or shoot any wild deer in Coryell or Hamilton Counties for a period of five (5) years. Any person violating any provision of this Act shall be fined in any sum not exceeding Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (H. B. 898, Acts Reg. Ses., 42 Leg.)

**Harris County.**—That it shall be unlawful to hunt, run, take, or kill any wild deer with dogs in Harris County. That this Act shall be cumulative of all other laws with respect to the wild game mentioned herein except where this Act is inconsistent with existing law, in which case the provisions of this Act shall control. Any person violating any provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by fine of not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than One Thousand (\$1000) Dollars. (H. B. 437, Acts Reg. Ses. 42 Leg.)

**Black Tail Deer.**—Hereafter it shall be unlawful to hunt, take or kill any Black Tail Deer in any part of this State west of the Pecos River, except during the period from the sixteenth to the thirtieth day of November, inclusive, of each year, and in said territory during said open season it shall be unlawful to hunt, take or kill any such deer unless it be a buck, with pronged horn, and it shall be unlawful to kill more than one such pronged horn buck during any one open season in said territory. Any person violating any provision of this Act shall be subject to fine of not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (Ch. 95, p. 230, Acts 41st Leg.)

**DEER: Jasper, Newton and Orange Counties.**—It shall be lawful for any person to hunt wild deer with one dog in the counties of Jasper, Newton and Orange Counties, Texas, during the open season of each year for a period of five (5) years

after the passage of this Act. (H. B. 1060, Act Reg. Ses. 42nd Leg.)

**Deer and Turkeys, Limestone County.**—It shall hereafter be unlawful for any person to hunt, trap, ensnare or kill any wild buck deer or any wild turkey or either of them within the limits of Limestone County, Texas, for a period of Five (5) years from and after the passage of this Act. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (H. B. 1056, Acts Reg. Ses. 42nd Leg.)

**Deer and Turkeys Closed in Certain Counties.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, trap, ensnare, kill, or attempt to kill, by any means whatsoever, any wild deer, buck, doe, fawn, or wild turkey in the Counties of Marion, Harrison, Red River, Cass, Bowie, Morris, Lamar, Camp, Titus, and Upshur, in the State of Texas, for a period of five (5) years from and after the passage of this Act.

Any person violating the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall, upon conviction, be fined in any sum of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500), and shall forfeit his right and license to hunt with a gun in this State for a period of one year following the date of his conviction. (H. B. 30, Acts 1st C. S., 42nd Leg.)

**Deer in Liberty and Hardin Counties.**—It shall be lawful for any person to hunt wounded wild deer with one dog in the counties of LIBERTY and HARDIN, Texas, during the open season of each year for a period of five (5) years after the passage of this Act. (H. B. No. 39, Acts 2nd C. S., 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 7h. It shall be unlawful for any person to take or kill more than ten (10) squirrels in any one day or to have in possession at any time more

than twenty (20) squirrels; provided, however, that the terms and provisions of this Act shall not apply to the following counties: Aransas, Atascosa, Austin, Bandera, Bastrop, Bee, Blanco, Brown, Bosque, Brazoria, Burnet, Caldwell, Calhoun, Callahan, Chambers, Colorado, Cooke, Coryell, Comanche, Comal, Concho, Delta, DeWitt, Dimmit, Eastland, Edwards, Erath, Fayette, Fort Bend, Franklin, Galveston, Gillespie, Goliad, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hays, Hamilton, Hill, Hopkins, Jackson, Karnes, Kerr, Kendall, Kimble, Lamar, Lampasas, Lavaca, Live Oak, Llano, Mason, Matagorda, McCulloch, Menard, Medina, Mills, Montague, Real, Red River, Refugio, San Patricio, San Saba, Schleicher, Stephens, Tarrant, Throckmorton, Travis, Uvalde, Victoria, Waller, Washington, Wharton, Wilson, Wise, Zavala. (H. B. 748, Acts Reg, Ses., 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 7i. It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, take or kill squirrel, except during the months of May, June, July, October, November and December of any year in the following named counties: Colorado, San Patricio, Titus, Morris, Smith, Walker, San Jacinto, Waller, Fort Bend, Rusk, Matagorda, Brazoria, Bowie, Cherokee and Austin.

Any person who shall hunt, take or kill any squirrel in violation of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than Fifty (\$50) Dollars. (H. B. 111, Acts Reg. Ses. 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 7j. It shall be lawful to take, hunt or kill squirrels in Panola County, Texas, during the months of November, December and July of each year. The remaining months of each year shall be a closed season on squirrels in Panola County during which time it shall be unlawful to take, hunt or kill squirrels. Any one violating any provision of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction fined in any sum not exceeding Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (H. B. 907, Acts Reg. Ses. 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 7k. There shall be an open season, or period of time, when it shall be lawful to hunt, take or kill wild red or fox squirrels and wild gray squirrels in the months of May, June and July, and the months of October, November and December of each year in Wood County, Texas; provided, it shall be unlawful for any person to take or kill more than six (6) squirrels in any one day during the said open seasons, and unlawful to take or kill more than twenty (20) squirrels in any week of seven days, and it shall be unlawful to take or kill squirrels in said Wood County except during the open seasons as herein defined. Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars. (H. B. 15, Acts 1st C. S. 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 7l. It shall not be unlawful hereafter for any person to take or kill any squirrels during any time of the year in Parker and Young Counties. (S. B. 557, Acts Reg. Ses. 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 8. **Bag Limit.**—It shall be unlawful to take kill or possess any birds or animals in greater number than the daily, weekly or seasonal bag limit or number of such game birds and game animals permitted to be killed or taken, such bag limits to be as follows:

Wild mourning doves and white-winged doves, fifteen in any one day, and not more than forty-five in any one week of seven days.

Wild quail of all kinds, and wild Mexican pheasant or chachalaca, twelve in any one day, and not more than thirty-six in any one week of seven days, and all kinds and varieties of these shall be considered in making up the limit of twelve.

Sec. 8a. From and after the passage of this Act, it shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, shoot, or kill any quail in Falls and Johnson Counties, from and including January 1st of any year through November 30th of the same year. Any person

violating any provision of this Act shall upon conviction be fined in any sum not exceeding Two Hundred Dollars (\$200). (H. B. 32, Acts 1st C. S. 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 8b. H. B. 37, Acts 1st Called Session, 42nd Legislature, repeals outright H. B. 943, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Legislature, thereby making Quail Season in ATASCOSA county come under General Law. (See Section 7.)

Wild turkey gobblers, three during the open season of any one year, as herein provided.

Wild snipe of all kinds, wild black-bellied plover, wild yellow-legs, wild gallinule, or Indian hen, and wild coot or mud hen, twenty-five in any one day, and not more than fifty in any one week of seven days; provided, that all kinds and varieties of game birds mentioned in this section shall be considered in making up the daily limit of twenty-five or weekly bag limit of fifty.

Wild ducks of all kinds, fifteen in any one day or have in possession not more than thirty at any time. (S. B. 88, Acts 4 C. S. 41st Leg.)

Wild geese and brant of all kinds four in any one day or to have in possession not more than eight at any one time.

Wild buck deer two during the open season of any one year, as provided in this chapter.

Wild Bear, one during the open season of any one year, as provided in this chapter.

Wild squirrel, ten in any one day. ('25 P. C., Art. 881.)

It shall be unlawful to take, kill or have in possession more than ten prairie chicken or pinnated grouse in any one day or during the open season of each year. Any person violating any provision of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be fined in any sum not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars, and

each bird killed or possessed in violation of this Act shall create a separate offense. (Ch. 209, p. 450, Acts 41st Leg.)

Sec. 9. **Special Bag Limits.**—Hereafter it shall be unlawful to hunt, take or kill any Black Tail Deer in any part of this State west of the Pecos River, except during the period from the sixteenth to the thirtieth day of November, inclusive, of each year, and in said territory during said open season it shall be unlawful to hunt, take or kill any such deer unless it be a buck, with pronged horn, and it shall be unlawful to kill more than one such pronged horn buck during any one open season in said territory. Any person violating any provision of this Act shall be subject to fine of not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (Ch. 95, p. 230, Acts 41st Leg.)

Sec. 9a. That from and after the taking effect of this Act, the open season for killing quail of all kinds in Wood County shall be from the 1st day of December to the 16th day of January of each year, both said days included; provided, it shall be unlawful to take, kill, or possess more than twelve wild quail of any kind in one day nor more than thirty-six in any one week of seven days.

That the open season for killing doves in Wood County from and after the taking effect of this Act shall be the months of September and October of each year, and the bag limit shall be not more than ten for any one day nor more than forty for any one week of seven days.

That it shall be unlawful to take, kill, or possess wild quail of any kind or any mourning doves except as provided in Sections 1 and 2 of this Act, and any person so offending shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction fined not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars nor more than Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars.

From and after the taking effect of this Act, it shall be unlawful to hunt, run, take, kill, or cripp-

ple any deer or wild turkey in Wood County for the period of five years, and any person guilty of violating this provision shall upon conviction be fined in any sum not less than Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars, or by confinement in the county jail for not exceeding twenty days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

From and after the taking effect of this Act it shall be unlawful for any transient person, or any person who is not a bona fide resident citizen of the county, to hunt, or take, or trap by means of any snare, deadfall, or steel trap, or by any other means, any fur-bearing animal or animals in Wood County, and any person violating this provision shall be guilty of misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not exceeding Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars.

All peace officers of Wood county shall enforce the provisions of this Act to the fullest extent of their ability to do so, and wilful neglect in the enforcement hereof shall subject said peace officers to the pains and penalties prescribed by statute for neglect of official duty. (H. B. 776, Acts Reg. Ses., 42nd Leg.)

**Sec. 10. Bag Limit Penalty.**—Any person killing or taking more than the daily, weekly or seasonal bag limits as set forth in this Chapter; or any person killing, taking, hunting, wounding, or shooting at any game bird or game animal at any other time of the year, except during the open season, as provided for in this chapter, or any person killing, taking, capturing, wounding or shooting at any game bird or game animal for which no open season is provided by this chapter, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum of not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars; and each game bird or game animal unlawfully taken shall constitute a separate offense. ('25 P. C., Art. 873.)

**Commission Note.**—The above penalty applies where no other penalty has been provided.

**Sec. 11. Possession of Wild Game.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to have in possession at any one time more than forty-five wild doves, or pheasant or chachalaca; or to have in possession at any one time more than fifty water fowl; shorebirds, and other game birds, all kinds and varieties being considered in making up the one total of fifty; provided, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to transportation companies which have in their possession, for the purpose of transportation, such wild birds, where the provisions of this chapter with reference to shipment of game have been complied with; nor shall the provisions of this chapter apply to owners, agents, managers or receivers of cold storage plants which receive wild game for storage; provided, however, that it shall be unlawful for the owner, agent, manager or receiver of such cold storage plant to receive or have in possession at any one time for himself or any one person more than the limits of the wild game birds as provided in this article.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum of not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. The possession of each bird or fowl over the number designated herein, shall be deemed a separate offense. ('25 P. C., Art. 876.)

**Sec. 12. Closed Season Defined.**—The term "Closed Season" shall, for the purpose of enforcement of the game laws of this State, mean the period of time during which it is unlawful to hunt, kill, attempt to kill, or take any of the game animals, wild fowl, or birds enumerated in this chapter; and the term "Open Season" shall mean the period of time in which it is lawful to hunt, kill, or take certain game, game ani-



mals, wild fowl, and birds set forth in this chapter. ('25 P. C., Art. 882.)

**Sec. 13. Five-Year Closed Season.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, kill, or take, or to have in possession, within a period of five years from the passage of this Act, any wild woodcock, wild wood duck, wild sandhill crane, or whooping crane, wild inca and ground dove, or wild pheasant, except as hereinafter provided. Any person violating any provision of this Section, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, and each bird killed or possessed in violation of this Article shall constitute a separate offense. ('25 P. C., Art. 883.)

**Sec. 14. Sale of Game Prohibited.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to sell or offer for sale, or to buy or offer to buy, or to have in possession for sale, or to have in possession after purchase has been made (either by himself or by another), any wild bird, wild fowl, wild game bird, or wild game animal, dead or alive, or any part thereof, protected by this chapter, except as hereinafter provided. This article, and all other articles in this chapter, shall apply to any bird or animal coming from without this State; and in prosecutions for violations of this chapter it shall be no defense that such bird or animal was not taken or killed within this State.

It shall be further unlawful to bring into this State, for any purpose whatever, during the closed season or time when it is unlawful to possess such bird or animal, either alive or dead, any kind of bird or animal protected by this chapter, except as hereinafter provided. ('25 P. C., Art. 884.)

**Sec. 15. Bringing Game Into This State.**—Any person violating any of the provisions of Article 884 (Sec. 14) shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in

any sum of not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars; nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars and the bringing in of each separate bird or animal protected by this chapter in violation of this article shall constitute a separate offense. Provided, that any person who shall buy any game bird or game animal, the sale of which is prohibited by this chapter, for the purpose of establishing testimony, shall not be prosecuted for such purchase, and a conviction may be had upon the uncorroborated testimony of such purchaser. ('25 P. C., Art. 885.)

**Sec. 16. Turkey Hens.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to take, kill, wound, shoot at, hunt or possess, dead, or alive, any wild turkey hen at any season of the year except as hereinafter provided.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, shall be fined in any sum not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. ('25 P. C., Art. 877.)

**Sec. 17. Use of Dog.**—It is hereby declared unlawful for any person or persons to make use of a dog or dogs in the hunting or pursuing or taking of any deer. Any person or persons owning or controlling any dog or dogs, and who permits or allows such dog or dogs to run, trail or pursue any deer at any time, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum of not less than Twenty-five (\$25.00) Dollars and not more than Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars; provided, however, that this article shall not apply to the counties of Matagorda, Wharton, Jackson and Fort Bend. And, provided, further, that it shall be lawful to use one dog for the purpose of trailing a wounded deer in the counties of Kimble, Sutton, Edwards, Medina, Dimmit, Uvalde, Zavala, Kerr, Mason, Gillespie, Tom Green, Shackelford, San Saba, Llano, Blanco, Burnet, Bandera, Comal, Real, Kendall, Wharton, Schleicher, Crock-

ett, Guadalupe, Jackson, Wilson, Concho, Karnes, Jones, Atascosa, Baylor, Bexar, Brewster, Caldwell, Denton, DeWitt, Frio, Gonzales, Haskell, Hays, Hidalgo, Jack, Kaufman. (S. B. 111, Acts Reg. Ses., 42nd Leg.)

**Sec. 18. Unlawful Gun.**—It shall be unlawful to hunt, kill, or take any wild duck, goose, or brant, by any means other than the ordinary gun, not to exceed ten-gauge, capable of being held to and shot from the shoulder. Any person violating any provision of this Article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, and each bird or fowl taken or killed in violation of this Article shall constitute a separate offense. ('25 P. C., Art. 886.)

**Sec. 19. Hunting at Night.**—It shall be unlawful to kill, hunt, or shoot at any wild bird, wild game bird, wild fowl or wild game animal protected by this chapter at any season of the year, between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise in any county in this State. Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, and each bird or animal so killed shall constitute a separate offense. ('25 P. C., Art. 887.)

**Sec. 20. Protecting Against Depredation of Wild Fowl or Animals.**—Whenever any wild birds, wild fowl, or wild animals, protected under the provisions of this chapter, are destroying crops or domestic animals, the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner is hereby authorized to permit the killing of such wild birds or wild animals, without regard to the open or closed season, bag limit, or night shooting; but, before such permission shall be granted, the Commissioner aforesaid, shall be furnished with a statement

of facts, sworn to by persons whose property is being injured, with the endorsement of the county judge of the county in which the crops are being destroyed or domestic animals being injured or killed, to the effect that the sworn statement is true, and that such crops or domestic animals can only be preserved by the granting of such permit. Such permit when issued shall distinctly state the time for which it is granted, the area which it covers and a designation of the person or persons permitted to kill the noxious birds and animals named in such permit.

Such permit shall not authorize the killing of migratory birds protected by the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act, unless the applicant shall first procure a permit from the United States Department of Agriculture, in compliance with the regulations of such Migratory Bird Treaty Act. ('25 P. C., Art. 888.)

**Sec. 20a. Taking Game Bird by Net or Trap.**—Whoever sets a net or trap or other device for taking any bird mentioned in Article 872 (Sec. 2), or who snares or takes by such devices any such bird, without first obtaining from the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner a permit in writing so to do, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. ('25 P. C., Art. 888a.)

**Sec. 21. Specimens for Taxidermist.**—Any person shall have the right to ship or carry to and from a taxidermist or tannery, for mounting or preserving purposes or to his home, any specimen or part of specimen of the wild birds or wild animals of this State, where same have been lawfully taken or killed by such person, and when such specimens or parts of specimens are not for sale, but before making shipment as herein provided, such person shall first make the following affidavit in writing before some officer authorized to administer oaths, and deliver same to the common carrier transporting same, or its agent:

STATE OF TEXAS

County of.....

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared....., who after being duly sworn, upon oath says: I live at....., in the County of....., State of.....; that I have personally killed....., which I desire to ship from..... to..... County, to....., State of....., which I have lawfully killed for my own use and not for sale, and which shall not be bartered or sold; that I have not killed during the present hunting season more than the bag limit, as provided by law, of any of the wild game birds, wild fowl, or wild animals.

Signature.....

Sworn to and subscribed before me this..... day of....., A. D. 19....

Office held.....

The affidavit thus prepared by the affiant shall be attached to the shipment, and shall not be removed during the period of transportation. If such game is carried by the person killing same, it shall not be necessary to attach the affidavit herein set forth. ('25 P. C., Art. 889.)

Sec. 22. **Penalty.**—Any person who so ships any game from any place within this State, without making the foregoing affidavit, or any agent of any express company or other common carrier who receives any shipment without it being accompanied by such affidavit and list attached; or any auditor or conductor or other person in charge of any railroad train, who knowingly permits any person to carry any wild birds, wild fowl or wild animals without such affidavit being made, as herein provided, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum of not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars.

All express agents, conductors, and auditors of trains, captains of boats, and the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner and his deputies are hereby empowered to administer oaths necessary to the shipment of game, and for administering such oaths they are hereby authorized to collect the sum of Twenty-five (25c) Cents from the person making such oaths.

**Sec. 23. Destroying Nests or Eggs of Birds.—**It shall be unlawful for any person to destroy or take the nest, eggs or young of any wild game bird, wild bird, or wild fowl, protected by this chapter, except as provided herein. Any person violating any provision of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. ('25 P. C., Art. 891.)

**Sec. 24. Forfeiture of License.—**Any person convicted of violating any provision of the game laws of this State shall thereby automatically forfeit his license for said season; and, provided further, that any such person so convicted of violating the game laws shall not be entitled to receive from the State a license to hunt for one year immediately following the date of his conviction; and it shall be unlawful for any person who is convicted of violating any of the provisions of the game laws of this State to purchase or possess a hunting license for a period of one year immediately following the date of such conviction; and it shall also be unlawful for any person convicted of violating any of the game laws of this State to hunt with a gun in this State for a period of one year immediately following date of such conviction.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars.

**Sec. 25. Form of Licenses.**—All hunting licenses issued shall have printed across their faces the year for which they are issued; they shall bear the name and address or residence of the person to whom issued, and shall give the approximate weight, height, age, color of hair, and color of eyes of such person, in order that proper identification may be had in the field, and shall have printed thereon a statement, to be subscribed to in ink by the person to whom issued, that such person will not exceed the bag limit as printed on the license. Such license shall be dated on the date of issuance, and shall remain in effect until the last day of August thereafter; provided, that non-resident or alien licenses shall have printed thereon the following: This license does not entitle holder thereof to hunt upon the enclosed and posted lands of another, without the consent of the owner or agent. ('25 P. C., Art. 894.)

**Sec. 26. License Fees Under Control of Council.**—All license fees and hunting-boat registration fees collected under this Act, and all fines that may be made from this fund shall be expended for land or other real estate only upon the authorization of a majority vote of a council composed of Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, the Attorney General of Texas, and the State Comptroller, who shall act on this council during their respective terms of office. ('25 P. C., Art. 896.)

**Sec. 27. County Clerk to Issue License.**—The county clerk of each county in this State is hereby authorized to issue hunting licenses under his official seal, to all persons complying with the provisions of this act, and shall fill out correctly and preserve for the use of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, the stubs attached thereto; and the county clerk shall keep a complete and correct record of hunting licenses issued, showing the name and place of residence of each licensee and the serial number and date

of the license issued. Said license stubs and penalties and forfeiture of bonds imposed and collected for violation of any of the provisions of this chapter, shall belong to the special game fund of this State, and shall be paid over by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, to the State Treasurer during the first week of each month, and shall be credited to such special game fund; and such fund shall be used solely for the purpose of wild bird and game protection; for the creation, purchase, and maintenance of game sanctuaries and public hunting ground; for the purchase, introduction, propagation and distribution of game and wild birds; for the dissemination of information pertaining to the conservation and economic value of wild animal life; and in the employment of special deputy game commissioners, payment of their necessary expenses and the purchase and supply of means to enable the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner and his deputies to enforce the game laws of this State. All expenditures shall be verified by affidavit to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner; and in the approval of such expenditures by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, it shall be the duty of the Comptroller of the State to draw his warrant on the Treasurer of the State for the amount of such expenditures in favor of the person claiming the same, such warrant to be paid out of the special game fund. All moneys and all balances now in such fund from moneys already paid into the State Treasurer, or that may hereafter be paid into said fund through or because of this chapter, are made available as soon as paid into the State Treasury, and are hereby specifically appropriated to the use of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner for the several purposes herein specified. The county clerk shall, within ten days after the close of each calendar month, make out a detailed report under the seal of his office showing the serial number and date of each license issued during the month covered by the report, and the name and address of the person



to whom issued, and shall forward such report, with remittance of fees due the State, to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission at Austin, and the said Commission shall credit such county clerk with the amount so remitted. As soon as possible after the licenses in a license book have all been issued, and only the stubs remain therein, such county clerk shall forward such used license book to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission at Austin, in order that such Commission may furnish necessary information regarding holders of licenses to any officers in the State. ('25 P. C., Art. 895.)

**Sec. 28. Game Unlawfully Taken to Be Disposed of by Commissioner.**—All wild birds, wild fowl, or wild game animals or parts thereof, which have been killed, taken in any way, shipped, held in storage, or found in a public eating place, contrary to the provisions of this chapter, shall be disposed of by order of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or one of his deputies, by donating same to charitable institutions, hospitals, or needy widows and orphans.

If such birds, fowls or animals mentioned in this article are required to be placed in cold storage, the expense of such storage shall, upon his conviction, be placed in a bill of cost against the defendant or person from whom they were taken.

The Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or any of his deputies, shall have the right to search the game bag or any other receptacle of any kind whenever such Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner or his deputy has reason to suspect that such game bag, or other receptacle or any buggy, wagon, automobile, or other vehicle may contain game unlawfully killed or taken, and any person who refuses to permit the searching of the same, or who refuses to stop such vehicle when requested to do so by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or his deputy, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more

than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. ('25 P. C., Art. 897.)

**Sec. 29. Hunting Under License of Another.**—Any person who shall hunt under the license issued to any other person, or any person who shall permit any other person to hunt under a license issued to him, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum of not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. ('25 P. C., Art. 899.)

**Sec. 30. Hunting for Hire.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to hire or employ any other person, or to be hired or employed by any other person, by the payment or by the promise of payment, of money or any other thing of value, to hunt any bird, wild fowl, or game animal protected by this chapter. Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum of not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. Provided, that if any person who has received money, or a promise of money or other thing of value, to hunt any wild bird, wild fowl, or game animal protected and mentioned in this chapter, testifies against the person employing him, all prosecutions against him in the case in which he testifies he shall be dismissed. ('25 P. C., Art. 900.)

**Sec. 31. Hunting from Automobiles, Airplane or Boat.**—It is hereby declared unlawful for any person at any time and in any manner, to hunt, take, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, take, capture, or kill any of the wild game birds, wild game fowls, or wild game animals, protected by the laws of the State, from an automobile, an airplane, a power boat, a sail boat, any boat under sail, or any floating device towed by power boat or sail boat. Any person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be

deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. ('25 P. C., Art. 901.)

**Sec. 32. Hunting With Headlight.**—It shall be unlawful for any person at any time of the year to hunt deer or any other animal or bird protected by this chapter, by the aid of what is commonly known as a headlight or hunting-lamp, or by artificial light attached to an automobile, or by the means of any form of artificial light. Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum of not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars, or by confinement in the county jail for not less than thirty (30) days nor more than ninety (90) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment. The possession of a headlight, or any other hunting light used on or about the head when hunting at night, between sunset and one-half hour before sunrise, by any person hunting in a community where deer are known to range, shall be prima facie evidence that the person found in possession of said headlight, or other hunting light, is violating the provisions of this article. ('25 P. C., Art. 902.)

**Sec. 33. Boat Owner to Have License.**—It is hereby declared unlawful for any person owning or navigating a sail boat or power boat, to receive on board such boat for pay any person or persons engaged in hunting, before such person owning or navigating such boat shall have applied for and received a license from the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or one of his deputies, granting him the right for one year to receive and carry on his boat persons engaged in hunting. Before such license is issued, the person applying for it shall pay to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or one of his deputies, the sum of Two (\$2.00) Dollars, and shall

file with such Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner the name of his vessel, her accommodations for passengers, and the number of her crew and shall file with the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or one of his deputies, an affidavit to the effect that he will not violate any of the provisions of this chapter, and will endeavor to prevent anyone whom he carries on his boat from violating any of the provisions of this act, and that he will not carry any hunter on his boat who does not possess a hunting license. Whenever any boat owner or navigator fails or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of this section, the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner is authorized and empowered to cancel his license without a refund or return of the license fee paid; and no license shall be renewed or reissued to him thereafter for a period of one year.

Any person who carries out any hunting parties for reward or pay of any kind without first having procured his license, as provided in this article, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. ('25 P. C., Art. 903.)

**Sec. 34. Hunting With Gun; License For.**—No citizen of this State shall hunt outside of the county of his residence with a gun without first having procured from the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner or one of his deputies, or from any county clerk in this State, a license to hunt, and for which he shall pay either of such officers the sum of Two (\$2.00) Dollars; fifteen cents of which amount shall be retained by said officer as his fee for collecting.

The fee for a non-resident citizen or alien hunting license shall be Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars; Three (\$3.00) Dollars of such amount shall be retained by the officer issuing such license as his fee for collecting, issuing and making

report on license so issued and for remitting the remaining Twenty-two (\$22) Dollars to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission.

Any person hunting with a gun out of the county of his residence without a license, authorizing him to hunt out of the county of his residence, or any person who fails or refuses on demand by any officer to show such officer his hunting license required of him by this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars.

Provided that the provisions of this article requiring hunting license shall not apply to persons under seventeen years of age.

Provided that the foregoing provisions as to the payment of a fee of Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars by non-residents for hunting license, shall not apply to residents of the State of Arkansas, who reside in counties bordering upon the State of Texas, but that non-residents who reside in such border counties in the State of Arkansas shall be permitted to hunt in the counties of Bowie and Cass in the State of Texas upon the same terms and upon the payment of the same hunting license fees as a resident of the State of Texas hunting in a county other than his own.

Provided, further, that this Act shall apply only to the non-residents who reside in the border counties of the State of Arkansas, which State has recently enacted a reciprocal Act granting unto residents of border counties of the State of Texas like privileges and terms. ('25 P. C., Art. 904; H. B. 165, 2d C. S., 41st Leg.)

Sec. 34a. Any non-resident of this State or any alien who shall hunt wild game and birds in this State without first securing a license to hunt from the Commissioner or his deputy or the county clerk shall be fined not less than

Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. ('25 P. C., Art. 904a.)

**Sec. 35. Citizen, Non-Resident and Alien Defined.**—For the purpose of this chapter any person, except an alien, who has been a bona fide resident of this State for a period of time exceeding six months, continuously and immediately before applying for a hunting license, shall be considered a citizen of this State.

An alien is any person who is not a natural born citizen of the United States of America, and who has not declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States of America.

A non-resident shall be any person who is a citizen of any other State, or who has not continuously or immediately previous to the time of applying for a hunting license, been a bona fide resident of the State of Texas for a period of time more than six months. ('25 P. C., Art. 920.)

**Sec. 36. Prima Facie Evidence.**—The possession of any wild game bird, wild game fowl, or wild game animal mentioned in this chapter, whether dead or alive, during the time when killing or taking is prohibited shall be prima facie evidence of the guilt of the person in possession during the time when killing or taking is prohibited by law.

Provided, however, that it shall not be unlawful to ship or bring any wild game birds, wild fowl, or wild game animals from the Republic of Mexico into this State at any season. Provided, that the party bringing the same into this State shall procure from the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or from one of his deputies, a permit to bring same into the State, and shall procure from the United States custom officer at the port of entry a statement showing that such game was brought from the Republic of Mexico; and, provided further, that such party comply with the provisions of this act regulating

the shipment and sale of such wild game birds, wild fowls or game animals. ('25 P. C., Art. 907.)

**Sec. 37. Female Deer, Fawn or Young Buck.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to take, kill, wound, shoot at, hunt or possess dead or alive, any wild female deer, wild fawn deer or any wild buck deer without a pronged horn, or to possess any deer carcass or green deer hide with all evidence of sex removed.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum of not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. ('25 P. C., Art. 910.)

**Sec. 38. Killing Birds in Closed Season.**—No person shall kill or take any of the birds or fowls enumerated in Article 872 (Sec. 2), except during the open season as fixed for each kind of bird or fowl, and if any person shall kill, take or have in his possession, any of the birds or fowls enumerated in Article 872 at any time of the year except during the open season as provided for in this chapter, he shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (Acts 1919, p. 290, Sec. 9.) ('25 P. C., Art. 923.)

**Sec. 39. Importing Game in Closed Season.**—It shall be unlawful to bring into this State for any purpose whatever during the closed season, either alive or dead, any kind of wild game birds or fowl or animal, enumerated in this chapter, or to bring into this State for sale or exchange or barter or shipment for sale any such bird or fowl or animal, during the open season as set out in this chapter except as provided in Article 908. Any person bringing such game bird or fowl or animal into the State during the closed season or bringing such game bird or fowl or animal for sale or barter or shipment for sale during the open season, shall be fined not less than

Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. The bringing in of each game bird or fowl or animal herein interdicted is a separate offense. (Acts 1st C. S., 1919, p. 187.) ('25 P. C., Art. 923a.)

**Sec. 40. Protecting Bats.**—Whoever wilfully kills or in any manner injures any winged mammal known as the common bat shall be fined not less than Five (\$5.00) Dollars, nor more than Fifteen (\$15) Dollars. (Acts 1907, p. 124.) ('25 P. C., Art. 823b.)

**Sec. 41. Birds Protected by Audubon Society.**—After the recording of the lease made by the Commissioner of the General Land Office to the National Association of Audubon Societies for the purpose of protecting birds and bird life on or about the property leased in Kleberg County, known as the North Bird Island and South Bird Island and on Green Island in Cameron County and on the group of three islands in Big Bay in Cameron County and on the flats and reefs and shallow water near all of said islands as described in the laws of this State, it shall be unlawful for any person whomsoever except a representative, an agent or an employe of said Association or a peace officer of this State or of the United States to enter upon such leased area without the knowledge and consent of said association, for the purpose of catching or killing any bird or birds or for the purpose of taking any bird or birds' eggs or to destroy any bird nests or bird eggs; it shall be unlawful for any person whomsoever to catch, kill or maim any bird or birds on such leased area or to catch, kill or maim or attempt to catch, kill or maim any bird whatsoever even though such person may be above or outside of such leased area; it shall be unlawful for any person whomsoever to discharge any firearms or other explosive on or about such leased area; or to land, tie or anchor any fishing boat within such leased area. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit any representative, agent or employe of



said association from catching, killing or destroying within any such leased area any bird or birds and any animals that may be known to prey upon bird life or bird eggs nor to prohibit such representative, agent or employe from taking bird eggs and catching any bird for propagation or conservation or scientific purposes only, nor to prohibit persons from taking refuge on such area on account of storms. Whoever violates any provisions of this article shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than Five Hundred (\$500) Dollars, or be imprisoned in jail for not less than ten days nor more than six months, or both. (Acts 1st C. S., 1921, p. 33; Acts 1923, p. 188.) ('25 P. C., Art. 923c.)

**Sec. 42. Refusing to Stop Vehicle for Search.**—The Commissioner, or any of his deputies, shall have the right to search the game bag or any other receptacle of any kind whenever such Commissioner or his deputy has reason to suspect that such game bag, or other receptacle or any buggy, wagon, automobile, or other vehicle may contain game unlawfully killed or taken, and any person who refuses to permit the searching of the same, or who refuses to stop such vehicle when requested to do so by the Commissioner, or his deputy, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (Acts 1915, p. 294.) ('25 P. C., Art. 923d.)

**Sec. 43. Buying for Evidence.**—One who buys, for the purpose of establishing testimony, a game bird or animal, the sale of which is prohibited by this chapter shall not be prosecuted for such purchase. (Acts 1919, p. 296.) ('25 P. C., Art. 923e.)

**Sec. 44. Using Deer Call.**—Any person who at any time of the year in hunting deer uses a deer call, whistle, decoy, call pipe, reed or other device, mechanical or natural, for the purpose of calling or attracting any deer, except by rattling deer horns, shall be fined not less than One

Hundred (\$100) Dollars, nor more than Five Hundred (\$500) Dollars, or be imprisoned in jail not less than twenty nor more than ninety days, or both. (Acts 1915, p. 162; Acts 1919, p. 295.) ('25 P. C., Art. 923g.)

Sec. 45. **Shipping Deer.**—Whoever ships any deer or any part thereof by common carrier without the person shipping it making the affidavit prescribed in Article 889, and whoever ships or receives for shipment as the agent of any transportation company any deer or any part thereof, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 190.) ('25 P. C., Art. 923f.)

Sec. 46. **Sale or Purchase of Game.**—Whoever shall sell or offer for sale, or have in his possession for the purpose of sale, or whoever shall purchase or have in his possession after purchase, any wild deer, wild antelope, or Rocky Mountain Sheep, killed in this State, or the carcass, hide or antlers of any such animal, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (Acts 1911, p. 101.) ('25 P. C., Art. 923h.)

Sec. 47. **Propagation and Scientific Purposes.**—Provided, nothing in this act shall prevent the capture, by any means and at any time, day or night, of wild birds or wild fowl and their nests and eggs, or of wild animals or wild quadrupeds for zoological gardens or parks, or for propagation purposes, or for scientific purposes; but, before any birds fowls, animals, quadrupeds, nests or eggs are taken or molested for the aforesaid purposes, permission must be secured from the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner only, by the person desiring so to operate, such person shall make application in the form of an affidavit, in duplicate, setting forth what birds, fowls, animals, quadrupeds, nests, or eggs, he desires and the purpose for which he desires the same; and if such request is for collection of skins, nests,

or eggs, for scientific purposes, such application should be accompanied by certificates from two well known ornithologists (where the specimens are birds or their nests or eggs), or mammalogists (where the specimens are animals or quadrupeds), residents of the United States, stating that the applicant is a fit person to be entrusted with such a permit and that they have known him for at least five years past, and the applicant should further be supplied with a Federal scientific collecting permit issued by the Bureau of Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture, permitting him or her to collect migratory birds, and the serial number and date of said Federal permit should be furnished by the applicant on said affidavit, where request is made for the collecting of birds and their nests or eggs. Such scientific collecting permit as issued by the State of Texas will authorize the holder thereof to take, possess, and transport, in any manner and at any time, birds and their nests and eggs, for scientific purposes; provided, that before migratory birds, or their nests, or eggs, are taken the Federal permit indicated above must be obtained. Such scientific permit shall be issued for the fiscal year and shall be null and void after midnight of December 31st of the year issued.

If any person desires to bring into the State any wild bird or wild animals, dead or alive, or the nests or eggs of any bird, he shall apply to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, for permission to do so, attaching to such application an affidavit setting forth the number and species of birds or animals, or the nests or eggs of birds, desired to be introduced.

The Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner may refuse to issue permits for any of the purposes set forth in this article, if, in his judgment, such application, or party making same, is not satisfactory.

The Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner is

empowered to prescribe rules and regulations governing the propagation of game birds and animals, and the taking of birds and animals for scientific purposes, and is authorized to cancel any permit issued, when, in his judgment, the holder thereof fails or refuses to comply with such rules and regulations.

In the shipment of skins of protected animals, or the skins or nests of eggs of birds, each package shall have clearly and conspicuously marked on the outside thereof, the name and address of the sender, the number of the sender's permit, and the statement that it contains specimens of animals, or of birds or their nests or eggs for scientific purposes. A person operating under, or holding a permit for scientific collecting shall report, on or before January 10th, following the expiration of his permit, to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, the number of skins, nests or eggs of each species collected, or transported, together with the disposition of all such specimens not in his possession at the time of making said report, and also a statement covering any scientific data observed during his field collecting that, in his judgment, would be of interest to the ornithological or zoological public.

The Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner shall, at all times have the power to take in any manner, keep, and transport, anywhere within the State, any of the wild birds or their nests or eggs, or any wild animals, for investigation, propagation, distribution, or scientific purposes.

Any person violating any provision of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five (\$25) dollars nor more than two hundred (\$200) dollars; and each bird, fowl, animal, quadruped, nest, or egg, taken or possessed in violation of this article shall constitute a separate offense. ('25 P. C., Art. 913.)

Sec. 48. **Trespass on Enclosed Lands.**—Whosoever shall enter upon the inclosed land of another without the consent of the owner, proprietor or agent in charge thereof, and therein hunt with firearms or thereon catch or take or attempt to catch or take any fish from any pond, lake, tank or stream, or in any manner depredate upon the same, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined any sum not less than ten (\$10.00) dollars nor more than two hundred (\$200.00) dollars and by a forfeiture of his hunting license and the right to hunt in the State of Texas for a period of one year from the date of his conviction. By "inclosed lands" is meant such lands as are in use for agriculture or grazing purposes or for any other purpose, and inclosed by any structure for fencing either of wood or iron or combination thereof, or wood and wire, or partly by water or stream, canyon, brush, rock or rocks, bluffs or island. Proof of ownership or lease may be made by parol testimony. Provided, however, that this Act shall not apply to inclosed lands which are rented or leased for hunting or fishing or camping privileges where the owner, proprietor, or agent in charge or any person for him by any and every means has received or contracted to receive more than twenty-five cents per acre per year or any part of a year for such hunting, fishing or camping privileges, or where more than \$4.00 per day per person is charged for such hunting, fishing or camping privileges. And provided further that this exemption shall exist for a period of one year from the date of the receipt of such sum or sums of money.

Any person found upon the inclosed lands of another without the owner's consent, shall be subject to arrest by any peace officer, and such arrest may be made without warrant of arrest.

That Article 1378 of the Penal Code of the State of Texas be and the same is hereby repealed.

That all laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith be, and the same are hereby repealed.

(H. B. 196, 1st C. S., 41st Leg.; H. B. 171, 2d C. S., 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 49. Shooting on Public Road.**—Any person who shoots or discharges any gun, pistol or firearm, in, on, along or across any public road in this State shall be fined not more than One Hundred Dollars. (H. B. No. 29, 2d C. S., 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 50. Storage After Closed Season.**—All game birds, wild fowl, and game animals, named in this chapter, killed during the open season prescribed therefor, may be possessed during and for an additional ten days after such season is closed. But it shall be unlawful, after such ten days, to place in storage or keep in storage any wild birds, or wild game animals, or parts thereof, named in this chapter. Any person owning or claiming such birds, fowls, or animals, or parts thereof, after such ten days, or any person storing such birds, fowl, or animals, or parts thereof, for such claimant or owner, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum of not less than ten (\$10) dollars, nor more than one hundred (\$100) dollars, and each bird, fowl, or animal, or part thereof stored in violation of this section, shall constitute a separate offense. ('25 P. C., Art. 909.)

**Sec. 51. Shooting or Hunting Club.**—It is hereby declared unlawful for any person or persons, who may be acting as manager for any club, or the owner of any club, or shooting resort or shooting preserve, or lessor of premises leased for hunting purposes, to receive or accommodate as a guest or member of said club, or shooting resort, or shooting preserve, or lessee of premises leased for hunting purposes, for pay, any person or persons engaged in hunting, before such manager of such club, shooting resort, shooting preserve, or premises leased for hunting purposes, shall have applied for and received a license from the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or one of his deputies, granting him the right

for the year beginning September 1 and ending August 31, following, to receive and accommodate any such person or persons at such club, shooting resort, shooting preserve, or premises leased for hunting purposes.

Before such license is issued the person applying for same shall pay to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner the sum of five (\$5.00) dollars, and shall file with the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner the name of said club, shooting resort, shooting preserve or premises leased for hunting purposes, and shall file with the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner an affidavit that he will not violate any of the provisions of this article and will endeavor to prevent guests of said club, shooting resort, shooting preserve, or premises leased for hunting purposes from doing so, and that no guest will be accommodated who has not previously secured a hunting license.

All such managers of clubs, shooting resorts, shooting preserves and premises leased for hunting purposes shall be required to keep a suitable record book and each guest or member shall be required to register, showing his name and place of residence, license number, and a record of each day's kill of different birds and game, and a complete record must be made to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner by such manager of club, shooting resort, shooting preserve or premises leased for hunting purposes, not later than February 10 of each year.

Whenever any manager of any club, shooting resort, shooting preserve or premises leased for hunting purposes, fails or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of this article, the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner is authorized and empowered to cancel his license without refund or return of the license fee, and no license shall be renewed or issued to such party, or parties, thereafter for a period of one year.

Any manager of any club, shooting resort, shooting preserve, or premises leased for hunt-

ing purposes, who accommodates hunters for reward, without first having procured the necessary license as provided in this article, or failing to comply with all the provisions thereof, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined the sum of not less than one hundred (\$100) dollars, nor more than two hundred (\$200) dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than ninety days or by both such fine and imprisonment. Such fines shall be placed to the credit of the special game fund.

For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this article, it shall be the duty of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner to have prepared and to furnish to all deputy game commissioners blank license with stubs attached, numbered serially, such license to be called "Shooting Preserve License;" such shooting preserve license shall have printed across the face the year for which it is issued, shall bear the name and address of the licensee, name of club, character of game found on such preserve or lease, and the expiration date of such license. Said license must bear the seal of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, and must be signed by the Commissioner or one of his deputies. On the reverse side of said license shall be printed the open season and bag limit, as provided in this chapter. ('25 P. C., Art. 908.)

**Sec. 52. Game Preserves; How Acquired.**—Any person, firm or corporation owning and in possession of lands in the State of Texas, may transfer by an instrument of writing, duly acknowledged before an officer authorized under the laws of this State to take acknowledgments, to the State of Texas the right to preserve, protect and introduce for propagation purposes any of the game birds or game animals mentioned in this chapter on the lands mentioned therein, for a period of not less than ten years. Such instrument of writing shall be filed in the office of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner,



whereupon the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner may at his discretion declare the lands described in said instrument a State Game Preserve and thereafter for a period named therein shall for all the purposes relating to the preservation, protection and propagation of game birds and game animals be under the control of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner. Providing that the aggregate acreage of all preserves which may be designated in any one county shall never exceed ten per cent of the total acreage of such county. Such preserves shall be numbered in the order of the filing of the instrument therefor. The Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner shall cause notices to be prepared containing the words "State Game Preserve," "Trespassing Prohibited," and cause such notices to be posted at each gate or entrance thereto. All State game preserves established under the provisions of this chapter shall for all purposes of preservation, protection and propagation of game birds and game animals thereon be under the control and management of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner and he and his deputies may at all times enter in and upon such preserves in the performance of their duties.

It shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, pursue, shoot at, kill, take, destroy or in any manner molest any of the game birds or game animals within the exterior boundaries of any game preserve and any person who shall violate any provision of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. ('25 P. C., Art. 917.)

Sec. 52a. **Special County Game Laws.**—That hereafter, for a period of three years from and after the passage of this Act, it shall be unlawful to kill or capture, or take possession of any quail in Stephens County, Texas, provided, however, that the provisions of this Act shall not

apply to the killing or capturing of wolves and catamounts.

Anyone violating the provisions of this Act shall upon conviction in a court of competent jurisdiction be fined not less than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars, or more than Five Hundred (\$500) Dollars, or imprisoned in jail for not more than ninety days or both. (H. B. 99, Acts 4 C. S., 41st Leg.)

Sec. 52b.—That for three years from and after the passage of this Act, it shall be unlawful for any person to shoot at, or kill, any wild deer or wild turkey in San Saba and Harrison Counties.

That whosoever shall violate the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars, and not more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, provided each deer or wild turkey so shot shall constitute a separate offense. (H. B. 72, Acts 4 C. S., 41st Leg.)

Sec. 52c.—That from and after the passage of this Act it shall be unlawful for any person to hunt, take, or kill any squirrel except during the months of May, June, July, October, November, and December in the counties of Marion, Cass, and Bowie.

Any person who shall hunt, take, or kill any squirrel in the counties named in this Act at any time except the above designated months shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum of not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than Fifty (\$50) Dollars; provided that each squirrel killed in violation of this Act shall constitute a separate offense. (S. B. 63, 4 C. S., 41st Leg.)

Sec. 52d.—The open season for killing wild turkeys in any county composing the Third, Fifth and Fourteenth Senatorial District shall be during the months of March and April. Whoever kills a wild turkey in any of said counties at

any time other than during said open season, or whoever kills, in any of said counties, any wild turkey hen, or more than three wild turkey gobblers during any one year, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. Each turkey killed in violation of this Act shall be a separate offense. (S. B. 79, Acts 4 C. S., 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 52e. Unlawful to Kill Less Than Eight-Point Deer in Certain Counties.**—It shall hereafter be unlawful for any person to hunt, trap, ensnare, possess, or kill any wild buck deer having antlers of less than eight prongs, wild doe deer, or wild fawn deer, within the limits of the Counties of Live Oak, Frio, McMullen, and LaSalle, in the State of Texas, for a period of five years from and after the passage of this Act.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (S. B. 56, Acts 5 C. S., 41st Leg.)

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## PART TWO

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### FUR-BEARING ANIMALS

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**Section 53. Property of the State.**—All the fur-bearing animals of this State are hereby declared to be the property of the people of this State. For the purpose of this Act, wild beaver, wild otter, wild mink, wild ring-tail cat, wild badger, wild pole-cat or skunk, wild raccoon, wild muskrat, wild opossum, wild fox, and wild civet cat are hereby declared to be fur-bearing animals. (Ch. 177, Acts 39th Leg., p. 434.)

Sec. 54. **Open Seasons.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to take or attempt to take the pelt of any fur-bearing animal of this State at any time other than the open season provided therefor. The open season for taking pelts of fur-bearing animals shall be during the months of December and January of each year, except muskrats, the open season for which shall be from the 15th day of November to the 15th day of March, both days inclusive. (H. B. 86, Acts 5th C. S., 41st Leg.)

Sec. 55.—That Chapter 68, House Bill No. 114, Acts 1st Called Session of the 41st Legislature, and House Bill No. 134, Chapter 24, Acts of the 5th Called Session of the 41st Legislature be and the same are hereby repealed.

It shall be unlawful to take the pelts of any of the fur-bearing animals of this State at any time other than the open season provided therefor. The open season for taking the pelts of wild beaver, for that portion of the State of Texas lying west of the Pecos River, shall be during the month of January of each year. It shall be unlawful to take the pelts of wild beaver in any other portion of this State or to take the pelts of wild otter in any portion of this State within a period of ten (10) years following the passage of this Act. Provided, that it shall be unlawful to trap any fur-bearing animal in Angelina County during any month of the year, but it shall be lawful to sell the pelts and furs of fur-bearing animals in said county during December and January.

That there be and is hereby levied a tax of five (5) cents on each pelt taken from a wild beaver which shall be payable as provided in House Bill No. 86, Acts 5th Called Session of the 41st Legislature.

Any person who violates any provision of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars and his trapper's and dealer's license shall be for-

feited at the time of conviction and he shall not be entitled to purchase another such license for a period of one (1) year.

Provided, that the provisions of this Act shall in no way apply to McLennan, Falls, Limestone, or Milam Counties, nor to the counties composing the following Senatorial Districts:

Eight (8), Ten (10), Eleven (11), Fourteen (14), Fifteen (15), Sixteen (16), Seventeen (17), Twenty (20), Twenty-one (21), and Twenty-eight (28); except however, it shall be effective as to Brazos County of the Fourteenth (14) Senatorial District.

Provided that it shall be unlawful for any person to kill, take, or have in his possession for barter or sale within Caldwell, Williamson, Milam, or Lee Counties within a period of ten (10) years after the passage of this Act, any wild beaver, wild otter, or wild fox, or the pelts thereof. (H. B. 215, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Legislature.)

**Sec. 56. Trapper Defined and License Required.**  
—Any person over the age of 17 years who takes or attempts to take the pelt or pelts of any of the fur-bearing animals of this State for the purpose of barter or sale before doing so, shall procure a trapper's license. If the trapper has been a resident of this State for 12 months before applying for such license, he shall pay for such license the sum of \$1.10, 10 cents of which shall be retained by the officer issuing the license. If he has not been a resident of this State for 12 months prior to applying for such license he shall pay for a non-resident trapper's license the sum of \$25.00. Such license shall be issued by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission and shall be available on and after September 1st of each year, and shall expire August 31st of the following year. All trappers' license shall have blanks for the name of the trapper, his place of residence, age, height, weight, color of eyes and color of hair. (H. B. 86, Acts 5th C. S., 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 57. Tax Levied Per Pelt.**—That there be and is hereby levied a tax of 1 cent on each pelt

taken from a fur-bearing animal, except pelts of raccoons and mink, the tax for which shall be 5 cents on each pelt, which tax shall be payable as herein provided. (id.)

**Sec. 58. Tags—How Procured.**—It shall be the duty of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission to provide suitable tags to be attached to the pelts of fur-bearing animals, as a receipt for the tax which has been paid thereon. Such tag shall be available on and after September 1st of each year and shall be valid until August 31st of the year following. Tags shall be printed with the words "State of Texas—fur tax received 1 cent" and "State of Texas—fur tax received 5 cents," and shall show date of expiration, and have a blank for date pelt was tagged. The Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, or its authorized agents, shall issue tax receipt tags upon payment of the amount for which such receipts are issued. (id.)

**Sec. 59. Tagging Pelts Before Offering for Sale.**—It shall be the duty of the trapper to attach to the pelt of each fur-bearing animal taken by him a tax receipt tag as described herein for the amount of tax due on such pelt and place on each tag date pelt was tagged, before such pelt may be shipped, bartered, sold or offered for sale, and providing that all pelts held by a trapper for the purpose of sale shall be tagged within 5 days after the close of the open season for taking such pelts. It shall be unlawful for any dealer to purchase a pelt taken in this State or shipped from any point in this State which does not bear a tax receipt tag. (id.)

**Sec. 60. Dealers Defined and License Required.**—Any person, firm or corporation, except the trapper selling his own catch, who barter, buys, offers to barter, offers to buy, sells or offers for sale the pelt or pelts of any fur-bearing animal protected by the laws of this State, before engaging in such business in this State, shall procure a license as a Dealer from the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission or its authorized agents by payment of the sum of \$5.50, 50 cents of which

shall be retained by the officer issuing such license, provided that such applicant has been a resident of this State for 12 months prior to the application for license or is a resident firm or corporation organized 12 months prior to such application. All others shall be non-residents and shall procure a non-resident Dealer's license from the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission at Austin, Texas, by the payment of \$50 for each such license. (id.)

**Sec. 61. Dealers to Make Reports.**—That every Dealer as defined in this Act must file with the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission not later than the 10th day of each month a complete sworn report on printed form furnished by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission of the kind and number of the pelts of fur-bearing animals purchased in this State and shipped out of this State during the preceding month. Provided that no report shall be required for those months during which no pelts are purchased in this State. And providing that those Dealers who purchase pelts for manufacturing into a finished product in this State shall report by the 10th day of each month the number and kind of pelts purchased during the preceding month. (id.)

**Sec. 62. Prima Facie Evidence.**—The possession in this State of any undried pelt from a fur-bearing animal at any time other than during the open season for taking of such pelt, or within fifteen days after the close of such season, shall be prima facie evidence that such pelt was taken during the closed season. (id.)

**Sec. 63. Propagation-Permit, Fee and Report.**—Any person who desires to take alive any of the fur-bearing animals of this State for the purpose of sale, before taking any of the fur-bearing animals of this State for such purpose shall apply to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission at Austin, Texas, for a Propagation Permit for which he shall pay the sum of Five Dollars, which permit shall be available on and after the first day of September of each year and

shall be valid until August 31st of the following year. Any person holding a Propagation Permit may take and hold fur-bearing animals protected by the laws of this State, provided that such animals are taken during the period of time that it is lawful to do so, and provided that the pelts from such animals may not be taken at any time other than during the open season for taking such pelts. Any person who holds a Propagation Permit shall file a report with the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission not later than the 16th day of March of each year, showing the number of each kind of fur-bearing animals held in captivity and giving the Commission the number of each kind of fur-bearing animal and pelts disposed of during the year previous. (id.)

**Sec. 64. Property of This State Until All Taxes Are Paid.**—The pelts of all fur-bearing animals of this State are declared to be and continue to be the property of this State until all taxes levied thereon are paid, receipts for such taxes are issued and attached to such pelts, and all regulations herein are followed; provided, however, that any pelts taken during the open season for the taking of such pelts shall not come within the provision of this Act, when they are held for personal use. (id.)

**Sec. 65. Right to Confiscate and Dispose of Illegal Pelts.**—The Game, Fish and Oyster Commission and all Game and Fish Wardens in its employ are hereby directed to seize any and all pelts illegally taken or held by anyone and to hold them as evidence until after trial of the person or persons charged with illegally taking or holding of such pelt or pelts, and if the defendant is found guilty of taking or possessing such pelt or pelts in violation of any provision of this Act, the pelt or pelts so seized as evidence shall be delivered to the office of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission by the Game and Fish Warden, and the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission is hereby directed to sell such pelt or pelts. Prosecutions under this Act may be begun and



carried on either in the county in which the pelts or animals were taken or from where they were shipped or in the county of this State in which they are received for sale. (id.)

**Sec. 66. Penalty and Forfeiture of License.**—It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to take, sell, offer for sale or buy or offer to buy the pelts of fur-bearing animals in this State for a period of twelve months after date of conviction. Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this Act upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars and not more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, and his trapper's or dealer's license shall be forfeited at time of conviction, and he shall not be entitled to purchase another such license for a period of one year. (id.)

**Sec. 67. Monies to Be Deposited With Treasurer.**—All monies collected from taxes, licenses, fines, sale of confiscated pelts and penalties for violation of this Act shall be deposited with the Treasurer of this State during the first week of each month and shall be credited to the Special Game Fund and used for the purposes provided for by law. (id.)

**Sec. 68. Repeal of Conflicting Laws.**—Provided that all laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith shall be and the same are hereby repealed, except that nothing herein shall repeal Chapter 68, Acts of the First Called Session of the Forty-first Legislature, protecting beaver and otter in this State and fox in certain sections of the State as specified therein. (id.)

**Sec. 69. Constitutionality.**—If any section of this Act shall be held unconstitutional, it shall not affect any other section of this Act, and all sections except the one that may be declared unconstitutional shall continue to be in full force and effect. (id.)

**Sec. 70.** From and after the taking effect of this Act it shall be unlawful for any transient person, or any person who is not a bona fide resident citizen

of the county, to hunt, or take, or trap by means of any snare, deadfall, or steel trap, or by any other means, any fur-bearing animal or animals in Wood County, and any person violating this provision shall be guilty of misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not exceeding Three Hundred (\$300) Dollars.

All peace officers of Wood County shall enforce the provisions of this Act to the fullest extent of their ability to do so, and wilful neglect in the enforcement hereof shall subject said peace officer to the pains and penalties prescribed by statute for neglect of official duty. (H. B. 776, Acts Reg. Ses., 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 70a. That for five (5) years from and after the passage of this Act it shall be unlawful for any person to trap, snare, shoot at, catch or kill any wild fox in Bell County.

Provided that nothing in this Act shall prohibit the trapping of predatory animals within three hundred yards of the residence of any bona fide resident of Bell County.

That whosoever violates the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than Twenty (\$20) Dollars and not more than Fifty (\$50) Dollars. (H. B. 109, Acts Reg. Ses., 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 71. **Trapping Muskrats on Enclosed Lands of Another.**—It shall be unlawful for any person, at any time, to trap or kill upon the posted or enclosed lands of another, or be in possession of a muskrat or the hide of such animal, without the consent of the owner or lessee of such lands to trap thereon, provided that such person may, in relief against this provision, show a rightful, legal possession of such muskrats or the hides of such animals. (Ch. 177, p. 434, Acts 39th Leg.)

Sec. 72. **Land Owners' Right to Kill Muskrats.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to destroy the beds, nests or breeding places of any musk-

rat or muskrats, or to take or kill any of such animals except by trapping; provided, however, that any person shall have the right to kill such animal upon his own premises at any time or by any means. (id.)

**Sec. 73. Unlawful to Purchase Furs on Lands of Another.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to purchase the hide or furs of muskrats on the land of another, taken or trapped on the lands of another, from any person other than the owner of such land or the duly authorized agent of such owner. (id.)

**Sec. 74. Enclosed Land Defined.**—By enclosed land is meant any land enclosed by a fence or fences, or by water, or partly by fence and partly by water, or by any barrier, natural or artificial that is used by owners as methods or means of enclosure. (id.)

**Sec. 75. Posted Land Defined.**—Posted land within the meaning of this Act shall have signs at the gate or gates and at any streams entering said enclosures, reading "Posted" in a conspicuous place, shall be deemed posted within the meaning of this Act. (id.)

**Sec. 76. Trapper Must Exhibit License.**—Any person required to procure a license under this Act and who fails to carry said license on his person when trapping, killing, or taking any of the fur-bearing animals or the pelts thereof for sale or barter, or who fails or refuses to exhibit the same to any officer authorized to enforce the laws of this State or who uses the license of another or permits another to use his license shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor. (id.)

## PREDATORY ANIMALS

**Section 76a. Unlawful to Transport or Turn Loose Any Live Wolf.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to transport, or cause to be transported, any live wolf within this State.

It shall be unlawful for any person to possess or to receive, or to transport or to have for the purpose of transporting, or for the purpose of turning loose, or to turn loose, or to cause to be turned loose, any live wolf within this State.

It shall not be unlawful for a State or County Official, in the performance of any official duty to transport a live wolf, or for the owner or agent of any licensed circus, zoo, or menagerie, to have, possess or transport any live wolf for exhibition or scientific purposes, only.

Any person who violates any provision of the preceding Sections of this Act shall be guilty of a felony and shall upon conviction be confined in the penitentiary for not less than six months nor more than five years. (H. B. 13, Acts 4th. C. S., 41st Leg.)

Sec. 76aa. It shall be unlawful to move or transport any live predatory animals mentioned in this Act on or along any public road, thoroughfare, or street without first securing a written permit from the Chairman of the Live Stock Sanitary Commission. Any person who violates this provision shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum of not less than \$100 nor more than \$200 for each of said live predatory animals so moved or transported. Any person who has any such live predatory animals in his possession and delivers the same to any person for the purpose of moving or transporting said live predatory animals along any public road, thoroughfare or street without said written permit, or who allows any other person to so transport or move any live predatory animals shall be deemed guilty of violating this provision and shall be punished as herein provided. The penalties provided in this Section shall not apply to persons, firms or corporations that move or transport any such animals along any public road, thoroughfare or street if said animals are being moved for the purpose of exhibition or for show purposes at any menagerie, zoo, circus, show or fair; nor shall said penalties apply to any person owning or controlling any of said animals which

have been tamed and domesticated, which are moved or transported along or on any public road, street or thoroughfare. (Coyotes, wolves, mountain lions, bobcats, and other predatory animals are governed by this law.) (H. B. 180, Ch. 96, Section 13, Acts 1st Called Session, 41st Legislature.)

**Sec. 76b. Commissioners' Court to Pay Bounty on Wolf Scalps in Certain Counties.**—In Wise, Jack and Young Counties the Commissioners' Court of the County, in order to preserve game, is hereby authorized to pay out of the General County Fund bounties on the scalps of wolves killed in each County, not to exceed Fifty Dollars for each scalp. Said Commissioners' Court may require such proof and protect the interest of the County and make assurance that one animal has been killed for each scalp paid for. (H. B. 71, Acts 4 C. S., 41st Leg.)

The Commissioners' Court of Shackelford County, in order to preserve game, is hereby authorized to pay out of the General Fund, bounties on the scalps of wolves, in such sum as they deem necessary, not to exceed Fifty (\$50) Dollars, for each scalp. Said Commissioners' Court may require such proof and adopt such rules and regulations as are necessary in order to protect the interest of the County and make assurance that one wolf has been killed for each scalp paid for. (H. B. 67, Acts 5 C. S., 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 76c. Commissioners' Court to Pay Bounty on Wolf, Wild Cat, and Other Predatory Animals' Scalps.**—It shall hereafter be lawful for the Commissioners' Court of McCulloch, San Saba, Lampasas, Mills, Erath, Limestone, Jasper, Hood, Bastrop, Brazos, Grimes, and Sterling Counties to pay out of the General Fund of said Counties, bounties for the destruction of wolves, wild cats and other predatory animals within said counties as hereinafter provided.

On petition of two hundred resident freeholders of any one of said Counties, being presented to the Commissioners Court of such County, the

Commissioners' Court may, by resolution entered upon its Minutes, provide for the destruction of such animals and the amount of bounty to be paid for the destruction of each of said predatory animals and the method of providing such destruction so as to entitle the person destroying such predatory animals to receive said bounty. Provided, that in the County of Sterling, the Commissioners' Court is authorized to act upon a petition of as many as fifty resident freeholders of said county.

The amounts paid as bounties for the destruction of predatory animals in said counties shall be paid by warrant drawn upon the General Fund of the County by the Judge of such County on the filing with him of such proof as the Commissioners' Court may require. (H. B. 89, Acts 4 C. S., 41st Leg.)

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## PART THREE

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### FISH, SHRIMP AND OYSTER LAWS

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Section 77. **Property of State.**—All fish and other aquatic animal life, contained in the fresh water rivers, creeks and streams and in lakes or sloughs subject to overflow from rivers or other streams within the borders of this State are hereby declared to be the property of the people of this State. All of the public rivers, bayous, lagoons, creeks, lakes, bays, and inlets in this State, and all that part of the Gulf of Mexico within the jurisdiction of this State, together with their beds and bottoms, and all of the products thereof, shall continue and remain the property of the State of Texas, except in so far as the State shall permit the use of said waters and bottoms, or permit the taking of the products of such bottoms and waters, and in so far as this use shall relate to or affect the taking and conservation of fish,

oysters, shrimp, crabs, clams, turtle, terrapin, mussels, lobsters, and all other kinds and forms of marine life, or relate to sand, gravel, marl, mud shell and all other kinds of shell, the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner shall have jurisdiction over and control of, in accordance with and by the authority vested in him by the laws of this State. ('25 R. C. S., Art. 4026.)

**Sec. 78. Oyster Beds.**—All oyster beds not designated private shall be public. All natural oyster beds and reefs of this State shall be public. A natural oyster bed shall be declared to exist when as many as five barrels of oysters may be found therein within twenty-five hundred square feet of any position of said reef or bed; and any lands covered by water containing less oysters than the above amount shall be subject to location at the discretion of the Commissioner, but this shall not apply to a reef or bed that has been exhausted within a period of eight years. (Acts 1919, p. 289; '25 R. C. S., 4027.)

**Sec. 79. Riparian Rights Prescribed.**—Whenever any creek, bayou, lake or cove shall be included within the metes and bounds of any original grant or location of land in this State, the lawful occupant of such grant or location shall have the exclusive right to use said creek, lake, bayou, or cove, for gathering, planting or sowing oysters. The Commissioner may require the owner of oysters claimed to be produced on such lands, when such oysters are offered for sale, to make an affidavit that such oysters were produced on such lands. If said creek, bayou, lake or cove is not so included then the exclusive right of the riparian owner shall, wherever the width of such creek, bayou, lake or cove is two hundred yards or less, extend to the middle thereof, and wherever the width of such waters is more than two hundred yards, extend one hundred yards from shore. The right of the riparian owner for planting oysters along any bay shore in this State shall extend one hundred yards into the bay from high water mark or where the land survey

ceases. The riparian owner's right to any natural oyster bed located on such one hundred-yard reservation shall not be exclusive. ('25 R. C. S., Art. 4028.)

**Sec. 80. Application for Oyster Beds.**—Any person who is a citizen of the United States or any domestic corporation shall have the right of obtaining a location for planting oysters and making private oyster beds within the public waters of this State, by making written application to the Commissioner describing the location desired. A fee of Twenty (\$20) Dollars cash must accompany such application. ('25 R. C. S., Art. 4035.)

**Sec. 81. Examining Location.**—When the application and fee provided for in the preceding article have been received by the Commissioner he shall examine thoroughly the location desired, as soon as practicable, with tongs, dredge, or any other efficient means. If the same be not a natural oyster bed or reef, and exempt from location by any article of this chapter, he shall have the location surveyed by a competent surveyor. In making said location, said surveyor shall plant two iron stakes or pipes on the shore line nearest to the proposed location, one at each end of the proposed location, which said stakes or pipes shall not be less than two inches in diameter, and be set at least three feet in the ground. Said stakes or pipes shall be placed with reference to bearing of not less than three natural or permanent objects or landmarks. And the locator shall place and maintain under the direction of the Commissioner a buoy at each corner of his oyster claim farthest from the land. No person shall locate water or ground covered with water for planting oysters along any bay shore in this State nearer than one hundred yards from shore. ('25 R. C. S., Art. 4036.)

**Sec. 82. Locator's Certificate.**—The Commissioner shall give the locator a certificate signed and sealed by the Commissioner. Such certificate shall show the date of application, date of survey, number, description of metes and bounds



with reference to the points of the compass and natural and artificial objects by which said location can be found and verified. The locator shall, before such certificate is delivered to him, pay the Commissioner's surveyor's fees and all other expenses connected with establishing such location. If such sums, as costs of the location and establishment of the claim, are less than the Twenty (\$20) Dollars paid to the Commissioner, the difference in amount shall be returned to such locator by the Commissioner. If such expenses amount to more than Twenty (\$20) Dollars, the deficit shall be paid to the Commissioner by the locator.

At any time not exceeding sixty days after the date of such certificate of location, the locator must file the same with the county clerk of the county in which the location is situated, who shall record the same in a well bound book kept for that purpose, and the original with a certificate of registration shall be returned to the owner or locator; the clerk shall receive for the recording of such certificate the same fee as for recording deeds; the original or certified copies of such certificate shall be admissible in evidence under the same rule governing the admission of deeds or certified copies thereof. (Art. 4037, R. C. S., 1925.)

**Sec. 83. Rights of Locator.**—Any person who shall be granted a certificate of location as provided for in the preceding article shall be protected in his possession thereof against trespass thereon in like manner as freeholders are protected in their possessions, as long as he maintains all stakes and buoys in their original and correct position, and complies with all laws, rules and regulations governing the fish and oyster industries. (Art. 4038, R. C. S., 1925.)

**Sec. 84. Limiting Location.**—No person, firm or corporation shall ever own, lease or otherwise control more than one hundred acres of land covered by water, the same being oyster locations under this chapter, and within the public waters

of this State; and any person, firm or corporation that now holds more than one hundred acres of oyster locations, shall not be permitted hereafter to acquire, lease or otherwise control more; provided, that no corporation shall lease or control any such lands covered by water unless such corporation shall be duly incorporated under the laws of this State. (Id., p. 198, Civil Code, 1925.)

**Sec. 85. To Maintain Markings.**—Any person, firm or corporation who has secured, or may hereafter secure a location for a private oyster bed in this State, shall keep the two iron stakes or pipes and buoys as provided for by law, in place, and shall preserve the marks so long as he is the lessee of said location, and this shall apply also to any person, firm or corporation acquiring any location by purchase or transfer of any nature, and said locator or the assignee of any locator shall have the right to fence said location or any part thereof, provided, that said fence does not obstruct navigation through or into a regular channel or cut leading to other public waters. (Art. 4040, R. C. S., 1925.)

**Sec. 86. Rental on Location.**—The owner or locator of private oyster beds under the foregoing provisions shall not be required to pay any rentals on such location for a period of five years, or till such time as he shall begin to market or sell oysters from such location or bed. When such locator shall begin to sell or market oysters from such location, he shall pay the State One Dollar and Fifty Cents (\$1.50) per acre per annum and Two Cents (2c) a barrel on oyster sales. Failure to pay such rentals by the first day of March each year shall annul and be a forfeiture of his lease. And if oysters are not marketed or sold from such location within five years from the date of location, such location shall become void. (Art. 4041, R. C. S., 1925.)

**Sec. 87. Oyster Permit.**—Any person who is a citizen of the State of Texas, or any corporation chartered by the State to engage in the culture of oysters or transact business in the purchase and

sale of oysters and fish and composed of American citizens, wishing to plant oysters on their own oyster locations or to take oysters from oyster reefs and public waters of the State for the purpose of preparing them for market, shall make application to the Commissioner for permission to do the same. In such application the applicant shall set out distinctly the purpose for which he desires such oysters and also the number or amount that he desires to take from the beds and waters mentioned. The Commissioner may grant such permit or he may refuse to do so. If he should grant such permit, he shall require the applicant to take the oysters he is authorized to take from the beds or reefs designated by such Commissioner and name them in the permit, and it shall be unlawful for any person to take oysters of less size than three and one-half inches from hinge to mouth from any such designated beds or reefs unless authorized to do so by the Commissioner; he shall mark off the exact area of such beds or reefs from which such oysters shall be taken; he shall designate the bottoms on which such oysters shall be deposited, if they are taken to be prepared for market; he shall require the applicant to cull the oysters on the grounds where they are to be located; he shall state what implements, such as tongs and dredges, shall be used in taking such oysters, and he shall make and enforce all other regulations he may think necessary to protect and conserve the oysters on such public reefs or beds. All oysters taken from or deposited in the public waters of this State as herein provided shall become the personal property of the person or corporation so taking or depositing them. Such person or corporation shall, by buoys or stakes or by fences, clearly and distinctly mark the boundaries of the private bed planted, or the boundaries of the deposit of oysters made for preparation for market; and no prosecution of anyone shall be permitted for taking such oysters unless the boundaries of such beds and deposits are established and maintained. (Art. 4042, R. C. S., 1925.)

**Sec. 88. Right to Private Oyster Bed.**—When any creeks, bayou, lake or cove shall be included within the metes and bounds of any original grant or location of land in this State, the lawful occupant of such grant or location shall have the exclusive right to use said creek, lake, bayou or cove for gathering, planting, or sowing oysters within the metes and bounds of the official grant or patent. The Commissioner may require the owner of oysters produced in said water when offered for sale, to make an affidavit that such oysters were so produced. The failure of the person claiming that such oysters were produced on his private oyster bed or bottoms, to have and to show such affidavit to the Commissioner or one of his deputies, or to whoever he offers such oysters for sale, shall be presumptive that such oysters were taken from a public bed, and on prosecution for the same it shall devolve on the defendant to show that such oysters were taken from his private bed, or bottom, of oysters. (Art. 961, P. C., 1925, Acts 2d C. S., 1919, p. 193.)

**Sec. 89. Theft of Oysters.**—Whoever fraudulently takes the oysters placed on private reefs without the consent of the owner of the private reef or from beds or deposits made for the purpose of preparing oysters for market without the consent of the owner of the oysters who has deposited them to prepare them for market under the provisions of law, shall be confined in the penitentiary not less than one or more than two years. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 209; Art. 962, 1925 P. C.)

**Sec. 90. License to Dredge Oysters.**—Anyone who is an American citizen or any firm, or any corporation composed of such citizens desiring to use scrapers or dredges in removing oysters from the natural oyster reefs of this State shall procure from the Commissioner or his deputy a license to do so. It is unlawful to use a dredge or any means other than hand tongs in removing oysters from such reefs in bodies of

water less than four feet deep, and it is unlawful to use a power dredge except one operated by hand power for removing oysters from such reefs in bodies of water less than six feet deep. Whoever violates any provisions of this article shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (Acts 1891, p. 157; Acts 1913, p. 269; Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 207; Acts 1923, p. 298, Art. 963, P. C., 1925.)

**Sec. 91. Oysters from Closed Reef.**—Whenever the Commissioner believes that any public reef is being overworked or damaged in any way, or where such reef has been worked under his supervision, he may close such reef against anyone taking oysters from it, but before he closes it, he shall give two weeks' notice of such closing by posting notices in such fish houses as are in two towns nearest such reef. In such notices he shall state the date of closing and the time for which such reefs shall be closed. Whoever takes oysters from such reef within the time closed by the Commissioner shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (Acts 1913, p. 274; Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 207, Art. 964, P. C., 1925.)

**Sec. 92. Oysters from Insanitary Reef.**—It shall be unlawful to ship, sell or possess for the purpose of sale any fish or oysters taken from insanitary or polluted reefs or beds. Any reef or bed of oysters which has been declared by the State Health Department as insanitary or polluted is, within the meaning of this article, insanitary and polluted. Whoever sells or has in his possession for the purpose of sale fish or oysters taken from such insanitary or polluted reef or bed shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 209; Art. 965, 1925 P. C.)

**Sec. 93. Taking Oysters in Closed Season.**—Whoever shall take or catch oysters from any public beds or reefs for sale or for market from the first day of April to the first day of September, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. Each day is a separate offense. That part of the Laguna Madre which is south and west of Baffin's Bay is exempt from the operation of this article. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 206; 1925 P. C., Art. 966.)

**Sec. 94. Buying or Planting Oysters in Closed Season.**—Whoever plants or buys oysters for planting, bedding, marketing or any other purpose from the first day of May to the first day of September in any year without the consent of the Commissioner shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (Acts 1891, p. 155; Acts 1913, p. 269; 1925 P. C., Art. 967.)

**Sec. 95. Shipping Oysters in Closed Season.**—No transportation company operating within this State, its officers, agent or employees, shall receive for shipment, or ship, within the boundaries of this State, from the first day of May to the first day of September of any year, any oysters from any public bed or reef for depositing or for marketing; provided, that nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit any such transportation company, its officers, agents or employees, from shipping or receiving for shipment, any oysters taken from a private bed located under the laws of this State, offered for shipment by the owner or owners, locator or locators, of such bed, such fact to be established by the affidavit of the person or persons offering such oysters for shipment. Any officer, agent, or employe of such transportation company violating any provision of this article shall be fined for each offense not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (Acts 1907, p. 238; Acts 1913, p. 269; Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 203; 1925 P. C., Art. 968.)

Sec. 96. **Scattering Oyster Culls.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to fail or refuse to scatter the culls of such oysters as he may take from the oyster reefs as directed by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, and it is hereby declared to be unlawful for any person to open or shuck oysters for market near or on the reefs or beds from which such oysters were taken, or to open or shuck oysters for market on any fishing vessel or barge, except when such vessel or barge be in some part or place where oysters are commonly sold. The shell from oysters opened or shucked on board any vessel or barge must be deposited on shore as directed by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner. Anyone violating any of the provisions of this article shall be fined in a sum not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars; nor more than one hundred (\$100) dollars; and on such conviction the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner in his discretion may cancel the license of the captain of the boat on which such person is employed or for which he is gathering oysters, as well as cancel the license to fish and gather oysters for such persons offending, and no new license shall be issued to such captain or to such person convicted for a period not to exceed two years. (1925 P. C., Art. 969.)

Sec. 97. **Sale of Oysters Taken for Planting.**—No person gathering oysters for planting or depositing for preparation for market, on locations obtained from the State or on private property, shall set, market or in any way dispose of oysters so gathered at the time of gathering, for any other purpose than planting or preparing for market, provided this shall not be considered as meaning the right to dispose of a location or oyster bed. Any person offending against this article shall be fined not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 206; 1925 P. C., Art. 970.)

Sec. 98. **Cargo of Young Oysters.**—Any person offering for sale, or who shall sell any cargo of

oysters which shall contain more than five per cent young oysters shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. Any oyster that measures less than three and one-half inches from hinge to mouth shall be deemed a young oyster for the purpose of this chapter. The Commissioner is authorized to permit the taking of oysters of less size than three and one-half inches from any reef he may designate, but it shall be unlawful to take any oysters from reefs other than those designated by such Commissioner, and anyone taking such oysters smaller in measurement than three and one-half inches from hinge to mouth from other than such reefs as designated by such Commissioner shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 971.)

Sec. 99. **Using Insanitary Container.**—Any receptacle for oysters which has not been thoroughly cleaned before oysters are placed in it, is hereby declared to be insanitary. Whoever sells oysters from such receptacle, or ships oysters in such receptacle shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 209; 1925 P. C., Art. 972.)

Sec. 100. **Floating or Bloating Oysters.**—No person, firm or corporation shall ship into or in this State, any oyster or shell fish in which any formaldehyde or other preservative has been placed, or any oysters or other shell fish which have been subjected to "floating," "drinking," or "bloating" in water containing less salt than in which they are grown, or oysters or other shell fish to which water has been added, either directly or indirectly, or in the form of melted ice. Unpolluted salt cold or ice water may be used in washing shucked or shelled oysters or other shell fish, if the washing does not continue any longer than the minimum time necessary for chilling, and whoever engages in "floating," "drinking," or "bloating" oysters in this State,



or who has in his possession, sells, or offers to sell any such oysters, shall be fined not less than Twenty (\$20) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 973.)

**Sec. 101. Buoy or Marker.**—Whoever shall deface, injure, or destroy or remove any buoy, marker or fence or any part thereof, used to designate or enclose a private oyster bed or a location where oysters have been deposited to be prepared for market, without the consent of the owner thereof, or any buoy, marker or sign placed or used by the Commissioner for the purpose of designating any waters closed against fishing or oyster taking, without the consent of said Commissioner, shall be fined not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 200; 1925 P. C., Art. 959.)

**Sec. 102. Public or Private Oyster Bed.**—All oyster beds shall be public or private; all not designated private shall be public. All natural oyster beds and oyster reefs of this State shall be deemed public, and a natural oyster bed shall be declared to exist when as many as five barrels of oysters may be found within twenty-five hundred square feet of any position of said reef or bed, and any lands covered by water containing less oysters than the above amount shall be subject to location at the discretion of the Commissioner, but this shall not apply to a reef or bed that has been exhausted within a period of eight years. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 193; 1925 P. C.; Art. 960.)

**Sec. 103. Seining for Drum.**—Any person leasing an oyster claim or oyster reef in waters where seining is prohibited may apply to the Commissioner for permission to seine for drum fish in such waters. In his application for permission to seine for drum fish he shall make oath that such fish are seriously damaging his oysters, and that if he is permitted to seine for such fish in such waters he will not take or destroy any

other food fish, but will throw them back into the water. If the Commissioner is satisfied that such damage is being done, he may grant such permission, specifying in such permit the length of time in which it is to be used and the claim or reef on which it is to be used. Such Commissioner shall assign a deputy fish and oyster commissioner to superintend such seining and no seine shall be dragged except in his presence, and for which a person obtaining the permission to seine as set forth above shall pay to the Commissioner Two Dollars and Fifty (\$2.50) Cents per day. (Civil Code, 1925, Art. 4046.)

Sec. 104. **Dredging Reefs or Beds.**—Any person who is an American citizen or any firm or corporation composed of American citizens desiring to use scrapers or dredges in removing oysters from the natural oyster reefs of this State shall procure from the Commissioner a license to do so, and such applicant shall pay to the Commissioner a license fee of Five (\$5.00) Dollars when using scrapers or hand dredges, and Fifteen Dollars when using power dredges, which license shall be for one year from the date of issuance thereof, and shall obligate the holders to observe all the laws of the State enacted to conserve the marine life of such public waters. Whenever the Commissioner believes that a natural oyster reef or bed is too open and exposed to be fished with hand tongs, and that such reef or bed can be improved by the use of dredges, he may grant the use of dredges on such reef or bed regardless of the depth of the body of water or exposure thereof, but only under the supervision and direction of a deputy fish and oyster commissioner; and the Commissioner is authorized to purchase boats and implements and employ labor to work such public oyster reefs and beds as he may think can be improved thereby, the expense of which shall be paid on warrants issued by the Comptroller on the sworn statement as to the correctness of such expense by the Commissioner. (Acts 1923, p. 298; 1925 R. C. S., Art. 4048.)

**Sec. 105. Measurement of Oysters.**—Whoever shall use any measurement other than that established in Article 937 for the measurement of oysters in the purchase and sale of oysters, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, and any person who shall fill the measuring box in the buying and selling of oysters higher than two and one-half inches in the center of such box, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars. (Acts 1913, p. 275; Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 194; 1925 P. C., Art. 938.)

**Sec. 106. License to Fish.**—Any person who is an American citizen, or an alien who has filed his intention papers and shows his desire to become an American citizen, desiring to fish in the public waters of this State, or fish for oysters, fish, shrimp, turtle, terrapin, clams, crabs, or other marine animal life, for the purpose of selling them, shall procure from the Commissioner a license to do so, and such person shall pay the fee of One (\$1.00) Dollar for such license, which shall be for one year from the date thereof and obligate the holder to observe all the laws of this State enacted to conserve the marine life of such public waters. (Civil Code, 1925; Art. 4032.)

**Sec. 107. License to Fish For Market.**—Whoever fishes in the public waters of this State for oysters, fish, shrimp, turtle, terrapin, crabs, clams or other marine life for market or sells such product of such waters without first procuring a license to do so, as provided by law, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than Fifty (\$50) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 934.)

**Sec. 108. Refusal to Show License.**—Any person fishing for market or for the sale of marine life and having a license therefor who refuses to show it to the Commissioner, or his deputy, when requested to do so, shall be fined not less than Five (\$5.00) Dollars nor more than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 935.)

**Sec. 109. Wholesale Dealers' License and Tax.**— Any individual, firm or corporation engaged in, or who may engage in the business as a wholesale dealer in fish and oysters shall secure from the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or one of his deputies, a license granting such individual, firm or corporation, permission to engage in said occupation for one year. For the purpose of obtaining this license, the applicant desiring same must make written application to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or one of his deputies, in which he (the applicant) shall set forth under oath, if required, that he is a citizen of the United States by birth, or not being so, shall state that he has been granted full naturalization papers, and by what court and at what time they were granted. Where a corporation applying for permit to conduct a wholesale business in fish, oysters, or other marine products as mentioned, contains foreigners, it shall conform to the foregoing provisions as applied to individual applicants. He shall also agree that because of the privilege which he applied for from the State of Texas, that all products handled by him shall at all times be subject to the inspection of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or any of his deputies; and in said application he shall authorize said Commissioner or any of his deputies to enter his place of business, or any place where he may have such products stored, and inspect same. He shall agree to keep correct record of all fish, oysters, shrimp and other taxed marine life handled by him under this law, in a book to be furnished by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, and further, that failure on his part to keep a correct record shall be grounds for the forfeiture of his license granted him under the application aforesaid. This application, having been duly executed and delivered to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or any of his deputies, together with a fee of Ten (\$10) Dollars for same, it shall be the duty of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner or his deputy, to issue to the applicant a license to en-

gage in the business set forth in the application. Said license must be signed by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or one of his deputies, stamped with the seal of his office, and state the name of the licensee, place of business, and the kind of license applied for, and shall be good for twelve months following the date of issuance. For such license the applicant shall pay One (\$1.00) Dollar for each one thousand pounds of fish, shrimp and crabs handled by him, and a tax of One (1c) Cent per barrel on oysters handled by him, which tax shall be paid monthly, the tax to be paid on the first of each month, which may be due upon said product handled during the preceding month, as shown by the record books, hereinbefore mentioned. And any person, firm or corporation, or association of persons, or any officer, agent or employe of any company, corporation or association of persons who shall engage in the business of a wholesale dealer in fish and oysters, or either, without procuring a license to follow said business, or without paying the tax and fee required by this article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars; and each day such business may be engaged in violation of this article, shall constitute a separate offense, and upon conviction of pursuing said occupation without payment of the tax and fee required by law, or for any other violation of the Game, Fish and Oyster Law, the license of such dealer shall be forfeited. A wholesale dealer, in the meaning and definition of this chapter, is any person, corporation or firm, or partnership engaged in the business of buying and selling or handling for shipments, fish, oysters, shrimp, turtle, terrapin, crabs, clams, lobsters, or other commercial marine life, in quantities of ten pounds or more to any customer during the same day, or whose daily sales, or whose sales per any one day amount to more than the aggregate of one hundred pounds of above mentioned marine products. (1925 P. C., Art. 936.)

Sec. 110. **Tax Deposit.**—The applicant for any license under this chapter (Sec. 109) based upon fish and oysters handled, shall, upon the issuance of such license, deposit with the Commissioner, if required to do so by such officer, an amount of money to be fixed by the Commissioner, in addition to the ten dollars required of him as a wholesale dealer as defined in the preceding article, sufficient to cover the estimated amount of tax that would be due by applicant, upon monthly business of applicant and against which deposit the tax due may be charged by the Commissioner, and said applicant shall make additional deposits in sufficient amounts to at all times maintain a deposit sufficient to cover the estimated tax that may be due by applicant, which additional deposit shall be made upon request of the Commissioner. (Art. 4031, R. C. S., 1925.)

Sec. 111. **Fisherman's Tax.**—There shall be and is hereby levied a tax of not less than one-fifth of one cent per pound on all fish, crabs and shrimp, whether from private or public waters, taken and sold or offered for sale in this State, and not less than two cents a barrel on all oysters sold or offered for sale in this State, whether from private or public beds, and offered for sale or shipment, and not less than one-half cent per pound on all turtles and not less than twenty-five cents on each terrapin offered for sale and shipment. Such tax shall be paid under such rules and regulations as the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner shall prescribe. For all purposes mentioned in this title or section, a barrel of oysters shall be deemed and taken to consist of three boxes of oysters in the shell; said boxes to be the following dimensions: ten inches wide by twenty inches long and thirteen and one-half inches in depth. In filling such boxes for measurements, such oysters shall not be placed or deposited in such box in a way that will make them fill the box more than two and one-half inches in the center above the height of the box. Provided, that two gallons of shucked oysters

without their shells shall be considered and deemed by this act as equal to one barrel of oysters in the shell. It is hereby specially provided that the title to the shells, from which oysters are taken shall remain in the State, and the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner is directed to handle, control or sell same as he may see fit. Provided, such oyster shells shall not be sold for a lower price than twenty-five cents the cubic yard. All moneys and royalties collected under and by the provisions of this article shall be deposited by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner to the credit of the Fish and Oyster Fund, hereinafter provided for. (Ch. 178, Reg. Ses., 39th Leg.)

**Sec. 112. Failure to Pay Tax.**—Any person who shall not pay or who shall refuse to pay the tax imposed on the taking and sale of fish, oysters, turtle, terrapin and shrimp, as imposed in Article 10 of Acts of 1925, page 439 (Sec. 111), or who shall not pay or shall refuse to pay the taxes established and fixed by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner in Article 10 of said Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction shall be fined in a sum not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, and if such person shall be a licensed fish dealer or fisherman or oysterman, his license as a fish dealer or fisherman shall be cancelled and not reissued for a period of three years. (Art. 939, P. C., 1925.)

**Sec. 113. Refusing to Pay Tax.**—If any person shall refuse to pay any tax provided in this chapter, on any fish, oysters, shrimp, turtle, terrapin, clam, crabs, or other marine life, which he has sold, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum of not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 940.)

**Sec. 114. Registering Boat.**—Any person who is a citizen of the United States wishing to use a boat in catching or taking fish, green turtle, ter-

rapin or shrimp, or gathering oysters or other marine life for market in public waters of this State, shall apply to the Commissioner for permission to do so. Such applicant shall furnish said officer, under oath, his name, place of residence, the name and kind of boat to be used by him, together with the number of men to be employed by him. Thereupon the officer shall register such boat, which register number shall be distinctly painted, as the Commissioner may designate, on such boat, for which registration he shall pay said officer one dollar and fifty cents, and said officer shall furnish the applicant with a certificate of such registration, valid for twelve months from date of issuance. (Art. 4033, R. C. S., 1925.)

**Sec. 115. License for Captain.**—Any captain or master of any boat wishing to engage in the business of catching or taking any fish, turtle, terrapin, shrimp or oysters or other marine life from the waters of the State for market, shall, before engaging in such business, secure from the Commissioner a license for such business by making written application to the Commissioner. Such applicant shall set forth under oath that he is a citizen of the United States and the name, class and register number of his boat. If the application be for a license to use seines and nets, the applicant shall state the number, class and length of the seines and nets to be used by him, and if the application be for a license to gather oysters, he must state the number of tongs to be used by him, and the applicant shall agree that all such products shall at all times be subject to inspection by the Commissioner and that said application shall authorize said Commissioner to enter at any time the boat or any house or place where he may have such products, and shall further agree to pay to the State a special tax provided for in Article 4030. Upon receipt of such duly executed application, accompanied by the applicant's registration certificate and one dollar, the Commissioner shall issue to the applicant a license to engage in the business set forth in



his application, and the license shall be subject to such limitations and control as prescribed by law. Said license must state the name of the licensee, name and class of his boat, and the date of issuance. Such license shall be for twelve months, if for fishing for fish, turtle or shrimp; and from September first to April first following the date of license, if for gathering oysters; and from November first to February first, inclusive, if for the purpose of catching terrapin. The license so issued shall be kept on the boat subject to the inspection of the Commissioner, and it shall not be transferable without the consent of the Commissioner having been first had, which consent or assignment shall be written across the face of said license. If such licensed captain or master shall violate any fish and oyster law of this State, or shall refuse to comply with any provision made in his application for license, the Commissioner is authorized to cancel said license and the boat registration certificate, notice of which shall be given by the Commissioner in writing and delivered to the licensee, and such license to such captain and the registration of such boat shall not be renewed for three years. Any person wishing to engage in the taking or catching of any fish, turtle, terrapin, shrimp, oysters or other marine life, for market, as employee of the owner or as a part of the crew of any registered boat, shall procure from the Commissioner a license to do so; such person, to obtain such license, must make written application to said Commissioner, setting forth under oath that he is a citizen of the United States or must offer proof that he has already filed his proper intention papers as required by the Federal government, and shall thereafter be vigilant in the securing of his final citizenship papers. One license issued to a captain or master of a boat under this article shall authorize such licensee to engage in the taking or catching of the products named herein. (Acts 1923, p. 294, Civil Code, 1925; Art. 4034.)

**Sec. 116. Season for Salt Water Terrapin.**—Whoever kills, takes or has in his possession any salt water terrapin at any time except during November, December, January or February shall be fined not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 957.)

**Sec. 117. Underweight Turtle or Terrapin.**—Whoever sells or ships any green turtle of less than twelve pounds in weight or terrapin of less than six inches in length of under shell shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 958.)

**Sec. 118. "Net" Defined.**—Whenever a net mentioned in this chapter as a trammel, strike, gill, hoop, pound, purse or other kind of a net, the standard net of such variety or kind or the usual or ordinary kind of such net as manufactured and sold as in or to the trade is meant. (1925 P. C., Art. 974.)

**Sec. 119. License for Mussels, Etc.**—It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to take from the public waters of the State for sale any mussels, clams or naiad or shells thereof without first obtaining a license from the Commissioner to do so. Said license shall expire one year from the date of issuance, and shall be in such form as prescribed by the Commissioner, but shall state the water in which the licensee may operate. The applicant shall pay to the Commissioner, as a license fee the sum of Ten (\$10) Dollars and in addition thereto the sum of Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars for permission to use a dredge. (1925 R. C. S., Art. 4056.)

**Sec. 120. License for Mussel or Clam.**—Whoever takes from the public waters of this State for sale, any mussels, clams or naiad or shells thereof without first obtaining a license from the Commissioner, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 975.)

**Sec. 121. Mischief in Prohibited Waters.**—Whoever shall wilfully and with intent to injure the owner, take any boat, seine or net or other device for fishing into prohibited waters, or shall use said articles for the unlawful taking or catching of fish, so as to cause the destruction of same, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars and be confined in jail not less than thirty nor more than ninety days. (1925 P. C., Art. 956.)

**Sec. 122. Certain Salt Waters Closed to Nets and Seines.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to place, set, use or drag any seine, net or other device for catching fish and shrimp other than the ordinary pole and line, casting rod and reel, artificial bait, trot line, or set line, cast net, or minnow seine of not more than twenty feet in length for catching bait, or have in his possession any seine, net or trawl without a permit issued by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner or by his authorized deputy in or on any of the waters of any of the bays, streams, bayous, or canals of Orange, Jefferson, Chambers, Harris, Galveston and Brazoria counties, or in or on any of the inland waters, streams, lakes, bayous or canals of Matagorda county, or within or on the waters of Agua Dulce Creek, Oso Creek, Shamrock Cove, Nueces Bay, Ingleside Cove, Red Fish Cove, Shoal Bay, Mud Flats, Shallow Bay, which are more clearly defined as beginning at the South West end of "Red Fish Cove," thence south on a line intersecting Corpus Christi Channel, and all the waters lying from this line, the said Channel, and between Harbor Island and the Mainland to Aransas Bay; all of Aransas Bay between Port Aransas and Corpus Christi Bayou and lying between Harbor Island and Mud Island; Copano Bay, Mission Bay in Refugio County, Puerto Bay, St. Charles Bay, Hynes Bay, Contec Lake, Powderhorn Lake, Oyster Lake; Sabine Pass, leading from Sabine Lake to the Gulf of Mexico; San Luis Pass, leading from Galveston West Bay to the Gulf of Mexico; Turtle Bay; Brown's Cedar Pass;

Mitchell's Cut, Pass Cavallo, leading from Matagorda Bay to the Gulf of Mexico; Cedar Bayou, leading from Mesquite Bay to the Gulf of Mexico; North Pass or St. Jo Pass; Aransas Pass, leading from Aransas Bay to the Gulf of Mexico; Corpus Christi Pass, leading from Corpus Christi Bay to the Gulf of Mexico; Brazos Santiago Pass, leading from the Lower Laguna Madre to the Gulf of Mexico, or the pass on the north of Laguna Madre, leading into Corpus Christi Bay, which pass shall be defined as beginning one-fourth of a mile southeast of Peat Island and running from said point to Flour Bluff in Nueces County, or in or on the waters within one mile of the passes herein mentioned, connecting the bays and tidal waters of this State with the Gulf of Mexico or in or on or within a mile of any other such passes, or within the waters of any pass, stream or canal leading from one body of Texas bay or coastal waters into another body of such waters; providing that nothing in this article shall prevent the use of spear or gig and light for the purpose of taking flounders.

Provided that it shall be unlawful for any person to drag any seine, or use any drag seine, or shrimp trawl for catching fish or shrimp, or to take or catch fish or shrimp with any device other than with the ordinary pole and line, casting rod, rod and reel, artificial bait, trot line, set line, or cast net, or minnow seine of not more than twenty feet in length for catching bait, or to use a set net, trammel net or strike net, the meshes of which shall not be less than one and one-half inches from knot to knot, in any of the tidal bays, streams, bayous, lakes, lagoons, or inlets, or parts of such tidal waters of this State not mentioned in Section 1 hereof.

Provided that shrimp trawls may be used for taking shrimp in Matagorda Bay, San Antonio Bay or that part of Aransas Bay and all that part of Corpus Christi Bay not mentioned in Section 1.

Provided that it shall be unlawful to attach to any set net, strike net or trammel net used in any of the waters of any of the tidal bays, streams, bayous, lakes, lagoons, or inlets of this State, any cork line or lead line of a size greater than one-fourth inch in diameter.

Provided that it shall be unlawful to take any shrimp from any of the waters of this State of less length than five and one-half inches; provided that fifteen per cent of any cargo of shrimp may be of less size. (Ch. 119, p. 269, Acts 41st Leg.)

Provided that it shall be unlawful for any person to take or have in his possession in this State, any speckled sea trout of less length than twelve inches, any red fish of less length than twelve inches or of greater length than thirty-two inches, or any drum of less length than eight inches or of greater length than twenty inches, any flounder of less length than twelve inches, or any sheephead of less length than eight inches. (H. B. 91, Acts 5 C. S., 41st Leg.)

Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on first conviction shall be fined in a sum of not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars; and on second or more convictions shall be fined in a sum of not less than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars, and his fisherman's license or dealer's license or both shall be automatically canceled and he shall not be entitled to receive another fisherman's license or dealer's license for one year from the date of his conviction; and provided that the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner of Texas or his deputy shall have the power and right to seize and hold nets, seines or other tackle in his possession as evidence until after the trial of defendant and no suit shall be maintained against him therefor.

All laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith

are hereby expressly repealed. (1925 P. C., Art. 941; Ch. 119, p. 269, Acts 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 122a. Gulf Shore Line.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to place, set, use or drag any seine, net, or other device for catching fish or shrimp other than the ordinary pole and line, casting rod and reel, artificial bait, trot line, set line, or cast net or minnow seine of more than twenty feet in length for catching bait, or have in his possession any seine, net or trawl in or on the waters of the Gulf shore line one-fourth mile from mean low tide from the south end of Padre Island to a point on Mustang Island two miles north of Corpus Christi pass. Provided that nothing in this Act shall prevent the use of spear or gig or light for the purpose of taking flounders.

Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on first conviction shall be fined in a sum of not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars; and on second or more conviction shall be fined in a sum of not less than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars, and his fisherman's license or dealer's license or both shall be automatically canceled and he shall not be entitled to receive another fisherman's license or dealer's license for one year from the date of his conviction; and provided that the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner of Texas or his deputy shall have the power and right to seize and hold nets, seines or other tackle in his possession as evidence until after the trial of defendant and no suit shall be maintained against him therefor. (S. B. 144, Acts 2nd C. S.; 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 122b. Fish Pound in Gulf Waters.**—It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect, set, operate or maintain any fish pound net in any waters of the Gulf of Mexico within three nautical miles from the coast line of this State, without first obtaining a permit for such

purpose. Application for such permits shall be made to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner. Such Commissioner shall issue to the person, firm or corporation applying therefor, if entitled thereto under the provisions of this chapter, a permit duly signed, to erect, set, operate or maintain a fish pound net in the waters above specified. No person, firm or corporation shall set, erect, operate, or maintain any pound net at any place closer than three miles of any other pound net owned or operated by any other person, firm or corporation; provided, further, that no pound net shall ever be placed or operated closer than three miles of any pass mentioned in this chapter. Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 954.)

**Sec. 123. Unlawful Possession of Seine.**—Whoever shall carry on, or over, or into the waters of any pass leading from the inland bays of tidal waters of this State to the Gulf of Mexico any seine or net, except a cast net used for catching bait, or minnow net not exceeding twenty feet in length, or shall carry by vehicle or in any other way, any seine or net except a cast net used for catching bait or a minnow seine not exceeding twenty feet in length to any point or place within one mile of such pass or shall have in his possession within one mile of any such pass, any net or seine except a cast net for catching bait, or a minnow seine not exceeding twenty feet in length, shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars, and be confined in the county jail not less than thirty nor more than ninety days. Nothing in this law shall apply to the carrying of nets or seines over closed waters within one mile of any town. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 205; Acts 1923, p. 298; P. C., 1925, Art. 942.)

Sec. 124. **Exceptions.**—Nothing in the foregoing article shall apply to vessels engaged in carrying freight or passengers, and engaged as sea-going vessels in coast and foreign trade, and licensed and recognized as such by the Federal government; provided, further, that the Game, Fish and Oyster Commimssioner may grant permits to persons desiring to fish, to carry their boats, nets and seines, and vehicles into, over and on such passes or closed waters or on land to within the mile limits of such passes, and such permits shall state at what time such boats, vehicles, nets and seines shall be taken away from such mile limit and such passes. (1925 P. C., Art. 943.)

Sec. 125. **Proof of Possession.**—In all prosecutions under Articles 941 and 942 (Secs. 122 and 123) the identification of the boat or vehicle or the seine or net by which or from which the violation of the law occurred, shall be prima facie evidence against the owner or party last in charge of such boat or against the owner of the vehicle or seines or net. (1925 P. C., Art. 944.)

Sec. 126. **Seining in Salt Water.**—The mesh of all seines and nets used for taking fish in salt waters of this State, not including the bag, shall not be less than one and one-half inch square mesh. The mesh of the bags and for fifty feet on each side of the bags shall not be larger than one-inch square mesh. No seine or net of any kind of over two thousand feet shall be dragged or pulled into the salt water of this State, and any person dragging such seine, or dragging two or more seines which are connected or tied together with a combined length of more than two thousand feet, shall be upon first conviction thereof fined not less than Twenty (\$20) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars; upon second conviction thereof shall be fined not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars, and shall have his license revoked for a period of not less than thirty nor more than ninety days; and upon third conviction thereof shall be confined in jail for not



less than thirty nor more than ninety days, and shall have his license revoked for a period of not less than one year. (1925 P. C., Art. 945.)

**Commission Note.**—Wherever Sec. 126 conflicts with Sec. 122. the latter prevails.

**Sec. 127. To Tag Seines and Nets.**—All seines and nets used in the salt waters of this State shall be examined by the Commissioner or one of his deputies to see if they conform to the requirements of this law as to length and size of mesh, and if they are found to conform to such requirements, the Commissioner shall tag such seines or nets with a metal tag on which shall be indented the number of such seine and net; the cost of such tag to be paid by the owner of such seines or nets. The Commissioner shall then issue to the owner of it a permit to use such seine or net for one year from the date of such permit; such permit shall state the name of the owner of such net, the date on which it was issued, the size of the mesh and the length and kind of such net. It shall be the duty of the owner of the seine or net to keep the tag attached to such seine or net, and where a seine or net is used without such tag being attached, it shall be a prima facie evidence that such seine or net is an unlawful seine or net; and any person who shall drag, haul or set any seine or net in the salt waters of this State without first having such seine or net examined by the Commissioner or his deputy, and tagged, or who shall fail to have a permit therefor issued by said Commissioner or his deputy, or shall not keep such tag attached to such seine or net or attached to its floats, as prescribed in this article shall be fined not less than Twenty (\$20) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 946.)

**Sec. 128. Permit to Use Seine.**—All seines and nets used in the salt waters of this State shall be examined by the Commissioner to see that they conform to the requirements of Title 13, Chapter

6. of the Penal Code as to length and size of mesh. If they are found to conform to such requirements, the Commissioner shall tag such seines or nets with a metal tag, on which shall be indented the number of such seine and net, and it shall be the duty of the owner of such seine or net to keep the tag attached thereto; the cost of such tag, twenty-five cents, to be paid by the owner of such seine or net. The Commissioner shall then issue to the owner a permit to use such seine or net for one year from the date of such permit. And such permit shall state the name of the owner of such net, the date on which it was issued, the size of the mesh and the length and kind of such net. The Commissioner shall keep a record book in which the date of issuance of such permit, the name of the owner, the number of the tag, the size of the mesh and the length of such seine or net shall be kept. The Commissioner shall have power to seize and keep in his possession all seines which do not conform to the requirements of such article as evidence until trial of defendant, and no suit shall be maintained against him therefor. (1925 R. C. S., Art. 4044.)

**Sec. 129. Seining Within One Mile From City.—** It shall be unlawful for any person to catch or attempt to catch any fish, green turtle, loggerhead, terrapin or shrimp in any of the bays or navigable waters of this State, within the limits or within one mile of the limits of any city or town in this State, with seines, drags, fykes, set nets, trammel nets, traps, dams or weirs. A town or city in the meaning of this article shall be the collection of one hundred families within an area of one square mile. Anyone violating any provision of this article shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. In all prosecutions the identification of the boat from which such violation occurs shall be the prima facie evidence against the owner, lessee, person in charge or master of such boat. It shall be the

duty of such town to establish and maintain the buoys, stakes or other marks designating the limits of the one mile within which such seines shall be hauled and such nets set. (1925 P. C., Art. 947.)

**Sec. 130. Net for Shrimp.**—The Commissioner is hereby authorized to permit the use of any shrimp seine or other device for catching shrimp in the tidal waters of this State. Any person desiring to use such seines shall apply to the Commissioner or his deputy for a permit to use such seine, net or other contrivance for catching shrimp, and such Commissioner or his deputy shall fix and establish the mesh, construction, depth and length of such seine or net or other contrivance so that it shall not be used for other purposes than in taking shrimp, and he shall tag such seine officially and issue such permit and shall state in what waters and localities such seines or nets shall be used. Any person using such shrimp seine or other contrivance for catching shrimp in the tidal waters of this State without the permit herein provided for, or who shall use any seine or contrivance or net in any waters or locality other than that stated in such permit, shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 950.)

**Sec. 130a. Catching and Selling Shrimp for Bait.**—It shall be lawful for any person at any time to take shrimp of any size for bait from any of the tidal waters of this State with a minnow seine of not more than twenty feet in length, with a cast net of a shrimp trawl, provided that such shrimp trawl shall not be more than ten feet in width at the mouth and not more than twenty-five feet in length and providing that any and all persons who offer such bait shrimp for sale shall comply with the provisions of the laws of this State requiring a license before any of the marine products of this State may be taken for the purpose of sale.

The towing of any shrimp trawl of a greater size than that herein specified in any of the waters of this State in which the use of shrimp trawls is otherwise prohibited shall be prima facie evidence of guilt.

Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (S. B. 87, Acts 4 C. S., 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 131. Seiners Shall Return Small Fish.**—Any person dragging a seine or engaging in taking fish in a set net shall return to the water all fish under and above size according to the measure or weight established in this chapter, and all other fish except sharks, gars, rays, turtle, and terrapin, sawfish and catfish, except the gulf-topsail cat, which may be retained, and any person not returning such fish to the water as required by this article shall be fined not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 949.)

**Sec. 132. Protection of Reservation.**—It shall be unlawful to bring into or keep on any fish hatchery or reservation for the propagation or exhibition of any birds, fowls or animals, any cat, dog or other predacious animals, and any such animal found on the grounds of such hatcheries or reservation is held to be a nuisance, and the deputy in charge shall abate and destroy it as a nuisance, and no suit for damages shall be maintained therefor. (1925 R. C. S., Art. 4049.)

**Sec. 133. Trespass on Hatchery or Reservation.**—Any person entering and trespassing on the grounds of any State fish hatchery or on the grounds set apart by the State for the propagation and keeping of birds and animals without the permission of the Commissioner or deputy in charge of such reservation, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 978a.)

**Sec. 134. Protecting Fish and Game in Hatchery.**—Whoever shall take, injure or kill any fish kept by the State in its hatcheries, or any bird or animal kept by the State on its reservation grounds or elsewhere for propagation or exhibition purposes, shall be fined not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 978b.)

**Sec. 135. Explosives and Poisons.**—The catching, taking or the attempt to catch or take any fish, green turtle or terrapin in any of the salt or fresh waters, lakes or streams in the State by poison, lime, dynamite, nitroglycerine, giant powder or other explosive, or by the use of drugs, substances, or things deleterious to fish life, is hereby prohibited; and any person offending against this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars, and by confinement in the county jail not less than thirty nor more than ninety days. (1925 P. C., Art. 924.)

**Sec. 136. Taking Fish Without Consent of Owner.**—Whoever shall take, catch, ensnare or trap any fish by means of nets or seines or by poisoning, polluting, or by use of any explosives, or by muddying, ditching or draining in any lake, pool, or pond in any county in this State without the consent of the owner of such lake, pool or pond, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. In prosecutions hereunder the burden to prove such consent shall be upon the defendant. (1925 P. C., Art. 925.)

**Sec. 137. Fresh Water Streams Defined.**—For the purpose of establishing the dividing line between the salt and fresh waters of this State, in so far as it pertains to the fishing laws, all fresh water rivers and streams in this State, and all lakes, lagoons and bodies of rivers, except tidal bays or coastal waters, such as bays and gulfs,

shall be and are hereby declared to be fresh water streams and rivers to their mouths, and it shall be unlawful to set nets or drag seines or fish in other ways in such streams, rivers and their connecting lakes, lagoons, and bodies of water mentioned, except in conformity with the laws enacted to govern, apply and control in fresh water fishing. (1925 P. C., Art. 926.)

**Sec. 138. Fishing in Fresh Waters.**—Except the ordinary hook and line or trot line, or a set or drag net or seine, the meshes of which shall be three or more inches square, or a minnow seine not more than twenty feet long used for catching bait, no person shall place in any fresh water river, creek, lake, bayou, pool, lagoon or tank, in this State, any net, trap or other device for catching fish, or take or catch any fish from said waters with any net, seine, device, or hook and line or trot line, other than as permitted herein. Whoever violates any provision of this article shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 927.)

**Sec. 139. Fishing in Closed Fresh Waters.**—The Commissioner is authorized to close any fresh water river, creek, lake, pool, bayou, lagoon or tank in this State, against the use of nets or seine or any particular kind of such nets and seines whenever he thinks that such closing is necessary or best to protect and conserve the fish in such waters. Before closing such waters against the use of seines or nets or any particular kind of seine or net, he shall give notice by posting his intentions for two weeks, at not less than three stores or other places in proximity to such waters. Whoever shall fish with a net or seine in such closed waters, or who shall use such particular kind of net or seine as forbidden in such waters after the notice given as above required, shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 928.)

**Sec. 140. March and April Closed to Seines and Artificial Bait.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to catch any fish in the fresh waters of this State with any seine or net other than minnow seine not exceeding twenty feet in length, or to drag any seine, except such specified minnow seine, or to set any net, in the fresh waters of this State during the months of March and April, or to fish with any artificial bait of any kind in the fresh waters of this State during the months of March and April. Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be upon conviction, fined a sum of not less than Twenty (\$20) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars.

Provided, this article shall not apply to any artificial lake, pond or pool, owned by any person, firm, corporation, city or town, that does not have as its source of water supply a river or creek or is not subject to overflow from a river or creek. (1925 P. C., Art. 951.)

**Sec. 141. Private Fresh Waters.**—Such of the fresh water lakes, rivers, creeks and bayous within this State as may be embraced in any survey or private land shall not be sold, but shall remain open to the public. If the Commissioner stocks them with fish he is authorized to protect same for such time and under such rules as he may prescribe. (1915 R. C. S., Art. 4029.)

**Sec. 142. Metallic Seines.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to set or drag in any of the fresh waters of this State any net or seine made of wire or other metallic substance.

It shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch or attempt to take or catch fish in the fresh waters, rivers, creeks, lakes, bayous, lagoons, or in lakes or sloughs, subject to overflow from rivers or streams in this State, by any other means other than by the ordinary hook and line or trot line, or by a set or a drag net or a seine or a trammel net, the meshes of which are

three or more inches square, by a minnow seine, not more than twenty feet in length, and it shall be unlawful for any person to place in the fresh water rivers, creeks, lakes, bayous, lagoons of this State any net or other device or trap for taking or catching fish other than as designated and permitted by this article.

Any person violating any provision of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, shall be fined in any sum not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars.

Any fish trap, net or seine or other seine or other fishing device found in the waters of this State, in violation of this article, are hereby declared to be a nuisance, and it shall be the duty of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner and his deputies to destroy same whenever found, and no suit shall be maintained against them therefor.

Provided, that the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner is authorized to close any of the waters mentioned in this article against the use of nets or seines or any particular kind of such nets and seines, whenever he thinks that such closing is necessary or best to protect and conserve the fish in such waters. But before closing such waters against the use of seines or nets or any particular kind of seine or net, he shall give notice by posting his intentions for two weeks at not less than three stores or other places in proximity to such waters.

Any person who shall fish with a net or seine in such closed waters or shall use such particular kind of net or seine, as forbidden in such waters, after the notice given as above required, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be fined in a sum of not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, and not more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 948.)



**Sec. 143. Oversize and Undersize Fish for Sale.**

—It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, or offer for sale, or to have in his possession, or to have on board any boat or to have in any mercantile business establishment, or in any market where merchandise is disposed of, any redfish, or channel bass of greater length than thirty-two inches, or less than fourteen inches, any salt water or speckled sea trout of less than twelve inches; any sheephead of less than nine inches in length; any flounder of less than twelve inches in length; any pompano of less than nine inches in length; any mackerel of less than fourteen inches in length, and any salt water gaff-topsail of less than eleven inches in length. (See Section 122 of this book for correct sizes of fish.)

The place of sale or offering for sale or possession shall, for the purpose of this chapter to establish venue, be either the place from which such fish are shipped or where the fish are found or offered for sale. It shall be unlawful in selling or offering for sale any fish mentioned in this article to sever the head from the body, except in case of the redfish and catfish in which case the head shall only be severed through the gill-cavity and the gill-fins shall remain on the body of such redfish or catfish. Such headless body of a redfish shall not measure more than twenty-seven inches in length, and such headless body of a catfish shall not measure less than eight inches in length; and all fish marketed or sold as mentioned in this article, must be weighed and sold with the head attached, except redfish and catfish as mentioned herein.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined a sum of not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than Fifty (\$50) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 929.)

-Commission Note.—Wherever Sec. 143 conflicts with Sec. 122, the latter prevails.

**Sec. 144. Venue for Under or Oversize Fish.**—A prosecution for a sale of fish of unlawful size may be begun and carried on either in the county where such fish were shipped or in the county where they were received or offered for sale, or in any county through which such shipments may pass. (1925 P. C., Art. 930.)

**Sec. 145. Undersize Bass, Etc.**—Whoever shall take or catch from the fresh waters of this State, or have in his possession any bass of less length than eleven inches or any white perch or crappie of less length than seven inches shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 931.)

**Sec. 146. Injuring Small Fish.**—Whoever at any time shall catch or take from any fresh water river, lake, bayou, creek, pond or other natural or other artificial stream or pond of water by the use of any means whatever any crappie or bass of less length than he is permitted to catch or take from such water, shall immediately return the fish back into such water; and unnecessary injuring of such fish shall be an offense under this article. Whoever violates any provision hereof shall be fined not exceeding One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 932.)

**Sec. 147. Closed Season on Crappie or Bass.**—Any person who shall take or catch or have in possession any bass or crappie from the fresh waters of this State during the months of March or April of any year; or shall take, catch or have in possession any bass of less length than eleven inches, or white perch or crappie of less length than seven inches, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be fined a sum of not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars.

**Sec. 148. Fish Ladder.**—It shall be the duty of every person, firm or corporation, municipal or private, who has erected, or who may erect

any dam, water weir, or other obstruction on any regular flowing stream within this State, on the written order of the commissioners court in the county in which such obstruction is erected, to construct and keep in repair fish ways or fish ladders at such dam, weir or obstruction, at the discretion of the Fish Commissioner, so that at all seasons of the year fish may ascend above such dam, weir or obstruction to deposit their spawn. Whoever erects or owns or maintains any such dam, obstruction or weir, and shall fail or refuse to build, construct and keep in repair such fish way, or fish ladder, within ninety days after having been notified by such Commissioner to do so, shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than Five Hundred (\$500) Dollars. Each week, after the expiration of ninety days after receiving such notice, of such failure or refusal is a separate offense. (1925 P. C., Art. 951a.)

**Sec. 149. Charts as Evidence.**—All United States Coastal Survey charts covering the coast of Texas are admissible in any prosecution under this chapter. (1925 P. C., Art. 977.)

**Sec. 150. Witnesses Must Testify.**—Any court officer or tribunal having jurisdiction of the offenses set forth in this chapter or any district or county attorney may subpoena persons and compel their attendance as witnesses to testify as to violations of any provision of this chapter. Anyone so summoned and examined shall not be liable to prosecution for any such violation about which he may testify; and a conviction of said offense may be had upon the unsupported evidence of an accomplice or participant. (1925 P. C., Art. 978.)

**Sec. 151. Screening Canal or Pipe.**—Every person, firm or corporation using any means for the purpose of taking water from the fresh waters of the State, when directed to do so by the Commissioner, shall place screens over the entrance of the canal, pipe or over whatever means are

used for diverting the water or over the mouth of the intake pipe for the purpose of preventing fish from entering said pipe or canal, the size of and regulations for placing such screen and any other obstruction shall be designated by the Commissioner. Whoever fails to comply with this article after notification by the Commissioner to do so shall be fined not less than Fifty (\$50) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. Each day is a separate offense. (1925 P. C., Art. 978c.)

**Sec. 152. Sale of Bass and Crappie.**—It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation, or their agents, to buy or sell, or offer for sale, or offer to buy, or have in his or their possession for sale, or to carry, transport or ship for the purpose of sale, barter or exchange, any fresh water crappie or bass within the State of Texas.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine in any sum not exceeding One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, and each sale or shipment or act in violation thereof shall constitute a separate offense. (1925 P. C., Art. 978e.)

**Sec. 152a. Rainbow Trout, Sale Prohibited.**—From and after the expiration of the closed season on rainbow trout as provided in Section 1 of this Act, it shall be unlawful for any person to take, possess, sell or barter any rainbow trout from any of the fresh waters of Texas during the months of January, February, March, April, and May of each year, which months shall constitute a closed season on rainbow trout.

It is hereby made unlawful for any person to take or have in his or her possession any rainbow trout from any of the fresh waters of Texas of a less length than fourteen inches, or to take and have in his or her possession more than five rainbow trout during any one day.

It is hereby made unlawful for any person

to sell, barter, or offer for sale or barter any rainbow trout taken from any of the fresh waters of Texas.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum of not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than Fifty (\$50) Dollars. (Acts 1925, p. 374.)

**Sec. 153. May Take Brood Fish.**—It shall be lawful for the Commissioner or the United States Commissioner of Fisheries and his duly authorized agents to take at any time and in any manner from the public fresh waters of this State all brood fish required by them in operation of the State and Federal hatcheries. (1925 R. C. S., Art. 4050.)

**Sec. 154. Salt Water Hatching.**—The Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner of this State is hereby authorized to construct and maintain salt water hatcheries, and propagation farms for fish, oysters and game, or either of same, on islands owned by the State of Texas in the coastal waters of the Gulf of Mexico touching this State; and the cost and expenses thereof shall be borne out of the money available to said Commissioner for the enforcement of game, fish and oyster laws of this State. (Acts 40th Leg., Reg. Sess., page 258.)

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## PART THREE-A

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### SPECIAL FISH LAWS

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**Sec. 155. Cherokee and Other Counties Closed to Nets and Seines.**—That from and after the passage of this Act, it shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch, or attempt to take or catch fish in the fresh waters, rivers, creeks, lakes, bayous, lagoons or in lakes or sloughs, sub-

ject to overflow from the rivers or streams in the Counties of Cherokee, Nacogdoches, San Augustine, Angelina, Sabine, Newton, Jasper and Tyler, by the use of a net; provided, however, the use of a minnow seine not more than twenty feet in length shall be not unlawful.

That whoever shall violate the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (Ch. 167, p. 369. Acts 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 156. Gin and Glade Creeks.**—It shall not be unlawful for any person or persons to catch sucker fish in the streams of the Gin and Glade creeks during the months of February, March and April, with any kind of trammel net. (Sec. 1.)

Any person catching or destroying any sucker fish in the streams named in Section 1 hereof, by poisoning, trapping or dynamiting or in any manner except as provided in Section 1 hereof, shall be punished in the manner provided in the General Laws of the State of Texas. (Ch. 203, p. 443, Acts 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 157. Denton County.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to take in one day from the public fresh waters in Denton County, more than twenty white perch or crappie, or more than fifteen bass, or more than twenty such fish combined. Any person violating this Act shall upon conviction be fined not less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25) and not more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (S. B. 62, Acts 2d C. S., 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 158. Young County.**—It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation, or their agent or agents, to barter or to sell, or offer for barter or for sale, or to buy any bass, crappie, perch or catfish, or any other fish except minnows taken from any river, creek, lake, slough, bayou, tank or pond, that flows or is situated

within the boundary lines of Young County; provided, however, that the Brazos River be not included in these waters, and further provided that by the term Brazos River is meant the Brazos River proper, and the clear fork of the Brazos is not included in this exception. (S. B. 39, Sec. 1, Acts 1st C. S., 41st Leg.)

Any person who shall use any lime, dynamite, nitroglycerine, giant powder or other explosive, or shall use any poison, drugs, substances or things deleterious to fish life, in catching, taking or attempting to catch or take any fish in any of the rivers, creeks, lakes, sloughs, bayous, tanks or ponds that flow or are situated within the boundary lines of Young County, including the Brazos River, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, nor more than One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars, and in addition thereto be imprisoned in the County Jail for any term not exceeding one year. (id, Sec. 2.)

It shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch any fish in the waters described in Section One of this Act by any other means than the ordinary hook and line, or trot line or artificial bait; and it shall be unlawful for any person to place in any of the waters described in Section One of this Act any seine, net or other device or trap for taking or catching fish, provided, however, that any person may use a minnow seine which is not more than twenty feet in length, and the meshes of which are not less than one-sixth of an inch square for the purpose of catching minnows for bait; provided, further, that in seining for minnows for bait, as herein permitted, all bass, species of bass, crappie, white perch, calico bass and bream of whatever size that may be taken by seining shall be immediately returned to the waters uninjured; provided, further, that no person shall use the minnow seine herein permitted for the purpose

of taking any fish other than minnows for bait. (id, Sec. 3.)

It shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch or attempt to take or catch any fish in the waters described in Section One of this Act by trolling from or in a motor boat. By a motor boat, as used in this section, is meant any boat to which is attached a gasoline motor, an electric motor or other means of propelling said boat other than by oars operated by hand, whether said boat is running or not; and providing further, that any person desiring to troll from any boat commonly propelled by an outboard motor, shall dismount the motor or other means of power from its accustomed place, and either leave it on the shore or place it in the bottom of floor of said boat. (id, Sec. 4.)

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation, or their agents to take or catch from or have in their possession any bass, crappie, white perch or bream taken from any of the waters named in Section One of this Act, on and from the first of February to the first day of May of any year. Provided, however, that the owner of any private lake, tank or pond, that is stocked with fish purchased from a commercial hatchery, may take or catch any fish said waters may contain at any time during the year; and provided further that any privately owned lake, tank or pond that has been stocked with fish from a State or Federal hatchery shall be closed to the taking of any bass, crappie, white perch or bream, except for the purpose of transferring said bass, crappie, white perch or bream to other waters for breeding purposes only, during the period between the first day of February and the first day of May of any year; and further provided that after five years from date of last stocking said lake, tank or pond with fish from a State or Federal hatchery, said owner may catch or take, or permit to be caught or taken from said waters, any bass, crappie, white perch or bream, at any time during the year, for any



purpose except to sell or barter them to any other person, firm or corporation, or their agent or agents. (id, Sec. 5.)

It shall be unlawful for any person to catch or retain, or have in his possession any bass, or other fish of the bass species, which are less than eleven (11) inches in length, or to catch or retain, or have in his possession, in any one day a total aggregate of more than eight (8) bass, or other fish of the bass species, taken from the waters described in Section One of this Act; provided, that it shall be unlawful for any person to catch or retain, or have in his possession from those waters in any one day bass or other fish of the bass species, of an aggregate weight in excess of twenty (20) pounds; to catch or retain, or have in his possession any crappie or white perch or calico bass which are less than eight (8) inches in length, or catch and retain or have in his possession any bream which are less than five (5) inches in length, or to catch or retain from, or have in his possession in any one day more than a total aggregate of sixteen (16) crappie or white perch or calico bass or bream or of any or all of those fish taken from the waters described in Section One of this Act; provided, that it shall be unlawful for any person to catch and retain or have in his possession from those waters in any one day crappie or white perch, or calico bass, or bream or of any or of all those fish of an aggregate weight in excess of twenty (20) pounds; provided, further, that it shall be unlawful for any person to catch and retain or have in his possession in any one day from the waters described in Section One of this Act, bass, or any other fish of the bass species, crappie, white perch or sunfish, or calico bass, or bream, or other fish of the crappie, white perch or bream or sunfish species, of an aggregate weight in excess of thirty (30) pounds. (id. Sec. 6.)

If any person shall at any time catch or take from any of the waters described in Section

One of this Act in the county named in that section by use of any means whatsoever any bass, or other fish of the bass species, of less than eleven (11) inches in length, or any crappie or white perch, or calico bass of less than eight (8) inches in length he shall immediately return the same into such water without unnecessarily injuring such fish; provided further, that the owner of any private lake, tank or pond which has been stocked with fish from a State or Federal hatchery, is not exempt from this provision, except he be removing said fish to other waters for rearing or breeding purposes; and further provided, that the owner of any private lake, tank or pond that has been stocked with bass, crappie, white perch or bream purchased from a commercial hatchery, may take or catch said fish at his discretion and is exempt from this provision; and further provided that failure to return any bass, crappie, white perch or bream of less than the length set forth in this section, or the unnecessarily injuring of such fish shall be deemed an offense under this Act. (id. Sec. 7.)

It shall be unlawful for any person, or persons, knowingly to place, throw or deposit upon the banks or grounds within five hundred (500) feet of any of the waters described in Section One of this Act in the County named in Section One of this Act, any bass, crappie, white perch, bream, sunfish, drum, catfish, or other edible fish, and leave such fish to die without any intent upon the part of such person to eat such fish, or in like manner to leave any minnows without any intent to use the same for bait. Any person found guilty of the violation of any provision of this section shall be fined in any sum not less than Two (\$2.00) Dollars, nor more than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, and each fish so allowed to die shall constitute a separate offense. (id. Sec. 8.)

Any person violating any of the provisions of Sections I, IV, V, VI, VII of this Act shall be

deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not less than Five (\$5.00) Dollars, nor more than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars for each violation of the law, and each fish caught, held in possession, sold or purchased, in violation of this Act, shall be deemed a separate violation hereof and a separate offense, and the person guilty thereof may be prosecuted either in the county where the fish are caught, where he is found with them in his possession or where the fish are sold or bartered or offered for sale or barter or bought; provided, that any person guilty of using a net or other device or trap for taking or catching fish as prohibited in Section Three of this Act, shall upon conviction thereof, be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, upon each conviction and in addition said seine, net or other device or trap so used for taking or catching fish or attempting to take or catch fish, shall be forfeited to the State of Texas, and shall thereupon become the property of the State of Texas to be held, used and disposed of by the Fish and Game Commission of the State of Texas. (id. Sec. 9.)

This law shall be cumulative of all general laws relating to fish and the protection thereof. (id. Sec. 10.)

If any court should hold unconstitutional or invalid any provision of this Act, such unconstitutionality or invalidity of that part shall in no way affect the constitutionality and validity of the remainder of this Act. (id. Sec. 11.)

Sec. 159. It shall be unlawful for any person to take or attempt to take any fish in the public fresh waters, creeks, lakes, bayous, lagoons, pools, or tanks in the counties of Harrison, Marion, and Rusk, State of Texas, by any method or device other than by the ordinary hook and line, rod and reel, set hook and line, trot line, or artificial bait.

Provided that nothing herein shall prohibit the use of a minnow seine not more than twenty feet

in length, for the purpose of catching minnows for bait but that all fish, other than minnows, sun perch for bait, not of a game fish variety, taken in such seine, shall be returned to the water immediately and while alive.

Provided that nothing herein shall prevent the use of a hoop net, set net, or trammel net, the meshes of which are not less than three and one-half inches square, for the purpose of taking or attempting to take buffalo fish, garfish, catfish, shad, and bowfin or grindle at any time except during the months of February, March, April and May of each year; and providing that all other fish taken by such nets shall be returned to the waters from which they were taken immediately and while alive. It shall be unlawful for any person to have in possession any fish, other than those mentioned in this section, at any time a net is being used or while engaged in the use of such a net.

All seines, nets, and fish traps, except minnow seines not more than twenty feet in length and hoop nets, set nets, and trammel nets, the meshes of which are not less than three and one-half inches square are hereby declared to be a nuisance when found in the public fresh waters of the counties of Harrison, Marion and Rusk, State of Texas, and it shall be the duty of all Game and Fish Wardens and other officers of this State to destroy same whenever found in such waters and no suit shall be maintained against them therefor.

Any person who shall set any seine, net, or fish trap or operate any seine, net, or fish trap or who is found in possession of any seine, net, or fish trap or takes or attempts to take or has in his possession any fish, contrary to the provisions of this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined in a sum not less than Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars nor more than Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars and shall forfeit his right to take or attempt to take fish in this State for a period of one year following date of conviction. Any person who attempts to take fish in this State within

a period of one year after he has been convicted for violation of the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined in a sum not less than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars and by confinement in the county jail not less than thirty days nor more than ninety (90) days. (H. B. 659, Acts Reg. Sess., 42nd Leg.)

**Sec. 159a. Cass, Bowie, Morris and Titus Counties.**—It shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch any fish in the public fresh waters, creeks, lakes, bayous, pools, lagoons or tanks in the Counties of Cass, Bowie, Morris and Titus, State of Texas, by any other means than the ordinary hook and line, set hook and line, gig or artificial bait, and it shall be unlawful for any person to place in the public fresh water rivers, creeks, lakes, bayous, pools, lagoons, or tanks in the counties of Cass, Bowie, Morris and Titus any seine, net or other device or trap for taking or catching fish; provided, however, that persons may use a minnow seine which is not more than twenty feet in length for the purpose of catching minnows for bait; provided, that in seining for minnows for bait as herein permitted, all fish and all minnows more than two and one-half inches in length shall be returned to the water at once while alive. No person shall use the minnow seine herein permitted for the purpose of taking any fish other than minnows for bait; provided, however, that nothing in this Act shall be construed to prevent the taking or catching of buffalo, carp, and catfish by the use of a hoop, trammel or gill net with meshes not less than three inches square in the fresh waters of Cass, Bowie, Morris and Titus Counties, State of Texas, save and except during the months of March and April of each year, and provided, further, that pond nets are hereby entirely prohibited.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. (H. B. 99, Acts 5 C. S., 41st Leg.)

Sec. 159b. It shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch any fish in the public fresh waters, creeks, lakes, bayous and lagoons in the Counties of Morris and Titus, the State of Texas, by any other means than by the ordinary hook and line, set hook and line, trot line, gig, artificial bait, hands, seine and net to be a three-inch mesh or more; provided, however, that persons may use a minnow seine which is not more than twenty (20) feet in length for the purpose of catching minnows for bait; provided that in seining for minnows for bait as herein permitted all fish and all minnows more than two and one-half ( $2\frac{1}{2}$ ) inches in length shall be returned to the waters at once while alive. No person shall take a minnow seine herein permitted for the purpose of taking any fish other than minnows for bait; provided, however, that nothing in this Act shall be construed to prevent the taking or catching of buffalo, carp or catfish by the use of a trammel, seine or gill net with mesh not less than three (3) inches square in the fresh waters of Morris and Titus Counties, State of Texas, save and except during the months of March and April of each year, and provided further that pond nets are hereby entirely prohibited.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in the sum of not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars. H. B. 717, Acts of the Regular Session of the Forty-second Legislature and all laws and parts of laws in conflict herewith are hereby repealed. (H. B. No. 33, Acts 1st Called Sess., 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 159c. It shall be unlawful for any person while using a seine or net in any of the waters of Cass or Bowie Counties for the purpose of taking or catching any fish to disturb, agitate, or beat upon, or in, any of such waters at the time of

using said seines or nets. Any person violating any provisions of this Act shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) nor more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00). (H. B. 915, Acts Regular Sess., 42nd Leg.)

**Sec. 160. Harrison and Marion Counties.—**Whoever shall take or catch from the fresh waters of Harrison or Marion Counties, or have in his possession in either of these counties, any crappie under the length of eight (8) inches or any bass under the length of eleven (11) inches, or whoever shall take or catch in either of these counties more than fifteen bass or more than twenty-five crappie or white perch in any one day, or whoever shall have in his possession in either Harrison or Marion Counties more than thirty bass or more than fifty crappie or white perch shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars, and each fish taken or possessed in violation of this Act shall constitute a separate offense. (H. B. 100, Acts 5 C. S. 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 161. Trot Lines With More Than Two Hooks.—**It shall be unlawful for any person to fish for, take or attempt to catch any fish in the fresh waters of San Saba, Gillespie, Blanco, Kendall, Kerr, Comal, Llano, Mason, Kimble and Val Verde Counties, Texas, by any means or device other than by ordinary pole and line, set line or throw line equipped with not more than two hooks.

Provided that Section 1 of this Act shall not apply to the waters of the Colorado and Rio Grande Rivers in any of the above mentioned counties.

Provided that it shall be lawful to fish with a dowagiac or other artificial bait equipped with more than two hooks, and provided a person may use a minnow seine of not more than twenty feet in length for catching bait.

Possession of any tackle, not authorized by this Act, within two hundred yards of any stream, lake or other fresh waters in the counties named herein, shall be prima facie evidence of violation of this Act.

Whoever shall barter or sell or offer for barter or sale or have in possession for the purpose of sale, any black bass, perch, crappie or catfish taken from the fresh waters within the above named counties, shall upon conviction be fined not less than Fifteen (\$15.00) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars.

No person, firm or corporation or their agents shall take, catch, seine, entrap by any means, or have in their possession any black bass, perch or crappie taken from any fresh waters in said counties from the first day of March to the first day of May of any year.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to have in possession any black bass of less length than eleven inches; any catfish of less length than nine inches; any crappie or white perch of less length than seven inches in any of the counties mentioned in this Act.

Any person violating any of the provisions in Sections 1, 3 and 4 of this Act shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars nor more than Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars. (S. B. 8, Acts 1 C. S., 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 162. Tom Green County.—It shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch any fish in the public fresh waters, creeks, lakes, bayous, pools, lagoons or tanks of the County of Tom Green, State of Texas, by any other means than by the ordinary hook and line, set hook and line, or artificial bait, and it shall be unlawful for any person to place in the public fresh waters, rivers, creeks, lakes, bayous, pools, lagoons, or tanks of the County of Tom Green, State of Texas, any seine, net or other device or trap for taking or catching fish; provided, however, that persons



may use a minnow seine which is not more than ten feet in length for the purpose of catching minnows for bait. Provided that in seining for minnows for bait as herein permitted, all fish and all minnows more than three inches in length shall be returned to the water at once while alive. No person shall use the minnow seine herein permitted for the purpose of taking any fish other than minnows for bait. It shall be unlawful for any person to take from the public fresh waters of the County of Tom Green, State of Texas, more than twenty-five of any kind of fish in any one day.

Any person violating any provision of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (H. B. No. 299, Local and Special Laws, 39th Leg.)

**Sec. 163. Fish in Comal, Guadalupe, Bexar, Kerr, Bandera and Medina Counties.**—Whoever shall barter or sell or offer for barter or sale any bass, perch, crappie, or catfish taken from any of the fresh waters of the counties of Comal, Guadalupe, Bexar, Kerr, Bandera and Medina shall be fined not less than Five (\$5.00) Dollars, nor more than Fifty (\$50) Dollars. (Sec. 1.)

Whoever shall use any dynamite, powder or other explosives in any fresh water streams of said counties and shall destroy any fish thereby shall be fined not less than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, nor more than One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars, and may be imprisoned in jail not exceeding one year. (Sec. 2.)

No person shall take or catch any fish in the fresh waters, creeks, lakes, bayous, pools, lagoons, or tanks in said counties by any other means than by the ordinary hook and line, or trot line or artificial baits, and no person shall place in the fresh waters, rivers, creeks, lakes, bayous, lagoons, ponds or tanks in said counties any seine net or other device or trap for taking or catching

fish; any person may use a minnow seine which is not more than ten feet in length and the meshes of which are not less than one-fourth inch square for the purpose of catching minnows for bait. No person shall use the minnow seine herein permitted to take any fish other than minnows for bait. (Sec. 3.)

No person, firm or corporation or their agents shall take, catch, seine, entrap by any means, or have in their possession any bass, perch, or crappie, or catfish taken from any fresh waters in said counties from the first of February to the first of May of any year. (Sec. 4.)

If any person shall at any time, catch or take from any fresh water river, lake, bayou, lagoon, creek, pond, or other natural or artificial stream or pond of water within said counties by use of any means whatsoever, any bass of less than eleven inches in length he shall immediately return same back into such water; and unnecessarily injuring such fish shall be deemed an offense under the provisions thereof. Each such fish shall constitute a separate offense. (Sec. 5.)

No person shall take from the fresh waters of said counties more than ten bass and ten crappie in any one day. (Sec. 6.)

Any person violating any provision of Sections 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this article shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than Fifty (\$50) Dollars. (Acts 40th Leg., Reg. Sess., p. 365.)

**Sec. 164. Big Wichita River in Wichita, Archer and Baylor Counties.**—It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation or their agent, or agents, to barter, or sell, or offer for barter, or sale, or to buy any bass, perch, crappie, or catfish, or any other fish except minnows, taken from any of the waters which are located in the valley of the Big Wichita river from where the lower or diversion dam on the Big Wichita river is located, which was built by the Wichita County Water Improvement District No. 1 in the north-

east corner of Archer county, Texas, and from said dam and above the same up the valley of said Big Wichita river to the storage dam on said river by said Wichita County Water Improvement District No. 1, in Baylor county, Texas, and up the valley of said river from said storage dam as far as the water by said storage dam is impounded in said river in Baylor county, Texas, or in any water which is impounded in Archer county, Texas, and in Baylor county, Texas, by said Diversion dam, or in any water which is in Baylor county, Texas, by said storage dam, or in any water in Lake Wichita in Wichita county, Texas, and in Archer county, Texas, or in any water impounded by the dam across Holliday Creek forming said Lake Wichita in Wichita county, Texas, or in any water in the Big Wichita river in Baylor county, Texas, connecting with the big reservoir, or Lake Kemp, created by the storage dam, with the diversion reservoir, or Diversion Lake, formed in Baylor county or Archer county, Texas, by said diversion dam, or in any water of the irrigation canals connected with said Lake Kemp or said diversion dam, or in any water in laterals leading off from said canals in Baylor county, Texas, Archer county, Texas, Wichita county, Texas, or Wilbarger county, Texas, or in any water in Wichita county, Texas, or Archer county, Texas, in the lateral, canal, or drainage ditch leading from what is known as the South Side Canal out of said Diversion Lake from a point in the said South Side Canal in Section No. 16, of Denton county school lands, League No. 4, Wichita county, Texas, to Holliday Creek and thence down Holliday Creek to Lake Wichita in Wichita and Archer counties, Texas. (Acts 39th Leg., p. 166, Ch. 37.)

Any person who shall use any dynamite, powder or other explosive or any poison in any of the waters described in Section 1 of this act, and shall injure or destroy any fish thereby shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum of not less than

One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, nor more than One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars, and may be imprisoned in the county jail for any time not exceeding one year. (id.)

It shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch any fish in the waters described in Section 1 of this act by any other means than the ordinary hook and line, or trot line or artificial bait; and it shall be unlawful for any person to place in any of the waters described in Section 1 of this act by any seine, net or other device or trap for taking or catching fish; provided, however, that any person may use a minnow seine which is not more than twenty feet in length and the meshes of which are not less than one-sixth inch square for the purpose of catching minnows for bait; provided, further, that in seining for minnows for bait, as herein permitted, all bass, species of bass, crappie, and white perch, calico bass, blue gill bream and strawberry bream of whatever size that may be taken by seining shall immediately be returned to the waters uninjured and all other fish more than three inches in length, except minnows, shall be immediately returned to the waters uninjured; provided, further, that no person shall use a minnow seine herein permitted for the purpose of taking any fish other than minnows for bait. (id.)

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation, or their agent, or agents, to take, catch, seine, entrap by any action, or to have in their possession any bass, perch, crappie, or catfish, or any other fish taken from any of the waters described in Section 1 of this act, on or from the first day of February to the first day of May of any year. (id.)

It shall be unlawful for any person to catch or retain, or have in his possession any bass, or other fish of the bass species, which are less than eleven (11) inches in length or to catch or retain or have in his possession, in any one day a total aggregate of more than ten (10) bass, or other

fish of the bass species taken from the waters described in Section 1 of this act; provided, that it shall be unlawful for any person to catch and retain, or have in his possession from those waters in any one day bass or other fish of the bass species, of any aggregate weight in excess of twenty (20) pounds; to catch and retain, or have in his possession any crappie or white perch or calico bass which are less than seven (7) inches in length, or catch and retain or have in his possession any blue gill bream which are less than five (5) inches in length, or to catch or retain, or have in his possession in any one day more than a total aggregate of twenty (20) crappie, or white perch or calico bass or blue gill bream or of any or all of those fish taken from the waters described in Section 1 of this act; provided that it shall be unlawful for any person to catch and retain or have in his possession from those waters in any one day crappie or white perch, or calico bass, or blue gill bream or of any or all of those fish of an aggregate weight in excess of twenty (20) pounds; provided, further, that it shall be unlawful for any person to catch and retain or have in his possession in any one day from the waters described in Section 1 of this act, bass or any other fish of the bass species, crappie, white perch or sunfish, or calico bass or blue gill bream, or other fish of the crappie, white perch or bream or sunfish species, or an aggregate weight in excess of thirty (30) pounds. (P. 274, Ch. 192, H. B. 317, Acts 39th Leg.)

If any person shall at any time catch or take from any of the waters described in Section 1 of this act, in the counties named in that section by use of any means whatsoever any bass, or other fish of the bass species, of less than eleven (11) inches in length, or any crappie or white perch or calico bass of less than seven (7) inches in length, or any blue gill bream of less than five (5) inches in length he shall immediately return the same into such water without unnecessarily

injuring such fish; and the failure to immediately return such fish into the such waters or the unnecessarily injuring of such fish shall be deemed an offense under this act. (Ch. 37, p. 166, Reg. 39th.)

It shall be unlawful for any person to catch and retain or have in his possession any rainbow trout, or other species of trout or of any species of char within a period of six (6) years from the taking effect of this Act. (Acts R. S., 39th Leg., Ch. 37, p. 166.)

It shall be unlawful for any person, or persons, knowingly to place, throw or deposit upon the banks or grounds adjacent to any of the waters described in Section 1 of this act in the counties named in Section 1 of this act, any bass, crappie, white perch, sunfish, drum, catfish, or other edible fish, and leave such fish to die without any intent upon the part of such person to eat such fish, or in like manner to leave any minnows without any intent to use the same for bait. Any person found guilty of the violation of any provision of this section shall be fined in any sum not less than One (\$1.00) Dollar, nor more than Twenty-five (\$25) Dollars, and each fish so allowed to die shall constitute a separate offense. (Acts 40th Leg., p. 274.)

Any person violating any of the provisions of Sections 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not less than Five (\$5.00) Dollars, nor more than Fifty (\$50) Dollars for each violation of the law, and each fish caught, held in possession, sold or purchased in violation of this act shall be deemed a separate violation thereof and a separate offense, and the person guilty thereof may be prosecuted either in the county where the fish are caught, where he is found with them in his possession or where the fish are sold or bartered or offered for sale or bartered or bought. (id.)

It is made the duty of the district judges of

the judicial districts in which the counties of Archer, Baylor, Wilbarger and Wichita are situated to give a special charge upon this law to the grand juries of these counties. (id.)

This law shall be cumulative of all general laws relating to fish and the protection thereof. (id.)

If any court should hold unconstitutional or invalid any provisions of this act such unconstitutionality or invalidity of that part shall in no way effect the constitutionality and validity of the remainder of the act. (id.)

Sec. 165. **Jackson County.**—It is hereby made unlawful for any person to take or catch fish from any of the fresh water lakes, streams, bayous, and lagoons in Jackson County, Texas, by any other means than hook and line or trot line or flounder gig and light or by the use of cast net or minnow seine, not exceeding twenty feet in length, used in catching bait. Any person dragging a seine or setting a net in any of the fresh water streams, lakes, bayous, or lagoons in Jackson County, or any person catching or taking fish by any other means than hook and line or trot line or cast net and minnow seine not exceeding twenty feet in length, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined in a sum of not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars. (H. B. No. 120, 1st Called Session, 40th Leg.)

Sec. 166. **Sale of Fish Prohibited in Certain Counties.**—Amending Article 955, of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas of 1925, as amended by House bill No. 406, Chapter 257, General and Special Laws of the Regular Session of the Forty-first Legislature, and further amending House Bill No. 179, Chapter 304 of the Regular Session of the Forty-second Legislature to hereafter read as follows:

Article 955. If any person shall sell or offer for sale any bass, white perch, crappie, channel or other catfish, caught, trapped or ensnared in

the streams of the counties of Burnet, San Saba, Mills, Bell, Brown, McCulloch, Edwards, Coleman, Concho, Menard, Mason, Gillespie, Kimble, Sutton, Kinney, Uvalde, Real, Kerr, Comal, Val Verde, Bandera, Reeves, Ward, Loving, Pecos, Medina, Bexar, Hunt, Runnels, Rains, Williamson, Zavala, Dimmit, Lampasas or Llano, State of Texas, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in any sum not less than Five Dollars (\$5.00), nor more than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00). No person shall take or catch any fish in the fresh water rivers, creeks, lakes, bayous, pools or lagoons of the counties above mentioned by any other means than by ordinary hook and line or trot line, or artificial bait, and no person shall place in the fresh water rivers, creeks, lakes, bayous pools or lagoons of the counties above named, any seine, net or other device, or trap for taking or catching fish; provided, however, that persons may use a minnow seine which is not more than twenty (20) feet in length for the purpose of catching minnows for bait; or a net, the meshes of which are not less than three (3) inches for the purpose of catching carp and suckers in the Colorado River. In seining for bait as herein permitted, all fish and minnows more than three (3) inches in length shall be returned to the water at once while alive. No person shall use the minnow seine herein permitted for the purpose of taking any fish other than minnows for bait. Any person violating any provision of this Section shall be fined not less than Five Dollars (\$5.00) nor more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

No person shall take from the fresh waters of any county mentioned more than thirty-five (35) of such fish in any one day. Any person violating this provision of this Article shall be fined not less than Five Dollars (\$5.00) nor more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). The taking of such fish in excess to the number herein allowed shall be a separate offense.

No person shall knowingly place, throw, or deposit upon the banks or grounds adjacent to any



of the fresh waters, creeks, lakes, bayous, rivers, pools, or lagoons, or tanks, in the counties above named any catfish, perch, crappie, white perch, bass, trout, or other edible fish, and leave such fish to die without any intention upon the part of such person either to eat such fish or use same for bait. Any person found guilty of the violation of this provision shall be fined not to exceed Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00). The allowing of each fish to die shall be a separate offense.

Sec. 167. Any and all persons shall be permitted to take or catch suckers, buffalo, carp, shad or gar during the months of July, August, September and October in any of the fresh waters of Dimmit, Zavala, Medina, Uvalde, DeWitt, Brown, Hamilton, Coryell, Gonzales, Lamar, Bell, Collin, Grayson, Gillespie, Kendall, Menard, Kimble, Mills, Comanche, Blanco, Llano, Mason, McCulloch, San Saba, Cook, Denton, Jefferson, Orange, Mitchell, Fisher, Nolan, Chambers, Travis, Hardin, Lampasas, Fannin, Burnet, Williamson and Parker Counties with a seine or net, the meshes of which shall be not less than one inch square, and any and all persons shall be permitted to take or catch suckers, buffalo, carp, shad or gar with wire rope, or gig at any time of the year, provided, however, that any bass, crappie or white perch, catfish, perch, bream or trout caught by the above mentioned methods shall be immediately released in the waters from which they are caught.

It shall be unlawful for any person to have in possession any bass, crappie or white perch, catfish, perch, bream or trout at the time that such person has in possession any suckers, buffalo, carp, shad or gar taken by methods permitted in this Act.

It shall be unlawful for any person to have in possession any bass, crappie or white perch, catfish, perch, bream or trout caught while using a seine of not less than one inch square mesh or using wire rope or gig for the purpose of taking suckers, buffalo, carp, shad or gar from any of the fresh waters of the counties mentioned in Section 1.

Any person violating any of the provisions in Section 1, 2 and 3 of this Article shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars. Provided that this Act shall not apply to that part of Hamilton County drained by the tributaries of the Bosque River, which shall be controlled by the provisions of House Bill No. 671. (H. B. 610, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 167a. From and after the passage of this Act it shall be lawful for a person to take or catch catfish, perch, buffalo, and drum from the waters of Delta, Hopkins or Franklin Counties with a seine having meshes two inches square during the open season only. (H. B. 808, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 167b. It shall be unlawful for any person to take in one (1) day from the public fresh waters in Dallas, Henderson and Wise Counties, Texas, more than fifteen (15) white perch or crappie, or more than ten (10) bass, or more than fifteen (15) such fish combined. Any person violating this Act shall upon conviction be fined not less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and not more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). (H. B. 1019, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 167c. It shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch any kind of fish in any of the waters in Hays County, Texas, during the months of February, March and April of each year. Any person violating any provision of this Act, shall, upon conviction, be fined in any sum not exceeding One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars. (H. B. 866, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 167d. It shall be unlawful to take from any of the fresh waters of Rockwall and Grayson Counties, Texas, any fish other than by ordinary hook and line, set line or throw line, or by ordinary cord line seine or net, the square meshes of which are less than one and one-half inches, provided that any such seine or net may be used only

during the months of July, August, and September of any year.

Every person taking from such waters any bass or trout less than eight inches in lengths shall return same to such waters, and shall return to such waters any white perch or crappie, taken weighing less than one-half pound.

It shall be unlawful for any person to take any fish from such waters for the purpose of sale, or to possess the same for the purpose of sale.

Any person violating any provision of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by fine not to exceed Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars. Each act of taking any fish in violation of the provisions hereof shall constitute a separate offense, and each fish taken or possessed for the purpose of sale, as well as each bass, trout or crappie retained in violation hereof shall constitute a separate offense. (H. B. 566, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 167e. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation or their agents to barter or sell or offer for barter, or sale or to buy any bass, crappie, perch, channel or Opalouis catfish or any other fish taken from the waters of Lake Waco or the Bosque River and their tributaries in the county of Erath.

It shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch any fish in the waters described in Section 1 of this Act in the counties named, by use of drag seine or nets of any kind or by other means than the ordinary pole, hook and line with single hook or artificial baits such as are commonly used in bait casting and fly-fishing; provided, however, that nothing in this Act will prevent the use of a dip net, the diameter of which is not more than 36 inches, or approved trap for catching minnows for bait.

It shall be unlawful to catch or take from the waters mentioned in Section 1 of this Act in the counties named any bass, crappie, perch, channel

or Opalouis catfish during the months of February, March and April of any year.

It shall be unlawful for any person to catch from any of the waters mentioned in Section 1 of this Act in the counties named, any bass of less than 11 inches, any crappie of less than 8 inches, any green perch, breame, goggle eye or sunfish of less than 5 inches or any catfish of less than 10 inches. Or to catch in any one day more than 8 bass, 12 crappie, 20 green perch, breame, goggle eye or sunfish, and 15 channel or Opalouis catfish; provided, however, the aggregate of all such fish taken does not exceed 20 pounds in weight.

If at any time any person shall take or catch from any of the waters described in Section 1 of this Act in the counties named, any bass, of less than 11 inches, any crappie of less than 8 inches, any green perch, breame, goggle eye, and sunfish of less than 5 inches, or any channel or Opalouis catfish of less than 10 inches, he shall immediately return same to the waters without unnecessarily injuring such fish, and the failure to immediately return such fish to the waters or unnecessarily injuring such fish shall be deemed an offense under this Act.

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to troll from any motor boat or boat propelled by other power than ordinary oars or paddles.

Any person violating any of the provisions of Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Five (\$5.00) Dollars nor more than Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars for each violation, and each fish caught, held in possession, sold or offered for sale, or purchased in violation of this Act shall be deemed a separate offense and the person guilty thereof may be prosecuted in either the county where the offense is committed or where he is found with the fish in his possession or where the fish are sold or offered for sale.

It is made the duty of the district judges of the judicial districts of the counties named in Section 1 of this Act to give a special charge upon this law to the grand juries of these counties.

This law is cumulative of all General Laws relating to fish and the protection thereof. (H. B. 671, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Leg.)

**Commission Note.**—The above law (Section 167e) applies to ERATH County only as it has not been amended or repealed. The following law (Section 167ea) is applicable to waters of Lake Waco, the Bosque Rivers and their tributaries in McLENNAN, BOSQUE and HAMILTON Counties:

Sec. 167ea. Section 1. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation or their agents to barter or sell or offer for barter, or sale or to buy any bass, crappie, perch, channel or Opelousas catfish or any other fish taken from the waters of Lake Waco or the Bosque Rivers and their tributaries in the Counties of McLENNAN, BOSQUE and HAMILTON.

2. It shall be unlawful for any person to take or catch any fish in the waters described in Section 1 of this Act in the counties named, by use of drag seine or nets of any kind or by any other means than the ordinary pole, hook and line, or common trot line or throw line, or artificial baits such as are commonly used in bait casting and fly-fishing; provided, however, that nothing in this Act will prevent the use of a dip net, the diameter of which is not more than thirty-six (36) inches, or approved trap for catching minnows for bait, nor shall anything in this Act prevent the use of ordinary minnow seine of not more than twenty (20) feet in length; provided, however, it shall be unlawful to use any minnow seinè for any purpose other than catching minnows for bait, and it shall be unlawful to use such minnow seine for any purpose during the months of February, March and April of any year; and it shall be unlawful to allow any trot line to remain in any of the aforesaid waters during any daylight hours, between two

(2) hours after sunup to two (2) hours before sundown of any day.

3. It shall be unlawful to catch or take from the waters mentioned in Section 1 of this Act in the counties named any bass, crappie, perch, channel or Opelousas catfish during the months of February, March and April, of any year.

4. It shall be unlawful for any person to catch from any of the waters mentioned in Section 1 of this Act in the counties named any bass of less than eleven (11) inches, any crappie of less than eight (8) inches, any green perch, bream, goggle eye or sunfish of less than five (5) inches or any catfish of less than ten (10) inches. Or to catch in any one day more than eight (8) bass, twelve (12) crappie, twenty (20) green perch, bream, goggle eye, or sunfish, and fifteen (15) channel or Opelousas catfish; provided, however, the aggregate of all such fish taken does not exceed twenty (20) pounds in weight.

5. If at any time any person shall take or catch from any of the waters described in Section 1 of this Act in the counties named any bass of less than eleven (11) inches, any crappie of less than eight (8) inches, any green perch, bream, goggle eye, and sunfish of less than five (5) inches, or any channel or Opelousas catfish of less than ten (10) inches, he shall immediately return same to the waters without unnecessarily injuring such fish, and the failure to immediately return such fish to the waters or unnecessarily injuring such fish shall be deemed an offense under this Act.

6. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to troll from any motor boat or boat propelled by other power than ordinary oars or paddles.

7. Any person violating any of the provisions of Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Five Dollars (\$5.00) nor more than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each violation, and each fish caught, held in pos-

session, sold or offered for sale, or purchased in violation of this Act shall be deemed a separate offense and the person guilty thereof may be prosecuted in either the county where the offense is committed or where he is found with the fish in his possession or where the fish are sold or offered for sale.

8. It is made the duty of the district judge of the judicial districts of the counties named in Section 1 of this Act to give a special charge upon this law to the grand juries of these counties.

9. This law is cumulative of all general laws relating to fish and the protection thereof.

Sec. 167f. Any person who uses any method or device for the purpose of taking or attempting to take fish in El Paso and Kimble Counties, State of Texas, other than hook and line, pole and line, trot line or set line, or minnow seine for taking bait, such seine to be not more than ten feet in length and the meshes of which are not larger than three-eighths of an inch square, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) nor more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), and each fish taken in violation of the provisions of this Act, shall be a separate offense.

It shall be unlawful for any person in El Paso and Kimble Counties, Texas, to catch or have in his possession in any one day more than ten (10) fish of any one kind or variety except perch; and it shall be unlawful to catch or have in possession more than twenty (20) perch in any one day; and it shall be unlawful to catch or have in possession more than sixty (60) perch in any one week; and it shall be unlawful to catch or have in possession more than thirty (30) of any one variety of all other varieties of fish in any one variety of all other varieties of fish in any one week.

Any person violating the above section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten Dollars

(\$10.00), nor more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

This law shall be cumulative of all other laws for the preservation of fish in El Paso and Kimble Counties. (H. B. 1007, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 167g. That hereafter any person living in Wood County shall be permitted and it shall be lawful to catch or take any catfish, drum, buffalo, suckers, carp, shad, or gar in the fresh waters of Wood County, during any month of the year except the months of March and April, with a net or seine the meshes of which are not less than two inches square.

That it shall be unlawful to use any kind of net or seine in the fresh waters of Wood County during the months of March and April.

That all bass, trout, crappie or white perch, bream, or other perch taken or caught with a net or seine or trap in any of the fresh waters of Wood County, shall be immediately released, uninjured, to the waters from which taken, and any person failing so to do shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

That it shall be unlawful to sell or offer for sale any bass, trout, crappie or white perch, bream, or other perch caught in or taken from the fresh waters of said Wood County.

That any person violating any of the provisions of Sections 2, 3, 4 and 6 of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars.

That any person living in Wood County may hereafter, at any time, trap for drum, buffalo, carp, suckers, shad, or gar, in the Wood County waters of Sabine River; provided that all bass, trout, crappie or white perch, bream, or other perch caught in any trap shall be immediately released uninjured to the waters of said river, and failure



to do so shall subject all persons so offending to prosecution and fine as provided in Section 5 of this Act.

That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with any of the provisions of this Act be and the same are hereby repealed in so far as they apply to Wood County. (H. B. 846, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 167h. Any person shall be permitted to take or catch catfish, bass and perch from any stream, lake or waters, except any artificial lake covering more than twenty acres or ground that is fed by any stream or is subject to overflow in Wise, Jack and Lamar Counties, Texas, with a seine or net, the meshes of which shall be more than two (2) inches square, but if anyone shall take or catch catfish, bass and perch with a seine or net with a mesh of less than two (2) inches square in either of said counties, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in a sum not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars nor more than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars. (S. B. 400, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 167i. It shall be unlawful to take from any of the fresh waters of Hunt, Kaufman and Rains Counties, any fish other than by ordinary hook line, set line or throw line, or by ordinary cord line, seine or net, the square meshes of which are less than one and one-half inches; provided that any such seine or net may be used only during the months of July, August and September of any year.

Every person taking from such waters any bass or trout less than eight inches in length shall return same to such waters and shall return to such waters any white perch or crappie or other fish taken, weighing less than one-half pound.

It shall be unlawful for any person to take any fish from such waters for the purpose of sale or to possess the same for the purpose of sale, except carp, buffalo, drumfish and catfish taken from the

waters of Kaufman County, Hunt County and Rains County, Texas.

Any person violating any provision of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine not to exceed Two Hundred (\$200.00) Dollars. Each act of taking any fish in violation of the provisions hereof; or possessing for the purpose of sale, except such fish as mentioned above in section three hereof; namely, carp, buffalo, drumfish and catfish taken from the waters of Kaufman County, Hunt County and Rains County, which may be sold and possessed for the purpose of sale, as well as each bass, trout or crappie, retained in violation hereof shall constitute a separate offense. (S. B. 44, 1st Called Session, 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 167j. It shall be unlawful for anyone to catch and retain in any one day, or have in his or her possession, caught in any one day in this State, more than fifteen (15) bass, fifteen (15) crappie or white perch, thirty-five (35) bream, or thirty-five (35) goggle-eyed perch from the freshwater rivers, lakes, ponds or lagoons of this State; provided, however, that a person may catch and retain or possess during any one day, an aggregate of fifty (50) of the fish mentioned herein, and provided further, it shall be unlawful for any one person to have in his or her possession at any time more than thirty (30) bass, thirty (30) crappie or white perch, seventy (70) bream, or seventy (70) goggle-eyed perch, caught or taken from the freshwater rivers, lakes, ponds or lagoons of this State, and exempting the following counties, to-wit: Johnson, Hill, Ellis, Hood, Somervell, Wharton, Fort Bend, Matagorda, Brazoria, Galveston, Chambers, Kerr, Kendall, Bexar, Bandera, Scurry, Eastland, Callahan, Taylor, Nolan, Mitchell, Throckmorton, Fisher, Jones, Haskell, Shackelford, Stephens, Bailey, Lamb, Hale, Floyd, Motley, Cottle, Cochran, Hockley, Lubbock, Crosby, Dickens, King, Yoakum, Terry, Lynn, Garza, Kent, Stonewall, Gaines, Dawson, Borden, Andrews, Martin, Howard, Zavala, Frio, McMullen, LaSalle, Dimmit,

Webb, Duval, Jim Hogg, Zapata, Jim Wells, Kennedy, Nueces, Kleberg, Willacy, Brooks, Starr, Hidalgo, and Cameron from the provisions of this Act.

Anyone taking more than the daily limit, or anyone possessing more than the possession limit of fresh-water fish as provided for herein, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars, nor more than Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars, and any person convicted of violating any provision of this Act shall thereby, automatically forfeit his artificial lure license for said season. Any such person so convicted of violating any provision of this Act shall not be entitled to receive from the State a license to fish with an artificial lure for one year immediately following the date of his conviction, and it shall be unlawful for any person who is convicted of violating any of the provisions of this Act to purchase or possess an artificial lure license for a period of one year immediately following date of such conviction, and it shall be unlawful for any person so convicted of violating any of the provisions of this Act to fish in any of the fresh-water rivers, lakes, ponds or lagoons of this State for a period of one year immediately following date of such conviction. Any person violating any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars, nor more than Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars. (H. B. 328, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 167k. That from and after the passage of this Act it shall be unlawful for any person to sell, offer for sale, or have in his possession for the purpose of sale any black bass, trout, white perch, or catfish of less than twenty-two (22) inches in length, which shall have been taken from the waters of the Sabine, Attoyac, Angelina and Neches Rivers or any of their tributaries or lakes through which the flood streams of said rivers or any of their tributaries flow, in the counties of Angelina, Tyler, Newton, and Jasper.

It shall be lawful for any person in the counties of Angelina, Tyler, Newton and Jasper to use a net of not under three (3) inches square mesh for the purpose of catching buffalo, carp, suckers, gar fish, and catfish over twenty-two (22) inches in length. Any use of a net of a smaller mesh than herein mentioned or for the purpose of catching fish of less than twenty-two inches in length as herein mentioned, is hereby declared illegal; provided that any net used in said counties shall first be approved by the State Game Department.

Any person violating the provisions of this Act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) or more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or be imprisoned in the county jail not less than ten (10) days or more than thirty (30) days or by both imprisonment and fine, and each sale or each violation of the provisions hereof shall constitute a separate offense. (H. B. 73, Acts 1st Called Session, 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 167L. That the river bed of the Trinity River in HENDERSON and NAVARRO Counties shall remain the property of the State and shall not be sold and that all portions of this river bed, that are now the property of this State, shall not be sold, even though the channel of such river has been changed or may be changed, and providing further, that the people of this State shall have full right to fish in the waters of said Trinity River and in such waters that are in abandoned channels of this river, the bottoms of which are owned by this State, and shall have full right to hunt within the confines of such State property, provided that such fishing or hunting is in accordance with the laws of this State or such laws or regulations that may hereafter be provided.

The Commissioners Court of the County of Henderson or the County of Navarro is hereby granted full power to condemn rights of way in order that the public may reach the Trinity River or the waters of the abandoned channel of said river and

such condemnation is hereby declared a public necessity.

The Game, Fish and Oyster Commission of the State of Texas is hereby vested with full control over fishing and hunting in the Trinity River in Henderson and Navarro Counties and in such abandoned beds or channels of said river that continue the property of this State and said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission is hereby directed and charged with the duty of making necessary regulations that will conserve the game and fish within this area. Any hunting or fishing or the taking of any game or fish within the areas referred to in this Act, except in accordance with the regulations made by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, shall be a violation of this Act. Any person violating any such regulations or any part of such regulations shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) nor more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), and after conviction shall forfeit his right to fish or hunt with a gun in this State for a period of one (1) year following date of conviction.

It shall be the duty of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission to make investigations to determine how game and fish may be conserved in those portions of this State to which this Act applies. Any regulations provided shall be filed in the office of the County Clerk in the Counties of Henderson and Navarro and a copy of said regulations filed with the Secretary of State and a copy of said regulations shall be published in one issue of a newspaper regularly published in each of the counties of Henderson and Navarro and such regulations shall become effective ten (10) days after copies of such regulations are published in each newspaper in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

All laws or parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed and all laws or parts of laws affecting the taking of game or fish or the manner or means of taking game or fish or in

any way pertaining to same, in that portion of this State to which this Act applies, be, and the same are hereby specifically repealed in their application to this area, provided that if any portion of this law is held to be unconstitutional, that all laws in effect at this time applying to the areas specified in this Act, shall remain in full force and effect. (H. B. 27, Acts 2nd C. S. 42nd Leg.)

Sec. 167m. It shall be unlawful for any person to place, set, use, drag or have in his possession any seine, net or other device for catching fish and shrimp other than the ordinary pole and line, casting rod and reel, artificial bait, trot line, set line, or cast net, or minnow seine of not more than twenty (20) feet in length for catching fish in or on any of the waters lying between Padre Island and the mainland in Kleberg and Kennedy Counties including all back bays and inlets and that back of the Laguna Madre within Kleberg and Kennedy Counties; provided that nothing in this Article shall prevent the use of spear or gig and light for the purpose of taking flounders.

Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on first conviction shall be fined in a sum of not less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) nor more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00); and on second or more convictions shall be fined in a sum of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) and his fisherman's license or dealer's license or both shall be automatically cancelled and he shall not be entitled to receive another fisherman's license or dealer's license for one year from the date of his conviction; and provided that the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner of Texas or his deputy shall have the power and right to seize and hold nets, seines or other tackle in his possession as evidence until after the trial of the defendant and no suit shall be maintained against him therefor. (H. B. 67, Acts 2nd C. S. 42nd Leg.)

## PART FOUR

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### ARTIFICIAL LURE LAWS

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Sec. 168. License.—No person shall fish with artificial lures of any kind in the waters of this State without first having procured from the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner of Texas, or his deputy, or from a county clerk in Texas, or other legally authorized agent, a license to fish. (Ch. 268, p. 396, Acts 40th Leg.)

Sec. 168a. Fees.—Any officer, deputy or legally authorized agent, issuing any license to fish under the provisions of this Act, shall collect from the person to whom the license is issued the following fees:

If issued to a resident, the sum of One Dollar and Ten Cents (\$1.10), of which amount he shall retain as his fee Ten (10c) Cents, the balance of which amount he shall remit to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner on or before the 10th day of the month next succeeding that during which said license was issued. (id.)

No person who is a non-resident of Texas, or who is an alien, shall fish in the waters of this State without first having procured from the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission of Texas, or a deputy game warden thereof, or from a county clerk in Texas, or other legally authorized agent, a license to fish; and no person who is a resident of this State shall fish with artificial lures of any kind in the waters of this State without first having procured from the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, or a deputy thereof, or from a county clerk in Texas, or other legally authorized agent, a license to fish.

Any person required under the provisions of this Act to procure a license to fish who shall fish in, or who shall take by any means fish, oysters, shrimp or other marine life in any of the waters of this State in violation of the provisions of this Act without first procuring such license, or who shall fail or refuse, on demand by any officer, to show such officer his fishing license required of him by this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be fined in any sum not less than ten (\$10) dollars nor more than one hundred (\$100) dollars; provided the provisions of this Act shall not apply to a resident citizen of Texas who holds a license for commercial fishing under Article 4032 of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas of 1925, so long as he does only commercial fishing. (H. B. 836, Acts Regular Session, 42nd Leg.)

If issued to a non-resident, or an alien, the sum of Five (\$5.00) Dollars, of which amount he shall retain as his fee Twenty-five (25c) Cents, the balance of which amount he shall remit to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner as required under subdivision one (1) of this section; provided that he may issue to such non-resident a license good for only five (5) days, including the day of issuance, upon payment by the licensee of One Dollar and Ten Cents (\$1.10), of which amount the officer so issuing said license shall retain as his fee Ten (10c) Cents, and the balance of which amount he shall remit to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner as provided for in Subdivision One (1) of this section.

The officer issuing such license shall keep a complete and correct record of each fishing license issued, showing the name and place of residence of each licensee and the serial number and date of issuance of said license, on such form as the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner may prescribe; and the stubs of such licenses and the record thereof shall belong to the State of Texas and shall be filed with said Commissioner as and



when he may direct. (Ch. 268, p. 396, Acts 40th Leg.)

**Sec. 168b. Expiration Date of Licenses.**—The license provided for herein shall entitle the holder thereof to fish in the waters described in this Act until and including August 31st next succeeding the date of issuance thereof, except that the five (5) day license shall be good only for the five days from and including the day of issuance thereof and every license issued under the provisions of this Act shall contain: the true date of issuance thereof, the name of licensee, his age, height, weight, color of hair, color of eyes, county of residence if a resident of Texas, State or county of residence, if a non-resident of Texas or an alien, and such other information as the Commissioner may deem advisable to require, and the licensee shall sign upon said license a pledge to obey the laws of Texas as to fishing. (id.)

**Sec. 168c. Penalty.**—Any person required under the provisions of this Act to procure a license to fish who shall fish in, or who shall take by any means fish, oysters, shrimp or other marine life in any of the waters of this State in violation of the provisions of this Act without first procuring such license, or who shall fail or refuse on demand by any officer, to show such officer his fishing license required of him by this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum not less than One (\$1.00) Dollar, nor more than Ten (\$10) Dollars; provided the provisions of this Act shall not apply to a resident citizen of Texas who holds a license for commercial fishing under Article 4032 of the Revised Civil Statutes of Texas of 1925, so long as he does only commercial fishing. (id.)

**Sec. 168d. Non-Resident Defined.**—By the term non-resident, as used in this Act, shall be meant any citizen of the United States of America who is not a citizen of the State of Texas, who has not continuously for four months next preceding

the issuance of the fishing license to him been an actual bona fide resident of the State of Texas. (id.)

**Sec. 168e. Disposition of Funds.**—All funds obtained from the sale of the licenses provided herein, after the payment of the fees allowed under this Act, shall be deposited by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner in a special fund to be known as the Special Fish Propagation and Protection Fund; and this fund shall be used for the purpose of building and maintaining fish hatcheries, fairly distributed over the State of Texas and for the propagation, distribution and protection of fish in the State of Texas. (id.)

**Commission Note.**—March and April closed to artificial lures and baits. (See Sec. 140.)

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## PART FIVE

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### POLLUTION LAWS

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**Sec. 169. Unlawful to Pollute Water Courses and Other Bodies of Water.**—It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation, private or municipal, to pollute any water course or other public body of water by throwing, casting or depositing, or causing to be thrown, cast or deposited any crude petroleum, oil or other like substance therein, or to pollute any water course, or other public body of water, from which water is taken for the use of farm live stock, drinking and domestic purposes, in the State of Texas, by the discharge, directly or indirectly, of any sewage or unclean water or unclean or polluting matter or thing therein, or in proximity thereto as that it will probably reach and pollute the water of such water course or other public body of water from which water is taken, for the

use of farm live stock, drinking and domestic purposes; provided, however, that the provisions of this bill shall not affect any municipal corporation situated on tide water; that is to say, where the tide ebbs and flows in such water course; provided, however, that no city located on tide water shall discharge or permit to be discharged sewage, oil or any other effluents into public tide waters of this State when such discharge will become a menace to or endangers the oyster beds or fish life in such waters or when such discharge becomes a menace to the bathing places in such waters; and, provided further, that drain ditches, where waste oil finds its way into water courses or public bodies of water, shall be equipped with traps of sufficient capacity to arrest the flow of oil. In so far as concerns the protection of fish and oysters, the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or his deputies, may have jurisdiction in the enforcement of this chapter. A violation of any of the provisions of this chapter shall be punished by a fine of not less than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, and not more than One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars. When the offense shall have been committed by a firm, partnership or association, each member thereof who has knowledge of the commission of such offense shall be held guilty. When committed by a private corporation, the officers and members of the board of directors, having knowledge of the commission of such offense, shall each be deemed guilty, and when by a municipal corporation the mayor and each member of the board of aldermen or commission having knowledge of the commission of such offense, as the case may be, shall be held guilty as representatives of the municipality; and each person so indicated as above shall be subject to the punishment provided hereinbefore; provided, however, that the payment of the fine by one of the persons so named shall be a satisfaction of the penalty as against his associates for the offense for which he may have been convicted. Each day such pollution is knowingly

caused or permitted shall constitute a separate offense; provided, the provisions of this article shall not apply to any place or premises of manufacturing plants whose effluents contain no organic matter that will putrefy, or any poisonous compounds, or any bacteria dangerous to public health or destructive of the fish life of streams or other public bodies of water. (Acts 1925, p. 200; Art. 698, 1925 P. C.)

**Sec. 170. Polluting Public Body of Water.**— (This article provides in substance the same as Article 698 (Sec. 169) except in lieu of penalty provisions the following is added):

Upon the conviction of any person for violating this law, the court or judge thereof in which such conviction is had shall issue a writ of injunction enjoining and restraining the person or corporation responsible for such pollution. For a violation of such injunction, the said court and the judge thereof shall have the power of fine and imprisonment as for contempt of court within the limits prescribed by law in other cases, and this remedy by injunction and punishment for violation thereof shall be cumulative of the fine imposed. The State Board of Health shall enforce the provisions of this article. The Governor shall appoint an inspector to act under the direction of said Board and the State Health Officer, and said inspector shall make such investigations, inspection and reports and perform such other duties in respect to the enforcement hereof as the said health officer may require. (Acts 1913, p. 90; Acts 1915, p. 38; Acts 1923, p. 177; 1925 R. C. S., Art. 4444.)

**Sec. 170a.** It shall be unlawful to throw, cast, discharge or deposit crude petroleum, oil, acids, sulphur, salt water, oil refinery wastes or oil well wastes in or on any stream, water course or natural body of water of this State or in such proximity thereto that such crude petroleum, oil, acids, sulphur, salt water, oil refinery wastes or oil well wastes will reach such stream, water course or

natural body of water, providing, however, that salt water or sulphur water, when such sulphur water is so treated that it will not be harmful to aquatic life or marine organisms, may be deposited in the tidal waters of this State; and providing further that when it is charged that there is a violation of this Act by throwing, casting, discharging or depositing crude petroleum, oil, refinery wastes or oil well wastes into any of the waters of this State adequate proof must be submitted that crude petroleum, oil, refinery wastes or oil well wastes or accumulations of such deposits, covered an area of such water in excess of ten thousand (10,000) square feet or was on the surface of a river, stream, bayou or channel of this State for a distance in excess of three hundred (300) feet.

Provided that salt water may be discharged into a fresh water stream or other natural body of fresh water of this State at such time and in such quantities that it will not be harmful to nor contribute to the injury nor prevent the propagation of aquatic life, nor render such water unfit for livestock, domestic or irrigation purposes. All discharges of salt water contributing to conditions inhibited by this Act or cumulative of conditions inhibited by this Act shall be violations of this Act; providing that any and all discharges of salt water into a fresh water stream or other natural body of fresh water of this State, that produces or contributes to a salinity in excess to two thousand parts of salt in one million parts of water shall be violations of this Act.

Any person violating any provision of this Act or any director or officer of a corporation or member of a firm or partnership or receiver whose corporation, firm, partnership or receivership is responsible for the operations causing a violation of any provision of this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined in a sum not less than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200) nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000), and each day that such violation is committed shall constitute a separate offense. The Game, Fish and Oyster

Commission and its representatives is charged with the duty of enforcing the provisions of this Act and all fines and fees of the arresting officer, imposed for violations of this Act, shall be remitted to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission and deposited in the State Treasury to the credit of the Special Game Fund.

This Act shall be cumulative of all laws relating to the subject matter of this Act. If any part of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or inoperative all remaining parts of this Act shall remain in full force and effect. (H. B. 12, Acts 1st Called Session, 42nd Leg.)

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## PART SIX

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### SAND, SHELL AND GRAVEL LAWS

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Sec. 171. **Property of the State.**—All the islands, reefs, bars, lakes, and bays within the tidewater limits from the most interior point seaward, co-extensive with the jurisdiction of this State, and such of the fresh water islands, lakes, rivers, creeks and bayous within the interior of this State, as may not be embraced in any survey of private land, together with all the marl and sand of commercial value, and all the shells, mudshell or gravel of whatsoever kind that may be in or upon any island, reef or bar, and in or upon the bottoms of any lake, bay, shallow waters, rivers, creeks, and bayous and fish hatcheries and oyster beds within the jurisdiction and territory herein defined, are included within the provisions of this chapter, and are hereby placed under the management, control and protection of the Commissioner. None of the marl, gravel, shells, mudshells, or sand included herein shall be purchased, taken away or disturbed, except as provided herein, nor shall any oyster beds or

fish hatcheries within the territory included herein be disturbed except as herein provided. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 216; 1925 R. C. S., Art. 4051.)

**Sec. 172. Powers of Commissioner.**—The Commissioner is hereby invested with all the power and authority necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this chapter, and shall have full charge and discretion over all matters pertaining to the sale, the taking, carrying away or disturbing of all marl, sand or gravel of commercial value, and all gravel and shells or mudshells and oyster beds and their protection from free use and unlawful disturbing or appropriation of same, with such exceptions as may be provided herein. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 216; 1925 R. C. S., Art. 4052.)

**Sec. 173. Permit to Use Marl, Etc.**—Anyone desiring to purchase any of the marl and sand of commercial value and any of the gravel, shells or mudshell included within the provisions of this chapter, or otherwise operate in any of the waters or upon any inland, reef, bar, lake, bay, river, creek or bayou included in this chapter, shall first make written application therefor to the Commissioner, designating the limits of the territory in which such person desires to operate. If the Commissioner is satisfied that the taking, carrying away or distributing of the marl, gravel, sand, shells or mudshell in the designated territory would not damage or injuriously affect any oysters, oyster beds, fish inhabiting waters thereof or adjacent thereto and that such operation would not damage or injuriously affect any island, reef, bar, channel, river, creek or bayou used for frequent or occasional navigation, nor change or otherwise injuriously affect any current that would affect navigation, he may issue a permit to such person after such applicant shall have complied with all requirements prescribed by said Commissioner. The permit shall authorize the applicant to take, carry away or otherwise operate within the limits of such

territory as may be designated therein, and for such substance or purpose only as may be named in the permit and upon the terms and conditions of the permit. No permit shall be assignable, and a failure or refusal of the holder to comply with the terms and conditions of such permit shall operate as an immediate termination and revocation of all rights conferred therein or claimed thereunder. No special privilege or exclusive right shall be granted to any person, association of persons, corporate or otherwise, to take or carry away any of such products from any territory or to otherwise operate in or upon any island, reef, bay, lake, river, creek or bayou included in this chapter. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 216; 1925 R. C. S., Art. 4053.)

**Sec. 174. Use in Municipal Road Work.**—If any county, or subdivision of a county, city or town should desire any marl, gravel, sand, shell or mudshell included in this chapter for use in the building of any road or street, which work is done by said county, or any subdivision of a county, city or town, such municipality may be granted a permit without charge and shall have the right to take, carry away or operate in any waters or upon any islands, reefs or bars included herein; such municipality to do the work under its own supervision, but shall first obtain from the Commissioner a permit to do so, and the granting of same for the operation in the territory designated by such municipality shall be subject to the same rules, regulations and limitations and discretion of the Commissioner as are other applicants and permits. When such building of roads or taking of such products is to be done by contract, then the said municipality may obtain a refund from the Commissioner of the tax levied and collected on said products as fixed by the Commissioner at the time of the taking thereof, by warrant drawn by the Comptroller upon itemized account sworn to by the proper officer representing such municipality and approved by the Commissioner, and under such other rules and regulations as may be



prescribed by the Commissioner. (Acts 1923, p. 342; 1925 R. C. S., Art. 4054.)

**Sec. 174a. Constructing Seawall.**—If any county, city or town authorized by Title 118 of the Revised Civil Statutes of 1925 to construct, extend, protect, strengthen, maintain, keep in repair and otherwise improve any seawall or breakwater, levee, dike, floodway and drainway, shall desire any marl, gravel, sand, shell or mudshell, included in this chapter for use in the building, constructing, extending, protecting, strengthening, maintaining, keeping in repair and otherwise improving any such seawall, or breakwater, levee, dike, floodway and drainway, such municipality shall be granted a permit without charge and shall have the right, without payment therefor by such county, city or town to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, or to the State of Texas, to appropriate, dredge, take and carry away any such marl, gravel, sand, shell or mudshell from any of the waters, reefs, or bars included herein; provided, that such permit shall be granted and such marl, gravel, sand, shell or mudshell shall be taken under such rules and regulations as the Commissioner may make and establish. Provided further that none of the benefits accruing under and by virtue of this act shall inure to any person, firm or corporation holding a contract at the present time where marl, gravel, shell or mudshell shall be used as herein provided. (Acts 40th Leg., Reg. Session, p. 265.)

**Sec. 174b. Raising Grade of Salt Flats.**—That there may be taken and appropriated from beneath the waters of Corpus Christi Bay and Nueces Bay, sand and other deposits having no commercial value for filling and raising the grade of the salt flats in Northern portion of the City of Corpus Christi and the lowlands lying North of the North boundary line of the City of Corpus Christi in Nueces County, Texas, and South of the South boundary line of the town of Portland in San Patricio County, Texas, without making payment therefor to the Game, Fish and Oyster

Commissioner or to the State of Texas. (Ch. 311, p. 692; Acts 41st Leg.)

Sec. 175. **Sale of Marl, Gravel, Sand, Etc.**—The Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner by and with the approval of the Governor, may sell the marl, gravel, sand, shell or mudshell included within this Act, upon such terms and conditions as he may deem proper, but for not less than Four (4c) Cents per ton, and payment therefor shall be made to said Commissioner. The proceeds arising from such sale shall be transmitted to the State Treasurer and be credited to a special fund hereby created to be known as the sand, gravel and shell fund of the State, and may be expended by the said Commissioner in the enforcement of the provisions of the sand, shell and gravel laws and in the establishment and maintenance of fish hatcheries, when provided by legislative appropriation, and in the payment of refunds provided for in Section 7, Chapter 161, of the General Laws of the Regular Session of the Thirty-eighth Legislature, to counties, cities or towns or any political subdivision of a county, city or town, as provided for in Section 7, Chapter 161, of the General Laws of the Regular Session of the Thirty-eighth Legislature. And also providing that the authorization of refunds on sand, gravel and shell shall be extended to include refunds to the State Highway Commission of money paid to the State through the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission for sand, gravel and shell used by the State Highway Commission on public roads upon application for such refunds in the manner prescribed for cities and counties. Provided further that not less than seventy-five per cent of the proceeds derived therefrom, after refunds above referred to have been cared for, shall go for the establishment and maintenance of fish hatcheries; and the sand, gravel, and shell fund is hereby appropriated for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act. Said hatcheries to be established from time to time in the State of Texas by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission

when, in their judgment, a suitable location is secured and arrangements therefor have been completed. (Acts 1925, 39th Leg., Ch. 183, p. 452.)

Sec. 176. **Condemnation of Land.**—That where the State of Texas, through the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, has issued a permit to excavate and take from any island, reef, bar, lake, river, creek, bayou or bay of this State, marl, mudshell, oyster shell, sand and gravel, the State at the request of the permit holder, shall have the right and power to enter upon and condemn and appropriate the lands, right of ways, easements and property of any person or corporation for the purpose of erecting dredges and necessary equipment and for the purpose of laying and maintaining the railway spurs to the nearest railroad, and for the purpose of operating and maintaining necessary roads and passageways to said place of operations, including all such lands, rights of way, easement and property aforesaid for the purpose of establishing and maintaining landing places and providing moorings for barges and dredges and all equipments as may be determined by said permit-holder necessary in carrying on said business; provided, that such right of way should not invade improvements such as buildings or orchards; and, provided, further, the manner and method of such condemnation and assessment and payment of damages therefor shall be the same as provided for by law in the case of railroads.

Condemnation suits brought under this chapter shall be brought in the name of the State by the county attorney of the county in which the property or a part thereof affected is situated, and the county attorney shall receive a fee of Ten (\$10) Dollars for his service upon the institution of such proceedings, the same to be taxed and collected as a part of the cost in such suit. All costs in such proceedings shall be paid either by the permit-holder, at whose instance such proceedings are had, or by the person against whom such proceedings are had, to be deter-

mined as in case of railroad condemnation proceedings, and all damages and pay for property awarded in such proceedings shall be paid by the permit-holder, and in no event shall the State be liable for any cost, damages or any sum whatsoever with respect to such proceedings. (Acts 1925, p. 231; Art. 4055, R. C. S., 1925.)

Sec. 177. **Marl, Sand and Shell.**—Whoever shall, for himself, or for or on behalf of or under the direction of another person, association of persons, corporation or otherwise, take or carry away any marl, sand or shells or mudshell or gravel placed under the management, control and protection of the Commissioner, or shall disturb any of said marl, sand, shells or mudshell or gravel or oyster beds or fishing waters or shall operate in or upon any of said places for any purpose other than that necessary or incident to navigation or dredging under State or Federal authority, without having first obtained a written permit from said Commissioner for the territory in which such operation is carried on, shall be fined not less than Ten (\$10) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. Each day's operation shall be a separate offense. (Acts 2nd C. S., 1919, p. 218; 1925 P. C., Art. 976.)

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## PART SEVEN

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### THE COMMISSION, POWERS, DUTIES, AND MISCELLANEOUS

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Sec. 178. **The Commission.**—The office of Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner of the State of Texas is hereby abolished. There is hereby created the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission which shall have the authority, powers, duties and functions heretofore vested in the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner except where in con-

flict with this Act. (Ch. 118, p. 265, Sec. 1, Acts 41st Leg.)

Sec. 178a. **Members, Terms and Bonds.**—Said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission shall consist of six members, one of whom shall be chairman. The chairman and other members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Governor from different sections of the State, which appointment shall be with the advice and consent of the Senate, if in session, and if not in session, the Governor shall appoint such chairman and members and issue a commission to them as provided by law, and their appointment shall be submitted to the next session of the Senate for their advice and consent in the manner that appointments to fill vacancies under the Constitution are submitted to the Senate. The chairman and one member of said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission shall be appointed for a term ending September 1, 1935. Two members shall be appointed for a term ending September 1, 1933, and two members shall be appointed for a term ending September 1, 1931, or until their successors are appointed and qualified. Thereafter, the Governor shall appoint such chairman and members for terms of six years. The chairman and each member of said Commission shall execute a bond payable to the State of Texas, in the sum of Five Thousand (\$5,000) Dollars, to be approved by the Governor and conditioned upon the faithful performance of his duties under the law. The premium of such bonds shall be paid by the State of Texas out of funds available to said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission under the law and appropriations made by the Legislature. (id., Sec. 2.)

Sec. 178b. **Meetings.**—Said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission shall hold regular quarterly meetings in January, April, July, and October, of each year on dates to be specified by the Commission and may hold such special meetings at such times and places as said Commission may deem necessary and proper. It shall require two

members or the chairman and one member of said Commission to constitute a quorum. (id., Sec. 3.)

**Sec. 178c. Rules and Regulations.**—Said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission is hereby authorized to make such rules and regulations for the conduct of its work and the work of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission as may be deemed necessary, not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of this State. Said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission shall keep a record of all proceedings and official acts. (id., sec. 4.)

**Sec. 178d. Compensation of Commissioners.**—The chairman and members of said Commission shall receive as compensation for their services their actual expenses in the performance of their duties. The expense of the chairman and members shall be itemized and sworn to by said chairman or member receiving the same and shall be paid out on warrants of the Comptroller, drawn against any fund available for the use of said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission. (id., Sec. 5.)

**Sec. 178e. Executive Secretary and Assistant.**—Said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission shall have power and authority to appoint an executive secretary who shall act as the chief executive officer under the direction of said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission. The Commission may perform its duties through said executive secretary and may delegate to him such executive duties as said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission shall deem proper. They shall also have power and authority to appoint an assistant executive secretary, who, in the absence of the executive secretary, shall perform all the duties of the executive secretary and shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission or under its direction. Said executive secretary shall have authority to appoint such heads of divisions and such Game and Fish Wardens and other employees as in his discretion

may be deemed necessary to carry out and enforce the laws of this State, which it is the duty of said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission to carry out, execute and administer, and to perform all other duties and services authorized and required to be performed by said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, and shall have the authority, powers, duties and functions heretofore vested in Special Deputy Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioners and other employees of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner. Said executive secretary and assistant executive secretary shall serve at the will of said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission. The division heads, Game and Fish Wardens and other employees shall serve at the will of the executive secretary. (id., Sec. 6.)

**Sec. 178f. Compensation of Employees.**—The executive secretary and the assistant executive secretary shall each receive such compensation as may be fixed by the Legislature in each biennial appropriation bill, to be paid to them in twelve equal monthly installments, out of any funds available to, or appropriated for the use of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, together with all the necessary expenses in connection with their official duties. The compensation of all division heads, Game and Fish Wardens and other employees of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission herein provided for, shall be fixed by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission; provided, that the Legislature in each biennial appropriation bill shall fix the maximum compensation to be paid to such division heads, Game Wardens and other employees. (id., Sec. 7.)

**Sec. 178g. Bonds of Employees.**—The executive secretary and assistant executive secretary shall each enter into a good and sufficient bond in the sum of Ten Thousand (\$10,000) Dollars, payable to the State of Texas, to be approved by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission conditioned upon the faithful performance of his duties under the law. The premium on such bonds shall

be paid by the State out of funds available to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission. The executive secretary and assistant executive secretary shall take the constitutional oath of office. Every division head, Game and Fish Warden and such other employees as the Commission may designate shall execute a bond in the sum of One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars, to be approved by the executive secretary of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, and payable to the State of Texas and conditioned upon the faithful performance of the duties of his office. The Game, Fish and Oyster Commission may require any employee who handles funds belonging to the Department to give a bond up to as high as Ten Thousand (\$10,000) Dollars, conditioned upon the faithful performance of his duties under the law. The chairman nor the members of the Commission, the executive secretary nor assistant executive secretary shall be liable on their respective bonds for any act of any employee of the Department but on the other hand the bond of any such employee shall cover the individual acts of each. (id., Sec. 8.)

Sec. 178h. **Funds Appropriated.**—There is hereby appropriated out of the State Treasury all moneys collected or to be collected by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner or said Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, under any laws of this State relating thereto, for the purpose of carrying out this Act or performing any duties or services under any laws of this State. (id. Sec. 9.)

Sec. 178i. **Effective Date.**—This Act shall take effect and be in force from and after September 1, 1929. (id. Sec. 10.)

Sec. 178j. **Rule of Construction.**—If any section or provision of this Act should be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason it shall not affect any other provision or portion of this Act, and the same shall remain in full force and effect. All laws and parts of laws in con-



flict herewith are hereby expressly repealed. (id. Sec. 11.)

**Sec. 179. To Keep Record.**—The Commissioner shall keep a well bound record book in which shall be recorded all special taxes collected, all licenses issued and license fees collected, all certificates issued for location of private oyster beds, showing the date of certificate and application, when and how the applications were executed and the manner in which the bottoms were examined and rents collected for such locations, showing also all stock fish furnished, to whom furnished, and the cost of same, the streams, lakes or ponds stocked and the number and kinds of fish used in each, and showing all collections and disbursements in and from his office. The Commissioner shall keep an account with each person, firm or corporation holding certificates for the location of private oyster beds in this State, showing the amounts received as rents, etc. (1925 R. C. S., Art. 4020.)

**Sec. 180. Fish and Oyster Deputies.**—The Commissioner is authorized to appoint deputies for each of the vessels owned by the State and employed in the Fish and Oyster Department, and such other shore and interior deputies as he may deem necessary for the enforcement of the law. All such deputies shall have and exercise the same powers and duties as the Commissioner, and be at all times subject to his orders, and shall hold their office at his pleasure. Each deputy Fish and Oyster Commissioner shall be ex-officio game commissioner. No person shall hold such office of Deputy Commissioner who is not a citizen of the United States and of this State. All such Deputy Commissioners shall make a monthly report to the Commissioner of all funds collected by them, remitting along with said report all moneys collected by them during the said month. (1925 R. C. S., Art. 4021.)

**Sec. 181. Oath and Bond of Deputies.**—Before entering upon the duties of his office, each deputy

shall file with the Commissioner a good and sufficient bond, with two or more sureties, in the sum of One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars, and take the same oath of office as the Commissioner, and said bond and oath shall be governed by the provisions of Article 4017. (1925 R. C. S., Art. 4022.)

**Sec. 182. Fees of Commissioner.**—In making arrests, summoning witnesses and serving process, the Commissioner or his deputies shall be allowed the same fees and mileage as sheriffs, the same to be charged and collected as are sheriffs' fees. (1925 R. C. S., Art. 4024.)

**Sec. 183. Duties and Powers.**—The duties of the Commissioner shall be in the execution of the laws relating to game, fish, oysters and marine life, and such further duties as are imposed upon him by legislation. In the execution of these laws he shall exercise the power and authority given to sheriffs. The Commissioner is authorized to collect and enforce the payment of all taxes, licenses, fines and forfeitures and all money due his department, by deputies or persons employed for that purpose, and to inspect all products so taxed, and to verify the weights and measures thereof; to examine, or have examined all streams, lakes or ponds when requested to do so, for the purpose of stocking such waters with fish best suited to such locations and he shall superintend and have control in the propagation of fish in the State fish hatchery and the distribution of such fish, and he shall have superintendence and control of the propagation and distribution of birds and game in the State reservation over which he may have control, or which may be established for such propagation. The Commissioner, or any of his deputies, may arrest without warrant anyone found violating any of the fish, game or oyster laws of Texas, and shall have the same right to execute original process as sheriffs. (1925 R. C. S., Art. 4018.)

**Sec. 184. To Report to Governor.**—The Commissioner shall make on the 31st day of August of each year, or as soon as practicable, not later than October 1st, a report to the Governor, showing the condition of the fish and oyster industry, which shall show the special taxes collected, the number and class of all boats engaged in the fish and oyster trade, the number of licenses issued and license fees collected, the number, place and acreage of private oyster beds, and rents received therefor, and all other amounts collected from whatever source and the disbursements therefor, with such observations as pertain to the industry. The report shall contain a statement of all stock furnished, to whom furnished, the cost of same, the streams, lakes or ponds stocked, the number and kind of fish used in each, and the condition of such plants, with any other data he may obtain on the subjects. The Governor shall order a sufficient number of copies of such report to be printed and filed in the Secretary of State's office for the purpose of free distribution to parties interested therein. For failure to make such report within the time specified, the Commissioner may, in the discretion of the Governor, be dismissed from his office. (1925 R. C. S., Art. 4019.)

**Sec. 185. Fish and Oyster Fund.**—All funds collected by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission from the sale of commercial fishermen's licenses, fish dealers' licenses, taxes on fish, crabs, oysters and shrimp, and all other taxed marine life, and all fines and penalties collected for any infraction of any laws relating to commercial fishermen, shall be placed in the State Treasury to the credit of a fund to be known as "Fish and Oyster Fund," and together with the money now to the credit of this fund is hereby appropriated and shall be used by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner in the enforcement of the Fish and Oyster Laws of this State, and dissemination of useful information pertaining to the economic value of fish and oyster marine life; the making

of scientific investigations and surveys of the principal sea food fishes and marine life, for the purpose of the better protection and conservation of same; the propagation and distribution of sea food fishes, oysters, and other marine life; the purchase, repair and operation of boats and the employment of deputies to carry out and enforce the provisions of this act. (1925 R. C. S., Art. 4030.)

**Sec. 186. Commissioner to Keep Lists of Fines and Fees.**—It shall be the duty of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner to keep in his office, at Austin, a complete list of the license fees and fines collected; said records shall be kept open for inspection of the State Comptroller and of the public. At the close of each calendar month the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner shall file with the Comptroller a report in writing, showing all fines, licenses and other fees collected, their disposition and any other particular which he may deem proper. (1925 P. C., Art. 898.)

**Sec. 187. Commissioner to Enforce Game Laws.**—The Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner and his deputies shall have the same power and authority as sheriffs to serve criminal process in connection with cases growing out of the violation of this chapter, shall have the same power as sheriffs to require aid in executing such process, and shall be entitled to receive the same fees as are provided by law for sheriffs in misdemeanor cases.

Said commissioner or any of his deputies may arrest without a warrant any person found by them in the act of violating any of the laws for the protection and propagation of game, wild birds or fish, and take such person forthwith before a magistrate having jurisdiction. Such arrests may be made on Sunday, and in which case the person arrested shall be taken before a magistrate having jurisdiction and proceeded

against as soon as may be, on a week day following the arrest. (1925 P. C., Art. 905.)

**Sec. 188. Duty of Commissioner to Enforce Law.**  
—It is hereby made a special duty of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner to enforce the statutes of this State for the protection and preservation of wild game and wild birds; and to bring, or cause to be brought, actions and proceedings in the name of the State of Texas, to recover any and all fines and penalties provided for in the laws now in force, or which may hereafter be enacted, relating to wild game and wild birds. Said Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner may make complaint and cause proceedings to be commenced against any person for violating any of the laws for the protection and propagation of game or birds without the sanction of the county attorney of the county in which such proceedings are commenced; and in such cases he shall not be required to furnish security for costs. (1925 P. C., Art. 906.)

**Sec. 189. Special Deputy Game Commissioners.**  
—It shall be the duty of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner to appoint Special Deputy Game Commissioners, who shall be ex-officio Deputy Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioners to enforce conservation laws in the various districts of the State, with all the powers of the latter to enforce the game, fish and oyster laws of this State. Such Special Deputy Game Commissioners shall not receive more than one hundred and fifty (\$150) dollars per month and expenses. Each Special Deputy Game Commissioner shall take the oath of office, and shall give a good and sufficient bond in the sum of One Thousand (\$1,000) Dollars, for the faithful performance of his duties, such bond to be approved by and filed with the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner. Such Special Deputy Game Commissioners shall hold office at the discretion of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, and shall have the power in the discharge of their duties as

are conferred on the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner.

The Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, in order to enforce conservation laws in the various sections of the State, shall also have the power to appoint Deputy Game Commissioners in any county of the State; and said deputies shall have, in the discharge of their duties, the same powers and authority as are herein provided for the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, and shall be subject to the supervision and control and removal by said Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, except that they shall not be authorized to carry on or about their person, saddle, or saddle-bags, any pistol, dirk, dagger, slung-shot, sword, cane, spear or knuckles made of any metal or any hard substance, Bowie knife or other knife manufactured or sold for the purpose of offense or defense. Such Deputy Game Commissioner shall not receive more than Three (\$3.00) Dollars a day for each day of service performed, together with all necessary expenses incurred, when same have been rendered on sworn account, and when the performance of said services was authorized by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner, the Chief Deputy Commissioner, or a Special Deputy Game Commissioner, which account shall be approved by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner or Chief Deputy Commissioner, and paid on warrant drawn by the Comptroller. (1925 P. C., Art. 914.)

**Sec. 190. Special Deputy Commissioners to Enforce Game Law.**—All Special Deputy Game Commissioners and Deputy Game Commissioners are hereby empowered and required to enforce the Game, Fish and Oyster Laws of this State, and such deputy who violates such laws shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined in any sum of not less than One Hundred (\$100) Dollars, nor more than Two Hundred (\$200) Dollars. (1925 P. C., Art. 915a.)

**Sec. 191. Cautioning Sportsmen.**—It shall be the duty of the Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner and his deputies, in addition to their duties provided for in this chapter, to caution sportsmen and other persons while in the woods, marshes, or prairies of the State of danger from fire; and, to the extent of their power, to extinguish all fires left burning by anyone, and to give notice, when possible, to any and all persons interested, of fires raging beyond control to the end that same may be controlled and extinguished. (1925 P. C., Art. 918.)

**Sec. 192. Power of Commissioners to Enter on Lands.**—The Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner and his deputies shall at all times have the power to enter upon any lands or water where wild game or fish are known to range or stray for the purpose of enforcing the game and fish laws of this State, and for the purpose of making scientific investigations or for research work as to such wild game or fish and no action in any court shall be sustained against the Commissioner or any of his deputies to prevent their entrance upon lands or waters when acting in their official capacity as herein set forth. (1925 P. C., Art. 919.)

**Sec. 193. Clerk or Justice of the Peace to Remit Fines.**—It shall be the duty of any justice of the peace, clerk of any court, or any other officer of this State, receiving any fine or penalty imposed by any court for violation of any of the laws of this State pertaining to the protection and conservation of wild birds, wild fowl, wild animals, fish, oysters, and other wild life, within ten days from and after the receipt or collection of such fine or penalty, to remit same to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission at Austin, giving docket number of case, name of person fined, and section or article of the law under which conviction was secured, when such laws are required to be enforced by the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission. (1925 P. C., Art. 912.)

**Sec. 194. May Condemn Land in Smith County.**

—The State of Texas through the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission shall have the right, power and authority to enter upon, condemn and appropriate lands, water rights, easements, right of ways, and property of any person or corporation in Smith County, Texas, for the purpose of creating, constructing, enlarging and maintaining fish hatcheries, buildings, necessary equipments, roads and passageways to said hatcheries in Smith County, Texas, provided the manner and method of such condemnation, assessment, payment of damages therefor shall be the same as now provided by law in the case of railroads.

Condemnation suits brought under this Act shall be brought in the name of the State by the Attorney General in Smith County. All costs in such proceedings shall be paid by the State or by the person against whom such proceedings are had, to be determined as in the case of railroad condemnation proceedings and all damages and pay or compensation for property awarded in such proceedings shall be paid by the State of Texas by warrant drawn by the Comptroller against any fund in the State Treasury appropriated to the Game, Fish and Oyster Commission for the use of constructing, and maintaining fish hatcheries. (S. B. 111, Acts 1st C. S., 41st Leg.)

**Sec. 195. Brazos Island.**—That Chapter 3, Title 67, of the Revised Civil Statutes, is hereby amended by adding thereto Article 4056-A, as follows:

“Article 4056-A. The Game, Fish and Oyster Commissioner is authorized to lease the South 216.4 acres more or less of Brazos Island for the sole purpose of erecting and maintaining hunting, fishing and bathing resorts thereon. Leases of such lands shall, at the discretion of the Commissioner, run for any term of years not more than ten, at a fixed annual rental of not less than ten cents, nor more than fifty cents per acre, at the discretion of the Commissioner, for each acre of land so leased, and before entering into any



such lease the Commissioner in his discretion may require such survey of the leased premises to be made at the expense of the applicant therefor, as may be necessary to determine the exact acreage of the lease. Lessees shall have, during the terms of their respective leases, the exclusive right to the use, occupation and enjoyment of such leased premises during the term and for the purposes of such lease only, but such use shall not be inconsistent with any other use of such leased premises as shall have been or may be granted by law or authority of law. All leases shall provide that the annual rentals therefor shall be paid to the Commissioner, annually in advance; and failure to pay any installment of annual rental therefor, when due, shall, at the option of the Commissioner, forfeit such lease. Lessees, under the terms of this Article shall have the right to remove from the leased premises, within one month after the termination of the lease, any and all improvements erected thereon by them. All rentals collected by the Commissioner under the provisions of this Act shall be placed in the State Treasury to the credit of the "Fish and Oyster Fund," as provided by Article 4030 of this Title. (H. B. 194, Acts 1st C. S., 41st Leg.)

Sec. 196. **Caddo Lake.**—That all public land lying beneath or adjacent to the waters of Caddo Lake in Marion, Harrison and adjoining counties, and all such public lands heretofore sold by the State that may hereafter revert to the State and become a part of the public domain, be and the same is hereby withdrawn from the market and the title thereto shall remain in the State of Texas to be enjoyed by the public for fishing and hunting and for State park purposes as may hereafter be provided by law; and the Land Commissioner is hereby directed to offer no portion of said land for sale nor to receive any bids therefor.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office may lease any or all of said land for mineral pur-

poses, as now provided by law, but before the same shall be leased it shall be advertised in some newspaper published at Marshall or Jefferson, Texas, stating what land is to be leased and the prices offered therefor; and such advertisement shall invite other and additional bids thereon, and the lease shall only be made to the highest bidder. (Ch. 198, p. 430, Acts 41st Leg.)

# INDEX

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	Section	Page
Affidavit for shipping game.....	21, 22	24, 25
Alien hunter defined.....	35	34
Alien trapper defined (see fly sheet front of book)		
Animals, fur-bearing, Part Two...		47
Animal, game, Part One.....		5
Antelope . . . . .	5	6
Artificial lure, Part Four.....		131
Com. on licenses.....	168a	131
Disposition of moneys.....	168e	134
Failure to procure license.....	168c	133
Fees for licenses.....	168a	131
The license . . . . .	168	131
Non-resident defined . . . . .	168d	133
Expiration date of license.....	168b	133
Closed season . . . . .	140	91
Artificial ponds . . . . .	140	91
Audubon Society . . . . .	41	36
Bag limits . . . . .	8	16
Special . . . . .	9	18
Possession over limit.....	11	20
Penalty . . . . .	10	19
Bass, size limit.....	145	94
Closed season . . . . .	147	94
Sale unlawful . . . . .	152	96
Bats, protection of.....	40	36
Bear, open season.....	7g	12
Bag limit . . . . .	8	16
Bell County fur law.....	70a	54
Birds, property of State.....	1	5
Game defined . . . . .	2	5
Game birds for which no open season is provided . . . . .	10	19
Non-game . . . . .	3	5
Unprotected . . . . .	4	5
Killing during closed season....	38	35
Possession over limit . . . . .	11	20
Taking by net or trap.....	20a	24

	Section	Page
Five-year closed season.....	13	21
Sale prohibited .....	14	21
Bringing into State.....	15	21
Domestic pets .....	4	5
Boat registration .....	114, 33	75, 31
Hunting from .....	31	30
License . .....	115, 33	76, 31
Bonds, executive secretary.....	178g	147
Assistant executive secretary.....	178g	147
Employees . .....	178g	147
Bounties, predatory animals.....	76c	57
Brant, open season.....	7b	8
Bag limit .....	8	16
Manner of killing.....	18	23
Brazos Island .....	195	156
Brood fish .....	153	97
Buying for evidence.....	43	37
Caddo Lake .....	196	157
Canal, screening of.....	151	95
Cass, Bowie, Morris and Titus		
Counties fish law .....	159abc, 160	105, 106, 107
Chacalaca . .....	7aa	8
Charts as evidence.....	149	95
Citizen, non-resident and alien		
defined . .....	35	34
Clams, license, etc.....	119	78
Clerk or J. P. to remit fines.....	193	155
Closed season defined.....	12	20
Closed waters, salt.....	122	79
Gulf shore line.....	122a	82
Fresh waters .....	139	90
Permit to carry seines through.....	124	84
Permit of possession of seine in.....	125	84
Seines in .....	122	79
Seines, unlawful possession.....	123	83
Club manager license.....	51	42
Cottle County trapping season (see fly sheet in front of book)		
Commission, office created.....	178	144
Condemnation proceedings .....	176	143
Members, terms and bonds.....	178a	145

	Section	Page
Meetings . . . . .	178b	145
Compensation . . . . .	178d	146
Rules and regulations . . . . .	178c	146
Compensation and employees . . . . .	178f	147
Funds appropriated . . . . .	178h	147
Bonds of employees . . . . .	178g	147
Duties and powers . . . . .	183	150
Appoint special deputies . . . . .	189	153
Appoint fish and oyster deputies . . . . .	180	149
Arrest without warrant . . . . .	187	152
Build boats . . . . .	104	70
Close fresh waters . . . . .	142, 139	91, 90
Control sand, shell and gravel . . . . .	172	139
Common carriers . . . . .	22	25
Caution sportsmen . . . . .	191	155
Destroy fresh water nets and seines . . . . .	142	91
Enforce game laws . . . . .	187, 188	152, 153
Enforce trappers' laws . . . . .	71	54
Enter lands . . . . .	192	155
Fees . . . . .	182	150
Issue trappers' licenses (see fly sheet in front of book) . . . . .	56	
Keep records . . . . .	179	149
Keep list of fines . . . . .	186	152
Permit to kill birds and animals . . . . .	20	23
Report to Governor . . . . .	184	151
Same as sheriff . . . . .	183	150
Search game bag . . . . .	28	29
Seize nets . . . . .	128	85
Take brood fish . . . . .	153	97
Transport birds for propagation . . . . .	47	38
Condemnation constitutionality . . . . .	67, 178j	53, 148
Coot, brant, geese and ducks (also see footnote, Federal Law, page 10) . . . . .	7b, 8	8, 16
County clerk to issue licenses . . . . .	27	27
Coryell and Hamilton Counties' deer law . . . . .		13
Crappie, sale prohibited . . . . .	152	96
Closed season . . . . .	147	94
Creeks, etc., property of State . . . . .	77	58

	Section	Page
Dallas, Henderson and Wise Counties' fish law.....	167b	118
Dams, fish ladder for.....	148	94
Dealer, fish and oyster.....	109	72
Dealer, fur and hides.....	60	50
Classified . . . . .	60	50
Resident license . . . . .	60	50
Non-resident license . . . . .	60	50
Reports . . . . .	61	51
Tax . . . . .	57	49
Deer, bag limit.....	8b, 9	17, 18
Eight-point bucks in certain counties . . . . .	52e	47
Black tail . . . . .	9	18, 13
Closed season, certain counties . . . . .	7g	12, 14
Open season . . . . .	7g	12
Fawn, unlawful to kill.....	37	35
Female or doe, unlawful to kill. . . . .	37	35
Hunting with dogs (also see certain counties) . . . . .	17	22
Sale of . . . . .	46	38
Shipping . . . . .	45	38
Using lure or call.....	44	37
Spike buck . . . . .	37	35
Storage after season.....	50	42
Delta, Hopkins and Franklin Counties fish law . . . . .	167a	118
Deputies, bond and oath.....	171, 178g	149, 147
Name changed to Game and Fish Wardens . . . . .	178e	146
Caution sportsmen . . . . .	191	155
Duties to enforce law.....	188, 190	153, 154
Fees . . . . .	182	150
Fish and oyster.....	180	149
Free service . . . . .	189	153
Arrest without warrant.....	187	152
Search vehicle . . . . .	42	37
Enter fish houses.....	109	72
Enter lands . . . . .	192	155
Shore . . . . .	180	49
Special game . . . . .	189	153
Report moneys collected.....	180	149
Tag nets and seines.....	127	85

	Section	Page
Dogs, hunting deer with.....	17	22, 13, 14
Doves, bag limit.....	8, 9	16, 18
Open season.....	7, 7a	7
Five-year closed season.....	13	21
Drum, permit to seine for.....	103	69
Ducks, open season (see Federal Law, page 10).....	7b, 7d	8, 10
Bag limit.....	8	16
Manner of killing.....	18	23
Dynamiting fish.....	135, 164, 163	89, 110, 109
Erath County.....	167e	119
El Paso and Kimble Counties fish law. (Commission Note.—See Section 161, page 107, and Sec- tion 166, page 115, for Kimble County).....	167f	123
Eggs and nests of birds protected.....	23	26
Explosives and poisons.....	135, 164, 163	89, 110, 109
Express agents to administer oaths.....	22	25
Executive secretary.....	178e	146
Assistant.....	178e	146
Authority.....	178e	146
Powers and duties (see "Com- mission").....	178	144
Fawn, deer.....	37	35
Fees, trappers (see Section 56 on fly sheet, front of book).....	58	50
Federal, duck, goose, brant and coot law (see footnote, page 10)		
Fines and fees, Commission to keep list.....	186	152
Fish, Part Three.....		58
Brood.....	153	97
Injuring small fish.....	146	94
Ladder.....	148	94
Over and under size.....	143, 122	93, 79
Bag limit.....	167j	126
Pound, salt water.....	122b	82

	Section	Page
Seines, return small fish.....	131	88
Taking without consent of owner.....	136	89
Traps . . . . .	142	91
Fish hatchery:		
Condemnation of land.....	194	156
Protection of fish and game.....	134	89
Protection of reservation . . . . .	132	88
Salt water . . . . .	154	97
Trespass on grounds . . . . .	133	88
Funds for construction . . . . .	175	142
Fish and oyster fund.....	185	151
Fish, property of State.....	77	58
Angelina, Tyler, Newton and Jasper Counties . . . . .	167k	127
Fishermen (Commercial):		
License . . . . .	106, 107	71
Tax . . . . .	111	74
Failure to pay tax.....	112	75
Refusing to pay tax.....	113	75
Forfeiture of license . . . . .	112	75
Fishing in fresh water.....	138	90
Flounder, size limit.....	122	79
Fox . . . . .	55	48
Fresh water stream defined.....	137	89
Private . . . . .	141	91
Funds, special game.....	27, 67	27, 53
Fish and oyster.....	185	151
Sand, shell and gravel.....	75	142
Special fish propagation.....	168e	134
Fur-bearing animals, Part Two....		
Fur dealers defined.....	60	50
Dealers defined . . . . .	60	50
Dealers classified . . . . .	60	50
Res. dealers' license.....	60	50
Non-resident dealers' license.....	60	50
Reports . . . . .	61	51
Tax . . . . .	57	49
Property of State until tax paid.....	64	52
Tagging pelts . . . . .	59	50
Tags . . . . .	58	50
Shipping without paying tax....	59	50
Disposition of funds . . . . .	67	53
Fur penalty . . . . .	66	53



	Section	Page
Fur constitutionality .....	69	53
Fur fees, deposited special game fund .....	67	53
Fur trespass, enclosed land.....	71	54
Closed season, beaver, otter and fox .....	55	48
Defined .....	54	48
Enclosed land defined.....	74, 75	55
Land owner's right.....	72, 71	54
Property of State .....	53	47
Posted land defined .....	75	55
Penalty .....	66	53
Purchasing furs on lands of another .....	73	55
Right to confiscate furs.....	65	52
Trapping on land of another...	71	54
Trapping muskrats .....	71	54
Trapping without license.....	76	55
Trapper must show license.....	76	55
Trapper defined (see Section 56 on fly sheet in front of book)		
Dealer defined .....	60	50
Trapper classified (see Section 56 on fly sheet in front of book)		
Dealer classified .....	60	50
Propagation .....	63	51
Tax .....	57	49
Tagging shipments .....	59	50
Reports .....	61	51
Licenses, trappers (see Section 56 on fly sheet in front of book)		
Licenses, dealers .....	60	50
Trapping in certain counties...	70	53
Gaff-topsail, size limit.....	143	93
Gallinules .....	7b, 8	8, 16
Game animals defined.....	5	6
Game animals for which no open season is provided.....	10	19
Bringing into State.....	15	21
Disposition of confiscated game..	28	29
Imported during closed season...	39	35

	Section	Page
Permit to take for scientific purposes . . . . .	47	38
Preserves . . . . .	52	44
Sales and purchasing . . . . .	14, 46	21, 38
Shipment of . . . . .	21, 22	24, 25
Storage during closed season . . . . .	50	42
Unlawful possession . . . . .	14	21
Open seasons (also see fly sheet in front of book) . . . . .	7, 7i, 7j, 7k, 7l	
	7, 14, 15, 16	
Bag limit . . . . .	8, 10, 11	16, 19, 20
Gulf shore line closed to nets . . . . .	122a	82
Geese, open season (also see Federal Law, page 10) . . . . .	7b	8
Bag limit . . . . .	8	16
Manner of killing . . . . .	18	23
Gigs for flounders . . . . .	122	79
Gin and Glade Creeks in Upshur County . . . . .	156	98
Gravel (see Sand, Shell and Gravel):		
Gulf waters closed . . . . .	122, 122a	79, 82
Harris County deer law . . . . .		13
Hays County fish law . . . . .	167c	118
Harrison, Marion and Rusk Counties fish law . . . . .	159	103
Henderson and Navarro Counties (Trinity River) . . . . .	167i	128
Hunt, Kaufman and Rains Counties fish law . . . . .	167i	125
Hatcheries (see fish, this index)		
Headlight, hunting with . . . . .	32	31
Hunting with dogs . . . . .	17	22, 13, 14
Hunting:		
Public road . . . . .	49	42
For hire . . . . .	30	30
From boat or automobile or airplane . . . . .	31	30
Under license of another . . . . .	29	30
With headlight . . . . .	32	31
Deer with dogs . . . . .	17	22, 13, 14
Preserves or clubs . . . . .	51	42

	Section	Page
Licenses . . . . .	34, 34a	32, 33
At night . . . . .	19	23
Importing game during closed sea- son . . . . .	39	35
Jasper, Newton and Orange Coun- ties deer law . . . . .		13
Jackson County fish law . . . . .	165	115
Jurisdiction over rivers, etc. . . . .	77, 171	58, 138
Justice of peace to remit fines . . . . .	193	155
Lakes, lagoons, etc., property of State . . . . .	77, 171	58, 138
Land, enclosed, defined . . . . .	74	55
Posted defined . . . . .	75	55
Trespass on . . . . .	48	41
Limestone County deer and turkey law . . . . .		14
Liberty and Hardin Counties deer law . . . . .		14
Laguna Madre closed to seines . . . . .	167m	130
Lake Waco, Bosque Rivers (Bosque, Hamilton and McLennan Coun- ties) . . . . .	167ea	121
Licenses:		
Artificial bait or lure . . . . .	168, 168a	131
Refusal to show . . . . .	108	71
Boat, fishing . . . . .	114	75
Hunting . . . . .	33	31
Mussel or clam . . . . .	119	78
Captain or master . . . . .	115	76
Fees, under control of council . . . . .	26	27
Fish and oyster dealers . . . . .	109	72
Fishermen . . . . .	106, 107	71
Fish pound . . . . .	122b	82
Fur dealers . . . . .	60	50
Hunting . . . . .	34, 34a	32, 33
Mussels, etc. . . . .	119, 120	78
Oyster dredge . . . . .	90, 104	64, 70
Shooting preserve or club . . . . .	51	42
Trappers (see Section 56 on fly sheet in front of book)		

	Section	Page
Seines and nets.....	127, 128	85
Forfeiture, fishermen .....	122, 122a, 112	79, 82, 75
Hunting . . . . .	24	26
Fish dealers . . . . .	109	72
Trappers . . . . .	66	53
Dealers . . . . .	66	53
Mackerel, size limit .....	143	93
Marl (see Sand, Shell and Gravel, this index) .....	177	144
Mesh of nets and seines:		
Salt water .....	122	79
Fresh water .....	138	90
Certain counties, suckers, etc....	167	117
Metallic seines .....	142	91
Mexican pheasants, bag limit.....	8	16
Open season .....	7aa	8
Possession limit .....	11	20
Mexico, shipment of game from...	36	34
Mink . . . . .	53	47
Minnow, size limit .....	162	108
Mudshell (see Sand, Shell and Gravel) . . . . .	177	144
Mud hen, open season.....	7b	8
Bag limit .....	8	16
Muskrat, closed season.....	71	54
Land owners' right to kill.....	72	54
Purchase of furs on lands of another . . . . .	73	55
Trapping on enclosed land of another . . . . .	71	54
Mussels, etc. ....	119, 120	78
Nests and eggs.....	23	26
Nets (see Seines and Nets, this index) . . . . .	118	78
Non-game birds protected .....	3	5
Non-resident:		
Hunter . . . . .	34, 35	32, 34
Trapper (see Section 56 on fly sheet in front of book)		
Fur dealer .....	60	50

	Section	Page
North zone .....	6	6
Nuisances .....	142	91
 Open Seasons:		
Game birds and animals (also see Section 7ga on fly sheet in front of book).....	7	7
Opossum .....	53	47
Otter .....	53, 55	47, 48
 Oysters:		
Application for bed.....	80	60
Buoy or marker .....	101	69
Buying and planting.....	94	66
Cargo of young .....	98	67
Closed season .....	93, 94, 95	66
Dealers' license .....	109	72
Depositing shells .....	96	67
Dredges .....	90, 104	64, 70
Examining location .....	81	60
Oysterman's license .....	106, 107	71
Floating and bloating.....	100	68
Private and public.....	78	59
Closed reef .....	91	65
Insanitary reef .....	92	65
Insanitary container .....	99	68
Limiting location .....	84	61
Locator's certificate .....	82	60
Permit to take undersize.....	87	62
Markings .....	85	62
Measurement .....	105, 111	71, 74
Public and private beds.....	78, 102	59, 69
Rights of locator .....	83	61
Rights of private bed.....	88	64
Riparian rights .....	79	59
Rental on location.....	86	62
Sale of, planting .....	97	67
Scattering culls .....	96	67
Shell .....	111	74
Shipping in closed season.....	95	66
Seining drum over bed.....	103	69
Taking in closed season.....	93	66
Tax, dealer's and fisherman's...	109, 111	72, 74
Theft of .....	89	64

	Section	Page
Perch, sale prohibited, white.....	152	96
Size limit .....	145	94
Permits:		
Import birds .....	47	38
Birds and animals for scientific purposes .....	47	38
Kill depredating animals.....	20	23
Ship game from Mexico.....	36	34
Taxidermist .....	21	24
Transport seine over closed waters .....	124	84
Sand, shell and gravel.....	173	139
Seed oysters .....	87	62
Use seine in certain counties...	167	117
Propagation .....	47	38
Pigeon, wild (blue rock), no open season provided .....	10	19
Pheasants .....	7aa, 8	8, 16
Plover (see Section 7ab, fly sheet in front of book).....	8b	17
Pollution .....	169, 170, 178	134, 136
Pompano, size limit .....	143	93
Prima facie evidence .....	32, 62, 101, 36	31, 51, 107, 34
Prairie chicken .....	7f, 7fa, 8b	11, 17
Predatory animals .....	76a, 76c, 76aa	55, 57, 56
Premises leased for hunting.....	51, 48	42, 41
Proof of possession of seine.....	125	84
Prohibited waters, mischief in....	121	79
Protecting against wild animals and birds .....	20	23
Public road, shooting on.....	49	42
Public streams .....	77	58
Quail, bag limit .....	8	16
Open season .....	7aa	8
Possession limit .....	11	20
Atascosa County .....	8b	17
Borden County .....	7bc	9
Falls and Johnson Counties....	7ba	8
Howard County .....	7bb	9

	Section	Page
Stephens County .....	52a	45
Wood County .....	9a	18
Raccoon .....	53	47
Rail, season and bag limit (see Section 7ab on fly sheet in front of book).....	8	16
Rainbow trout, sale and seasons...	152a, 164	96, 100
Redfish, size limit.....	122	79
Ringtail cat .....	53	47
Rivers, property of State.....	77, 171	58, 138
Rocky Mountain Sheep:		
Sale and purchase prohibited....	46	38
Declared to be game.....	5	6
Rockwall and Grayson Counties		
fish law .....	167d	118
Seawall, construction of.....	174a	141
Salt flats .....	174b	141
Sale prohibited:		
Bass and crappie .....	152	96
Game .....	14, 46	21, 38
Rainbow trout .....	152a, 164	96, 110
Other fish in cerain counties....	166	115
Sand, Shell and Gravel:		
Permit .....	173, 174	139, 140
Property of State.....	171	138
Sale by approval of Governor....	175	142
Royalty funds .....	174, 175	140, 142
Condemnation .....	176	143
Penalty .....	176	143
Sand-hill crane .....	13	21
Screening canal or pipe.....	151	95
Search game bag or vehicle.....	28	29
Seasons for fish and oysters:		
Artificial bait or lure.....	140	91
Bass .....	147	94
Crappie .....	147	94
Oysters .....	93, 94, 95	66
Rainbow trout .....	152a	96
Seines and nets .....	140	91
Terrapin .....	116, 117	78

	Section	Page
Seasons for game (see Section 7ab on fly sheet in front of book) . . . 7		7
Seasons for fur-bearing animals (see Cottle County on fly sheet) . . . . . 54, 55		48
Storage during closed season . . . . . 50		42
Seines and nets:		
Defined . . . . . 118		78
Prohibited certain waters, salt . . . 122, 122a, 122b, .		79, 82
Fresh waters, certain counties . . . 155 to 167l		97 to 128
Size of mesh:		
Salt water . . . . . 122, 126		79, 84
Fresh water . . . . . 138		90
Certain counties . . . . . 167		117
Metallic . . . . . 142		91
Permit . . . . . 128, 124		85, 84
Proof of possession . . . . . 125		84
Shrimp . . . . . 122, 130		79, 87
Tag and permit . . . . . 127, 128		85
Unlawful possession . . . . . 123		83
Seining within one mile of city . . . 129		86
Shad . . . . . 167		117
Sheep . . . . . 46, 5		38, 6
Sheephead, size limit . . . . . 122		79
Shells (see Sand and Oysters)		
Shipping game . . . . . 21, 22		24, 25
Deer . . . . . 45		38
Oysters . . . . . 95		66
Shooting club . . . . . 51		42
Shore birds, possession limit . . . . . 11		20
Shrimp, net for and size limit . . . 122, 130		79, 87
Shrimp for bait . . . . . 130a		87
Size limit of fish:		
Salt water . . . . . 122, 143		79, 93
Turtle or terrapin . . . . . 117		78
Fresh water . . . . . 145, 152a		94, 96
Certain counties . . . . . 155 to 167m		97 to 130
Skunk . . . . . 53		47
Snipe, bag limit and season . . . . . 8b, 7b		17, 8
South zone . . . . . 6		6



	Section	Page
Special county fish law.....	155 to 167m	
		97 to 130
Special county game laws (see Section 7ga on fly sheet in front of book) .....	52abce	75 to 47
Special deputies .....	189	153
Streams, fresh waters, defined.....	137	89
Squirrels:		
Open season (see Section 7ga on fly sheet in front of book)....	56c, 7h to 7l	
		46, 14 to 16
Domestic pets (see Section 7ga on fly sheet in front of book)		
Bag limit .....	7h to 8b	14 to 17
Certain counties (see Section 7ga on fly sheet in front of book)	7h to 7l	14 to 16
Wood County, season and bag limit .....	7k	16
Suckers, carp, buffalo, special laws.	155 to 167m	
		97 to 130
Tom Green County fish law.....	162	108
Trinity River (Henderson and Navarro Counties) .....	167l	128
Taxes:		
Fishermen .....	111, 112	74, 75
Fish dealers .....	109, 110	72, 74
Fur, pelts and skins.....	57	49
Sand, shell and gravel.....	175	142
Taxidermist, specimens for .....	21	24
Tenant trapper (see Section 56 on fly sheet in front of book)		
Terrapin .....	116, 117	78
Theft of oysters .....	89	64
Trapper (see Section 56 on fly sheet in front of book)		
Trapping, birds .....	20a	24
Traps for fish .....	142, 138	91, 90
Trammel net .....	118, 156	78, 98
Trespass, in general .....	48	41
Trespass on hatchery .....	133	88
Trot lines .....	161, 163	107, 109

	Section	Page
Trout, size limit:		
Speckled sea trout.....	122	79
Rainbow . . . . .	152a	96
Turkey hens . . . . .	16, 7ca	22, 9
Turkey gobblers . . . . .	7c, 7ca, 8b	9, 17
Harrison and San Saba Counties.	52b	46
Certain Senatorial Districts.....	7ca	9
Panola County . . . . .	7cb	10
Harris County . . . . .	7ca	9
Limestone County . . . . .		14
Certain counties . . . . .		14
Turtle . . . . .	117, 111	78, 74
Using deer call . . . . .	44	37
Venue for over and undersize fish..	144	94
Warrant, may arrest without.....	187	152
Whooping crane . . . . .	13	21
Witness must testify.....	150	95
Woodcock . . . . .	13	21
Wood duck . . . . .	13	21
Wood County . . . . .	9a, 70, 167g	18, 53, 124
Wise County . . . . .	167h	125
Zones . . . . .	6, 7a	6, 7

