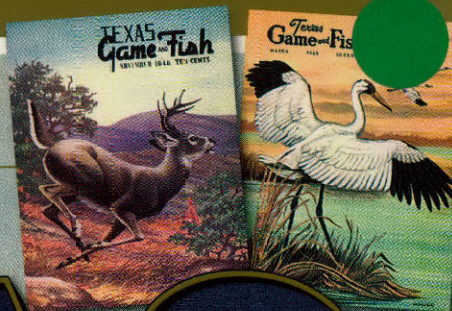


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ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

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TEXAS

PARKS & WILDLIFE

The OUTDOOR MAGAZINE of TEXAS

60 YEARS
IN THE TEXAS
OUTDOORS

1942-2002



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Texas is one of the best bass-fishing states in the country. Some innovative projects by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Inland Fisheries Division aim to keep it that way.

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Looking for the perfect gift for the outdoor enthusiast on your list? Look no further. Our gear guy has lined up an array of items that will appeal to folks of every interest.

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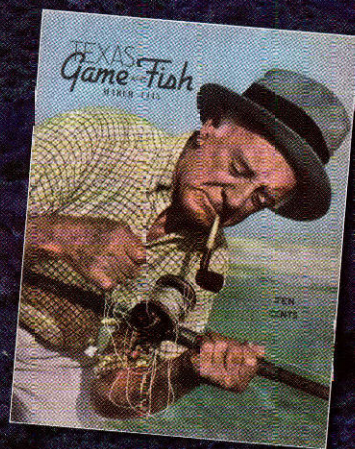
DECEMBER 2002

COVER STORY:

60 Years in the Texas Outdoors

Join us on a trip through this magazine's history, which begins in December 1942.

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BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK © KATHY ADAMS CLARK/AC Productions

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Covers

FRONT: Orville Rice's wildlife art graced this magazine's covers from the mid-1940s through the mid-'50s. His loving depictions of this state's wildlife have an immediacy and vibrancy that endures the passage of time. To our great delight, this Rice painting of pintails and shovelers — apparently never used on a cover — was recently discovered in the magazine office's archives.

BACK: Aplomado falcons are named for their color: aplomado is derived from a Latin word meaning lead.

This page: Sunrise over a marsh.
Photo © Bill Draker/KAC
Productions.

TEXAS

The OUTDOOR MAGAZINE of TEXAS

DECEMBER 2002, VOL. 60, NO. 12

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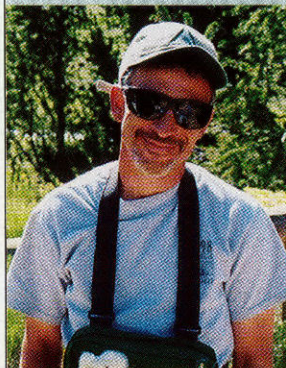
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In the Field

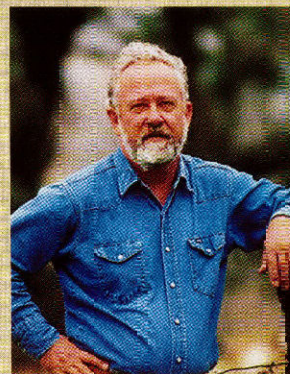
BETTY MOORE left Austin some 20 years ago to become a rafting guide in the Big Bend. She developed a passion for raptors after working with a peregrine release in 1985 at Rocky Mountain National Park. Since then she has done field research each summer in nine western states, including monitoring the wild peregrine populations of Yosemite National Park, Channel Islands National Park and Big Bend National Park. She has hiked through forests in California and Oregon doing breeding raptor surveys, has worked with California condors in Arizona and was a hack site attendant on the first release of aplomado falcons in South Texas. In this issue she writes about an aplomado falcon release in West Texas.



PAUL A. CAÑADA is a freelance writer/photographer from Laredo. He has written more than 600 feature articles on a number of outdoor topics, including fresh and saltwater fishing, bird hunting, kayaking, hiking, camping, biking, birding, rock climbing, conservation, fisheries science and wildlife management. He co-authored Tehabi Books' *Hooked! America's Passion for Bass Fishing* and is currently completing a book for Crooked River Publishing on bass fishing in Texas. He spends his leisure time fly-fishing and coaching high school wrestling. In this issue he examines why bass fishing in Texas is among the best in the nation.



LARRY D. HODGE has been contributing to *Texas Parks & Wildlife* since 1993, first as a freelance writer and photographer and currently as wildlife editor. He has published articles and photographs in almost every magazine with Texas in the title, and is the author of several guidebooks to the state. An Elgin native, he is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin. He helped select material for the 60th anniversary story in this issue, and introduces readers to Shorty Powers and Turning P.O.I.N.T. (Paraplegics on Independent Nature Trips).



AT ISSUE

FROM THE PEN OF ROBERT L. COOK

Have you noticed that as the years go by, they go by faster? Someone recently asked me, "Bob, what do you do when you get bored?" I thought about it for a second, and I realized that I have never been bored in my entire life. And believe me, nothing about 2002 has been boring at Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Working with our constituents, we completed and our commission approved TPWD's "Land and Water Resources Conservation and Recreation Plan" as required by our Sunset legislation. Our long-range plan includes realistic recommendations and goals to maintain sufficient fresh water for fish, wildlife, and recreation; to work cooperatively with private landowners in conserving our natural and cultural resources and increasing the accessibility of the great outdoors for all Texans; to provide additional parks, historic sites, wildlife areas and fish hatcheries near our state's urban areas; to increase nature tourism; to slow land fragmentation; and to improve our science and data collection methods. This significant effort resulted in a good plan. It is a plan that will not just sit on the shelf.

We successfully recruited strong and experienced management, financial and legal leadership to our agency. We have focused on taking care of what we have, honoring previous commitments, conducting business in an open and professional manner, using our current staff and funding resources effectively and efficiently, and doing a better job of managing and conserving Texas' cultural and natural resources with what we have. For example, our financial staff completed the long overdue reconciliation of our revenues and expenditures for the past five years, and documented no misuse or loss of funds.

Significantly, we amended our mission statement by adding that an important part of our purpose is "to provide hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities" now and in the future.

As we approach the upcoming legislative session, we have clearly stated that our top funding priority is for our state parks and state historic sites. These sites are important to all Texans; they are places for our urban citizens to experience the great outdoors and they are critically important to the economy of rural communities.

We have made a commitment to keep our field game warden positions filled across the state. We need to increase the number of field game wardens to enforce hunting, fishing and water safety laws, and to assist with local community law enforcement efforts.

Through this open and straightforward approach, we have addressed and will resolve most of the issues and concerns that have been expressed by citizens, oversight agencies and legislators over the past few years.

Our legislators will face many difficult decisions during the upcoming session. I encourage all Texans who love the outdoors, and all constituents and users of our natural, cultural and historic resources, to support our elected officials and help by becoming informed about the issues and getting involved. Your input and participation will ensure that Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will become an even better conservation agency.

We have addressed and will resolve most of the issues and concerns that have been expressed over the past few years.

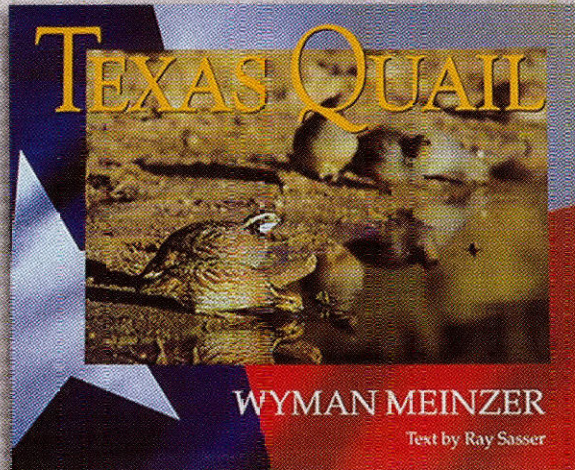


Texas Parks and Wildlife Department mission statement:

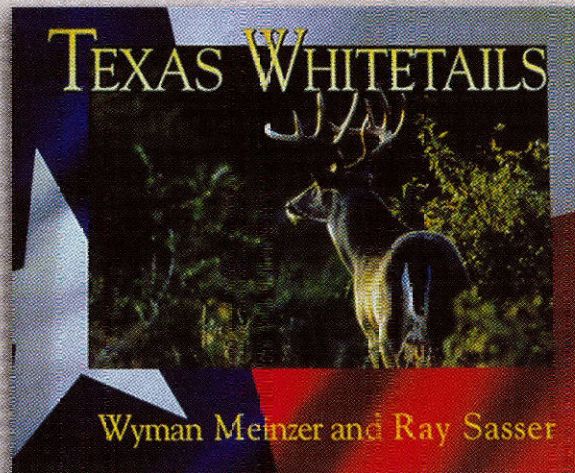
To manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of Texas and to provide hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

A Texas trifecta

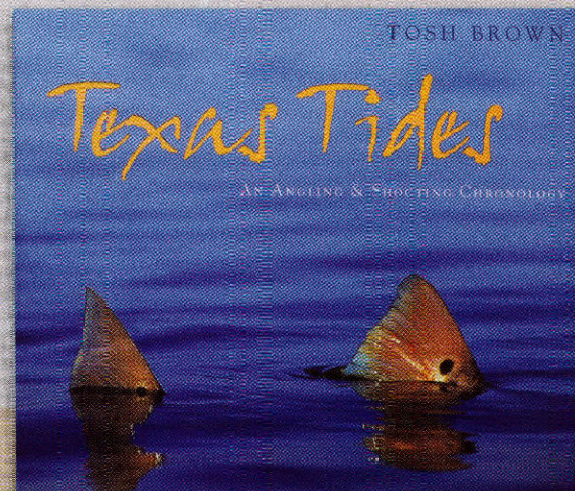
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MAIL CALL

PICKS, PANS AND PROBES FROM PREVIOUS ISSUES

FOREWORD

I ease back the ancient black tarpaulin in the flat file drawer, and a lightning quiver of recognition passes through me, 'though I've never seen this artwork before. It is as least as old as am I.

I scan, heart-pounding, for the signature I know I will find and rejoice: Orville Rice! Pintails and shovelers, both male and female, glisten in meticulous detail as they pass in tandem flight over a neon-fired dawn marsh. How long has it rested here, I wonder? If we had not had to prepare for the refurbishing of our offices, how long would it have laid here still? Marveling, I kneel, cradling it as gently as I would a child.

Rice — as many of you know — created the cover art that distinguished this magazine in the '40s and '50s under its original name, *Texas Game and Fish*. Through the efforts of Texas Wildlife Expo and the *Outdoor Annual* — each of which sport a different Orville Rice painting on T-shirts and covers respectively — his artwork has enjoyed a resurgence of interest. *Texas Parks & Wildlife* magazine featured a profile of Rice in the August 2000 issue.

Rice's artwork heralds our anniversary gift to you, our readers.

For 60 years, this magazine has been the voice of the Texas outdoors. Born in hope during the midst of WWII in December 1942 — with a color cover! with a subscription price! with advertising! with a stalwart vow to its readers! — this magazine has been unflinchingly steadfast in focusing on the fish, fowl, flora and fauna of Texas. Moreover, this magazine has focused on you, our readers; on your viewpoints, your passions and your pursuits; on our shared communion with wild places and the kindred spirits who find solace there; on humans' responsibilities in the delicate and complex web of life.

How do we know this? We went back and read every single issue since December 1942. Most of this research was done by managing editor Mary-Love Bigony and wildlife editor Larry D. Hodge. Intern D.J. Carwile did additional fact-checking and research, while I shouldered in with art director Mark Mahorsky, photo editor Bill Reaves, guest editor Jan Reid and assisting art director Nancy McMillen to bring these historic pages to life.

Far more historic, cultural, environmental and conservation moments occurred during the past six decades than we can publish. For additional detail, visit <www.tpwd.state.tx.us> and click on "60th Anniversary Issue."

This month's "Mail Call" is a selection of reader mail from the first two decades. From the onset, this magazine has been interactive and responsive to its readers, for it is your voices that make this magazine strong. We are humbled that our antecedents served your grandparents, mamas and daddies well. We at *Texas Parks & Wildlife* magazine commit to serving you as well both now and in the future.

Moreover, we commit to speaking for wild creatures and wild places in this modern crush of humanity and development. The voices of the ages whisper to us as we learn from this magazine's past and steer her gently into the future.

Let your voices join chorus with ours: This is your magazine; this is your Texas.



PAST PERFECT

AN OPEN FORUM

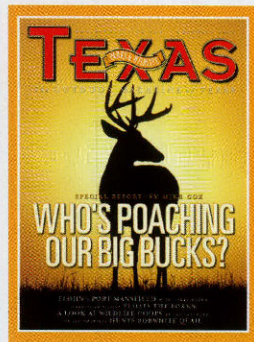
It is my desire to compliment you on *Texas Game and Fish*. I enjoy it more and get more out of it than any wildlife magazine I receive.

If a suggestion is in line, this writer

would like to see a hunters' and fishermen's open forum and gab column in this fine magazine. Interchange of thought and suggestion is always a help. The sport fishermen are going to support this magazine. So please talk a little about the old, sore and ticklish subject, "netting in closed bay waters." The whole depredation is now ruining a lot of future for Texas coastal fishing and is resulting in profit only to a few.

Best of luck to *Texas Game and Fish*, and we hope it grows each month, and that Texas sportsmen will always have this fine publication with them.

A.E. IVEY
Houston
October 1944



I enjoyed Mike Cox's article, "Stealing Beauty" (November 2002) and encourage all hunters to report all illegal hunting activity so that anyone caught breaking the law can be prosecuted. It's the only way to protect ourselves and the wild game we all love.

George L. Simpson
Desoto

PIONEERING WATERFOWL I.D.

The November issue of your wonderful magazine is proudly in my possession. You are certainly deserving of the highest of compliments on this fine publication. The paintings and descriptions of the ducks and geese in this type of magazine are truly a god-send to waterfowl hunters. The regular books used by ornithologists contain much material not interesting to the hunter while this publication shows the species of birds which hunters most generally have the opportunity to

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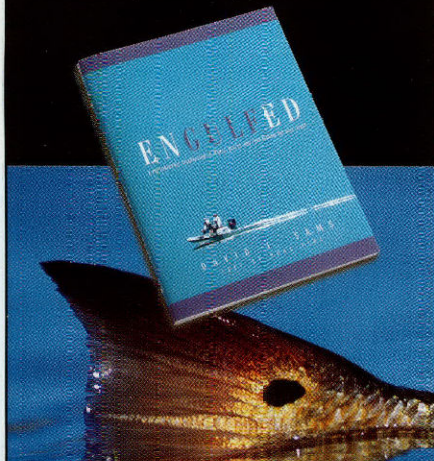
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I have felt for a long time that such information should come out in the outdoor magazines and take great pleasure in congratulating you in pioneering this work on a scale large enough to be comparative.

FLOYD AL THOMPSON
Lubbock
January 1946

THE NEXT GENERATION

I am so very happy to be a constant reader of our well-informed *Texas Game and Fish* magazine. I have also put this magazine before quite a number of young boys in our neighborhood by circulating my copies among them. They certainly enjoy and talk about the articles they have read. I think this would be a good way for the subscribers to help young Texans to be good and well-informed hunters and fishermen. Thanks for a good magazine.


JOE MELOUN
Seagoville
May 1946

RIVER RIGHTS

Your article in the June 1947 issue, "What Are Your Rights?" by J.G. Burr is interesting but not complete and I would like a little more information.

How far up a public stream is it a public stream? I have always been of the opinion that the Guadalupe is a public stream to the point where surveys cross the river. Is this correct? A number of landowners below this point will not permit fishing and I do not believe they could make it stick in court.

The Guadalupe River around and above Kerrville is practically invariably fenced to the water's edge. I have always believed that a fisherman could cross landowners' property to obtain access to a public stream if he did so without damaging property, but you say in this article that in the case of objection by the landowner, the fisherman must enter at a highway crossing. What about cases where



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MAIL CALL

there are no highway crossings? Can the landowner control fishing in a public stream in cases like this?

E.T. BUTT
Kerrville
August 1947

A PEACH OF A READER

To all Texas sportsmen who are inclined to gripe about the hunting and fishing in Texas, may I suggest that they leave Texas and see what the rest of the country has to contend with?

FRED. J. HOEFLICH
Atlanta, Ga.
April 1949

SPEAKING FOR SONGBIRDS

I have been a subscriber to your magazine for several years. You have a great magazine, and I am sure that it is reaching a greater number of people in this state each month.

I framed several of your duck pictures, and your April 1950 cover of the female belted kingfisher is one of the best you have published to date.

As your magazine is reaching a greater number of people each month, it would be greatly appreciated by many if you would publish a greater number of articles on our songbirds and other beneficial birds. It is a shame that some of these birds have been mistreated, and some of this may be due to a lack of knowledge and understanding on the part of the people of this state.

An article from time to time on the conservation of non-game birds would be well worthwhile, and I am sure you could enlighten a large number of people, as these birds are not only beautiful and pleasant to listen to but are of great economic value as destroyers of all type of insects.

O.C. SHEFFIELD
Tyler
June 1950

COVER TO COVER WITH A NATURE LOVER

A friend gave me the June 1950 copy of your magazine, and I was delighted with the article "Hunting Birds with Binoculars." For the past 15 years, this has been a very inter-

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MAIL CALL

esting study of mine. At present, I send the records for this area to the Bird Conservation Department of the Fish and Wildlife section of the Department of the Interior.

I congratulate you on the conservation note of the whole magazine, but I am sure that more articles like this one would appeal to a great many of us so-called "nature lovers." Still, there was scarcely an article in the magazine that I did not enjoy. It is most informative, and I am enclosing a dollar for a year's subscription.

From the redfish on the cover to the information on bobwhite quail, I liked it.

MRS. T.E. WINFORD
Dallas
September 1950

BUT WHAT WAS HE READING?

I would like to subscribe to your magazine. You do a wonderful job, and if I can't be a part of it, at least I want to keep posted on the latest news regarding game conservation and the swell tips on fishing, hunting and care of equipment in a magazine that's not crammed with advertisements and disgusting backstabbing editorials.

JOHNNY F. MCARDLE
Houston
September 1950

SAVE MY MARRIAGE!

My husband subscribes to *Texas Game and Fish*, but for some unknown reason did not receive the November 1951 issue. Life since then has been unbearable around here, so is there some way I can get a copy of this particular issue?

MRS. HUBERT KNIGHT
Dallas
April 1952

FILL 'ER UP... SIGN 'EM UP

Operate a service station and recreation center, and before I can finish reading or even looking through *Texas Game and Fish*, someone grabs it. When people finish leafing through the magazine, it looks like some of these hot checks I've been carrying around and trying to collect.

Is there some way I could sell subscriptions to this magazine? Only

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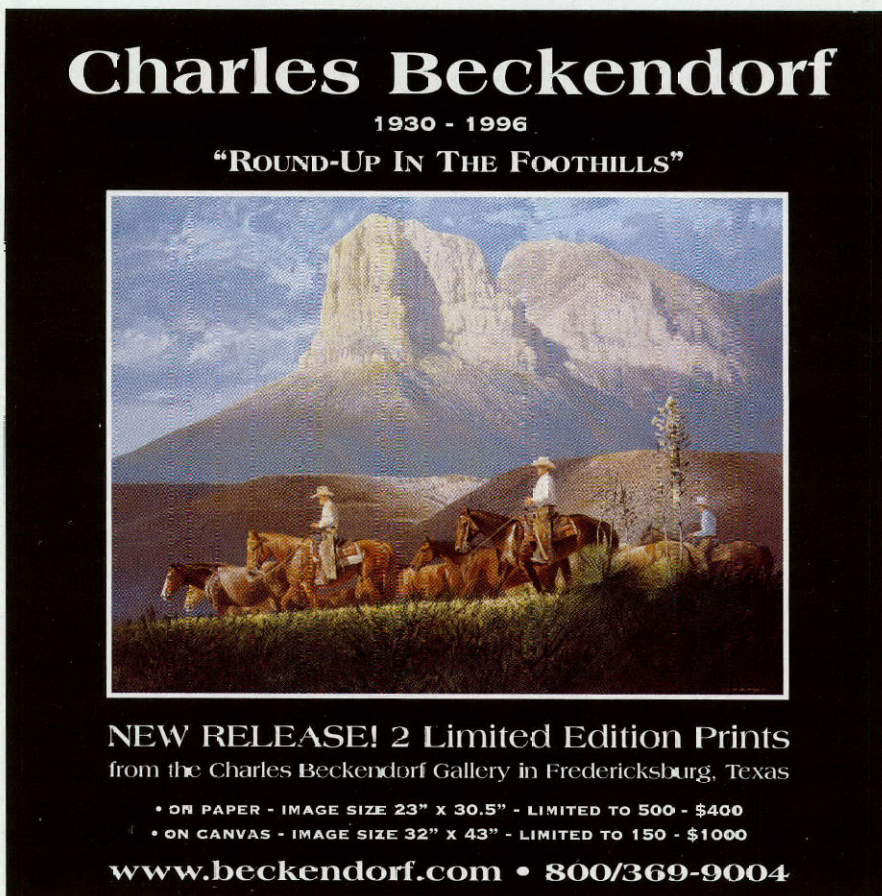


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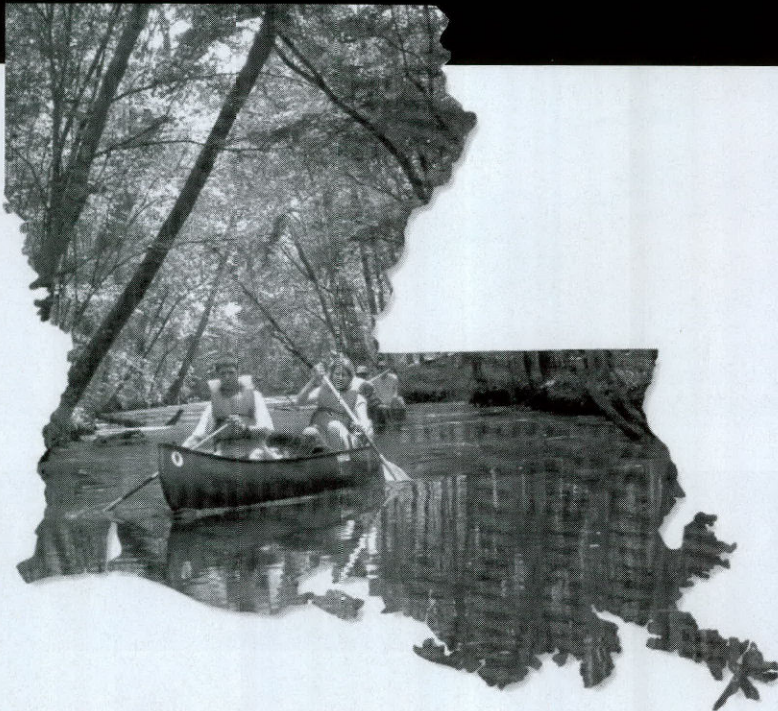
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MAIL CALL

this morning. I gave a man the subscription coupon out of my magazine. He said he's been trying to find it on the newsstand and couldn't.

PHIL J. CIOMPERLIK

Jouranton

September 1952

RAISE THE PRICE!

Until recently, I had no idea that such an excellent periodical as *Texas Game and Fish* was being published.

Might I suggest that 25 cents be added to the subscription price and this money be used to publicize the fact that this magazine is available?

C.O. BAILEY

Rockport

March 1953

WHOOPEER INSPIRATION

The return of the whooping cranes to Texas for the winter has had a great effect on the interest in the current wildlife project of my class of school children.

The whoopers caught the fancy of the children's parents, and now some of my pupils tell me their parents are a big help in finding additional information, news clippings, etc., for the wildlife project. My thanks to you for the material and the help from the Commission.

J.K. STUCKEY

Vernon

For those who haven't heard, press time count on the world's remaining whooping cranes at Aransas National Wildlife Refuge on the Texas coast was 28, an increase of seven over last year. Eight young whoopers returned from the summer nesting grounds this year — one adult failed to return. — The Editors

January 1956

RETURN OF THE WHITEWINGS

I saw the first white-winged dove arrive here for the nesting season March 10 — somewhat earlier than usual. It is hoped that greater numbers of these birds will return to the Valley for nesting as they once did, and this could well happen if the remaining tracts of native brush are set aside for them.

Nature in its original form supplied man with everything needed. However, man, the one most

(continued on page 54)

SCOUT

NEWS AND VIEWS IN THE TEXAS OUTDOORS

Pheasants on the Rise

With the formation of Lone Star Pheasants Forever last year, pheasants may benefit in the future.

Being a ring-necked pheasant in Texas isn't easy. Although these non-native birds adapted well to the Texas Panhandle of a few decades ago, modern "clean" farming, more efficient irrigation systems and unfavorable weather have combined to decrease their numbers in recent years. Now help is on the way.

A national conservation organization, Pheasants Forever, was formed in 1982 to protect and enhance habitat for pheasants and other wildlife. Volunteers in more than 500 Pheasants Forever chapters nationwide have helped establish or restore more than 2 million acres of critical wildlife habitat. Some 700 Texans joined the national organization but not until 2001 was a Texas chapter — Lone Star Pheasants Forever — formed.

Following the national model, Lone Star Pheasants Forever works with landowners, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and other organizations to carry out projects that will benefit pheasants. The group's first annual meeting will take place in January 2003. To learn more about the organization and how you can help, visit their Web site at <www.lonestarpf.org> or contact chapter president Doug Bray at <dougbray@prodigy.net>.

Pheasant hunting in the Texas Panhandle during the Dec. 14-29 season is expected to be fair to poor depending on local habitat conditions, says TPWD district biologist Danny Swepston. Lone Star Pheasants Forever hopes their efforts will bring brighter forecasts in the future.

—Larry D. Hodge

Ring-necked pheasants in Texas should benefit from projects carried out by Lone Star Pheasants Forever.

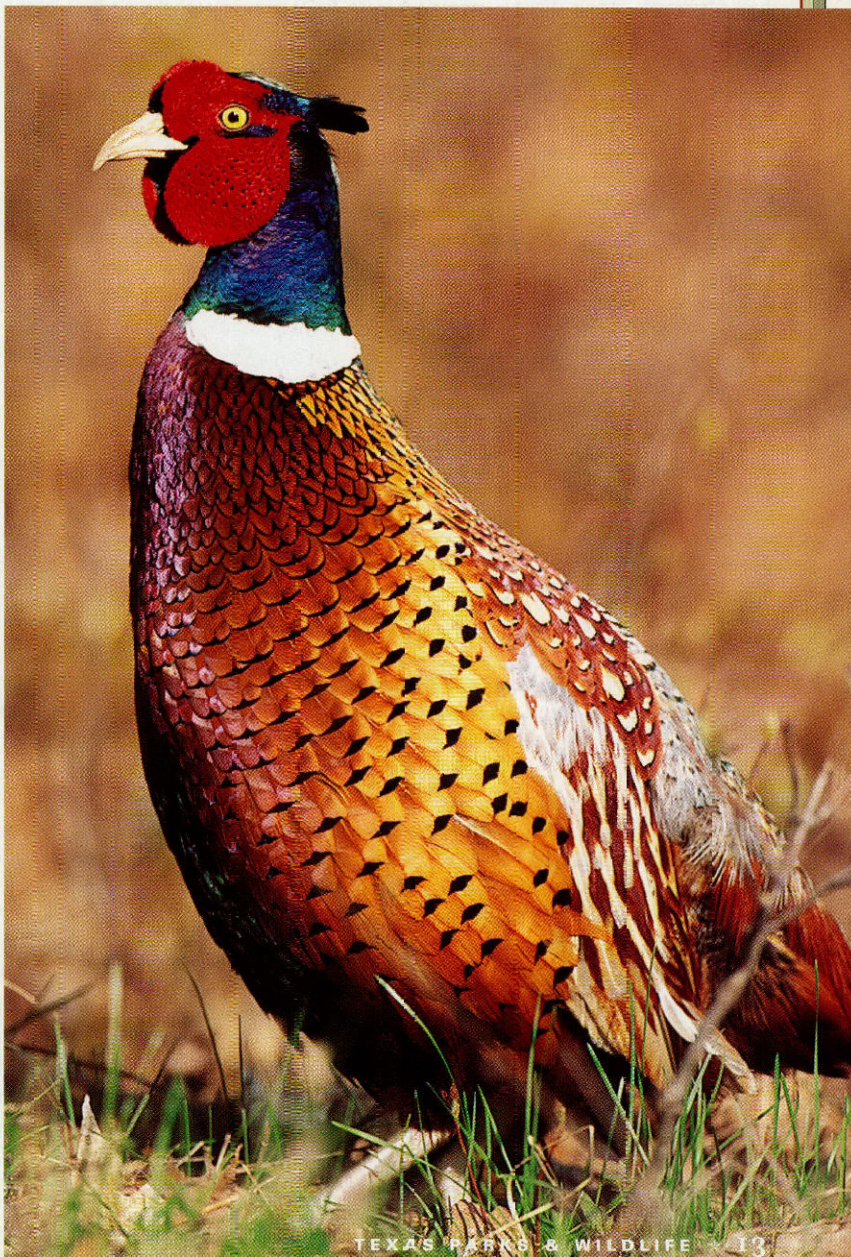


PHOTO © JOHN R. FORD

Lyndon's Land

A new LBJ State Park exhibit showcases how the Hill Country influenced the life of Lyndon Baines Johnson.

"It is impossible to live on this land without being a part of it, without being shaped by its qualities," President Lyndon B. Johnson said about the Texas Hill Country.

A new exhibit at Lyndon B. Johnson State Park and Historic Site reveals the power the Texas Hill Country held over LBJ and his wife, Lady Bird. "A Hill Country Heritage: the Land and People that Inspired a President and First Lady," surrounds the visitor with pictures of settlers and ranchers, artifacts from Indians and immigrants and interactive displays.

The exhibit starts by introducing the Johnsons and the Texas Hill Country, including a recording of LBJ describing his relationship with that land. From there, the exhibit outlines the cultures that have inhabited the Hill Country, from ancient peoples to German immigrants. There is background on each culture, including when they arrived in the Hill Country and the impact they made.

"What we're trying to show is how those cultures changed the Hill Country and how that influenced President Johnson," says Park Superintendent Donnie Schuch.

The exhibit opened Aug. 27, on what would have been President Johnson's 94th birthday. More than 300 people attended the opening and Lady Bird Johnson and her daughter, Luci Baines Johnson, performed the ribbon cutting. The new exhibit replaces a "temporary" exhibit created for the opening of the park in 1970.



PHOTO © D.J. CARVILLE

Some of the old displays remain, says Schuch, but the exhibit received a major upgrade. A life-size replica of the old post office in Hye, Texas, allows visitors to read the text of actual letters sent by German immigrants to their relatives in Germany. "Hurry, hurry and join us," a letter from Caroline von Roeder reads. "Texas is truly the land of freedom and romance." Recordings of the letters are played at one of five audio stations in the exhibit. Other displays discuss the history of language, schooling, food and entertainment using interactive setups that are great for kids of all ages. The last two displays, "More Than Flowers: Mrs. Johnson's Gifts to the People," and "President Johnson's Legacy - A Vision of a Great Society," show how the Johnsons gave back, not only to the Hill Country, but to the world.

This new exhibit is the first of six phases of improvement at the park. All improvements will be paid for by revenue from bus tours of the neighboring LBJ Ranch. Other attractions include a film of LBJ touring his ranch in the 1960s, nature trails and the Sauer-Beckmann Living History Farm.

The park is open daily, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Park facilities are closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Days. Entrance to the park, the exhibit and the living history farm are free; bus tours of LBJ Ranch are \$3. For more information, call LBJ State Historical Park at (830) 644-2252.

—D.J. Carville

TEXAS READER

Fishing Yesterday's Gulf Coast

Barney's Place in Port Aransas was the center of Coastal Bend fishing culture in the 1930s and 1940s.

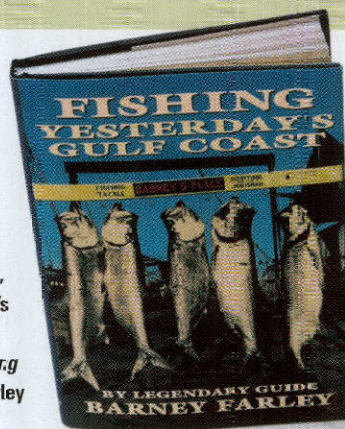
As the owner of a popular bait and tackle shop, Barney Farley knew fishing, and everybody who fished the Texas Coast seemed to know him. When President Franklin D. Roosevelt came to Port A to go tarpon fishing in May 1937, Farley was his guide. A scale from the president's fish is still on display at the Tarpon Inn, across the street from Barney's Place.

For nearly 25 years after Farley's death, the Tarpon Inn hid a trophy of a different sort — the manuscript for *Fishing Yesterday's Gulf Coast*. In essays and musings believed to have been written before and during the early 1960s, Farley reveals that inside the businessman and fishing guide beat the heart of a conservationist.

Published by Texas A&M University Press, the book holds true to Farley's original writing style. The tone is folksy at times, reflective and moralistic at others, reverent and intelligent throughout. Farley's observations on fish habits and angling techniques are well represented in the 150-page volume. More revealing into Farley's character are passages dealing with marine conservation. Farley speaks out against wasteful angling practices, bay shrimping, industrial pollution and boat traffic in shallow water. The book touches on Farley's love for light-tackle angling and his passion for motorboats, but it also deals with topical issues such as diminishing freshwater inflows to bays and the need for free-flowing fish passes. Farley espoused regulation changes to both the commercial and recreational fisheries.

Fishing Yesterday's Gulf Coast provides a glimpse into Texas' rich coastal fishing culture and challenges readers to face Farley's insight and perspective on preserving that culture. Part of the proceeds from the book will benefit the Harvey Weil Sportsman/Conservationist Trust, a Corpus Christi philanthropic organization that funds wildlife and fisheries projects. A limited edition with special binding (\$100) and a regular hardback edition (\$23) are available; call (361) 882-9745 to order.

—David Sikes





Jaime Parkinson participates in a tandem skydive at a San Marcos skydiving school. The Marshall woman took up skydiving after becoming paralyzed from a car accident in 1994. She credits Shorty Powers and Turning P.O.I.N.T. for the quality of life she enjoys today.

There's Life after Paralysis

"Deal with it and get on with life."

—Shorty Powers

Jaime Parkinson of Marshall stopped walking in 1994, when a car crash left her paralyzed from the waist down. But she didn't give up skydiving until becoming pregnant in 2000. In fact, she didn't start skydiving until after her accident.

"I don't know if you can imagine being 17 and everything being so new again," Parkinson says. "Half my body didn't work anymore." Like others in her situation, Parkinson lost hope of ever leading anything close to a normal life again. "But I've done more in this wheelchair than I ever dreamed of doing on two legs," she says now. "The wheel chair slows me down, but it doesn't stop me."

What turned her life around? Michael ("Shorty") Powers and Turning P.O.I.N.T. (Paraplegics on Independent Nature Trips), the organization he and a group of physically challenged friends founded in 1979. Turning P.O.I.N.T.'s mission is to develop self-esteem and confidence in physically challenged individuals by having them participate in adapted outdoor activities such as archery, camping, kayaking, fishing, hunting, sailing, water skiing and, yes, skydiving.

Powers went through a painful 10 years of adjustment after a car crash — caused by a drunken driver being chased by police — left him without the use of his legs. A junior in high school at the time, Powers suddenly found himself on the outside of teen society. He and another wheelchair-bound friend turned to each other and the outdoors, unknowingly combining the two ingredients upon which Turning P.O.I.N.T. is built.

"I didn't want to live, but I didn't want to kill myself. I wanted to be somebody," Powers recalls. He and his friend, John Gallard, "did all kinds of outdoor stuff. We'd go to Colorado, two guys in wheelchairs in a four-wheel-drive vehicle with two kayaks on top, and go places where there weren't even roads." Displaying the ingenuity and personal charm that stand him in good stead today, Powers would drive himself and his friend to a rehabilitation center in Colorado, where they would pretend to be patients long enough to "get cleaned up and date a few of

the girls" before heading back into the wild.

In 1979 Powers acted on a growing desire to help others like himself. He organized a kayak class for the physically challenged and held it on Bachman Lake in Dallas. The next year, at the request of a member of the city council, he helped plan the Bachman Lake Recreation Center, where all facilities are wheelchair accessible. In 2002, Turning P.O.I.N.T. held its 10th annual

Extravaganza at the center with the support of Cabela's, Quantum, Motorguide, Pradco, the Tim Hixon family of San Antonio, the Royce Faulkner family of Austin, Albert Adams of Fort Worth and TPWD. Some 600 participants took part in basketball, archery, fishing, shooting, horseback riding, rock climbing, water skiing, skydiving and the latest rage, remote-controlled model cars. "The remote-controlled cars are especially popular with kids who can move only their hands — they can use a joystick," Powers explains.

Powers dreams of being able to find funding for a twice-yearly camp at Caddo Lake, one of his favorite fishing spots. "I want to work with the rehabilitation centers and take six to 10 of the very hard cases, the 18- and 19-year-olds who were on top of the world and suddenly find themselves in a wheelchair not wanting to live, and mix them with my guys and gals, some of whom have been physically challenged for 30 years. While we are camping and fishing, we will be talking and becoming friends, and they will see we are exactly like them and went through the same things they are going through — and we didn't give up. Those kids need that one-on-one."

Jaime Parkinson knows that approach works. "While I was in rehab in Dallas, Shorty came and took me fishing," she recalls. "I went just to get out of the hospital. The fishing was entertaining, but as the hospital van was leaving, I looked out the window and saw Shorty jumping into a Toyota four-wheel-drive truck, the same kind I was driving when I had my wreck. Seeing that 42-year-old man jump into that truck gave me hope."

Turning P.O.I.N.T. holds events at various times through the year and has chapters in Dallas, Austin, East Texas, Houston/Galveston and Kentucky/Tennessee. For information, call Powers at (972) 551-4231 or (972) 524-4231 or visit the organization's Web site at <www.turningpoint1.com>.

—Larry D. Hodge

FIELD NOTES

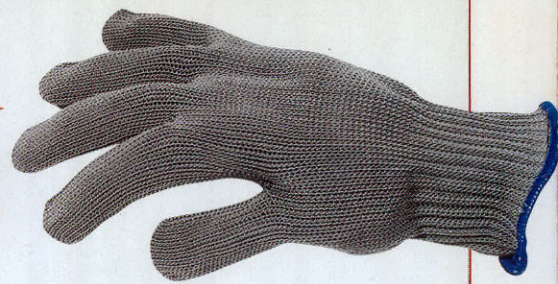
Hunting and Fishing Are Big Business

America's hunters and anglers, spending more than \$70 billion on their pastime each year, would rank No. 11 on the Fortune 500 if they formed a corporation. This fact is one of many used in a recent report by the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation and the National Shooting Sports Foundation to show the economic impact of America's hunters. The report uses statistics from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's 2001 survey, and compares hunters' and anglers' impact on the economy with that of other industries.

American sportsmen support 1.6 million jobs, well more than Wal-Mart, the country's largest employer. And, in Florida, recreational anglers spend three times more than the revenues from the state's orange crop.

Fish-Cleaning Knives

Knives for every preference. / BY GIBBS MILLIKEN



Fabric/steel mesh fillet glove

Ask a professional fish cleaner what knife to use and you usually will get a strong personal preference. Most select a high-grade stainless steel knife that holds an edge and can be sterilized after use without deteriorating the handle. Some like a long-blade, flexible knife; others use a shorter or rigid version. The characteristics of pro fish knives are similar with a sleek, simple blade solidly mold-mounted in a flared safety handle of durable composite material.

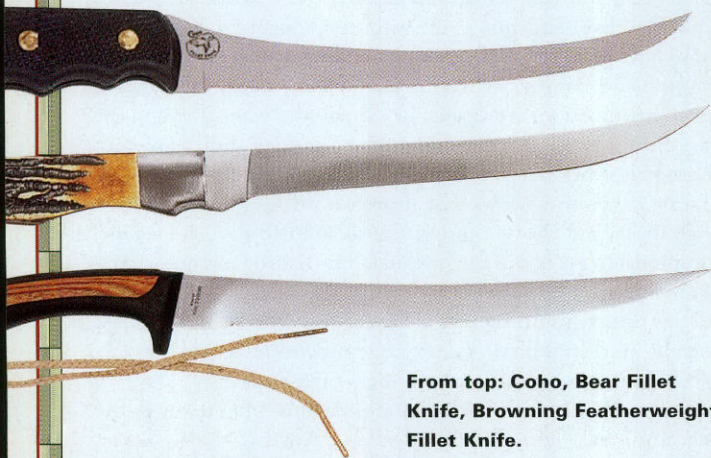
For convenience and cutting ease, many anglers have switched to the electric reciprocating twin-blade serrated designs. The different styles run on either 110 AC, 12 volt DC, or have an internal rechargeable battery. The newest standard AC unit is the **Saltwater Piranha** (\$39.95, model MT-1208, Mister Twister, (800) 344-6331, <www.mister-twister.com>) featuring more than twice the serrations along the cutting edges and excellent for cleaning either fresh or

tive serrated-tip blades, and quality leather sheaths. Also well-crafted is the structured red "stag" bone handle **Bear Fillet Knife** (\$60, model #567, Bear MGC Cutlery, (800) 844-3034). These knives are field-proven types you may remember from your grandfather's tackle box.

Folding fish knives are compact and convenient to have in a tackle box. They serve for both cutting bait and cleaning the catch. The **Fishlocker Folding Fillet Knife** (\$31, Buck Knives, (800) 326-2825, <www.buckknives.com>) has a long, lightweight textured plastic handle and positive backlocking 6-inch blade. Thoroughly cleaning this type of knife is difficult. It requires the use of a spray of high-pressure water to remove organic debris trapped inside the blade compartment, plus treating with chemical disinfectants and oiling the moving parts after use.

The more utilitarian fixed-blade designs with hard stainless steel blades and durable, non-slip safety handles are often dishwasher-proof, functional, and reasonably priced. The flexible 12.5-inch blade **Pro Fisherman** (\$19.99-\$24.75, model 1470T, Schrade Cutlery, (800) 351-9658, <www.schradeknives.com>) is popular for good reason: it has all the above features plus a quality ballistic cloth nylon sheath with a safety liner. Among commercial fish cleaners, one favorite is the **Forschner Fillet Knife** (\$13.10, model 40618 (no sheath), Forschner, (800) 243-4032, <www.swissarmy.com>), which has remained unchanged for many decades of dependable service. Another combination of functional design plus good looks is the **Browning Featherweight Fillet Knife** (\$39.50, model 906, Browning, (800) 333-3288, <www.browning.com>). This fine AUS-8A stainless knife has a curved wood/Zytel composite handle and protective lined top-grain fitted leather sheath.

FOR SAFETY: Protect your hands when working with a wet, slippery fish with textured or non-slip grips, guard-flares on the hilt or a safety glove like the fabric/steel mesh **Fillet Glove** (\$10, Normark/Rapala, (800) 874-4451, <www.normark.com>) on the gripping hand. While preparing fish products, even small cuts and punctures can become quickly infected if not properly cleaned and treated with antibiotic ointment. ★



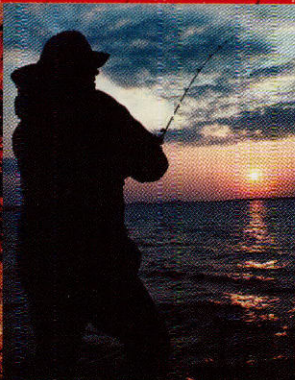
From top: Coho, Bear Fillet Knife, Browning Featherweight Fillet Knife.

large saltwater fishes. Another new design is the cordless-rechargeable **Sportsman's Knife** (\$69.95, model 560030H, Angler's Best, (888) 241-0597, <www.motowasher.com>). This heavy-duty model can be used anywhere, anytime. It will run for a full hour on one charge of its memory-free NiMH battery. The handle containing the motor and battery is balanced forward and rubberized for comfort. It comes as a set in a molded carry-case with an extra pair of smaller blades and AC rapid (three-hour) charger unit.

Some fish cleaners feel they lose too much of the delicate meat with the thick-bladed electrics and insist on using traditional manual knives. These filleting knives run the gamut from high-end professional outfitters' blades like the **Grayling** (\$96.97, Knives of Alaska, (800) 572-0980, <www.knivesofalaska.com>) or the larger curved **Coho** (\$104.97, antler handle or \$39.97, rubberized Suregrip handle, Knives of Alaska). These not only perform well, they do it in style with classic antler scales, distinc-

From top: Sportsman's Knife, Saltwater Piranha



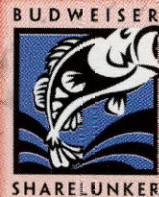
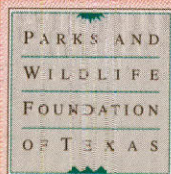


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KING OF TEXAS OUTDOORS

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PROUD SUPPORTER



How to Fillet A Fish

Get your catch ready for the table. / BY KEN KURZAWSKI

ILLUSTRATIONS BY NARDA LEBO

Should today's conservation-minded anglers catch fish to eat? The answer is an emphatic *yes!* Fishing regulations for both fresh water and salt water are designed to allow some harvest, provided, of course, that anglers adhere to length and bag limits.

Filleting is one of the most popular ways to prepare fish for cooking. Filleting produces two edible portions of fish flesh (called fillets) without bones or skin. A sharp knife designed for filleting is a must (see Field Test, page 16).

To keep fish edible, they must be properly handled from the moment they are caught. Fish should be kept on ice if they can't be kept alive before being filleted. If that will be for an extended period (for example, overnight), the fish should have their entrails and gills removed to reduce spoilage.

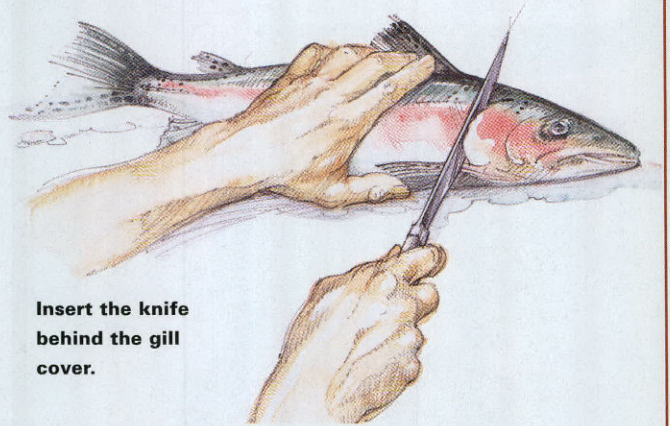
To fillet a fish, start by laying the fish on its side on a flat surface. Position your knife behind the fish's gill cover, holding the knife handle at the top or dorsal part of the fish. Make your first cut behind the gill cover through the skin and flesh cutting down to but not through the backbone.

Next, position the blade parallel to the dorsal fin and between the bones and flesh. Work the knife toward the tail. The point of the knife should extend to but not through the rib cage. Keeping the blade flat and tight against the bones, make even, sweeping strokes to separate the flesh from the bones. Keep working toward the tail until your knife clears the rib cage. At this point, the knife can be pushed through the fish. The point will extend out of the fish near the anal vent. Continue cutting along the bone to but not through the tail. Spread the cut open and work the blade around and over the ribs, freeing the flesh from the rib cage.

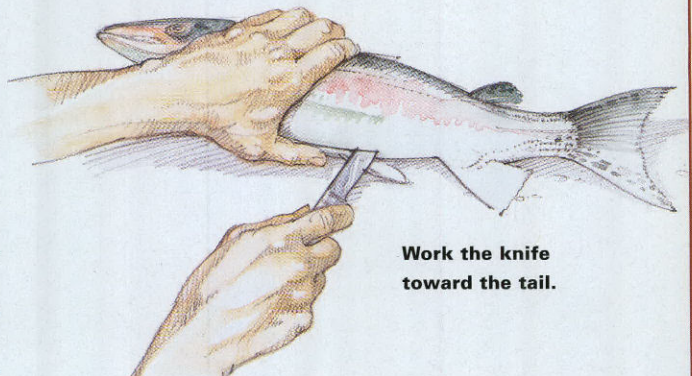
Now, for the tricky part! The fillet should be free from all bones and attached to the fish by just a small section of skin near the tail. Flip the fish over so the skin side of the cut portion is on the bottom. At the spot where the fillet is attached to the tail, slide the knife under the flesh but not through the skin. Holding the tail with one hand, work the knife along the skin while pulling the tail in the opposite direction. Cut until the fillet is free from the skin. Repeat the above steps for the other side of the fish. The result will be two skinless, boneless fillets ready for your favorite recipe.

Of course, there's more than one way to fillet fish. If you wish to keep the skin on the fillet, just cut through the skin where it is attached to the tail. Rather than cutting the flesh from around the rib cage, you can cut through the rib bones where they are attached to the spine. If you use this method, the rib bones should be cut off the fillet before cooking.

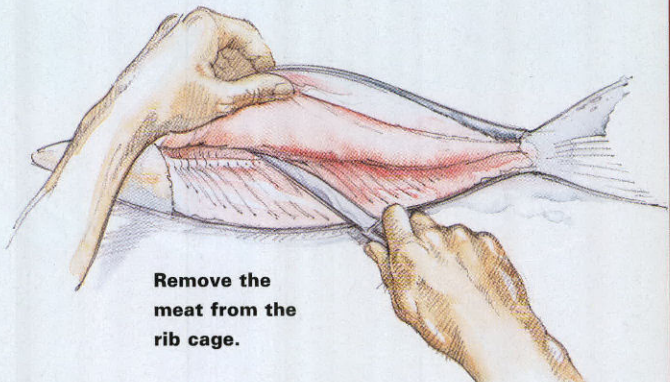
Eating fish has always been and should remain a part of the experience of going fishing. Lots of great-tasting recipes for fish can be found, and eating fish is good for you, too. ★



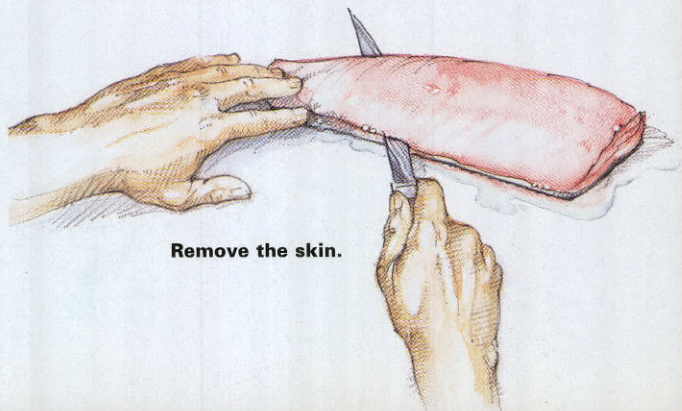
Insert the knife behind the gill cover.



Work the knife toward the tail.



Remove the meat from the rib cage.



Remove the skin.

SOME ARE INSPIRED BY THE SHEER MAGNITUDE OF IT ALL.
THE VIEW OUT THE WINDOW AIN'T TOO SHABBY EITHER.



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TAHOE  **LIKE A ROCK**

60 YEARS IN THE

A vanguard for conservation even in its infancy, this magazine reflects a changing

1940s

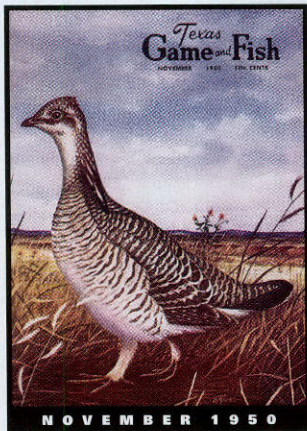
Invigorating Influence

DECEMBER 1942: First issue of *Texas Game and Fish* is published by the Texas Game, Fish and Cyster Commission. Executive Secretary William J. Tucker writes in that first issue "After the harshness, brutalities and sacrifices of the present conflict the Texas men and womanhood that has succeeded in winning the war should return to a pleasanter place in which to live, with the invigorating influence of the out-of-doors doing its full share to cleanse their spirits and temper their character."

and

Viva la Difference

JUNE 1943: "Women should be capable of far more enjoyment from fishing than men because of their sense of appreciation of beauty. A man will make his kill, guzzle a bottle of brew and blindly head homeward; a woman will be satisfied with one small perch and linger to revel in the infinitesimal loveliness of the bloom on Spanish moss or the haunting song of a rain crow at dusk."



Losing Species, Habitat

APRIL 1944: "Texas will face soon the loss of four important game species and one entire fauna. Two of the game species are mammals: the black bear and the bighorn sheep.... Two game birds are the Attwater's prairie chicken and the lesser prairie chicken.... In extreme South Texas, an entire fauna is in jeopardy. Here such subtropical birds and mammals as the white-winged dove, chachalaca, red-billed pigeon, white-fronted dove, Derby fly-catcher and Eyra cat are threatened with eradication as

a result of the continuing removal of brushy habitat...."

Keeping it Clean

JULY 1945: "In the past there has been widespread belief that pollution of a waterway is not objectionable because of the ability of the receiving stream to somehow purify itself as it flows along its course. It is doubtful that a present day stream can ever purify itself regardless of its length of travel."

Welcome Home

DECEMBER 1945: Cover painting by Orville Rice features a gray-haired man escorting a young man in a soldier's uniform into a glade where

in any concentration from local dealers...." The article goes on to say: "Under certain conditions it may be dangerous to beneficial insects or even to animals and man."

To Catch a Fish, Think Like a Fish . . .

SEPTEMBER 1947: "If you've turned down your boyfriend's invitation to go fishing lately, better think twice before you do it again. Men look upon that sport as one of the essentials of living a wonderful life. And if you want to remain the strictly A-1 for him, you must 'put up' with this fad of his — or better than that — learn to enjoy his fishing trips, too."

Catch and Release Pioneers

MAY 1948: "It is only natural for a person to tell of his fishing or hunting prowess, but at the same time does this speak so highly of that person's sportsmanship? Wouldn't it speak as well of that angler's prowess and also for his sportsmanship if he had released those fish alive, in order that

they might live to thrill another angler on some future day?"

Pesticide Alert

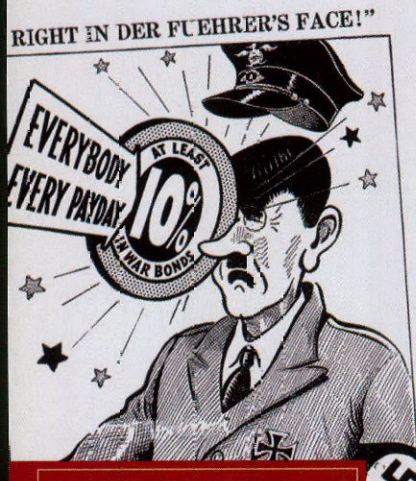
JULY 1949: "Reports of heavy mortality of birds, fish, frogs, crabs and other marine and fresh water life, allegedly as a result of insecticide dusts and sprays, has led the National Audubon Society to investigate the situation."



ducks fly overhead, bobwhite quail are on the ground and a white-tailed deer peeks around a sign, upon which a turkey is perched, that says "Welcome Home and Merry Christmas."

The Dangers of DDT

JANUARY 1946: "...government released DDT is available to home, farm, kennel and pet owners and may be purchased



FLASHBACK: APRIL 1943

BOND BLITZ: From 1942 to 1945, each issue carried an ad encouraging Texans to buy war bonds

TEXAS OUTDOORS

Texas, a developing agency and, most of all, the passions and pursuits of its readers.

1950s

Texas Outdoor Writers Association Begins as OWT

JUNE 1951: "Conservation got a tremendous stimulant recently through organization of the Outdoor Writers of Texas, a group pledged to give the true story of wildlife in this state."

Raising Consciousness

APRIL 1952: "Step aside, Dad, and make way for the kids. They show promise for rebuilding wildlife more effectively than any generation since the passing of the frontier."

End of the First Decade

DECEMBER 1952: The 10th anniversary issue used color inside the magazine for the first time; not color pictures, but colors in the headline type.



True, but Air Conditioning is Nice Sometimes

JUNE 1953: "The art of camping — and the attending pleasures — have all but been lost in this day of the automobile and expanding highways, which have made the wilds so easily accessible."

Whoopers Decline

SEPTEMBER 1953: "Only 21 of these birds — all the known whooping cranes now in existence — left the Texas coast for their northern breeding grounds last spring."

Falcon Dam is Built

JUNE 1954: "The miracle of modern engineering has again triumphed, and the small, sluggish, silt-laden Rio Grande River has been transformed into a vast, clear and fertile lake just above the new Falcon Dam."

Our Deer Hill Country

MAY 1955: "For approximately 16 years, game technicians have recognized dangers in overpopulations of deer in portions of the Edwards Plateau."

Ivory-Billed Woodpecker Habitat Concerns

JULY 1956: "Conservationists must take the initiative in working out solutions to some of the complex social and economic problems that are involved in the restoration of the ivory-bill

through management of its timber-producing habitats. Their success or failure will determine the fate of this bird."

Alert to Snow Goose Overpopulation

FEBRUARY 1957: "A press dispatch from Canada referring to growing overpopulation of snow geese gave emphasis to the contention by Howard Dodgen, Executive Secretary of the Texas Game and Fish Commission, that bag limits on snow geese should be increased."

The Canadian report, quoting a provincial authority,

stated the snows were so numerous in the summer nesting areas that food was insufficient, thus exposing the flocks to weakness and ultimate disease and starvation."

Then the Girls Can't Outfish the Boys, Right?

APRIL 1957: "Texas wildflowers can supply the fisherman with the needed enticement to get his family outdoors with him in the spring. While Dad and the boys fish, Mom and the girls can enjoy nature's exquisite blossoms."

PAGES IN TIME MAR 1943

1943 TEXAS GAME AND FISH Page 7

A FAIR EXCHANGE



1960s

Wetlands for Waterfowl, Public Hunting

JANUARY 1960: "One of the most important experiments now being conducted by the Texas Game and Fish Commission is its operation of the Big Hill Bayou Wildlife Management Area, an 8,400-acre tract of marsh land about eight miles west of Port Arthur.

"The big question they're trying to answer is this: Can a tract of land be managed to aid in feeding and wintering waterfowl, and at the same time be open to successful public hunting on a controlled basis?"

J. Frank Dobie Contributes to Magazine

JUNE 1962: From a story by J. Frank Dobie called *The Fire*: "In harsh, cold, wet weather a wood fire in an ample fireplace is one of the purest comforts and most genial comrades known to man."

resources.... The new Parks and Wildlife Commission, combining the Game and Fish Commission and the Parks Board, has been given the responsibility by the Legislature to fulfill this task for the people of Texas."

Protecting Inflow

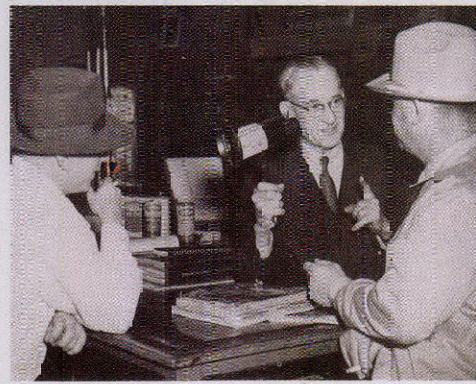
AUGUST 1964: "While vying for space along our coastline, we must recognize the habitat destruction caused by man in his real estate developments. It is quite possible that we are losing an important fisheries potential in our bays by blocking off fresh water, erecting bulkheads, dredging channels, depositing spoil and fill and otherwise destroying natural nursery grounds which are so important to shrimp, trout, redfish and other marine forms."

Brown Pelicans Threatened

SEPTEMBER 1964: "Disappearance of brown pelicans from the shores of Texas and Louisiana has aroused the concern of national and area ornithologists, marine biologists — and even those engaged in tourist promotions. "Not a single bird has been hatched by this species in



Fish for supper: Mrs. Ray Munger, 4800 Preston Road, Dallas, stops by the Koon Kreek Fishing Lodge near Palestine and catches a fine mess of black bass while Mrs. Edward Wright, 4905 Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, admiringly looks on.



HERE'S a sure-fire fish caller if you like the word of Audrey Meador, Palestine sporting goods dealer, the inventor. According to Meador, this fish caller takes all element of chance out of fishing. If you are after bass, you set the gadget for bass, turn the crank, and out comes it's call of the bass. Meador says the cant-opinion will make the sound of any known sporting fish. In fact, that is just what he is trying to get across to two skeptical anglers, Lawrence Eitenstein, left, and O. L. Gaines right. But a close inspection of the Meador Fish-Caller reveals that it is an old-fashioned blazon horn off a Model T. Meador has had a lot of fun with the fish caller, and he has received inquiries about it from practically all of the states in the Nation. It is priced at \$35 but Meador refuses to sell. He says he gets too much fun out of it to let it go.

TEXAS GAME AND FISH

Eve dinner table, display a splendid carp!"

Heavy Harvest Impacts Redfish Populations

MARCH 1965: "The redfish is a prolific spawner and during favorable conditions the stock easily can be replenished. It is equally apparent that at the present time it is one of the least abundant game fish on the over Texas coast and that much of the stock is being harvested as soon as it reaches catchable size. This heavy harvest leaves little, if any, surplus."

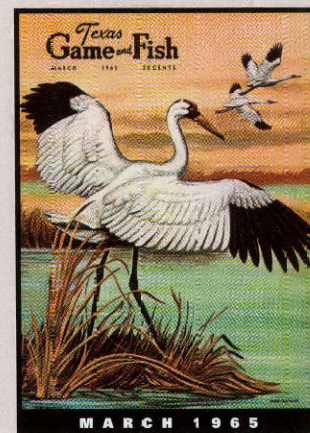
Expanding Our Mission

APRIL 1965: "This April issue marks a basic change in the name of our magazine from *Texas Game & Fish* to *Texas Parks & Wildlife*. The new designation appropriately reflects the comprehensive function of the Parks and Wildlife Department."

Whooper Viewers

JULY 1965: "During January of 1965, about 4,100 visitors,

some from as far as Australia and Iran, came to the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas to see the whooping cranes."



Fish Away Your Worries

JANUARY 1966: "Most important of all for anglers to remember is that this is a sport. We should not judge the success of our trip by the weight of the stringer. The true indication of a successful fishing trip is found in the number of troubles that were forgotten."

are made of a very soft but tough plastic to give them lifelike qualities never found in artificial lures

Postage Paid

ACT NOW ** SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO THE N. A. NICHOLS CO. P. O. Box 35063 Dallas, Texas

LURE FOR LIARS

CREME'S ORIGINAL NIGHT CRAWLERS

4 PER PACK 50¢

RIGGED... 60¢ ea.

WEEDLESS JIG RIG, 60¢ ea.

MARKS THE BIGGEST FISH STORY COME TRUE!

Available at Leading Sporting Goods Stores

FLASHBACK: AUGUST 1965
ALLURING LURE: Ad for Crème's Original Night Crawlers, one of the early plastic worms.

Game and Fish Commission Combines with State Parks Board

SEPTEMBER 1963: "Texas has begun a new approach to its program for the conservation and development of our wildlife and recreational

Texas this year, and probably not one in Louisiana...."

A Trend that Flopped...

DECEMBER 1964: "Looking for something different and delicious, a sure conversation piece, for your holiday menu? In the place of honor, gracing the center of your Christmas

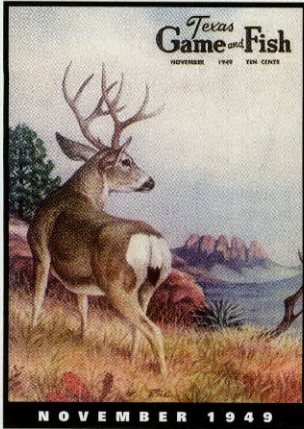
See and Be Seen

Gypsy Rose Lee for Bass?

MAY 1966: "Not long ago the Crème Lure Company announced the release of their newest product — the Shimmy Gal. At the time, they said this lure would have about the same effect on bass that Gypsy Rose Lee had on men. The Shimmy Gal literally vamps those big boys into striking."

Close to Home

JULY 1966: "Deer movement studies during the last 20 years point out two very important facts: 1) Deer refuse to move



from their home range even if the necessities of life itself disappear. 2) Deer range is limited, almost universally, to one and a half to two miles."

Pandora's Box of Poison

JANUARY 1967: "The human tide has swept across the continent, until in modern times wilderness is at a premium, and much wildlife is in serious danger. The price of tremendous technological advances is being seen in the increasing pollution of air and water. The grave problem of insecticide poisoning is even yet not fully realized. It is becoming more and more apparent that a 'Pandora's box' has been opened by unregulated use of chemical pesticides, with far-reaching effects to all living creatures and a growing trail of dead ones, other than the originally planned victims."

William O. Douglas Speaks for Texas

OCTOBER 1967: From a book review of *Farewell to Texas—A Vanishing Wilderness*, by Supreme Court Justice

WHIRLING to the snap of a branch, the hunter raises his high-powered rifle more by reflex than intention, and slips the safety into the off position. Death is only a trigger-pull away, yet the target has not been identified.

Is it a big buck rummaging through the brush? A turkey looking for an acorn? A squirrel adding to his larder of nuts? Or another hunter? The safe shooter will make sure before he sends 180 grains of death crashing through the underbrush, but statistics show that not all hunters abide by safety rules.

Due to a few hunters with itchy trigger fingers, protective clothing is recommended for an added margin of safety while walking through the brush during the open hunting season. This special clothing is designed around the fact that most game animals are color blind and cannot see fabric colored to attract the attention of fellow hunters.

Basically, the ability to distinguish colors is dependent upon small "cones" in the eye. The other light receptive mechanisms on the retina of the eye, called rods, can only distinguish between densities of gray ranging from black to white.

With this in mind, hunters started wearing red jackets, orange blazers, and multi-colored hats many years ago. Other hunters could see them but theoretically their quarry could not detect them except by shape and movement. New discoveries in color vision have proved that these colors proved noticeable.

William O. Douglas: "He claims that Texas is being despoiled by modern Ahab's who are stealing nature's treasures for their own gain. Overgrazing has transformed vast grasslands into barren wastelands of sand and scrub brush. Draining game-rich thickets for oil drilling and lumber milling has destroyed the habitats of many near extinct species. Great stands of virgin woods have been and are being harvested with no foresight or planning to the future. Many of Texas' scenic beauty spots are being flooded by unneeded dams.

"In taking his position, Douglas soundly denounces Texans for being unappreciative of the beauty around them and challenges them to action for conservation."

Helping Readers get Fit

AUGUST 1968: "It is possible, if you start now, to have yourself in better condition by

the start of hunting season. You'll look better, you'll feel better, and you'll be able to tramp the woods and fields all day without being afraid that you are going to collapse in a trembling, exhausted heap."

Meanders at Meridian

NOVEMBER 1968: "The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has only recently begun developing a system of trails within park areas. Meridian State Park is the first full-scale endeavor, but more are planned for the near future."

Tutor for the Outdoors

FEBRUARY 1969: "Emma Hypolite, a soft-spoken young lady from Pease Elementary School in Midland, won the Name-the-Ringtail Contest which was first announced in



FLASHBACK: NOVEMBER 1965

MIXED SIGNALS: "New Vist-O-Flage suit can be seen by other hunters ... yet deer will look directly at it from only a few feet away without alarm."

the September '968 *Texas Parks & Wildlife* magazine. She christened the critter Tutor — a most appropriate name for Texas' newest conservation educator and promoter....

"Since seven students submitted identical names, the Department's pet ringtail was called in to break the tie. In a game of "Ring-tail Roulette," the animal was placed in a circle divided into seven wedges, each pie-section containing a sealed envelope with a winning entry's name. When Tutor was released he scurried out of the circle, exiting in the section containing Emma's entry."

FLASHBACK: NOVEMBER 1967

IDENTITY CRISIS: The caption states that this is a doe deer, with near-perfect antlers. Also note the nine-bearded gobbler.

A 19-point, 119 pounds field dressed, taken off Ft. Hood by Amos J. Hejl of Temple.



The deer, near perfect antlers, 25 1/4" at widest point of beams, weighed 109 lbs. and stood at shoulder, taken by W. F. Bucy, above with Brown County warden, Harold D. Penny.

Nine-bearded gobbler killed by G. Kerrville, on Aime Real Ranch, 1967.



San Antonio fly fisherman. The size of the trout is not astounding; the significance is the fact that these trout were caught in a public stream, the Guadalupe River, less than 50 miles from San Antonio."

Bald Eagles in Danger

SEPTEMBER 1970:

"Biologists say chances for saving the bald eagle may already be beyond our powers since pesticides do not break down in the environment for several years. So, soon we may only have its image — on the tops of flagpoles and on dollar bills — as a reminder that once the bald eagle was America's great bird."

A Strike Against Litter

NOVEMBER 1970:

"The Glass Container Manufacturers Institute announced recently that glass container manufacturers will buy glass bottles and containers for a penny a pound. This plan should do much to help in the

MBER, 1967

No Bullets Left in San Antonio

JULY 1969: "For over 60 years, a Texan has held the record as the world's greatest exhibition shooter. Adolph "Ad" Toppervain set his record in 1906 at the San Antonio Fair Grounds when in 10 days of shooting he hit 72,491 of 72,500 wooden blocks thrown into the air... he shot for a total of 68 1/2 hours and finally had to stop because San Antonio was out of .22 bullets and the blocks were having to be thrown up for the second time since there were only 60,000 blocks."

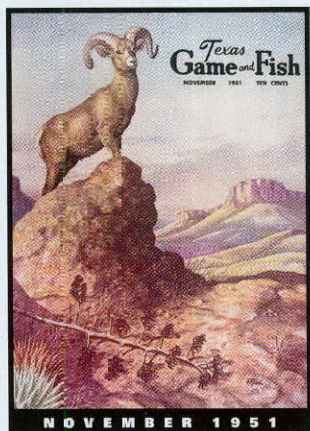
Fish Farms in the Future

DECEMBER 1969: "There are no shrimp farms in Texas, but hopefully, such an industry will someday help supply the increasing demand for this high quality protein food without seriously competing with commercial fishermen."

early morning and roaring white water rushing through a narrow river channel are just two of the many scenes being discovered by the growing number of Texans who have found the exciting sport of river-running in canoes."

Desert Bighorn Restoration

MARCH 1970: "Biologists in the Black Gap Wildlife Management Area will, within



the next month, become as nervous as fathers waiting for new arrivals to their families. The men are watching over the department's herd of desert bighorn sheep, *Ovis canadensis nelsoni*, to see how many new lambs will be added to the herd."

Fly Texas!

MAY 1970: "Wadefishing a clear cold stream, a San

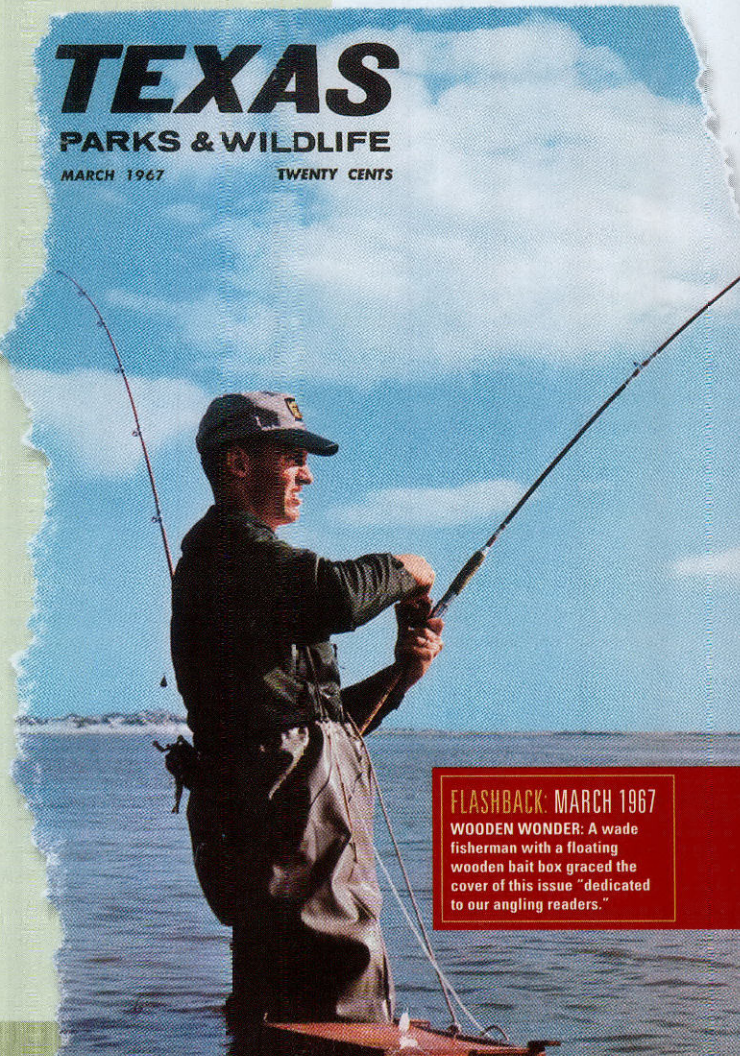
Antonio angler landed a three-pound, eight-ounce rainbow trout on May 26, 1968. Just a month later, the same stream yielded a four-pound, twelve-ounce rainbow to another

TEXAS

PARKS & WILDLIFE

MARCH 1967

TWENTY CENTS



FLASHBACK: MARCH 1967

WOODEN WONDER: A wade fisherman with a floating wooden bait box graced the cover of this issue "dedicated to our angling readers."

1970s

Running the Rivers

FEBRUARY 1970: "Quiet, mist-covered waters in the

litter problem once individuals and groups begin to earn extra money collecting their material from the sides of highways and public use areas."

Ridley Sea Turtles: The Movie

FEBRUARY 1971: "It all started in Brownsville in 1962 at a monthly meeting of the Valley Sportsmen Club. The program for the meeting was an 8 millimeter film made on a remote section of beach north of Tampico, Mexico, in June of 1947 by Andres Herrera, an engineer from Tampico..."

"The subject was an 'arribada' — Spanish for 'an emergence for nesting.' Thousands of ridley sea turtles were emerging from the Gulf of Mexico onto the beach, digging holes in the sand, laying eggs and returning to the Gulf.... The film may have saved the ridley turtle from extinction."

Those Pesky Art Directors!

MAY 1971: From a letter to the editor: "The beast that decided to put the mailing label on the cover should be shot. He always covers something important with an obvious zeal to obliterate."

Managing Trail Use

JUNE 1971: "The exploding popularity of trail- and mini-motorbikes has created a dilemma for those in charge of planning and managing our state parks. On one hand, more than a million off-the-road bikes were sold during the 1960's and sales are still going strong. That's a lot of riders looking for a place to go. On the other hand, park superintendents must live with complaints about mini-bikes racing through campsites and destroying the tranquility of nature trails."

Get the Lead Out!

DECEMBER 1971: "For a number of years the danger of lead poisoning in waterfowl has been recognized and the manufacturers of shotgun shells have been promising to develop a soft-iron shot that would not harm waterfowl that ate it. Now many conservation groups have gotten tired of



THIS YOUNGSTER quickly got his limit with a double-barreled shotgun.



ABOVE: A game department biologist checking the feet of wetwings to determine the age. BELOW: After the kill, hunting parties gather to pluck the birds.



TEXAS GAME AND FISH

promises of solutions and have demanded the end of lead shotgun pellets. One of the groups, the National Rifle Association, has asked that no lead shot be allowed during the 1973 season."

Don't Fence Me In...

JANUARY 1972: "Texas can boast of 13,000 miles of rivers. Yet, for the state's 11 million citizens there are only a few miles of riverways where a recreationist can get out onto the bank without violating private property laws. And in spite of the vastness of Texas, there are remarkably few public trails where a hiker or horseback rider can escape the sight of the city."

Striped Bass Come to Texas

MAY 1972: "Many of Texas' lakes are ecological disasters. Attractive on the surface, they are merely man-made water tanks which progressively deteriorate through the years..."

"The deep, vast areas of open water which make up the major portion of lakes become

watery deserts..."

"One possible salvation for these lakes could be a new species of fish which would adapt to the open spaces... the striped bass."

Do You Think He's Dropping a Hint?

DECEMBER 1973: "For some reason, people who don't hunt or fish hesitate to buy hunting or fishing equipment for gifts, but this needn't be the case. Surely it couldn't be any more frustrating or embarrassing than it is for me to try and pick out a nightgown or other lingerie for my wife."

Tournament Phenomena

MAY 1974: "On practically every weekend of the year, in all types of weather, a new breed of bass fisherman can be found participating in his favorite sport on Texas reservoirs."

"This relatively new pastime, known as competitive bass fishing, has been growing rapidly in Texas the past five years."

He May be Right but I'm Still Running

JUNE 1974: "Most stories of hunting javelina stem from the habit of javelina, which



are extremely nearsighted, scattering in all directions when an alarm is sounded by one of the herd. With 20 javelina going in all directions, at least one is bound to be headed for the intruder, and even the bravest of souls is certain the beast is out to do him bodily harm."

Respect for the Game

AUGUST 1974: "Texas game birds provide hunters with hours of outdoor sport and they deserve better than a sloppy shot by an unskilled marksman. Wing shooting is an art and, like all arts, takes practice to perfect. Here is where trap and skeet shooting can prove their worth to the hunter planning to go afield this fall."

Hydrilla Strikes Texas

DECEMBER 1974: "Every Texan who uses the state's lakes and rivers for fishing, boating or skiing has a stake in the fight against hydrilla."

Ruling the Roost

JANUARY 1975: Robert L. Cook, current executive director, writes in the magazine about wild turkeys.

Beginnings of Bowhunting

SEPTEMBER 1975: "The status of bowhunting in Texas today, as determined by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, could best be described as a fast-growing infant about which we know very little."

Have Passion; Need Money

NOVEMBER 1975: "The environmental 1970s have brought the cream of American youth into colleges and universities to pursue studies in natural resources. They come with a dedication that augurs well for our country's future. The sad fact of life, however, is that most public resource agencies, universities and private efforts are already well-staffed with resource specialists. What is needed is new money to take advantage of this dedication and academic excellence."

The Bad Ones Are Emptyhanded

JANUARY 1976: "Good campers carry two trash bags with them: one to haul out their own litter and the other to collect that litter left behind by thoughtless others."

Eagle Emergences

APRIL 1976: "It is fitting that during the bicentennial year biologists have some good news concerning our national emblem, the bald eagle. The southern subspecies of these birds had a good year in Texas and its small

population is growing. "Five known pairs produced seven young in 1975 by far the most successful nesting season



the Texas birds have experienced since 1970, when records on production were started."

Hooked on Stripers

AUGUST 1976: "Ten years ago many Texans wouldn't have known what a striped bass was; now we have anglers who fish only for the striper."

Tarpon Decline

OCTOBER 1976: "For some mysterious reason, one of the world's finest trophy fishes, the tarpon, has avoided Texas coastal waters since the early fifties."

Flying Fishing

By JACK BLACKWELL
Photos by the Author

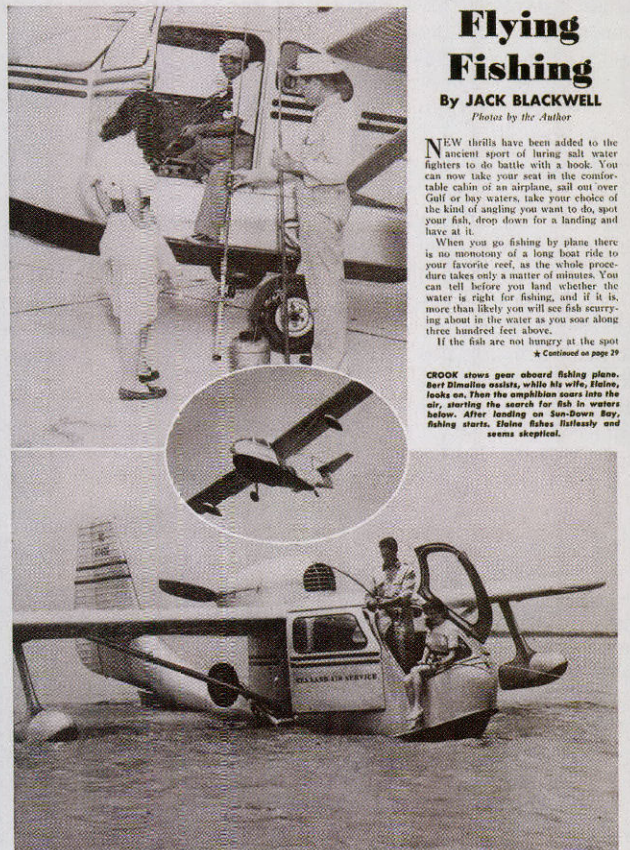
NEW thrills have been added to the ancient sport of luring salt water fighters to do battle with a hook. You can now take your seat in the comfortable cabin of an airplane, sail out over Gulf or bay waters, take your choice of the kind of angling you want to do, spot your fish, drop down for a landing and have at it.

When you go fishing by plane there is no monotony of a long boat ride to your favorite reef, as the whole procedure takes only a matter of minutes. You can tell before you land whether the water is right for fishing, and if it is, more than likely you will see fish scurrying about in the water as you soar along three hundred feet above.

If the fish are not hungry at the spot

* Continued on page 29

CRICK stows gear aboard fishing plane. Bert Dimallio assists, while his wife, Elaine, looks on. Then the amphibian soars into the air, starting the search for fish in waters below. After landing on Sun-Down Bay, fishing starts. Elaine fishes tirelessly and seems skeptical.



26

TEXAS GAME AND FISH

Plus, It's Commercial Free...

DECEMBER 1976: "It has been noted that there are more bird watchers in this country than Super Bowl Watchers."

life, which is a need.

Attention studies cause of regard to bequire up to work. Private may change cumstances, un factors force clusions can be

Second, fe efficiently large long enough. Both reasons p where both th such land use o studies.

In the case of

Parkin' it Closer

FEBRUARY 1977: "The department also has recognized a growing need to serve the urban areas of the state, where more than three-fourths of our population reside. Current policy provides that where suitable resources exist, new recreational units will be acquired within 1 1/2 hours' driving time from the center of major metropolitan areas."



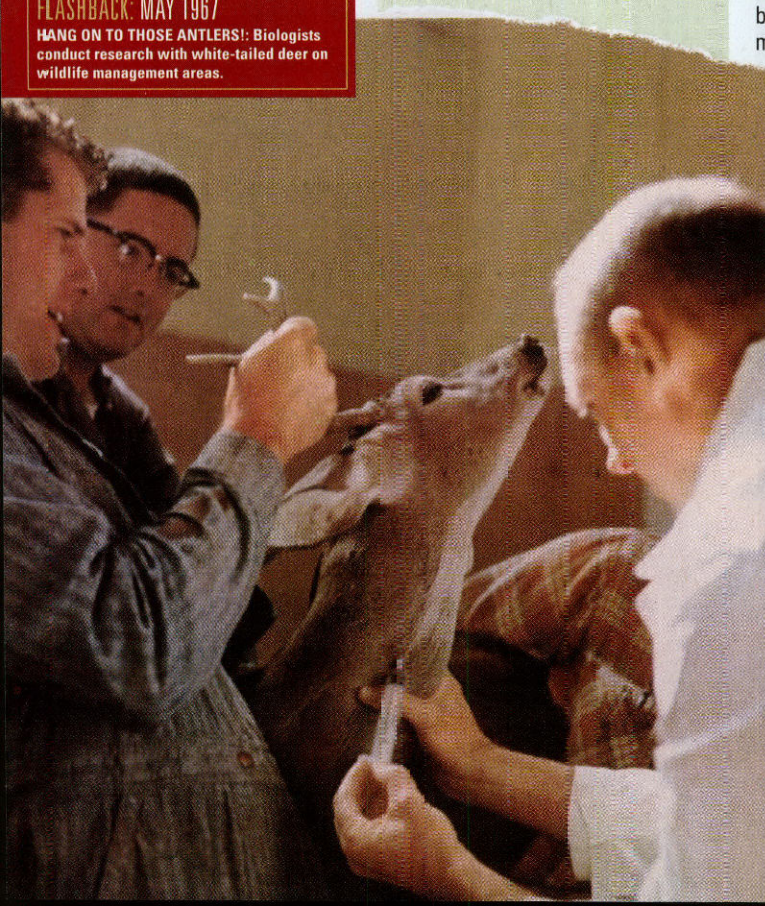
MAY 1954

Fast Recovery

JUNE 1979: "Today the most serious wildlife-versus-human

FLASHBACK: MAY 1967

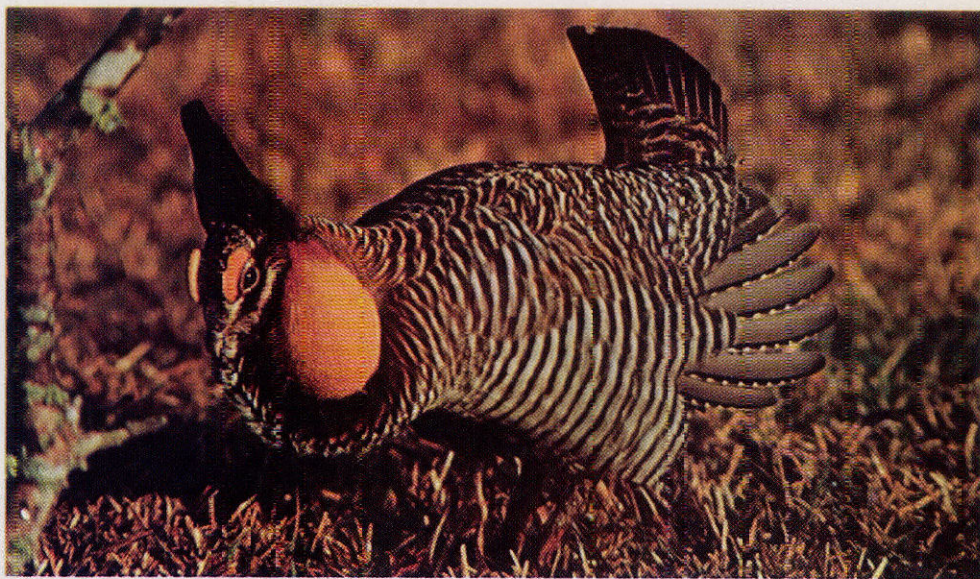
HANG ON TO THOSE ANTLERS! Biologists conduct research with white-tailed deer on wildlife management areas.



WANTED

Information Leading to the Location of: *Tympanuchus cupido attwateri*

Alias: Attwater's Prairie Chicken, Prairie hen, Prairie grouse



John L. Tveten

Description: Weight—2 to 2½ pounds; 18 inches long; short, rounded tails (black in males, barred in females); body barred feathers on lower leg; Males have large air-sac and blackish neck. Males have a large air-sac and blackish neck. Males have a large air-sac and blackish neck.

Operates along the Gulf Coastal Prairie of Texas. Has been seen from Chambers County west to Colorado County and south to Aransas County. Usually been seen in fallow, rice fields or native prairie.

NOTE: Considered rare and difficult to comprehend, but notify you

FLASHBACK: JANUARY 1974
STILL MISSING: Full-page ad ("Wanted Poster") asking for information on the whereabouts of Attwater's prairie chickens.

problem in Texas concerns alligators. Alligator herds across the state responded to protection much faster than many people expected, and by the early to middle 1970s, alligators had become so abundant that in some areas people were beginning to complain."

Clammy Cuisine

JULY 1979: *Texas Parks & Wildlife* managing editor Mary-Love Bigony's first bylined article on freshwater clams claims that "...a number of curious Texas gourmets have experimented with cooking the large, meaty freshwater clams found in most of the state's lakes, ponds and streams."

Can't We Just Say Angler?

JULY 1979: "Officials at the National Marine Fisheries Service in a attempt at egalitarianism, have embroiled themselves in a battle of semantics. Last summer the agency started substituting the word 'fisher' for fisherman, a word with sexist connotations to some."

Texas Pedal Power

AUGUST 1979: "Studies conducted by this department indicate that by 1990, bicycling may be the state's number one outdoor activity."

Too Many Snows Threaten Nesting Grounds

AUGUST 1979: "A July 1977, population estimate on nesting grounds on the west side of Hudson Bay yielded a total of 176,600 snow/blue goose nests. Indications are that portions of the nesting grounds are being overgrazed by geese to the point of affecting the body development of their young."

The Original Winter Texans

SEPTEMBER 1979: "Texas provides a wintering habitat that plays a vital role in the migrations of North America's waterfowl. The sometimes noisy, always beautiful birds come to the state by the millions. Midwinter counts by the Parks and Wildlife Department and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service indicate that the Texas Gulf Coast winters 55 to 65 percent of the waterfowl in the Central Flyway."

1980s

That's Without the Traditional Dairy Queen Stop

MARCH 1980: "There is a state park within 100 miles or so of every major metropolitan area in Texas, so you should be able to get there and back on one tank of gas, usually for a cost of less than \$20."

Dovey Before Lovey

JULY 1980: "The setting of hunting seasons apparently has sociological implications far beyond game management. Evidence of this came to light recently when a Houston woman called on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's toll-free telephone line and inquired when this year's dove season opens... 'I'm

getting married in September,' she said, 'and I sure don't want to set the wedding date on the opening day of dove season.'"

Taking Care of Matagorda

FEBRUARY 1983: "An agreement among state and federal agencies giving the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department management authority over some 43,000 acres of land and water at Matagorda Island highlighted an eventful 1982 for the Department."

Living for the Outdoors

NOVEMBER 1983: Letter to the Editor: "Enclosed is my check for \$15 for two years of *Texas Parks & Wildlife*. I have every copy of your magazine since April 1943. I am 75 years old and I still hunt and fish.... It sure is hard to decide if I want

to save a buck by subscribing for two years instead of one, but I'll gamble that I'll live two more years. I hate to lose a bet."

Flower Power

APRIL 1984: "Although it was a gift to the nation, Texas was the recipient when Lacy Bird Johnson decided to celebrate her 70th birthday by deeding a 60-acre tract of land on the Colorado River east of Austin to provide a home for the newly founded National Wildflower Research Center."

Opening the Ranch Gates to Hunters

JULY 1985: "[Ranchers] have realized that the boom and bust cycle of the cattle business now can be offset by nurturing the land to yield a profitable sideline — lease hunting."

Lightning Strikes

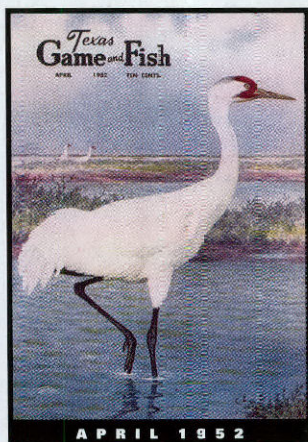
JULY 1987: "Courtesy of the 70th Texas Legislature, the lightning whelk has joined the mockingbird, bluebonnet and pecan tree as a natural symbol of the Lone Star State."

Was it a Match Made in Heaven or in Louisiana?

JULY 1985: "The average alligator taken during Texas' first controlled alligator hunt last September was about 7 1/2 feet long, weighed around 180 pounds and was male. The average 'gator hunter was a male Southeast Texas resident in his early to mid-30s, self-employed earner of \$30,000-plus annually. How the pursuer and the quarry got together for this history-making hunt provides fodder for the sociologist as well as the wildlife biologist."

Protection for Whoopers

JANUARY 1986: "Persons violating hunting, fishing or pollution laws may be faced with extra costs resulting from



a new set of resource recovery guidelines adopted in November by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission.... The amounts charged for lost resources range from 25 cents a pound for threadfin shad to \$10,000 for a whooping crane."

Three Most Important Things: Habitat, Habitat and Habitat

JULY 1989: "Two dramatically different wildlife species, beavers and wood ducks, were a most extirpated from East

Texas due to habitat destruction and unregulated harvest.... Although beavers have no more in common with waterfowl than webbed feet and a need for water, they give wood ducks a boost by creating thousands of acres of wetlands...."

Big Buy in Big Bend

OCTOBER 1989: "Acquisition of 215,000-acre Big Bend Ranch doubles the size of the state parks system."

1990s

Eagles Rising

JANUARY 1990: "All across Canada and the northern tier of the United States, bald eagles take wing in the fall, not in the numbers they did a century ago, but nevertheless in numbers that are increasingly encouraging — so encouraging, in fact, that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is considering removal of the northern subspecies of the bald eagle from the endangered species list."

But Who Has to Count 'Em?

NOVEMBER 1990: "One day in early August two trucks left the A.E. Wood Fish Hatchery in San Marcos carrying channel catfish fingerlings to stock in Purvis Creek State Park near Athens.... One of those little 2-inch fingerlings was the one billionth fish stocked by hatcheries in Texas."

Give Nature a Chance

JUNE 1991: "For any who doubt the ability of Nature to heal from

man's environmental po...ndings, take heart in the

example of the Lower Colorado River. As if doggedly turning the other cheek to the pollution onslaughts that spilled from Austin's booming 1980s, the Colorado is proving that impaired river systems and the immense families of life they nourish and sustain can recover with encouraging speed and vitality."

Catch and Release Gains Favor

OCTOBER 1991: "Catch-and-release or 'no-kill' fishing is catching on, to an extent that has surprised even officials promoting the concept."

A Glimpse of When the World Was New

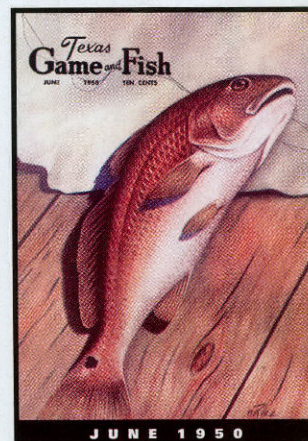
DECEMBER 1992: "The outdoors has a lot of stubborn strength, even after being abused, and in these accessible lands much of the old Texas richness survives or has been nurtured into new existence, giving us at least a glimpse of what the land was like when new." John Graves in *State of Nature*.

Protecting the Pictographs

FEBRUARY 1993: "Hueco Tanks State Historic Park near El Paso has been reopened to the public, but under a strict set of guidelines aimed at preventing spray paint vandalism that has damaged much of the ancient rock art at the park."

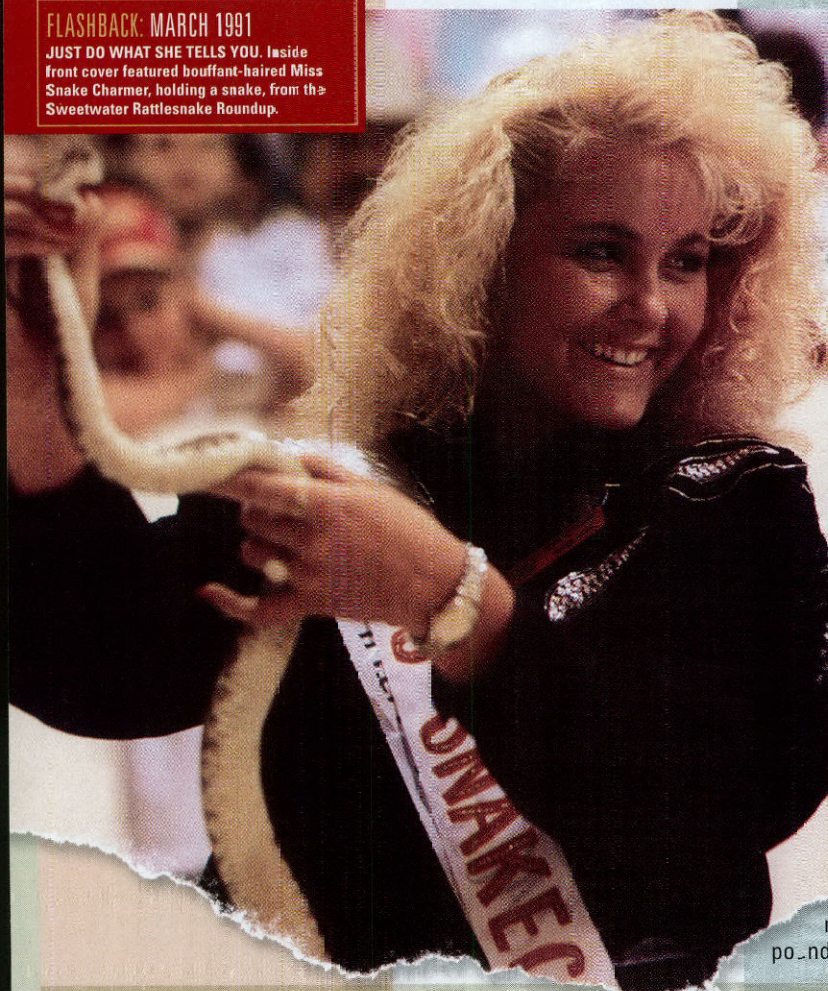
The Comeback Fishery

MAY 1993: "Yes, the redfish are back. To paraphrase a well-known Mark Twain quote, the death of the red drum on the Texas Gulf Coast was, fortunately, somewhat exaggerated."



FLASHBACK: MARCH 1991

JUST DO WHAT SHE TELLS YOU. Inside front cover featured bouffant-haired Miss Snake Charmer, holding a snake, from the Sweetwater Rattlesnake Roundup.



Still With Pen in Hand

AUGUST 1993: *Texas Parks & Wildlife* magazine wildlife editor Larry D. Hodge's first article appears: *Desert Doves*.

Immersed in the Landscape

AUGUST 1994: "Toward the end of his fine book of nature essays, *A Natural State*, Texas writer Steve Harrigan ... confesses some disappointment with the Texas landscape. ... But ... what one of Texas' best nature writers was talking about was his disappointment at being held at arm's length from so much of the Texas landscape."

Fish Farming at the Crossroads

AUGUST 1994: "It is an industry with the potential to feed the world, help alleviate the nation's trade deficit and provide a badly needed and lucrative diversity for Texas agriculture. But it's also an industry that's viewed with skepticism by environmentalists and competitors because of pollution concerns and the potential release of harmful nonnative species into the Texas environment. Aquaculture — fish farming if you will — has been at a crossroads in Texas for years."

Wishing He Were There...

APRIL 1995: "In recent decades it has become customary — and right, I guess, and easy enough with hindsight — to damn the ancestral frame of mind that ravaged that world so fully and so soon. What I myself seem to damn mainly, though, is just not having seen it."
— John Graves in *John Graves on Birds*

Cherished Chinatis

APRIL 1996: "The largest land donation ever made to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will result in the creation of a 40,000-acre state park in the Chinati Mountains just west of Big Bend Ranch State Park."

Birds of a Feather Flocking Together

MAY 1996: "The Texas Rare Bird Alert hotline in Houston

crackled on February 6 with the news that a kelp gull was seen and positively identified on Galveston's east beach. More than 1,000 birders and photographers from 33 states and Canada came to Galveston Island to see and photograph this bird."

Helping Wildlife to Thrive

FEBRUARY 1997: "As part of a new approach to rare species conservation, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is offering to pay landowners to help conserve threatened or endangered species on their property."

Eat More Snow Goose

NOVEMBER 1997: "... due to a combination of factors, the mid-continent population of lesser snow geese now greatly exceeds the carrying capacity of its Canadian nesting grounds. Perhaps 6 million birds — four times as many as biologists think desirable — are systematically destroying the habitat where they live four months of the year. Unless something is done soon, millions of snow geese are going to die slowly from starvation and disease."

So Everyone May Touch the Outdoors

FEBRUARY 1997: "The problem is clear for those who care about the Texas outdoors and have seen the demographic projections on where our society is heading. Demographic trends show that African Americans, Hispanics and other current minorities will comprise a population majority in Texas by the year 2030. Yet it is estimated that more than 25 percent of Texas Hispanics and more than 50 percent of African Americans never have been to a state park."



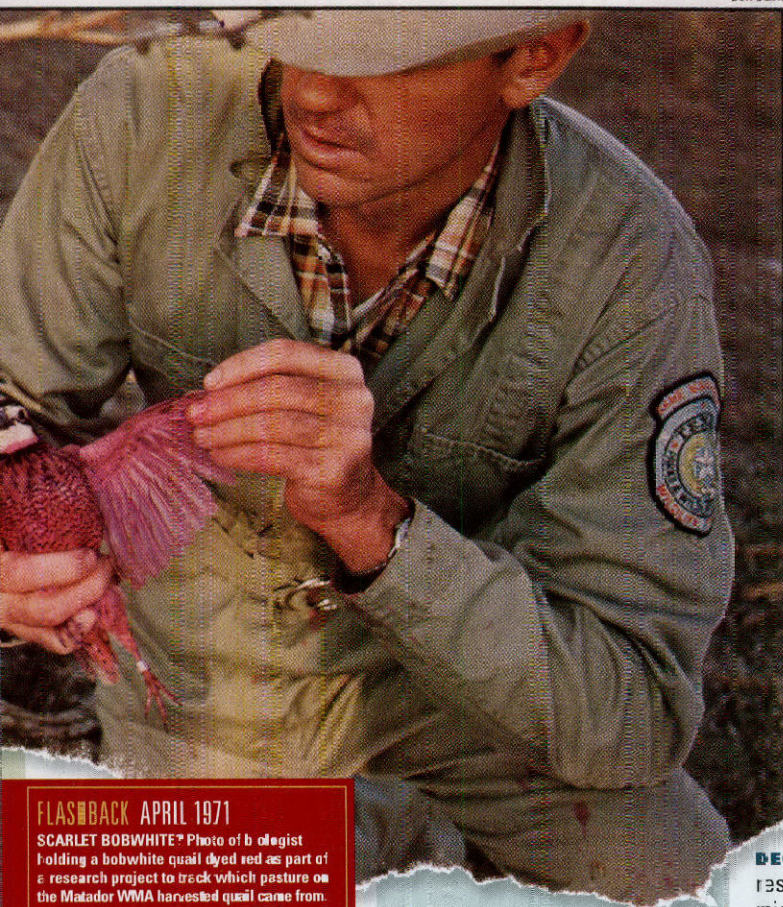
FLASHBACK: JULY 1974

HAVEN'T YOU EVER HEARD OF DEER WRESTLING? Full page art of biologist catching deer by hand.

PAGES IN TIME SEP 1948



Mrs. M. Nowotny of San Antonio had a field day during the rodeo when she caught the king mackerel, tarpon and jackfish she is proudly displaying in the above picture. As usual, Mrs. Nowotny said the biggest one got away.



FLASHBACK APRIL 1971

SCARLET BOBWHITE: Photo of biologist holding a bobwhite quail dyed red as part of a research project to track which pasture on the Matador WMA harvested quail came from.

And the Jury's Still Out...

SEPTEMBER 1997: "All across the state and nation, we're seeing a push to hook up schools to the Internet. Will the lure of new technologies make our children even more out of touch with the natural world, or can we use technology to bring us all a little closer to our roots?"

High Tech, High Stakes

JANUARY 1998: "Poaching in Texas has come a long way from the lone ridge-runner skulking about at night with a spotlight and a .22 rifle. He's still out there, the real menace to our wildlife is a close-knit web of criminals packing plenty of firepower whose sole function is to profit from the theft of game."

She's Still in the Saddle

NOVEMBER 1998: *Texas Parks & Wildlife* magazine Publisher & Editor Susan L. Ebert's first article appears, "Tally Ho, Y'all." Her most recent contribution was about a trail race at Big Bend Ranch State Park.

The Lady and the Champ

DECEMBER 1998: Texas first lady Laura Bush and Texas

Parks and Wildlife Commissioner Nolan Ryan, co-chairs of the 75th anniversary of Texas state parks celebration, write about their memories in Texas state parks as the anniversary year comes to a close.

And We Still Do

JANUARY 1999: "They call me Dr. Doom. It all started with water. My stock and trade at the Texas Outdoor Writers Association annual meetings is an update of how a growing population and associated water development is, or will be, affecting fish and wildlife. My message a ways seems to be gloom and doom. Dr. Doom. It's an accolade I don't much enjoy, but may deserve." — Larry McKinney, *TPWD senior division director and director of resource protection.*

Pollinators in Peril

JANUARY 1999: "Honeybees are in trouble. Ninety percent of the wild honeybees have died, and the number of managed hives has decreased by 50 percent."

He Came for the Sushi

MAY 1999: "In February, the black-tailed gull, formerly called the Japanese gull, was seen for

the first time in Texas at a landfill in Brownsville."

Hunt More Snow Geese! We've Been Telling You This Since 1957

SEPTEMBER 1999: "The overall snow goose population has grown over the past 20 or so years to a point that they are destroying their breeding habitat," says Vernon Bevill, program director of migratory wildlife for Texas Parks and Wildlife. "Survival of young geese has declined in a number of colonies due to habitat destruction on traditional breeding grounds."

Ocelot Obsessions

DECEMBER 1999: "A zoo research project probing what might motivate or deter mating behavior in endangered



ocelots ... caught the media's fancy when Calvin Klein's 'Obsession' cologne for men proved a popular scent for four female ocelots."

2000

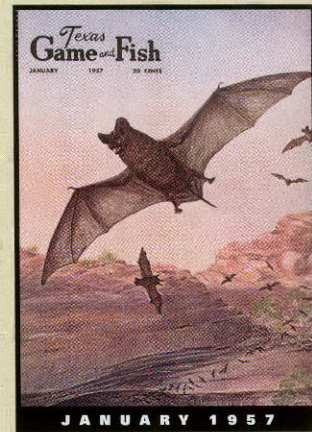
Seagrass Scarring

JANUARY 2000: "Along 235,000 acres of seagrass beds that extend from Port O'Connor

to South Padre Island, Texas anglers are able to fish clean, clear flats, where they can see bottom structure as well as the gamefish they hunt. But prop scarring and other factors pose a threat to this unique style of angling found on the flats of the middle and lower Texas coast."

Batty for Our Bats

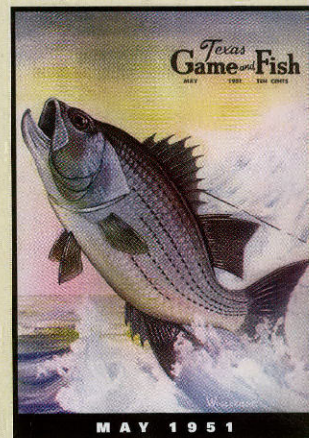
FEBRUARY 2000: "Texas is home to more species of bats



than any other state. This number recently increased by one as students and faculty from Texas Wesleyan University and The University of Texas at Arlington discovered that the western yellow bat (*Lasiurus xanthinus*) has moved into West Texas."

Run, Bass, Run!

MARCH 2000: "The annual white bass run, though much less celebrated than the salmon runs, is more accessible to the average angler and in some ways no less spectacular. In recent years, white bass — also known as 'sand bass' or 'sandies' — have provided Texans with more



fish per angling-hour than any other freshwater sport fish."

Cedar Hill State Park Hosts Adventure Race

MARCH 2000: "Mark Mills, a Fort Worth investment broker, just told me the one thing I didn't want to hear. It had nothing to do with poor stock performance. No, it was much worse. He just informed me that while competing in adventure races he had lost toenails. That's toenails, which means more than one. And in two weeks, I was set to compete."

Changing With the Seasons

APRIL 2000: "On my first birding trip, I remarked to a veteran birder that there were so many different birds to learn. She replied that when the birds molted as the seasons changed, their plumage altered so I could learn them all over again!"

Those Who Teach Us

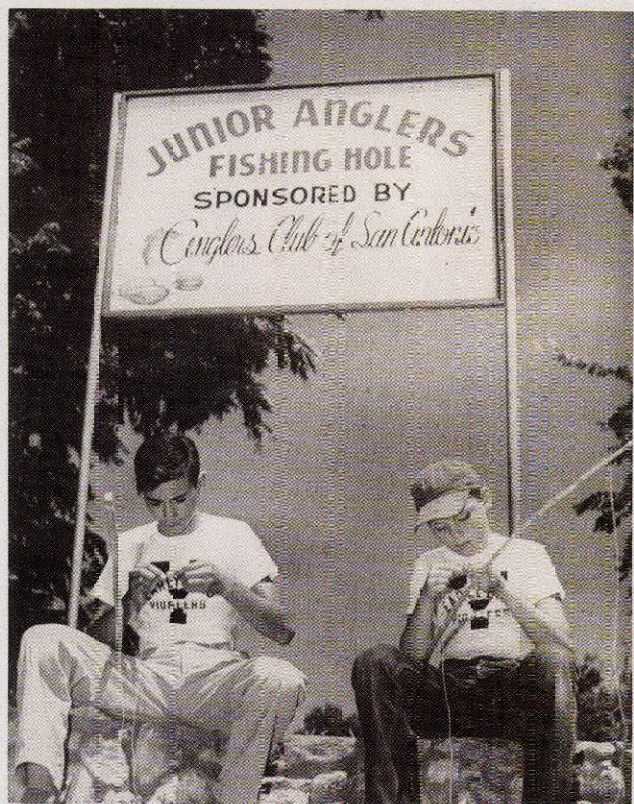
APRIL 2000: "I miss the man who passed his love for hunting on to me. Sometimes when I'm hunting alone and witness a surreal-colored sunset after a good day in the field or when a monster buck evades my best stalk, I just tilt my head skyward and shake my head. 'I wish you were here to share this with me Dad. This was a fine day,' I think out loud."

Lady Lizards

APRIL 2000: "Males? Who needs them? Six Texas species of all-female lizards make a strong case for that argument. These species are called parthenogens, which literally means 'virgin-bearing.'"

Robb Walsh on Camping to Cook Out

MAY 2000: "Some people think cooking over a campfire is one of those privations you have to endure in order to go camping. Lately, I've been thinking of camping as an excuse to go cooking. While others prepare for excursions in the great outdoors by tying flies or counting pitons, I grease up my dutch ovens."



Roger Rodriguez and Jack Powell find that the old fishing hole provides a welcome vacation sport for them.

Texas Fly Triumvirate

JUNE 2000: "Judy Lehmeberg's skillfully crafted salmon flies are more likely to end up

framed under glass than in the jaw of a fish. Billy Munn's deer-hair bugs are equally prized by collectors and bucketmouth

bass. Rosario Martinez can take flies that others have designed, tie those flies better than they can, and then tie them over and over again. "These Texas fly tyers bring different styles and different skills to the tying table. But all three are recognized by their peers for being the best at what they do."

Varner-Hogg's Untold Past

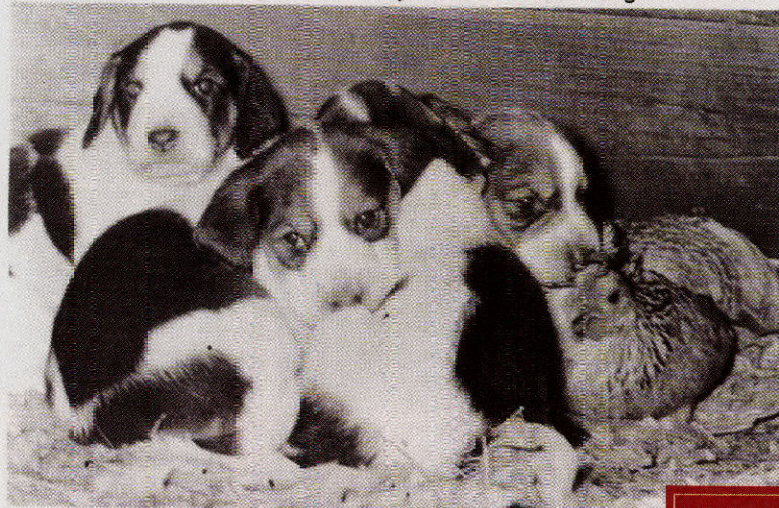
JUNE 2000: "For many years Varner-Hogg State Historical Park focused on the plantation era as seen from the elegant plantation house. But in recent years the park has begun to tell another story: the story of the African slaves who kept the Patton place running smoothly."

Planning for Water

JULY 2000: "In the coming years, the population of Texas will double, placing unprecedented stress on our most precious natural resource. As the struggle intensifies to secure water for new industries, residential growth and agriculture, all outdoor resources and recreation that depend on water are at risk. Much of the water currently flowing in our rivers is already overcommitted and the fight is yet to begin."

Banty Biddy Teaches Pups To Cluck

by DICK SANDS Longview News



Four seven-week-old Walker foxhound puppies are going to be bilingual when they grow up.

That is, if a certain bantam hen near Longview has her say.

have "bell-throats" and guttural tones so sweet, a foxhound's standards on end.

The puppies' parents and seven other blooded foxhounds are the

joint property of Joe Storey, Earl Tue Pace, of Magnolia. The pups were born in February.

Some might call them "chicks." Others might term them "pups." Still others might say they are a lot of frustrated mother hens.

Everyone hopes the pups will never get real hunting. At the point where they are, they are a sitter.

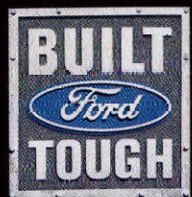
Did You Know?

Snakes and fish have ears have no outside "hear" mostly through the ground or water.

FLASHBACK: AUGUST 1962

MOTHER IMAGE: A bantam hen adopted this litter of puppies.

"Blind"



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325 BEST-IN-CLASS DIESEL HORSEPOWER* - 560 LBS.-FT. BEST-IN-CLASS TORQUE
AVAILABLE TORQSHIFT™ 5-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
F-SERIES IS THE BEST-SELLING TRUCK 25 YEARS RUNNING



*Available 32V 6.0L Power Stroke® Diesel

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East Texas' Wild Riches

AUGUST 2000: "The East Texas woodlands, part of the Great Southern Forest, contain a greater number and variety of species than even New England."

The Real Appeal of Teal

SEPTEMBER 2000: "Texas tradition requires that hunters be humbled in September before the beginning of deer season in November. Many hunters believe doves were placed on earth for this purpose. Obviously, they've never been teal hunting."

El Paso's Claim to Fame

SEPTEMBER 2000: "Texas is well-known for its brags, and Franklin Mountains State Park is responsible for a few of them. With an area covering some 24,000 acres entirely within El Paso, this is the largest urban park in Texas and one of the largest parks in the world lying within city limits."

City Creatures

OCTOBER 2000: "Urban wildlife' may seem a contradiction in terms, but nature in all its forms — insects, weather, geological processes, mammals, reptiles, birds — is a

facet of city life, too. The question, then, is not 'Will we live with wildlife?' but 'How?'"

Shrimpy Shrimp Harvest

NOVEMBER 2000: "Catches of adult Gulf shrimp have declined by more than 25 percent over the past 30 years, and harvest of small shrimp has increased 150 percent in that same period. . . . In response to the disturbing statistics, this September TPWD issued new regulations to help protect the future of the state's \$500 million industry."

Porky's Back!

DECEMBER 2000: "For decades, porcupines have been confined to the arid regions of the Trans-Pecos.



But today they are showing up across the state, from Zapata County in the south to Austin to Paris in the northeast. One porcupine was recently found dead on a highway 60 miles east of Dallas."

Dead Zone Threatens Texas

DECEMBER 2000: "An oxygen-starved, sealife-killing zone the size of New Jersey the size of New Jersey appears each summer in the gulf off the coast of Louisiana. If this blight continues to grow, it could soon threaten the entire Texas coast."

Where are the Horned Lizards?

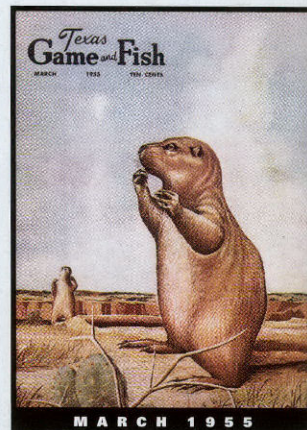
DECEMBER 2000: "Long a symbol of carefree summer days growing up in Texas, the horned lizard has now largely disappeared from much of the state's landscape."

Vilified Varmints

FEBRUARY 2001: "Perhaps no other animals in Texas arouse such passionate and opposing emotions as feral hogs, with the possible exception of coyotes."

In Praise of Prairie Dogs

MARCH 2001: "The preliminary findings, to the chagrin of some, show that the



prairie dog's effect on the quality of the soil and forage . . . is positive."

Birding Bounty

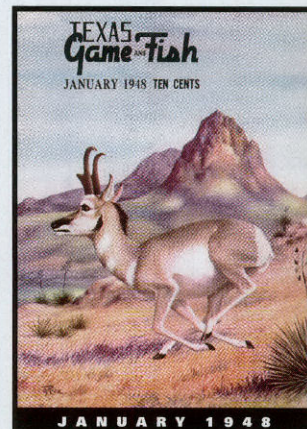
APRIL 2001: "...two new species have been added to the list of birds found in Texas, bringing the total to 620."

Tropical Transitions

APRIL 2001: "Like the nine-banded armadillo, many Texas birds of tropical and subtropical origin have made a push northward during the 20th century."

Antelope in Decline

MAY 2001: "Pronghorn numbers in the Trans-Pecos have plummeted from a 20-year high of more than 17,000 to less than 6,000 today."



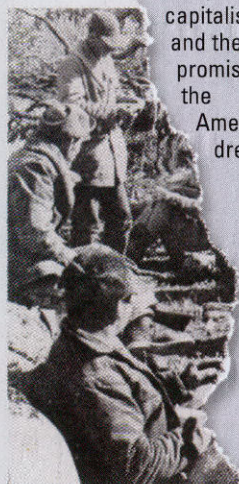
2001

Changing Faces of Crabbers

FEBRUARY 2001: "Tom Vong left the horrors of war and political oppression behind him in Vietnam 25 years ago.

His modest Anahuac homestead is a

testament to his enthusiasm about hard work, capitalism and the promise of the American dream."



Lunch time found the to right are Benito, who said; Theron Fergus, Abil (Bill) Murray, Jr., Austin;

FLASHBACK: FEBRUARY 1961

NOTE TO HUNTERS: Man with Dulcinea, pet cow elk in Guadalupe Mtns, with "NO" painted on her sides to protect her from hunters.

up the canyon mule trail. Far below, U.S. Highway 101 cuts across the barren foot hills. Above await the thrills of an elk hunt.



John Womble of Abilene is trying to explain to Dulcinea, the pet elk cow on the Hunter Ranch, why she should stay out of the mountains during the hunt. NO was painted on both her sides to remind hunters not to shoot at her if she refused to listen to Womble.

Somebody is going to
all a "helluva" lot of

FLASHBACK: JANUARY 1948
ADVERTISE HERE: Following
World War II, the magazine turned
from advertising war bonds to
advertising outdoor equipment.

It's 10 o'Clock: Do You Know Where Your Kitty Is?

MAY 2001: "...in the United States alone, there easily could be as many as 4 million to 5 million birds killed by house cats every day."

This Scientist is Bugged

JUNE 2001: "University of Florida entomologist and firefly expert James Lloyd is one of many scientists concerned about the possibility of declining firefly populations."

Austin's Legacy Protected

JUNE 2001: "These prime patches of woods and waters are known as Austin's Woods, named after Stephen F. Austin's pioneer settlement in the region. They are noteworthy, not only for their international significance but also for the way they came to be protected. In 1999, Texas Parks and Wildlife acquired 6,745 acres of land for the Austin's Woods project in two parcels — coastal marsh and forested wetlands."

Standing the Test of Time

JULY 2001: "They can't find the tree where they stood together as children and had their picture taken more than 60 years ago. But Sue and Wayne Terrell of Odessa know it's still there, somewhere in the woods of Abilene State Park."

Thankfully, This Plan Bombed ...

SEPTEMBER 2001: "Shock and concern have developed into resolve and a newfound appreciation of Padre Island National Seashore in the wake of the U.S. Navy's decision to abandon plans for a bombing range that could have resulted in mock assaults on the longest undeveloped barrier island in the world."

Cultural Phenomenon

OCTOBER 2001: "In a matter of months, El Chupacabras became a national phenomenon, bigger than La Macarena. As with Elvis Presley, there were sightings everywhere. My mother and grandmother would sit in our

FISHING TACKLE ARMS and AMMUNITION CAMPING EQUIPMENT BOATS and MOTORS

in Texas

BY ADVERTISING IN



STATION BUILDING

AUSTIN, TX

PAGES IN TIME JUL 1950



Gay Young, of Brownsville, takes her pet bobcats for a stroll on Boca Chica Beach. Gay, a graduate of El Jardin high school, enjoys hunting and fishing as well as other sports.

JULY, 1950

23

living room flipping between Univision and Telemundo watching for Chupacabras updates."

Working on Water

NOVEMBER 2001: "In 1997, the landmark water reform law Senate Bill 1 began an exhaustive overhaul of the way water is stored and allocated across Texas, with a focus on surface water in rivers and reservoirs. This year, with the passage of the aptly named Senate Bill 2, the Texas Legislature turned its focus to groundwater...."

Jan Reid Rides Again

DECEMBER 2001: "The 13,960-acre Caprock Canyons State Park contains some of the roughest country in Texas, and a sense of the domain of buffalo soldiers and buffalo-seeking nomads is part of what I'm after. Another motive is the breakout of a frustrated naturalist; so much of my life is indoors and urban now. The last incentive is even more personal. It's been five years since I rode a horse or mule. I wonder if I can still do it." — Jan Reid in *Through the Valley of Tears*.

John Graves Says Hello to a River

DECEMBER 2001: "Among the rivers and river-branches that traverse the Rolling Plains, it would be hard to find one more typical than the Clear Fork of the Brazos. This is a usually placid stream that curls from one long tree-lined pool to another.... Because so much of the river is bordered by undeveloped, sparsely peopled land and there are no high dams along its course, you can easily imagine, while paddling down it between dirt bluffs in the shade of willows, cottonwoods, pecans, and elms, that you are seeing the Clear Fork as it has always been, as it was in virgin times." — John Graves in *Vein of History*.

Yes, But We Enjoy the Peace and Quiet

DECEMBER 2001: "Duck hunters are often judged to be crazy. Insanity seems the only plausible reason for rising at 4 a.m. and enduring cold, wind and damp to go on a hunt that will, if all goes well, end before sunrise. But coastal duck hunting offers the chance, once the hunt is over, to exchange shotgun for fishing rod and target redfish and speckled trout instead of redheads and widgeons."

Building a Cardboard Deer Blind

by Clarence Beezley Information Officer, La Porte and W. W. Todd

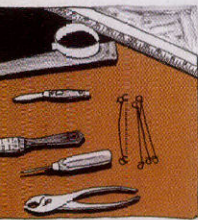
DEER HUNTERS—do you suffer from "deer stand fidgetitis"? Do tree limbs cut into your muscles? Do your eyes burn, your feet get cold and your ears freeze? Does the dampness make your bones ache and you wish you were home? Have you ever suspected that buck fever was just plain old overexposure?

If you suffer from one or more of these symptoms, fellow hunters, then you have "deer stand fidgetitis." But, rejoice! It can be cured at the cost of only an hour's effort, and at the expense of about 10 cents.

Most of the material you will need for the deer blind to cure

problem is all that you will need. You will need a cardboard box that will fit the window in your blind. You will be glad to get one of these. You will need a 10-cent candle.

You will need a 15-foot by 4-foot sheet of heavy-duty plastic, a chair, a tin can (a little larger size), a tape and



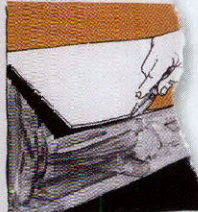
needed to make a deer blind

FLASHBACK: OCTOBER 1970

DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME. On pages 16-19 are presented illustrated instructions on how to build a deer blind out of a cardboard box that a refrigerator or freezer came in. The instructions admonish, "On your way home, buy a 10-cent candle." The story ends with this: "Oh, yes, that 10-cent candle you purchased—put that in your blind. When it gets chilly, stick it in a tin can and light it. It will make an excellent heater."



Measuring for the windows



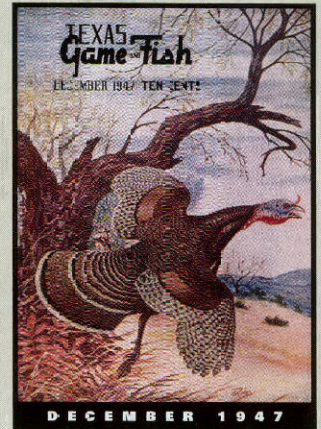
Cutting the door

crisp rivers and streams from the farmlands of Texas.

Today, brown pelicans are back in force along the coastal waters where they belong. ... some 7,000 brown pelicans now reside and breed along Texas' Gulf Coast."

Talking Turkey

APRIL 2002: "More than 7,200 eastern turkeys were released in East Texas through Target



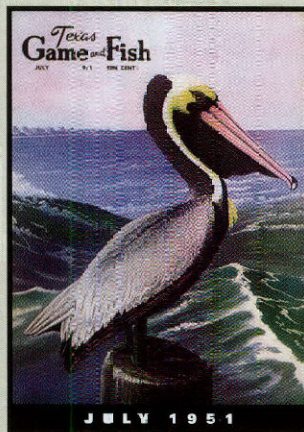
2000... in the spring of 2000, turkey hunting was reinstated in Morris County for the first time in more than 50 years."

2002

wasteful but actually detrimental to encouraging maximum yield. In 1992 it took 3,000 gallons of water to produce 2.2 pounds of shrimp. Today it takes only 1,000 gallons to do the same job."

The King of the Coast Returns

APRIL 2002: "In the 1960s, this now-common species nearly became extinct... The population hit rock bottom in May 1968, when a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department census along the entire Texas coastline recorded a mere 13 brown pelicans — down from



several thousand only a few years earlier.

That same year, *Texas Parks & Wildlife* magazine staff editor Suzanne Winkler wrote a stirring epitaph to the brown pelican. She argued that their "zestful presence" was worth preserving. The primary

culprit was DDT, which was hitching a ride in the silty runoff that washed down the orce-

Tournaments Under Study

JANUARY 2002: "Citing the enormous annual expenditure that fishing brings to the state economy, researchers have launched a number of studies to determine the specific contribution of bass tournaments. ... These studies, undertaken by TPWD and university researchers, have been conducted in response to questions about tournaments from anglers, tournament sponsors, rural community leaders and members of the Texas Legislature."

The Shrimp Wars

FEBRUARY 2002: "For such a small creature, the shrimp has been at the center of a heap of trouble in Texas.... Yet, out of the turmoil have come improved partnerships between industry and government regulators that may serve as a model for resolving conflict in other areas. ... In the past, shrimp farms filtered millions of gallons of bay water, used it, then filtered it again before returning it to the bay. Research proved that this process was not only

PAGES IN TIME DEC 1955

FAMILY ALBUM — This is Mr. Robert Cat:



He washed his face



... and admired the result.

Robert Cat always slept in bed with some member of the family, and liked to snuggle as close as possible. The pictures on this page show him snuggling comfortably with Darlene Lovelace Scale and Bonnie McCara. In the winter time, he especially liked beds with electric blankets—and he knew the difference! If the weather was very cold, he would choose a bed with an electric blanket first. Robert showed more intelligence and curiosity than the ordinary house cat. He learned to open doors inside the house by using his paws to turn the knob. Often, when a stranger came in the house, he would go into another room and gently push the door closed behind him.

A favorite resting place was the electric range in the kitchen. The photograph below shows him stretched out on the appliance in a very kingly manner.



When tired, Robert Cat would yaw

... and sleep with Darlene

... or Bonnie Lassie.



Crab Trap Cleanup

MAY 2002: "More than 500 volunteers flocked to Texas coastal bays earlier this year to gather and dispose of abandoned or lost crab traps, in a successful first annual Crab Trap Cleanup. ... volunteers gathered at 27 collection sites coastwide, collecting an astounding 8,063 traps."

Trumpeter Triumph

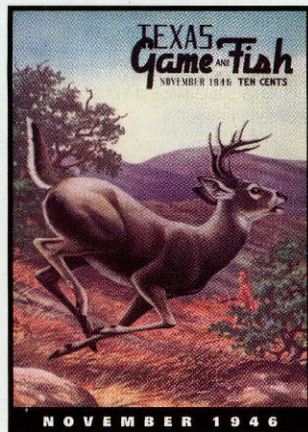
MAY 2002: "Once believed to be extinct, trumpeter swan populations have responded to restoration programs in the Midwest. Photographer Paul W. Bozzo of Kingwood photographed this wintering trumpeter on Feb. 3, 2002, at Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge on the upper Texas Coast. This was only the fourth modern sighting of a trumpeter swan in Texas."

Two Decades of Operation Game Thief

JUNE 2002: "Authorized in 1981 as a result of laws passed by the 67th Texas Legislature to help curtail poaching, OGT, a function of the law enforcement division of TPWD, has proved highly successful. During the past two decades, OGT has received more than 24,000 phone calls, paid out more than \$150,000 in anonymous rewards and helped to make cases to levy more than \$1 million in fines."

Amazing Antlers

JUNE 2002: "Some of the biggest bucks will grow more than 170 inches of antlers



between March and the end of August. That's like cutting off both of your legs and growing them back in three months."

Watershed Issue

JULY 2002: *Texas Parks & Wildlife* magazine publishes the most ambitious and largest issue in its history, 'Texas: The State of Water,' at 116 pages plus covers. The issue follows Texas' water from its source to the sea and features such luminary writers as Elmer Kelton on the Ogallala Aquifer, Jan Reid writing about Comal Springs, Joe Nick Patoski on the Devils River, Carol Flake Chapman on Caddo Lake; Michael Furtman on the Trinity bottomlands and Jim Anderson on Matagorda Bay. Rod Davis contributes a special report on the state of the Rio Grande.

In his opening essay, "Water for the Future," TPWD senior division director for aquatic resources Larry McKinney states: "With Texas' population doubling to almost 40 million in the next 50 years, existing water supply cannot sustain that growth unless action is taken... of the 281 major and historical springs that once flowed in Texas, some 63 had dried up by 1973 — a number that by one estimate has doubled since then.

...The current water plan does not identify environmental water needs as a separate demand. While it defines municipal, industrial and agricultural demands for the future, the coastal estuaries are largely ignored. As we look to the future, it is clear that this approach will not be sufficient to conserve the natural heritage of Texas."

Fit for the Field

AUGUST 2002: "The average age of the American hunter is climbing, placing more of us in the age bracket where heart attack is a concern... the pulse of one bowhunter spiked

from 78 to 168 in less than a minute when a 10-point buck appeared underneath his tree stand. Even if you are not in a high-risk group, an exercise regimen that stresses the three tenets of physical fitness — aerobics, stretching and strength training — will make you a better hunter."

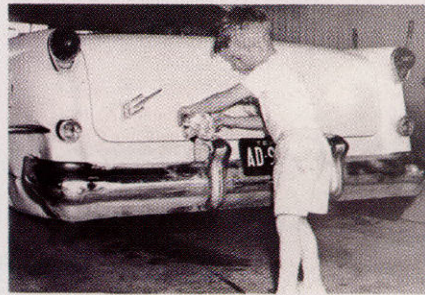
On the Road Again...

AUGUST 2002: "According to the Recreational Vehicle Industry Association, 7.2 million RVs — motor homes,

been in decline in Texas, the crested caracara now is thriving and may indeed be expanding its range."

Legend of Loup-Garou

OCTOBER 2002: "Most storytellers describe it as a man who turns into a wolf at night and stalks the unsuspecting victims who dare to enter the dark swamps and woodlands of southern Louisiana and Southeast Texas."



Young Stoney Strook peeks at the wren babies with aid of a mirror.

IMAGINE YOUR BEWILDERMENT upon finding that your home wasn't where you left it when you went nonchalantly on an errand. Such was the feeling of a mother Bewick's wren when she became hopelessly involved with a disappearing home.

Problems started for the wren parents when they innocently built a nest in the rear bumper guard of an Oldsmobile belonging to Mr. and Mrs. James Strook of Austin.

How the six eggs ever remained in the nest while the car was being driven still has the Strooks guessing.

However, the young were hatched

from their spotted shell prison; and, like other young, began their constant sleeping and eating. Meanwhile, the car was being used regularly because the nest had not been discovered.

The Strooks' oldest son, Stoney, 5, found the nest when he heard loud chirping and noticed the activity of the wrens near the rear of the car. The baby birds were two or three days old when discovered.

With the aid of a mirror, the young could be seen nesting in a small hole, which had no electrical wiring for the light.

When the car is parked double carport, the mother feeds and looking after her. The father is either perched on the tail or sitting nearby on the drive.

The rest of the time is complete frustration. With the exception of two hours during the day and at night the parents are

FLASHBACK: JULY 1962

HOME TO ROOST: A wren built a nest in the bumper guard of an Oldsmobile that was used on a daily basis.



Confession of a Poacher

NOVEMBER 2002: "Asked how many bucks he killed as a poacher, Eddy says he has to think about that for a minute... 'A thousand, conservative 750, something like that.' And as a 'guide,' who for \$4,000 to \$5,000 slipped wealthy clients on moonless nights onto big South Texas ranches to take trophy bucks, he says he was present when hundreds of other bucks were killed illegally." ☆

travel trailers, fifth-wheel trailers, truck campers and folding campers — are on the road these days. Industry experts predict that the number of RV owners will likely rise as more and more people choose to travel by vehicle instead of by air, especially in the aftermath of Sept. 11."

Captivating Caracara

SEPTEMBER 2002: "Although their populations had once

The aplomado falcon

— the only remaining endangered falcon in the U.S.

— is soaring again in West Texas.

Return to the Range

W

e are standing on a hack box tower under an impossibly blue sky on the Miller Ranch in West Texas. A pet crate containing precious cargo, five young northern aplomado falcons, rests atop the box and is being buffeted by the wind. "Keep a good hold on that crate," Angel Montoya says to Anne Welch. "Don't let the wind knock it over."

by Betty Moore



PHOTO © LARRY DITTO/KAC PRODUCTIONS

M

Montoya, a biologist and field supervisor for The Peregrine Fund, lifts the first falcon from the carrier and hands it to Jessie to be placed in the box. "This is the way to hold it," he says, "and if it bites you, whatever you do, don't let go." After Welch and Jesse Loerch, the two hack site attendants, and Bill and Jill Miller each place a falcon in the box, I reach for the remaining female. As I lift her from the carrier, I'm aware of a pulsing, and at first can't tell if it is the rhythm of her breathing or my own heartbeat.

After locking the hack box door we climb down from the tower to join Bill's parents, Clay and Jody Miller, who have been watching proudly from below. Simultaneously, 11 more young falcons are being placed in two hack boxes on the neighboring Means Ranch.

It feels like a momentous occasion, and it is. This marks the beginning of a program by The Peregrine Fund to restore the northern aplomado falcon to West Texas. Partially responsible for the successful return of the peregrine falcon, The Peregrine Fund, <www.peregrinefund.org>, is involved in conservation projects around the world, including the California condor, harpy eagle, orange-breasted falcon, Philippine eagle and many others. They began releasing aplomados in South Texas in 1993; at this time the Texas Coast boasts 35 nesting pairs from Matagorda Island to Brownsville.

The only remaining endangered falcon in this country, the aplomado was once quite common from the grasslands of South Texas to Midland, as well as southern New Mexico and Arizona, according to egg collectors' notes from the early 1900s. But soon after that time, their numbers began to decline.

"Hacking" is a term for a technique used historically by falconers and adapted by The Peregrine Fund in its release programs. Early falconers took young birds of prey from their nests before they could fly and placed them on top of a shed or barn where they provided food attached to a hack board. When the falcon fledged, it was free to come and go but would return to eat until such time as it was able to make its own kills. The falconer retrapped the falcon after it reached its independence and began training it to hunt.

These aplomados, which are from 34 to 36 days old, were hatched in a captive breeding facility at The Peregrine Fund's World Center for Birds of Prey in Boise, Idaho. They were flown to the Van Horn airport, where we picked them up and drove them to the hack box. The box has a barred front, allowing the birds to observe and get accustomed to their new surroundings. They will remain confined until they are ready to fly at about 41 days of age.

The falcons aren't the only ones getting used to their new surroundings. Welch and Loerch have driven here from their homes in Colorado and Washington, and they will be getting accustomed to the silence of this spacious and ruggedly beautiful West Texas landscape. For the remainder of the summer Welch and Loerch will live on the ranch and act as surrogate parents to the young falcons. Once a week they will check their mail and restock on groceries in the tiny town of Marfa, an hour's drive away.

Food for the falcons consists of coturnix quail, which have been raised and frozen at The Peregrine Fund's headquarters. While the falcons are confined, Welch and Loerch will drop the meat down a chute at the back of the box each day and observe the falcons through peepholes, making sure that each one is eating and appears healthy.

On the morning of release day, our eyes pop open well before dawn. The air seems charged with excitement. The Millers arrive,





and this time they are accompanied by a passel of sleepy-eyed teen-age grandchildren. Birders themselves, the Millers are enthusiastic about their partnership in this program. The recent implementation of the "Safe Harbor" agreement has made conservation efforts like this much more attractive to private landowners like the Millers and the Means. Safe Harbor encourages landowners' participation by exempting them from restrictions that might be imposed by the Endangered Species Act on the use or management of their land.

We have put quail on the top of the tower today and opened the back box door. Settling in at the observation blind with binoculars and scopes ready, we wait. And we wait. Finally, a tiny head appears in the doorway, and the first falcon steps cautiously into freedom. Over the next few hours the others join him on the tower, where they begin eating and flapping their wings.

Rakishly handsome creatures they are, with dark eyestripes and mustaches. The orange breasts and dark brown backs of these young will give way to a striking white and slate gray as they

mature. The word aplomado, referring to the gray color of the adult's plumage, is derived from a Latin word meaning lead. When fully grown, they will stand 15 to 16 inches tall with a wingspan of approximately 34 inches.

One of the males begins flapping its wings so vigorously that downy feathers are floating in the air around him. I wonder if there is an awareness that this flapping is preparation for flight or simply an instinct to exercise wing muscles. A strong breeze lifts the falcon from the tower, and the seemingly surprised bird, wings flapping, finally descends to the tall grass below. I exhale, realizing that I have been holding my breath. By evening, all the falcons have made their first flights, and they are spread across the surrounding valley perched on yuccas or out of sight in the tall tobosa grass. We leave at dark, noting where each is located, and crossing our fingers for their safety.

A release into the wild is also an introduction into the laws of nature, and their new freedom is not without risks. Without the benefit of parents who might protect and defend them, they will

By evening, all the falcons have made their first flights, and they are spread across the surrounding valley perched on yuccas or out of sight in the tall tobosa grass.

be vulnerable in these next few weeks to predation by great horned owls and other raptors, as well as coyotes, especially if they are roosting on the ground. Their diet will consist of large insects, lizards and, as their flight skills become more adept, birds.

Welch and Loerch's job has just gotten a lot harder. They will be up from before dawn until after dark over the next few months, keeping track of each falcon by reading their tiny leg bands through their scopes and taking copious notes on their activities. They will suffer from eyestrain, worry about the falcons they haven't seen and occasionally stand in wonder. The falcons will begin ranging miles away and, if all goes well, will continue to return to the tower to eat.

A few weeks after the first release, a second group of young falcons will arrive, and the whole process will begin again. Past experience has shown that an average of 68 percent of the young will survive their first three weeks of freedom. When the remaining falcons are 2 years old, they will pair off and begin raising young.

During the last few weeks of the season, the falcons will eat at the back box less and less frequently, until one day they won't return at all. Welch and Loerch then will clean out the box, put a fresh coat of paint on it and lock it up until next summer. They will pack their cars and go home, more self-sufficient themselves, with a real sense of satisfaction in knowing that they are part of a privileged few who have seen a West Texas sky filled with aplomado falcons. ★





Hatching Wor

Research put into practice is the key to keeping bass fishing in Texas great. / BY PAUL A. CAÑADA

EVERY BASS FISHER ENJOYS HOOKING A FISH that puts a major bow in his or her rod, but perhaps few realize how much effort has gone into providing high-quality angling for Texans. Probably fewer still understand that the Texas bass fishery cannot be taken for granted. Intensive management over the last three decades has made Texas bass fishing among the best in the nation. Maintaining that position in the years to come — keeping those rods bending — is the challenge now facing the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Inland Fisheries Division.

TPWD PHOTO

A large bass fish is shown swimming in a pond. The fish is positioned in the upper half of the frame, facing left. It has a dark, mottled pattern on its back and a lighter, yellowish-green belly. The background is a deep green, slightly murky water. To the left of the fish, a thick, light-colored tree trunk is visible, extending vertically. The overall scene is captured in a natural, outdoor setting.

Old-Class Bass

PHOTO BY CARL NOTTINGHAM



The Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens, opened in 1996, has a high-tech hatchery as well as a visitors' center and outdoor exhibits.

“**A** NGLING PRESSURE on our bass fisheries is going to continue to grow,” says division director Phil Durocher, “and as it does, it’s going to get harder and harder to manage those fisheries. Developing useful tools and assuring we have the necessary hatchery production are going to become critical in the near future. We’re going to be required to manage our fisheries even more intensively.”

Fisheries Management 101: Growing Bigger Bass

Texas adopted a two-pronged approach to developing a trophy bass fishery: protect bass from overharvest and find ways to grow bigger fish.

In 1973, Florida-strain largemouth bass were introduced to Texas impoundments because they grow larger than the native fish — if they live long enough. As one professional angler observed, “The main thing that keeps bass from getting bigger is hot grease.” Over time, Texas adopted strict slot limits and limited the harvest of trophy-sized fish. Slot limits encouraged anglers to harvest smaller bass in reservoirs overpopulated

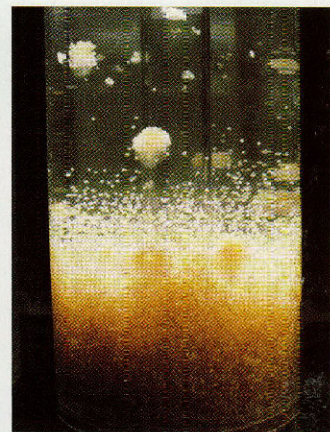
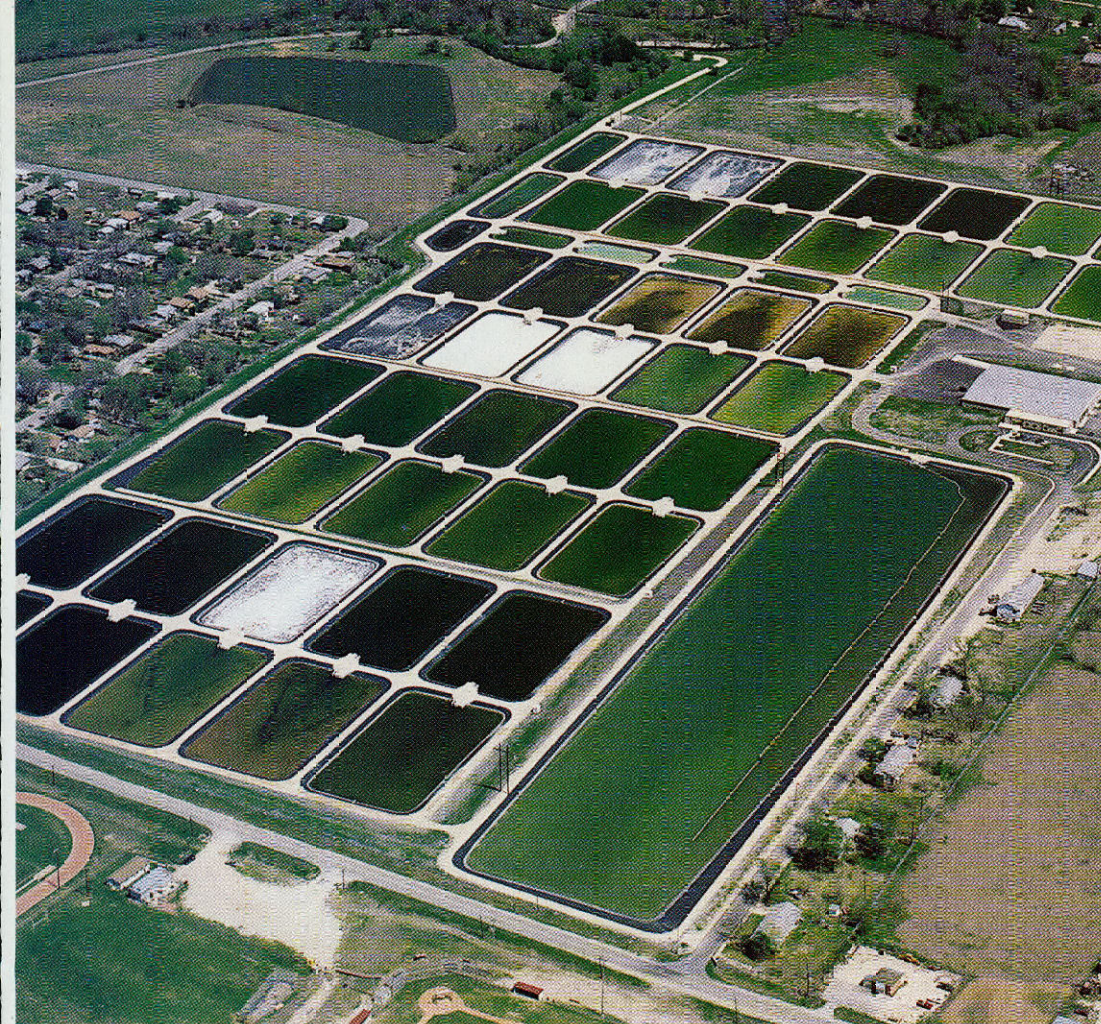
Intensive management over the last three decades has made Texas bass fishing among the best in the nation.

with young fish. High minimum lengths on the top end of the slot protected the most important year-classes. And limiting the harvest of bass over the minimum length (normally one fish per day) protected trophy-sized fish. During this same time, catch-and-release fishing grew in popularity, saving even more fish.

Beginning in 1986, the Budweiser ShareLunker Program addressed the issue of growing bigger bass. The first goal of the program was to promote the live



release of trophy-sized bass,” explains Durocher. “The second goal was to develop a selective breeding program with the donated fish.” Anglers who donate a live bass weighing more than 13 pounds to the program receive statewide recognition and a fiberglass replica of their fish. The donated bass then are used in spawning and research programs at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens with the goal of improving the genetics of Texas bass.



Located on the banks of the San Marcos River, the recently renovated A. E. Wood Fish Hatchery specializes in rearing fingerling sportfish for stocking in Texas reservoirs.

The latest wrinkle in the quest for bigger bass is Operation World Record. According to the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center's David Campbell, the program and the ongoing research associated with it are designed to raise "thoroughbred" bass and the next world record.

Operation World Record will introduce fry from pedigreed males and ShareLunker females into relatively small ponds and lakes. The fisheries biologists then hope to evaluate the genetic traits of the segregated, pedigreed offspring and isolate those they regard desirable.

Eventually, Campbell hopes the program will produce offspring possessing those genetic traits that best produce trophy-sized and world record bass for stocking Texas impoundments. "The pedigreed males in the program are offspring of the Troy Johnson fish we had entered into the program in 1989," says Campbell. "We crossed the first males with ShareLunker females. We have data on three generations of offspring, so we know the parents, grandparents and

great-grandparents of each tagged male in the program."

Having secured the brood stock necessary for the program, Campbell's staff currently is selecting the small impoundments essential for the program's success. Of course, once the lakes are secured, TPWD will need fry to stock in the carefully selected lakes. Campbell and his staff are working hard to spawn ShareLunker females with the pedigreed males. Someday you may be lucky enough to land one of the offspring — and perhaps see your name entered into the record book.

Breeding Bass that Bite

Having big bass in a lake is nice, but the fun starts with the catching. Few of the research projects completed at the Heart o' the Hills Research Station near Kerrville have drawn as much press as the study regarding differences in catchability between northern- and Florida-strain bass.

Biologists set out to determine whether the ease with which a bass is caught is a hereditary trait or a learned response.

Gary Garrett, acting research director for Heart o' the Hills, and his colleagues established that while there's some individual learning involved, the trait is indeed genetic.

"As it turned out," he says, "the genetic trait is different between subspecies. Generally, the Florida strain is much more wary, and the northern strain is much more aggressive. It's probably accurate to speculate that the environments these fish evolved in favored certain behaviors. The natural selection that has been going on for tens of thousands of years favors certain desirable traits."

Lake Balmorhea furnishes an example of how the research findings have been used to improve the angling experience for Texas fishers by providing lots of action while improving the chance of catching a trophy. "At Lake Balmorhea (a small impoundment approximately 45 miles west of Fort Stockton), we had to kill the lake out to rid it of a species that was causing problems for an endangered species we had out there," says Garrett. "Approximately 85 percent of the fish we restocked were northern-strain largemouths, and the remaining fish were

TPWD PHOTOS



Built in the 1930s, the Jasper Fish Hatchery, above, is in need of renovation. Biologists at Lake Balmorhea, above right and opposite page, killed the lake out to rid it of problem species and restocked it with largemouth bass.

triploid Florida-strain bass. So, anglers fishing Lake Balmorhea today should experience high catch rates and still have a great chance of hooking a really big fish."

Keeping Texas Tops

While the most visible results of the various research projects are bigger and more catchable fish, Garrett sees a bigger picture. "What we're really doing at Heart o' the Hills is developing tools for the future management of our bass fisheries. After developing the tool, our next task is to find ways to successfully apply it in a cost-effective way."

Durocher agrees that the knowledge gained from research should be put to work making fishing better for Texas anglers. "There's no doubt," he says, "that the state's most popular impoundments are those that — year after year — produce big fish. While big fish are certainly not the total focus of our management package, they are a big part of it. If you can produce a fish that grows faster and makes it into the creel quicker, you have created a benefit to the angling public."

New challenges for fisheries managers will test their ability to put research findings into practice. During the 1990s, a number of Texas impoundments — Amistad, Cooper, Falcon, Lake Fork, O.H. Ivie, Ray Roberts and Sam Rayburn — sat near the top of America's list of trophy bass fisheries. Other oft-forgotten reservoirs such as Caddo, Conroe and Toledo Bend once again were producing good numbers of trophy-sized bass. And the Lone Star bass fishing community rediscovered the natural bounty found in Texas' many rivers. Bass anglers and fisheries biologists alike predicted the next world record bass would come from Texas waters.

Unfortunately, Providence had a different plan for the state's popular impoundments. Seemingly overnight, the bass fishing on many Texas reservoirs began to decline. Drought left many impoundments woefully low. The

dropping water levels resulted in poor spawns and low recruitment numbers, loss of aquatic vegetation and subsequent changes in fish location and angling patterns.

Shortly after the droughts, the dreaded largemouth bass virus caused fish kills at five of Texas' trophy impoundments. As if things weren't bad enough, golden algae blooms on the upper Brazos and Colorado rivers resulted in devastating fish kills.

"It certainly seems like the stars have been aligned against us lately," says Durocher. "Over the last few years, we have experienced problem after problem. Collectively, they have resulted in a number of years of tough fishing."

As challenging as managing the many troubled fisheries has been over the last few years, Durocher predicts tougher times are ahead. He believes the single most important issue facing his staff and bass anglers in the near future is a potential conflict over water rights — urban water needs versus the needs of

Durocher believes the single most important issue in the near future is a potential conflict over water rights.



fisheries. According to Durocher, seasonal draw-downs due to water allocation for urban uses will magnify the impact droughts have on our reservoirs. Draw-downs occurring in spring can be detrimental to that season's bass spawn and recruitment.

"The real aquatic habitat issue isn't whether we have hydrilla or don't have hydrilla," Durocher notes. "It's an issue of water. It's really hard to experience a good spawn when water levels are fluctuating and dropping at the wrong time of year. The shallow water habitat that normally provides protection for spawn and fry is left high and dry by dropping water levels."

In the past, water levels in most East Texas reservoirs have been fairly constant. Missing year-classes and poor recruitment due to poor spawns like those historically experienced in West Texas haven't been an issue. But as the water demands of urban centers continue to grow and the draw on East Texas reservoirs continues to increase, poor spawns and recruitment are going to become more common in the eastern part of the state. According to Durocher, urban water needs eventually will place

the greatest strain on Texas' trophy bass fisheries.

The decline in natural spawning activity can be offset by increased stocking of hatchery-raised fish; but you have to be able to produce those fish, and there's the rub. An aging hatchery system threatens to limit Texas' ability to produce enough fingerlings. "That's the reason we're pushing so hard to get our hatcheries renovated," Durocher says. "For the sake of our future, we need to increase our capacity for production."

Currently, TPWD's Inland Fisheries Division operates five hatcheries. Of those, only three — Athens' Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, San Marcos' A. E. Wood and the Jasper facility — are currently used for largemouth bass production.

With the exception of the relatively new Athens facility, Texas hatcheries were built in the 1930s and 40s. Understandably, the four older hatcheries present considerable management challenges.

According to Durocher, the San Marcos facility was renovated in 1986 and is in fairly good shape. Also, a significant amount of renovations have been

completed on both the Dundee and Possum Kingdom hatcheries. Today, the Jasper facility (built in the 1930s) is the only hatchery that hasn't had any renovations or improvements started.

"Every year," says Durocher, "we lose ponds at Jasper because of the breakdown of infrastructure. It's getting to the point where it's no longer feasible to keep the facility open. However, the Jasper hatchery is nearly twice the size of the Athens facility, and we need it if we hope to meet the future production needs of our fisheries. The Jasper facility could be the star of our hatchery system if it were completely renovated — but that project carries a \$16 million price tag."

A combination of productive hatcheries and the tools provided by researchers at the Heart o' the Hills Research Station and the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center will be necessary to maintain the quality of bass fishing Texans have come to expect. "This management process costs money, resources and time," says Durocher. "But when you compare costs to benefits, our bass anglers pay a lot less, on a per capita basis, for the superior product we provide, than anglers in any other state." ★

PHOTOS BY EARL NOTTINGHAM

Happy New Year! Gear!

Gibbs the Gear Guy sleuths through the best of new products displayed at this year's **SHOT show** and the **2002 Texas Wildlife Expo**.

Article and photos by
Gibbs Milliken

MANUFACTURERS OF OUTDOOR GEAR show a strong trend toward offering more traditional items made with high standards of craftsmanship and materials. Some items may look like an echo of the past, but often the internal mechanisms and physical structure are highly advanced in construction, durability and function.

Innovations in outdoor comfort also are present in new products, offering relief from common discomforts like motion sickness, thirst, heat and cold. The catalogs and superstores are filled with great merchandise, but here are a few gift suggestions that might be considered outstanding.

The Exchanger Mask (\$66, Black; \$73, various camo patterns, Polar Wrap. (800) 967-9727, <www.polarwrap.com>). This high-tech, full-head cover with a breath exchanger module allows breathing of moist warm air by pre-heating and humidifying the next inhalation. It has no power source other than your normal breathing and warms fresh air to an average 80 degrees F. for greater comfort in the most bitter winter weather.



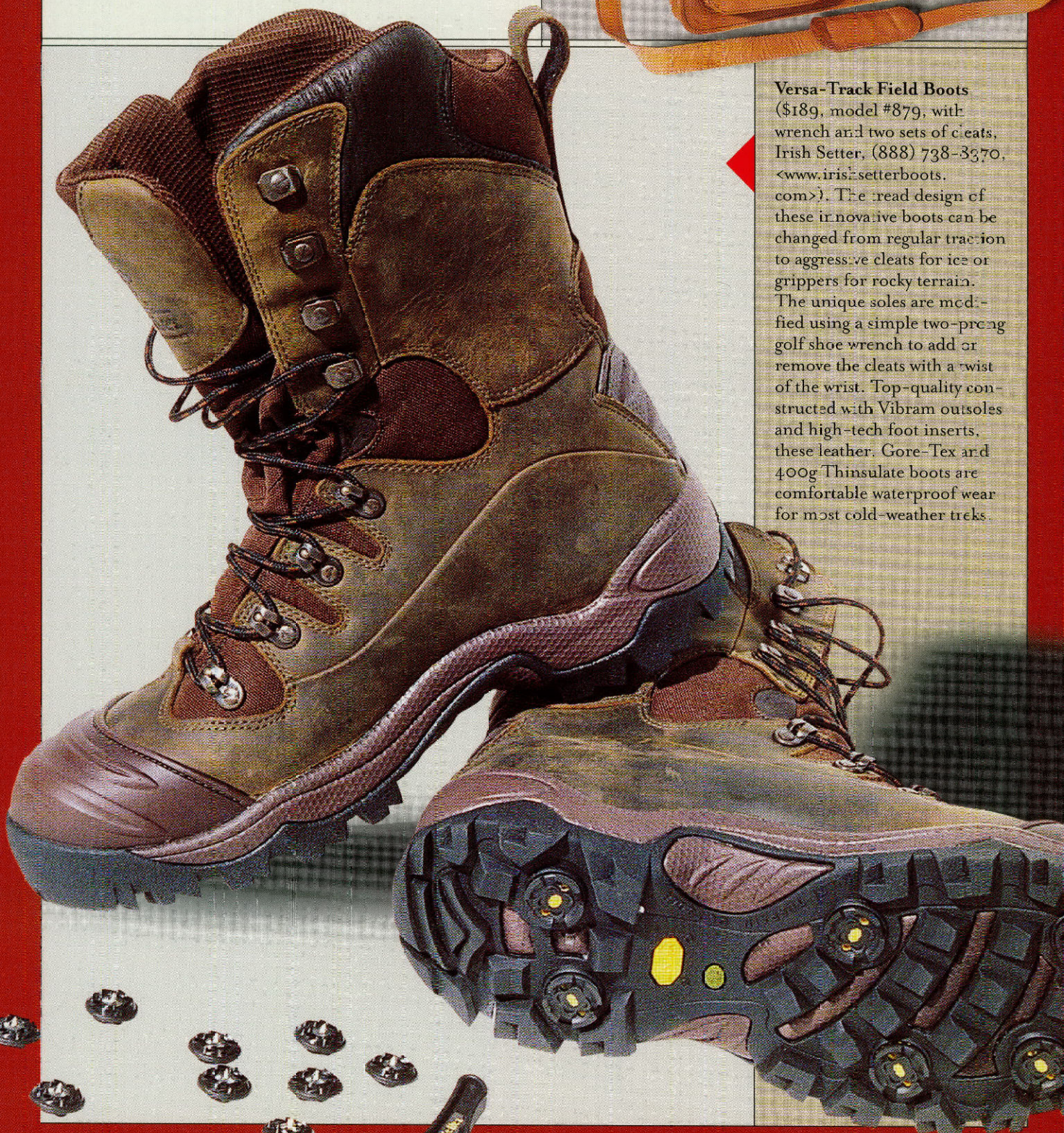
Rem-Lite Hunting/Fishing Shirt (shown) and Pants (\$39.99 pants, style #17144ABU and \$34.99 shirt, style #17142ABU, Remington Clothing, (877) 525-9070). These matching six-pocket cargo pants and ventilated long-sleeve shirt of ultra-light nylon are a cool combination for hunting or fishing. The bold camouflage allows a stealthy approach to game and fish along wooded trails and streams.

Seal Skinz Gauntlet Gloves (\$34.95, (800) 368-2629, <www.canaleo.com>) offer completely waterproof and insulated protection in the coldest conditions. Made of a flexible, breathable fabric without the bulk of conventional designs, they keep the skin warm and dry even when reaching into icy water to retrieve fish and game.

Texas Briefcase (\$269.95, Style #0226703, Force Ten, Inc., (888)-367-2383, <www.forcetenusa.com>). This distinctive handmade valise in western-style tool-dressed leather is decorated with Texas Range star conchos. The traditional bellows design has a roomy divided interior, two exterior pockets, leather handle and a removable shoulder strap. It closes with an adjustable combination of engraved buckles and quick-release snaps. Also available is a matching date book/wallet, luggage and other accessories.



Versa-Track Field Boots (\$189, model #879, with wrench and two sets of cleats, Irish Setter, (888) 738-3370, <www.irishsetterboots.com>). The read design of these innovative boots can be changed from regular traction to aggressive cleats for ice or grippers for rocky terrain. The unique soles are modified using a simple two-prong golf shoe wrench to add or remove the cleats with a twist of the wrist. Top-quality constructed with Vibram outsoles and high-tech foot inserts, these leather, Gore-Tex and 400g Thinsulate boots are comfortable waterproof wear for most cold-weather treks.





Honda Electric Generator, (\$788.99, model #EU1000iA2, Honda America, (800) 425-7701, <www.hondapowerequipment.com>), produces a maximum 1,000 watts of AC power to operate standard lights and appliances while camping, hunting or fishing. The portable 29-pound unit is ideal for remote RV sites without power hook-ups or for emergency home use. It will even run and recharge DC systems, including your car battery.

Stainless Leakproof Mug with Carabiner (\$33.99, model #JMQ400C, 14 ounce., Thermos/Nissan, (800) 831-9242, <www.thermos.com>).

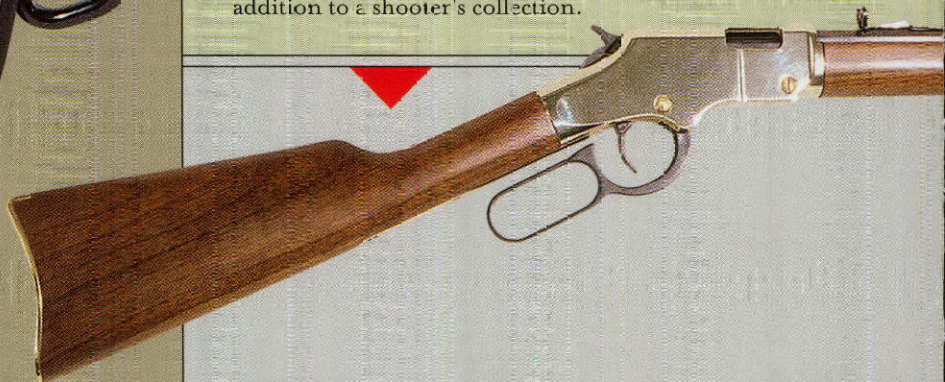
Does your travel mug leak when knocked over? This insulated mug has a vacuum sealing twist-top that, when tightly closed, does not spill and keeps your beverages hot or cold for hours without leaking a drop. It is well-designed and durable, but can be a bit difficult to open and reseal while driving.

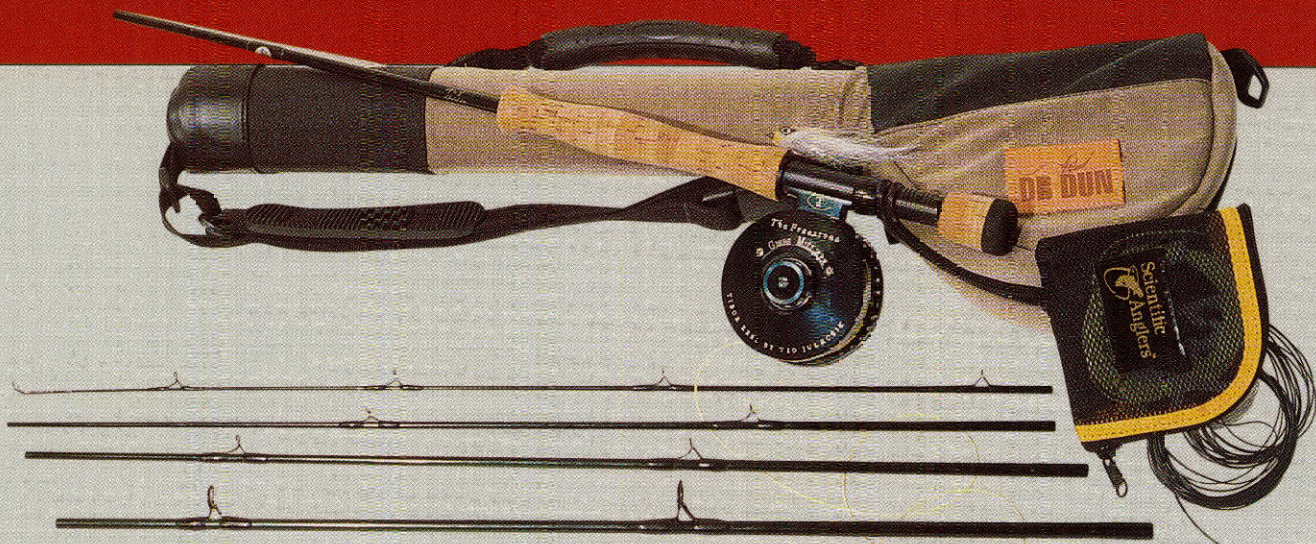


Plano 777 Tackle Box (\$59.99, model #823001, Plano Molding (800) 226-9868, <www.planomolding.com>) The 777 is a modular tackle-storage system featuring two double-tier boxes with hand-grips and a spinnerbait/worm box that can be removed easily and carried separately. The case also has a spacious divided-top access chamber, separate deep compartment for reels and spools, plus transparent lid storage for smaller items and terminal tackle.

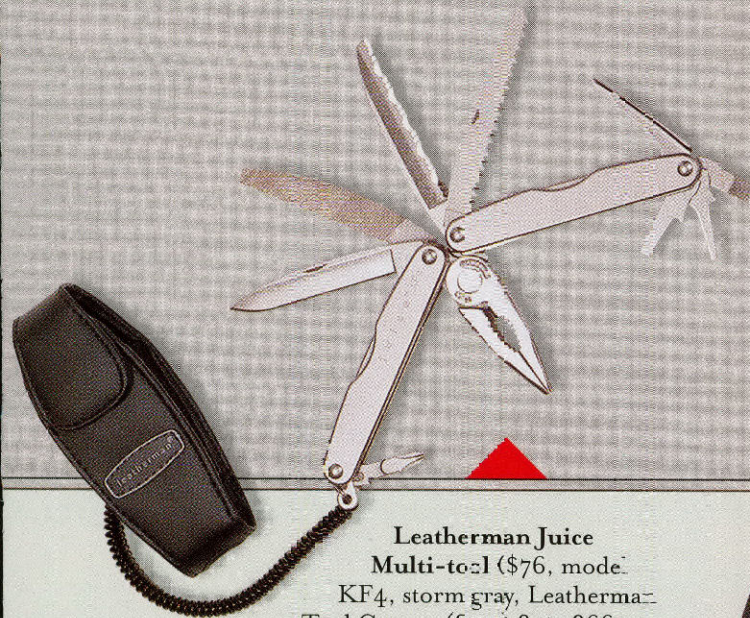


Henry Golden Boy Rifle (\$449.95, Henry Repeating Arms Co., (718) 499-5600, <www.henryrepeatingarms.com>). This 2002 award-winning, lever-action rifle of the Old West is still being made in the United States, and is available in both .22 long rifle and .22 magnum sizes. The classic styling, with an octagon barrel, distinctive brass receiver and fittings, is a pleasure to shoot in the field or target range. The affordable price and inexpensive ammunition make it more than a decorative addition to a shooter's collection.





Fly Fishing Travel Rod and Reel Combination for the advanced angler. One of the finest quality travel rods, the **Winston BL-5** (\$695, R.L. Winston Rod. Co., (800) 237-8763, <www.winstonrods.com>) is perfectly matched with the excellent large-arbor **Tibor Freestone Reel** (\$475, color: forest green, Tibor Reel Corp., (561) 272-0770, <www.tibor-reel.com>). By adding a fly line like the interchangeable **Mastery Series Quad-Tip** (\$119.95, 3-M Scientific Anglers, (800) 430-5000, <www.scientificanglers.com>) you have a four-line options system. This high-performance five-piece rod and precision reel can be used in salt or fresh water. The versatile crossover combo breaks down small enough — 25 inches — to fit neatly into a special **Travel Rod/Reel Case** (\$62.95, model #DBPT159005, 3-M Scientific Anglers/D.B. Dun) airline carry-on.



Leatherman Juice Multi-tool (\$76, model

KF4, storm gray, Leatherman Tool Group, (800) 847-8665, <www.leatherman.com>). The new Juice KF4 is a light, pocket-size, high-quality multi-tool. It comes in several colors and function options. The compact contemporary design also can be carried in a leather accessory case (\$9, model #930905, Leatherman) clipped on the belt with the pliers in open position for easy access.



CamelBak Lobo (\$55, Model #10162, CamelBak Products, (800) 767-8725, <www.camelbak.com>). This two-liter (70-ounce) hydration pack is ergonomically designed and fully adjustable for balanced comfort during active sports. It has an external easy-access wide-mouth Omega reservoir for adding liquid and ice or for cleaning. The unit keeps your back cool and is especially useful to coastal wade-fishers by adding a small chest-pouch for tackle.



ReliefBand (\$129.99, Model RB-RL Adventure kit with replaceable batteries, Woodsle Biomedical, Inc., (760) 804-6900 <www.reliefband.com>). Travel with confidence wearing this drug-free, non-prescription remedy for motion sicknesses caused by boat, car or air travel. Using variable settings, it relieves the unpleasant sensation of nausea and vomiting by administering a mild electric pulse to the skin inside the wrist.

BogaGrip (\$139, model #130 or \$149, IGFA Certified, Eastaboga Tackle, (255) 831-9682, <www.boga-grip.com>) This combination lip-grasping tool and accurate one- to 30-pound fish scale has become a standard with professional guides and serious anglers. It is easy on the fish and allows positive catch and release. Made of stainless steel and rustproof parts, it can be used in either fresh or salt water. This reliable scale can verify weights of world-record fish catches when certified by IGFA.

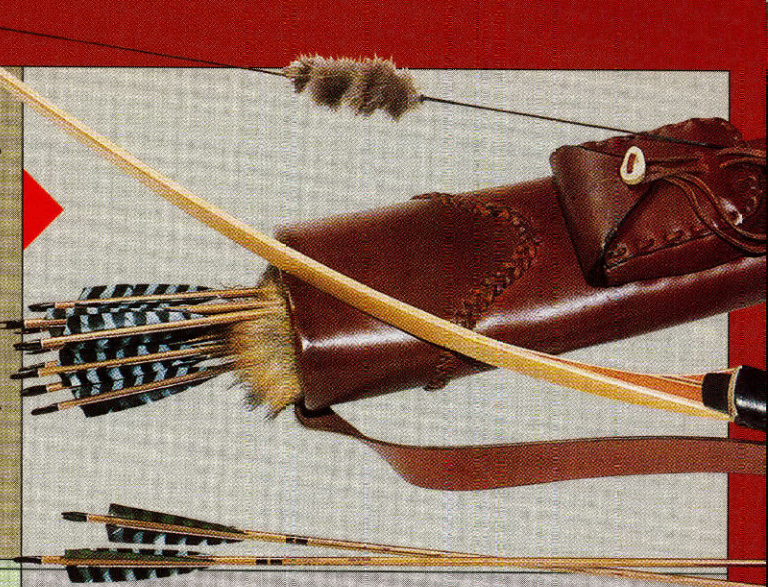


Minn Kota Ripside Electric Trolling Motor (\$619.99, Transom Mode RT55/S, Minn Kota, (800) 227-6433, <www.minnkotamotors.com>). The new Riptide is the best trolling motor we have ever field tested. Designed for both fresh and salt water, its hardware is stainless steel with other parts coated or permanently urethane sealed from rust and corrosion. Powered by a 12-volt system, this cool-running motor quietly delivers a powerful 55 pounds of thrust from a weedless prop. Controls are manual outboard tilt and twist with continuous forward and reverse speeds. Other features include a replaceable sacrificial zinc anode and durable composite shaft that will not bend, kink or fatigue. The motor has a three-year warranty, along with a wide choice of accessories.



Large and comfortable, the **Genesis Sleeping Bag** (\$499, Justin Charles, (608) 269-2728, <www.justincharles.com>) is three bags in one. The zipperless, multi-layer design allows selection of insulative values from 40 degrees F to minus 20 degrees F. More like a bedroll than a bag, it comes with its own slip-in pad, pillow and packsack.

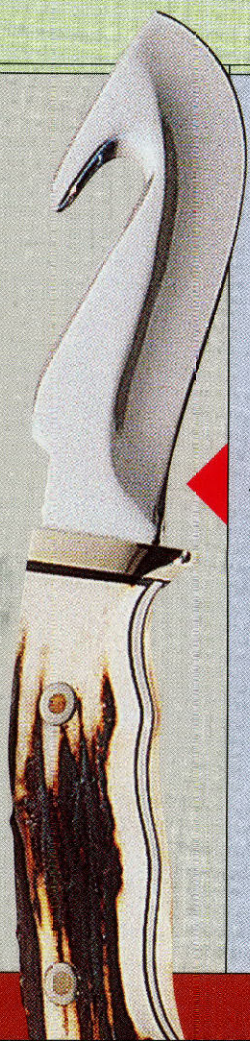
Traditional Archery Outfit features a **Viper Longbow** (\$179.99, Aim Archery, (888) 246-8044, <www.aimarchery.com>) reflex/deflex built of multi-laminated hardwoods and clear, fiberglass-backed limbs showing the natural wood grain and color. The **Sherwood Back Quiver and Arm Guard** (\$125, quiver; \$19.95 arm guard, The Leathersmith, (304) 587-4578, <www.hidehandler.com>) are hand-stitched heavy leather with stag antler keepers. The matching set of feather-fletched **Easton Legacy Arrows** (\$66.99 per dozen, Cabela's, (800) 237-4444, <www.cabelas.com>), have the appearance of original footed cedar wood but actually are aluminum shafts with interchangeable points. This classic combination can be used for hunting or field archery in its purest form.



The **Storm Safety Whistle** (\$5, REI, (800) 426-4840, <www.rei.com>) is personal protection at your fingertips. Designed with a special harmonic chamber, it exceeds USCG requirements for an audible signal device that must be on board all boats operating in Texas public waters. This extremely loud whistle is also an effective locator for anyone in a wilderness or urban emergency.



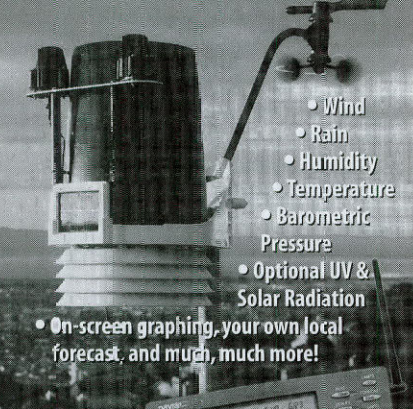
Tak Fukuta Hunting Knife (\$168.95, Jungle model #2028 with leather belt sheath, Gutmann Cutlery, (800) 288-5379, <www.gutmanncutlery.com>). Beautifully balanced in the hand, this skinning knife is finely cut and mirror-polished AUS-8 stainless steel with a select stag handle. The deep-set gut-hook and curved, hollow-ground blade holds a keen edge, allowing easy field-dressing of even the largest game animals.



Filson Rugged Luggage (\$396, model #284, Extra Large Rugged Twill Wheeled Duffle, dark tan; \$416 model #290, Rugged Twill Wheeled Carry-on, dark tan, C. C. Filson, (800) 297-1897, <www.filson.com>). Built to last, this rugged luggage is designed to take years of travel abuse and keep on rolling. Made of thick, waterproofed canvas and oiled bridle leather fitted with industrial-strength solid brass zippers and buckles, the units are transported easily on integral roller-blade wheels or conventional carry straps. Like all Filson products, these bags are built to the highest standards of quality materials and workmanship.



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TPW0212

DECEMBER HUNTING SEASONS

DEC. 7-JAN. 19:

Duck season in the South Zone

DEC. 12-JAN. 19:

Pintail hunting allowed in the South Zone and High Plains Mallard Management Unit

DEC. 14-29:

Pheasant season in 37 Panhandle counties

DEC. 19-JAN. 26:

Pintail hunting allowed in the North Zone

DEC. 21-JAN. 10:

White-winged dove season in the Special South Texas Zone

DEC. 21-JAN. 14:

Dove season in South Texas Zone

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WILDLIFE OUTDOOR ANNUAL
OR CALL

(512) 389-4505.

MAIL CALL

(continued from page 12)

avored, has proven to be the most abusive. The forests have been denuded and the rivers filled with surface soil washed from cultivated fields and over-grazed land where forests grew. Both surface and underground water is growing alarmingly scarce.

Bird and animal life suffers as a result.

Here in the Valley it is doubtful if such species as the red-billed pigeon or the chachalaca can ever be reinstated in the great numbers which once existed. Man has done away with the native trees and brush – the food and habitat – necessary. However, the whitewings might make a comeback if given aid.

The Commission should by all means control by purchase or lease the remaining tracts of heavy native brush still used by whitewings as nesting areas. Others may use the citrus trees for nesting as they did prior to the freeze of 1951, since more citrus trees gradually are being replanted each year.

This is a plea for the Commission to do everything possible to hold the remaining native brush for whitewing nesting.

CHARLES G. JONES

Game Warden Supervisor, Retired
Weslaco
March 1956

STALWART SUBSCRIBER

When the mail clerk comes around with my new *Texas Game and Fish*, the government loses at least 15 or 20 minutes of my time, for I have to browse through it from cover to cover before putting it down. Of course I digest it thoroughly after hours.

Several of the boys here in the office have remarked that they only wished that their state had such a magazine. Keep up the good work, and I'll take out a life subscription.

SGT. KENT C. SMITH

Camp Pendleton, Calif.
August 1957

DEER BUTCHERS CONDEMNED

I was shocked upon opening your magazine this month and seeing the report of the atrocity committed by some kill-crazy hoodlum. I fear that a great deal more than six deer may have been lost to sportsmen here.

The anti-hunting group can take an atrocity such as occurred and use it to

arouse a disinterested public to exert pressure on the legislature to pass more and more restrictive laws. Remember, well over half the people in this country never hunt and know or care little about what goes on. They could be led to believe that this sort of thing is common.

I know of several instances in which persons have been caught headlighting, and in every instance, they have gotten off with what I would call a moderate fine. It is time we sportsmen insisted on some laws that would really deter such acts – something like a two-year prison sentence and lifetime suspension of hunting privileges. We must all join and support the sportsmen's clubs and support the right kind of legislation, or we may someday find we no longer have the right to hunt at all.

R.A. DEFEE, JR.

Corpus Christi
December 1957

ENJOYING NEWS FROM HOME

I have read your magazine with great enjoyment for the past two years. At present, I am stationed on Okinawa Island in the Pacific. Hunting and fishing are at a minimum here and reading your magazine helps to reassure us that there is still good work being done at home in the conservation field.

I was also pleased to hear that Texas has at last raised the price of hunting and fishing licenses. This action was long overdue.

JESS W. PAYNE, JR.

Okinawa
June 1958

Sound off for "Mail Call!"

Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine welcomes letters from our readers. Please include your name, address and daytime telephone number.

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SIGHTS AND SOUNDS



THE FRONT LINE OF NEWS AND VIEWS



T E L E V I S I O N

LOOK FOR THESE STORIES
IN THE COMING WEEKS:

Dec. 1 - 8:

Animals that thrive at night; taking kids fishing; Monahans Sandhills State Park; enjoying the outdoors at any age; morning at the marsh.

Dec. 8 - 15:

Houston's home for butterflies; sounds of prey; honoring a female angler; shooting sports; the shore.

Dec. 15 - 22:

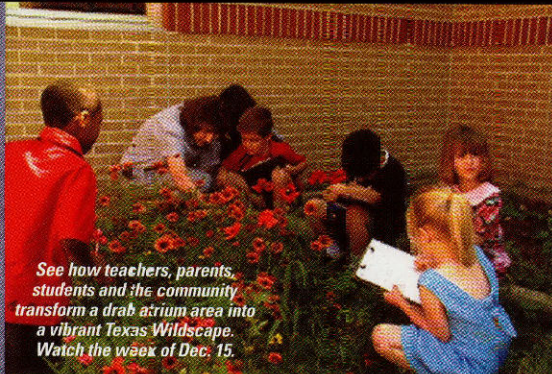
School kids learning about native plants; choosing binoculars; biking in the parks; saving the buffalo; snakes.

Dec. 22 - 29:

The secret life of wildlife; screech owls; traveling birds; the historic landscape of Texas; buffalo in the snow.

Dec. 29 - Jan. 5:

The geology and ecology of Matagorda Island; choosing a sleeping bag; the disappearing horned lizard; quail hunting.



See how teachers, parents, students and the community transform a drab atrium area into a vibrant Texas Wildscape. Watch the wax of Dec. 15.

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- AMARILLO:** KACV, Ch. 2 / Sat. 5 p.m.
- AUSTIN:** KLRU, Ch. 18 / Sun. 10 a.m. / Mon. 12:30 p.m. / KLRU-TOO, Cable Ch. 20 / Tues. 11 p.m.
- BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION:** KAMU, Ch. 15 / Thurs. 7 p.m. / Sun. 5 p.m., 10:30 p.m.
- CORPUS CHRISTI:** KEDT, Ch. 13 / Sun. 11 a.m. / Thurs. 1 p.m. / Fri. 8:30 p.m.
- DALLAS-FORT WORTH:** KERA, Ch. 13 / Sat. 8:30 a.m. Also serving Abilene, Denton, Longview, Marshall, San Angelo, Texarkana, Tyler, Wichita Falls, Sherman
- EL PASO:** KCOS, Ch. 13 / Sat. 5 p.m. (rotates with other programs; check listings)
- HARLINGEN:** KMBH, Ch. 60 / Sun. 5:30 p.m. Also serving McAllen, Mission, Brownsville
- HOUSTON:** KUHT, Ch. 8 / Sun. 5 p.m. / Fri. 1 p.m. Also serving Beaumont/Port Arthur, Galveston, Texas City, Victoria
- KILLEEN:** KNCT, Ch. 46 / Sun. 5 p.m. Also serving Temple
- LUBBOCK:** KTXT, Ch. 5 / Sat. noon
- ODESSA-MIDLAND:** KOCV, Ch. 36 / Sat. 5 p.m.
- PORTALES, N.M.:** KENW, Ch. 3 / Sun. 2 p.m. Also serving West Texas/Panhandle area
- SAN ANTONIO & LAREDO:** KLRN, Ch. 9 / Friday noon, Sunday 2 p.m.
- WACO:** KWBU, Ch. 34 / Sat. 3 p.m.

Check local listings. Times and dates are subject to change, especially during PBS membership drives.

R A D I O

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<www.passporttotexas.org>

- ABILENE:** KACU-FM 89.7 / 7:06 a.m. & 1:44, 6:01 p.m., KWKC-AM 1340 / 6:28 a.m.
- ATLANTA:** KAQC Cable Ch. 22 / 8:15 a.m.
- ALPINE:** KSRC-FM 92.7 / 9 a.m.
- AMARILLO:** KACV-FM 89.9 / 11:20 a.m.
- AUSTIN:** KUT-FM 90.5 / 1:04 p.m., KVET-AM 1300 / between 5 a.m. and 7 a.m. Sat.
- BEAUMONT:** KLVI-AM 560 / 5:20 a.m.
- BIG SPRING:** KBST-AM 1490 / 10:55 a.m., cable ch. 23 / 10:55 a.m., KBST-FM 95.7 / 10:55 a.m.
- BRADY:** KNEL-AM 1490 / 7:20 a.m. & 8:50 p.m. (7:50 a.m. Sat.), KNEL-FM 95.3 / 7:20 a.m. & 8:50 p.m. (7:50 a.m. Sat.)
- BRIDGEPORT:** KBOC-FM 98.3 / 8:10 a.m. & 5:15 p.m.
- BRYAN:** KZNE-AM 1150 / 5:45 p.m.
- CANTON:** KVCJ-AM 1510 / 6:40 a.m.
- CANYON:** KWTS-FM 91.1 / noon hour & 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
- CARTHAGE:** KGAS-AM 1590 / 6:46 a.m., KGAS-FM 104.3 / 6:46 a.m.
- CENTER:** KDET-AM 930 / 12:25 p.m., KDET-FM 100.2 / 12:25 p.m.
- COLEMAN:** KSTA-AM 1000 / 5:05 p.m.
- COLUMBUS:** KULM-FM 98.3 / 7:20 a.m.
- COMANCHE:** KCOM-AM 1550 / 6:30 a.m.
- COMMERCE:** KETR-FM 88.9 / 10:15 a.m.
- CORPUS CHRISTI:** KEDT-FM 90.3 / 5:34 p.m., KFTX-FM 97.5 / 5:40 a.m., KBSO-FM 94.7 / 6:50 a.m.
- CROCKETT:** KIVY-AM 1290 / 8:15 a.m., KIVY-FM 92.7 / 8:15 a.m.
- CUERO:** KVCO-FM 97.7 / 6:50 a.m.
- DEL RIO:** KWMC-AM 1490 / 5:50 p.m.
- DENISON/SHERMAN:** KJIM-AM 1500 / 8:55 a.m.
- DENTON/DALLAS/FT. WORTH:** KNTU-FM 88.1 / 10:30 a.m. & 2:30, 5:50 p.m.
- DIMMITT:** KDHN-AM 1470 / 12:31 p.m.

SIGHTS & SOUNDS

DUMAS: KDDD-FM 95.3 / 10:30 a.m. KDDD-AM 800 / 10:30 a.m.
EAGLE PASS: KINL-FM 92.7 / 7:15 a.m.
EASTLAND: KEAS-AM 1590 / 5:51 a.m. & 5:51 p.m., KATX-FM 97.7 / 5:51 a.m. & 5:51 p.m.
EDNA: KGUL-FM 96.1 / 6:50 a.m.
EL CAMPO: KULP-AM 1390 / 2 p.m.
FAIRFIELD: KNES-FM 99.1 / 6:47 a.m.
FLORESVILLE: KWCB-FM 89.7 / 1:30 p.m.
FORT STOCKTON: KFST-AM 860 / 7:56 a.m. & 12:50 p.m., KFTS-FM 94.3 / 7:56 a.m. & 12:50 p.m.
FORT WORTH: KTCU-FM 88.7 / 8:50 a.m. & 5:50 p.m.
GAINESVILLE: KGAF-AM 1580 / 7 a.m.
GATESVILLE: KASZ-FM 98.3 / 7:24 a.m.
GRANDBURY: KPIR-AM 1420 / 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
GREENVILLE: KGV-AM 1400 / 8:15 a.m.
HALLETTSVILLE: KHLT-AM 1520 / 6:50 a.m., KTXM-FM 99.9 / 6:50 a.m.
HASKELL: KVRP-FM 97.1 / 9:30 a.m. M-F; KVRP-AM 1400 / 9:30 a.m. M-F
HARLINGEN: KMBH-FM 88.9 / 4:58 p.m.
HEREFORD: KPAN-AM 860 / 2:50 p.m., KPAN-FM 106.3 / 2:50 p.m.
HILLSBORO: KHBR-AM 1560 / 9:30 a.m.
HOUSTON: KCOH-AM 1430 / Sat. 4:30-6:30 a.m.
HUNTSVILLE: KSHU-FM 90.5 / 11:55 a.m., 5:55 p.m.
JACKSONVILLE: KEBE-AM 1400 / 7:15 a.m.
JOURDANTON: KBUC-FM 95.7 / Sat. noon
JUNCTION: KMBL-AM 1450 / 6:46 a.m. & 12:46, 5:46 p.m., KOOK-FM 93.5 / 6:46 a.m. & 12:46, 5:46 p.m.
KERRVILLE: KITE-FM 92.3 / 11:51 a.m. & 12:51, 5:40, 8:40 p.m., KERV-AM 1230 / 6:50 a.m. & 12:50, 5:50 p.m., KRVL-FM 94.3 / 6:10 a.m. & 12:50, 5:50 p.m., KRNH-FM 92.3 / 5:31 a.m. & 12:57, 7:35 p.m.
LAMPASAS: KCYL-AM 1450 / 7:10 a.m., KACQ-FM 101.9 / 7:10 a.m.
LAREDO: KHOY-FM 88.1 / 2 p.m. M-F
LEVELLAND: KLVT-AM 1230 / 12:05 p.m.
LUBBOCK: KJTV-AM 950 / 6:50 a.m.
MADISONVILLE: KMVL-AM 1220 / 7:45 a.m., KMVL-FM100.5 / 7:45 a.m.
MARBLE FALLS: KHLB-AM 1340 / 7:20 a.m., KHLB-FM 106.9 / 7:20 a.m.
MARSHALL: KCUL-AM 1410 / 6:39 a.m., KCUL-FM 92.3 / 6:39 a.m.
MCALLEN: KHID-FM 88.1 / 4:58 p.m.
MESQUITE: KEOM-FM 88.5 / 5:30 a.m. & 2:30, 8:30 p.m. M-Th. (5:30 a.m. & 4:45 p.m. Friday)
MEXIA: KYCX-AM 1580 / 3 p.m. M-F, KYCX-FM 104.9 / 3:20 p.m. M-F
MIDLAND/ODESSA: KCRS-AM 550 / 6:15 a.m. & 5:50 p.m., KOCV-FM 91.3 / 7:37 a.m. M-F
MINEOLA: KMOO-FM 99.9 / 5:15 p.m.
MONAHANS: KLBO-AM 1330 / 8:50 a.m.
NACOGDOCHES: KSAU-FM 90.1 / 3 p.m.
NEW BRAUNFELS: KGNB-AM 1420 / 6:52 a.m.
OZONA: KYXX-FM 94.3 / 6:46 a.m., noon & 3:46 p.m.
PECOS: KIUN-AM 1400 / 10:30 a.m. & 5:20 p.m.
PLAINVIEW: KKY-AM 1090 / TBA
ROCKDALE: KRXT-FM 98.5 / 5:04 a.m. & 6:35 p.m.
SAN ANGELO: KUTX-FM 90.1 / 1:04 p.m.
SAN ANTONIO: KSTX-FM 89.1 /

9:04 p.m. Th., KENS-AM 1160 / 7:40 a.m., 12:26 & 5:45 p.m.
SAN AUGUSTINE: KCOT-FM 92.5 / 12:25 p.m.
SEGUIN: KWED-AM 1580 / 7:55 a.m.
SONORA: KHOS-FM 92.1 / 6:22 p.m.
SCHULENBERG: KTXM-FM 99.9 / 6:50 a.m.
STEPHENVILLE: KSTV-FM 93.1 / 5 a.m. - 7 a.m.
SULPHUR SPRINGS: KSST-AM 1230 / 2:50, 3:50 & 11:22 a.m.
TEMPLE: KTEM-AM 1400 / 6:50 a.m.
TEXARKANA: KTXK-FM 91.5 / noon hour
UVALDE: KVOU-AM 1400 / 8:30 a.m., KVOU-FM 104.9 / 8:30 a.m.
VICTORIA: KVRT-FM 90.7 / 11:30 p.m., KTXN-FM 98.7 / 6:50 a.m.
VICTORIA-GANADO: KZAM-FM 104.7 / 6:50 a.m.
WACO: KWTX-AM 1230 / 7:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m. Sat.-Sun.
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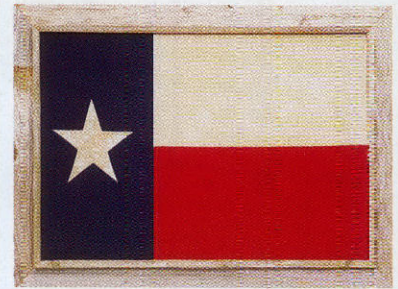
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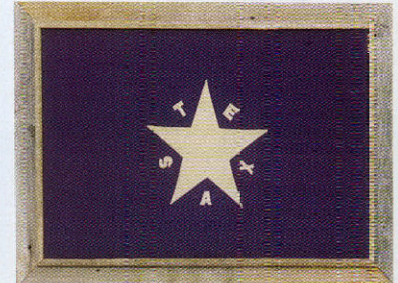
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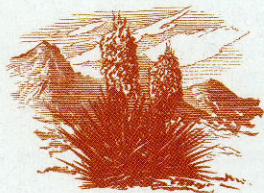
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GETAWAYS

FROM BIG BEND TO THE BIG THICKET AND THE RED TO THE RIO GRANDE



BIG BEND COUNTRY

DEC.: Desert Garden Tours, by request, for groups of six or more, Barton Warnock Environmental Education Center, Terlingua, (915) 424-3327.

DEC.: Bouldering Tours, every Wednesday through Sunday by advance request only, Hueco Tanks SHS, El Paso, (915) 849-6684.

DEC.: Hiking Tours, every Wednesday through Sunday by advance request only, Hueco Tanks SHS, El Paso, (915) 849-6684.

DEC.: Pictograph Tours, every Saturday and Sunday, Hueco Tanks SHS, El Paso, (915) 849-6684.

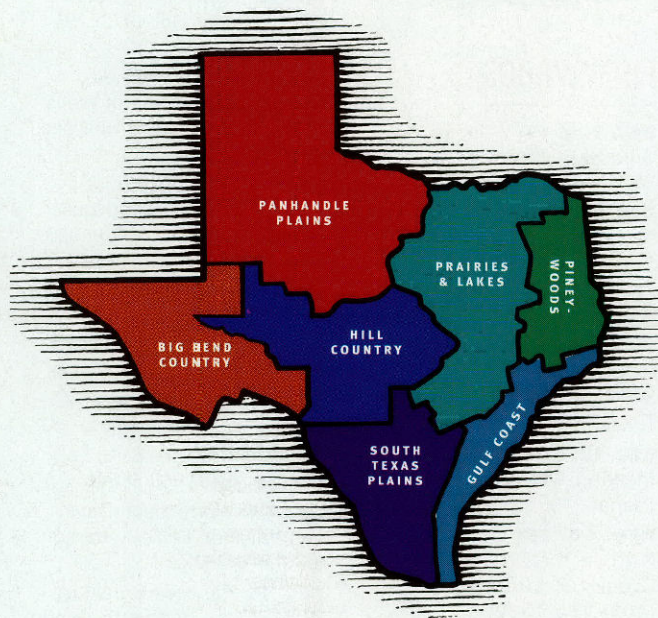
DEC.: Fate Bell Cave Dwelling Tour, every Wednesday through Sunday, Seminole Canyon SP & HS, Comstock, (915) 292-4464.

DEC.: White Shaman Tour, every Saturday, Seminole Canyon SP & HS, Comstock, (888) 525-9907.

DEC. 7, 8, 21, 22: Guided Interpretive Tours, Franklin Mountains SP, El Paso, (915) 566-6441.

DEC. 7, 28: Trip to Madrid Falls, Big Bend Ranch SP, Presidio, (915) 229-3416.

Dec. 8: Christmas Tea, Magoffin Home SHS, El Paso, (915) 533-5147.



DEC. 13-15: Desert Survival, Big Bend Ranch SP, Presidio, (877) 371-2634.

DEC. 14: Christmas on the Border, Barton Warnock Environmental Education Center, Terlingua, (915) 424-3327.

DEC. 14: Birding Tour, Big Bend Ranch SP, Presidio, (915) 229-3416.

DEC. 14: Stories of Spirits, Magoffin Home SHS, El Paso, (915) 533-5147.

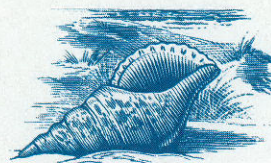
DEC. 15: Bird Identification Tours, Hueco Tanks SHS, El Paso, (915) 849-6684.

DEC. 16-25: Fishing on the Rio Grande, Black Gap WMA, Alpine, (915) 376-2216.

DEC. 19-23: Santa Arrives at Ranger Peak, Wyler Aerial Tramway Frank in Mountains SP, El Paso, (915) 562-9899.

DEC. 21: Guale Mesa Tour, Big Bend Ranch SP, Presidio, (915) 229-3416.

DEC. 21: Posada, Fort Leaton SHS, Presidio, (915) 229-3613.



GULF COAST

DEC.: Weekend Nature Programs from guided hikes to live animal programs, every Saturday and Sunday, Brazos Bend SP, Needville, (979) 553-5101.

DEC.: Hatchery Tours, every Monday through Saturday, Coastal Conservation Association/Central Power and Light Marine Development Center SFH, Corpus Christi, (361) 939-7784.

DEC.: Plantation House, Barn and Grounds Tours, Wednesdays through Sundays, Varner-Hogg Plantation SHS, West Columbia, (979) 345-4656.

DEC.: Aquarium and Hatchery Tours, every Tuesday through Sunday, Sea Center Texas, Lake Jackson, (979) 292-0100.

DEC. 7: Pearl Harbor Ceremony, Battleship Texas SHS, La Porte, (281) 479-2431.

DEC. 7: History Tour, Matagorda Island SP & WMA, Port O'Connor, (361) 983-2215.

DEC. 14: Yuletide TEXAS, Battleship Texas SHS, La Porte, (281) 479-2431.

DEC. 14: Candlelight Christmas Carol, Fulton Mansion SHS, Fulton, (361) 729-0386.

DEC. 19: Intracoastal Whooping Crane Tour, Matagorda Island SP & WMA, Port O'Connor, (361) 983-2215.

DEC. 21: Beachcombing and Shelling Tour, Matagorda Island SP & WMA, Port O'Connor, (361) 983-2215.

DEC. 26: Whooping Crane Bus Tour, Matagorda Island SP & WMA, Port O'Connor, (361) 983-2215.



HILL COUNTRY

DEC.: Birdwatching, daily, Pedernales Falls SP, Johnson City, (830) 868-7304.

DEC. 7: Annual Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration, Admiral Nimitz SHS - National Museum of the Pacific War, Fredericksburg, (830) 997-4379.

DEC. 7: A Timeless Christmas, LBJ National Historical Park, Johnson City, (830) 868-7128, ext. 245.

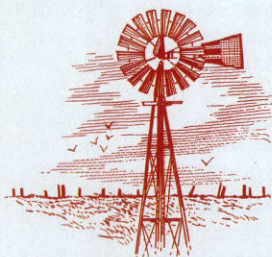
DEC. 7, 11, 14, 18, 21: Christmas Underground featuring caroling, music, food and games, Longhorn Cavern SP, Burnet, (877) 441-2283.

DEC. 15: Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, Lyndon B. Johnson SP & HS, Stonewall, (830) 644-2252.

DEC. 16: Austin Fly Fishers meeting, Austin. (512) 918-1832.

DEC. 21: Enchanted Rock Trail Project Day, Enchanted Rock SNA, Fredericksburg. (512) 445-3862.

DEC. 31: Memorial Walk, Texas Volkssport Association, Fredericksburg, (830) 997-8056.



PANHANDLE PLAINS

DEC.: Trailway Challenge, Caprock Canyons SP & Trailway, Quitaque, (806) 455-1492.

DEC.: Picnic Hike with Llamas, San Angelo SP, San Angelo, (915) 651-7346.

DEC.: The Eyes of Texas: The Lone Star State as Seen by her Artists, Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, Canyon, (806) 651-2244.

DEC. 6-8: Christmas Open House, Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, Canyon, (806) 651-2244.

DEC. 7: Panhandle Stargazing, Palo Duro Canyon SP, Canyon, (806) 488-2227 Ext. 49.

DEC. 14: Christmas in the Canyon, Palo Duro Canyon SP, Canyon, (806) 488-2227 Ext. 49.

DEC. 21: History Hike, Palo Duro Canyon SP, Canyon, (806) 488-2227 Ext. 49.



PINEYWOODS

DEC. 1, 8, 15: Walk on the Wild Side, Martin Dies, Jr. SP, Jasper, (409) 384-5231.

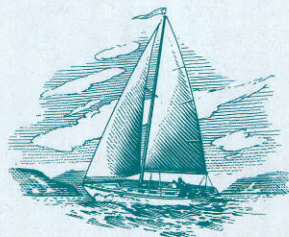
DEC. 6, 20: Nature Slide Program, Village Creek SP, Lumberton, (409) 755-7322.

DEC. 7, 14, 21: Victorian Christmas Train, Texas State Railroad SP, Rusk, (800) 659-3484. (800) 442-8951 outside Texas.

DEC. 12: Friends Group Meeting, Martin Dies, Jr. SP, Jasper, (409) 384-5231.

DEC. 14, 28: Guided Nature Trail Hike, Village Creek SP, Lumberton, (409) 755-7322.

DEC. 21: Floating The Forks, Martin Dies, Jr. SP, Jasper, (409) 384-5231.



PRAIRIES & LAKES

DEC.: Historic and Scenic Tours, Monument Hill & Kreische Brewery SHS, La Grange, (979) 968-5658.

DEC.: Kreische Brewery Tours, every Saturday and Sunday, Monument Hill & Kreische Brewery SHS, LaGrange, (979) 968-5658.

DEC.: Feat of Clay: Texas Pottery and Potters, 1850-1890, Sebastopol House SHS, Seguin, (830) 379-4833.

DEC.: Evenings at the Amphitheater, Stephen F. Austin SP, San Felipe, (979) 885-3613.

DEC. 1, 8: Kreische House Tours, Monument Hill & Kreische Brewery SHS, La Grange, (979) 968-5658.

DEC. 1-6, 9-13, 16-19: Group Christmas Tours, Monument Hill & Kreische Brewery SHS, La Grange, (979) 968-5658.

DEC. 1, 7-8, 15, 21-22, 28-29: Inn Tours, Fanthorp Inn SHS, Anderson, (936) 873-2633.

DEC. 7: Christmas Caroling through Penn Farm, Cedar Hill SP, Cedar Hill, (972) 291-5940.

DEC. 7: Kids' Wilderness Survival, Lake Mineral Wells SP & Trailway, Mineral Wells, (940) 328-1171.

DEC. 7: Christmas Fun for Children, Sebastopol House SHS, Seguin, (830) 379-4833.

DEC. 7: Breakfast with Santa, Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, Athens, (903) 676-BASS.

DEC. 7: A Pioneer Christmas, Independence, (979) 836-3695.

DEC. 7, 14, 20, 21: Trail of Lights, Monument Hill & Kreische Brewery SHS, La Grange, (979) 968-5658.

DEC. 14: Stagecoach Days, Fanthorp Inn SHS, Anderson, (936) 873-2633.

DEC. 14: Pancake Breakfast With Santa, Stephen F. Austin SP, San Felipe, (979) 885-3613.

DEC. 14: Tree Lighting and Hayride, Stephen F. Austin SP, San Felipe, (979) 885-3613.

DEC. 14: Christmas in Historic Chappell Hill, Chappell Hill, (979) 836-5967.

DEC. 14, 21: Candlelight Christmas, Washington-on-the-Brazos SHS, Washington, (936) 878-2214.

DEC. 21: Garden Walk, Texas Discovery Gardens, Fair Park, Dallas, (214) 428-7476.



SOUTH TEXAS PLAINS

DEC.: Kiskadee Birding Tours, every Tuesday and Friday, Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley SP, Mission, (956) 585-1107.

DEC. 6-7: Caroling in the Caverns, Natural Bridge Caverns, (210) 651-6101.

DEC. 7: Christmas at the Mission, Goliad SP, Goliad, (361) 645-3405.

DEC. 7: 14th Annual Pony Express ride between Goliad and San Antonio, Presidio La Bahía, Goliad, (361) 645-3752.

DEC. 7: 19th Century Reenactors Frontier Rendezvous, Presidio La Bahía, Goliad, (361) 645-3752.

DEC. 7: 35th Annual La Bahía Awards Presentation honoring authors/writers of Spanish Colonial Texas History, Presidio La Bahía, Goliad, (361) 645-3752.

DEC. 7: Christmas in Goliad Las Posadas Procession, Presidio La Bahía, Goliad, (361) 645-3752.

DEC. 12: Virgin of Guadalupe Mass, Goliad SP, Goliad, (361) 645-1228.

DEC. 14: Corridos Sin Fronteras Exhibit, Witte Museum, San Antonio, (210) 357-1900.

DEC. 14: Maps, Compass and Orienteering, Government Canyon SNA, San Antonio, (210) 688-9603.

SP	State Park
SHS	State Historical Site
SNA	State Natural Area
WMA	Wildlife Management Area
SFH	State Fish Hatchery



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State Parks Offer Public Hunts

A number of state parks will offer special permit hunting this fall and winter. As in the past, the specially controlled public hunts are scheduled for Monday through Friday, a slow time at most parks during fall and winter. Most parks will be open on Saturdays and Sundays for camping, picnicking and similar activities. The following schedule lists the dates when public access is restricted. Call the park of your choice directly to make sure it will be open on the day you want to visit. Or call Texas Parks and Wildlife's information line, (800) 792-1112, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

DEC. 1-5: Hill Country SNA, Bexare (830) 795-4413

DEC. 1-6: Fairfield Lake SP, Fairfield (903) 389-4E14

DEC. 1-6: Seminole Canyon SP & HS, Comstock (915) 292-4464

DEC. 1-6: Enchanted Rock SNA, Fredericksburg (915) 247-3903

DEC. 2-5: Garner SP, Concan (830) 232-6132

DEC. 2-5: Atlanta SP, Atlanta (903) 796-6476

DEC. 2-6: Brazos Bend SP, Nacerville (979) 553-51C1

DEC. 3-6: Colorado Bend SP, Bend (915) 628-3240

DEC. 7-8: Martin Dies, Jr. SP, Jasper (409) 384-5231

DEC. 7-9: Big Bend Ranch SP, Presidio (915) 229-3416

DEC. 7-22: Cooper Lake SP, South Sulphur Unit, Sulphur Springs (903) 945-5256

DEC. 8-11: Kickapoo Cavern SP, Brackettville (830) 563-2342

DEC. 8-12: Hill Country SNA, Bandera (830) 796-4413

DEC. 8-13: Garner SP, Concan (830) 232-6132

DEC. 8-13: Seminole Canyon SP & HS, Comstock (915) 292-4464

DEC. 9-12: Atlanta SP, Atlanta (903) 796-6476

DEC. 9-12: Lake Bob Sandlin SP, Pittsburg (903) 572-5531

DEC. 9-13: Lake Houston SP, New Caney (281) 354-6881

DEC. 10-12: Big Bend Ranch SP, Presidio (915) 229-3416

DEC. 10-13: Colorado Bend SP, Bend (915) 628-3240

DEC. 11-13: Inks Lake SP, Burnet (512) 793-2223

DEC. 11-13: Longhorn Cavern SP, Burnet (877) 441-2283

DEC. 13-15: Matagorda Island SP & WMA, Port O'Connor (361) 963-2215

DEC. 14: Martin Dies, Jr. SP, Jasper (409) 384-5231

DEC. 15-19: Hill Country SNA, Bandera (830) 796-4413

DEC. 15-20: Fort Boggy SNA, Waco (903) 536-1523

DEC. 15-20: Enchanted Rock SNA, Fredericksburg (915) 247-3903

DEC. 16-19: Atlanta SP, Atlanta (903) 796-6476

DEC. 16-20: Brazos Bend SP, Keedville (979) 553-51C1

DEC. 17-19: Lake Mineral Wells SP & Trailway, Mineral Wells (940) 328-1171

DEC. 17-20: Colorado Bend SP, Bend (915) 628-3240

DEC. 18-20: Inks Lake SP, Burnet (512) 793-2223

DEC. 18-20: Longhorn Cavern SP, Burnet (877) 441-2283

DEC. 20-23: Lake Somerville SP & Trailway/Birch Creek Unit,

Somerville. Trailway only. (979) 535-7763

DEC. 20-23: Lake Somerville SP & Trailway/Nails Creek Unit, Ledbetter Trailway only. (979) 289-2392

DEC. 25-27: Colorado Bend SP, Bend (915) 628-3240

DEC. 26-27: Possum Kingdom SP, Caddo (940) 549-1803

DEC. 30-31: Possum Kingdom SP, Caddo (940) 549-1803

DEC. 30-JAN. 1: Huntsville SP, Huntsville (936) 295-5644

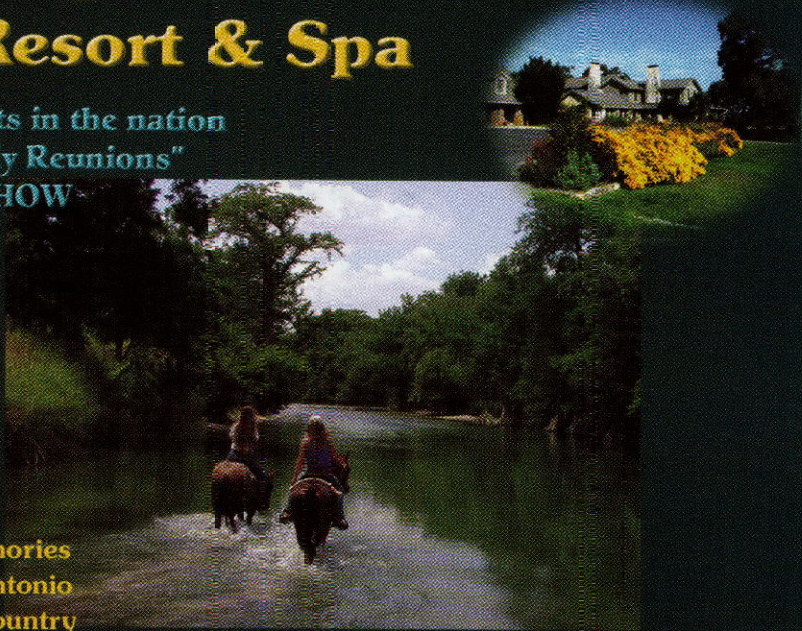
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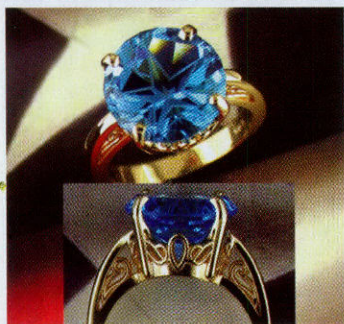
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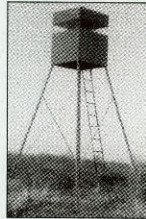
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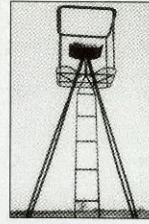
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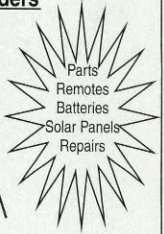
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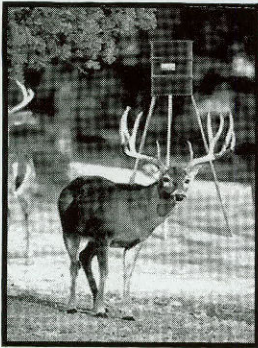


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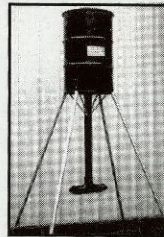
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This magazine celebrated its 10th anniversary in December 1952 with a front cover featuring a cover from each year. *Texas Game and Fish* changed its name to *Texas Parks & Wildlife* in 1965, following the merger of the Texas Game and Fish Commission and the Texas State Parks Board into the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.



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