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PARKS & WILDLIFE

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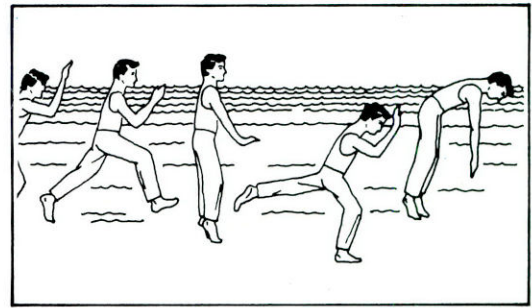
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magazine**

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of Texas fish, game, parks, waters and all
outdoors.

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Front Cover: Those hours of preseason practice with the call are all worthwhile when you successfully lure ducks into range on opening day. Photo by Martin T. Fulfer.

Inside Front: Easily identified by its black bill and yellow feet, the snowy egret wanders widely throughout the state and winters near the coast. Photo by Frank Aguilar.



A Wasteful Issue

*While hunter and non-hunter argue,
wildlife habitat is being destroyed.*



by Ed Kozicky and John Madson

Today's surge of anti-hunting sentiment is nothing new; in one form or another, it has existed in this country for a long time.

Reasons for anti-hunting feeling have varied over the years. Sporthunting was once regarded as the idle pursuit of such ne'er-do-wells as Rip Van Winkle, and the only acceptable sporthunters were the well-to-do. By the early 1930s, with game supplies at a low ebb and modern conservation just getting underway, there was widespread sentiment against hunting and it was felt that it was only a matter of time before it ceased to exist as a sport. However, the Great Depression gave people other things to think about, and also temporarily changed hunting from a sport to a necessity. It put food on the table.

As the Depression eased, World War II focused attention on matters other than hunting. But then came Korea and Vietnam — long, bloody holding actions that wearied the public of killing and provided new reasons for opposing recreational hunting.

At the same time, the period after World War II saw a shift from a rural to an urban-oriented society. Hunting is basically a rural art, and Americans were growing away from their rural traditions. How many people today have ever helped their fathers butcher hogs, cattle or chickens for family use? As we became more urbanized we abandoned homey skills and the traditions of those skills. To millions of Americans today, the rural art of hunting is as obsolete as the quilting bee.

Then came the miracle age of elec-

tronics. The outdoors could be brought into the living room through a picture tube, and Disney film productions lost little time in doing so. A vast Sunday evening audience was riveted to the Disney versions of wildlife. Starting with a proven formula for success — the humanization of wildlife with such cartoon characters as Bambi — the Disney studios went on to depict Mother Nature as a kind old grandma who provides a peaceful and idyllic existence for her charges. Little mention was made of nature's stern realities — of the survival of the fittest, the constant struggle for food and cover, and the rule of fang and claw. Many viewers began to feel that wild animals live in perpetual harmony in enchanted forests, a vision of freedom, peace and beauty that was missing from their own lives. In their new-found love of wildlife — whether real or imagined — they could not bear the thought of those wild creatures being hunted or trapped.

Others, having considered the matter a little deeper, confused conservation with preservation. Since they recognize wildlife conservation as something "good," they feel that killing wildlife must surely be "bad." They have never quite understood that wildlife conservation and the modern hunter are inseparable, nor that preservation is only a minor element of conservation.

We professional game managers have been partly at fault. During the growing interest in wildlife, we gave the public little or nothing to do to benefit wildlife. We have given them no direct action programs of their own, and the wildlife-loving public has longed for direct personal action. Consider the

booming industry in songbird feeders and foods during the past ten years. But this wasn't enough. Some people, denied a positive role in wildlife conservation, began to champion a negative cause: anti-hunting. It is a natural cause to champion — spectacular, righteous and certainly inflammatory and easily understood. These same elements were found in the early action taken by sportsmen, who attempted to increase game supplies with such obvious approaches as predator control, game farms and indiscriminate stocking. Real progress wasn't made until emotional guesswork gave way to professional game management, and the real problem emerged: the need for adequate habitat.

Emotion is a prime ingredient in any crusade, but if real progress is to be made, common sense must prevail and lasting solutions must be based on facts, not emotion. Anti-hunters are still in the first stage, with demagogues playing on emotion and prejudice in an effort to gain a following. For example, Cleveland Amory,¹ whose most notable contribution has been advocacy of a "Hunt the Hunters Hunt Club" — the main ground rule of which is not to shoot a hunter within the city limits. Can such sick humor lead to reasonable solutions of social problems? Certainly not — it only adds fuel to the emotional fires on both sides. Yet, this self-styled "conservation expert" has found an opportune time to sell books and exploit TV talk shows even though he has no real field experience of any kind, nor any background in resource management. Such a person angers the dedicated hunter, and widens the gulf of

misunderstanding between the hunter and the non-hunting nature lover.

It appears to us that the greatest gap between hunter and anti-hunter exists at the lowest levels of outdoor experience, knowledge and perception. The greater the lack of real outdoor mileage and perception, the greater this gap between hunter and anti-hunter.

The gap narrows as outdoor experience and understanding of nature increases, and the deeply involved hunter and the deeply involved naturalist may merge until they are indistinguishable. As he matures, the ideal sportsman is a balanced blend of hunter, naturalist and conservationist. He's a man with many polished outdoor skills and abilities, and whose affection and knowledge of nature are matched by his efforts to conserve it. The same can be true of the non-hunting outdoorsman. We know skilled and experienced naturalists who have never hunted, but none of these are vociferous anti-hunters.

Still, such people are likely to wonder why men hunt at all. Many hunters wonder, too.

Some of the best answers have come from the eminent Spanish philosopher, Jose Ortega y Gasset,² who was intrigued by hunting as a basic human pursuit that is as profound as it is universal. As a philosopher, he felt that the needs of living men are shaped by a pre-history that is still urgent within them; he believed that essential human nature is inseparable from the hunting and killing of animals, and that from this comes the most advanced aspects of human behavior.

If we really try to understand our urge to hunt animals, we will find issues in favor of it. Among these, Senor Ortega y Gasset believed, is the fact that hunting is one of the pure forms of human happiness. It is a diversion in the most exact sense — a recapitulation of our racial youth, a return to fundamentals that we instinctively feel are free, basic and right. For 99 percent of our racial life we have been hunters, and the little time frame in which we now exist seeks to deny us the freedom in environment that made us what we are. No wonder we would rather hunt pheasants than shuffle papers in the office.

One of the great points in favor of hunting is that it's a classic exercise in freedom. For many men, it is the truest, most personal exercise in freedom that is available today — and we support wildlife populations not just so we will have something to kill, but in order to have a reason to hunt. As Ortega puts it: "One does not hunt in order to kill; on the contrary, one kills in order to have

hunted." Put another way we do not hunt for the joy of killing, but for the joy of living.

Our critics piously tell us that it is not necessary to kill to enjoy wildlife. Of course it isn't. Genuine hunters know that as well as any man — and certainly better than most. We're frequently told that the camera is a greater challenge than the gun, and that wildlife photography is a demanding pursuit that's worth all the study and effort that you can give it. But although wildlife photography is a special end in itself, it is not hunting in the real sense, and can never be. Ortega y Gasset believed that "camera hunting" for wildlife, in its most offensive form, "represents the maximum tradition of affected piety" — and suggested that wildlife photography relates to hunting as platonic love relates to the real thing. Each has special values, but neither can be wholly substituted for the other.

There is no real substitute for hunting — even though many of us could have a full life without ever killing another animal, and find plenty to do outdoors without shooting and killing. But without hunting, the salt would go out of autumn and life would take on a passive tameness.

We are told that man is ethical only when he does not kill, and that we should curb our instincts in the cause of reason and humanity, and stop killing animals. Yet, all of us know that it is the carefully reasoned "humanizing" of our planet that is doing the most deadly damage to wildlife. Genuine hunting, done ethically, is based on giving advantage to the animal in many ways. Humanization of our natural world, on the other hand, tends to ultimately disadvantage everything that is not human. The real hunter, seeking freedom in a return to Nature as it really is, does far less damage to wildlife than the modern man who seeks to bend nature to his own ends.

The moral question of hunting or not hunting is locked in an impasse. The anti-hunter cannot understand how someone can love and kill game at the same time, nor why anyone would enjoy hunting. It is a paradox beyond his comprehension, and the hunter is rarely able to explain his actions in a lucid and rational way. Each extreme involves personal emotions that are difficult to convey to the other. But while the modern sporthunter may be unable to explain his actions to the satisfaction of the anti-hunter, should it really be necessary to do so? The prime consideration should never be whether it is morally "right" or "wrong" to kill animals,

but whether or not the act of hunting jeopardizes the existence of the hunted species. And with that consideration, the act of modern sporthunting is not "wrong."

From early history, the hunter concerned himself with welfare of game, and developed certain traditions, laws and ethics that govern the taking of game. It is the hunter who willingly spends money in the form of licenses and special taxes to support game management. It was a hunter who saw the need for biological facts and principles by which to manage game — Aldo Leopold. It was a hunter who promoted ways to finance the biological research need to manage game — "Ding" Darling.

In his brilliant book *Game Management*,³ Aldo Leopold wrote:

"Hunting for sport is an improvement over hunting for food, in that there has been added to the test of skill an ethical code, which the hunter formulates for himself, and must live up to without the moral support of bystanders. That the code of one hunter is more advanced than that of another is merely proof that the process of sublimation, in this as in other atavisms, is still advancing.

"The hope is sometimes expressed that all these instincts will be 'outgrown.' This attitude seems to overlook the fact that the resulting vacuum will fill up with something, and not necessarily something better. It somehow overlooks the biological basis of human nature — the difference between historical and evolutionary time scales. We can refine our manner of exercising the hunting instinct, but we shall do well to persist as a species at the end of the time it would take to outgrow it."

Since modern game management has been established, with hunting based on biological surpluses of wildlife, no game species in North America has been severely depleted by sporthunting and many species have been brought from scarcity to abundance — antelope, wild turkey, deer, elk and others. Revenues from sporthunting have also helped preserve wildlife habitat for the benefit of not only game, but for many non-game wildlife species.

The current wave of anti-hunting emotion will eventually spend itself, only to be renewed by future zealots. It's a pity that there is always a faction seeking to force its morality on another. If one doesn't like hunting, then one shouldn't hunt. But attempts to impose personal anti-hunting attitudes on others can only lead to bitter controversy and recrimination in which neither side really wins and wildlife is



almost certain to lose. The time and effort spent in this conflict of hunter vs. anti-hunter would be far better spent in furthering positive conservation efforts. Our greatest objection to the anti-hunting movement does not lie in any threat to sport hunting, but in the wasted time and effort that it entails.

Wildlife's greatest problem today is not controlled hunting, but uncontrolled use of environment. With an expanding world population and our commitments to feed other nations, with our problems of balance of trade and imported energy and trends to monoculture in agriculture and forestry, what of our wildlife resources? The developers, drainers, channelizers, polluters, dam-builders, and agri-businessmen are busy, and wildlife gets many promises but few benefits. There is no shortage of problems confronting wildlife. On midwestern and southern floodplains, hardwood forests are being sacrificed on the altar of \$12 soybeans. The Cache River drainage in northeastern Arkansas is a grim example of this —

and the main defender of that irreplaceable waterfowl habitat is Dr. Rex Hancock of Stuttgart, who happens to be a duck hunter. The Garrison Diversion Project in North Dakota is another example, as is the South's pine forest monoculture that has been labelled "The Third Forest." All over the United States, quality wildlife habitat is being drained, cut, tamed, stripped and reshaped to make more money. The need for hunter and non-hunter to work together was never more important — and the chance to do so has never been better.

One of the commonest complaints of the virulent anti-hunter is that wildlife conservation is in the grip of hunting interests and that the non-hunter has no voice in wildlife management. And here again, we are wasting our potential.

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 skilled manpower is available, and the time is ripe for important new management programs — particularly programs for non-game wildlife species.

Millions are spent each year for the management of game species, but practically nothing is spent on the "poor relations" — the non-game wildlife. These are no less worthy of concern. We must broaden wildlife conservation to include all species of wildlife, and not just the favored few. Conservation of non-game wildlife has special meaning because it is everyday wildlife; it includes species that are adaptable to cities and suburbs if given half a chance, and which can be enjoyed by millions who never have the chance to spend time in forest, fields and marshes.

It is not reasonable to expect hunters to support the management of both

game and non-game; although they provide millions of dollars for wildlife conservation, it is hardly enough, and our national wildlife is only getting half the attention that it deserves. Non-game wildlife management is an ideal course for non-hunters who are aching to do something but do not choose to support game species that will be hunted.

There's no good reason why action can't be taken. Most game management and research techniques can apply to non-game wildlife, and there is a whole new generation of trained, dedicated wildlifers anxious to find jobs in their chosen work. What is needed, obviously, is enabling legislation and funding. In a Winchester-Western booklet

"A Law for Wildlife"⁴ we have discussed various ways to fund non-game wildlife programs.

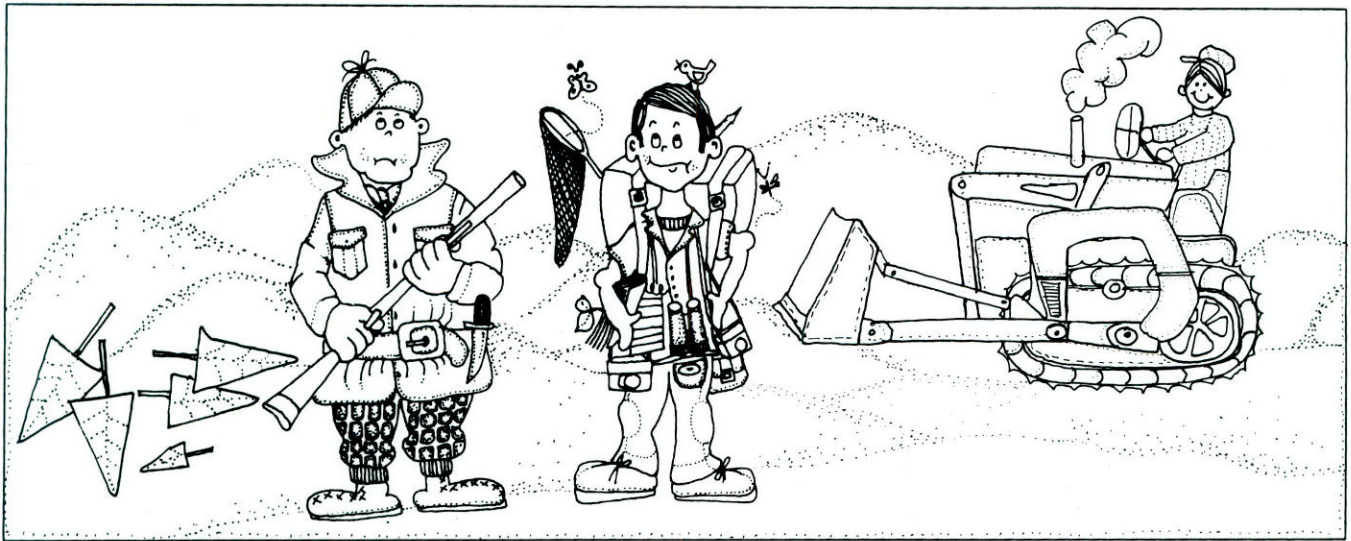
Instead of wasting our efforts on the propriety of hunting — which is something like the old theological debate over how many angels can stand on the head of a pin — we should be working together with all types of wildlife and joining forces against the despoilers of natural environments. There's no better way of putting this than by paraphrasing one of Aldo Leopold's closing comments in *Game Management*³:

There is, in short, a fundamental unity of purpose and method between hunters and anti-hunters. Their common task of teaching the public how to

modify economic activities for conservation purposes is of infinitely greater importance, and difficulty, than their current differences of opinion over hunting. Unless and until the common task of wildlife conservation is accomplished, the question of hunting is in the long run irrelevant. **

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Texas' Toughest Gamebird

Outwitting Old Tom Turkey is no easy task,
so don't get down the roasting pan too soon.

Leroy Williamson



To most turkey hunters, there's no need to explain that the wild turkey is undoubtedly one of the wariest and craftiest of game creatures to bag.

Old Tom Turkey just isn't about to give you anything but the most difficult shot — that is, if you've been patient enough or good enough at stalking to get within shooting range.

Each year, thousands of Texans try their hand at outwitting the wise old bird. In a good year about one out of four hunters is successful, although it takes about 10 hunter days on the average to bag a turkey.

Since deer and turkey seasons run concurrently in the fall, a high percentage of turkey are bagged by hunters who are out for either deer or turkey, whichever comes to the gun first. Over one-half of the turkey harvest occurs in the Edwards Plateau, which also hosts a majority of deer hunters.

Turkey populations fluctuate according to the quality of their habitat. Drought probably affects Texas turkey more than any other factor, since nesting conditions must be right in April, May and June for a good hatch and brood survival. Turkey hens are not prone to renest if their first attempt is unsuccessful.

Hunting has the least effect on turkey populations, since less than 10 percent of the population is harvested annually. But there is no doubt that the *aficionado* who bags a turkey is one proud hunter.

Although special experimental spring seasons have been held in selected counties since 1970, the regular turkey season has run concurrently with deer season since 1927. During this fall period, the birds are flocked together on their winter range, and most gob-



The hunter who bags a wild turkey can be proud of his skill as only one out of four hunters is successful in a good year.

blers are bagged by the concealed hunter.

In 1974, some 98,900 turkey hunters bagged 15,800 birds during a fall season abundant with foods for turkey. The previous year when food was not as abundant 102,000 hunters harvested 36,000 birds. Fluctuations in harvest numbers are associated more with food supply than total numbers of turkey available because when food is scarce, the turkey must move around more and, thus, come into contact with more hunters.

Turkey hunting methods range from still-hunting in blinds to cruise-hunting in vehicles. However, most turkey are killed from blinds or deer stands.

Since a majority of turkey are killed by deer hunters, a few precautions should be taken when shooting turkey with a high-powered cartridge such as a .270 or .30-06. The shooter should aim for the highest parts of the bird. The resulting hit will not destroy the breast meat, but will anchor the bird instantly. A hit at that point where the wings attach to the body is excellent. A going-away or head-on shot should also be aimed for the upper one-third of the body. Many hunters assume that a small caliber cartridge such as the .222 is a good bet for turkey. With factory soft point ammo, it will devastate a turkey to the point of uselessness. Those who use small, high-speed cartridges should by all means use solid jacket, nonexpanding bullets.

Where shooting range is less than 50 yards, shot-guns can be very effective in turkey hunting. As a rule,

12-gauge guns with full or modified chokes should be used. Shot size preference will surely start an argument, but most successful hunters use 4's or 6's in high velocity or magnum load. Hunters shooting from blinds near turkey feeding areas have more chance at a head shot when 6's are used in a full-choked barrel. Regardless of whether a gobbler is standing still or running, the scattergunner should always aim for the head. A large bird can take several pellets in the body and still manage to elude the hunter. Hunters should keep a close eye on birds which have taken a solid hit. A mortally wounded gobbler will often manage to get into brush or weeds and hide.

Best hunting areas in Texas will vary by choice, but success is greatest in the Edwards Plateau. The eastern counties of the South Texas Plains would be the next best choice, with the lower counties of the Rolling Plains being third in birds harvested.

This coming fall season promises to be a good one for turkey. Hen-poult counts made this summer by department biologists indicate a good hatch. If range conditions and other factors continue to favor turkey, hunters should see a good increase over last year.

But if you are a first-time turkey hunter, don't get the roaster pan down from the shelf too soon. You may find that (to coin a phrase) at least half of the old gobblers have been hunter-educated, and the other 50 percent are just plain smart. **

PHOTO AND ART CREDITS

Front Cover — Martin T. Fulfer; Nikon F with motordrive, 80-200mm Nikkor Zoom; Kodachrome X.

Inside Front — Frank Aguilar; Nikon F with motordrive, 500mm Mirror Nikkor; Kodachrome 64.

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Page 16 (top) — Whitcomb; Nikon F2, 24mm Nikkor; Kodachrome 25. — (bottom left) — Reagan Bradshaw; Hasselblad, 80mm Zeiss Planar; Ektachrome X. — (bottom right) — Bradshaw; Hasselblad, 80mm Zeiss Planar; Ektachrome X.

Page 18 (top) — John Suhrstedt; Hasselblad, 80mm Zeiss Planar; Ektachrome X. — (bottom) — Bill Duncan; Hasselblad, 80mm Zeiss Planar; Ektachrome X.

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LONG SHOTS SHORT CASTS

compiled by Neal Cook

Snow Goose Comeback: Greater snow geese, which winter only along the Middle Atlantic Coast, have been protected from hunting since 1931 when there were only about 7,000 birds. Thanks to favorable breeding ground conditions, the biological factors influencing production and the understanding and support of hunters during the decades of closed seasons, the fall flight of the birds should approach 200,000 birds. This year a closely monitored season will allow some of the birds to be taken by hunting, but the season will be closed again if production should be less than expected or hunting pressure more than anticipated.

Migration Mysteries: Today aerial photography and ground surveys allow close monitoring of bird populations and migration patterns, but in the past mankind has had different explanations of bird migrations. Aristotle taught his students that birds slept under the mud in the marshes during the winter, and Cotton Mather, a 17th century New England minister, proclaimed that "The wild pigeons on leaving us repair to some undiscovered satellite accompanying the earth at a near distance."

Mariculture Report: In the September Texas Parks & Wildlife magazine the program for propagating saltwater fish was discussed. At that time limited success had been made with spawning redfish under controlled lighting and temperature conditions which kept the fish in breeding condition year round. In late August and September the redfish, kept in a perpetual fall season, began spawning and within six weeks four males and three females spawned 30 times to produce more than 50 million fertilized eggs. This breakthrough in fish-culture techniques may be the dawning of a new day for freshwater fishermen. The fish will be stocked in lakes to fill the void created by the construction of large, deep-water reservoirs in a state that has no game fish which utilize the large forage and rough fish. In earlier stockings in Long Lake near Austin, inch-long flounder were put in last February and in August a 13-inch flounder weighing over a pound was taken — fantastic growth for a delicious sporty fish.

Bats Are Beautiful: Maybe not really beautiful, but bats are at least extremely interesting. They are the only true flying mammals, and their appetites for insects make them handy to have around. During winter the little animals are in a period of stress because of diminished food supplies and they roost in tight groups for warmth. Any disturbance makes them susceptible to starvation or freezing because they must burn up valuable energy needlessly. If you should find a concentration of bats, leave them alone, undisturbed, so they can make it through the winter.

No Aggregate Limits: All of the daily bag limits on game animals are for individual hunters, not parties of hunters. Keep your birds or game mammals separated so you will know when you reach your limit. Don't take 1½ limits if your hunting companion is able to only take half a limit.

REMEMBER THE 10 COMMANDMENTS OF SHOOTING SAFETY

1. Treat every gun with the respect due a loaded gun. This is the cardinal rule of gun safety.
2. Guns carried into camp or home must always be unloaded, taken down or have actions open; guns always should be encased until reaching the shooting area.
3. Always be sure that the barrel and action are clear of obstructions.
4. Always carry your gun so that you can control the direction of the muzzle, even if you stumble. Keep the safety on until you are ready to shoot.
5. Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger.
6. Never point a gun at anything you do not want to shoot.
7. Unattended guns should be unloaded; guns and ammunition should be stored safely beyond reach of children and careless adults.
8. Never climb a tree or a fence with a loaded gun.
9. Never shoot at a flat, hard surface or the surface of water.
10. Do not mix gunpowder and alcohol.

Know Your Warden

Your local game warden is the person to contact whenever you have a question concerning the game laws which apply to your own particular county or the county in which you hunt or fish. He is also the one to call if you observe a violation of either a game or fish law. Reporting these violations to him does not make you a "snitch." That illegal hunter or fisherman is actually stealing your wildlife, and by reporting him you are merely protecting what belongs to you.

Our law enforcement personnel are located throughout the state but, since many hunters and landowners do not know who their local wardens are or how to contact them, we are publishing this directory of their names, addresses and telephone numbers. Counties are grouped by regions and arranged alphabetically. Consult the map to find the region for your county.

If you live in the Austin or Houston areas, please contact the 24-hour Central Dispatching Offices in these cities so that they may contact the wardens on duty at the time. The Houston number, AC/713-941-8926, covers the area from about Victoria to Beaumont. The Austin number, AC/512-475-6142, covers a circular area around Austin consisting of about 25 counties. By contacting these dispatching offices, you will not disturb off-duty wardens in their homes. No collect calls will be accepted.

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HUDSPETH COUNTY

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Ft. Hancock 79839 AC 915-769-3864

IRION COUNTY

Jerry Hearn, 2657 Colorado
San Angelo 76901 AC 915-949-6992
Jerry Peiser, 2526 Culver
San Angelo 76901 AC 915-944-1756

JEFF DAVIS COUNTY

Harvey Adams, Box 235
Ft. Davis 79734 AC 915-426-3273

LOVING COUNTY

Harvey Schoen, 1611 Morris
Pecos 79772 AC 915-445-3649

MIDLAND COUNTY

Claude Caudle, 2006 W. Ohio
Midland 79701 AC 915-694-1885
Homer Crosby, Box 4292
Midland 79701 AC 915-684-6552

PECOS COUNTY

Jim Reed, Box 1865
Ft. Stockton 79735 AC 915-336-3743
Brent Johnson, 1909 N. Young
Ft. Stockton 79735 AC 915-366-3209

PRESIDIO COUNTY

Sherman Bales, Box 1243
Marfa 79843 AC 915-729-4669
Walter Rinehart, Box 722
Marfa 79843 AC 915-729-4900

REAGAN COUNTY

William Rice, Box 274
Big Lake 76932 AC 915-884-2286

REEVES COUNTY

Harvey Schoen, 1611 Morris
Pecos 79772 AC 915-445-3649

RUNNELS COUNTY

Robert Wood, Box 107
Ballinger 76821 AC 915-365-3027

SCHLEICHER COUNTY

Mike Porter, Box 295
Eldorado 76936 AC 915-853-2795

STERLING COUNTY

Wayne Posey, Box 411
Sterling City 76951 AC 915-378-2891

TERRELL COUNTY

Harvey Williams, Box 337
Sanderson 79848 AC 915-345-2684

TOM GREEN COUNTY

Jerry Hearn, 2657 Colorado
San Angelo 76901 AC 915-949-6992
Jerry Peiser, 2526 Culver
San Angelo 76901 AC 915-944-1756

UPTON COUNTY

Claude Caudle, 2006 W. Ohio
Midland 79701 AC 915-694-1885
Homer Crosby, Box 4292
Midland 79701 AC 915-684-6552

VAL VERDE COUNTY

David Allen, 815 W. 9th
Del Rio 78840 AC 512-775-6670
George Connelly, 107 Alta Vista
Del Rio 78840 AC 512-775-5998
Alan Masloff, 201 Crestline Drive
Del Rio 78840 AC 512-775-8303
Jesse Ortiz, 1402 Avenue D
Del Rio 78840 AC 512-775-1013

WARD COUNTY

Gary Mitchell, 2206 E. 14th
Odessa 79761 AC 915-366-2109

WINKLER COUNTY

Gary Mitchell, 2206 E. 14th
Odessa 79761 AC 915-366-2109

Region II

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR REGION II

Charles J. Hensley,
100 N. University, Rm. 219
Fort Worth 76107 AC 817-336-5171

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT I

Douglas Fisk, 1318 Morning Side
Graham 76046 AC 817-549-0987

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT II

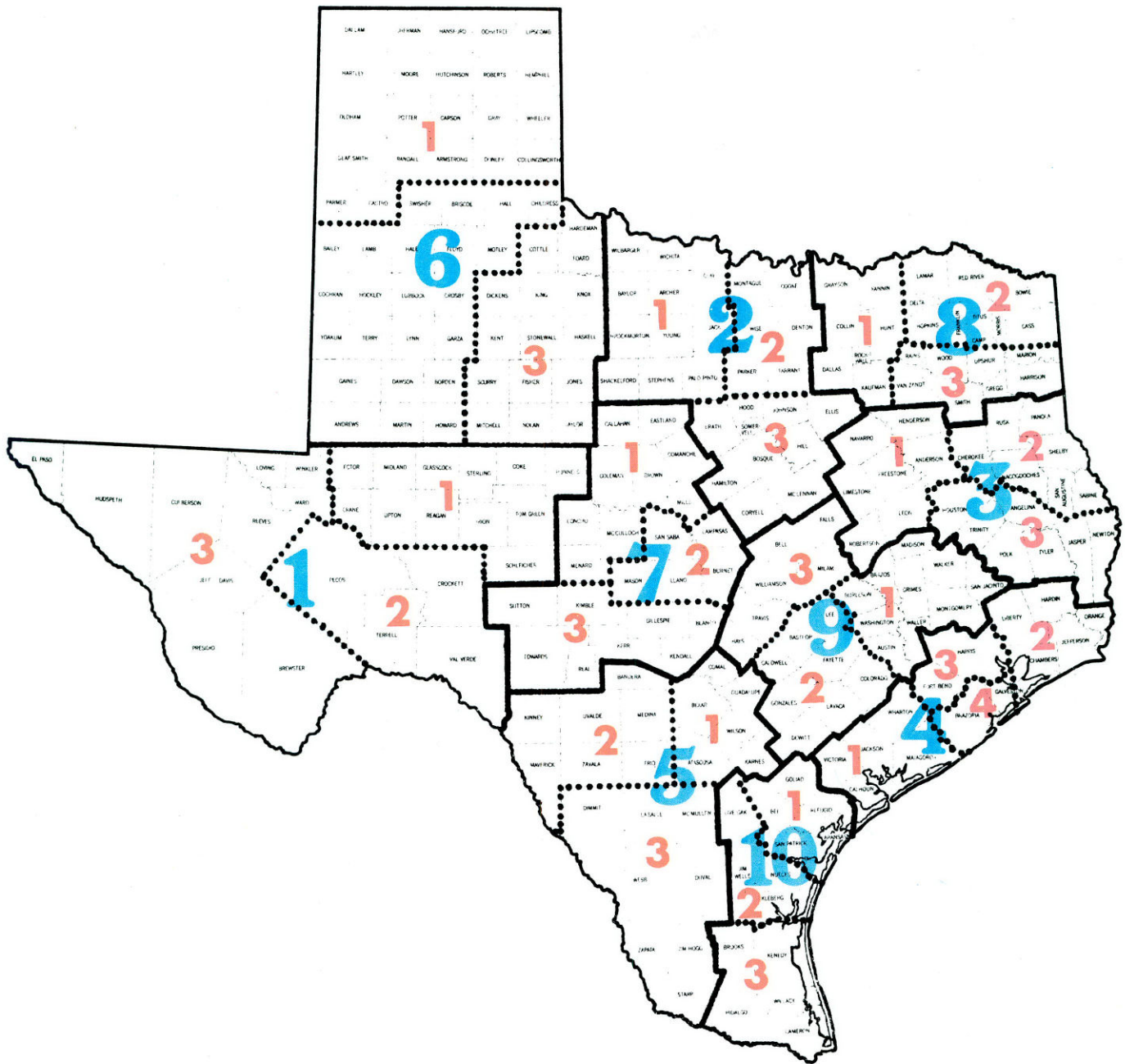
Joe B. Brower, 6221 Kenwick
Fort Worth 76116 AC 817-731-1485

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT III

Charley D. Hughes, Route 4
Grandview 76050 AC 817-866-2233

ARCHER COUNTY

William B. Evans, 602 S. Center
Archer City 76351 AC 817-574-4374



BAYLOR COUNTY
 Lowell Rozell, 705 Reeves Rd.
 Seymour 76380 AC 817-888-3859

BOSQUE COUNTY
 Joe F. Cannon, P.O. Box 155
 Meridian 76665 AC 817-435-2921
 W. D. Henry, Rt. 1
 Valley Mills 76689 AC 817-945-3263

CLAY COUNTY
 James M. Hale, 605 Rosalee
 Henrietta 76365 AC 817-538-5385

COOKE COUNTY
 M. B. Hopkins, P.O. Box 72
 Gainesville 76240 AC 817-665-4219

CORYELL COUNTY
 Jerry D. Noles, Pearl Star Route
 Gatesville 76528 AC 817-865-6352

DENTON COUNTY
 C. H. Johnson, Courthouse Annex
 Denton 76201 AC 817-387-5352
 Guy Welch, Courthouse Annex
 Denton 76201 AC 817-385-2934

ELLIS COUNTY
 Charles W. Vest, Box 655
 Waxahachie 75165 AC 214-937-2184

ERATH COUNTY
 Jay W. Pemberton, Box 165
 Stephenville 76401 AC 817-968-3673

HAMILTON COUNTY
 Gene DeLoach, 500 N. Rice
 Hamilton 76531 AC 817-386-5812

HILL COUNTY
 Don W. Jackson, Box 846
 Whitney 76692 AC 817-694-2992

HOOD COUNTY
 William A. Hardin, P.O. Box 384
 Granbury 76048 AC 817-573-1878

JACK COUNTY
 J.C. Romines, P.O. Box 75
 Jacksboro 76056 AC 817-567-3458

JOHNSON COUNTY
 Glen Collins, Rt. 4 Box 1595
 Cleburne 76031 AC 817-645-0411

MCLENNAN COUNTY
 Ernest C. Bauman, 1601 E. Crest
 Waco 76705 AC 817-756-2903
 Weldon Tipton, P.O. Box 627
 Crawford 76638 AC 817-799-3405

MONTAGUE COUNTY
 James H. McCash, P.O. Box 29
 Bowie 76230 AC 817-872-3544

PALO PINTO COUNTY

Johnnie Muery, Rt. 2 Box 227
 Mineral Wells 76067 AC 817-325-3786
 Forrest E. Shoop III, St. Route, Box 119A
 Graford 76045 AC 817-779-3631

PARKER COUNTY

Glen Crooks, County Courthouse
 Weatherford 76086 AC 817-594-7720

SHACKELFORD COUNTY

Sammy J. Rippey, Box 989
 Albany 76430 AC 817-762-3459

STEPHENS COUNTY

R. E. Corley, Box 430
 Breckenridge 76024 AC 817-599-3907

TARRANT COUNTY

Ray McDonald, 1524 S. Oak St., Apt. 201M
 Arlington 76010 AC 817-460-8628
 Larry Osborne, 113 Julie
 Crowley 76036 AC 817-297-4431
 Carlos Vacca, 439 Isbell Rd.
 Fort Worth 76107 AC 817-732-5952

WICHITA COUNTY

Danny W. Clack, 100 Fre-Mar Valley
 Wichita Falls 76301 AC 817-855-0564
 M. E. Stallcup, 100 Fre-Mar Valley
 Wichita Falls 76301 AC 817-692-6486

WILBARGER COUNTY

Ronnie Jones, 3627 Pease St.
 Vernon 76384 AC 817-553-3483

WISE COUNTY

Ronnie Brooks, Box 63
 Decatur 76234 AC 817-627-2480

YOUNG COUNTY

David B. Hancock, P.O. Box 981
 Graham 76046 AC 817-549-2198

Region III**LAW ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR REGION III**

Jack Tisdale, 314 S. Main
 Jacksonville 75766 AC 214-586-3561

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT I

John Gerganess, Box 348
 Corsicana 75110 AC 214-872-4444

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT II

Jerry McRae, Box 513
 Rusk 75785 AC 214-683-5081

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT III

J. B. Weaver, Box 266
 Lufkin 75901 AC 713-632-1311

ANDERSON COUNTY

Bert Cade, 205 Inwood Dr.
 Palestine 75801 AC 214-729-6403
 Ed Baker, Rt. 7 Box 309
 Palestine 75801 AC 214-729-5014

ANGELINA COUNTY

Jerry Herron, 102 Westwood Pl.
 Lufkin 75901 AC 713-824-2437
 Walter Kirby, 209 Joyce Lane
 Lufkin 75901 AC 713-634-3641

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Don Currie, Box 449
 Wells 75976 AC 713-867-4272
 Welby Fountain, Route 4
 Rusk 75785 AC 214-683-5963

FREESTONE COUNTY

J. R. Goff, Rt. 3 Box 394B
 Fairfield 75840 AC 214-389-2950

HENDERSON COUNTY

Mark Davis, Box 1542
 Athens 75751 AC 214-675-5208
 Tom Browning, 105 Mary Beth
 Athens 75751 AC 214-675-2856

HOUSTON COUNTY

Allen Hightower, 110 E. Houston
 Crockett 75835 AC 713-544-8124
 David Sinclair, 110 E. Houston
 Crockett 75835 AC 713-544-8649

JASPER COUNTY

Billy Platt, Box 625
 Jasper 75951 AC 713-384-2698
 Raymond Kosub, Box 371
 Kirbyville 75956 AC 713-423-3456

LEON COUNTY

James Clark, Box 61
 Centerville 75833 AC 214-536-2269
 Gerry Broadhead, Rt. 1 Box 96
 Buffalo 75831 AC 214-322-4656

LIMESTONE COUNTY

I.W. Alewine, Rt. 3 Box 246C
 Groesbeck 76642 AC 817-729-3635

NACOGDOCHES COUNTY

Tommy Smith, 3316 Lake Forrest Dr.
 Nacogdoches 75961 AC 713-564-5634
 J.K. Wood, Box 1661
 Nacogdoches 75961 AC 713-569-8378

NAVARRO COUNTY

E.E. Skeide, Jr., 213 Gladstone
 Corsicana 75110 AC 214-872-5297

NEWTON COUNTY

Jack Chancey, Box 672
 Newton 75966 AC 713-379-4336
 Larry Benge, Box 737
 Newton 75966 AC 713-379-5268

PANOLA COUNTY

W. B. Decker, 604 N. St. Mary
 Carthage 75633 AC 214-693-3792
 W.A. Milling, Box 675
 Carthage 75633 AC 214-693-3188

POLK COUNTY

Robert Hall, Box 1268
 Livingston 77351 AC 713-327-7187
 Kenneth Hambrick, Box 65
 Livingston 77351 AC 713-327-4443

ROBERTSON COUNTY

Harold Robinson, Box 177
 Franklin 77856, AC 713-828-3610
 R.C. Nichols, Rt. 2 Box 9
 Hearne 77859 AC 713-279-5545

RUSK COUNTY

Frank Hudson, 112 S. Evenside
 Henderson 75652 AC 214-657-6416

SABINE COUNTY

Dennis Savoy, Box 856
 Hemphill 75948 AC 713-787-3247
 Robert Rawls, Box 847
 Hemphill 75948 AC 713-787-2449

SAN AUGUSTINE COUNTY

Billy Timms, Box 14
 San Augustine 75972 AC 713-275-5676
 Winston Bishop, 1101 Patroon Rd.
 San Augustine 75972 AC 713-275-5768

SHELBY COUNTY

Bob Burrus, Rt. 6 Box 31
 Center 75935 AC 713-598-2853
 Mike Warren, Box 611
 Center 75935 AC 713-598-7281

TRINITY COUNTY

Emmett Grumbles, Box 596
 Groveton 75845 AC 713-642-1151
 Milton Vincent, Box 1064
 Trinity 75862 AC 713-594-3854

TYLER COUNTY

C.A. Westbrook, Box 171
 Woodville 75979 AC 713-283-5131
 Huey Hancock, 1110 Red Bud
 Woodville 75979 AC 713-283-2041

Region IV**LAW ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR REGION IV**

Carl P. Covett, 12620 IH45N, Suite 205
 Houston 77037 AC 713-443-0946

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT I

C. D. Kornegay, 1702 Airline Dr.
 Victoria 77901 AC 512-575-6306

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT II

Ben W. Urban, Sr., 2106 North 11th St.
 Beaumont 77703 AC 713-892-8666

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT III

J. L. Williford, 12620 IH45N, Suite 205
 Houston 77037 AC 713-443-0946

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR DISTRICT IV

Preston Miculka, 2313 Broadway
 Galveston 77550 AC 713-762-0732

BRAZORIA COUNTY

Alton Anderson, 109 S. Mattson
 West Columbia 77486 AC 713-345-3562
 James Middleton, P.O. Drawer M
 Angleton 77515 AC 713-849-8983
 David Perry, 605 Centerway
 Lake Jackson 77566 AC 713-297-7490
 Donald Parker, 1511 Meadow Lane
 Alvin 77511 AC 713-585-6776
 Jack Morlan (Master & Pilot), 114 Mahon Dr.,
 Clute 77531 AC 713-265-5614

CALHOUN COUNTY

James Birmingham, Box 923
 Port Lavaca 77979 AC 512-552-9439
 Richard D. Veach, 112 Parker St.
 Port Lavaca 77979 AC 512-552-9626
 Arthur Lawrence, 1720 Leon
 Port Lavaca 77979 AC 512-552-9640

CHAMBERS COUNTY

Kirby McReory, 563 Bayshore Rd., Box 961
 Anahuac 77514 AC 713-267-6123
 J. W. Broughton, Box 29
 Anahuac 77514 AC 713-267-3415
 G. W. Moore, 1503 Park Ln., P.O. Box 665
 Mont Belvieu 77580 AC 713-383-2062

FORT BEND COUNTY

Marvin Buller, P.O. Box 236
 Richmond 77469 AC 713-342-2429
 James Johnson, P.O. Box 813
 Richmond 77469 AC 713-232-6502

GALVESTON COUNTY

A. G. Cook, 2327 Anders Ln.
 Kemah 77565 AC 713-538-2180
 Z. W. Spasic, 1906 Oleander
 LaMarque 77568 AC 713-938-0839
 J. D. LeLeux, 3910 McKinney Ext.
 LaMarque 77568 AC 713-938-0677
 Mike Green, 105 Gulf Frwy., Box #183
 LaMarque 77568 AC 713-935-2180
 Lee A. Robertson, Jr., P.O. Box 264
 High Island 77623 AC 713-266-4172
 Ramiro Martinez, P.O. Box 8
 High Island 77623 AC 713-266-3412

HARDIN COUNTY

Gordon Hart, Box 937
 Kountze 77625 AC 713-246-2167
 Warren Bluntzer, P.O. Box 385
 Sour Lake 77659 AC 713-287-2163

HARRIS COUNTY

John Moon, P.O. Box 413
 Katy 77450 AC 713-371-7314
 Jerry L. Gipson, 4638 Fitzwater
 Spring 77373 AC 713-353-8943
 R. E. Miller, 623 E. Riverwood
 Houston 77022 AC 713-694-4369
 Velton Williams, P.O. Box 796
 Crosby 77532 AC 713-328-4357
 Douglas B. Parker, 1701 Aspen
 Seabrook 77586 AC 713-474-4528
 Herbert Darby, 16431 El Camino Real #2
 Houston 77058 AC 713-488-6669
 Ernest DeLaRosa, Jr., 16439 El Camino
 Real #13, Houston 77058 AC 713-488-6478
 William Hiles, 520 Atascocita Rd., Box C-9
 Humble 77338 AC 713-441-3516

JACKSON COUNTY

Bobby Hahn, P.O. Box 275
 Ganado 77692 AC 512-771-2246

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Myles Galceran, 910 N. 14th St.
 Beaumont 77702 AC 713-892-9409
 Kenneth W. Holder, Rt. 1 Box 495
 Beaumont 77706 AC 713-898-0883
 B. J. Heitman, 2836 60th St. #7
 Port Arthur 77640 AC 713-736-1328
 Jerry Chilton, 907 Woods Dr.
 Liberty 77575 AC 713-336-3793
 Timothy Moorman, 1208 Glendale
 Dayton 77535 AC 713-258-5786
 Tommy R. Johnson, Drawer E
 Cleveland 77327 AC 713-592-6760

MATAGORDA COUNTY

Dennis Urban, P.O. Box 601
 Palacios 77465 AC 512-972-3191
 Forrest A. Laughlin, P.O. Box 190
 Bay City 77414 AC 713-245-9080
 Robert S. King, Box 1481
 Bay City 77414 AC 713-245-9057

ORANGE COUNTY

James Meisner, 512 W. Bridal Wreath
 Orange 77630 AC 713-883-6320
 John Paul Eckols, 321 David
 Bridge City 77611

VICTORIA COUNTY

F.I. McGrath, Rt. 7 Box 295
Victoria 77901 AC 512-578-5412
Eddie Gammon, Rt. 4 Box 99B
Victoria 77901 AC 512-575-3894

WHARTON COUNTY

E. Wayne Harrington, Box 292
El Campo 77437 AC 713-648-2322
David L. Pagel, 35 Bernstein Dr.
Wharton 77488 AC 713-532-3236

Region V

**LAW ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR
REGION V**

C. L. Burdett, 527 S. Main
San Antonio 78204 AC 512-225-3295

**LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR
DISTRICT I**

Bill Lynch, 329 Deborah
Converse 78109 AC 512-658-1716

**LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR
DISTRICT II**

Raymond Custer, Batesville Rt.
Uvalde 78801 AC 512-278-3231

**LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR
DISTRICT III**

John Caudle, Rt. Box 263C Lot 4E
Laredo 78040 AC 512-724-6938

ATASCOSA COUNTY

Arthur McCall, Box 57
Pleasanton 78064 AC 512-569-3916
Emil Seewald, Box 314
Pleasanton 78064 AC 512-569-2974

BANDERA COUNTY

Carlton Becker, Box 773
Bandera 78003 AC 512-278-9515
Emil Krejci, Box 851
Bandera 78003 AC 512-796-4132

BEXAR COUNTY

Ralph E. Bishop, 550 W. Mariposa
San Antonio 78212 AC 512-734-8682
Jose Esparza, Jr., 9106 Silver Springs
San Antonio 78224 AC 512-927-5730
Charles Koenig, 142 Forest Valley
San Antonio 78227 AC 512-673-4854
Henry Smith, Jr., 3504 Piedmont
San Antonio 78234 AC 512-533-9750

COMAL COUNTY

Neal J. Etheredge, Box 122
New Braunfels 78130 AC 512-885-4628
James Scheele, 40 Bobwhite Lane
New Braunfels 78130 AC 512-625-6725

DIMMIT COUNTY

Mike Bradshaw, Box 643
Carrizo Springs 78834 AC 512-876-5972
Jim Pond, Route 1
Carrizo Springs 78834 AC 512-876-2795

DUVAL COUNTY

Henry Haugen, Box 532
Freer 78357 AC 512-394-7367
Bob Merritt, Box 477
Freer 78357 AC 512-394-7000

FRIO COUNTY

Bill Hoyle, Box 106
Pearsall 78061 AC 512-334-2392

GUADALUPE COUNTY

Harold D. Farley, Box 1073
Seguin 78155 AC 512-379-9223
Calvin Turner, Sr., Rt. 2 Box 177
Seguin 78155 AC 512-639-2252

JIM HOGG COUNTY

Roldan Montalvo, Box 296
Hebbronville 78361 AC 512-527-3035

KARNES COUNTY

Bob Moore, 110 Sunnyside
Kenedy 78119 AC 512-583-2250

KINNEY COUNTY

Bill Lindeman, Box 495
Brackettville 78832 AC 512-563-2234

LaSALLE COUNTY

Larry Griffin, Box 61
Cotulla 78014 AC 512-879-2739

MAVERICK COUNTY

Jim Monsees, Box 1231
Eagle Pass 78852 AC 512-773-2018

McMULLEN COUNTY

Jim Daughtrey, Box 52
Calliham 78007 AC 512-786-2997

MEDINA COUNTY

George L. Anderson, Box 473
Hondo 78861 AC 512-426-2914
Glen Felps, 410 Jamison
Devine 78016 AC 512-663-4221
Preston Gohmert, Box 534
Castroville 78009 AC 512-762-3327

STARR COUNTY

Christopher Huff, Box 71
Rio Grande City 78582 AC 512-487-3187

UVALDE COUNTY

David Chesnutt, 312 North 3rd
Uvalde 78801 AC 512-278-9515
Bill Waldrop, Box 1992
Uvalde 78801 AC 512-278-7300

WEBB COUNTY

John Bruce, 1618 Okane
Laredo 78040 AC 512-724-5018
William Hellums, 211 King Circle
Laredo 78040 AC 512-724-5178
James Reece, Rt. 1 Box 265R
Laredo 78040 AC 512-723-0947

WILSON COUNTY

Roy Holstein, 1708 Fifth
Floresville 78114 AC 512-393-2185

ZAPATA COUNTY

J. D. Gorman, Box 192
Zapata 78076 AC 512-765-4229
Eliseo Padilla, Box 4
Zapata 78076 AC 512-765-4629

ZAVALA COUNTY

Rep Moore, Box 657
LaPryor 78872 AC 512-365-4545

Region VI

**LAW ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR
REGION VI**

Ted F. Wheelis, 4821 Ave. Q
Lubbock 79412 AC 806-744-6847

**LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR
DISTRICT I**

Weldon Fromm, 3802 Bowie
Amarillo 79110 AC 806-355-9246

**LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR
DISTRICT II**

William H. Pratt, 4821 Ave. Q
Lubbock 79412 AC 806-744-6847

**LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPERVISOR
DISTRICT III**

David Palmer, 279 N. Willis St.
Abilene 79603 AC 915-673-3333

ANDREWS COUNTY

Al Therwanger, Box 455
905 N.W. Ave G
Seminole 79360 AC 915-758-2952

ARMSTRONG COUNTY

Gary Hunt, Box 1164
Clarendon 79226 AC 806-874-2631

BAILEY COUNTY

Pat Donnelly, Box 149
308 East 15th St.
Littlefield 79339 AC 806-385-3782

BORDEN COUNTY

Bobby R. Ferguson, 801 N. 13th St.
Lamesa 79331 AC 806-872-3229

BRISCOE COUNTY

Julius Stevens, 1036 N.W. 10th St.
Tulia 79088 AC 806-995-4596

CARSON COUNTY

Richard E. Byrns, P.O. Box 926
Fritch 79036 AC 806-857-3791
Joe Shelton, 121 Womack
Borger 79007 AC 806-274-4957

CASTRO COUNTY

Charles F. Cospser, 139 Ranger
Hereford 79045 AC 806-364-4723

CHILDRESS COUNTY

Jack D. Burrus, Box 482
801 Ave. 1 N.W.
Childress 79201 AC 817-937-2138

COCHRAN COUNTY

Danny Tuggle, P.O. Box 1281
Levelland 79336 AC 806-894-7696

COLLINGSWORTH COUNTY

Dennis Thomas, Box 347
Shamrock 79079 AC 806-256-3637

COTTLE COUNTY

Vic Lowry, P.O. Box 102
Knox City 79529 AC 817-658-3717

CROSBY COUNTY

William D. Howell, 315 W. 3rd St.
Post 79356 AC 806-495-2185

DALLAM COUNTY

Calvin Tow, Box 722
Dalhart 79022 AC 806-249-4132

DAWSON COUNTY

Bobby R. Ferguson, 801 N. 13th St.
Lamesa 79331 AC 806-872-3229

DEAF SMITH COUNTY

Charles F. Cospser, 139 Ranger St.
Hereford 79045 AC 806-364-4723
J.D. Gould, Box 116
Vega 79092 AC 806-267-2146

DICKENS COUNTY

Larry D. Rider, Box 231
Jayton 79528 AC 915-237-4127

DONLEY COUNTY

Gary Hunt, Box 1164
Clarendon 79226 AC 806-874-2631

FISHER COUNTY

James S. Riggins, P.O. Box 511
Roby 79543 AC 915-776-2109

FLOYD COUNTY

Ronnie L. Ainsworth, 200 S.E. 9th St.
Plainview 79072 AC 806-293-5688

FOARD COUNTY

Jimmy W. Harris, 1408 Earle St.
Quanah 79252 AC 817-663-2355

GAINES COUNTY

Alfred L. Therwanger, Box 455
905 N. W. Ave. G
Seminole 79360 AC 915-758-2952

GARZA COUNTY

William D. Howell, 315 W. 3rd St.
Post 79356 AC 806-495-2185

GRAY COUNTY

Roland D. Williams, 2116 Christy
Pampa 79065 AC 806-669-6766

HALE COUNTY

Ronnie L. Ainsworth, 200 S.E. 9th St.
Plainview 79072 AC 806-293-5688

HALL COUNTY

Jack D. Burrus, Box 482
Childress 79201 AC 817-937-2138

HANSFORD COUNTY

Starkey Whitehorn, Box 934
Stinnett 79083 AC 806-878-2876

HARDEMAN COUNTY

Jimmy W. Harris, 1408 Earle St.
Quanah 79252 AC 817-663-2355

HARTLEY COUNTY

Calvin Tow, Box 722
Dalhart 79022 AC 806-249-4132

HASKELL COUNTY

Jackie Young, Box 304
Haskell 79521 AC 817-864-3057

HEMPHILL COUNTY

William B. Rogers, 815 S. 5th St.
Canadian 79014 AC 806-323-6164

HOCKLEY COUNTY

Danny R. Tuggle, P.O. Box 1281
Levelland 79336 AC 806-894-7696

HOWARD COUNTY

J.C. Thomason, Box 332
107 Washington
Big Spring 79720 AC 915-263-4765

HUTCHENSON COUNTY

Richard E. Byrns, P.O. Box 926
Fritch 79036 AC 806-857-3791
Starkey Whitehorn, Box 934
Stinnett 79083 AC 806-878-2876
Joe Shelton, 121 Womack
Borger 79007 AC 806-274-4957

JONES COUNTY

Curtis Jones, 1842 Chestnut
Abilene 79602 AC 915-672-9139
Raymond D. Evans, Rt. 3 Box 423
Abilene 79605 AC 915-698-8267

KENT COUNTY

Larry D. Rider, Box 231
Jayton 79528 AC 806-237-4127

KING COUNTY

Vic Lowry, Box 102
Knox City 79529 AC 817-658-3717

KNOX COUNTY

Vic Lowry, Box 102
Knox City 79529 AC 817-658-3717

LAMB COUNTY

Pat L. Donnelly, Box 149
Littlefield 79339 AC 806-385-3782

LIPSCOMB COUNTY

William B. Rogers, 815 S. 5th St.
Canadian 79014 AC 806-323-6164

LUBBOCK COUNTY

Bobby L. Goff, 4821 Ave. Q
Lubbock 79412 AC 806-744-6847
Roger Carlile, 4821 Ave. Q
Lubbock 79412 AC 806-744-6847

LYNN COUNTY

Bobby L. Goff, 4821 Ave. Q
Lubbock 79412 AC 806-744-6847
Roger Carlile, 4821 Ave. Q
Lubbock 79412 AC 806-744-6847

MARTIN COUNTY

J.C. Thomason, Box 332
Big Spring 79720 AC 915-263-4765

MITCHELL COUNTY

Ronnie K. Aston, Rt. 1 Box 72 A
Colorado City 79512 AC 915-728-5430

MOORE COUNTY

M. Stanley Brooks, Box 877
Dumas 79029 AC 806-935-4893

MOTLEY COUNTY

Ronald M. Vandiver, Box 216
Matador 79224 AC 806-347-2821

NOLAN COUNTY

Larry D. Pearce, Star Rt. C/O Brooks Ranch
Sweetwater 79556 AC 915-798-3621

OCHILTREE COUNTY

William B. Rogers, 815 S. 5th St.
Canadian 79014 AC 806-323-6164
Roland Williams, 2116 Christy
Pampa 79065 AC 806-669-6766

OLDHAM COUNTY

J. D. Gould, Box 116
Vega 79092 AC 806-267-2146

PARMER COUNTY

Charles F. Cosper, 139 Ranger
Hereford 79045 AC 806-364-4723

POTTER COUNTY

John G. Crow, 3802 Bowie St.
Amarillo 79110 AC 806-355-9246
James C. Wilson, 3802 Bowie St.
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Preserving our historical heritage often involves restoration. Workers at Fort Leaton (above) are mixing hay and mud together until the mixture is suitable for molding the adobe bricks needed for restoration purposes at this historic site. Fishing opportunities abound on state fishing piers, which are especially popular on warm summer nights. Visitors to the nature trails of Palmetto (below) can readily see the unique vegetation preserved by this state park.

Copano Bay Causeway State Fishing Pier by Reagan Bradshaw



Palmetto State Park by Reagan Bradshaw

Objectives Established

*Our state parks major functions are:
to provide outdoor recreation; preserve natural
areas; and preserve our historical heritage.*

by Ilo Hiller

Texas now has a vigorous, active program for the acquisition and classification of new state parks as well as for the expansion and development of existing units; however, such has not always been the case. In fact, until 1923 when Governor Pat M. Neff appealed to the 38th Legislature to create the State Parks Board, Texas had neither a state park system nor a department authorized to hold title to parklands for public use.

Board activities for the first few years of its existence were limited to accepting donated park sites since no funds were available for park purchase or development.

However, the 43rd Legislature took a bold step forward and allowed the State Parks Board to purchase its first parks — Longhorn Cavern and Palo Duro Canyon — on vendor lien notes payable out of park proceeds. These were the only parks purchased by the State Parks Board during its existence.

All parks in the state park system in 1961, with the exception of Palo Duro Canyon and Longhorn Cavern, were either transferred to the State Parks Board by legislative action or acquired through donations or leases from private individuals, groups or governmental entities.

Because the small appropriations granted the State Parks Board were needed to keep existing structures in repair, no money was available for the development of new parks. The resulting poor condition of the state park system prompted Governor John Connally to propose to the Joint Session of the Texas Legislature on January 16, 1963, that the State Parks Board and the Game and Fish Commission be consolidated under a three-member commission.

Following his recommendation, the 58th Legislature abolished the State Parks Board and the Game and Fish Commission and transferred their duties and authorities to the newly created Parks and Wildlife Department.

Legislative action since that time has provided sufficient revenue to allow for updating and expansion of the state park system. In 1967 the Parks and Wildlife Department was authorized to issue up to \$75,000,000

in General Obligation Bonds, repayable through revenues derived from entrance fees, for state park acquisition and development. But park finances really received a shot in the arm in 1972 when the 62nd Legislature allocated to the Park and Wildlife Department one cent from each package of cigarettes sold, to be used for planning, acquisition and development of state park sites.

Since the creation of the Parks and Wildlife Department in 1963, certain policies and guidelines for operation of the department were established. However, the commission had not formally established any broad direction for the state park system. Therefore, in July 1975, the Parks and Wildlife Commission approved and established a formal policy for the administration of the Texas State Park System.

In guiding the purpose and scope of the Texas State Park System, the objectives of the commission as stated in this policy are:

(1) To **SEEK** out and **PROTECT** the finest of what remains unprotected of the state's natural and cultural inheritance and its outdoor recreation resources;

(2) To **PROVIDE** opportunities for varied outdoor recreation in keeping with natural and historical values;

(3) To **IMPART** to the people of Texas an understanding and appreciation of the state's cultural, historical and natural heritage;

(4) To **CONSERVE** and **MANAGE** for the highest and best purpose the natural, historical and recreational resources of the state park system; and

(5) To **JOIN** with all the citizenry of this and other states and nations in promoting the conservation of natural, historical and recreational resources.

In an effort to achieve these broad objectives, the commission endeavors to perform the following major functions: (1) provide outdoor recreation, (2) preserve natural areas and (3) preserve our historical heritage. These functions are primarily fulfilled through the acquisition, appropriate development and administration of selected land areas and structures which together comprise the state park system.



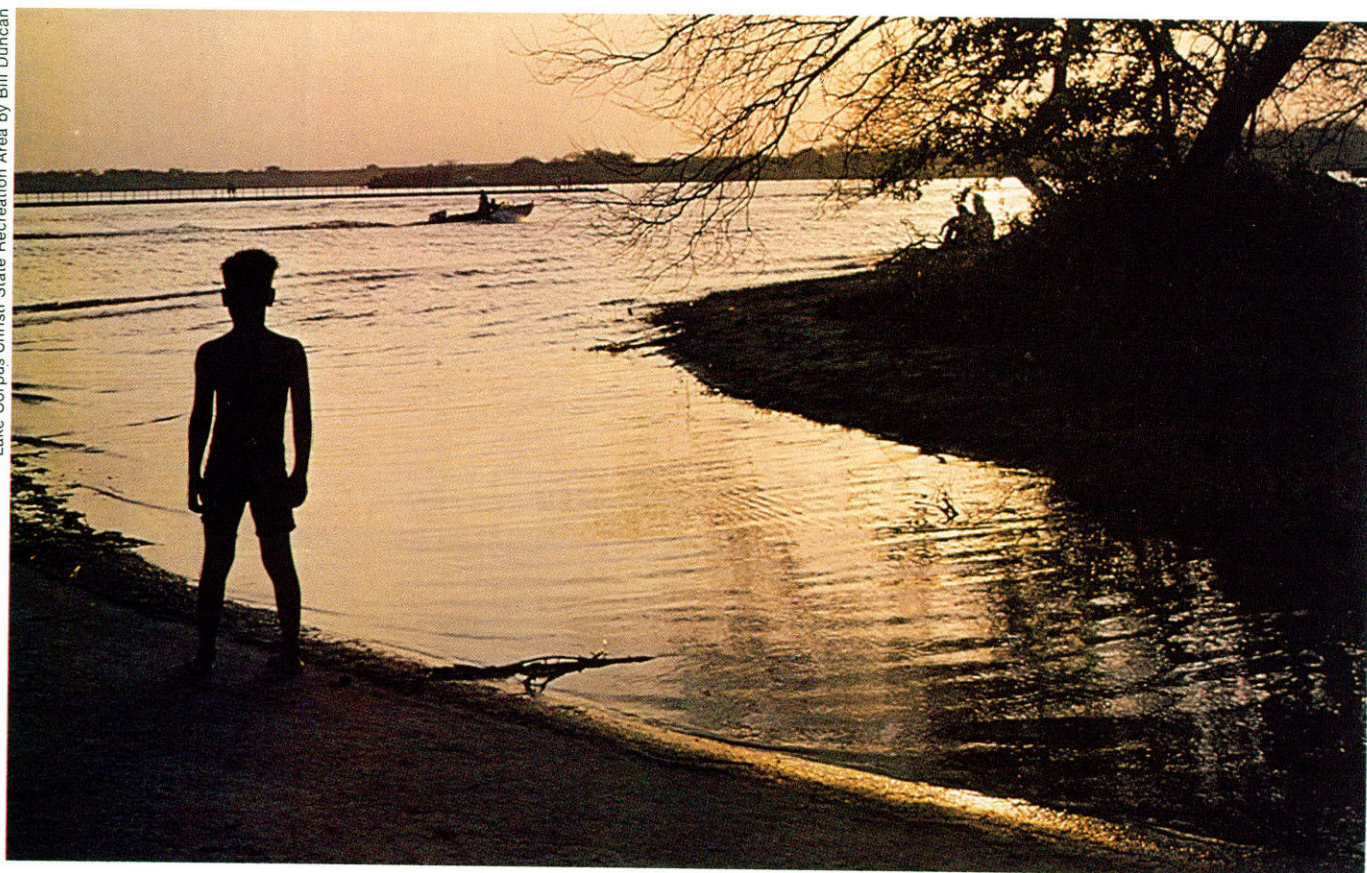
Port Isabel's historic lighthouse (above), built in 1852, was remodeled in 1952 and continues to serve as an aid to coastal navigation. Water-oriented activities play a large role in the recreational opportunities of areas such as Lake Corpus Christi (below).

Units of the state park system, in the past, were designated as Scenic Parks, Recreational Parks, Historical Parks and Historic Sites, based on a classification system utilized by the old State Parks Board. However, this classification system was not formally adopted by the new Parks and Wildlife Commission, although the development of the state park system under the commission has generally proceeded along the criteria established by the State Parks Board.

With the increasingly varied demands for outdoor recreation and the growth potential of the state park system, a formally established classification for Texas state parks was badly needed. Definitive direction was needed to meet the changing demands of Texas recreationists, and to insure the development of a high-quality state park system. It was for these reasons that the Parks and Wildlife Commission also included in their recently adopted policy a new State Park Classification System. The new classification system has been expanded and revised from the old system to meet the changing needs in Texas and to alleviate misconception by the public as to the purpose and use of the various state park units.

The first classification, STATE PARKS, is defined as "spacious areas of outstanding natural or scenic character, often containing historical, archeological, ecological, biological or geological values, selectively developed to provide opportunities for compatible types of resource-oriented recreations."

The second classification, STATE RECREATION AREAS, is defined as "relatively natural areas having



the best available scenic quality, which are usually associated with water resources and developed to provide a variety of non-urban unstructured outdoor recreation opportunities serving regional or statewide needs."

The next three classifications are grouped under the division STATE HISTORICAL AREAS, and include all parks, sites and structures established for the preservation and interpretation of pre-historic and historic resources of particular statewide or national significance. A breakdown by classification is:

(1) STATE HISTORICAL PARKS which are "areas established primarily to preserve and interpret sites, events, persons or objects and which are of sufficient size to completely include the historic feature yet permit development of substantial recreational facilities."

(2) STATE HISTORIC SITES which are "areas, usually limited in size, established to preserve and interpret sites, events, persons or objects."

(3) STATE HISTORIC STRUCTURES which are "areas established to preserve structures embodying the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type, which is inherently valuable for the study of a period, style or method of construction."

The next classification, STATE NATURAL AREAS, is defined as "areas retaining to a major degree their unique or natural character established primarily for the perpetual preservation of outstanding ecological, biological, geological or scenic features of statewide significance, which may be used in a manner consistent with their continued preservation for the

public purposes of scientific research, education, aesthetic enjoyment and dispersed-type primitive recreation."

The next classification, STATE FISHING PIERS, is defined as "areas along the Texas Gulf Coast and bays which provide regional recreational fishing opportunity through a pier-type structure, but lack sufficient land base to support extensive recreational development."

The state park system also administers an area of other programs, including the recognition of STATE NATURAL LANDMARKS. They are defined as "public or privately owned features or areas, usually limited in size, which exhibit outstanding ecological, biological, geological or physiographic characteristics preserved for public viewing, educational or scientific purposes.

In selecting the proposed park designations, consideration was given to the types of parks existing in the current system and the present and anticipated needs of the state. It was intended that each park classification help fulfill a particular portion of the responsibilities outlined as the functions of the state park system. The descriptive terms "park" and "area" were used in the classification of state park units in an effort to make unit names more descriptive of the individual area's function for the benefit of park visitors.

As the state parks system continues to expand and improve under these new guidelines, more and better facilities should be available to meet the diverse needs of outdoor-oriented Texans. **

STATE PARKS BY CLASSIFICATION

STATE RECREATION AREAS

Abilene
Atlanta
Balmorhea
Big Spring
Blanco
Bonham
Brazos Island
Bryan Beach
Cleburne
Eisenhower
Fairfield Lake
Falcon
Fort Parker
Goose Island
Jeff Davis*
Kerrville
Lake Arrowhead
Lake Brownwood
Lake Colorado City
Lake Corpus Christi
Lake Livingston
Lake Somerville
Lake Whitney
Lockhart
Mackenzie*
Possum Kingdom
Tips*

STATE PARKS

Bastrop
Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley
Buescher
Caddo Lake
Caprock Canyons
Copper Breaks
Daingerfield
Davis Mountains
Dinosaur Valley
Galveston Island
Garner
Guadalupe River
Huntsville
Inks Lake
Lake Mineral Wells
Longhorn Cavern
Martin Dies, Jr.
McKinney Falls
Meridian
Monahans Sandhills
Mother Neff
Mustang Island
Palmetto
Palo Duro Canyon
Pedernales Falls
Sea Rim
Tyler

STATE HISTORICAL PARKS

Fort Griffin
Fort Richardson
Goliad
Governor Hogg Shrine
Hueco Tanks
Jim Hogg
Lyndon B. Johnson
Mission Tejas
Sabine Pass Battleground
San Jacinto Battleground
Seminole Canyon Site
Stephen F. Austin
Texas State Railroad
Varner-Hogg
Washington-on-the-Brazos

STATE HISTORIC SITES

Acton
Caddoan Mounds
Eisenhower Birthplace
Fannin Battleground
Fort Lancaster
Fort Leaton

Fort McKavett
Landmark Inn
Lipantitlan
Monument Hill
Old Fort Parker
San Jose Mission

STATE HISTORIC STRUCTURES

Port Isabel Lighthouse

STATE NATURAL AREAS

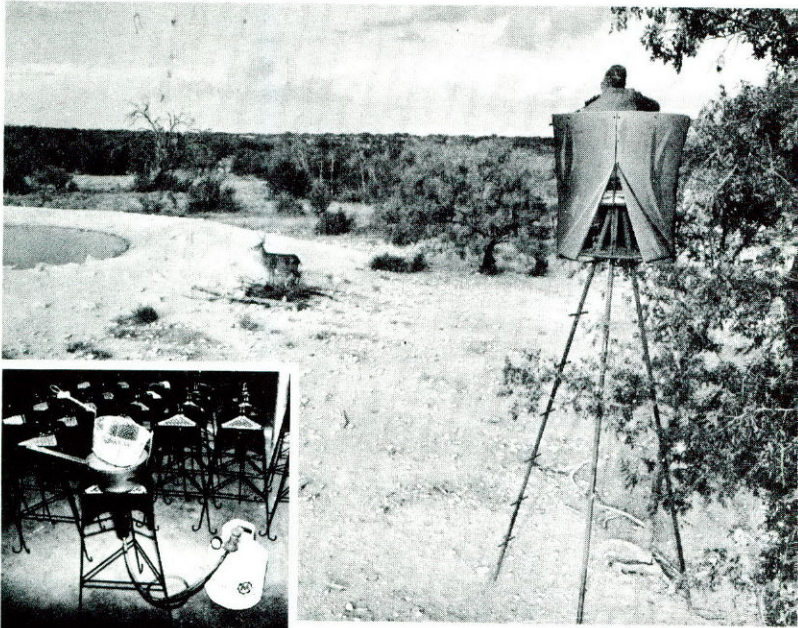
Sabinal Canyon Site

STATE FISHING PIERS

Copano Bay Causeway
Port Lavaca Causeway
Queen Isabella Causeway

*Not operated by Parks and Wildlife Department

Portable Hunter's Stand



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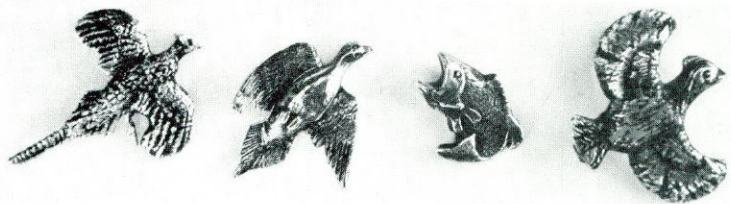


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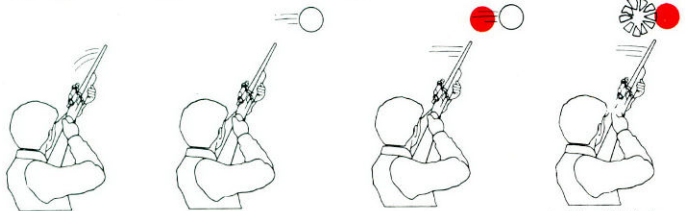
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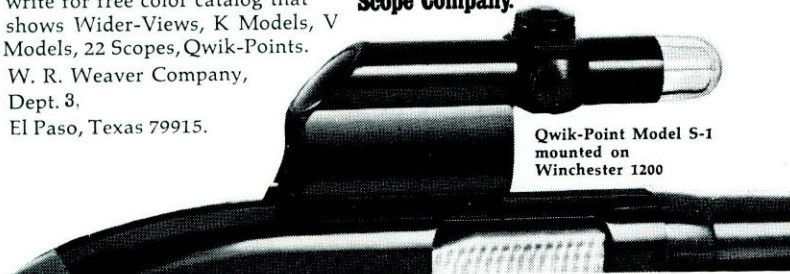
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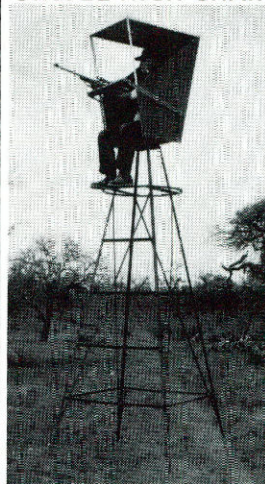
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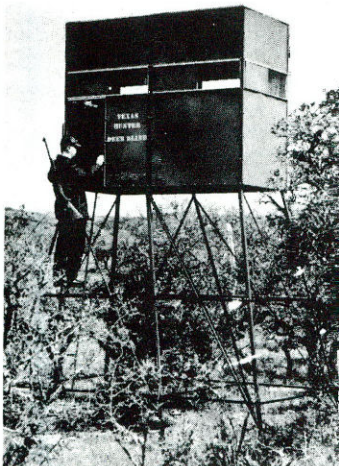
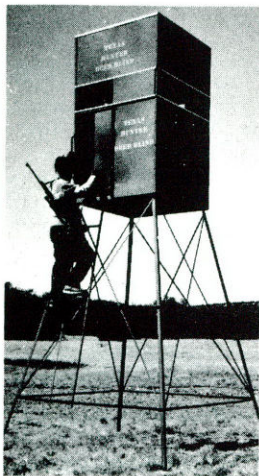
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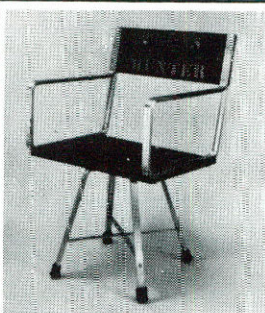
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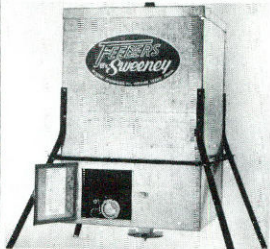
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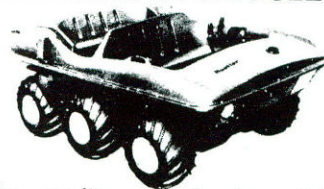
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Water Survival

by Darrell Holt

Each year thousands of hunters take to the water. Since hunting with a boat takes one to fairly remote places, with little chance of assistance in the event of an emergency, hunters should be extra cautious. Caution can be tempered by having a plan to survive.

You should know exactly what you would do in case of an accident, because there is always the possibility of falling out of a boat into deep water or walking or stumbling into water over your head.

If using an open boat, remember to carry a U.S. Coast Guard-approved seat cushion or life preserver for each person aboard. In a small boat always remain seated and if you are caught in a big body of water in bad weather, where you shouldn't be in the first place, keep a low center of gravity by having everyone lie down in the bottom of the boat.

If an accident should happen, stay with the boat if at all possible. Exposure to low temperature water, which you will usually find during hunting season, causes subnormal body temperature (hypothermia). The following chart indicates the effect of exposure on an unprotected body.

Hypothermia Chart

Water Temp. (°F)	Exhaustion Unconsciousness	Expected Time of Survival
32.5	Under 15 Min.	Under 15-45 Min.
32.5-40.0	15-30 Min.	30-90 Min.
40-50	30-60 Min.	1-3 Hr.
50-60	1-2 Hr.	1-6 Hr.
60-70	2-7 Hr.	2-40 Hr.
70-80	3-12 Hr.	3-Indef.
Over 80	Indef.	Indef.

However, if you become separated from your boat or floating devices, remember that your life is more valuable than the gun or ammunition you are carrying, so drop them — you might recover them later. Then relax, for the air trapped in your hunting clothing may bring you to the surface. Also, by relaxing, you will conserve energy.

If you are wearing hip boots, keep the tops under the

water. The air possibly trapped in the boots will cause them to float at the knees. Turn on your back, face up and use a backstroke to paddle to shore. This will even work with knee boots. Just turn on your stomach and allow your legs to bend upward.

If duck hunting, grab any floating decoys within your reach and push them inside your jacket to help stay afloat. If necessary, free the anchor lines.

Oars will also help. If you have only a single oar, put it under your chin and spread your arms along its length. If you have two, roll on your back and put one oar under your knees and the other under the back of your neck, with your arms stretched along its length.

Upon arriving to shore, immediately build a fire. Stay by the fire until someone comes for you, or you are thoroughly dry and rested.

In another instance, you may not be able to swim to shore because the water is too rough or the distance is too far. This is the time to practice the "drownproofing" method.

The first step is to take a deep breath, lay your head forward in the water and relax your whole body, while your arms dangle at your sides. As your body hangs vertically in the water, rest.

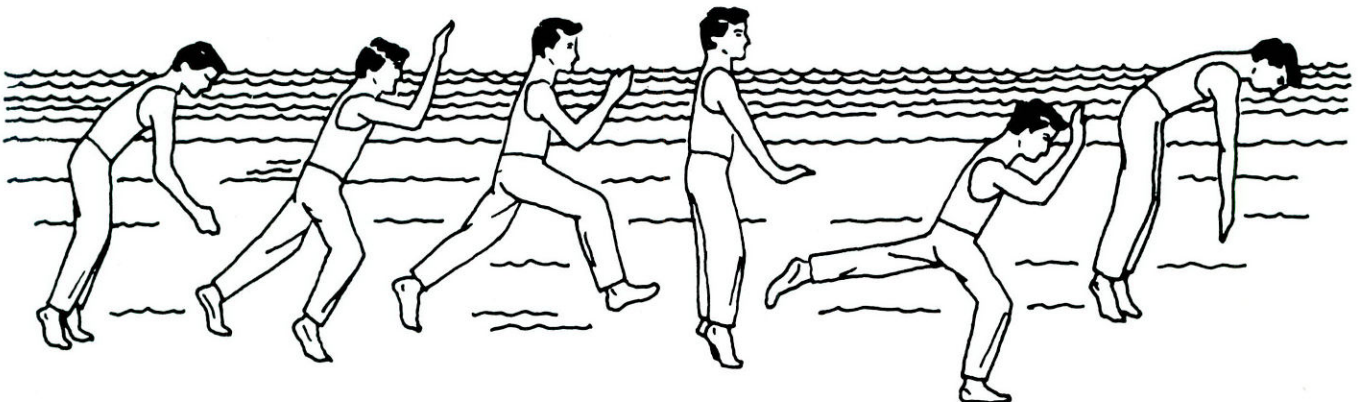
Before you need a breath, get ready for the change by leisurely crossing your arms (keeping forearms together) in front of your head and one knee toward your chest. Then extend the other foot behind you.

As you raise your head smoothly but swiftly, exhale through your nose as it emerges from the water. Stop with your chin still in the water.

When you are through exhaling, you can inhale through the mouth. To keep your mouth above water while inhaling, gently sweep your palms outward and step downward on the water with both feet.

After you have inhaled, close your mouth and drop your head again, remembering to relax as before. When you feel you are ready for another breath, repeat the procedure. The "drownproofing" method may keep you alive until you are rescued or until you drift into shallower water and are able to walk to shore. **

Drownproofing Method:



How To:

Tan Buckskin

by D. J. Charles
Reprinted from FIELD & STREAM

Every hunter who ever bagged deer has probably visualized himself wearing a buckskin jacket in the true Indian manner. Real buckskin has never been equalled in durability, lightness, warmth and softness.

Assuming you have acquired a deer and are about to skin the animal, it is well to interject a word of warning on the proper use of the knife — use it sparingly! The average novice will carve the skin into a worthless mess of cuts and holes. Wherever possible pull or “fist” the hide free of the carcass, like removing a sock from your foot.

As soon as possible after skinning, the hide should be salted. Laying the hide hair side down, spread it liberally with several pounds of salt poured evenly over the flesh side, being careful to cover all the edges. The next step is to fold the hide together. This allows the salt to draw out blood and moisture. This should take about two days. The proper way of folding the hide is to bring each side toward the center, flesh side inward. Again, fold lengthwise, then bring each end (neck and tail) to the center and again double

over in the same manner.

Let the hide lie on a cool basement floor, but do not let it freeze. After the hide has drained for two days place it flesh-side-up on a fleshing beam or a smooth log approximately 12 inches in diameter set at a 45-degree angle, the upper end being waist high. The flesh is removed with a fleshing knife made by clamping a 1/16-inch-thick strip of metal between two layers of wood allowing 1/4-inch of metal to be exposed. The edge of this metal should be filed square but not sharp. Proceed by starting at the middle of the hide and working outward in all directions until it is absolutely clean of flesh and tissue, otherwise the tanning solution will not get through.

You are now ready to prepare lime water for de-hairing. Use an earthenware crock or nonmetallic container of approximately 15-gallon capacity. Fill the container two-thirds full of water. To this add about a quart of dehydrated lime. Stir until it's dissolved. Place the hide in the solution. Using a stick, plunge the hide until it's thoroughly saturated. During the next five days

agitate the hide two or three times a day to insure thorough saturation. Since the neck and shoulder skin has the densest hair it is well to test these areas to see if the hair will slip easily. If it does not, let it remain in lime solution an additional day or two until it does slip.

Remove the hide from the solution and place over the fleshing beam, hair side up. By again using the fleshing knife, push or slip the hair from the skin. During this process one of two things will occur: if the liquid containing the hide has been kept in a warm atmosphere the top layer of skin (called the epidermis) will come off with the hair in a stringy, gelatinous mess. Unless this layer is removed it will be impossible to complete the tanning procedure, so be sure every bit of this skin is removed. Again, most difficulty will be experienced in the neck and shoulder areas.

The second condition, in which the grain refuses to come off with the hair, will probably result from the container having been kept in too cool an atmosphere. If this occurs, it will be neces-

sary after soaking to frame the hide, letting it dry thoroughly. Then the grain of the hide must be removed by the processing of scraping.

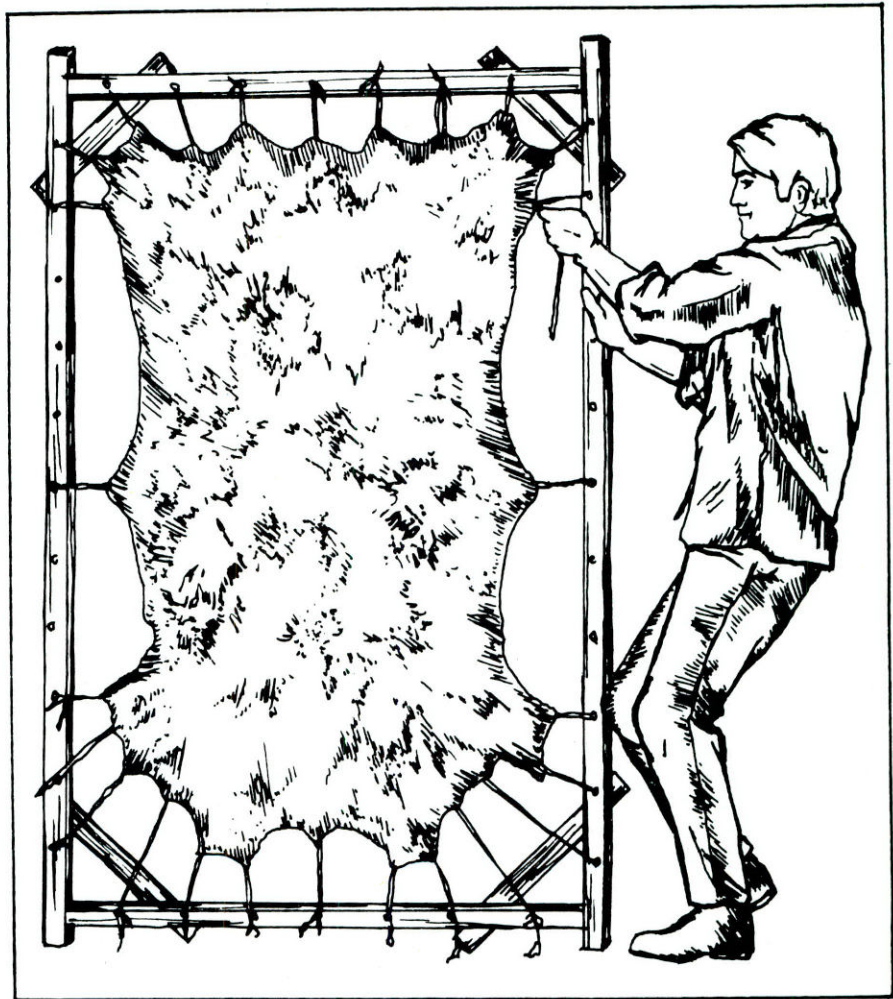
After the hide has been de-haired and grained the lime must be neutralized. To do this, take a container filled with about five gallons of water and add one cup of vinegar. Mix, and place the hide in this water for 24 hours. Remove and rinse in clear water.

Frame the hide (if grain did not slip) by constructing a square frame approximately six feet on a side. Drive nails in the frame about every eight inches leaving the nail heads exposed about one inch. To the nails, fasten lengths of stout cord or bailing twine. With a sharp knife cut slits about one inch long and six inches apart around the periphery of the hide, staying $\frac{1}{4}$ inch away from the edge.

Tie the hide in the frame, beginning with the neck uppermost. Next, tie the two hind legs, pulling outward from the center of the hide. Now, tie out both sides, alternating to keep a natural shape to the hide. Even tension should be kept on all strings so that the hide will be laced tightly in the frame. To hasten drying, excess moisture can be removed by using the curved edge of a butcher knife held at 90 degrees to the surface of the hide. Drag the edge down the surface like a squeegee, using moderate pressure. This will strip the surface moisture from the hide, thereby hastening the drying time.

After a day or two when the hide is completely dry, you are ready to remove the grain. The tool I have found most effective for this job is the ordinary $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-wide paint scraper. Before starting, file the edges to a slightly convex shape, rounding the corners to prevent scoring the hide. Making sure the hide is drumhead tight in the frame, begin scraping the epidermis from the hide. This action will be similar to scraping old varnish off woodwork. The proper depth of scraping is important. Not enough will deter the tanning process, while too much will give an exceptionally fuzzy finish. Scrape deep enough so that hide appears a whitish color. You will find again that the neck and shoulder areas and the haunches will require the deepest scraping efforts that you will run into.

After completion, remove the hide from the frame. The hide will be like stiff parchment. It must be brought back to its natural condition by soaking in water for another day or two (depending on the thickness of hide). Dur-



ing this soaking time, when the hide begins to soften, pull and stretch it to "open" the fiber. When hide is completely "relaxed" it is ready for the tanning mixture.

At this time, start preparing the tanning solution. Purchase one pound of calf brains at your local butcher and place these in an open-pored cloth bag, tied at the top. In a bucket or pail containing about a gallon water, place the bag containing the brain and boil for 45 minutes. Let the solution cool until it's warm. Strain the brain through bag until only the membranous tissue remains. This and the bag are to be discarded. The liquid should be a grayish-pink color.

While the liquid has been simmering, the hide should be prepared for immersion by rolling it lengthwise into the form of a rope. Fasten both ends together to form a grommet. Place the grommet over a post approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ to three inches in diameter. Insert another stick (such as an axe or rake handle) into the grommet and twist, using considerable force. It will wring the greatest amount of water from the hide, making it capable of absorbing

more of the tanning solution.

When no more water can be wrung out, untwist it and remove it from the post. Unfasten the tied ends and open the hide. Stretch and pull all wrinkles and creases from the hide. When it's thoroughly stretched to the point where no crease marks remain, immerse the hide in warm tanning liquid. Knead, pull, stretch and squash it vigorously until any air bubbles trapped under the hide and squeezed will permit tanning liquid to ooze through. This indicates the hide is saturated with the tanning liquid.

Remove it from the liquid and again form the hide into a grommet as before and repeat the wringing process on the post. As before, untwist the hide. At this point the real labor of tanning begins. The entire hide must be constantly pulled and stretched until it's thoroughly and completely dry. If work is stopped at any time before completion, the damp hide will stiffen and revert to rawhide. If this happens, the hide must again be dampened and the stretching process repeated. The drying time during this stretching will consume three to five hours. When

complete, the hide should be snow white and it should be as soft as flannel.

Some of the curse of hard labor can be eliminated from the stretching process, providing your wife can be prevailed upon for the loan of her automatic dryer.

After the hide has been removed from the grommet and opened up in the initial stage of stretching, set the dryer on "hot" for ten minutes. Place the hide along with a large bath towel (which will act as a tumbler) in the dryer. At the completion of ten minutes' drying, remove the hide and stretch it vigorously and rapidly until all wrinkles and stiff spots are once again soft and pliable.

For the duration of the drying process, repeated treatments of five minutes' duration in the dryer should be adhered to, since the drying process, once started, progresses rapidly. Repeat the alternate drying and stretching operation until the entire hide is fluffy soft. Now you have completed the actual tanning process.

If the hide is to be used for a garment, it is well to smoke it. This process will give the hide a golden tan color as well as making it more impervious to water and weather, since the creosote anuric

acid given off by the wood smoke increases its resistance to weather and discourages bugs. Preparatory to smoking the hide, sew up the edges, starting in the area of the hind legs and terminating at the neck so as to form a tube closed at the neck end. Around the bottom of the tube formed by this hide, baste a skirt of heavy fabric about 12 inches wide.

Suspend the hide by a string tied to a tree branch or other support leaving it sufficiently high off the ground so that a bucket or pail can be inserted beneath the hide. The skirt should just cover the edges of the pail. Obtain about two handfuls of well-rotted punk wood, preferably pine. With a small amount of dried twigs build a fire in the bucket. When the fire is going well, throw in the dried wood punk. This will give off a great quantity of dense smoke. Quickly shove the bucket directly under the hide. Usually only ten or fifteen minutes are required to obtain a satisfactory yellow color. When the desired color is reached, quickly turn the hide inside out and continue smoking until both sides are done. Remove the skirt and fold the hide into a small bundle and wrap it in brown wrapping paper. Store for at least one week. This aging process permits the

hide to thoroughly season.

When the time has elapsed, wash the hide in warm soapy water. (Detergents are fine for this purpose.) This will remove the soot and smoke smell. Rinse the hide in clear warm water, wring it out, open it up and suspend it in an open shady place to dry. When dry, the hide will have a wrinkled appearance similar to crepe paper. A light working and stretching will open the hide, completing the tanning process. With a knife trim off approximately 1/4 inch around the hide, since this invariably remains hard.

That's all there is to it. Where you go from here depends on your own ingenuity and skill with a needle and thread. Of course, you have to get that deer first. Good luck! **

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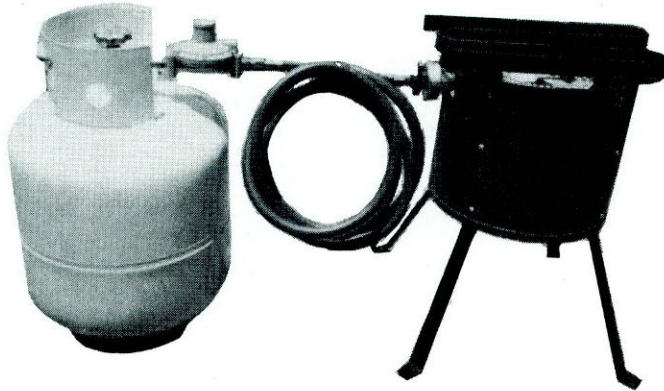
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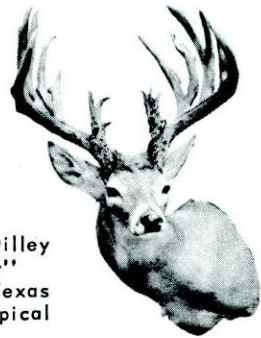
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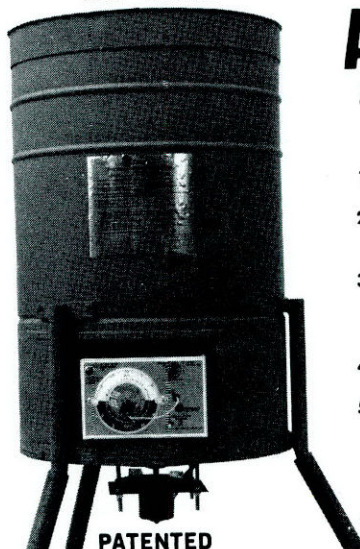
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Young Naturalist

by Ilo Hiller

Hunting Safety

November brings to mind thoughts of pilgrims, Thanksgiving turkey, pumpkin pie, visiting relatives and other such holiday images. However, November holds another special meaning for many Texans; it marks the beginning of the state's regular hunting season for white-tailed deer.

It is truly an exciting time of year, especially for those young naturalists who are going deer hunting for the first time. If you happen to be one of them, we hope you are taking more into the field with you than a loaded gun and your enthusiasm.

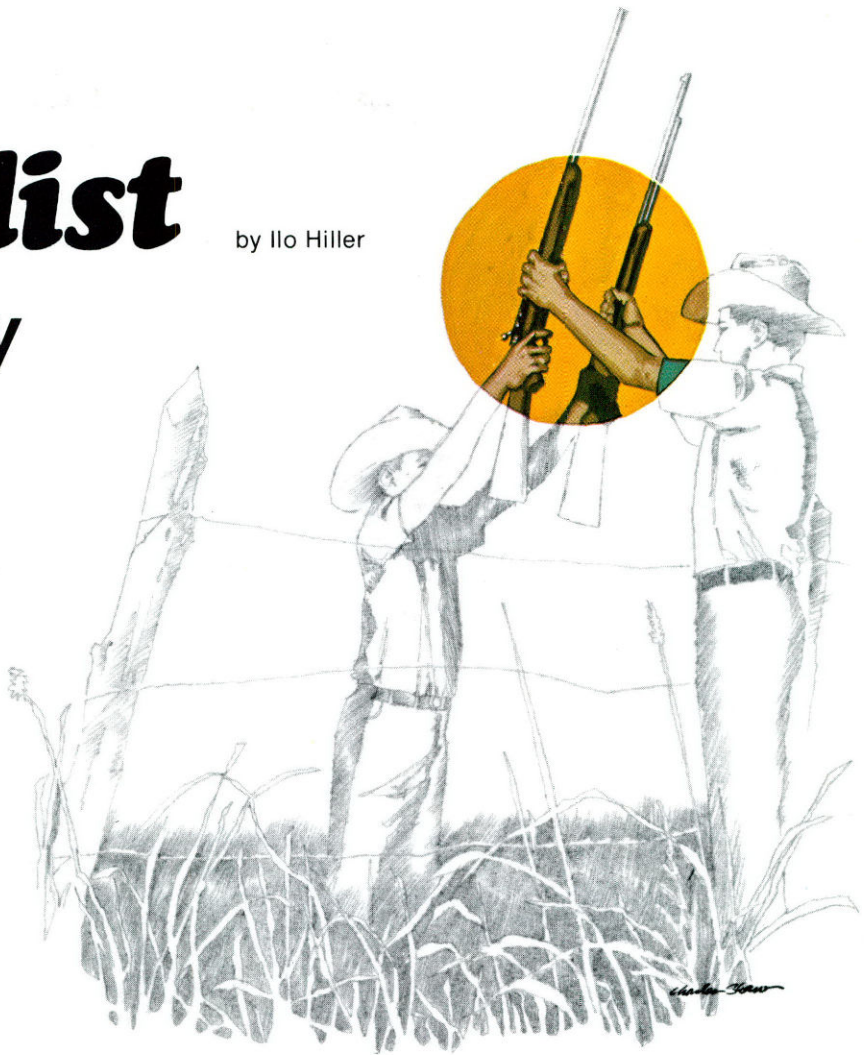
Hopefully, you will also take along a knowledge of hunting safety and safe gun handling. The rifle you will be carrying has been designed to kill, and the bullet it shoots cannot tell the difference between the flesh of a deer or a human.

Many of you have received your hunting instructions from a father, grandfather, uncle, big brother or friend. But some may have gone a step further and enrolled in a volunteer hunting safety course sponsored by this department.

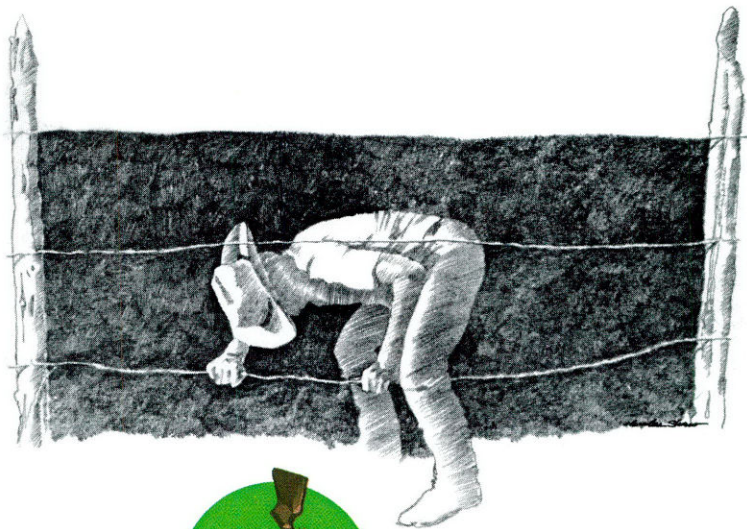
This course, open for certification to anyone 12 years of age or older for a \$1 registration fee, teaches safe gun handling, hunter responsibility in the field, basic game laws, game identification and hunter-landowner relationships. Those who complete the course receive attractive safe-hunter patches to sew on their hunting jackets and safe hunter certificates for their wallets. They are also allowed to keep their classroom materials for future reference.

There may still be time before opening day for you to attend a hunter safety course but, if not, don't let the season pass without receiving this safety training. To find out who your local volunteer instructor is, contact your game warden or write: Hunter Safety Coordinator, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, John H. Reagan Building, Austin, Texas 78701.

A careful study of hunting accidents



Never try to cross a fence while carrying your rifle. If you have a companion along, hand him your unloaded rifle before you cross. Once you are safely on the other side, he can hand both unloaded rifles over to you (above) before he crosses. When you are alone, put your unloaded rifle under the fence first. It should be placed flat on the ground with the barrel pointed away from you (below).





Here are three recommended safe carrying positions for your rifle to protect you and your hunting companions when you are walking side-by-side with loaded guns. There are, of course, variations to these positions. For example, the hunter on the left (above right) might prefer to use a two-hand carry with the forepart of the gun resting on the palm of his left hand and the small of the stock held by his right hand. The important things to remember whenever you are carrying a loaded gun are: (1) maintain control of the direction of the barrel at all times, especially if you turn, stumble or fall; (2) maintain a firm grip on the gun, and (3) be sure the safety is on until you are ready to pull the trigger. If you should happen to fall, be sure to completely unload the gun before checking to see if the barrel is clear. Do not shoot the gun without checking the barrel since an obstruction could cause the barrel to explode when the gun is fired.

has shown that most of them could have been avoided if those involved had practiced hunting safety. Careless gun handling alone is responsible for at least 35 percent of the accidents which occur.

To protect you and your hunting companions when you are walking together with loaded guns, there are three recommended safe carrying positions. When there are two of you and your hunting companion is on your right, you should cradle your rifle in the crook of your left arm and grasp the stock behind the trigger guard with your left hand. In this position, the barrel of the gun is pointed away from your companion.

Your companion's rifle should be carried on his right shoulder with the trigger guard up and his trigger finger resting on the outside of the guard. In this position the barrel of the gun is pointed behind him; however, he must remember not to turn to his right or he will bring the barrel around towards you. Both rifles should have their safeties on until the rifles are aimed and ready to shoot. It takes only a little practice to learn to release the safety quickly just before pulling the trigger.

When there is a third hunter along, he should walk on the extreme right of the other two. His rifle should be cradled in the crook of his right arm and balanced on his forearm so the barrel points toward the ground. Although it is not as easy to get ready for a shot from this third position, it is the safest way for this third hunter to carry his rifle. Now the hunter in the middle with the gun on his right shoulder must remember not to turn to the right or left or he will bring the barrel of his gun toward one of his companions. To avoid this he, too, might wish to carry his rifle in the third position.

When walking single file, it is suggested the hunter in front balance his rifle on his forearm in the barrel-down position, the middle hunter cradle his with the barrel pointed left or right and the final hunter carry his on his shoulder with the barrel pointed behind.

Careless hunters also create safety problems when they come to a fence or other obstacle they must cross. Improper gun handling at times like these account for many of the hunting accidents.

The proper thing is to unload the chamber and leave the action open (or, better still, completely unload the gun) before attempting to cross. It is safer to go through or over a fence without a rifle so, when you are alone, put your rifle under the fence before crossing. It



Although not required, wear a blaze or fluorescent orange cap or vest for safety. The camouflaged hunter above could easily be mistaken for a deer.

should be placed flat on the ground with the barrel pointed away from you, not leaned against the fence where it might fall over and discharge. When you are with someone, hand your companion your unloaded rifle with the action open, cross the fence and then take both unloaded rifles so he can safely cross. This way of crossing takes longer, but isn't your life or the life of your hunting companion worth the extra time?

Since many accidents occur while climbing in or out of deer blinds or trees, we suggest the hunter use a rope to hoist his **unloaded** gun into the stand or return it to the ground. If the rope is tied to the trigger guard with a half hitch around the stock, the gun will hang in a barrel-down position while being raised or lowered.

Pulling the trigger can be the most dangerous time of the hunt if you haven't been taught to make sure of your target. That rustling noise in the bushes could be another hunter instead of a deer, so never shoot at what you cannot see or properly identify. Be-

fore shooting, also make sure there is nothing behind or close to the deer, such as livestock, a ranch house or a public road. Remember, if you miss your target, that bullet will continue to travel for quite a distance.

Although Texas has no clothing regulations, the safe hunter should wear a blaze or fluorescent orange cap or vest which can be easily spotted at a distance. It could save your life. Camouflage clothing sometimes works too well and another hunter may lose sight of you in a bush.

As a courtesy to your hunting companions and nearby hunters, don't take potshots at everything you see. When you go deer hunting, deer should be your target. Taking practice shots at an armadillo, raccoon or opossum could spoil the day for everyone. A big buck might have been ready to step out of the nearby brush until your shot warned him of your presence.

Mature gun handling comes with experience but, if you remember these safety tips, your first hunt should be a safe one, and not your last. **

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Weed Treatment

I own a lakefront lot on Lake Nocona and am having a problem with weeds and growth taking over the waterfront. The weeds are in depths of six to eight feet. I would like to know how they can be controlled.

Lester E. Taylor
Wichita Falls

■ Our biologists believe that Diuron (trade name Karmex) applied at the rate of two to three pounds per surface area will probably solve your problems.

Sporting Stamps

Does Texas issue any state "sporting stamps" such as the federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamps? If so, who designs the stamps and are they available for collectors? How is the money received for the stamps used?

E. Clark Bloom
Alturas, California

■ Texas has issued a White-winged Dove Stamp each year since 1971. This

stamp, designed by the Graphic Arts Section of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, sells for \$3 per year and entitles the purchaser to harvest whitewings during the current season. Over 34,000 were sold during the 1973-74 season. Although the majority were purchased by hunters, conservation-minded non-hunters also buy these stamps. They know that the revenue from the sale of the stamps is used not only for dove research but also for the acquisition and development of brushland habitat or food plots which benefit whitewings as well as other wildlife species. Without this native brushland to provide food, nesting cover and protection, the future of the whitewing in Texas is questionable.

Stamp collectors may purchase the stamps before their expiration date for the full \$3 and share in the dove research and habitat restoration program. After expiration, the stamps may be purchased for philatelic purposes for 10 cents each, plus five percent sales tax, plus 10 cents postage, plus 20 cents processing fee.

Beginning this fall, a new stamp will be issued to bowhunters. This Archery Stamp, also designed by our Graphic Arts Section, will sell for \$3.25. It is estimated that 20,000 to 40,000 will be sold. Money from the sale of this stamp will go into Special Game and Fish Fund Number Nine from which all game and fish programs are financed.

Female Crabs Gone?

Over the Labor Day weekend we caught 66 crabs. There was not one female crab in the bunch. Is there any special reason for this?

I have been crabbing for at least 45 years and this is the first time, ever, I have neither caught nor seen a female crab.

Mrs. A. C. Little
Baytown

■ The migratory habits of the blue crab are such that the females leave the upper, brackish waters of the bays after mating. They develop the egg-bearing sponges and spawn the young in the high-salinity water of the lower bay or the Gulf. The males remain in the more fresh waters of the upper bay where food and shelter are abundant.

This year the separation of the sexes may be more pronounced because of the relatively fresh condition of the bays. The male crab is a preferred catch because of its higher meat yield over the female which becomes weakened by egg development.

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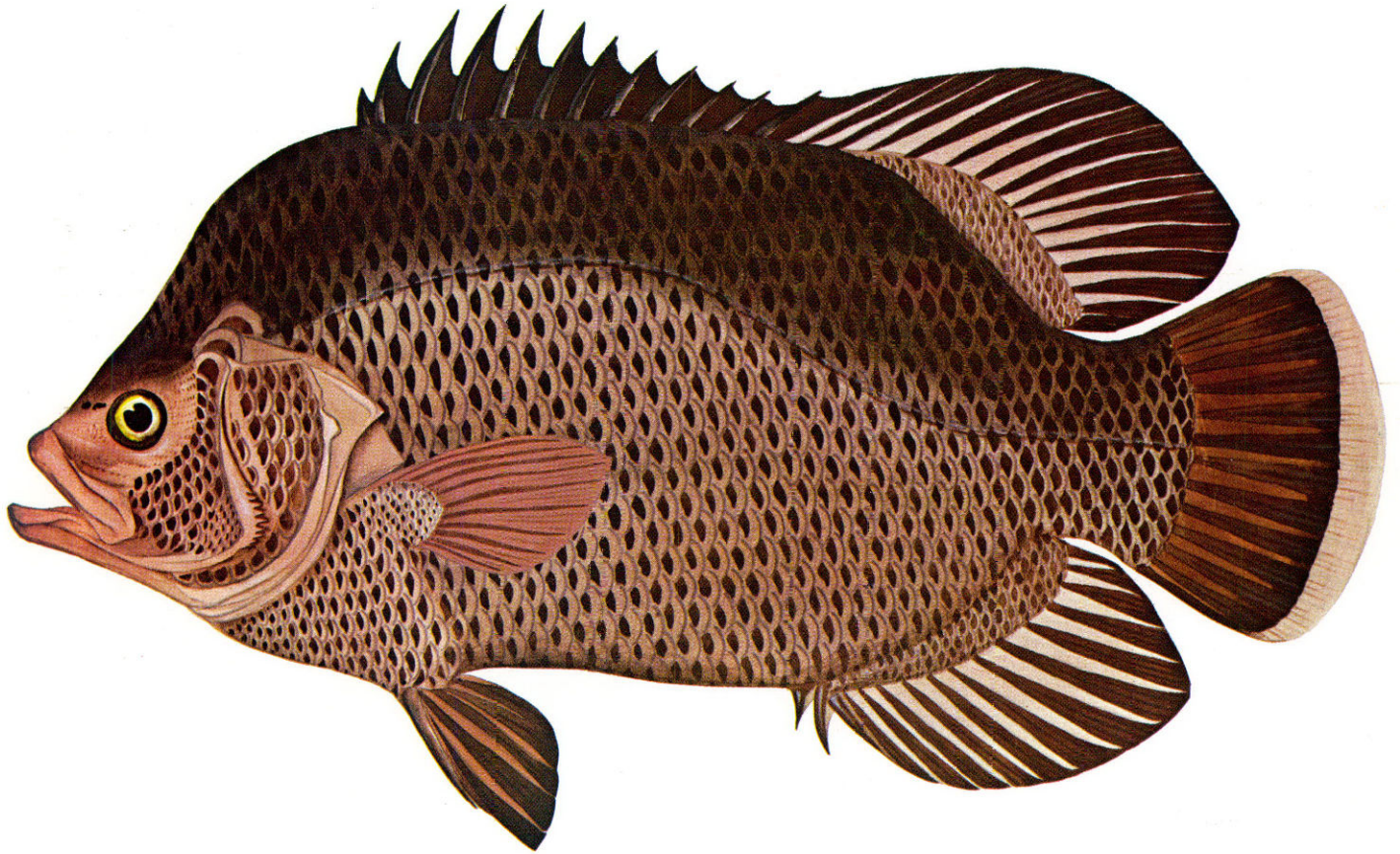
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BACK COVER

Whether you are a hunter, ornithologist, photographer or outdoor enthusiast, the sight of pintails rising off a pond is an enjoyable sight. Research and management programs, financed by hunters, are one way to ensure that such sights continue to be available for all groups to enjoy in their own way. Photo by Bill Reaves.



TEXAS SALTWATER FISHES

As the tripletail, *Lobotes surinamensis*, floats on its side on the water's surface, its coloration and movements resemble that of a dead leaf. This protective mimicry has caused many a person to mistake this fish for floating debris.

Tripletails prefer the mouths of rivers, passes and bays opening into the Gulf, displaying some indifference as to the salinity of the water. They congregate around shipwrecks, buoys, boats, beacons, pilings, rock jetties and floating objects. In the spring and summer, especially at night, they approach quite close to shore over shallow sand flats and may be

taken in nets. Since their food consists of small fishes, crabs and shellfish, the angler will find that live baits such as shrimp, clams and mullet are preferred. This good food fish puts up a strong fight when hooked.

Although the tripletail attains a length of three feet and a weight of 30 to 50 pounds, the average one caught on the Texas coast ranges between five and 15 pounds. However, the state record tripletail, caught off Port O'Connor in 1971, weighed 28 pounds eight ounces.

Artwork by Henry Compton.

