****texas parks&wildlifenews

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PUBLIC MAY COMMENT ON WILDLIFE LAWS

AUSTIN - Texas sportsmen can have a voice in the formation of new hunting, trapping and fishing laws, even if they cannot attend the public hearings now in progress across the state.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials said written or telephoned comments on the proposed law changes will be accepted until April 11. These comments will be presented to the Parks and Wildlife Commission before it officially adopts the new regulations for 1980-81.

Many Texans may be unable to attend the hearings, which sometimes have to be scheduled during normal working hours. Also, some sportsmen are interested in regulations affecting distant counties in which they hunt, fish or trap.

Comments may be mailed to the department at 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744, or by calling Philip K. Evans at (512) 475-4875.

The proposed changes have been published in many newspapers throughout the state. However, information on the proposals for specific counties may also be obtained by contacting local game wardens or TP&WD offices.

The changes will be in effect prior to the 1980-81 hunting seasons, and all the regulations will be published in the department's 1980-81 Guide to Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Regulations booklet to be distributed in August.

MISSION TEJAS GIVEN

AUSTIN - Mission Tejas State Historical Park in Houston County has been given a large photograph of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) company which constructed the log structure representing the old Spanish mission almost 50 years ago.

The CCC was created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1930s in the wake of the Great Depression, and the federal program put unemployed young men to work constructing facilities which still are in use in dozens of Texas state parks.

Herman H. Spoede, who was captain of CCC Company 888, recently presented the picture to Park Superintendent Mike Konczak.

The location of Mission Tejas is based partly on the reputed discovery of a cannon believed to have been buried by the Spanish when they abandoned the mission in 1693. The park site was acquired by the Parks and Wildlife Department in 1957.

Recreation facilities at the park include multi-use campsites, trailer sites, covered pavilion, playground, nature hiking trails and a fishing lake for youngsters.

The park is located in the Davy Crockett National Forest on State Highway 21 about 22 miles northeast of Crockett. Campsite reservations or other information may be obtained by calling (713) 687-2394.

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TP&WD RECEIVES FIRST 'ENVIRONMENTAL COMMENDATION'

AUSTIN - The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has been selected recipient of the first Environmental Commendation award by the Texas Resources and Environmental Council.

The council is made up of representatives of trade associations, labor organizations and industries across the state. Spokesmen said the council is concerned with positive innovations in solid waste management, resource recovery, recycling and litter reduction as they relate to industry and consumers.

The department was cited for its Junior Ranger Program, in which youngsters volunteer to help control litter in state parks. So far, more than 13,500 pounds of litter have been collected by 2,500 volunteers at 26 participating parks.

COMMISSION APPROVES FEDERAL PARK FUNDS

AUSTIN - The Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission has authorized expenditure of \$8.3 million in federal funds for local park projects under the Land and Water Conservation Fund program.

In a public meeting in Austin Feb. 28, the commission voted to support the following projects:

Mesquite (Westover), \$245,000; Grimes County (Memorial Park), \$56,790; Wichita Falls (Lucy Park), \$272,945; La Villa (La Villa Parks), \$174,000; Rowlett (Herfurth Memorial Park), \$301,900; McCulloch County (Lohn Valley Park), \$26,208; McAllen (Boys Club, Escandon, Westside, South Main, Balboa, Robin, Hackberry and Southside Parks), \$705,784; Round Rock (Southwest Park), \$62,950; Moody (Mattie Neely Park), \$114,015; Temple (Wilson and Lion's Parks), \$312,500; Nacogdoches (Lake Nacogdoches Park), \$150,402; La Joya (City Park), \$21,500; Rockwall (Central Park), \$130,154; Culberson County (County Park), \$97,858; Cedar Park (Rivera Springs Park), \$73,250; Corrigan (North, South, East and West Parks), \$56,800; Marjon (City Park), \$37,050; Euless (Little Bear Creek, phase two), \$113,216; Trinity (Trinity Park), \$92,121; Center (Garret St. Park), \$84,250; Everman (Everman Swimming Pool), \$115,000; Somervell County (County Park), \$18,295; Austin (Walnut Creek), \$1,144,185; Mesquite (McKenzie Park), \$32,000; Smiley (Old Smiley Lake Park), \$25,000; Wylie (Community Park), \$234,155; Haskell County (Scott Memorial Park), \$32,459; Jacksonville (Jacksonville Park), \$191,437; Denison (Airport Park), \$44,000; Henderson (Lake Forest and Yates Parks), \$58,250; Gatesville (Raby, Fauntleroy and Grant Parks), \$133,098; Texarkana (Springlake Park, phase two), \$37,615; Saint Jo (Boggess Park), \$40,891; Jacksonville (Lincoln Park), \$75,000; Jacksboro (tennis courts), \$28,578; Mexia (City Park), \$191,919; Wichita Falls (Belair Park), \$30,679; Humble (City Park, phase two), \$94,095; Anton (Baseball Park), \$18,960; College Station (Thomas Park, phase two), \$75,750; Haskell (City Park), \$30,626; Hurst (athletic fields, phase two), \$401,961; San Marcos (Camp Gary Park), \$48,018; Amarillo (Southeast Park), \$63,088; Victoria County (Dincans Park), \$45,000; Whitesboro (Community Park Pool), \$140,000; Hunter's Creek Village (Hike and Bikeway), \$65,000; Piney Point Village (Hike and Bikeway), \$62,500; Crosbyton (City Park), \$26,250; Arlington (multi-purpose athletic complex), \$668,563; Beaumont (Riverfront Park), \$32,400; Canyon (Southeast Park, phase two), \$222,067; Giddings (City Park), \$46,125; Amarillo (Southwest Park, Phase three), \$144,820; Amarillo (Southwest Park, phase four), \$40,770; Collingsworth County (Pioneer Park), \$19,063; Jasper (Caradine Community Park), \$55,356; Fredericksburg (Lady Bird Johnson Park), \$38,405; Mesquite (park site).

\$165,900; Lufkin (tennis improvements), \$51,065; Wichita Falls (Kiwanis Park), \$12,250; Portland (Portland Softball Complex, phase two), \$61,812; Wheeler (City Park), \$8,588; Muleshoe (Baseball and Community Parks), \$5,175; Greenville (Jones Park), \$39,600; Winkler County (Winkler County Tennis Courts), \$27,700; Anton (tennis courts), \$20,488; and Lubbock (Lubbock Athletic Complex), \$218,525.

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FREE LITERATURE AVAILABLE ON BOATING SAFETY

AUSTIN - The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has two boating information packets which should be of interest to boaters this spring and summer.

"Boating Basics" contains 25 brochures with varied information for both the new and experienced boater.

"Whitewater Information" has 10 brochures of particular interest to the whitewater canoeist.

To obtain these packets or other information about boating, call the department's statewide toll-free number 1-800-252-9327, or in Austin 475-4895. Requests also may be mailed to Water Safety Education, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744.

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