

Texas hunting regulations, fees

PURPOSE AND AUTHORITY

This copy is from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's digest. It is a summary of rules adopted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission under authority of Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, Chapter 64, Subchapter C for the taking of migratory game birds.

Federal regulations related to migratory game birds are located in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.

For more information on federal regulations contact: Special Agent-in-Charge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), P.O. Box 329, Albuquerque, NM 87103. Telephone (505) 248-7889. Consult the 2002-2003 Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Outdoor Annual for additional information on hunting in Texas.

DEFINITIONS BAITED AREA

Any area where salt, grain or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered, if that salt, grain or other feed could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Any such areas will remain a baited area for ten days following the complete removal of all such salt, grain or other feed.

BAITING

The direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of salt, grain or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them.

DAILY BAG LIMIT

The maximum number of birds as specified for each species which may be taken during the legal shooting hours of any one day.

LIGHT GEESE

Snow (including blue) and Ross' geese.

DARK GEESE

All other geese including Canada and white-fronted.

LAWFUL ARCHERY EQUIPMENT

Longbow, recurved bow or compound bow. Crossbows are unlawful.

LEGAL SHOTGUN

Shotguns not larger than 10 gauge, fired from the shoulder, and incapable of holding more than 3 shells. Shotguns capable of holding more than 3 shells must be plugged with a one-piece filler which cannot be removed without disassembling the gun, so the gun's total capacity does not exceed 3 shells.

LIVESTOCK

Cattle, horses, mules, sheep, goats and hogs.

MANIPULATION

The alteration of natural vegetation or agricultural crops, including but not limited to mowing, shredding, discing, rolling, chopping, trampling, flattening, burning and herbicide treatments. Manipulation does not include the distributing or scattering of grain, seed or other feed after removal from or storage on the field where grown.

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

All wild species of ducks, mergansers, geese, brant, coots, rails, gallinules, plovers, Wilson's snipe or jacksnipe, woodcock, mourning doves, white-winged doves, white-tipped (white-fronted) doves, red-billed pigeons, band-tailed pigeons, shorebirds of all varieties and sandhill cranes.

NATURAL VEGETATION

Any non-agricultural, native or naturalized plant species that grows at a site in response to planting or from existing seeds or propagule. Natural vegetation does not include planted millet. However, planted millet that grows on its own in subsequent years after the planting is considered natural vegetation.

NORMAL AGRICULTURAL PRACTICE

A normal agricultural planting, harvesting, or post-harvest manipulation or livestock feeding conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

NORMAL SOIL STABILIZATION PRACTICE

A planting for agricultural soil erosion control or post-mining land reclamation conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

POSSESSION LIMIT

The maximum number of birds that can be possessed at one time.

RESIDENT

A person who has lived in Texas for more than 6 months immediately before applying for a license and members of the United States Armed Forces (and their dependents) on active duty anywhere.

NON-RESIDENT: Any person who is not a resident.

SINKBOX

A low floating device conceal-

ing a person below the surface of the water.

WATERFOWL

Ducks (including teal), geese, mergansers and coots.

GENERAL RULES LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

All migratory game bird hunters must have a valid hunting license. Non-residents under 17 yrs. of age are designated as residents and may hunt with a resident license. Hunters 17 yrs. of age or older must have a driver's license or personal identification certificate (issued by the Department of Public Safety) on their person while hunting. Non-residents must have similar documents issued by the agency in the state or country of which the person is a resident that is authorized to issue driver's licenses or personal identification certificates.

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

A person is required to possess either an Annual Public Hunting Permit or a Daily Hunting Permit to hunt migratory game birds on certain state and federal lands and on private lands leased by the State for public hunting purposes. Youth under the age of 17 may hunt free of charge on these lands.

STAMP ENDORSEMENT REQUIREMENTS

A person 17 yrs. of age or older (See Regulations, Page 7)

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