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## What TPWD Can do for You

Mike Mitchell  
Milam County Game Warden  
June 23, 2008

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Fish and Oyster Commission  
*Game Department*

State Parks Board

Texas Parks & Wildlife

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## Discussion Objectives

- Describe the Agency
- Outline its Services
- Educate you on future resources



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## Mission Statement

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

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## Texas Nature Trackers

- Box Turtle Survey Project
- Texas Hummingbird Roundup
- Texas Monarch Watch
- Texas Amphibian Watch
- Texas Horned Lizard Watch
- Hometown Horned Toads Essay Project
- Texas Black-tailed Prairie Dog Watch
- Texas Mussel Watch



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## One Nature Tracker Example: Texas Horned Lizard Watch

- Informational Brochures
- Monitoring Packet
  - Adopt a Habitat
  - Transect Lines
  - Lizard Spotters
- Seven similar programs




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## Project WILD

- K-12<sup>th</sup> grade conservation education program
- Teachers and volunteers
- In-service / CEUs offered
- TEKS & TAKS correlated
- All day workshops; see TPWD web site




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## Hunter Education

- Taught to 30,000 Texans annually
- Offered up to 11 times annually in Milam County
- Good in all 50 states; good for life
- Taught by volunteers (4 locals)
- Cost is \$15 / student
- Instructors are sought




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## Angler Education



- Taught by volunteers
- Generally offered for free
- May include fly fishing
- May be adjusted for the audience
- First taught in Milam County in 2006
- Volunteers always sought; certification required
- Loaner tackle & tools available locally



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## Boater Education

- Required for those born after 1984
- Cost is \$13
- Taught by volunteers
- Also available online



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## Outdoor Kids



- Up to Grade 6
- Web Site with Tons of Material
  - Dinosaur Division skills
  - Multiplying Armadillos
  - Outdoor Survival
- Gateway to Junior Naturalists

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## Kids Online Publications

- Ideas for self-paced explorations and service projects.
- Print a journal for the children and a certificate at the end
- Adults enjoy them too!



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## Biologist Assists

- Technical and Land Guidance
- Two biologists based out of Bryan office
- Wildlife Tax Exemption status
- Landowner Workshops
- Wildlife Management Plans
- The price is right!



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## Grants

- Texas Recreational Parks Account
- Recreational Trail Grants
- Boat Access Grants
- Community Outdoor Outreach Grants
- Small Community Grants
- Sewage Pumpout Grants



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## Internships

- Introduce interested college students, particularly women and minorities, to career opportunities in positions
- Offers practical experience and training in natural and cultural resource fields
- Pays \$9-11/hourly
- Considered a future hiring resource

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## Volunteer Programs

- Park Hosts
- Tour Guides
- Trail Maintenance
- Outreach Assistance
- Special Event Assistance
- State Park Friends



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## Annual EXPO

- Begun in 1992; at Austin headquarters
- Tribute to hunting, fishing & outdoors
- Visitors fish, shoot, kayak, rock climb, mountain bike, see and touch wildlife, learn about recreation, see and buy the latest in outdoor gear and services
- Held annually in October, free




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## Products

- License Plates
- Trail Maps
- Licenses & Permits
- *Outdoor Annual*
- Magazine
- State Parks Guide




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## Giving Your Feedback

- Get Involved; Get Educated
- Public Comment
- Two bodies make our rules
  - Legislature
  - TPWD Commissioners
- Commission Hearings

6 BE IT REMEMBERED that heretofore on the  
 7 5th day of APRIL 2011, there came on to be heard  
 8 matters under the regulatory authority of the  
 9 Parks and Wildlife Commission of Texas, in the  
 10 commission hearing room of the Texas Parks and  
 11 Wildlife Headquarters complex, Austin, Travis  
 12 County, Texas, beginning at 9:10 a.m., to wit:  
 13  
 14 APPEARANCES:-

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## Additional Resources

- Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
  - [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us)
- Wildlife Damage Management Service
  - <http://agextension.tamu.edu/twdms/twdmshom.htm>
- Texas Extension Service
  - <http://texasextension.tamu.edu/>
  - [tcebookstore.org](http://tcebookstore.org)
- Texas Animal Health Commission
  - [www.tahc.state.tx.us](http://www.tahc.state.tx.us)

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