

August 2017

TPW TV Mobile Storytellers

Tuesday, August 1st, 2017

Dale Blasingame uses cell phones in his mobile storytelling class.

This mobile storytelling class is one that I pitched because it marries my 2 loves which are technology and being outdoors.

Blasingame teaches journalism at Texas State. He brought his class to [Garner State Park](#) so they could combine their journalistic skills and phones' cameras to tell stories.

They're going to be working primarily with their phone, shooting on their phone and then editing on their phone as well. These skills are just how it's done now. Texas Parks and Wildlife has said it needs help getting college-aged students into the parks. So that's what a lot of our video projects are going to focus on.

Some stories were immediately uploaded to social media.

Hi, I'm Katy! And I'm Dy from the School of Journalism and Mass Comm. And we're taking over the Texas State Snapchat.

Snapchat is a social media platform for sharing photos and videos.

So we're going to be interviewing people and learning about their experiences with the outdoors. With Snapchat I don't have to think too much and just kind of share what's going on right now.

Watch them in action next week on a [Texas Parks and Wildlife TV](#) segment on PBS called Mobile Storytellers; [check your local listings](#).

What I really like about mobile storytelling is that it's a lot easier to stay connected to where you are and what you're doing.

Panhandle Playas and the Ogallala Aquifer

Wednesday, August 2nd, 2017

A [playa lake is a natural landscape feature](#) of the vast, flat expanse of the Great Plains and Texas High Plains.

Really, what it is, is a low spot where rainwater collects.

More than a mere low spot, Texas Parks and Wildlife biologist Don Kahl says Texas playas are ephemeral wetlands, and vital recharge points for the [Ogallala Aquifer](#).

They're really the most direct link between rainwater or rainfall to the Ogallala Aquifer below. The amount of water going into the aquifer is from 10 to 100 times greater in a playa basin as compared to surrounding soils or surrounding upland areas.

Kahl calls playas “self-contained watersheds”, each playa is the center collection point of runoff from surrounding uplands. Most playas only exist for a brief time after it rains. Clay soil lines the bottoms of these shallow basins permitting the rainwater and runoff to collect and slowly filter into the aquifer below.

In combination with a healthy playa, having a grass buffer around it helps to filter out sediments and some of the contaminants running off of neighboring fields. You also get a secondary cleaning with the clay layer in the basin, helping to filter out other contaminants and nitrates as the water passes down into the aquifer.

Recharge rates are slow, and it takes years for rainwater to pass from playas, through soil, and into the aquifer.

The Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration program supports our series and funds diverse conservation projects throughout Texas.

Ephemeral Panhandle Wetlands

Thursday, August 3rd, 2017

Something that is ephemeral is random, and exists for a short time, such as the [playa lakes in Texas' High Plains](#).

On average, playas are only wet one out of every ten years. And as we go from one side of the panhandle to the other, from west to east, our rainfall totals increase. So, the likelihood of a playa being wet increases as you go further east. On the western side of the panhandle, along the New Mexico border, it could be tens of years between wet spells for these playas.

Biologist Don Kahl says playas are the most direct link for rainfall to reach the Ogallala Aquifer. Yet, their importance goes further yet.

There's numerous plant species that can be found [around playas] – upwards to 350 plant species. And up to a couple hundred different bird species can be found around playas. So, they're very useful, especially in the high plains landscape.

Playa lakes are valuable to migrating waterfowl, too.

It's a very productive area for waterfowl whenever we do have the rain. Our mid-winter surveys in 2017, which were conducted this past January, set an all-time high for our estimate of the number of ducks for the High Plains of Texas, at about 1.4 million ducks in the Panhandle. So, this past year was good evidence of just how productive it can be for waterfowl.

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Restoring the Playa Lakes

Friday, August 4th, 2017

Playa lakes are shallow clay basins bordered by native grasses that depend on rainfall to fill them. Panhandle playas provide a direct link for rainwater to reach the Ogallala Aquifer, and as stopovers for migrating waterfowl.

[But] land use has altered playas in many different ways. Some playas are completely barren and farmed through – which is one issue.

Biologist, Don Kahl says an initiative started in 2014 by a coalition of organizations is returning functionality to altered playas.

We're targeting the playas that have a grass buffer around them – that helps with that primary filtering – and playas that have pits that were dug into them. These pits typically aren't used anymore. They were used in irrigation practices back in the fifties. The easiest way to fix a playa that's pitted is basically to go back in and put the dirt back into the hole to seal off that clay layer.

Deep pits dug into playas force rainwater into limited areas, greatly reducing a basin's usefulness. But by backfilling the manmade pits...

It's going to: 1) help reestablish the filtering mechanism [for the aquifer], and 2) instead of all that water collecting in a deep pit in the middle, we're going to spread that water back across the playa to create that shallow water habitat that we want for waterfowl.

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Buy a License, Feed the Hungry & Help a Veteran

Monday, August 7th, 2017

When **licenses go on sale August 15**, Texas hunters and anglers may donate to one of two worthy non-profits.

You can make the voluntary contribution of either one dollar, five dollars, ten dollars or twenty dollars to either the Fund for Veterans Assistance, or to help feed Texas families with a donation to Hunters for the Hungry.

Justin Halvorsen is revenue director at Texas Parks and Wildlife, and says donating is voluntary and easy.

It's through any one of our sales channels. Either online, over the phone, at a retail agent, or any one of our parks and wildlife locations.

The agency keeps close tabs the donations.

And then, at the end of every month, it'll go into a separate pot, and we'll send it along to those respective entities [nonprofits].

The program debuted last season and Texans were generous; Texas Parks and Wildlife distributed, \$193-thousand to the Fund for Veteran's, and \$106-thousand to Hunters for the Hungry. You may ask: is my donation tax deductible?

That is a great question. And there will be a receipt that gets printed as part of this that specifically says that this is a donation to the Veteran's Fund or Hunters for the Hungry. And then, really, it's up to the individual and their tax preparer to make that ultimate decision.

Request an itemized receipt from retailers, and find more information on the TPW website.

Eye on the Sky for Meteor Showers

Tuesday, August 8th, 2017

Small fragments of cosmic debris that enter the earth's atmosphere at high rates of speed become visible as streaks of light we call meteors.

The Perseid meteor shower peaks mid-August. Enchanted Rock SNA will host a star festival August 12-13 to celebrate. It is a recognized Dark Sky Park, and you may see up to 75 meteors an hour. The festival runs from 6 to 11 p.m. on Saturday. Park hours will be extended until 3 am to view the Perseids.

The Orionids is another meteoric spectacle that takes place from early October through Mid-November. In a normal year 20-25 meteors an hour streak across the sky; in a great year, as many as 50/hr.

The Leonids, created by the comet Temple-Tuttle, are visible much of November. They have offered stunning meteor storms in the past, but expect only 15 meteors an hour through 2031; that's when the comet reappears.

The Geminids, visible from early to mid-December, are bright and intensely colored. Meteors start showing up before 10 p.m., so you don't have to get up in the middle of the night to see them.

Whether you see 1 or 100 meteors, it's always a thrill.

Promising Dove Season Ahead

Wednesday, August 9th, 2017

Wing shooters are finalizing their plans for the dove season opener, September 1 in the north and central zones, and September 22 in the south zone.

When we look at mourning harvests historically, we see the central part of the state has been very good along with south Texas. Those are really the two strongholds for good harvest counties when we look at distribution of harvest across the counties of Texas.

Shaun Oldenburger is the migratory shore and upland game bird program leader. He says data returned thus far suggests a good dove season statewide.

The great thing about doves is they're a generalist. So, no matter if you go to the Trans Pecos desert, or if you're in east Texas Pineywoods with 80-inches of rain the last couple of years, we've got doves. So, that's one thing that really makes dove hunting attractive to folks, is they can get out pretty much anywhere in the state and have success.

Oldenburger says dove hunting provides a gateway into the hunting tradition for folks new to the activity. And you just need the basics to get started.

You don't need a whole lot [of specialized gear] for dove hunting. You have to have your hunting license, and then also you need a shotgun and shotgun shells. And you need a spot to go. In reality – that's all you need for dove hunting.

How to prepare for the season ahead. That's next time.

The Wildlife Restoration Program supports our series, and funds Mourning Dove Density, Distribution, and Harvest surveys in Texas.

Preparing for Dove Season

Thursday, August 10th, 2017

As the dove season opener approaches, hunters should ask themselves if they are ready to go into the field.

Make sure that you have all of your licenses before the hunting season. And also make sure that you have your hunter safety card.

Shaun Oldenburger is the migratory shore and upland game bird program leader. Licenses and hunter safety cards are just the beginning of preparedness.

Another thing we ask hunters to do before September first is to actually dust off that shotgun, get outside and shoot some clays. Practice a little bit with your shotgun. You know, a lot of folks stumble around August 31st trying to find all their gear before September first. But a couple of weeks prior, get your stuff together, spend a little time going through it. Get out and shoot some

clays. Get out and practice a little bit with that shotgun. You can have a lot better experience on your first hunting day. Are you going to get out there this season? I hope so. I actually have a meeting in Kansas that week, but I'm definitely going to get out that weekend, and hopefully get an opportunity to harvest some white wing doves and mourning doves.

[Find season information and bag limits](#) for all fall hunting opportunities on the Texas parks and Wildlife website.

That's our show, funded in part by the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program. Through your purchases of hunting and fishing equipment, and motorboat fuels, over 40 million dollars in conservation efforts are funded in Texas each year.

Good Timing & Skill = Successful Dove Season

Friday, August 11th, 2017

Beginning in September, dove hunters have 90 days to harvest this plentiful game bird.

We harvest over five million mourning doves annually – which is an amazing number if you think about it. We're the number one dove harvest state in the nation.

Shaun Oldenburger, migratory shore and upland game bird program leader, says that's just a small percentage of available birds.

We have a lot of biologists out there trapping birds right now. And we're seeing a lot of hatch year young – juvenile birds in the population – so that means it will be a good opening season for folks getting out September first, or whenever their opening day is in their zone.

Dove hunting is “front end loaded” meaning most hunters that want to hunt... do so early in the season.

In some places, especially our north zone, pretty much by the first week in October, 90 percent of the harvest has already occurred for that zone for the season. Now, we do have a 90 day season, so it's a long season. But, what we do is allow those other days to occur for other folks that may have an opportunity later on. We want to make those hunting seasons as flexible as possible for folks, because some people may enjoy going later when there's not as many hunters out. So we allot a lot of flexibility for dove hunting.

[Find bag limits and other hunting regulations](#) on the Texas Parks and Wildlife website.

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Landscaping to Save Water

Monday, August 14th, 2017

It's possible to conserve water and have a lush landscape. And they prove that point every day in San Antonio.

The San Antonio Botanical Gardens is home to six miniature houses on Water Savers Lane, which showcase unique landscapes that feature water-saving designs. Sir Oliver Smith, a master naturalist, describes the typical landscape, complete with a water thirsty lawn.

This is what most people have. They have the traditional hedges at the door and all that manicuring you have to do every week. So this is probably what we don't want if you want to save on money and save on grass and save on water.

For comparison, he points out an attractive landscape that replaces turf with groundcover.

People like this look; it's a little less maintenance. And you're replacing some of the lawn with Asiatic jasmine, which takes no water.

While the jasmine isn't native, the others are. Native plants generally require less water to survive.

Everyone thinks native plants are just a sticky agarita and the yuccas and the sotals. But all the other things in this garden are native. Vitex and desert willow and redbud and there are a lot of other things that do very well with almost no water.

[Check out the Wildscapes plant guide](#) on the Texas Parks and Wildlife website and discover which plants thrive in your area.

LBJ — In His Own Words

Tuesday, August 15th, 2017

Even though Lyndon Baines Johnson spent many memorable years in Washington DC, the Texas Hill Country held a special place in his heart.

Here is where I would always return, to the Pedernales River, the scenes of my childhood. There's something different about this country, from any other part of the nation.

LBJ often credited these pristine surroundings of his youth as a major influence in his life and presidency.

It is impossible to live on this land without being a part of it. Without being shaped by its qualities. This molds the character of the people here. But it is also a bold and beautiful land, where the air is clear and the water is pure and the wildflowers flashing in the sun

And it is where he returned when he left the White House.

I guess every person feels a part of the place where they were born, he wants to go back to the surroundings that he knew as a child and this is my country, the Hill Country of Texas.

The [LBJ State Park and Historic Site](#), located near Johnson City, gives visitors a chance to experience the land which President Johnson held dear.

There's something about this section that brings new life and new hope and really a balanced and better view point after you have been here a few days.

Learn more about the LBJ State Historic Site, log on to the Texas Parks and Wildlife website.

Cactus Moth: a Prickly Situation

Wednesday, August 16th, 2017

There's a moth making its way to Texas from Florida whose larvae feed exclusively on prickly pear cactus.

The cactus moth has proven to be a really effective eradicator of prickly pear.

Invertebrate biologist, Michael Warriner, says Australian officials imported the cactus moth—native to South America—in the mid-1920s as a biological control against the invasive, nonnative coastal prickly pear.

And over a few years, it didn't totally eliminate it, but it reduced it substantially. So, it's proven to be one of the most successful biological control agents, as far as insects go.

The moth, discovered in the Florida Keys in 1989, may have arrived on imported prickly pears, and since then has spread up to South Carolina and as far west as Louisiana.

So, the concern is that if it makes it to the southwestern United States and Mexico that it could have a similar impact and eradicate or reduce prickly pear; and the fact is that—for Mexico especially—prickly pear is a major agricultural commodity in the tens of millions of dollars in terms of value. And it's worth millions of dollars in the US, too: for agriculture and biodiversity and landscaping.

Tomorrow: How to identify and prevent the spread of the cactus moth.

ID and Dispatch the Cactus Moth

Thursday, August 17th, 2017

Prickly pear cacti are economically important to Texas and Mexico. They're also the larval food of [the cactus moth](#), a voracious nonnative species that's heading westward toward our state.

As of 2009 it's south of New Orleans. So, it's just over 200 miles from the Texas border.

Invertebrate biologist Michael Warriner says the larvae of this prolific South American moth species can decimate prickly pear populations. The adult insect is non-descript and difficult to identify, but the larvae is easier to recognize.

Looking for the larvae or evidence of feeding damage is the best thing to look for. The caterpillars themselves are a bright orange to red coloration with black bands or spots. The larvae spend most of their time inside of the prickly pear pad, and they basically hollow it out. So the pad, as the larvae feed on it, will become transparent and they'll eventually just collapse.

Researchers are developing methods of managing the moth. Until then, if you see infested plants...

You can still control it by removing the infested pads and that would help. Disposing and burning them. Or simply enclosing them in some kind of plastic bag to heat up the larvae and kill them.

Find links to more information about the cactus moth at passporttotexas.org.

TPW TV — Hop for the Future

Friday, August 18th, 2017

According to Dr. Randy Simpson, kangaroo rats are...

They're about the handsomest rodent that you can find.

The problem is, you can't find them. At least not many of them, anyway. Simpson is Wildlife Biology Program Director at Texas State. During a Texas Parks and Wildlife TV segment airing next week on PBS, graduate students, including Silas Ott, survey the species near the Texas/Oklahoma border.

So, it does seem to be pretty rare geographically. It's only been found in 11 counties in Texas. And within the past 20 years, it's only been found in five of those 11 counties.

Ott and his cohorts locate fresh burrows and set traps and cameras. Dr. Simpson.

Are we seeing just the last vestiges of populations that are hanging on? We don't know. I think that that's the reason Texas Parks and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service want to find that out.

Nathan Rains is a Wildlife Diversity Biologist with Texas Parks and Wildlife. He's assisting Texas State, and says the agency helped to fund the research through its grant program.

It's obviously declining. We don't have a lot of great information on this species, so we're trying to learn as much as we can. But it's a species we're concerned about, and it's been a concern for awhile.

Catch the Texas Parks and Wildlife TV segment *Hop for the Future* next week on PBS. Check your local listings.

The Wildlife restoration program supports our series funds kangaroo rat surveys and management in Texas.

New Pictographs Discovered

Monday, August 21st, 2017

For thousands of years, people have trekked to the rock hills in far west Texas where they found rainwater pooled in natural basins called huecos.

Today, visitors to [Hueco Tanks State Park and Historic Site](#) enjoy the rock hills for bouldering, which is a form of rock climbing, and the rock paintings, or pictographs, left by those ancient people.

After a year-long survey using D-stretch image enhancement technology, researchers discovered previously unknown pictographs in 29 locations. These areas will remain closed to recreational activities to protect the fragile artwork from potential impacts.

A list of closed climbs has been provided to the guides and to visitors on the North Mountain.

The majority of the pictographs are in the Jornada style, named for the prehistoric Jornada Mogollon culture of western Texas, southern New Mexico and northern Mexico.

These Native Americans were the first farmers in the region, and it's believed they created the paintings about 550 to 1,000 years ago for use in prayers for rain. Some things never change.

Hueco Tanks is a significant cultural resource in the El Paso area that reflects at least 10,000 years of history. Find more information about the site at texasstateparks.org.

Texas State Bison Music Fest

Tuesday, August 22nd, 2017

Caprock Canyon State Park is home to the official state bison herd, comprised of descendants of the original southern plains bison that wandered the Great Plains.

We think we're at about 150 [bison], plus this year's calf crop, which should be about 30 or so.

Superintendent Donald Beard oversees this growing, free-roaming herd. Restoration efforts of the animals and their native habitat takes time and money. That's where the Texas State Bison Music Festival comes in.

We were just looking for a fun fundraiser, and we decided that this would be pretty fun. And by all means it is. This year we're headlining it with the Randy Rogers Band. But we also have Mark Powell, Zach Wilkerson, Sarah Hobbs, and Kevin Deal. It's a street dance; we close off part of the town. The festival is held in the town of Quitaque. We have all kinds of live music. Food vendors. Arts and crafts – and all day fun on a Saturday. This year it's going to be September 23rd.

Proceeds from The Texas State Bison Music Festival on September 23, go directly to bison research and habitat restoration at Caprock Canyons SP. Find complete details and ticket prices at bisonfest.com.

Small Town, Big Fun — Texas Bison Fest

Wednesday, August 23rd, 2017

On Saturday September 23 part of downtown Quitaque, Texas will be shut down...for the love of bison.

This is [for] the seventh annual Texas State Bison Music Festival.

Donald Beard is superintendent of [Caprock Canyons State Park](#), home to the official state bison herd. The festival raises awareness and funds for continued restoration of the animals and their habitat.

This year's event will be held in downtown Quitaque; the food and arts and crafts vendors will start at around nine o'clock. So, you can come do some shopping, buy some local goods, get some great food. We'll have some historical reenactors so you can see what life was like in this area a couple of hundred years ago. Then, the music starts about three o'clock.

With five bands on the bill attendees will have plenty of opportunity for boot scooting. While the fun seems limitless, the tickets are not.

It's actually a small festival by festival standards. We don't want it to get real big. The max number of tickets we're selling is 12-hundred. And, last year we had a thousand or so people. So, we're getting to the point where we're almost getting ready to start selling out.

Find complete details and ticket prices for the September 23rd Texas State Bison Music Festival at bisonfest.org.

Think Globally, Play Locally

Thursday, August 24th, 2017

[Texas Children in Nature](#) is part of the larger – global – children in nature movement.

The concept is that there is a disconnect that has been happening for the past few decades between children and nature.

Texas' Children in Nature coordinator, Jennifer Bristol, says that disconnect is at the root of various health and wellness issues for our children. It also affects the future of environmental stewardship; but there is reason for hope.

Texas leads the way for the Children in Nature movement within the country. And we're very excited about the work that we have done throughout the entire state. We have really created some system changes in the way that we think about how do we care for children in our places like schools and daycare centers. How are we helping them have a connection while they're in those institutions, but also then – how are we looking at their play as a way to also help facilitate that connection with nature?

We're seeing more nature based play areas at schools and parks. Educators and health care providers promote time in nature as a prescription to help kids become healthier, happier and smarter.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation supports our series and helps keep Texas wild with support of proud members across the state. Find out more at tpwf.org

Reconnecting Children with Nature

Friday, August 25th, 2017

In one generation, we've seen kids go from days spent outdoors in nature to days spent indoors with media.

Time spent outdoors by ourselves is where we [previous generations] found our creativity. It's where we became problem solvers. Where we really shared in this long-running dialogue of imaginative play.

Jennifer Bristol, Texas Children in Nature Coordinator says excessive time indoors on these devices does not inspire kids to be healthier, happier and smarter the way nature play does; and parents are taking notice.

They wish that there was a space or a place that their children could experience that same sort of freedom. And disconnect from everything and play and come up with the games and revisit them over and over again.

The Texas Children in Nature program is a grassroots network that connects children and families with nature in Texas. One way is by creating nature play areas in state parks and community parks.

Government Canyon State Natural Area just installed a beautiful natural play area. They also combine it with having a discovery trail; and it's really scaled to a child's level. I really love that about it.

Visit the [Nature Rocks Texas.org](http://NatureRocksTexas.org) website to find all the parks, nature centers and activities where you can play, explore and connect with nature near you

The Making of an Endangered Species

Monday, August 28th, 2017

The Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle is the world's most critically endangered sea turtle.

And most nesting in the US by this species occurs in Texas.

Although a native nester in Texas, their primary nesting beach is in Mexico. Dr. Donna Shaver oversees sea turtle science and recovery at [Padre Island National Seashore](#).

The National Park Service along with Texas Parks and Wildlife and other partners had been working since the 1970s to form a secondary nesting colony of endangered Kemp's Ridley Turtles right here at Padre national Seashore.

They developed the secondary site as a safeguard against potential extinction and other catastrophes. Their population was nearly decimated in the 1940s.

The biggest threats over time – the largescale taking of the eggs from the nesting beach in Mexico. They were sold in markets as a supposed aphrodisiac. There was also loss of nesting turtles taken for food and then also the skin to make leather products. Then, though time, the loss of juveniles and adults incidental to fisheries operations; primarily shrimp trawling, but also some hook and line captures and other types of fisheries.

How we've protected Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtles in Texas tomorrow.

The Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program supports our series, and funds diverse conservation projects throughout Texas.

Ways we Protect the Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle

Tuesday, August 29th, 2017

Nature ebbs and flows. A good example is the critically endangered Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle. Conservation groups implemented a recovery plan that facilitated exponential growth of the animal's population.

The population modelers had predicted that exponential increase in the recovery plan would continue – but it did not. So, the expectations written in the plan are not exactly what the population has done.

Even so, Dr. Donna Shaver says the numbers are moving in the right direction. She oversees sea turtle science and recovery at [Padre Island National Seashore](#). One thing that's helped them is the mandatory turtle excluder devices used by shrimpers.

Turtle excluder devices were developed to shunt sea turtles out of the net while retaining shrimp in the shrimping net. And they've been very effective in doing that.

Seasonal area closures have also benefited the turtles.

Texas Parks and Wildlife instituted one when they revised their shrimp fishery management plan close to 20 years ago – taking into account, of course, the responsibilities to help manage the shrimping industry as well as endangered species.

Tomorrow: hard work pays off for the Kemp's Ridley.

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Hard Work Pays off for the Kemp's Ridley

Wednesday, August 30th, 2017

Since 1970 Kemp's Ridley sea turtles have been on the endangered species list. The NPS, TPW and other partners developed a plan to assist their recovery, including the creation of a secondary nesting site [the primary being in Mexico] at the Padre Island National Seashore [PINS].

The numbers are moving in the right direction, but we're not up to the milestones that are outlined in the recovery plan to even down list the species to threatened, much less to get it off the list entirely.

Dr. Donna Shaver oversees sea turtle science and recovery at [Padre Island National Seashore](#). Dr. Shaver says this year's annual survey identified 352 nests—from Galveston down to Mexico.

We've had more found at PINS and more found in the state of Texas this year than in the last two years combined. So, we're very excited about it.

Decades of conservation are paying off, or are we just getting better at finding sea the turtle nests?

We do think that we're seeing an actual significant increase compared to when I started and only one nest would be found every two or three years. And now, here to find more than 300 in Texas during a year, is a big accomplishment for conservation and recovery of the species.

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Texas Outdoor Annual App — a Friend in the Field

Thursday, August 31st, 2017

The Texas Outdoor Annual is a handy print and online guide loaded with useful information for hunters and anglers. It's also an app.

Smart phones and tablets have become more popular among the general population, and our hunters and anglers are also using those devices.

Tim Peterson—director of creative and interactive services at Texas Parks and Wildlife—says the app takes the guesswork out of which regulations apply to your location.

If an angler's sitting in a particular water body or lake, or near or water body or lake, they can use the GPS function in the APP, locate the lake that they're at or near, and they can see bag limits and exceptions for that particular lake. In addition, same goes for hunting. Same goes for hunting. If a hunter is in a blind, they can pull out the APP, and using the GPS functionality of their device, they could see which county they were in, and they would see the bag limits and season dates for that particular county.

The app is [**free and available for download for apple and android devices**](#). Find a link at the Texas Parks and Wildlife website.

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