

## Wildlife Management Policy

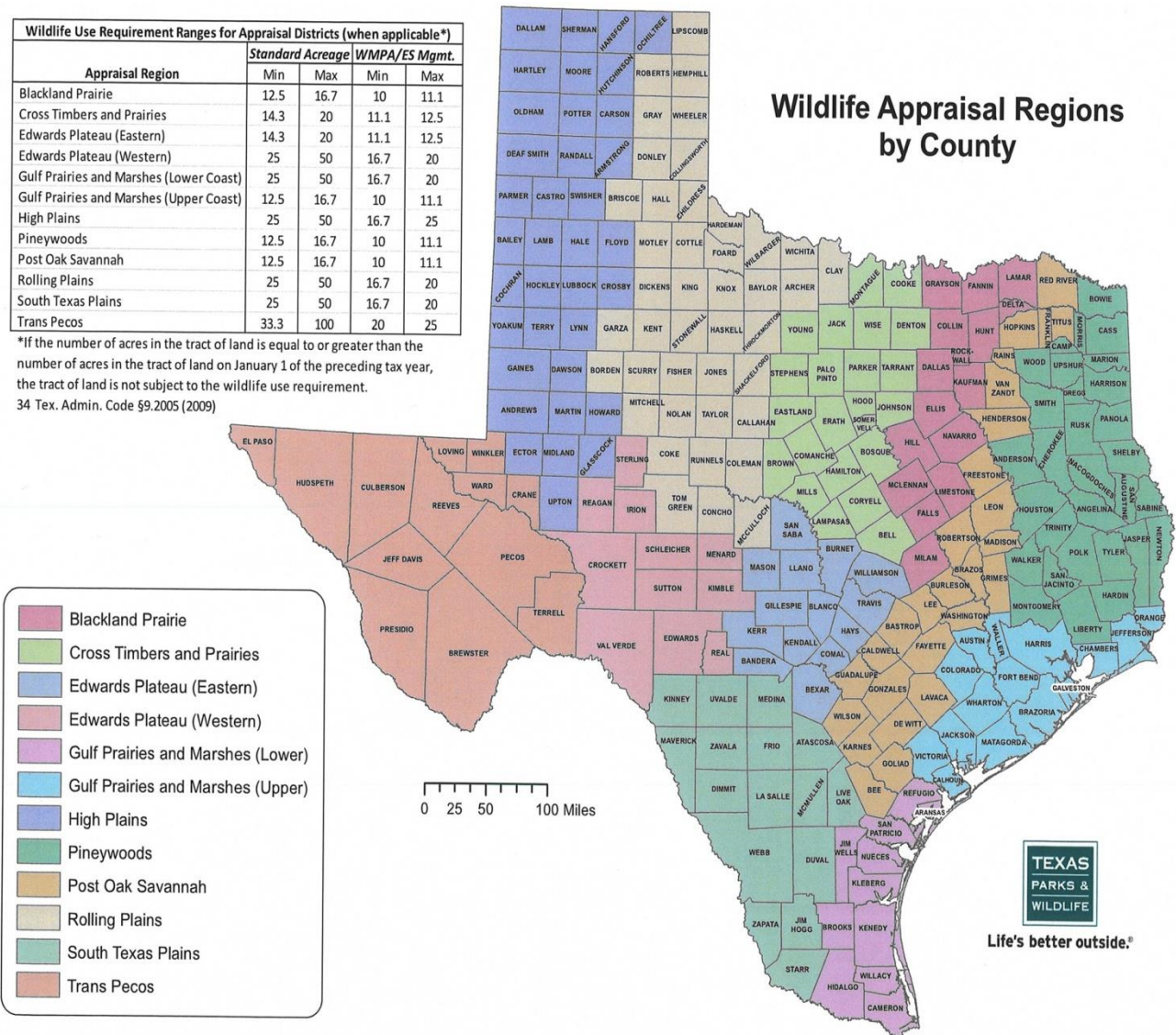
In order for the property to begin receiving and 1-d-1 agricultural appraisal under the Wildlife Management guidelines, the property must already have a 1-d-1 agricultural valuation.

Coleman County is in the Rolling Plains Ecological Region. The Coleman County Appraisal District uses those guidelines as set out by the Texas Parks and Wildlife's *Wildlife Management Activities and Practices – Comprehensive Wildlife Management Planning Guidelines for the High Plains and Rolling Plains Ecological Regions* in determining if a property qualifies.

The following is a map showing the Wildlife Appraisal Regions by County. The list is also provided in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 34, Part 1, Chapter 9, Subchapter G, Rule 9.2002.

Appraisal Region	Standard Acreage WMPA/ES Mgmt.			
	Min	Max	Min	Max
Blackland Prairie	12.5	16.7	10	11.1
Cross Timbers and Prairies	14.3	20	11.1	12.5
Edwards Plateau (Eastern)	14.3	20	11.1	12.5
Edwards Plateau (Western)	25	50	16.7	20
Gulf Prairies and Marshes (Lower Coast)	25	50	16.7	20
Gulf Prairies and Marshes (Upper Coast)	12.5	16.7	10	11.1
High Plains	25	50	16.7	25
Pineywoods	12.5	16.7	10	11.1
Post Oak Savannah	12.5	16.7	10	11.1
Rolling Plains	25	50	16.7	20
South Texas Plains	25	50	16.7	20
Trans Pecos	33.3	100	20	25

\*If the number of acres in the tract of land is equal to or greater than the number of acres in the tract of land on January 1 of the preceding tax year, the tract of land is not subject to the wildlife use requirement.  
34 Tex. Admin. Code §9.2005 (2009)



For a property to receive the special use appraisal under wildlife management, the Texas Administrative Code, Title 34, Part 1, Chapter 9, Subchapter G, Rule 9.2004 shows the following:

- (b) A tract of land qualifies for agricultural appraisal based on wildlife management use if:
  - (1) the tract of land is appraised as qualified open space land under Tax Code, Chapter 23, Subchapter D;
  - (2) the landowner's primary use of the tract of land is wildlife management;
  - (3) the tract of land is actively being managed to sustain a breeding, migrating, or wintering population of indigenous wildlife through implementation of a wildlife management plan that meets the requirements of §9.2003 of this title (relating to Wildlife Management Plan);
  - (4) in each tax year for which the owner seeks to qualify the tract of land for agricultural appraisal based on wildlife management use, the landowner has selected at least three wildlife management practices and, using wildlife management activities, has implemented each of the selected practices to the degree of intensity that is consistent with the *Guidelines for Qualification of Agricultural Land in Wildlife Management Use* and the *Comprehensive Wildlife Management Planning Guidelines* for the ecoregion in which the tract of land is located and for the specific indigenous wildlife species targeted for management;
  - (5) the landowner manages indigenous wildlife for human use; and
  - (6) the tract of land meets the specified wildlife use requirements set forth in §9.2005 of this title, if applicable.
  
- (d) The following factors indicate that the primary use of the land is wildlife management and the chief appraiser shall take each factor into consideration when determining if the land is primarily used for wildlife management as required by subsection (b) of this section:
  - (1) the tract of land is actively being managed under a wildlife management plan as required by this section;
  - (2) the landowner gives the wildlife management practices and activities priority over other uses and activities that take place on the tract of land; and
  - (3) secondary uses of the property do not significantly and demonstrably interfere with the wildlife management practices and activities being conducted on the tract of land or are not detrimental to the indigenous wildlife targeted for management.

For properties subdivided after January 1, 2001 from larger tracts already receiving the 1-d-1 or 1-d-1w agricultural appraisal, the Coleman County Appraisal District has adopted the following minimum size requirements for wildlife management properties.

These requirements are set out in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 34, Part 1, Chapter 9, Subchapter G, Rule 9.2005.

- 1) acreage to be dedicated to wildlife management – 50 acres or 98%
- 2) acreage that lies within a qualifying wildlife property association – 20 acres or 95%
- 3) acreage that is designated by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department as habitat for an endangered species, a threatened species, or a candidate species, as determined by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department – 18 acres or 94.44%

The appraisal district requires that property owners submit a written management plan completed on the form prescribed by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) along with a new application for 1-d-1 agricultural appraisal in order to be considered to receive the 1-d-1 agricultural appraisal for wildlife management. A wildlife property association may prepare a single wildlife management plan, provided all required information is included for each tract of land in the wildlife management property association and the plan is signed by each landowner or an agent of the landowner designated in the manner required by Tax Code, Section 1.111.

The appraisal district requires that an annual report be filed showing how the wildlife management plan was implemented in any given year. The annual report shall be on the form prescribed by the TPWD and shall include supporting documentation on how the wildlife management plan was implemented. A wildlife management property association may file a single annual report, provided that report shows how the wildlife management plan was implemented on each tract of land in the wildlife management property association and the report is signed by each landowner or an agent of the landowner designated in the required by Tax Code, Section 1.111.

The property's agricultural value is treated the same as that of traditional 1-d-1 agricultural value.