

## Common Questions About Wildlife Management

Tim Milligan
Landowner Services

#### WHAT WE'RE GOING TO COVER:

- Introduction
- General overview
- Answers to common landowner questions
- Interactive Q&A





# What did I get myself into?

#### **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**

#### Must Complete 3 of 7 Activities

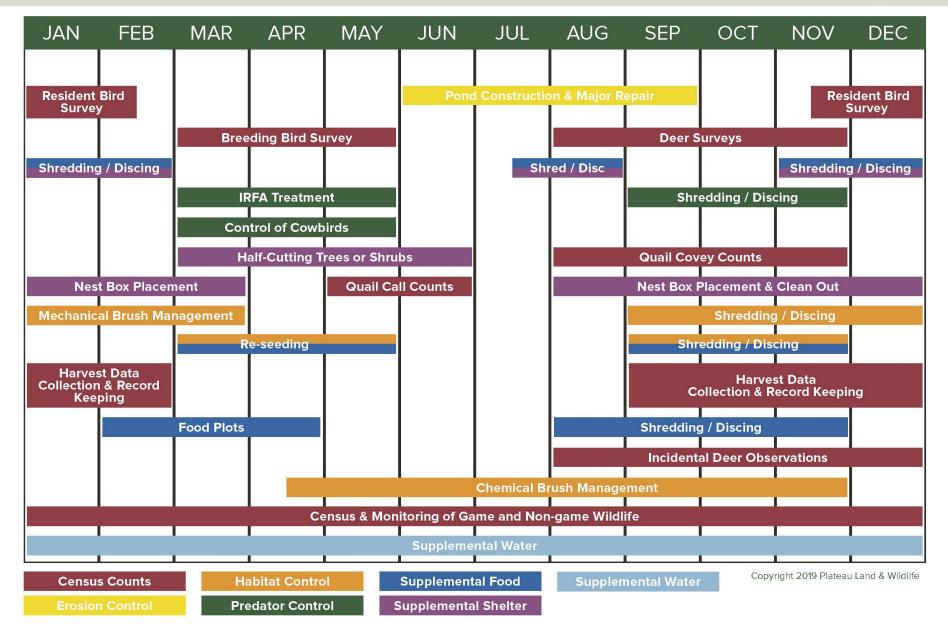
- 1. Habitat control
- 2. Erosion control
- 3. Predator control
- 4. Supplemental food
- 5. Supplemental water
- 6. Supplemental shelter
- 7. Census



## You're not alone.

#### **Timing for Wildlife Management Activities**





#### LOG SHEETS - PLATEAUWILDLIFE.COM/FORMS

		Su	pplemental Water								
Property Name:											
			Installation								
lote: Take photo of each wildlife water source. Keep receipts. Label approximate location of each water source on map.											
Date	Name/# Type of water source Water added? (Y/N) GPS coordinates (optional)		Photo taken?	Have receipt							
Ex: 12/30/11	W01	305 gallon rain water catchment	Yes	30.2747, -97.7403	<b>✓</b>	✓					
Maintenance  Note: Take before and after pictures of refill. Keep receipts. Wildlife activity should include wildlife tracks or signs around eeder. Label approximate location on map.  Date Name/# Wildlife utilizing water source Amount of water present Amount of water added Photo taken? Have receip											
Date	Name/#	Wildlife utilizing water source	Amount of water present	Amount of water added	Photo taken?	Have receipt					
<b>Date</b> Ex: 12/31/11	Name/# W01	Wildlife utilizing water source Raccoon, turkey tracks	Amount of water present about 100 gallons	Amount of water added 100 gallons	Photo taken?	Have receipt					
	<del></del>	•	<del> </del>								
	<del></del>	•	<del> </del>								

#### **Prescribed Control of Species**

#### **Property Name:**

Note: Take before and after photos of representative vegetative areas. Outline approximate area of prescribed control of vegetation on map. Also include animals removed in applicable harvest log sheet.

Date	Species targeted	# seen	# removed	Control method	Photos taken?	Notes
Ex: 12/30/11	Axis deer	2	1	Bow	<u> </u>	Juvenile, male
Ex: 12/30/11	Chinaberry	20	15	Herbicide	<u>^</u>	Treated approx. 2 acres

#### **ASSISTANCE – PLATEAU RESOURCES**

Call (512) 894-3479

- Refer to your wildlife management plan or the Plateau website for contact information
- Visit plateauwildlife.com
  - Plateau Wildlife Products: <a href="https://plateauwildlife.com/products/">https://plateauwildlife.com/products/</a>
  - Plateau Wildlife Services: <a href="https://plateauwildlife.com/services/">https://plateauwildlife.com/services/</a>



# Landowner Submitted Questions

#### 2-Part Question:

Part 1: How do I receive and maintain a wildlife management exemption related to birds/butterflies or other similar types of efforts?

Part 2: Are there some counties that are more resistant to granting this type of exemption than others and, if so, what tips and suggestions have worked with these more resistant counties?

I have sent in all the wildlife reports requested by my County Appraisal district. I haven't received any response on if I'm approved. Do you have any information on that? Will the CAD send anything? Is no news, good news? Are they just overwhelmed? Is COVID affecting response time? Should this bother me?

## 2- Part Question:

Part 1: What are the best times of the year to do nest box checks and clean outs?

Part 2: What can I do to increase the number of bluebirds using my boxes?

What can I do to increase the number of turkeys on my property?

As a landowner in Bastrop County, is it feasible to support a quail population on my property? What activities can I do to attract quail?

What is the lowest cost/most effective way to protect a lot of saplings from animal damage?

What are the differences in block, mosaic, and strip patterns for brush management? How are these done?

We are new landowners (Fall 2019) in Bellville, Austin County. We applied for Wildlife Management with the help of Plateau and received confirmation that our application was approved/accepted in mid May. Since we heard in May that our application was approved, will we see a decrease in our taxes for all of 2020 and if so, how long will it take to reflect that info (to our mortgage company)?

We are new landowners (Fall 2019) in Bellville, Austin County. We applied for Wildlife Management with the help of Plateau and received confirmation that our application was approved/accepted in mid May. Since we heard in May that our application was approved, will we see a decrease in our taxes for all of 2020 and if so, how long will it take to reflect that info (to our mortgage company)?

One of our activities is supplemental food in regards to deer. We tried to modify an existing spin-cast feeder to be only a stationary protein pellet feeder and noticed a huge increase in hog activity. We wanted to know if we used only a protein block feeder (mounted to a post) to discourage hog access, if that still satisfies the supplemental food requirement.

When the county approved our application they indicated the would send a WL report request in 2023. We have a copy of the TPWD Annual report form and wanted to know if we need to do a report for each year and save them or can consolidate the three years on one report in 2023?

Regarding mowing and brush hogging, what is the goal? We just sold all the cattle and we have a lot of thorny plants and brambles coming in and I'd like to mow them or treat them. What is the end goal and what is allowed?

We switched the feeder from corn to pelleted feed and they just don't seem to like it. What's best for attracting deer, maybe a mixture?

I keep track of what birds/wildlife I see every day. However, I don't take the time to count individuals. I may see 20 bluebirds and I write that down, but I am not sure if they are mating pairs, or bachelor groups, etc...I would like to know what is allowed and what is expected. We have families of foxes, woodpeckers, ducks, etc. living on our property...what do I track? Just that I see them each day?

Since we switched part of the property (but not all) from ag to wildlife, what kind of card will I have to carry that I will use in stores for tax purposes? Are any wildlife expenses tax free or just ag related?

We have had our property for about 16 months and it was heavily grazed before with an Ag exemption. Now with the wildlife exemption I would like to improve the grasses. Hate those chiggers and it just doesn't look healthy. Can you address what would be a good way to go about this? Is there a certain type of flowering plant or something that would dissuade Chiggers from the area?

Our fence line need some attention and I would like to plant something that would be hearty to grow, that the animals might like, and will provide a good hedge. Any suggestions?

# Open Q&A

#### **FAMILY OF COMPANIES**











#### SIGN UP FOR THE PLATEAU NEWSLETTER



Subscribe to Plateau's monthly newsletter, *Seasons*, to receive blogs and articles from our expert biologists and technicians on important updates for landowners, and timely suggestions for seasonally appropriate wildlife management activities.

To subscribe, visit: <a href="https://plateauwildlife.com/email-signup/">https://plateauwildlife.com/email-signup/</a>



#### **THANK YOU!**

Plateau Land & Wildlife Management Less work, more enjoyment.

## Tim Milligan Landowner Services

P: (512) 894-3479

E: TMilligan@plateauwildlife.com

plateauwildlife.com plateau@plateauwildlife.com

