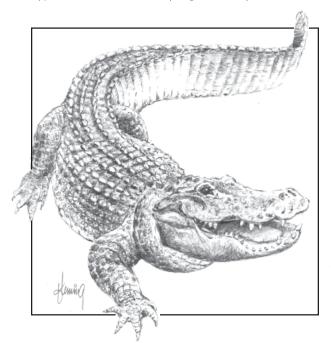
TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

## AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES

GUS ENGELING

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA



A FIELD CHECKLIST

# "Act Natural" Visit a Wildlife Management Area at our Web site: http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us

Cover: Illustration of American Alligator by Rob Fleming.

#### HABITAT DESCRIPTION

The Gus Engeling Wildlife Management Area is located in the northwest corner of Anderson County, 20 miles northwest of Palestine, Texas, on U.S. Highway 287. The management area contains 10,958 acres of land owned by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Most of the land was purchased in 1950 and 1951, with the addition of several smaller tracts through 1960. It was originally called the Derden Wildlife Management Area, but was later changed to the Engeling Wildlife Management Area in honor of Biologist Gus A. Engeling, who was killed by a poacher on the area in December 1951.

The area is drained by Catfish Creek which is a tributary of the Trinity River. The topography is gently rolling to hilly, with a well-defined drainage system that empties into Catfish Creek. Most of the small streams are spring fed and normally flow the year-round. The soils are mostly light colored, rapidly permeable sands on the upland, and moderately permeable, gray-brown, sandy loams in the bottomland along Catfish Creek. The climate is classified as moist, sub-humid, with an annual rainfall of about 40 inches. The vegetation consists of deciduous forest with an overstory made up of oak, hickory, sweetgum and elm; with associated understory species of dogwood, American beautyberry, huckleberry, greenbrier, etc. Shade-tolerant grasses and forbs make up a sparse cover on the forest floor (see brochure on VEGETATION for a checklist of the plant species found on the management area).

The management area has active bird rookeries, a sphagnum moss bog, and numerous sloughs and marshes along Catfish Creek. Wintering ducks and other waterbirds use the marshes as a wintering sanctuary for food and cover. Catfish Creek contains an abundance of freshwater fishes and other aquatic life.

Other brochures available at the Management Area office include field checklists of VEGETATION, FISHES, BIRDS and MAMMALS.

#### **LEGEND**

• Verified occurrence on the wildlife management area.

All other listed species are of probable or possible occurrence (species examined or observed within Anderson County or adjacent counties within the general distribution and habitat of the species).

FTS - Federal Threatened Species (likely to become endangered).

STS - State Threatened Species (likely to become endangered).

FES - Federal Endangered Species (in danger of extinction).

SES - State Endangered Species (in danger of extinction).

#### **CHECKLIST**

#### Amphibians - Amphibia

#### Sirens, Salamanders, Newts & Mudpuppies - Caudata

• Western Lesser Siren Siren intermedia nettingi Small-mouthed

Salamander Ambystoma texanum

Barred Tiger Salamander Ambystoma tigrinum

mavortium

• Eastern Tiger Salamander Ambystoma tigrinum tigrinum

Spotted Salamander
Marbled Salamander

• Central Newt

Ambystoma maculatum
Ambystoma opacum
Notophthalmus viridescens

louisianensis
Three-toed Amphiuma Amphiuma tridactylum

Southern Dusky
Salamander

Desmognathus auriculatus

• Dwarf Salamander Gulf Coast Waterdog Eurycea quadridigitata

Necturus beyeri

#### Toads and Frogs - Anura

Hurter's Spadefoot

Northern Cricket Frog

Green Treefrog

Gray Treefrog

Cope's Gray Treefrog

Spotted Chorus Frog

• Northern Spring Peeper Strecker's Chorus Frog **Upland Chorus Frog** Dwarf American Toad Houston Toad

(FES, 10/13/70; SES, 5/15/75)

Texas Toad

Coastal Plain Toad

East Texas Toad

• Southern Crawfish Frog

 Bullfrog Bronze Frog

Pickerel Frog

Southern Leopard Frog

 Eastern Narrow-mouthed Toad Great Plains

Scaphiopus hurterii

Acris crepitans crepitans Hvla cinerea

Hyla versicolor

Hyla chrysoscelis Pseudacris clarkii

Pseudacris crucifer crucifer

Pseudacris streckeri

Pseudacris feriarum feriarum Bufo americanus charlesmithi

Bufo houstonensis Bufo speciosus Bufo nebulifer

Bufo woodhousii velatus

Rana areolata areolata

Rana catesbeiana Rana clamitans clamitans

Rana palustris

Rana sphenocephala

utricularia

Gastrophryne carolinensis

Narrow-mouthed Toad Gastrophryne olivacea

### Reptiles – Reptilia

#### Turtles – Testudines

Eastern Snapping Turtle

 Alligator Snapping Turtle (STS, 3/1/87) Yellow Mud Turtle

Mississippi Mud Turtle

Razorback Musk Turtle

Chelydra serpentina serpentina

Macroclemys temminckii Kinosternon flavescens Kinosternon subrubrum

hippocrepis

Sternotherus carinatus

- Stinkpot
- Eastern River Cooter
- Red-eared Slider
- Western Chicken Turtle Sabine Map Turtle

#### Mississippi Map Turtle

- Three-toed Box Turtle
- Ornate Box Turtle
- Pallid Spiny Softshell
   Midland Smooth Softshell

Sternotherus odoratus Pseudemys concinna concinna Trachemys scripta elegans Deirochelys reticularia miaria

Graptemys pseudogeographica kohnii Terrapene carolina triunguis Terrapene ornata ornata Apalone spinifera pallida

#### Crocodilians - Crocodilia

 American Alligator (FTS, 10/12/83)

Alligator mississippiensis

Apalone mutica mutica

#### Lizards - Squamata

Mediterranean Gecko

- Northern Green Anole
- Texas Horned Lizard (STS, 7/18/77)
   Texas Spiny Lizard
- Northern Fence Lizard
- Southern Coal Skink
- Five-lined Skink
- Broad-headed Skink Southern Prairie Skink
- Ground Skink Texas Spotted Whiptail
- Eastern Six-lined Racerunner
- Western Slender Glass Lizard

Hemidactylus turcicus (exotic) Anolis carolinensis carolinensis

Phrynosoma cornutum Sceloporus olivaceus Sceloporus undulatus hyacinthinus

Eumeces anthracinus pluvialis Eumeces fasciatus

Eumeces laticeps
Eumeces septentrionalis
obtusirostris
Scincella lateralis

Scincella lateralis Cnemidophorus gularis gularis

Cnemidophorus sexlineatus sexlineatus

Ophisaurus attenuatus attenuatus

#### **Snakes - Serpentes**

- Texas Blind Snake
- Eastern Yellow-bellied Racer
- Northern Scarlet Snake (STS, 3/1/87)
   Mississippi Ring-necked Snake
- Corn Snake
- Texas Rat Snake
- Western Mud Snake
- Dusty Hog-nosed Snake
- Eastern Hog-nosed Snake

Texas Night Snake

- Prairie Kingsnake
- Speckled Kingsnake
- Louisiana Milk Snake
- Eastern Coachwhip
- Yellow-bellied Water Snake
- Broad-banded Water Snake
- Northern Diamondbacked Water Snake Nerodia rhombif-Graham's Crayfish Snake Regina grahamii
- Gulf Crayfish Snake
- Rough Green Snake Bull Snake Louisiana Pine Snake (STS, 1/30/97)
- Texas Glossy Snake
- Texas Brown Snake Florida Red-bellied Snake

#### Leptotyphlops dulcis dulcis

Coluber constrictor flaviventris

Cemophora coccinea copei

Diadophis punctatus stictogenys Elaphe guttata guttata Elaphe obsoleta lindheimeri Farancia abacura reinwardtii Heterodon nasicus gloydi

Heterodon platirhinos
Hypsiglena torquata jani
Lampropeltis calligaster
calligaster
Lampropeltis getula holbrooki
Lampropeltis triangulum
amaura
Masticophis flagellum flagellum

Nerodia erythrogaster flavigaster

Nerodia fasciata confluens

Nerodia rhombifer rhombifer Regina grahamii Regina rigida sinicola Opheodrys aestivus Pituophis catenifer sayi

Pituophis ruthveni Arizona elegans arenicola Storeria dekayi texana

Storeria occipitomaculata obscura

- Flat-headed Snake Marcy's Checkered Garter Snake
- Orange-striped Ribbon Snake

Texas Garter Snake

 Rough Earth Snake Western Smooth Earth Snake

Lined Snake

- Texas Coral Snake
- Southern Copperhead
- Western Cottonmouth
- Western Pigmy Rattlesnake
   Western Diamond-backed Rattlesnake
- Canebrake Rattlesnake (STS, 3/1/87)

Tantilla gracilis

Thamnophis marcianus marcianus

Thamnophis proximus proximus Thamnophis sirtalis annectens Virginia striatula

Virginia valeriae elegans
Tropidoclonion lineatum
Micrurus tener tener
Agkistrodon contortrix
contortrix
Agkistrodon piscivorus
leucostoma

Sistrurus miliarius streckeri

Crotalus atrox

Crotalus horridus atricaudatus

#### REFERENCES

- Banks, R.C., R.W. McDiarmid, A.L. Gardner (eds.). 1987. *Checklist of vertebrates of the United States, the U.S. Territories, and Canada.* U.S. Department of the Interior. Fish and Wildlife Service, Resource Publ. 166, Washington D.C. 79 pp.
- Collins, J.T. and T.W. Taggart. 2002. Standard common and current scientific names for North American amphibians, turtles, reptiles & crocodilians. Fifth edition. The Center for North American Herpetology, Lawrence, Kansas. iv + 44 pp.
- Conant, R. and J.T. Collins. 1998. A field guide to reptiles and amphibians of eastern and central North America. Third edition, expanded. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, Massachusetts. 616 pp.
- Dixon, J.R. 2000. *Amphibians and reptiles of Texas*. Texas A&M University Press, College Station, Texas. 421 pp.
- Garrett, J.M. and D.G. Baker. 1987. *A field guide to reptiles and amphibians of Texas*. Texas Monthly Press, Austin. 225 pp.
- Moriarty, J.J., editor. 2001. Scientific and standard English names of amphibians and reptiles of North America north of Mexico, with comments regarding confidence in our understanding. Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. Herpetological Circular No. 29. Saint Louis, Missouri. iv + 82 pp.
- Powell, R., J.T. Collins and E.D. Hooper, Jr. 1998. *A key to amphibians and reptiles of the continental United States and Canada.* University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas. 131 pp.
- Price, A.H. 1998. *Poisonous snakes of Texas*. Texas Parks and Wildlife Press, Austin, Texas. 112 pp.
- Tennant, A. 1984. *The snakes of Texas*. Texas Monthly Press, Austin. 561 pp.
- Tennant, A. 1998. *A field guide to Texas snakes*. Gulf Publishing Company, Houston, Texas. xix + 291 pp.
- Travis, N.T., J.R. Dixon, and C.R. Smith. 1999. *Amphibians and reptiles of Texas: taxonomic and distributional inventory with bibliography.* Texas System of Natural Laboratories, Inc., Austin, Texas. 519 pp.

Werler, J.E. and J.R. Dixon. 2000. *Texas snakes*. University of Texas Press, Austin, Texas. 519 pp.

#### COMPILED BY

John G. Himes, Ph.D., Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Ray C. Telfair II, Ph.D., Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

#### CONTRIBUTORS

W. Frank Blair, Professor (deceased), Department of Zoology, The University of Texas at Austin.

Neil B. Ford, Professor, Science Department, The University of Texas at Austin.

Carl D. Frentress, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Frederick R. Gehlbach, Professor, Department of Biology, Baylor University.

Harry H. Haucke, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

John G. Himes, Ph.D., Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Kenneth E. Karlsen, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Floyd E. Potter, Jr. (deceased), Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Dale F. Prochaska, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Julie Hogan Rose, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

J. Dan Scurlock, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

William B. Stallcup, Professor (retired), School of Humanities and Sciences, Southern Methodist University.

Students (Summer Field Studies Course, 1982–1984, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University).

Texas Herpetological Society (1986 spring field trip).

Kenneth T. Wilkins, Professor, Department of Biology, Baylor University.



### Partial funding for this publication was contributed by Federal Aid (P-R) project W-124-M



Wildlife Division 4200 Smith School Road Austin, Texas 78744