

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**  
**AMISTAD NATIONAL RECREATION AREA**

2013

Authorized by Title 16, United States Code, Section 3, and Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 1 through 7, the following regulations are established by the Park Superintendent for the proper management, protection and public use of Amistad National Recreation Area.

These regulations apply in addition to the criminal laws of the United States and the regulations contained in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations. A person convicted of violating a provision of these regulations shall be punished by a fine as provided by law, or by imprisonment as provided by law, or both.

Designations, closures, permit requirements, and other restrictions authorized by the Superintendent under his discretionary authority are printed in regular type.

Written determinations, which explain the reasoning behind the Superintendent's use of discretionary authority, are required by 36 CFR § 1.5(c) and appear in this document as italicized print.

*R. Klein Dissler*  
Recommended by: Chief Ranger

7/24/13  
Date

*Alan W. Coy*  
Approved by: Superintendent

7/24/13  
Date

## § 1.5 CLOSURES AND PUBLIC USE LIMITS

### (a)(1) Closures

The following areas are closed to all public use due to the presence of sensitive cultural resources:

- Hidden Cave Canyon, located upstream from Seminole Canyon on the Rio Grande and is marked with buoys.
- Painted Canyon located downstream from Seminole Canyon on the Rio Grande and is marked with buoys.
- Seminole Canyon, starting 0.5 miles up canyon of the confluence with the Rio Grande and is marked with buoys.
- Lonesome Turtle Cave (41VV28), located on the Devils River, east side, up-stream from Indian Springs.
- Unnamed cave (41VV1698), located on the Devils River, north side, one mile upriver from Rough Canyon Harbor.
- Four Turtle Cave (41VV671), a rock shelter directly across the Devils River from the Devils Shores Subdivision. *Has sustained historical spray paint graffiti from park visitors.*
- Slaughter Bend Canyon on the Devils River: At lake elevations of 1108 and below, boats are prohibited from entering area beyond the NO BOAT buoys. With lake elevations above 1108 there are no boating restrictions.
- Burned Rock Midden site (41VV767), San Pedro Arm, south side, two peninsula extensions west of Highway 277 Bridge, sometimes called the San Pedro Slough Site. *Site is shifting and is unsafe. Known collector's site.*

The following areas are closed to all public use to maintain integrity and security of government emergency response vessels:

- Government cove at Diablo East to include the shoreline to the top of the ridge/property line, the water and government docks. The area is marked with buoys and signs.
- The stairway leading to and the government boat dock at the Pecos. The area is marked with a sign.

The following areas are also closed to all public use:

- All terrestrial cave and karst features, with the exception of Panther Cave, Parida Cave, and Pink Cave.  
*All terrestrial cave and karst features within the park are closed to public use to protect the resource until such time as a Cave and Karst Management Plan is developed and implemented, with the noted exceptions. For the purpose of this restriction, cave and karst features include true caves, sinkholes, pits, fissures, overhangs, and rockshelters.*
- Interior Least Tern nesting colony sites.  
*Interior Least Terns, a federally listed endangered species, nest on islands and peninsulas on the lake from approximately May 1 through August 31. To avoid disturbing their nesting activity, these areas will be closed to all public use during their nesting season. The areas will be marked with signs on the shoreline.*
- The Lower Rio Grande area below Amistad Dam, unless escorted by a park employee conducting official government business.

*This area is closed to general public access because of safety and homeland security concerns.*

- The water area extending 1000 feet out from the entire portion of Amistad Dam, which includes both the concrete and earthen wing dams.  
*International Boundary and Water Commission has closed this area for safety concerns and for homeland security concerns.*
- All administrative service roads and areas marked with a sign.  
*Closures will maintain integrity and security of government property.*

**(a)(2) Use Limits**

- The use of unregistered motor vehicles, such as, but not limited to all-terrain vehicles, utility vehicles, golf carts, and go karts, is prohibited within Amistad NRA. An exception to this prohibition may be granted by the Superintendent through the issuance of a permit in support of a special event.  
*This prohibition is enacted to reinforce Texas state law which prohibits these types of vehicles on public roads and to promote visitor safety by not having small, slow moving vehicles in the same area as full sized vehicles.*
- The entire park is closed to the possession of glass beverage containers, except glass bottles of wine of more than 750 milliliter in size are allowed.  
*The high occurrence of broken glass caused injuries to visitors indicates a need for this prohibition.*
- The following areas are closed to the beaching of vessels:
  - Vessels may not be beached overnight within designated harbors at Diablo East, Rough Canyon, Southwinds Marina, and Box Canyon.  
*This regulation is intended to reduce the congestion of a high visitor use area.*
- Kitesurfing, kiteboarding, hang gliding, and parasailing (board riding while attached to wind-driven parachute-like objects or wing devices and/or towed by a vessel or vehicle) are prohibited. This closure does not include sailboarding, where a sail is permanently affixed to the board.  
*Kitesurfing/boarding, hang gliding, and parasailing within the NRA has been deemed an inappropriate activity given safety concerns and resource conflicts that the park is mandated to prevent. Accepted safety practices by kitesurfing/boarding and parasailing associations and groups advocate no kiteboard or parasailing use in swim areas and avoidance of obstacles, which abound at Amistad NRA.*
- Fueling of vessels while on the lake's water is prohibited with the following exceptions:
  - At approved fueling facilities (Diablo East Marina, Rough Canyon Marina, and Southwinds Marina),
  - From DOT approved portable fuel containers of less than 5 gallons in size,
  - By a park permit*Diesel fueling of vessels on the water is allowed from a DOT approved commercial fueling apparatus. This prohibition is to prevent pollution of the lake's water from an accidental discharge of fuel into the lake and to prevent injury to visitors due to improper fueling. Diesel fuel is currently not available from an approved fueling facility on the lake, therefore the park will allow this fueling until an approved fueling station is available.*

- The concession boat slips at Diablo East Marina, Southwinds Marina, and Rough Canyon Marina are restricted to the use of and access by marina employees, customers, and their guests. These boat slips are not open to the general public. *These areas are restricted to prevent theft of services and inconvenience to or conflict with slip renters.*
- Fishing from the public fishing docks will be restricted to rod and reel fishing or the active use of cast nets. The public fishing docks are not to be used as anchor points for drop lines, trot lines, or any other type of fixed lines. *Fixed lines may obstruct the free use and enjoyment of the area by other users.*
- The following areas are closed to SCUBA diving: designated boat mooring, docking, and harbor areas. *This restriction is intended to help ensure diver safety from boat traffic.*
- The courtesy dock at the Diablo East boat ramp is closed to all houseboats. *Concessioner houseboats and privately moored houseboats are restricted to the use of the dock provided specifically for them to reduce congestion at the public dock.*
- The concessioner houseboat dock at Diablo East is closed to all non-concessioner vessels.
- All designated fishing docks are closed to vessels. *These docks are provided for the convenience of the non-boating fishing public.*
- Tying or mooring a vessel at public docks for longer than 20 minutes is prohibited. *Time limits are necessary to allow for as many visitors as possible to have access to these convenience facilities.*
- Tying or mooring of a vessel at Panther or Parida Cave docks for longer than 2 hours is prohibited. These docks are closed from 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes prior to sunrise. *Time limits are necessary to allow for as many visitors as possible to have access to these facilities, to protect the docks from damage, and to deter long term mooring in a culturally sensitive area.*
- The area known as the SCUBA Cove is closed to all motor boat traffic. The area within the northeast and northwest fingers of land at the entrance of the cove to the shore, and marked by buoys shall be off limits to boaters. *This area is suggested to SCUBA divers which can surface unexpectedly, causing a catastrophic event with a motor boat.*

## § 1.6 PERMITS

Pursuant to 36 CFR 1.6(f), the following is a list of activities and applicable 36 CFR statutes for which a permit is required. Permits are issued by the Superintendent and may be subject to special regulations. Engaging in these activities without a permit, or violating the terms and conditions of a permit is prohibited.

- 2.2 Hunting (in designated areas)
- 2.5 Specimen collection
- 2.10 Camping (in designated campgrounds and designated dispersed camping areas)
- 2.11 Picnicking (in designated group picnic areas)
- 2.23 Recreation fees (Lake Use Fees)

- 2.38 Explosives (permit not available)
- 2.50 Special events, including fishing tournaments (1)
- 2.51 Public assemblies, meetings
- 2.52 Sale or distribution of printed matter
- 2.60 Livestock use and agriculture (permit not available)
- 3.31 Use of a vessel
- 4.12 Ramp parking permit
- 5.1 Advertisements
- 5.3 Business operations
- 5.5 Commercial photography
- 5.7 Construction of buildings or other facilities
- 5.10 Operating an eating, drinking, or lodging establishment

**2.23 Recreation Fees (Lake Use Fee):** All motor boats, and sailboats over 14 ft. on Lake Amistad that require state registration, including those in fishing tournaments, must possess a valid permit costing \$4.00/day, \$10.00/3 days, or \$40.00/year.

**2.50 Special Events – Fishing Tournaments:** A special use permit is required when any fishing tournament exceeds ten (10) boats. The application for special use permits must be received by the park at least 72 hours before and no earlier than 18 months in advance of the tournament start date. A permit processing fee of \$25.00 must be submitted with the application. A response will be given by park within one week after receipt of an application.

**Management Costs:** The park has established a standard fee for cost recovery of services provided for a fishing tournament. Personnel costs are the only standardized costs being recovered. In the event there are additional costs incurred by the park, the NPS will notify the tournament director/organizer as to their additional financial obligation. The below fees are to arrive at the park no later than tournament registration time.

**SCHEDULE OF COSTS**

Boats	Fees
1-100	\$ 0/day
101-200	\$ 90/day
201-300	\$260/day
301-600	\$495/day

**§ 2.1 PRESERVATION OF NATURAL, CULTURAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES.**

**(a)(4) Using or possessing wood gathered from within the park**

The gathering of dead and downed wood within the park for the purpose of campfires within the park is allowed. *The limited collection of firewood is a traditional use in this region and causes no significant detrimental effects to the resources.*

**(a)(5) Archeological or cultural resources**

The following archeological sites are open to the public with the following restrictions:

- Panther Cave (41VV83), located in Seminole Canyon. No camping or ground fires permitted. Overnight mooring by boats is prohibited.

- Parida Cave (41VV187), located on the Rio Grande. No camping or ground fires permitted. Overnight mooring by boats is prohibited.
- Burned Rock Site (41VV27), located on the Devils River, east side, at Slaughter Bend: No camping or ground fires permitted on site.
- Burned Rock Site (41VV1694), located on the Devils River, east side, at Slaughter Bend, across creek from site 41VV27: No camping or ground fires permitted on site. “No Boat” buoys will be placed when lake levels allow boat access into side drainage.

*These sites are generally known to the public and are open to them (with the identified restrictions) as they possess characteristics that allow for such use without damage.*

**(b) Pedestrian or hiking use**

At Panther and Parida Caves, pedestrian traffic is restricted to the designated trail systems. *This is to protect and preserve sensitive cultural resources while still allowing general access to these sites.*

**(c)(1) & (c)(2) Collection for personal use or consumption.**

The following renewable plant products may be collected for personal use only:

- Fruit of the prickly pear cactus
- Fruit of the Agarita bush
- Fruit of the wild Persimmon tree
- Mesquite beans
- Hackberry fruit

There is a limit of one five gallon container per plant species per family unit during the entire fruit bearing season.

*The gathering or consumption will not adversely affect park wildlife, the reproductive potential of a plant species, or otherwise adversely affect park resources. A limit is established to prevent the over-harvesting of the renewable resources and to allow for a wider distribution to the public.*

**§ 2.2 WILDLIFE PROTECTION**

**(d) Transporting lawfully taken wildlife through the park area**

Wildlife lawfully killed may be transported in the park with the following conditions:

- The wildlife must be tagged as prescribed by state law.

**§ 2.3 FISHING**

**(d)(8) Fishing limits**

The following areas are closed to fishing. This includes fishing from vessels secured in marina boat slips, on docks and on marina mooring buoys.

- Diablo East harbor within the no wake buoys.
- Diablo East Marina cove within the no wake buoys.
- Southwinds Marina cove within no wake buoys with the exception of the designated fishing dock.
- Rough Canyon harbor at the low water ramp within the no wake buoys.
- Rough Canyon at the high water ramp within the “no wake” buoys with the exception of the designated fishing dock.
- Box Canyon within 200 feet of the boat ramp.
- 277 North Launch Ramp and courtesy dock.
- The SCUBA Cove within the “SCUBA Dive Area” buoys.

*These restrictions are necessary to reduce conflicting visitor uses in high traffic areas and to enhance safety for maintenance diving operations.*

## **§ 2.10 CAMPING AND FOOD STORAGE**

### **(a) Front Country Camping**

Front country camping is allowed only in designated campgrounds. Campgrounds are designated by NPS signage, by brochures, and maps available to the public at the visitor information center and online. The designated campgrounds are:

- San Pedro Campground
- Governor’s Landing Campground
- Spur 406 Campground
- 277 North Campground
- Rough Canyon Campground

A Recreational Fee Permit is required for overnight stays in these developed area campgrounds, and will be issued by a self-registration system. The campsites are available on a first-come, first served basis. Reserving or holding these campsites is prohibited. The permit application requirement shall be met by completing the fee collection envelope, inserting the required payment into the envelope, and depositing the envelope in the security container at the registration station within 30 minutes of arrival in the campground. The permit application requirement will also be met by paying the required fee at one of the park’s automated fee machines or the park’s Visitor Information Center and maintaining the fee receipt in the campsite within 30 minutes of arrival in the campground.

### **Front Country Camping**

The following conditions apply to front country campgrounds:

- Only one recreational vehicle camping unit, not to exceed three vehicles total, will be allowed per campsite. Vehicles must be parked on pavement or designated areas. In no case shall the number of vehicles exceed the designated parking area capacity.
- Camping in all front or back country sites for more than 60 days in a calendar year is prohibited.
- Total campers per campsite are not to exceed eight persons.
- Check-out time is 11:00 a.m.
- Quiet hours in the campgrounds and dispersed camping areas will be from 10:00 pm until 6:00 am.
- Campsites must be actively occupied as demonstrated by at least one individual spending the night in the site. *Occupancy requirements are necessary to reduce the usage of campsites as*

*inexpensive storage facilities and to reduce the “saving” of sites for upcoming weekends that keeps others from using the empty sites during that time.*

- Camp in designated sites or areas only.
- At the 277 North and Spur 406 campgrounds, areas will be designated by signs and maps, during periods of low water, where “dispersed” camping is allowed. *This use will allow visitors to camp in a traditional manner closer to the water, in an area that will suffer little to no adverse impact.*

### **Group Camping**

Front country group camping will be permitted, with a fee permit, at the following group campgrounds by reservation only. Reservations may not be made more than 180 days in advance:

- Rock Quarry group campground – overnight group size is limited to a minimum of 15 persons and a maximum of 35 persons.
- San Pedro group campground – overnight group size is limited to a minimum of 15 persons and a maximum of 75 persons.
- 277 North group campground – overnight group size is limited to a minimum of 15 persons and a maximum of 35 persons.

The following conditions apply to group campgrounds:

- Check-out time is 11:00 a.m.
- Quiet hours are from 10:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m.
- An individual cannot rent a group campsite for more than 14 days. An individual can only reserve the same group campsite twice within the same calendar year. This limit will be excepted if the group campsite has not been reserved by others 24 hours prior to the desired date. *The demand for some of the group campsites has been great. These limits are designed to allow as many different people as possible to enjoy these sites.*

### **Marina Camping**

Overnight camping in houseboats, sailboats, and other vessels legally secured in marina rental slips and mooring buoys will be allowed, however, camping will be limited to a maximum of 60 days within a calendar year. Concession employees acting as “night security” are exempt from this prohibition. *The time limit is consistent with land based camping restrictions and is intended to prevent homesteading by persons whose primary interest is long term residency. The concession employee exemption is to enhance the security and safety of the marina 24 hrs. a day.*

### **Backcountry Camping**

Backcountry camping is permitted on the lake waters and shoreline under the following conditions:

- Camping will be limited to a maximum of 60 days within a calendar year.
- The possession, use and removal after use of portable camp toilets with human waste is highly encouraged.

The following areas are closed to backcountry camping:

- Within one quarter (¼) mile of developed areas.
- Hunt areas during the hunting season.
- Indian Springs Canyon, on the east side of the Devils River, during periods of low water, in the area beyond the posted signs that read “No Camping Beyond this Point”.
- Within 100 feet of where Indian Springs flows down to the Devils River.
- All areas accessible by wheeled motor vehicles, except for designated Dispersed Camping Areas.
- All archeological sites

**DEFINITION:** For purposes of the Compendium only, “Developed Areas” in Amistad NRA include areas within ¼ mile of a campground, dispersed camping areas, picnic areas, launch ramps, or public roads. The entire south shoreline from Amistad Dam eastward to the 277 North Highway bridge, with the exception of Hunt Area 5 during the non-hunting season, is considered a developed area. *Backcountry camping in these areas would not be consistent with their primary designated use and/or may be detrimental to sensitive natural resources.*

**(b)(3) Camping within 100 feet of a flowing stream, river or body of water, except as designated.**

Camping within 100 feet of a flowing stream, river, or body of water other than a spring is allowed. *In some areas of the park the geological features are not conducive to camping farther than 100 feet from the lake, and impacts to resources would be minimal.*

**§ 2.11 PICNICKING**

Picnicking within the Governors Landing campground is allowed from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. then the individual(s) must either vacate the campsite or pay the regular camping fee.

*Overnight camping is the primary use for designated campgrounds, however picnicking is permitted in these areas as long as it does not interfere with camping. The popularity of the Governors Landing campground requires this additional restriction to ensure campsites are available for campers.*

Picnicking in the group picnic shelters located at Rough Canyon and within the San Pedro Campground is allowed. These shelters may be reserved, by fee permit, no more than 180 days in advance of the desired date.

**§ 2.13 FIRES**

**(a)(1) Fire designated areas and conditions**

Fires are prohibited in the park, except for:

- In developed areas, in designated fire grills, portable stoves or grills, or other containers that keep the fire out of direct contact with the ground.
- In non-developed areas, fires in designated fire grills, portable stoves or grills, or small ground fires less than 3 foot in diameter are authorized.

The following conditions apply to authorized fires.

- In non-developed areas, use existing fire rings. The building of new fire rings is prohibited.
- Wood or charcoal fires must be contained in fire pans at least 2 inches high or in provided fire rings.
- Fires are prohibited in archeological sites.
- Fires must be constantly attended and are to be completely extinguished prior to departing the area.

*Restrictions are necessary to limit the proliferation of fire rings and reduce fire danger in high visitor use areas. Prohibiting ground fires in archeological sites is needed to protect these sites from damage*

**(b) Conditions for extinguishing**

When unattended, open fires must be completely extinguished with no remaining burning material left. All trash within fire rings must be removed and properly disposed. Care must be exercised to ensure that ashes are dead out to prevent the spread of hot ashes, which may ignite a wildfire.

**(c) Closures to fire**

Amistad NRA will adopt Val Verde County burn bans. These often include prohibitions of ground fires during times of dangerous fire conditions.

**§ 2.14 SANITATION AND REFUSE**

**(a)(7) Disposing of fish remains as designated.**

Disposing of fish remains at the designated fish cleaning stations is authorized. *These areas were specifically constructed to properly dispose of fish remains.*

**(a)(9) Nondeveloped areas, the disposal of human body waste designated.**

Disposal of human body waste within 100 feet of a water source, high water mark of a body of water, or a campsite, is allowed ONLY when otherwise impractical by terrain features. Then it must be disposed of as far away as possible. It is strongly recommended that all human body waste be packed out by the camper.

*Terrain features at certain areas of the park require this exception. The high water mark is defined as the existing water level. The removal of human body waste will increase the sanitary condition of popular backcountry sites and reduce the amount of offensive odor and debris.*

**(b) Conditions concerning the disposal, containerization, or carryout of human body waste.**

- Human body waste shall not be discharged or disposed of into any water source.
- In non-developed areas, human waste will be carried out or disposed of on land at least 100 feet from the water's edge and outside of archeological sites.
- Human body waste solids and toilet paper shall be buried at least 3 inches below ground. Other paper products must be carried out or burned in accordance with §2.13.
- The construction of any type of toilet structure is prohibited, however the setup of a commercially manufactured temporary toilet structure is allowed as long as the body waste is disposed of in accordance with applicable rules, regulations, and laws of all government entities having jurisdiction.
- Toilet structures must be removed when the site is vacated.

*Human body waste in a water source is a public health hazard. Burying solid human body waste on land is required to reduce health hazards, visual pollution, and odors, and speed the decomposition process.*

**§ 2.15 PETS**

**(a)(3) Unattended and tied pets**

Leaving a pet unattended and tied to an object in a humane manner (with adequate food, water, and shelter) is allowed within campsites for up to 4 hours provided the pet does not make unreasonable noise. *This allowance is preferable to leaving a pet in a hot vehicle or running loose.*

**(a)(5) Pet excrement disposal conditions**

In all developed areas (campgrounds, picnic areas, marinas, parking lots, etc.) pet excrement must be disposed of by the pet owner, either in the nearest trash receptacle or by complete removal. *This regulation is intended to keep objectionable odors and excrement out of high visitor use areas.*

**(b) Hunting dogs**

Bird dogs are allowed to hunt or retrieve dove, quail, or waterfowl or retrieve training devices in designated hunt areas. All dogs must be on a leash outside of the hunt areas and bird dogs must be under control at all times while in the hunting areas. *This restriction is intended to allow traditional hunting practices in accordance with State law while protecting other wildlife in the park.*

**§ 2.16 HORSES AND PACK ANIMALS**

**(a) Pack animals defined**

Only horses, mules, burros, and llamas are defined as pack animals.

**(b) Use of horses or pack animals areas designated.**

The use of horses and pack animals are allowed in the following area and with the following restrictions:

- The NPS lands east of the Spur 454 area, except within the San Pedro Campground and on the campground access road except to cross the road.
- Overnight camping with stock is prohibited.

*The use of horses and pack animals is traditional in this area and will not cause significant resource degradation.*

**§ 2.22 PROPERTY**

**(a)(2) Unattended property designations and conditions.**

The following property is allowed to remain in the park longer than 24 hours with the associated conditions:

**Mooring private vessels**

- The entire reservoir and shoreline is closed to long-term mooring or beaching of private vessels, except at designated marina anchorage and mooring fields.
- Vessels and the tires or similar devices used to protect temporarily beached vessels on the shoreline are allowed during the length of stay, provided they are not unattended for more than 24 hours. An attended vessel is defined as being launched away from the shoreline and used in its intended manner.

- No more than two tires/devices per vessel are allowed and they must be clearly labeled with owner's name and vessel number. These tires must be removed when no longer used to beach a vessel overnight.

*This regulation is intended to reduce visual pollution from the storing of private vessels on the shore of a public reservoir and prevent beaching devices (tires) from becoming trash.*

#### **Vehicles and boat trailers**

- Legally registered vehicles and boat trailers may be left unattended at approved parking areas while the associated park permitted vessel is in use on the water.
- This does not apply to boat trailers for vessels moored longer than 14 days in marina facilities.

*Parking areas are provided specifically for users of the park, but limited space does not allow for parking by persons not using the park or who need extended storage facilities for their trailers.*

#### **Deer hunting stands**

- Deer hunt stands may be left unattended in hunt areas for up to 48 hours.
- Unattended stands must be clearly labeled with the NPS Hunting Permit Number.
- Placing of a stand does not confer exclusive right of owner to use the area, i.e., hunting areas will be used on a first-come-first-served basis.

*Deer hunt stands are allowed by State law. Limiting unattended hunt stands ensures space availability for other hunters wanting to use the areas.*

#### **Temporary mooring or jugs**

Temporary moorings or "jugs" for "baited holes" are allowed under the following conditions:

- "Jugs" are marked with owner's name, address, and date set.
- Only plastic jugs not over 1 gallon in size or plastic floats are allowed.
- Floating rope or wire lines are prohibited. Only nylon, cotton, or other non-floating lines are allowed.
- Floats are to be checked, and re-dated a minimum of every 30 days. Any jug left more than 30 days without re-dating will be removed.
- They cannot cause a hazard to navigation.
- The entire mooring assembly, from anchor to jug, is easily removable from the water.
- Placing of a jug does not confer exclusive right of owner to use the area, i.e., fishing areas will be used on a first-come-first-served basis.

*Mooring jugs are allowed by State law and are a traditional use for this area.*

## **§ 2.23 RECREATION FEES**

### **(a) Recreation fees shall be established**

The Recreation Fee Demonstration Program, Public Law 104-134 (and as later amended by other public laws), authorizes Amistad NRA to collect recreation fees. Amistad has established recreation fees for front country camping, hunting, and lake use (boating).

## **§ 2.35 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

### **(3)(i) Alcoholic beverage closures**

The following areas are closed to the possession of any open alcoholic beverage container or the consumption of any alcoholic beverage:

- Within the park administrative buildings, ranger stations, and visitor information centers.
- On the property of any business not approved for consumption.
- By hunters in a designated hunt area while in possession of a weapon.

*The use or possession of alcoholic beverages is inappropriate in government administrative facilities. The restriction on hunters is to provide for hunter and visitor safety.*

## **§ 2.51 DEMONSTRATIONS**

### **(c)(2) Designated available park areas**

The following locations are available for demonstrations and the sale or distribution of printed matter. For maps, see Appendix A.

- Diablo East Area – gravel island between the access road and upper parking lot.
- Rough Canyon Area – dirt area south of the parking lot adjacent to the Rough Canyon Ranger Station.
- Pecos Area – The parking area west of the comfort station, adjacent to the flag pole.

*These areas provide a location near high visitor use areas for public assemblies, while allowing for safety of demonstrators.*

## **§ 2.62 MEMORIALIZATION**

### **(b) Scattering of human ashes**

The scattering of human ashes, from the ground or air, is allowed provided the ashes fall at least 100 yards from any developed area and archeological site. A permit is not needed for scattering of ashes at this time. *Such activity is minimal and would not cause negative impacts on resources or visitor activities.*

## **§ 3.3 VESSEL PERMITS**

All motorboats of any size and all sailboats 14 feet in length or longer must have displayed a valid Amistad NRA recreational lake use fee permit. The following conditions of the annual lake use permit apply:

- An annual lake use permit fee machine receipt must be exchanged for an annual decal within 14 days.
- The annual decal must be affixed to the port side of the vessel 6 inches aft of the registration.
- A valid Lake Meredith NRA or Chickasaw NRA recreational lake use permit will be honored at Amistad NRA.

*The authority to require a recreational lake use permit is granted in the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program. The superintendents of Amistad, Chickasaw, and Lake Meredith have determined that a reciprocal agreement to honor lake use permits will benefit recreational users of all areas while not significantly reducing fee revenues. See also Compendium §1.6.*

## **§ 3.8 WHAT VESSEL OPERATIONS ARE PROHIBITED?**

### **(a)(2) Designated launch ramps**

The boat ramps in the following locations are designated vessel launching and recovery sites and will be signed as Open or Closed depending on useable water levels:

- Blackbrush Point concrete boat ramps
- Box Canyon concrete boat ramp
- Diablo East concrete boat ramp
- 277 North Campground concrete boat ramps (2)
- 277 North at old bridge concrete boat ramp (low water use only)
- 277 South asphalt boat ramp
- Pecos River concrete boat ramp
- Rough Canyon concrete boat ramps (2)
- Air Force (Southwinds Marina) concrete boat ramp
- Spur 406 Campground concrete boat ramps (2)
- Spur 454 concrete boat ramp
- Steam Plant Road concrete boat ramp
- Amistad Acres concrete boat ramp

The park maintains a number of temporary low water boat ramps that will be designated as boat launching sites depending on water levels and safe launching conditions. Approved ramps will be designated on site with an official NPS sign.

*Fluctuating water levels may require closure of some of the developed launches. The temporary ramps may be suitable for launching and retrieving vessels depending on water levels, while not adversely impacting natural and cultural resources and other visitor activities.*

**(b)(3) Designated flat wake speed areas.**

Operating a vessel in excess of flat wake speed is prohibited in the following areas:

- Within harbors, including Diablo East, Rough Canyon, Box Canyon, and Southwinds.
- Mooring areas
- Any “No Wake” buoyed area

**§ 3.12 WATER SKIING OR OTHER SIMILAR ACTIVITIES**

**(a) The towing of a person by a vessel is allowed only in designated waters.**

Lake Amistad is open to the towing of persons by vessels except in the following areas:

- That portion of the upper Devils River above Indian Springs.
- Those areas marked by a regulatory marker.
- The entire Pecos River arm of the reservoir.
- The arm of the Rio Grande upriver from Seminole Canyon.
- Within “no wake” areas.
- Within harbors

*These areas present safety hazards to persons being towed by vessels.*

**§ 3.16 SWIMMING AND WADING**

Swimming and wading is allowed except in the following areas:

- Mooring areas
- Harbors
- Within 200 feet of fishing docks
- Any other area posted as closed to swimming or visitor use.

*These are unsafe areas for swimmers where vessel concentrations and fishing hooks and lines might cause injuries.*

### **§ 3.18 SNORKEL OR UNDERWATER DIVING**

#### **(a) Snorkeling and underwater diving closures and restrictions**

- SCUBA diving is allowed throughout the park except at those locations closed under §1.5.
- Spear guns are prohibited in the designated SCUBA cove.

*The SCUBA cove draws many divers in training, who need a safe environment free of projectiles for learning.*

### **§ 4.10 TRAVEL ON PARK ROADS AND DESIGNATED ROUTES**

#### **(b) Off-road motor vehicle use**

Amistad has not promulgated special regulations for off-road motor vehicle use, therefore all off road travel is prohibited.

### **§ 4.11 LOAD, WEIGHT AND SIZE LIMITS**

#### **(a) Vehicle load, weight and size limits established**

Individual motor vehicles or trailers in excess of 28 feet in length are prohibited within the Governors Landing Campground.

*Physical design limitations of the campground prohibit safe operation of vehicles over 28 feet long.*

### **§ 4.21 SPEED LIMITS**

#### **(b) Designated speed limits**

The speed limit in the following area is 35 mph:

- Diablo East access road, to the first entrance to the upper (west) parking lot
- Spur 454 access road, from the posted speed limit sign near the park boundary to the congested area beginning near the “cliffs.”

The speed limit in the following areas is 30 mph:

- The Air Force (Southwinds) Marina access road, from Spur 349 to the recreation center grounds
- Blackbrush Point access road
- Spur 406 access road, from the park boundary to within 100 feet of campsite #1
- Governor’s Landing Road from Spur 349 to the campground and picnic areas.
- Spur 406, 100 feet beyond the last campsite to the lake shore.

*These roadways pass through heavy vegetation and wildlife crossing areas. These roads are also shared with pedestrians and bicyclists. Curves, blind hills, and uneven road surfaces necessitate slower speeds on these roads.*

The speed limits in the following areas are 15 mph:

- Southwinds recreation center grounds and campground
- Spur 406 Campground
- Diablo East access road from the upper (west) parking lot to the lake, marina, and throughout the parking lots
- The Pecos ranger station road, from the park boundary to the boat ramp.
- Spur 454 from the posted sign near the congested cliff and boat ramp areas.
- All unpaved roads within the park.

*These paved*

*roads are in congested areas with numerous pedestrians and other traffic. Unpaved roads have numerous dips, bumps and pass through heavy vegetation and wildlife crossing areas.*

## **§ 4.30 BICYCLES**

### **(a) Designated bicycle areas**

The following areas are designated for bicycle use:

- The existing old dirt roads within Hunt Areas 2, and 5 are open to recreational bicycling with the following exceptions:
  - During the hunting season, only hunters with hunting permits are authorized to use bicycles in support of hunting activities.

*These hunt areas have old fire and ranch roads that can be used for recreational bicycling without resource degradation.*

### **(b) Bicycle special regulations**

Amistad has not promulgated special regulations for bicycle use in any other areas, therefore bicycle use is prohibited outside those areas designated in subsection (a) above.

### **(d) (3) Operating a bicycle abreast of another bicycle**

Operating a bicycle abreast of another bicycle is authorized only in the areas described in subsection (a) above.

## **§7.79 SPECIAL REGULATIONS – AMISTAD RECREATION AREA**

### **(a)(1) Hunting times and locations designated**

Hunting is allowed in the areas generally described below and specifically detailed on NPS maps. See Appendix B.

- Hunt Area 1 – Adjacent to and southwest of US Highway 90
- Hunt Area 2 – Adjacent to the Evans Creek area of the lake
- Hunt Area 3 – Northeast of US Highway 90

- Hunt Area 4 – On the Devils River, north of San Pedro Canyon
- Hunt Area 5 – Adjacent to US Highway 277 and south of San Pedro Canyon

**(a)(2) Hunting season and species allowed**

Hunting will be allowed during the listed seasons designated by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for the following species:

- Deer – using archery, may be hunted during the archery and general deer season
- Javelina – using archery, may be hunted during the archery and the general deer season
- Turkey – using archery, may be hunted only during the Fall turkey season
- Rabbit – using archery, may be hunted during the archery and the general deer season
- Rabbit – using a shotgun, may be hunted during dove, quail and waterfowl seasons
- Mouflon sheep (exotic) – using archery, may be hunted during archery, general deer, and quail seasons.
- Aoudad sheep (exotic) – using archery, may be hunted during archery, general deer, and quail seasons.
- Black buck (exotic) – using archery, may be hunted during archery, general deer, and quail seasons.
- Feral hog (exotic) – using archery, may be hunted during archery, general deer, and quail seasons.
- Dove – using shotgun, may be hunted during the Central Zone dove season
- Quail – using shotgun, may be hunted during quail season
- Teal – using shotgun, may be hunted during the September teal only season
- Ducks – using shotgun, may be hunted during the late migratory game bird season

The taking of any other wildlife not specifically listed above is prohibited.

**Conditions of hunting permit (reference 36 CRF §1.6)**

As a condition of the hunting permit, hunters are required to do the following:

- Carry a valid NPS hunting permit on their person while hunting in the NPS hunt areas.
- To write down the date and hunt area on the hunter data sheet portion of the hunting permit prior to beginning their daily hunt.
- To write down the description of the game harvested on the hunter data sheet portion of the hunting permit at the end of the hunt day.
- To turn in their hunter data sheets to Amistad NRA no later than the March 15<sup>th</sup> following the end of hunting season.
- If field dressing a deer, sheep, black buck, or feral hog, do so in the hunt area. Field dressing in the hunt area parking areas is prohibited.
- If hunting ducks from a boat, you must be within 100 yards of the exterior shoreline boundary of an approved hunt area. Shooting from the boat must be directed towards the hunt area shoreline.

As a condition of the hunting permit, the following are prohibited:

- Consuming or possessing alcoholic beverages in the hunt areas.
- Hunting over a baited area.
- Possession of baiting material. Baiting material is defined as minerals, vegetative material, or any other food substance placed to lure any wildlife resource.
- Using dogs to hunt except for bird dogs trained to retrieve dove, quail or waterfowl.

- Constructing stands is prohibited. The use of portable hunting stands is allowed
- Attaching stands to trees by penetrating the bark is prohibited.
- Leaving stands unattended without marking the hunters' permit number
- Leaving stands unattended for longer than 48 hours.

# APPENDIX A

## Superintendent's Compendium

### Demonstration and Printed Material Distribution Areas

The following maps show, outlined in red, the areas designated for public demonstrations and for the sale or distribution of printed material pursuant to 36 CFR §2.51 and 36 CFR §2.52:

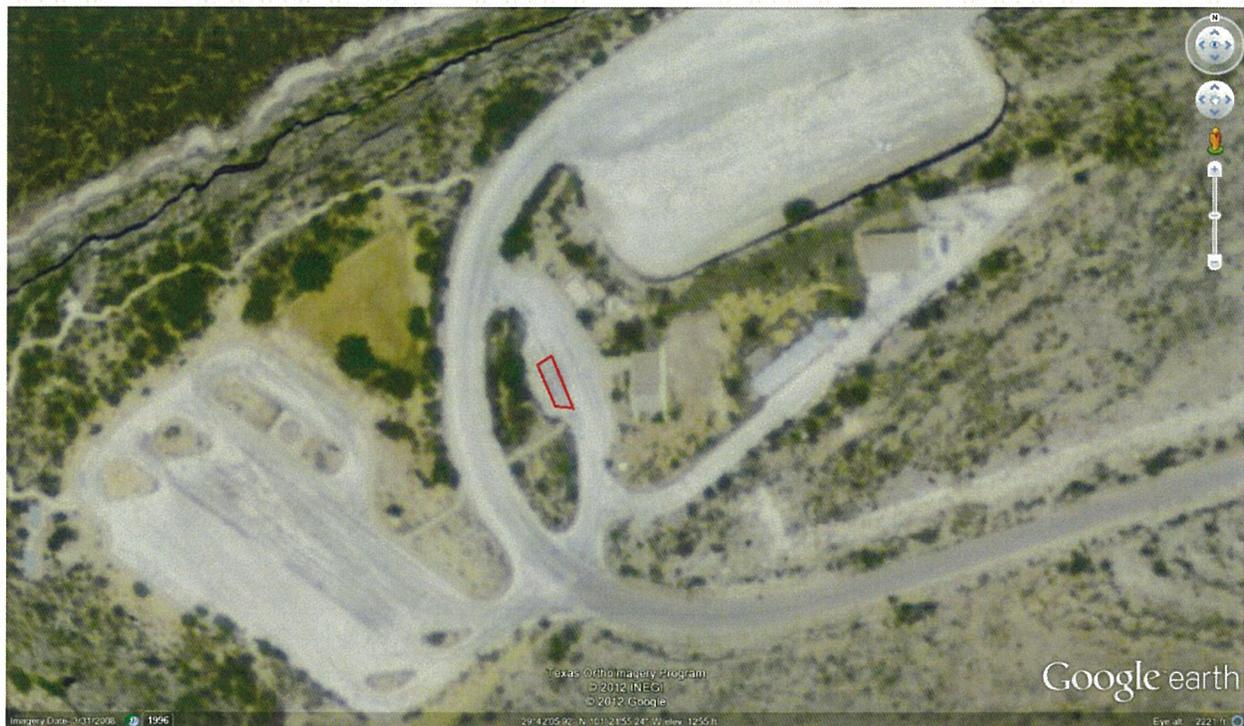
#### Diablo East



## Rough Canyon



## Pecos



# APPENDIX B

## Superintendent's Compendium

### Designated Hunting Areas

