

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Amistad National Recreation Area
Del Rio, Texas 78840



Amistad National Recreation Area 2021-2022 Hunting Regulations





2021-2022 Hunting Season General Hunting Information

-Hunting is allowed in five specific Hunt Areas; the remainder of Amistad National Recreation Area is closed to hunting.

-White-tailed deer, javelina, turkey, rabbit, exotic mouflon and aoudad sheep, axis deer, exotic blackbuck, and feral hog can be hunted with compound, recurve, and long bows. Dove, quail, duck, and rabbit can be hunted with shotgun and birdshot. The species listed above are the only species allowed to be hunted in Amistad National Recreation Area.

-The use of rifles or handguns is prohibited in Amistad National Recreation Area.

-All hunters must have in their possession a valid Texas Hunting License, a National Park Service Annual Hunting Permit, a driver license or official photo identification card, and Hunter Safety Course Certification (if required).

-The 2021–2022 hunting season offers some changes regarding the purchase of the Amistad Annual Hunting Permit:

Option 1: Online application/online payment

Step 1: Download the Special Use Application Form 10-930S. Once completed and signed, please scan and email the application to the park at: amis_interpretation@nps.gov. You will receive a confirmation email along with your permit #. You must first submit your application and receive your permit # prior to payment.

Step 2: Payment for your hunting permit can be made by credit card, debit card or check using our online payment system, <https://pay.gov/public/form/start/99297671>. Once payment has been received your Hunting Permit along with the current hunting regulations booklet will be mailed to the address listed on your application within 14 days.

Option 2: In-person application/in-person payment

Step 1: Download and complete the Special Use Application Form 10-930S from our website, <https://go.nps.gov/amis/hunting> or fill out at the Visitor Center.

Step 2: Bring the completed and signed form to the Visitor Center with payment for the \$40 hunting permit fee.

Option 3: Mail in application/online payment

Step 1: Download the Special Use Application Form 10-930S from our website, <https://go.nps.gov/amis/hunting>. Once completed and signed, please mail the application to: Amistad National Recreation Area, Attn: Hunting Permits, 10477 Highway 90 West, Del Rio, TX 78840. You will receive a confirmation email with your permit #. You must first submit your application and receive your permit # prior to payment.

Step 2: Payment for your hunting permit can be made by credit card, debit card or check using our online payment system, <https://pay.gov/public/form/start/99297671>. Once payment has been received your Hunting Permit along with the current hunting regulations booklet will be mailed to the address listed on your application within 14 days.

While applications will be available on site, preference will be given to those with a completed application in hand.

Our current application requires visitors to list their Texas Parks and Wildlife Customer Number; however, we no longer require it to be presented when picking up your permit. As a reminder, you must have in your possession the following documents while hunting at Amistad National Recreational Area:

- Amistad annual hunting permit.
- Valid Texas Hunting License.
- Driver license or official photo identification card.
- Hunter's Safety course certification, if required.

The Amistad Visitor Center is located on Highway 90, six miles west of Del Rio. The Visitor Center is open from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Please verify days of operation on the park website (<https://www.nps.gov/amis/planyourvisit/hours.htm>), as these may change. The park mailing address is: Amistad National Recreation Area, 10477 Highway 90 West, Del Rio, TX 78840.

-Hunt Area #2 is subject to periodic closure when the National Park Service gun range is in use for official purposes. Signs will be posted at the entrance to Hunt Area #2 to advise hunters when the area will be closed. This gun range is not open to public use.

-Safety: Use caution and be aware of your surroundings. Steep, uneven terrain, venomous snakes and spiders, spiny plants, and sinkholes are present throughout the park. To report an emergency, call 911. For non-emergencies, call Val Verde Sheriff at 830-774-7513 and request the assistance of a Park Ranger. It is recommended that you carry a compass, flashlight, first aid kit, maps, water, and cell phone, and that you let someone know where you will be hunting and when you plan to return.

If you have questions concerning the Hunting Program at Amistad National Recreation Area, please call the Amistad Visitor Center at 830-775-7491 or visit our website at <https://go.nps.gov/amis/hunting>.

Hunting Season Calendar 2021-22

Migratory Game Birds

Must be HIP certified for Dove and Teal.

All Hunt Areas are in the "Central Zone."

Dove

September 1, 2021-October 31, 2021

December 17, 2021-January 14, 2022

Migratory Game Bird Stamp required.

Shooting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

September Teal-only Season

(Blue-Winged, Green-Winged, and Cinnamon)

September 12-27, 2021

Migratory Game Bird Stamp (and Federal Duck Stamp if 16 years or older) is required.

Shooting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

Waterfowl

High plains Mallard Management Unit

Oct. 30-Oct. 31, 2021, and Nov. 5, 2021-Jan. 30, 2022

Youth Only: Oct. 23-24, 2021

Bag limits not available at time of print. Check with the Visitor Center on Highway 90 West or go to our website, <https://go.nps.gov/amis/hunting> or visit the Texas Park and Wildlife website for updates.

Migratory Game Bird Stamp (and Federal Duck Stamp if 16 years or older) is required.

Shooting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

Javelina

South Zone

Season: September 1, 2021-August 31, 2021

Shooting Hours: 1/2 hr before sunrise to 1/2 hr after sunset.



White-tailed Deer

North Zone

Archery Season: October 2, 2021-January 2, 2022

Special Late Antlerless Season: January 3-16, 2022

Shooting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

Mouflon Sheep, Aoudad Sheep, Blackbuck, Axis Deer, and Feral Hog

Archery Season: October 2, 2021-January 2, 2022

Special Park Late “Exotic Game” Season:

January 3 - February 27, 2022

Photos are available on pages 13 and 14 to assist with identification. (Photos also available on our website, <https://go.nps.gov/amis/hunting>.)

Shooting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

Turkey

North Zone

Season: October 2, 2021-January 2, 2022

Upland Game Bird Stamp required.

No spring turkey season offered at Amistad.

Shooting hours 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

Quail

October 30, 2021-February 27, 2022

Upland Game Bird Stamp required.

Shooting hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.



Hunting Regulations 2021-22

Details on hunting rules, regulations, and bag limits can be found on the Texas Parks and Wildlife website at tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/hunt. State of Texas hunting season dates and regulations apply except where the following Amistad National Recreation Area Regulations are more restrictive (Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations).

1. The hunting season within Amistad National Recreation Area extends from the first day of Dove Hunting Season to the last day of Quail Hunting Season. Hunting at any other time or in any other manner than prescribed in this set of regulations is prohibited [36CFR 1.6(g)(2)], [36CFR 2.2(b)(2)], [36CFR 7.79(a)(2)].

TPW 62.010(b) “Sec. 62.010 HUNTING DURING CLOSED SEASON, ETC.; (b) No person may hunt any game bird or animal at any time of the year other than during the open season provided by this code”.

2. The following items must be in your possession while hunting at Amistad NRA: a current Amistad National Recreation Area Annual Hunting Permit, a State of Texas Hunting License, photo identification such as a driver license or an official personal identification certificate issued by a State Department of Public Safety or similar state agency authorized to issue a driver license, appropriate State and/or Federal stamps, and a Hunter Safety Course Certification (if required) [36CFR 1.6(g)(2)], [36CFR 2.2(b)(2)].

TPW 42.002(a), TPW 42.005(a), TPW 42.024(a), TPW43.201(a) “Sec. 42.002.

RESIDENT LICENSE REQUIRED; EXEMPTION. (a) Except as provided by Subsections (b) and (c) of this section, no resident may hunt any bird or animal in this state without having acquired a hunting license”. “Sec. 42.005. NONRESIDENT LICENSE REQUIRED. (a) No nonresident in this state may hunt a mule deer, white-tailed deer, turkey, pronghorn antelope, or desert bighorn sheep in this state without first having acquired a general nonresident hunting license”. “Sec. 42.024. EXHIBITING LICENSE. (a) No person required by the provisions of this chapter to have a hunting license may fail or refuse to show the license to an officer on demand”. “Sec. 43.201. ARCHERY STAMP REQUIRED. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (c) or (d), no person may hunt deer, turkey, or javelina (collared peccary) during an open archery season provided by law or by the proclamations of the commission and during which season only crossbows, longbows, recurved bows, and compound bows may be used unless the person has acquired an archery hunting stamp issued to the person by the department. The commission by rule may prescribe requirements relating to possessing a stamp required by this subchapter. In a county that does not permit hunting with a firearm, a hunter may use a crossbow only if the hunter is a person with upper limb disabilities and has an archery hunting stamp”.

3. Hunting is authorized in five specific, designated hunting areas as shown on the maps. The remainder of the park is closed to hunting [36CFR 2.2(b)(2)].

TPW 61.022(a) “Sec. 61.022. TAKING WILDLIFE RESOURCES WITHOUT

CONSENT OF LANDOWNER PROHIBITED. (a) No person may hunt or catch by any means or method or possess a wildlife resource at any time and at any place covered by this chapter unless the owner of the land, submerged land, or water, or the owner's agent, consents".

4. The Amistad Annual Hunting Permit entitles you to use compound, recurve, and long bows in accordance with Texas Parks and Wildlife Regulations to take white-tailed deer, turkey, javelina, exotic mouflon and aoudad sheep, blackbuck, axis deer, and feral hog with a special, park-only, extended season for exotics (see pages 3 and 4 for dates). You may use shotguns with birdshot only to take dove, quail, waterfowl (duck), and rabbit (shotguns may only be used to take rabbit during the Dove and Quail Hunting Seasons) [36CFR 2.2(b)(2)], [36CFR 7.79(a)(2)].

5. The possession or use of crossbows is prohibited in Amistad NRA Hunt Areas, except by those hunters with an upper-limb disability. Authorized (upper-limb disability) crossbow hunters in the hunt areas may not walk or move from a stationary position with the bolt loaded in the crossbow [36CFR 1.6(g)(2)].

6. The use of any firearms within any of Amistad NRA's designated hunt areas, except as allowed in the Amistad Hunting Regulations, is prohibited [36CFR 2.4(a)(iii)].

TPW284.001 (a)(1) or (2); Discharge of Firearm Prohibited; (a) In this section: (1) "Archery equipment" means a longbow, recurved bow, compound bow, or crossbow. (2) "Firearm" has the meaning assigned by Section 62.014 .

7. Waterfowl may be hunted by boat within 100 yards of the exterior shoreline boundary of all hunt areas. Shooting must be directed toward the hunt area shoreline when duck hunting by boat. Waterfowl may also be hunted from the shoreline of the hunt areas and at interior ponds located within the hunt areas [36CFR 2.2(b)(2)].

TAC65.310(5) or (9). "Migratory birds may be taken by any method except those prohibited in this section. Except as provided in this subchapter, no person shall take migratory game birds: (5) from or by means of any motorboat or other craft having a motor attached, or any sailboat, unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased. A craft under power may be used to retrieve dead or crippled birds; however, crippled birds may not be shot from such craft under power; 9) by means or aid of any motor-driven land, water, or air conveyance, or any sailboat used for the purpose of or resulting in the concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up of any migratory bird."

8. While waterfowl hunting, only non-toxic shot approved by the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may be possessed. Possession of lead shot while waterfowl hunting is unlawful [36CFR 1.6(g)(2)], [36CFR 2.2(b)(2)].

TAC 65.310(11); Migratory birds may be taken by any method except those prohibited in this section. Except as provided in this subchapter, no person shall take migratory game birds: while possessing loose shot that is not non-toxic shot or shotshells containing any shot other than non-toxic shot. The provisions of

this paragraph apply only to the hunting of waterfowl. Should add Illegal shotgun; “unplugged” to this one or another number.

TAC 65.310(2) with a shotgun of any description capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so its total capacity does not exceed three shells.

9. The use and/or possession of hunting dogs is allowed for hunting of game birds only. Bird dogs must remain under the owner’s control at all times [36CFR 2.2(b)(2)].

TAC 65.19(b); “(a) For the purposes of this section: (1) ‘actual possession of a dog’ means the physical control of a dog; (2) ‘constructive possession of a dog’ means having the power and intention to have and control a dog but without direct control of the dog, the actual presence of physical restraint upon the dog, or the actual presence of the dog at exactly the same place as the person having the dog. (b) It is unlawful to use a dog or dogs in hunting, pursuing, or taking deer in all counties”.

10. Possession or consumption of an alcoholic beverage while in an area open to hunting is prohibited [36CFR 2.35(a)(3)(i)].

11. Feeding or baiting of wildlife is prohibited. The possession of baiting material while inside a hunt area is prohibited [36CFR 2.2(a)(2)]. Bait is defined as something that intentionally or unintentionally lures any wildlife resource. This includes, but is not limited to salt, grain, minerals, or other feed, directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered.

12. Hunting over a baited area is prohibited [36 CFR 2.2(b)94].

TAC 65.310(10)” Migratory birds may be taken by any method except those prohibited in this section. Except as provided in this subchapter, no person shall take migratory game birds: (10) by the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. No person may place or direct the placement of bait on or adjacent to an area for the purpose of causing, inducing, or allowing any person to take or attempt to take any migratory game bird by the aid of baiting on or over the baited area. However, provided a land or area is not otherwise baited, nothing in this paragraph prohibits”

TAC 65.310(10)” Migratory birds may be taken by any method except those prohibited in this section. Except as provided in this subchapter, no person shall take migratory game birds: (10) by the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. No person may place or direct the placement of bait on or adjacent to an area for the purpose of causing, inducing, or allowing any person to take or attempt to take any migratory game bird by the aid of baiting on or over the baited area. However, provided a land or area is not otherwise baited, nothing in this paragraph prohibits”

13. Portable deer stands or blinds may be used, but they must not be left unattended for longer than 24 hours [36CFR 2.22(a)(2)]. Construction of permanent stands or other structures is prohibited [36CFR 5.7]. Ground blinds are acceptable, but construction is limited to the use of vegetation that is both dead and down. Cutting vegetation is prohibited. Deer stands may not penetrate the bark of the tree [36CFR 2.1(a)(1)(ii)]. You are required to label your portable deer stand or blind with your permit number. Deer stands that are unmarked or unattended for over 24 hours will be confiscated by Amistad NRA [36CFR2.22(b)(1)].

14. Target practice (firearms and archery) is prohibited within Amistad NRA [36CFR2.4(a)(1)(iii)].
TPW284.001 (a)(1) or (2); Discharge of Firearm Prohibited; (a) In this section: (1)“Archery equipment” means a longbow, recurved bow, compound bow, or crossbow. (2) “Firearm” has the meaning assigned by Section 62.014.

15. Camping within the boundaries of a hunt area is prohibited during the hunting season [36CFR 2.10(a)].

16. The display of harvested game in the Amistad NRA campgrounds is prohibited. The gutting of deer is prohibited in campgrounds. Skinning and quartering must be out of sight of the public [36CFR 2.10(a)]. The gutting, skinning, and quartering of deer is prohibited in or near the hunt area parking lots [36CFR 2.2(d)].

17. Hunting domestic livestock is prohibited. It is your responsibility to recognize the difference between exotic mouflon or aoudad sheep and domestic goats and sheep. Photos are on pages 21 and 22 to assist you with identification. (Photos also available on our website, <https://go.nps.gov/amis/hunting>.)

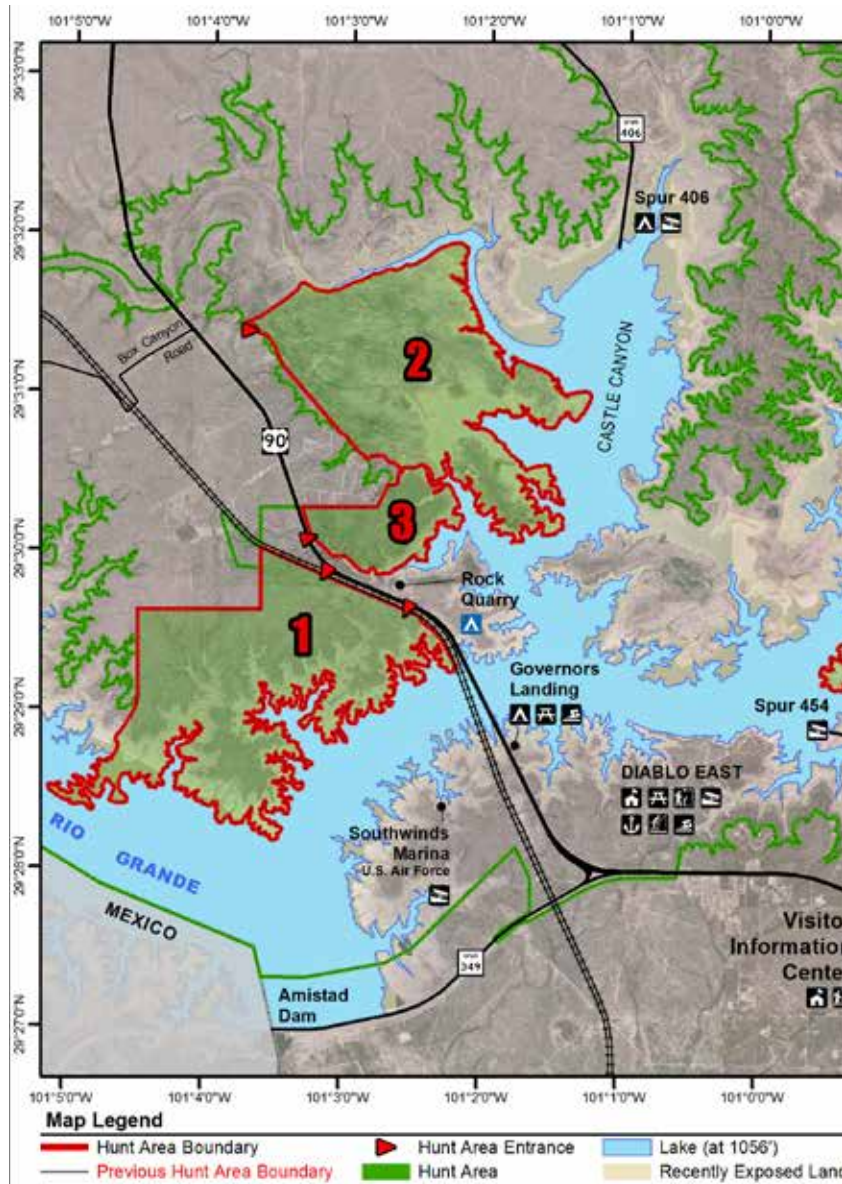
18. Hunters using shotguns in the hunt areas are required to carry out their spent shotgun shells [36CFR2.14(a)(1)].
THSC 365.012(a); Sec. 365.012. **ILLEGAL DUMPING; DISCARDING LIGHTED MATERIALS; CRIMINAL PENALTIES.** (a) A person commits an offense if the person disposes or allows or permits the disposal of litter or other solid waste at a place that is not an approved solid waste site, including a place on or within 300 feet of a public highway, on a right-of-way, on other public or private property, or into inland or coastal water of the state.

19. Do not park on or cross private property to gain access to a hunt area without the consent of the landowner.

20. All archeological sites, features, and artifacts are protected by Federal law. Do not disturb or remove them.

21. You are hunting on federal land. Violations of State or Federal Law and/or Recreation Area Regulations will result in a fine, civil restitution and/ or suspension or permanent loss of your Recreational Area hunting privileges and/ or State hunting License.

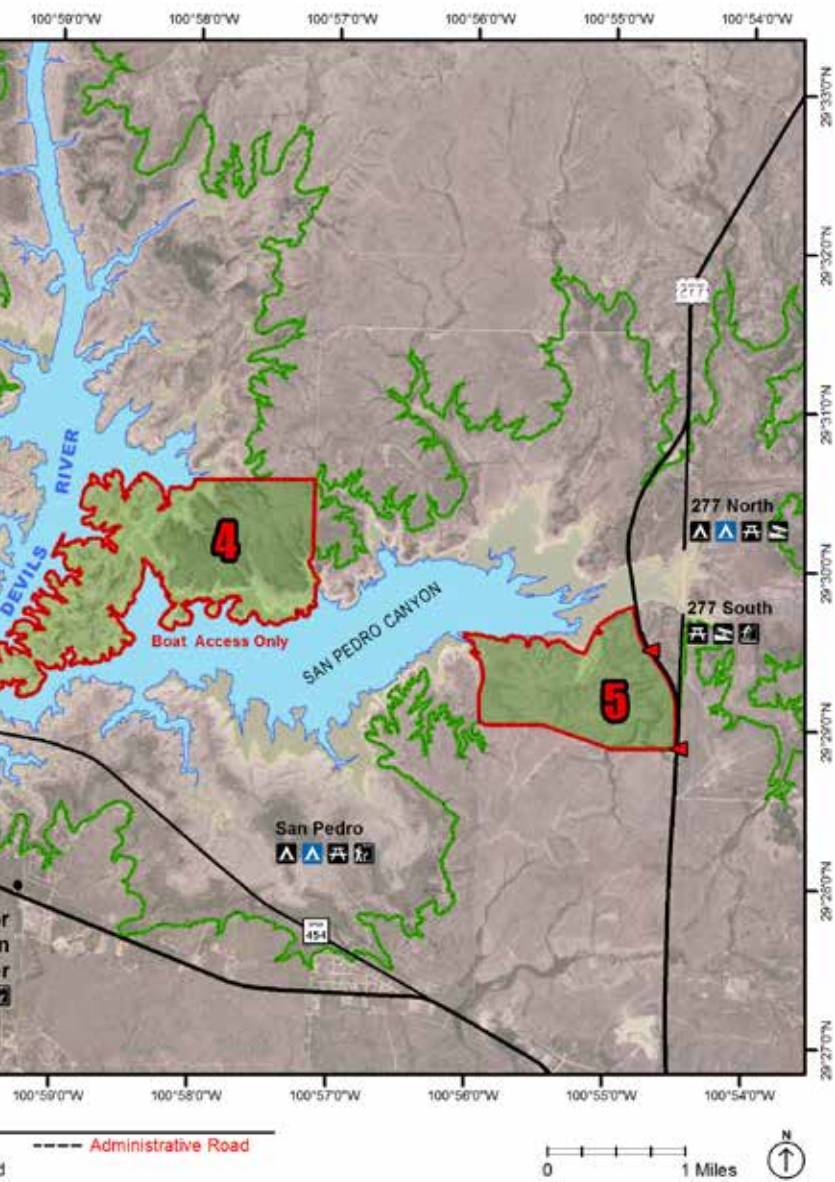
Five Hunt Areas in Amistad National Recreation Area



This map is an aerial overview of Amistad Reservoir showing an area of approximately 83 square miles.

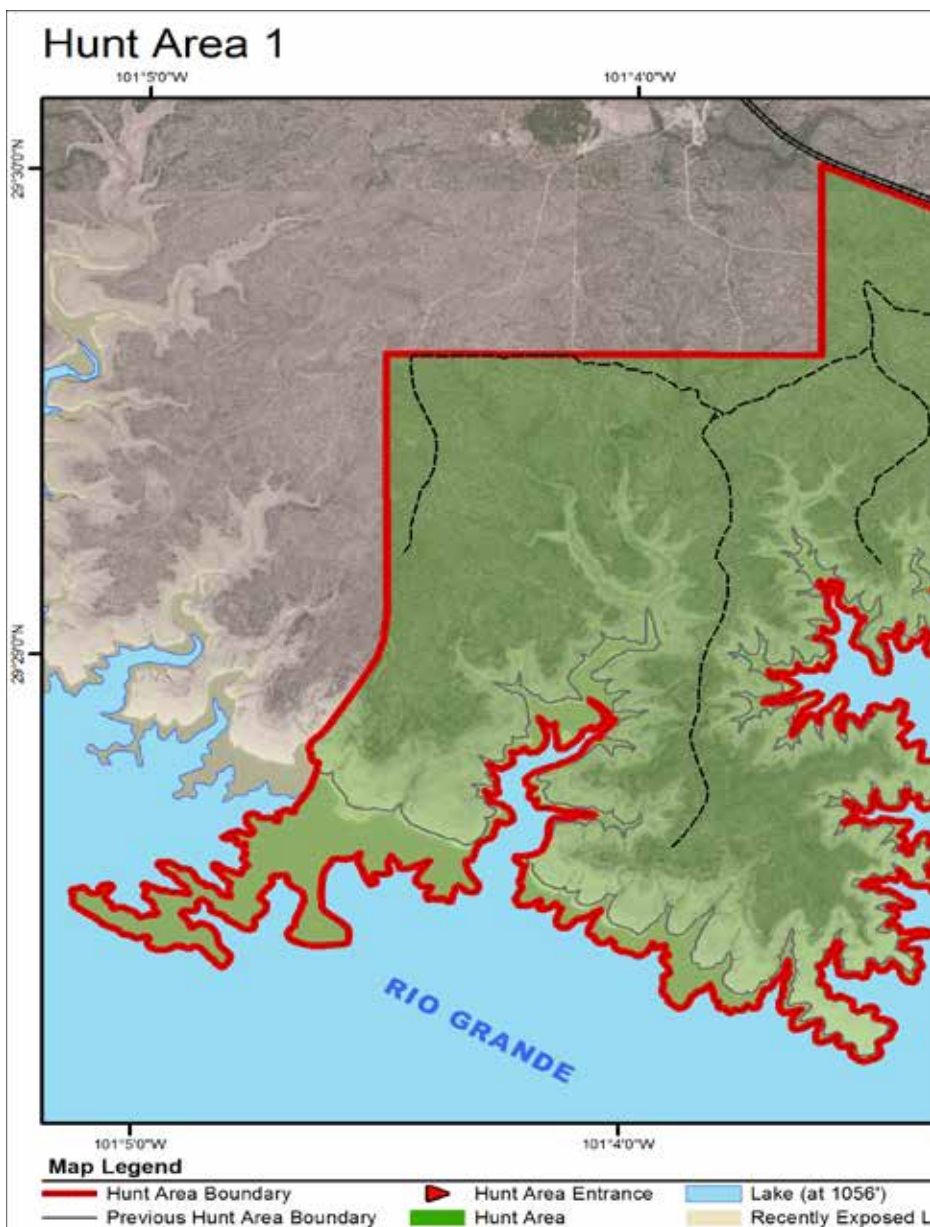
The map legend includes the hunt area boundaries noted with a red line, the NPS boundary noted with a green line, hunt area entrances noted with a red triangle, hunt areas noted with green shading, the lake at elevation 1056', noted with blue shading, and recently exposed land noted with light brown shading.

The lake itself has four areas designated on the map, moving from west to east: Rio Grande, Castle Canyon, Devils River, and San Pedro



Canyon. The Rio Grande continues off the map to the west and the Devils River continues off the map to the north, while Castle Canyon and San Pedro Canyon are bounded by land.

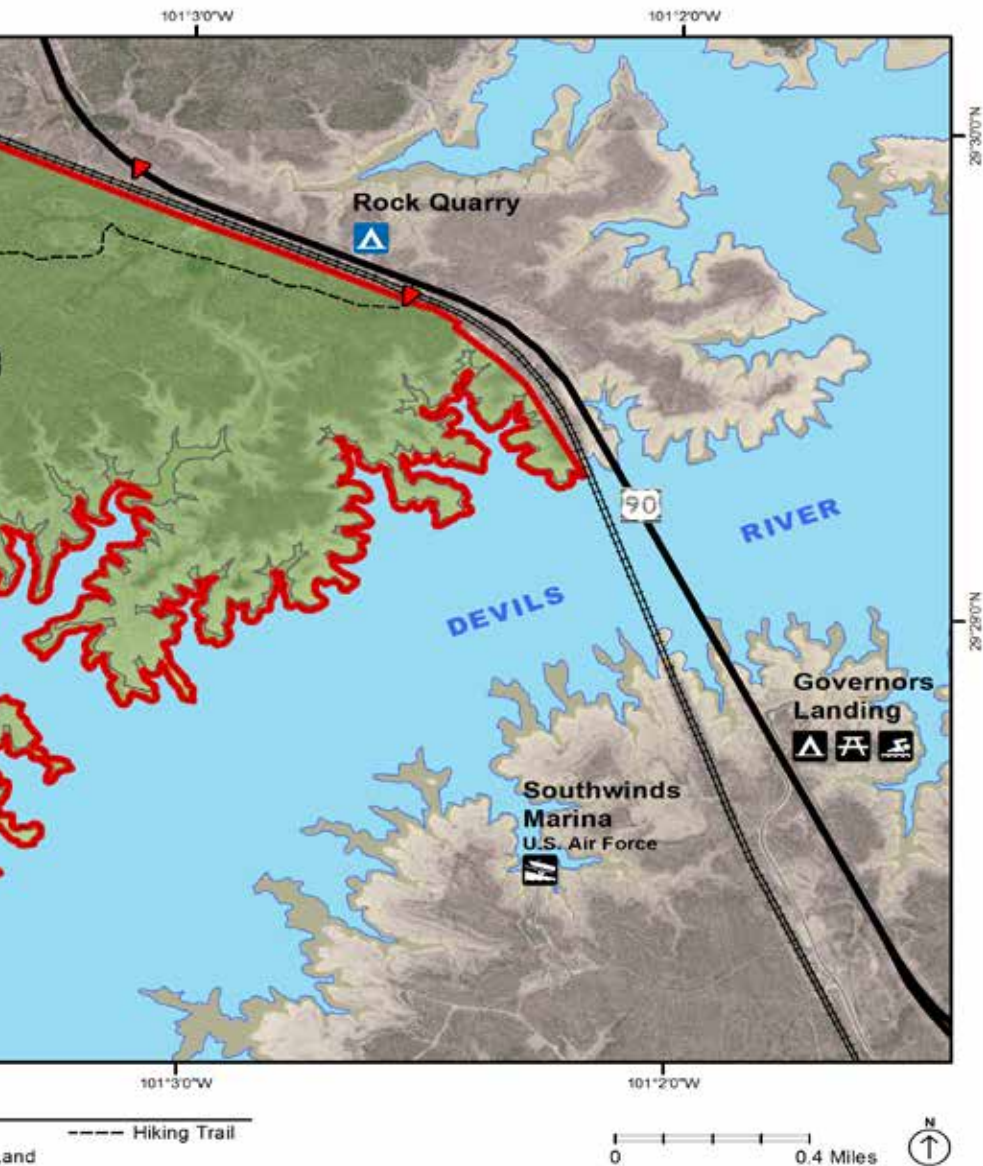
All three of these hunt areas are accessed off Highway 90. Hunt area 4 is on the north side of the lake between Devils River and San Pedro Canyon. It is only accessible by boat. Hunt area 5 is accessed from Highway 277 which runs from north to south along the east side of the map. Hunt area 5 is bound by Highway 277 on the east and lake along its north and west side.



Hunt Area 1

Information: Walk-in and boat access available.

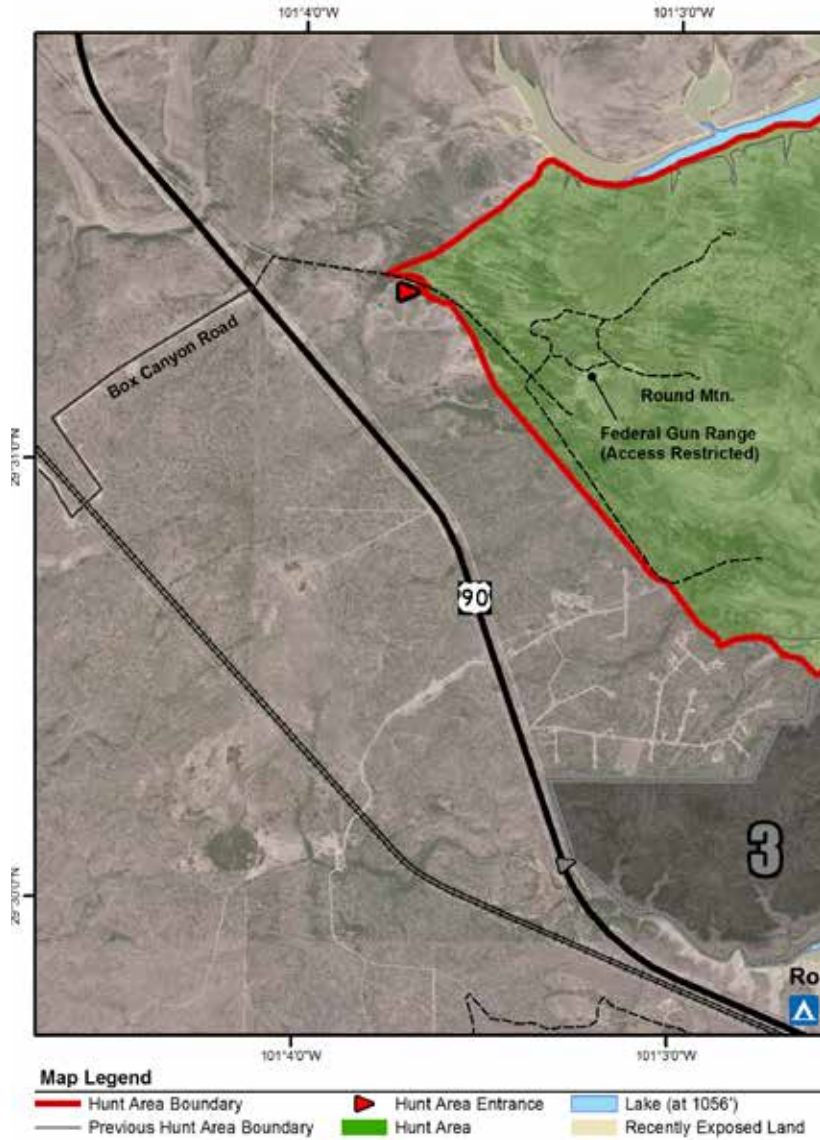
Area 1 has the largest amount of shoreline with trails leading to two main peninsulas. The north and west boundaries are along and in line with a fence line marked with signs stating “NPS Boundary” or “No Hunting/Trapping Beyond This Point.” The eastern boundary is the shoreline of the Devils River arm of the lake. The southern boundary is the shoreline of the Rio Grande arm of the lake.



Total Acreage: 912 acres at 1118-ft lake level, 1375 acres at 1080-ft lake level, and 1626 acres at 1056-ft lake level. Check lake levels at the Visitor Center or at <https://go.nps.gov/amis/hunting>.

Vehicle Parking: Just after crossing the Highway 90 West main bridge, one parking area is across from the NPS Rock Quarry Group Campground, and the second is 1/2 mile farther west on Highway 90.

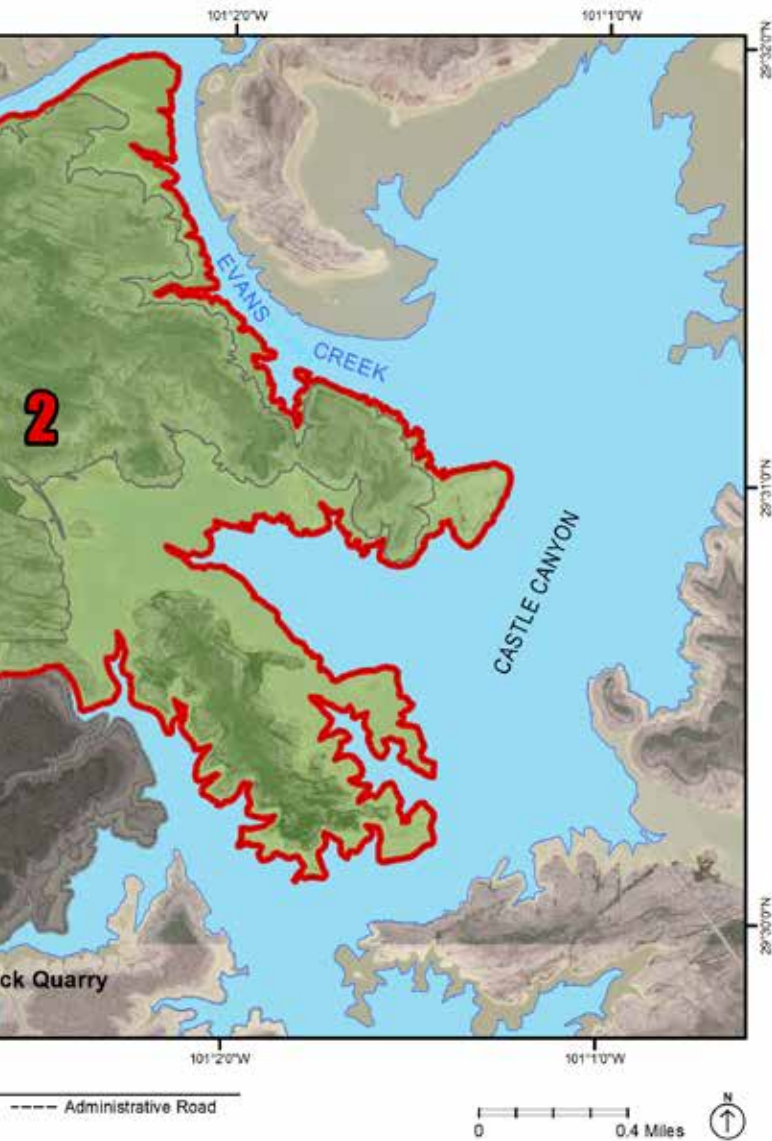
Hunt Area 2



Hunt Area 2

Information: Walk-in and boat access available.

Area 2 has roads and trails that can be easily navigated. The north, west, and south boundaries of the hunt area are along a fence line marked with signs labeled “NPS Boundary” or “No Hunting/ Trapping Beyond This Point.” The remainder of the boundary is the shoreline along Evans Creek, Castle Canyon, and Guajia Bay sections of the lake unless posted otherwise. This hunt area is subject to closure on short notice when the National Park Service Gun Range is in use by authorized personnel for official purposes. The closure



will be posted with a sign at the gate at the entrance to the hunt area access road and on the park website at: <https://go.nps.gov/amis/hunting>.

Total Acreage: 505 acres at 1118-ft lake level, 1009 acres at 1080-ft lake level, and 1513 acres at 1056-ft lake level. Check lake levels at the Visitor Center or at our website, <https://go.nps.gov/amis/hunting>.

Parking: From Highway 90 West, turn right at flashing yellow light across from Box Canyon Rd and follow gravel access road to the right, which leads to parking area. Do not block the gate on the hunt area access road.

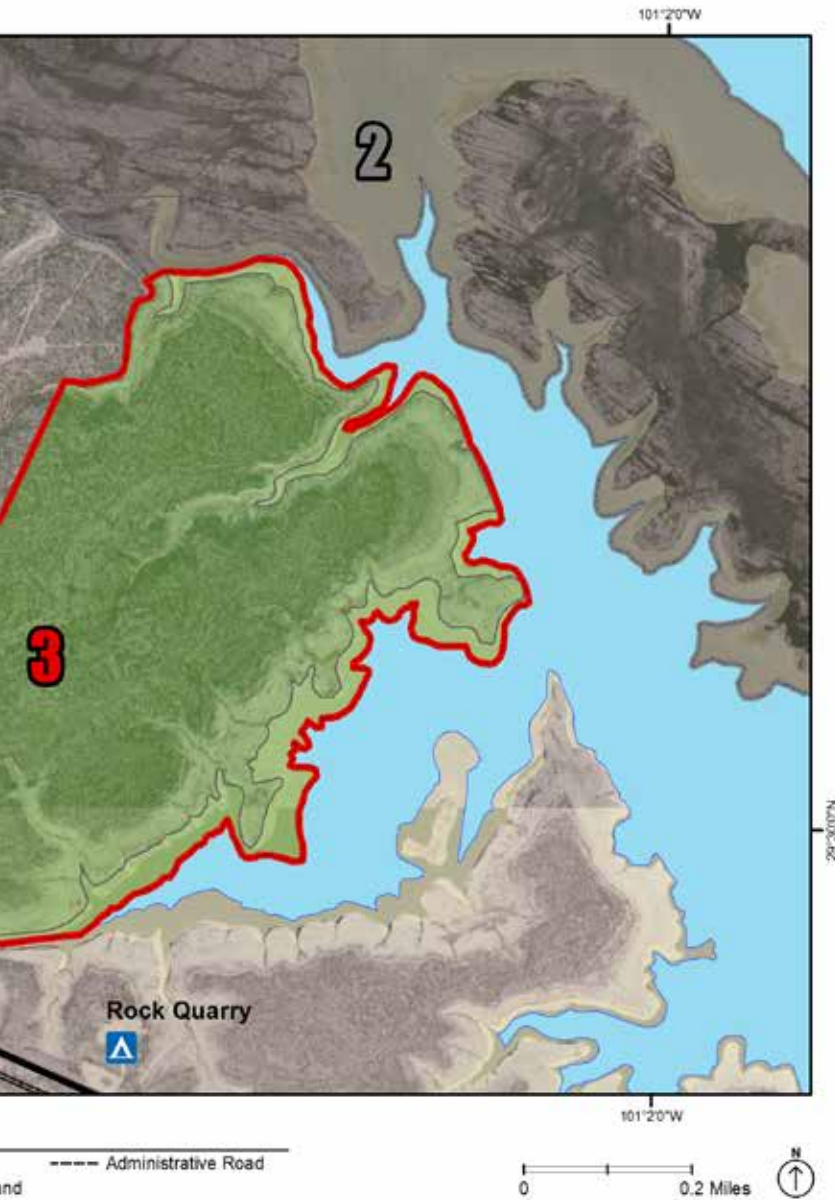
Hunt Area 3



Hunt Area 3

Information: Walk-in and boat access available.

There are no roads in Area 3 and very few defined trails. The north and west boundaries are along and in line with the fence line marked with NPS boundary signs, and the remainder of the boundary is the exterior shoreline unless otherwise posted. On the south and southeast boundary, the water has receded due to low lake levels.

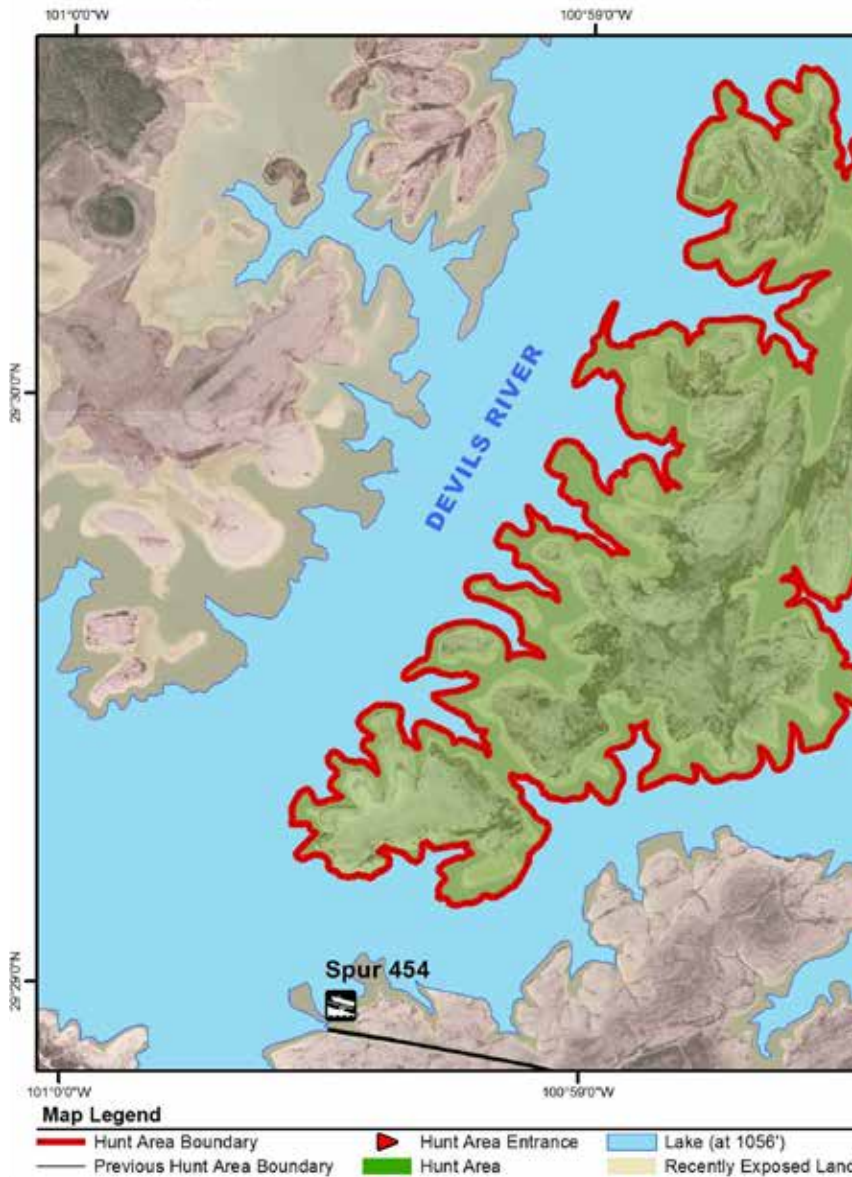


The hunt area boundary is where the shoreline closest to the hunt area side used to be.

Total Acreage: 227 acres at 1118-ft lake level, 267 acres at 1080-ft lake level, and 311 acres at 1056-ft lake level. Check lake levels at the Visitor Center or at <https://go.nps.gov/amis/hunting>.

Parking: Vehicle parking is available on the north side of Highway 90, one mile west of the NPS Rock Quarry Group Campground.

Hunt Area 4



Hunt Area 4

Information: Hunt area only accessible by boat.

Hunt Area 4 is accessible by boat only. Boats must be secured properly to shoreline. Strong, gusty winds are common. Hunt Area 4 is on the end of Long Point, the peninsula between Devils River and San Pedro Arm. The north and east boundaries are marked along and in line with a fence line extending from Devils River to the San



Pedro Arm and are marked with “NPS Boundary” or “No Hunting/ Trapping Beyond This Point.” The remainder of the boundary is exterior shoreline unless otherwise posted.

Total Acreage: 430 acres at 1118-ft lake level, 563 acres at 1080-ft lake level, and 1272 acres at 1056-ft lake level. Check lake levels at the Visitor Center or at <https://go.nps.gov/amis/hunting>.

Parking: There is no parking. Area 4 is only accessible by boat or watercraft.

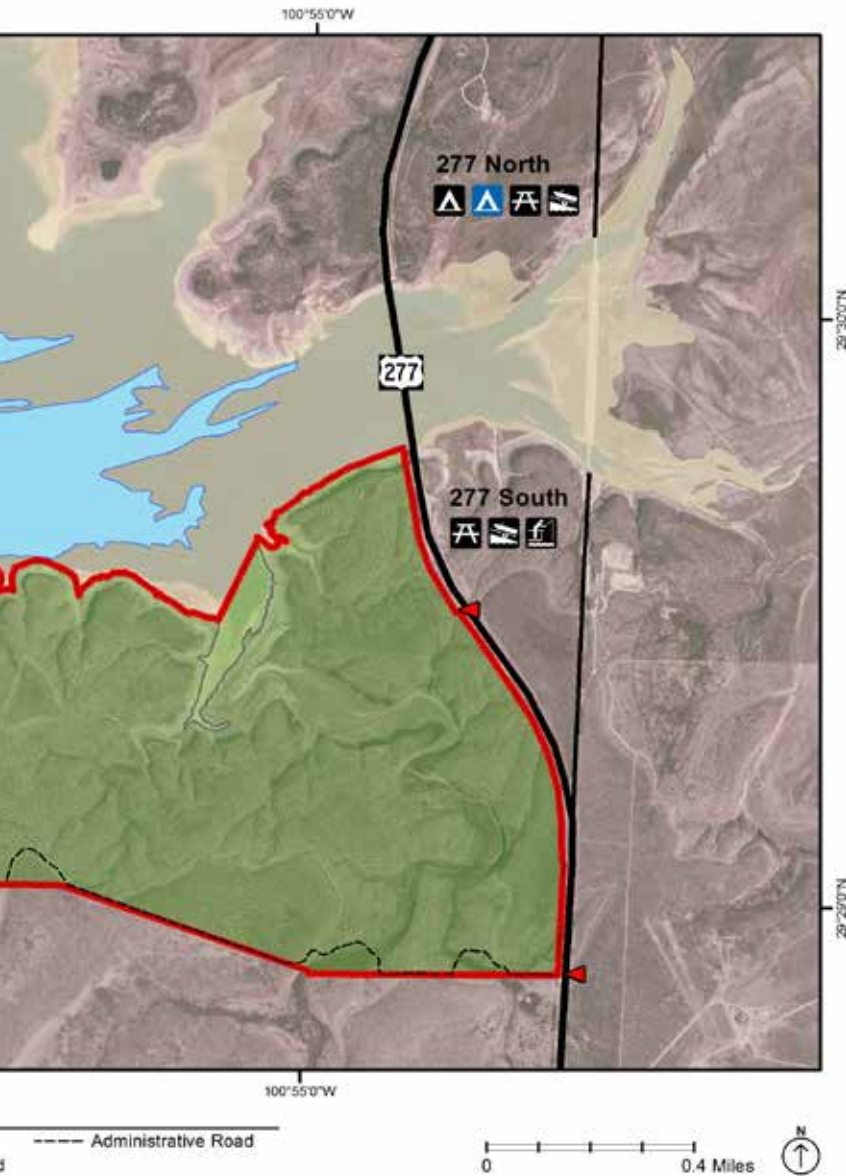
Hunt Area 5



Hunt Area 5

Information: Walk-in and boat access available.

The south and east boundary is along and in line with a fence line marked with NPS boundary signs. The west boundary is in line with an old fence line and is marked with signs labeled "No Hunting/ Trapping Beyond This Point." The remaining boundary is the shoreline of the San Pedro Arm extending eastward to the Highway 277 Bridge. The hunt area does not extend out onto the exposed dry riverbed of San Pedro Creek.



Total Acreage: 592 acres at 1118-ft lake level, 628 acres at 1080-ft lake level, and 640 acres at 1056-ft lake level. Check lake levels at the Visitor Center or at <https://go.nps.gov/amis/hunting>.

Parking: Vehicle parking is at the southeast corner adjacent to Highway 277 N about one mile south of the Highway 277 N Bridge. A second parking area is farther north on the west side of Highway 90 just before the Highway 277 N Bridge.

Exotic Animals--Hunting Allowed



NPS photo

Aoudad sheep



NPS photo

Mouflon sheep



Photo courtesy of Jerod L. Roberts

Axis deer



Photo courtesy Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 2010,
(Chase Fountain TPWD)

Feral hog



Photo courtesy Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 2010,
(Chase Fountain TPWD)

Blackbuck

Domestic Animals--**Hunting Not Allowed**



NPS photo

Rambouillet rams



NPS Photo

Spanish goats



Photo courtesy of Harrington Ranch 2010

Boer goats



Photo courtesy of Devils River Lamb 2010

Dorper sheep



**National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior**

**Amistad National Recreation Area
10477 Highway 90 West
Del Rio, Texas 78840**

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™