

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

For immediate release May 15, 2025

USIBWC RESCINDS ACCESS TO BIRD HUNTING IN TEXAS

The U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) announces that its previous authorization for public access to a specific bird hunting area located on former USIBWC property, between El Paso and Fort Hancock, Texas, approved for the 2024–2025 hunting season, is null and void. USIBWC no longer administers the land.

The area is identified in the attached map as markers 61 to 90: from Herring Road and downstream to the vicinity of the Fort Hancock - Porvenir International Bridge.

This area, identified as open to hunting in August 2024, is now under the administrative control of the U.S. Army in support of national security and the establishment of a National Defense Area (NDA). The USIBWC is working with the Administration and is fully cooperating with the U.S. Department of Defense regarding the NDA and associated land access and operational priorities. As a result, the USIBWC's previous authorization for public use of the specified location is no longer valid.

For reference, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has set the following migratory game bird hunting seasons for the Central Zone in the 2025–2026 season:

Dove: September 1 – October 27, 2025, and December 13, 2025 – January 14, 2026

Quail: November 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026

Members of the public seeking information on potential access or hunting permissions for this area should contact the Joint Task Force – Southern Border Public Affairs Office at (520) 454-7625 or via email at JTF-SBMediaDesk@army.mil.

No other areas are affected by this rescission. This includes all hunting areas previously identified in southern New Mexico, which will remain unchanged.

For updated maps and information regarding public access to hunting areas, please visit https://www.ibwc.gov/press-releases/. For more information on Texas Parks & Wildlife hunting season, please visit https://tpwd.texas.gov/regulations/outdoor-annual/regs/counties/el-paso.

The USIBWC X account is a good place to check for updates: https://x.com/usibwc

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2024 - 2025 Bird Hunting Areas in Texas



United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission

