

# BCWMMC

## Bee County Wildlife Management Co-op

May 2004 Newsletter

<p><b>Did you know...</b></p> <p>...the first Wildlife Management Area in Texas was established in 1955 and covered Bee, Goliad and Karnes Counties?</p> <p>...a deer's home range is about one square mile, although bucks can range several miles during breeding season?</p> <p>...a turkey's summer and winter range is about one square mile, but the average shift between the two is about four miles?</p> <p>...members of a wildlife co-op are not bound to the management plans developed by the co-op, and can comply or not as they see fit?</p> <p>...free technical assistance is available from a State of Texas biologist for developing a management plan for your land?</p> <p><b>Tidbits</b></p> <p><i>"People who never get carried away should be."</i> Malcolm S. Forbes, Sr. Publisher</p>	<p><b><u>WHY FORM A WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT CO-OP?</u></b></p> <p>Because it allows multiple landowners to band together to help offset the negative effects of the ongoing destruction and fragmentation of wildlife habitat.</p> <p>A 1999 survey by the U.S. Department of Agriculture reported that every two minutes another acre of Texas farm, ranch, or open space land is lost to "development" of some type. When you factor in the continuing break up of large ranches and farms into smaller tracts the negative impact on wildlife is even more dramatic.</p> <p>Fragmentation disrupts natural travel corridors and wildlife feeding areas, destroys habitat, and often results in over harvest (and sometimes under harvest) of some wildlife. Free-ranging wildlife is shared by adjoining landowners. On smaller tracts, less than several thousand acres, what your neighbor does has a direct and often immediate impact on "your" wildlife. Sharing common goals and working together benefits not only the wildlife but also the landowners.</p> <p>Management co-ops allow landowners to join together to develop and implement management programs over large areas, offsetting many of the negative effects of fragmentation.</p> <p>There are now over 160 Wildlife co-ops in Texas with close to two million acres under management. Dramatic increases in both the quantity and quality of wildlife have become common in the years following the formation of these co-ops.</p> <p>Co-ops provide educational and managerial resources in order to assist adjoining landowners in managing their land and wildlife more effectively.</p> <p><b><u>MEMBERSHIP DRIVE OFF TO A GREAT START</u></b></p> <p>We currently have 19 paid members and numerous other property owners have indicated they will be joining. Of the current members 17 are Life/Charter members. You DO NOT have to own property to join. Anyone interested in improving the quantity and quality of wildlife in Bee County is WELCOME. A membership application accompanies this newsletter, sign up a friend or join yourself if you are not currently a member. Tell your hunters, they may want to join as well.</p> <p><b><u>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES AND DUES</u></b></p> <p>Regular annual dues are \$20 per calendar year. Life Memberships are available for a one time fee of \$100. Life members who join during 2004 become CHARTER Members.</p> <p>All members will receive a Bee County Wildlife Management Association gate sign (when is not yet determined) identifying them as members of the co-op.</p>
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*"By expanding our deepest beliefs about what is possible, we change our experience of life."*

Dan Millman

*"The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time."*

Abraham Lincoln

*"Life may not be the party we hoped for... but while we are here we may as well dance."*

Unknown

#### **Officers**

President:

Tom Keller  
361-375-2924

Vice President

Ellis McKinney  
361-358-3137

Secretary-Treasurer

Bill Frank  
361-877-4831

#### **Directors**

Adam Coronado

R. W. Dirks

Bill Frank

Larry Jones

Tom Keller

Ellis McKinney

Charles Smith

Pat True

W. T. Young

D. Montemayor\*

\*(ex-officio, non voting)

#### **Newsletter**

Larry Jones

361-362-0430

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#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THREE OFFICERS ELECTED.**

Please see side bar for their names and contact information.

#### **BY-LAWS ADOPTED**

Co-op bylaws have been developed and adopted by the board of directors. If you are a paid member a copy of the bylaws accompanies this newsletter. If you are not a member copies may be obtained from our president, Tom Keller (see side bar for contact info) or from Bee County Extension Agent Donnie Montemayor at 361-362-3280.

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS - BCWMC**

June 1, 2004 - 7:00PM - 8:30PM - General Membership Meeting  
Program: Game Management Biologist Macy Ledbetter. He will be discussing "Basic Wildlife Management" and "A Wildlife Management Calendar."  
Location: Bee County Coliseum, 214 South FM 351

June 10, 2004 - 3:00PM - 4:00PM - Board Meeting,  
Open to the public.  
Location: Bee County Coliseum, 214 South FM 351

August 10, 2004 - 6:00PM to 8:00PM - Membership Field Trip  
Program: Dr. William Ocampaugh on establishing food plots and the varieties of food plants that are doing well here.  
Texas A & M Research Center, Hwy 59, Beeville.

Note: We are trying to schedule General Membership Meetings for early evening of the first Tuesday of most months. You may want to make a tentative notation on your calendar to keep those dates open. A firm schedule will be developed and made available as soon as we can. We expect meetings to include mini "Field Days" as well as guest speaker (indoor) meetings, hopefully on an alternating basis like the two meetings above. The board is also considering having a Bee County Wildlife Expo Day sometime later in the year that would include several guest speakers on a variety of Wildlife Management topics. If this happens we may have an every-other-month meeting schedule. Your input on the dates, times, and topics is needed.

#### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS - State Wide**

AUGUST 12,13,14, 2004 - TOWMA Wildlife Symposium (Texas Organization of Wildlife Management Associations)  
YO Resort, Kerrville, Texas  
<http://www.towma.org>

August 13, 14 15, 2005 - Texas Trophy Hunters Extravaganza  
One of the largest hunting related trade shows in Texas.  
San Antonio  
[http://www.ttha.com/hx/extra\\_sa.html](http://www.ttha.com/hx/extra_sa.html)

October 2, 3, 2004 - Texas Parks & Wildlife Expo  
This is a great, multi-faceted wildlife event at TP&W Headquarters in Austin.  
<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/expo/> - 512/389-4472

### **WEB LINKS OF INTEREST**

A great guide to Wildlife Management Co-ops:

[http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/consERVE/pdf/72wildlife\\_co-op.pdf](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/consERVE/pdf/72wildlife_co-op.pdf)

This is an older copy of the Making Tracts for Wildlife Newsletter put out by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. It includes information on open space land valuation (vs. the agriculture exemption) regulations.

[http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/consERVE/tracks/pdf/pwd\\_br\\_w7000-191\\_winter02.pdf](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/consERVE/tracks/pdf/pwd_br_w7000-191_winter02.pdf)

Kerr Wildlife Management Area Events Calendar, including a Range and Wildlife Management Seminar on deer management.

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/news/tpwcal/wma.htm>

This article on the decline of the quail population in the 1990's was published by Texas Fish & Game Magazine. It is very interesting and discusses the effect of Wildlife Cooperatives.

<http://www.fishgame.com/backissues/oct02/features/4.html>

Lots of links to good information on Wildlife:

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/consERVE/>

### **NEWSLETTER: SNAIL MAIL vs. EMAIL**

If you can receive email, most likely in PDF format, we would much prefer sending your newsletter that way. It saves the co-op paper, time, postage, printing, and the labor required to hand fold, tape shut, and add postage to the newsletter. It also gives you direct access to the web links we will publish from time to time when we think they might be of interest to you. If you can receive email and have Adobe™ Acrobat Reader™ (a free PDF program that is standard on most computers) please send your address to [ljones@hrbizmall.com](mailto:ljones@hrbizmall.com) with a quick note requesting your newsletter be emailed. THANK YOU in advance if you can help!

### **NEWSLETTER CONTENT SOLICITED**

Please submit information about coming events and topics of interest that you think would be of interest to other co-op members. Email ([ljones@hrbizmall.com](mailto:ljones@hrbizmall.com)), FAX (361-162-1309) or call (361-362-0430) Larry Jones