



TEXAS

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

4200 Smith School Road • Austin, TX 78744 | 512-389-4800 | www.tpwd.texas.gov

THE APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR THE TEXAS PUBLIC DRAW AND THE BIG TIME TEXAS HUNTS RAFFLE IS OCTOBER 15, 2018.

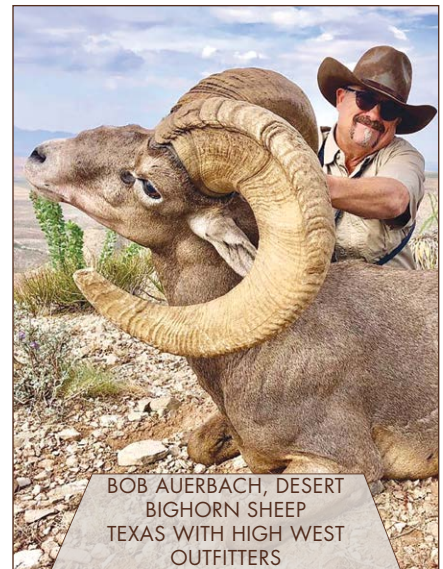
Texas allows you the opportunity to apply for high-quality hunts across the state for adults and youth hunters. Application fees are as low as \$0 up to \$10, and all youth hunt entries are free. The application process is simple and quite cheap. You can apply for \$10 for the regular drawing, and you can purchase as many chances as you would like for the Big Time Texas Hunts at \$9 a piece plus a \$5 processing fee. No permit fee is required for successful applicants, but they will need to purchase a Texas hunting license for \$315. The application deadlines for the 2018-2019 draw hunts began August 1st with deadlines following on the 1st and 15th of every month. October 15th is the deadline for many great hunts, including the guided bighorn sheep, gemsbok, and Scimitar-horned oryx. October 15th is also the deadline to get your entries in for the Texas Grand Slam hunt package and all other raffles for the Big Time Texas Hunts. For the official rules for the Big Time Texas Hunts, visit <http://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/hunt/public/btth/rules.phtml>.

Public draw applications will only be accepted online at www2.tpwd.state.

2018-2019 NON-RESIDENT FEES	
Big Time Texas Hunts Raffle Entry	\$9 Online & \$10 Mail, Phone, or Retail
Public Draw Application Fee	\$10
Non-Resident Hunting License (required if successful)	\$315

tx.us/huntwild/hunt/public/public_hunt_drawing/. The online application process is very simple and easy to use. You will first need to create an account and be assigned a customer ID number. If you have any questions or need assistance with applying for any of the guided hunt packages, you can either call Texas Parks and Wildlife at 512-389-4800 or the Huntin' Fool License Application Department at 435-865-1020.

Preference points were instituted on September 1, 1985. Now that the application system is online, all preference points will carry over and will now be called Loyalty Points. Each Loyalty Point equates to the number by which the applicant's name is being put into the drawing. With the Loyalty



BOB AUERBACH, DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP TEXAS WITH HIGH WEST OUTFITTERS

Point system, first-year applicants have the ability to draw these sought-after permits.

DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP

Typically, there are 13-15 Desert bighorn sheep permits available every year based on the annual census. Of those permits, only two are available through a raffle or public drawing. Another permit is auctioned off by a non-profit organization chosen by Texas Parks and Wildlife, and the remaining permits are issued to private landowners.

AUCTION TAG

The auction tag is valid for a pre-determined unit that can change year to year. It is decided upon by surveys done by the Parks and Wildlife Department. For the last few years, the auction tag has brought in \$100,000+ to all of the organizations it has been sold through. The hunt dates are flexible

and are decided upon by the auction winner and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. The hunter may bring along one non-hunting companion. In addition to the permit, the hunter is required to possess a valid Texas hunting license.

LANDOWNER TAGS

Landowner tags are available in Texas.



TONY HAWK, DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP
TEXAS WITH HIGH WEST OUTFITTERS



WYATTE GRACE ANDREWS, ORYX
TEXAS WITH HIGH WEST OUTFITTERS

Permits are issued to landowners or their agents in the areas of west Texas. The exact number of permits will be decided on based on their fly of the area in late August, and Texas will notify the landowners this month. At this time, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department does not have a process in place to release the contact information of the landowners who receive permits.

PUBLIC DRAW TAG

Last year, the Texas Public Draw hunt package was unavailable due to Desert bighorn sheep restoration efforts between Trans-Pecos WMAs. Texas Parks and Wildlife began their annual aerial survey in August where herd population and composition are determined. September 1st is when they announce if there will be a permit. Outlook for a permit is promising. The hunt will be conducted on the Black

Gap, Elephant Mountain, or Sierra Diablo WMA. This will be a five-day guided hunt with food, lodging, and transportation provided. Season dates are January 1-July 31, 2019. Dates may vary depending on availability of the permit. When Texas last offered the guided bighorn sheep hunt in 2016, the deadline to apply was in December, but it will now be October 15th if a draw occurs. The cost to apply is \$10, and you are only allowed to submit one application per person. A Loyalty Point will be awarded to unsuccessful applicants. Harvest success is 100% almost every year. Last year, there was not a hunt, but draw odds for the 2016-2017 season were 1 in 5,631 and for the 2015-2016 season were 1 in 5,461.

RAFFLE TAG

Big Time Texas Hunts offers the Texas

Grand Slam package where one lucky winner wins four separate Texas big game hunts – Desert bighorn sheep, whitetail deer, antelope, and mule deer. This hunt package includes food, lodging, taxidermy, and a professional guide service for all four hunting trips. Hunters may purchase as many entries into this raffle as they want. The price is \$9 per entry plus a \$5 administrative fee that is charged for each online transaction. Payment may be made by Visa, MasterCard, or Discover. Entries purchased at licensed retailers, by phone, or by mail are \$10 each. The deadline to apply is October 15, 2018. If you are successful in drawing this hunt package, you will be able to negotiate the hunt dates to accommodate your schedule. To apply online or to learn more about this hunt package, go to <https://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/hunt/public/btth/grandslam.phtml>.

OTHER SPECIES HUNTS

GUIDED GEMSBOK HUNT PACKAGE

Much like the guided bighorn sheep package, Texas offers an awesome chance to hunt gemsbok in the public draw. The hunt is guided, and food, lodging, and on-site transportation are provided. This is an adult-only hunt with a minimum age of 17. The hunt dates are January 22-25, 2019. The hunt will take

place on the Mason Mountain WMA, and you will be able to harvest one gemsbok of either sex and unlimited feral hogs and coyotes. Only centerfire rifles are allowed with a minimum caliber of .270 with 150 grain projectiles. For 2017-2018, there were two permits for 4,655 applicants, with a 100% success rate on the hunt. For 2016-2017, there were two permits for 3,942 applicants, with a 100% success

rate on the hunt. For 2015-2016, there were two permits for 4,145 applicants, with a 100% success rate on the hunt. The guided Scimitar-horned oryx hunt package will be running in conjunction with the gemsbok hunt package.

GUIDED SCIMITAR-HORNED ORYX HUNT PACKAGE

The guided Scimitar-horned oryx hunt



GARY ELMORE, SCIMITAR-HORNED ORYX
TEXAS WITH OFFGRID OUTDOORS



MITCH JOHNSON, AOUDAD
TEXAS WITH DOUBLE DIAMOND OUTFITTERS

will take place on the Mason Mountain WMA January 22-25, 2019. Food, lodging, and on-site transportation are provided on this guided hunt. This is an adult-only hunt with a minimum age of 17. You will be able to harvest one Scimitar-horned oryx of either sex and unlimited feral hogs and coyotes. Only centerfire rifles are allowed with a minimum caliber of .270 with 150 grain projectiles. For 2017-2018, there were two permits for 4,409 applicants, with a 100% success rate on the hunt. For 2016-2017, there were two permits for 3,823 applicants, with a 100% success rate on the hunt. For 2015-2016, there were two permits for 3,913 applicants, with a 100% success rate on the hunt.

EXOTIC SAFARI RAFFLE TAG

Included in the Big Time Texas Hunts raffle is their Exotic Safari package that allows the winner and one companion to harvest three exotics. The exotics available for harvest are gemsbok, Scimitar-horned oryx, and axis deer. The winner can harvest two management exotics, and their companion can harvest one. Food and lodging are provided on the Mason Mountain WMA. You will be guided by an experienced TPWD biologist as well as guides from the Mason Mountain WMA. You will receive taxidermy after the hunt in the form of two shoulder mounts. On the hunt, you can use a rifle with a minimum caliber of .270. Hunters have a high success rate of 96% on this hunt.

NILGAI ANTELOPE SAFARI

New for 2018, there will be a raffle

through Big Time Texas Hunts for Nilgai antelope. These are some cool critters that come from southeast Asia and would be a good time to hunt. It is a free-range hunt in south Texas, and you will be rewarded with around 700 pounds of some great wild meat. Lodging and food are complementary for the hunt. As with most of the Big Time Texas Hunts, you will receive a professional guide for the hunt.

AOUDAD

Texas is home to some amazing free-range Aoudad hunts. As most of Texas is private land, we would highly recommend you get in contact with an outfitter. If a 30" ram is on your bucket list, give us a call and we will set you up with one of our

Endorsed Outfitters. Many hunters who have hunted with our Endorsed Outfitters have had high success on these hunts.

Opportunities to apply for and perhaps even draw a Desert bighorn sheep tag are so rare that we highly encourage you to apply for both the Big Time Texas Grand Slam and the regular Texas Desert bighorn sheep draw permit. If exotics are on your bucket list, Texas offers a cheap way to get your name in the hat between the public draw and the Big Time raffle. Take a few minutes and make sure you get your applications in for 2018. If you don't have time to apply, call our License Application Service at 435-865-1020 and we'll apply for you.



KEVIN BROTHERS, AOUDAD
TEXAS WITH DOUBLE DIAMOND OUTFITTERS