

FIELD CONVENTIONS

**UFWS REGION 2
RIO GRANDE, TEXAS**

Date: February 8, 1988 - February 19, 1988

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Area Checked: Eagle Pass SE, NE
Del Rio SW, NW, SE, NE
Emory Peak SW, NW, SE, NE

1. A general dividing line between the temporarily flooded and the intermittently flooded water regimes is the Pecos River. This division is made due to the increased influence of the Chihuahuan Dessert Province (Bailey, 1980). In general, streams will be classified R4SBA east of the Pecos River and R4SBJ west of the Pecos River. Only stream beds that are pen width show a substantial watershed will be delineated. Many stream depressions are vegetated with upland scrub-shrub, mainly mesquite and whitebrush. If these drainages are substantial they may be delineated as stream bed linears using the topo as a guide. This is only a general dividing line and each individual streambed will be evaluated separately.
2. Spring fed intermittent drainages indicated on the topo will be classified R4SBC. The classification R4SBC will be used for another situation observed in the field. Some of the rivers in the study move above and below ground. The areas of open water on these perennial streams will be classified R2UBH. The areas in between the open water areas will be classified R4SBC. The topo will usually indicate these areas by use of the sand, mud symbology.
3. Several rivers will be classified R2UBH. Some of the smaller perennial streams are fed by one or more springs. Others are large enough to encompass a substantial enough watershed to remain in a constant flow.
4. At least one area of agricultural irrigation was noted in the field. Several large irrigation ditches will be delineated. The Maverick County Canal will be classified R2UBHx. The other main arteries of the system will be classified R4SBCKx.
5. Some perennial streams have been impounded by overflow dams. These will be classified depending on their size as PUBHh or L1UBHh.
6. Impoundments and excavated stock tanks will be classified PUSA and PUSJ. The "A" water regime will be more prevalent east of the Pecos River. The "J" water regime will be used more west of the Pecos River. The special modifiers for impounded (h) and excavated (x) will be used as needed. These classifications will be used regardless of their symbology on the topo. Larger impoundments that have an extensive drainage and show water on the dry photography will be classified PUSCh.
7. Pits caused by mining activity will be classified PUBHx or PUBFx.

8. Bodies of water twenty acres or more will be classified L1UBH. Special modifiers will be used as needed. Amistad reservoir will be delineated as it appears on the photography. It is several feet above normal pool level at the time of photography. A note will be given to the ZTS personnel to follow the normal pool level of 1117' during transfer.
9. Concrete or metal stock tanks usually associated with windmills will not be delineated. They appear as perfectly round open water bodies on the photography.
10. Several emergent areas were checked in the ground truthing portion of the project. They will be classified PEM1. Due to the variety of conditions in the study area the J, A, C, and F water regimes will be used. All emergent areas noted in the field are within the stream channel or on low, adjacent floodplains.
11. Sewage treatment ponds will be classified PUSCKx.
12. Palustrine forested or scrub-shrub areas are for the most part confined to the stream channels or on low adjacent flood plains. These will be classified PFO or PSS. The subclasses 1 and 2 will both be used with either class. The water regimes A and J will be used. Again using the Pecos River as a general dividing line.
13. Springs that appear on the topo should be checked carefully. Springs checked in the field show that they can be classified a variety of ways. The classifications of PFO1, PSS1, PEM1 will be used as well as mixed subclasses. They will be classified in the temporary (A) water regime.

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