

1-1 By: King of Uvalde, Guillen, Zwiener H.B. No. 2225
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 14, 2021;
 1-4 April 19, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Water,
 1-5 Agriculture & Rural Affairs; May 19, 2021, reported favorably by
 1-6 the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 19, 2021, sent to
 1-7 printer.)

1-8 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-9	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the powers and duties of the Parks and Wildlife
 1-22 Department regarding the Texas Water Trust.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 12, Parks and Wildlife
 1-25 Code, is amended by adding Section 12.028 to read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 12.028. POWERS AND DUTIES REGARDING TEXAS WATER TRUST.

1-27 (a) In this section, "Texas Water Trust" means the trust
 1-28 established under Section 15.7031, Water Code.

1-29 (b) Consistent with Section 11.0235(b), Water Code, and the
 1-30 department's duties and responsibilities, the department shall
 1-31 encourage and facilitate the dedication of water rights in the
 1-32 Texas Water Trust through lease, donation, purchase, or other means
 1-33 of voluntary transfer for environmental needs, including for the
 1-34 purpose of maintaining or improving:

- 1-35 (1) instream flows;
- 1-36 (2) water quality;
- 1-37 (3) fish and wildlife habitat; and
- 1-38 (4) bay and estuary inflows.

1-39 (c) The department may manage rights in the Texas Water
 1-40 Trust in a manner that is consistent with:

- 1-41 (1) the manner in which a holder of the rights may
 1-42 manage the rights;
- 1-43 (2) the dedication of the rights, including the
 1-44 dedication's terms and conditions;
- 1-45 (3) Sections 11.0237, 11.027, and 11.122, Water Code;
 1-46 and
- 1-47 (4) maximizing environmental benefits.

1-48 (d) This section may not be construed to authorize the
 1-49 department to exercise any authority expressly granted to the Texas
 1-50 Water Development Board or the Texas Commission on Environmental
 1-51 Quality under Subchapter K, Chapter 15, Water Code.

1-52 SECTION 2. Section 15.7031, Water Code, is amended by
 1-53 adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

1-54 (e) The Parks and Wildlife Department may manage rights in
 1-55 the trust:

- 1-56 (1) under a voluntary agreement with a rights holder;
 1-57 and
- 1-58 (2) in the manner described by Section 12.028(c),
 1-59 Parks and Wildlife Code.

1-60 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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