

# EXAMPLE OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT UPDATE REQUIRED EVERY YEAR

ROBERT'S ROOST RANCH  
Doug & Dee Dee Roberts  
7 Paradise Place  
This side of Heaven, TX 76123  
(580) 564-9816

800 Acres

## **Property ID'S:** 123, 124, 126, 77750, & 45789

Our main target animals are deer, turkey, quail, & song birds. The 2018 year was still in drought recovery. We modified our plan due to the drought and focused on supplemental feed instead of food plots.

For 2018 we followed our plan of staggered landscaping. We have opened up areas for the strip crops (which failed last year). We have half-cut about 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the cedars on a 100 acre tract and dug out about a 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the cedars on the same 100 acres. Our three ponds were enhancement and reshaped during the drought - they are filling up nicely and currently hold twice the water as before.

## **DEER:**

We continue to supplement their food with 10 - 100 lb. feeders set up in various locations. We feed year round. The feeders are typically filled about 2 times a month (3 times a month in winter). Additionally we have 4 mineral supplement areas for the deer. There was only one deer harvested in 2019. You can see from the rack (on the one buck our grandson harvested this year) the mineral supplements are working. (Photo included) Because of the size of our tract and the feed and relative safety for the deer, our census remains about the same (20).

## **TURKEY:**

It looks like we have 3 flocks of turkey on our land. In the spring, our game cameras indicate each flock has about 24 hens. None were harvested. The predator control of the coyote really paid off. We killed 18 that were located in the south area. We will pay attention to the predators for the 2019 year.

## **QUAIL:**

The quail we set out for the last year have all but vanished. We have called for them, but have not located them. We want to continue to set out and help the quail population, but may wait another year until the drought is behind us. We want to concentrate our time and money on the animals that are already here for this stressful time.

## **SONG BIRDS:**

We have a 20 acre sanctuary for song birds beside our home. We added 10 more blue bird houses to the 30 we already had. We have 6 martin - condo houses. We have about 30 assorted bird houses in the area. We added another 2 acres this year that we planted specifically for the birds and butterflies. The butterfly plants, sunflowers and other plants all are thriving. The area was irrigated when we added 50 water features to attract the birds last year. This was a school project for our granddaughter, who also

researched the birds with cameras and a daily observation diary. This area was home to about 30 painted buntings, 100 finches, 80 bluebirds, and thousands of robins that went through the area. We have over 100 different feeders and the plants for our supplemental feed. A fun thing our granddaughter did this year was to identify bird songs.

### **PREDATOR CONTROL:**

The west side of the property joins Red River and has shown some feral hog activity. We contracted with a hunting group and put out 3 different hog traps. The hunting group killed 15 hogs and our traps netted 10 hogs throughout the year that we killed. The 20 acre bird sanctuary was treated for fire ants two times last year. We used the topical Diazasanine at 80 percent. We had 18 coyotes snared last year (all on the south end of the property). In addition we killed 2 raccoons, 5 skunks and 13 rattlesnakes.

### **FUTURE PLANS:**

For the 2019 year, we plan to remove one-sixth of the cedars from approximately 80 acres. We will half-cut about half of those and remove the other half. We plan to continue our road way for our hiking and riding trail and continue with our staggered landscaping. We are adding a 10 acre lake as our main project.