

Account Name: Game, Fish, and Water Safety Account No. 09
Primary Agency: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Legal Citation: Parks and Wildlife Code, Chapters 11 & 12; Tax Code, Section 160.121

Table 1:

Game, Fish, and Water Safety Account No. 09
 Estimated Revenue and Appropriations (in Millions)

	2008-09	2010-11	2012-13
Estimated Revenue	\$235.1	\$241.0	\$253.0
Appropriations	\$224.3	\$238.2	\$199.1

Source: Comptroller of Public Accounts

Account Details:

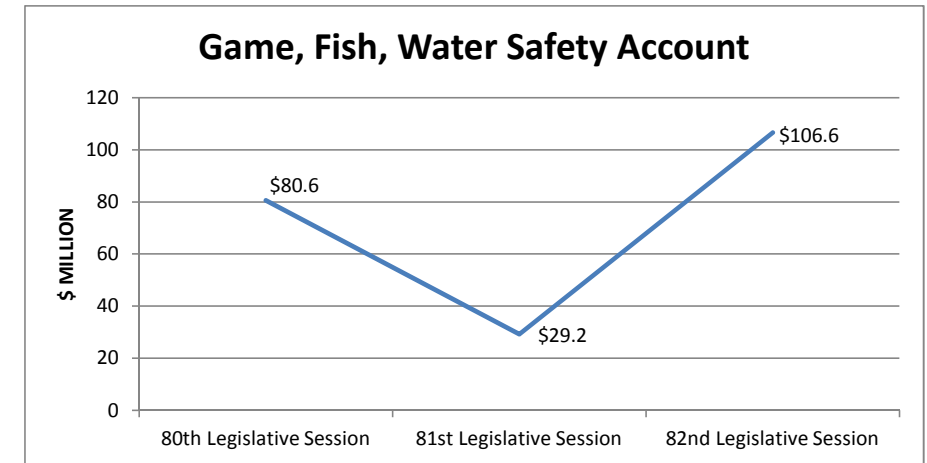
The Game, Fish and Water Safety Account No. 9 is a General Revenue-Dedicated account created by the Sixty-fourth Legislature in 1975. Account No. 9 was established to receive hunting and fishing license and stamp revenues and to fund the administration and enforcement of game, fish, and water safety laws, wildlife management, conservation and development, research, boat ramps and other uses provided by law.

Statute prohibits the use of the account for purposes not allowed by federal law. This restriction is a condition for receipt of federal Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act and Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act funds. Both acts include a prohibition against the diversion of hunting and fishing licenses for any other purpose than the administration of the state fish and game department – i.e., the fish, game and wildlife conservation, regulation and enforcement programs administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Funds deposited in the Game, Fish and Water Safety Account come from fees for fishing and hunting licenses, permits, boat registration and titling fees, and fines and penalties from violations of conservation or water safety laws. Approximately 75 percent of revenue estimated to be deposited to the account is from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses in the 2012-13 biennium.

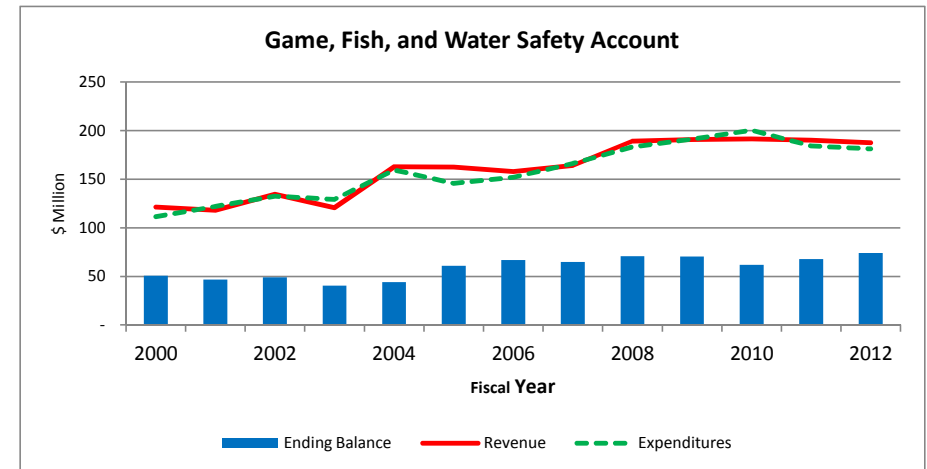
Pursuant to Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, Section 11.032(c), 15 percent of boat registration and title fees are transferred annually to the General Revenue-Dedicated State Parks Account No. 64 to support state park operations. Also, the expenditure of proceeds credited to the Game, Fish and Water Safety Account No. 9 from the sale of certain stamps (such as migratory and upland game bird stamps) are limited to programs and activities set forth in statute. Unexpended revenue from hunting and fishing stamps have increased over the years. Approximately 44 percent of the balance used to certify the General Appropriations Bill in 2012-13 was from these stamps.

Figure 1: Estimated Balance Available to Certify General Appropriations Bill



Source: Comptroller of Public Accounts

Figure 2: History of Revenue, Expenditures, and Cash Balances



Note: Expenditures include transfers of 15 percent of boat titling fees from Account No. 09 to Account No. 64

Source: Comptroller of Public Accounts