

Statement on proposed border wall

Approved by TWA Executive Committee, April 15, 2026

The Texas Wildlife Association is a champion of private property rights and native ecosystem conservation in the State of Texas. On behalf of our over 8,000 members and the more than 35 million acres which they steward, we write to share concern regarding reported border wall construction in parts of Presidio, Brewster, Hudspeth and Terrell counties.

To be clear, TWA supports efforts to curb illegal immigration and smuggling traffic into the United States. However, border security and intact ecosystems are not mutually exclusive.

The West Texas borderlands are among the most ecologically fragile, rugged and vast landscapes in the United States. Construction of a physical barrier along the Rio Grande River through the remote canyonlands of Big Bend National Park, Big Bend Ranch State Park and across nearby private acreage threatens wildlife corridors intact for millennia. It would also restrict access to a river system that has sustained rural communities and economies for generations.

The strategic construction of additional physical barriers is likely warranted in highly trafficked areas along the border. The Big Bend region is unique in many respects, and this issue is one that calls for a different solution. We strongly urge the Department of Homeland Security and President Trump to reconsider recently announced plans and instead focus resources on more modern technological solutions to the challenges of illegal immigration in this pristine area. Texas Wildlife Association stands ready to participate in finding alternative solutions to a fixed wall in this iconic Texas area.