
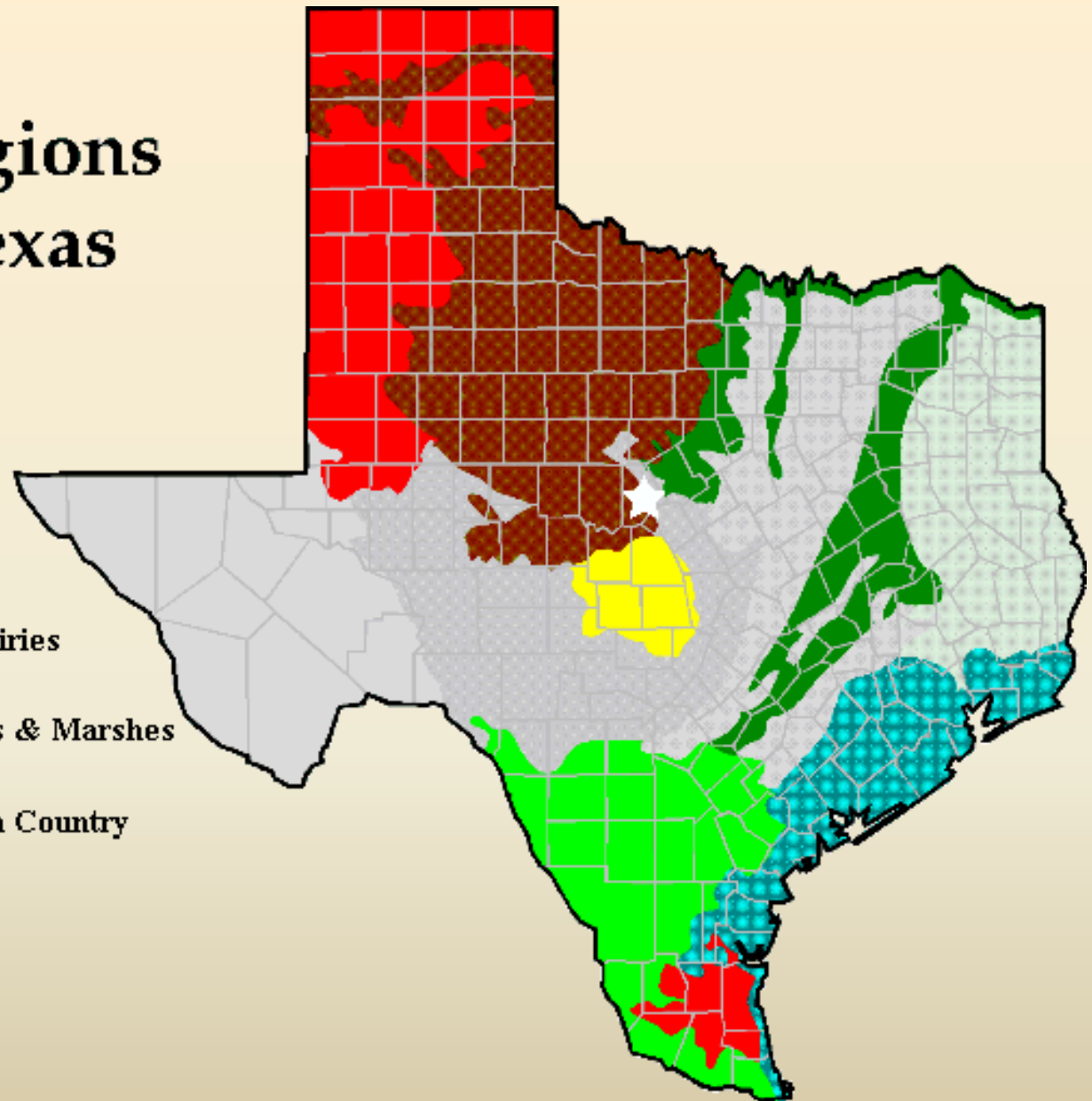
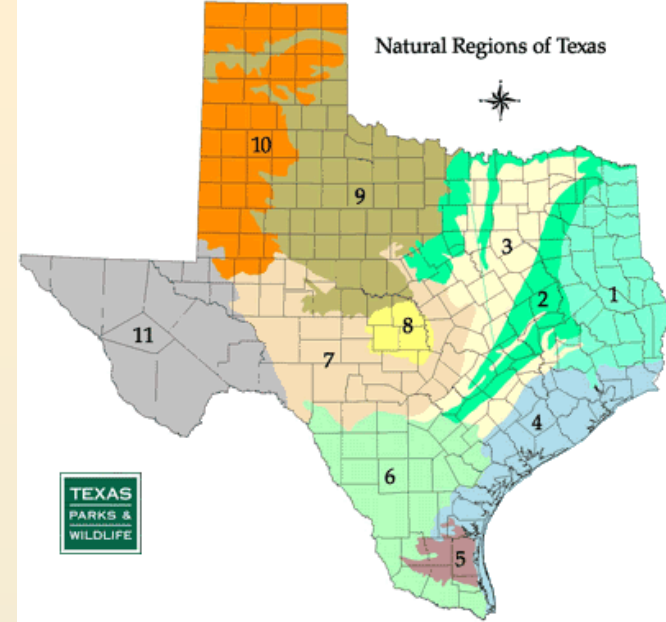


Ecoregions of Texas

-  Piney Woods
-  Oak Woods & Prairies
-  Blackland Prairie
-  Gulf Coast Prairies & Marshes
-  Coastal Sand Plain
-  South Texas Brush Country
-  Edwards Plateau
-  Rolling Plains
-  High Plains
-  Trans Pecos
-  Llano Uplift



Region 1 Piney Woods



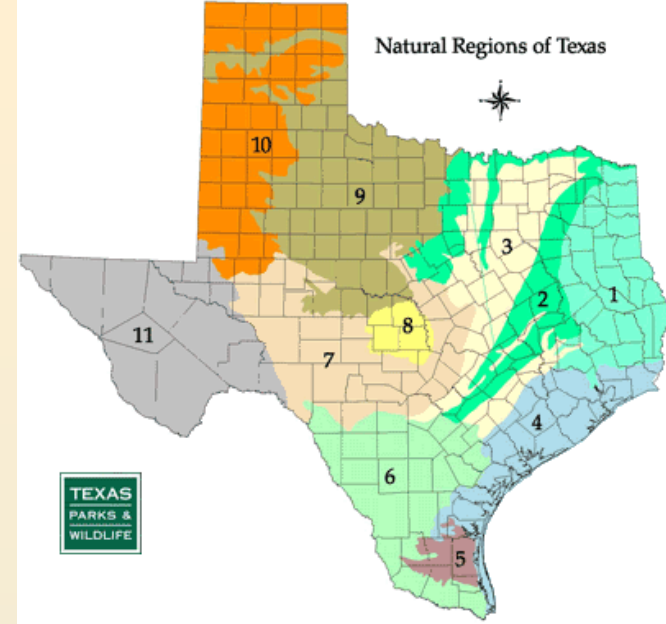
Piney Woods

1. **This ecoregion is found in East Texas.**
2. **Climate:** average annual rainfall of 36 to 50 inches is fairly uniformly distributed throughout the year, and humidity and temperatures are typically high.
3. **Soil:** generally acidic and mostly pale to dark gray sands or sandy loams. It is the wettest region of the state. This allows for a high rate of decomposition to occur resulting in healthy, nutrient-rich soils.
4. **Elevation:** ranges from 200 to 500 feet above sea level.
5. **Topography:** gently rolling to near flat.
6. **Vegetation:** pine and oak tall hardwood forests with scattered areas of cropland, planted pastures, native pastures, and rich bottomlands.
7. It is a fire climax system. Fire is necessary in order for pines to maintain dominance in the area.
8. Unless an area has been clear-cut of vegetation for construction, the amount of trees and plants can prevent erosion.

Region 2

Oak Woods

and Prairies

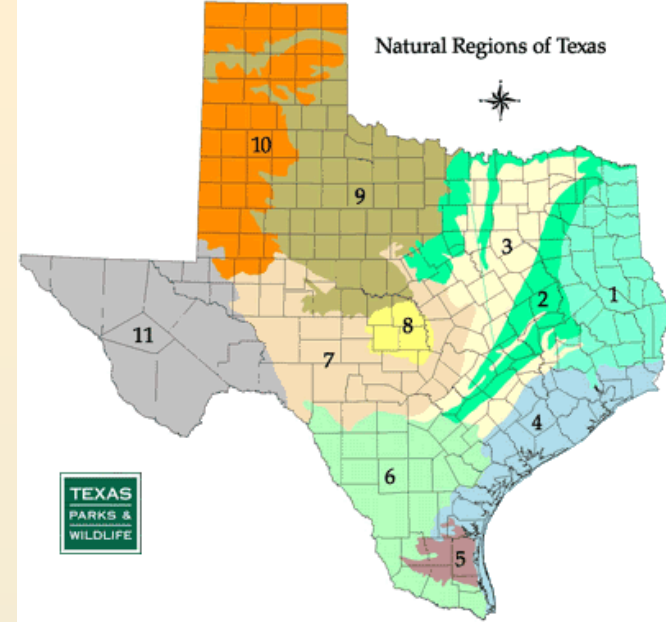


Oak Woods & Prairies

1. **This ecoregion is found in North Central Texas.** This is a small, thin region running North to South on either side of the prairies and plains.
2. **Climate:** Average annual rainfall averages 28 to 40 inches per year.
3. **Soil:** Upland soils are light colored, acidic sandy loam or sands. Bottomland soils may be light brown to dark gray and acidic with textures ranging from sandy loams to clays. These areas have nutrient-rich soils and receive good amounts of rainfall through the year.
4. **Elevation:** ranges from 300 to 800 feet above sea level.
5. **Topography:** gently rolling to rough, hilly terrain.
6. **Vegetation:** oak savannah, where patches of oak woodland alternate with grassland.
7. The soil is not as prone to flooding because it allows water to infiltrate very easily.

Region 3

Blackland Prairies

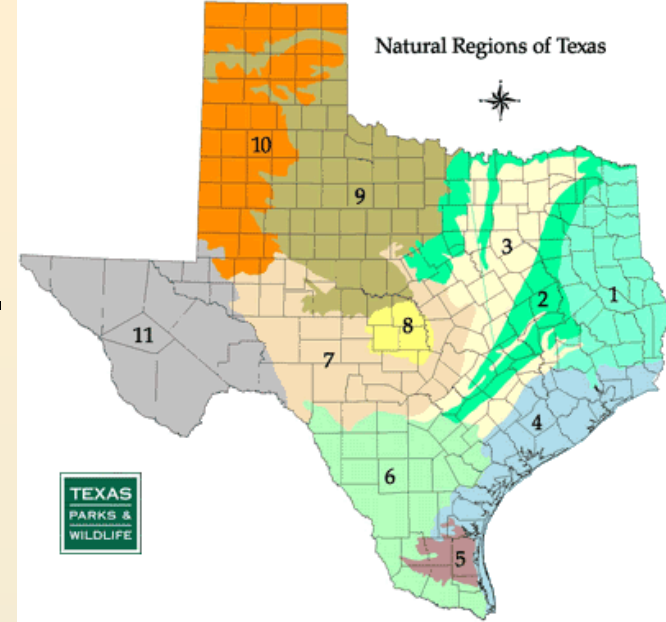


Blackland Prairies

1. **This ecoregion is found in Northern and Central Texas**
2. **Climate:** average annual rainfall ranges from 28 to 40 inches. May is the peak rainfall month for the northern end of the region; however, the south-central part has a fairly uniform rainfall throughout the year.
3. **Soil:** soils are uniformly dark-colored alkaline clays interspersed with some gray acidic sandy loams. These areas have nutrient-rich soils and receive good amounts of rainfall through the year.
4. **Elevation:** ranges from 300 to 800 feet above sea level.
5. **Topography:** gently rolling to nearly level terrain.
6. **Vegetation:** food and forage crops.
7. If the land is clear-cut of natural vegetation for construction, nutrients can easily be eroded.
8. If the land is used for farming and it is not managed well, nutrients will be quickly used up.

Region 4

Gulf Coast Prairies and Marshes

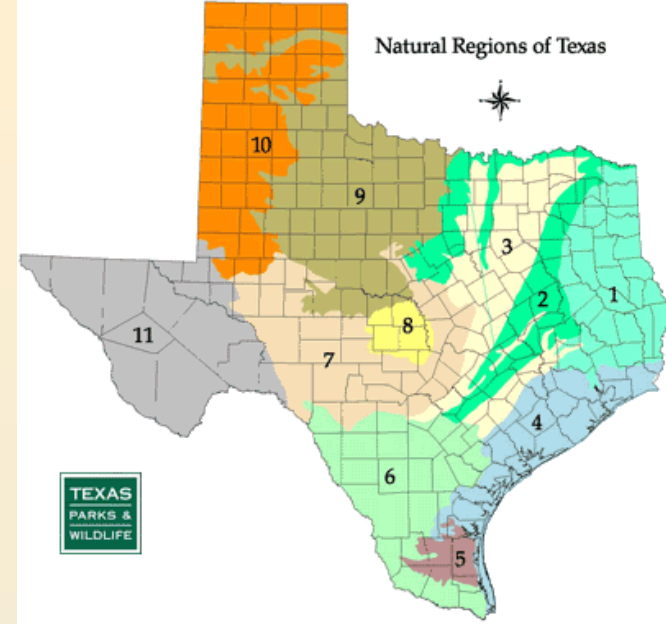


Gulf Coast Prairies and Marshes

1. **This ecoregion is in Southeastern Texas.**
2. **Climate:** annual rainfall varies from 30 to 50 inches per year, high humidity and warm temperatures.
3. **Soil:** acidic sands and sandy loams, with clays occurring in the river bottoms. Soil in the region is primarily sand-based.
4. **Elevation:** nearly level, less than 150 feet above sea level, cut by streams and rivers flowing into the Gulf of Mexico.
5. **Topography:** barrier islands along the coast, marshes near bays and estuaries, and prairies.
6. **Vegetation:** salt grass, tallgrass prairies, live oak woodlands, mesquite and acacias, oaks scattered along the coast, and tall woodlands in the river bottomlands.
7. If there isn't enough vegetation to keep the soil in place, rainfall received can cause severe erosion.
8. Catastrophic events such as hurricanes can increase wave erosion and deposition.

Region 5

Coastal Sand Plains



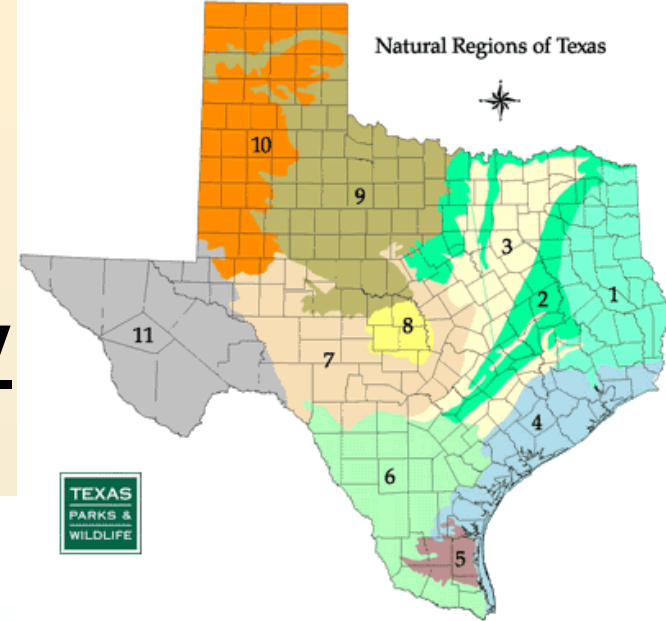
Coastal Sand Plains

1. **This ecoregion is in the Eastern Southern tip of Texas.**
2. **Climate:** Average annual rainfall is 24 to 28 inches per year.
3. **Soil:** primarily sands.
4. **Elevation:** fairly level with elevations less than 150 feet above sea level.
5. **Topography:** windblown sands and unstable dunes with grasslands, stands of oak, and salt marshes.
6. **Vegetation:** tall grass prairie with live oak woodlands, mesquite savannah, and salt marshes.
7. If there isn't enough vegetation to keep the soil in place, rainfall received can cause severe erosion.
8. Catastrophic events such as hurricanes can increase wave erosion and deposition.

Region 6

South Texas

Brush Country

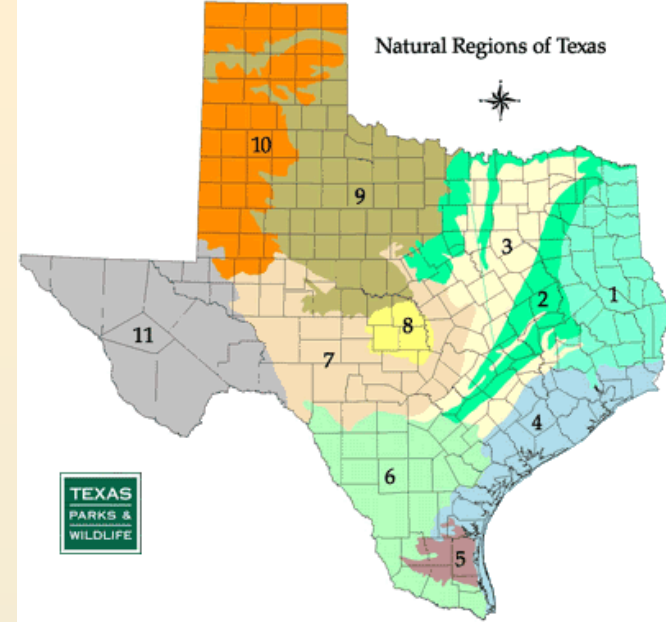


South Texas Brush Country

1. **This ecoregion is in South Texas.**
2. **Climate:** average annual rainfall of 16 to 35 inches increases from west to east. Summer temperatures are high, with very high evaporation rates.
3. **Soil:** alkaline to slightly acidic clays and clay loams, and shallow caliche soils. Rocky, dry soil cannot support grasses. Trees can thrive because of their deeper root system.
4. **Elevation:** ranges from sea level to 1000 feet.
5. **Topography:** flat plains to gently rolling terrain.
6. **Vegetation:** thorny shrubs, trees, and cactus scattered with patches of palms and subtropical woodlands. The area is known as “Brush Country” due to the shorter trees and many shrubs.
7. Overgrazing of the land has allowed nutrient-rich topsoil to erode away.

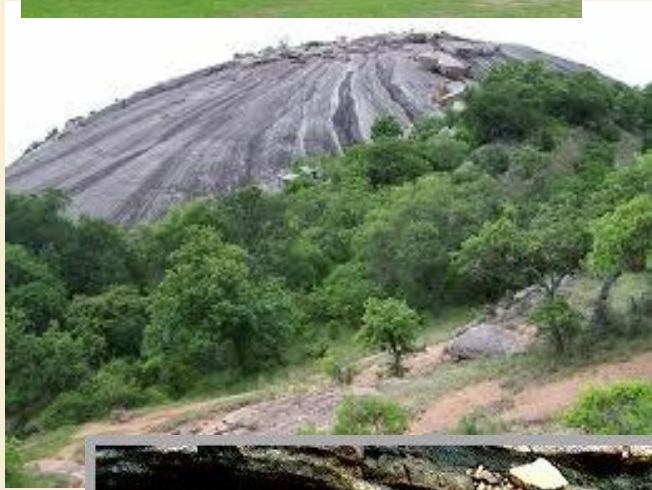
Region 7

Edwards Plateau

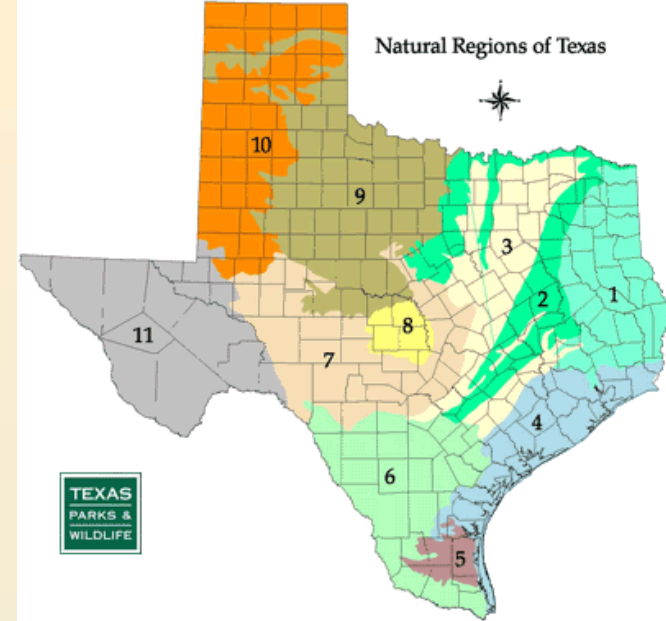


Edwards Plateau

1. **This ecoregion is in Central Texas.**
2. **Climate:** average annual rainfall ranges from 15 to 34 inches. This region is located between dry western plains and moist prairies and woods.
3. **Soil:** usually shallow with a variety of surface textures, underlain by limestone. Unfortunately, erosion has left most of the region with very shallow soils (less than 10 inches) lined with limestone rock layers.
4. **Elevation:** ranges from slightly less than 100 feet to over 3,000 feet above sea level.
5. **Topography:** many springs, stony hills, and steep canyons and caves; several river systems dissect the surface, creating a rough and well-drained landscape.
6. **Vegetation:** grasslands, juniper/oak woodlands, and plateau live oak or mesquite savannah.
7. High amounts of rain in a short amount of time can cause flash **flooding**.



Region 8 Llano Uplift

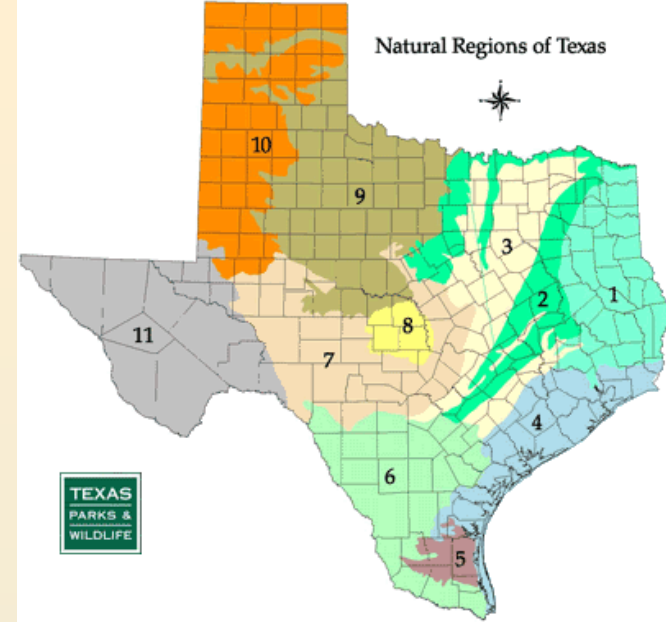


Llano Uplift

1. **This ecoregion is in Central Texas.**
2. **Climate:** averages about 24 to 32 inches per year.
3. **Soil:** coarse textured sands, produced from weathered granite over thousands of years.
4. **Elevation:** ranges from 825 to 2,250 feet above sea level.
5. **Topography:** some of the oldest rocks in Texas, the region contains unique minerals and rock formations and large granite domes; hilly to rolling landscape.
6. **Vegetation:** oak-hickory or oak-juniper woodlands, mesquite-mixed brush savannah, and grasslands.

Region 9

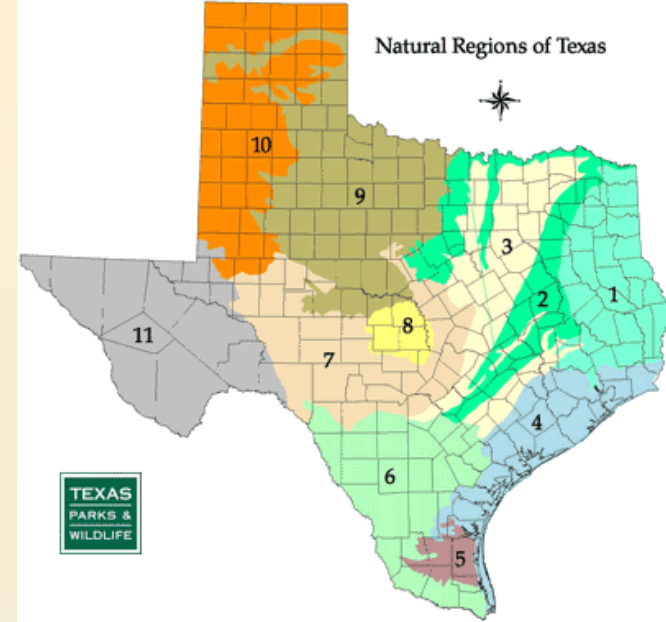
Rolling Plains



Rolling Plains

1. **This ecoregion is in Northern Texas.**
2. **Climate:** average annual rainfall is 20 to 28 inches; dry summers with high temperatures and high evaporation rates.
3. **Soil:** varies from coarse sands by streams, to clay and shale. Soils in this area are most fertile and sought after for crop production.
4. **Elevation:** ranges from 800 to 3,000 feet above sea level.
5. **Topography:** gently rolling hills and broad flats are cut by several rivers and their tributaries.
6. **Vegetation:** mesquite and shortgrass savannah; various hardwood species along streams, juniper on steep slopes along rivers.
7. This region is part of the Great Plains of the central United States.
8. Periods of drought and then sudden increases in rainfall cause large amounts of erosion and deplete the soil of nutrients.

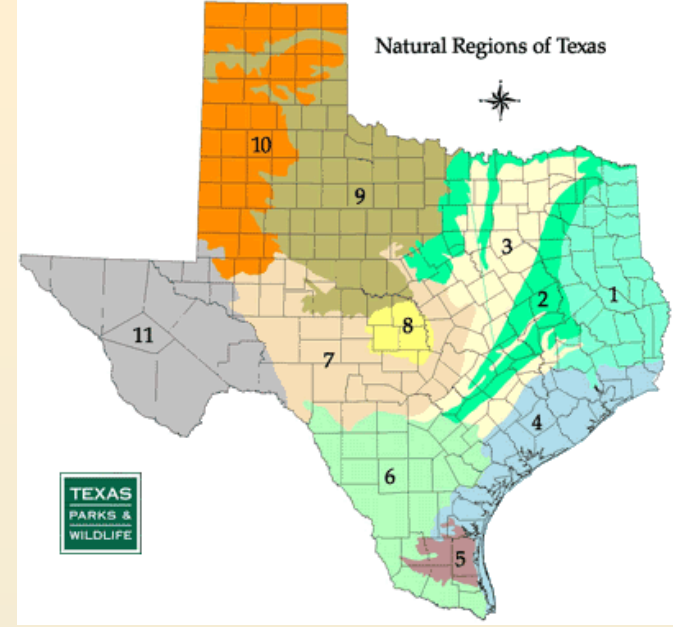
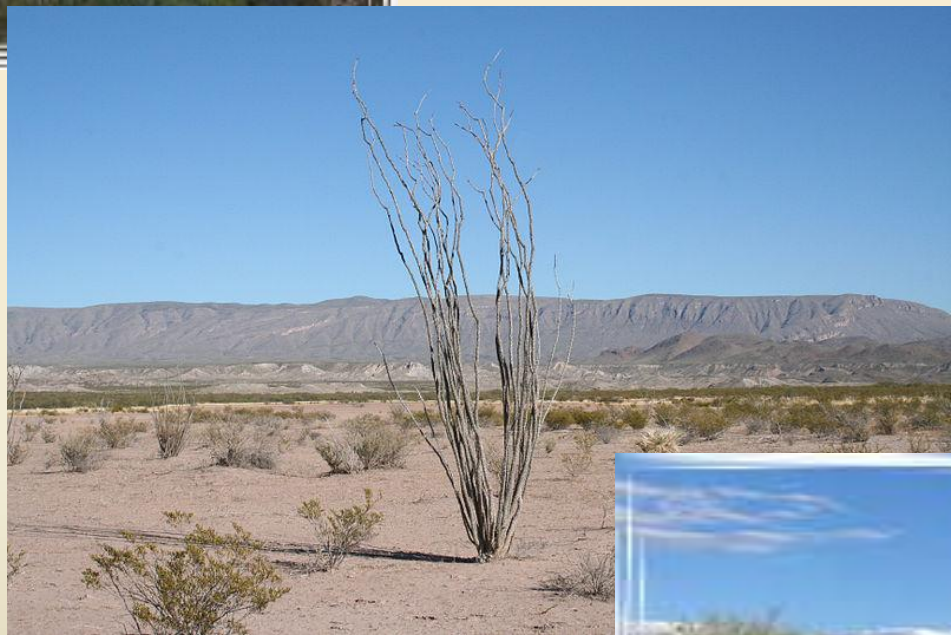
Region 10 High Plains



High Plains

1. **This ecoregion is in the Texas Panhandle.**
2. **Climate:** extended droughts have occurred several times this century.
3. **Soil:** surface texture of soils ranges from clays in the north to sands in the south; Caliche underlies these surface soils at depths of two to five feet.
4. **Elevation:** ranges from 3,000 to 4,500 feet above sea level.
5. **Topography:** relatively level high plateau.
6. **Vegetation:** mostly irrigated cropland; native vegetation includes mesquite and juniper.
7. Largest and most completely flat areas of it size in the world!
8. The region extends to the Palo Duro Canyon - the nation's 2nd largest canyon. Palo Duro Canyon was formed by water erosion from the Prairie Dog Town Fork of the Red River.
9. The water deepens the canyon by moving sediment downstream. Wind and water erosion gradually widen the canyon.

Region 11 Trans Pecos



Trans Pecos

1. **This ecoregion is in far West Texas.**
2. **Climate:** 9-15 inches of rain; semi-arid, warm, dry winters. Rain does not fall evenly over the area. “Desert portion” of Texas.
3. **Soil:** generally shallow and rocky, saline and unproductive.
4. **Elevation:** 2,000 feet to mountain ranges, highest peak is 8,751 feet above sea level.
5. **Topography:** salt basins, sand hills, rugged plateaus, mountain slopes. Home of the tallest mountain in Texas, Guadalupe Peak. Elevation is 8,749 feet.
6. **Vegetation:** desert grassland, desert scrub, coniferous and mixed hardwood forests at mountain peaks.
7. Weathering continues to play a role in developing soil and will for thousands of years to come.
8. Soils in the canyon bottoms and valleys are deeper as a result of deposition.