

# POST OAK SAVANNAH WILDLIFER



March 2013 Information for landowners and hunters in and around the Post Oak Savannah Volume 5, number 1



Photo by Billy Lambert

*For many around the state, nothing signifies springtime better than the sight and sound of a big, mature gobbler.*

## SPRINGTIME

*Billy C. Lambert, Jr.*

Well, spring has sprung and it's time for another newsletter. Survey season, MLD permit issuance, deer harvest data collection, and the hunting season usually limit my ability to sit down and get the newsletter out during fall and winter, but now that things have slowed a little, here we are.

There have been a few changes to tell you about within the district since the last newsletter. Corey Mason, the new Wildlife Region 3 Director, has taken the reigns after Nathan Garner resigned last year. Steve Lange, Region 3 GIS/TWIMS Program Specialist, recently transferred to south Texas as the Project Leader for the South Texas Ecosystem Project at the Chaparral Wildlife Management Area. His

replacement, Jason Estrella, is already in place and will office out of the Tyler office. He can be reached at 903-566-1626 or at [jason.estrella@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:jason.estrella@tpwd.state.tx.us). Welcome to both.

Now is the time of year when many landowners apply for the Wildlife Tax Valuation. A relatively simple process, interested landowners need to prepare a simple management plan detailing the practices they intend to implement that will qualify them for the tax valuation. For more information, go to [http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/land/private/agricultural\\_land/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/land/private/agricultural_land/) or give your local biologist a call, we'd be glad to help.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter, and as always, feel free to distribute to any and all that are interested in reading it.

*If you would like to unsubscribe to this newsletter or if you received this e-mail from someone other than TPWD and would like to subscribe, please send an e-mail indicating such to [billy.lambert@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:billy.lambert@tpwd.state.tx.us)*

# WILDLIFE Profile



Photo by Clinton and Charles Robertson (Wikimedia commons)

## SWAMP RABBIT

(*Sylvilagus aquaticus*)

Billy C. Lambert, Jr.

Those that were around back then, or can remember back that far, might remember a short-lived, but widespread, news event involving President Carter and a rabbit. As the President fished on his farm, he was surprised to notice a large rabbit swimming towards the boat. As quoted by Carter's press secretary, Jody Powell, "*The animal was clearly in distress, or perhaps berserk. The President confessed to having had limited experience with enraged rabbits. He was unable to reach a definite conclusion about its state of mind. What was obvious, however, was that this large, wet animal, making strange hissing noises and gnashing its teeth, was intent upon climbing into the Presidential boat*". The threat to national security ended well for both parties and the culprit in question was none other than the swamp rabbit (*Sylvilagus aquaticus*).

Also known as swamp hare and canecutter, the swamp rabbit can be found in swamps, sloughs, marshes, wetlands, and other poorly-drained habitats throughout the southern states. As such, and as opposed to "normal" rabbit behavior, swamp rabbits are regularly seen in water and are very efficient swimmers. They are not commonly seen in upland habitats.

The swamp rabbit is the largest of all the North American cottontails, with adults averaging 3 to 6 pounds and 18 to 22 inches long. Compared to other rabbits, the swamp rabbit has relatively small ears in proportion to its size. Otherwise, its appearance is similar to other cottontail rabbits.

Coloration is typically gray to yellow-brown with a slightly mottled appearance. The tops of the hind feet, head, and neck are reddish brown or rust colored. The underside of the body is white, as is the 1.5 to 3-inch tail. A light brown or tan ring is commonly seen around the eyes.

Swamp rabbits are not commonly seen, partly due to the habitats in which they occur and partly due to their noctur-

nal foraging nature. During the day, the rabbits rest in shallow, grassy depressions in bottomland habitats and are most active during the late evening, night, and early morning hours.

Unlike other rabbits, the swamp rabbit is territorial with a definite home range covering up to 20 acres. Males use scent glands located on their chin, termed "chinning", to mark their territory. One study in southeast Texas indicated a density of 1 swamp rabbit per 6 acres of suitable bottomland habitat.

Food habits of the swamp rabbit are not well known, but include grasses, sedges, forbs, and vines. During winter



Photo by Glenn Wilson (Wikimedia commons)



when quality herbaceous vegetation may be sparse, rabbits utilize twigs, stems, and bark of available woody vegetation.

The breeding season for swamp rabbits begins in late winter, although it can last for most of the year. The peak of the breeding activity occurs in spring when vegetation is typically the most abundant and most nutritious. The gestation period is approximately 40 days, and females produce 2-5 litters per year. A litter usually consists of 2-4 offspring. The females are thought to care for other juvenile swamp rabbits that have been abandoned.

The female usually nests above ground in a small depression lined with vegetation and fur, but nests have also been observed in shallow holes and hollow logs. The young are fully furred at birth and are able to walk in a few days. Juveniles leave the nest at 10-14 days, but continue to nurse for a short period. By 3 weeks, the young are fully independent. Both males and females reach sexual maturity at 6-7 months. The average life span is relatively short (1-2 years), although they can live up to 10 years.

Swamp rabbits are a popular game animal in many areas, and, as one would imagine, there are several potential

predators including coyotes, bobcats, foxes, alligators, owls, and snakes. Swamp rabbits can run in excess of 45 mph to elude predators and will readily take to water for the same purpose. But, as with most wildlife species, the main concern is habitat loss. Swamp rabbits are not adaptable and require bottomlands to exist. In East Texas, less than 25% of the original bottomland hardwood habitat exists within the state today.

## UPCOMING Event!

### MILAM COUNTY NATUREFEST

*Free event for adults and children of all ages*

April 12-13, 2013

Rockdale Fair Park, 200 Walnut St., Rockdale, TX

Live snake demonstrations; informative seminars (Snakes of Milam county, Urban Wildlife Encounters, Feral Hogs, and Wildlife Habitat Improvement Through Prescribed Fire and Vegetation Management); numerous booths, kids activities, and exhibits; photo contest; National Geographic film in outdoor pavilion (free popcorn). Food and drinks are available for purchase. For more information, go to <http://txmn.org/elcamino/naturefest/>

## TROPHY Corner



Photo by Billy Lambert

Jake Catching (left) shot this great Madison county 8-point last December for his first deer. Also pictured are dad, Chad, and brother, Luke.



Photo by David Frankel

Tina Frankel killed this monster feral hog in Grimes county last November. Tina's son, Richard, accompanied her on the hunt and poses with the 367-pound boar.



Photo by Seth Anderson

Robert Taylor killed this tremendous buck from Grayson County last season. The low fence buck has a net green score of 249 2/8 and may challenge the state record when officially scored for the Boone and Crockett club. This was Robert's first bow kill.



## BIOLOGIST Bio



Photo by Karyn Mason

**Corey Mason** was raised in small farming and oil towns in west Texas. After high school, he attended Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches where he graduated in 1998 with a B.S. Degree in Forest Wildlife Management with minors in Agriculture and Biology.

After graduation Corey worked for a land management and hunting operation in Texas and New Mexico. Corey then began his career with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department as a summer intern at Gus Engeling Wildlife Management Area. After completing his Master's Degree at Stephen F. Austin State University, he was hired at the Cooper Wildlife Management Area, near Sulphur Springs, as the area manager. Corey also worked on the Middle Trinity River Ecosystem Project, primarily working on the Richland Creek, Big Lake Bottom, and Keechi Creek Wildlife Management Areas.

Corey then served as the East Texas Waterfowl and Wetlands Biologist, with primary duties including delivering cost share programs on private lands and landowner technical guidance. Most recently he served as the Migratory Shore and Upland Game Bird Program Leader for Texas

Parks and Wildlife. In this position he served as the state-wide contact for dove, sand-hill crane, and woodcock and worked extensively within the Flyways and with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to build partnerships for migratory bird conservation.

He has worked on and led numerous research projects, including work on American alligators, wetland plant responses to management, hardwood restoration, plant communities, habitat use and occupancy, banding analyses, migratory bird body condition, and population modeling. In his role as Regional Director he is responsible for management and direction of approximately 60 staff across 58 counties in east Texas. He assumed the duties of Region 3 Director on August 1, 2012.

Corey is married to wife, Karyn, has one daughter, and lives in Whitehouse. He and his family are active in their church community and Corey hunts and enjoys the shooting sports as much as possible. He also enjoys introducing interested folks to the shooting sports, shotgunning in particular. Corey can be reached at 903-566-1626 or at [corey.mason@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:corey.mason@tpwd.state.tx.us).

# Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Wildlife Division Region 3, District 5

**Corey Mason – Regional Director**  
903-566-1626

**David Sierra – District Leader**  
903-566-1626

**Jay Whiteside – Technical Guidance Biologist  
(northern counties)**  
254-578-3786

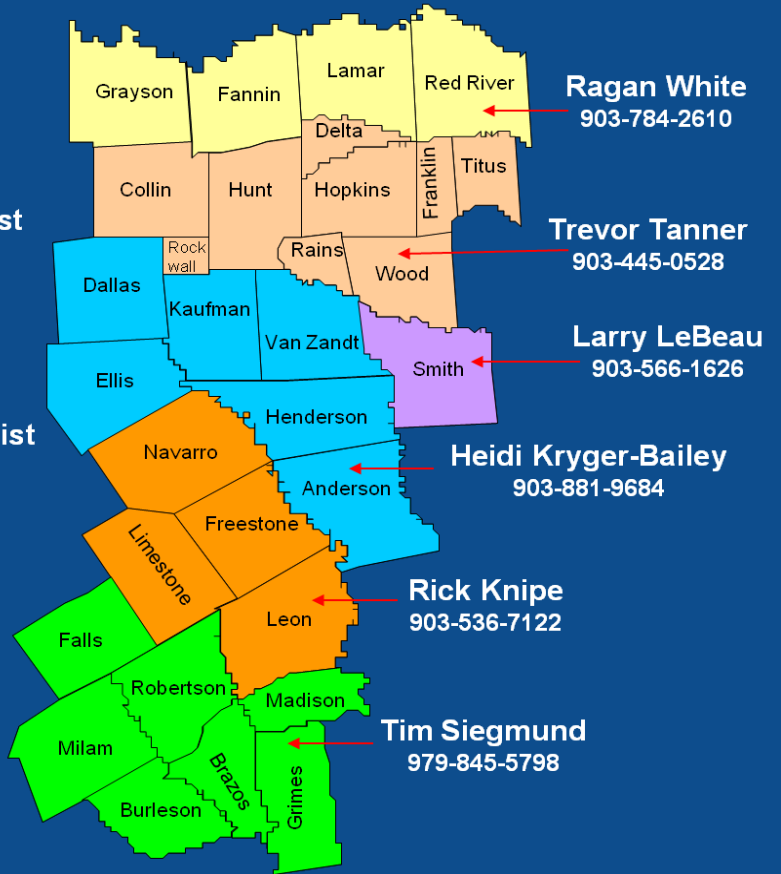
**Billy Lambert – Private Lands Biologist  
(southern counties)**  
979-279-9693

**Dave Holdermann – Wildlife Diversity Biologist**  
903-566-1626

**Brett Johnson – Urban Biologist**  
972-293-3841

**Jason Estrella – Regional GIS Specialist**  
903-566-1626

**Jared Laing – Waterfowl Biologist**  
903-566-1626



## UPCOMING Banquet!

**2013 Sportsman's Celebration**  
Post Oak Savannah, Pineywoods, and Coastal Prairies  
May 18th  
Fireman's Training Center  
1101 U.S. 290 Brenham, TX 77833

Schedule of Events

3-5pm	Trophy Mount Check-In
3-8pm	Raffle Open
5-5:30pm	Educational Events & Exhibits
5:30-6:30pm	Awards Dinner
6:30-8pm	Awards Presentation
8pm	Raffle and Show Closes



- List of Events
- Regional Trophy Display
  - Hunter Ed Skills Trail
  - Falconry Demonstration
  - Sausage Making Demonstration
  - Land Management Seminars
  - Deer Scoring and Aging Competition
  - Raffles
  - Local Exhibitors
- And much more for the whole family.....

Register Online at  
<http://texasbiggameawards.org/awardsBanquets.php>

## UPCOMING Banquet!



# SHOW OF SUPPORT DINNER

**May 2, 2013 Brazos Expo Complex**  
**5827 Leonard Rd, Bryan, TX 77807**

Advance tickets available at The Great Texas Gun Company, On Hwy 21 E. Bryan, TX

- \* 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM
- \* Honored Guest/ Award Recipient Roger Creager
- \* Steak Dinner provided by Mallette Brothers Barbecue
- \* Drawings to win firearms and other great prizes
- \* Live auction including hunting trips, sports memorabilia, artwork and more



Honored Guest Roger Creager

**Tables Available**  
One in five tables will win a gun  
Each table will receive a complimentary Streamlight flashlight

**Tickets \$100**  
Doors open @ 6:00 pm  
for additional info call  
210-912-8171  
[rustybakeroutdoors@hotmail.com](mailto:rustybakeroutdoors@hotmail.com)



Honoring the Men and Women of our Nation's Military.



## RESEARCH Summary



Photo by Julie Lambert

### TEXAS SPRING ALLIGATOR HARVEST

*Billy C. Lambert, Jr.*

Surprisingly, many folks in the Post Oak Savannah, as well as other areas of the state, are unaware that Texas not only has a healthy population of alligators, but a hunting season for them as well. While regulations differ depending on where you plan to hunt (core area versus non-core area), the entire state has an alligator hunting season.

Beginning in 2007, a new spring alligator hunting season was established in Texas. Prior to that, hunting was only allowed in the “core” area (Angelina, Brazoria, Calhoun, Chambers, Galveston, Hardin, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Matagorda, Nacogdoches, Newton, Orange, Polk, Refugio, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Trinity, Tyler, and Victoria counties), or on properties outside the core area that had sufficient alligators for the department to issue tags.

From that initial year through the 2012 season, 1,008 alligators have been harvested during the spring season in 62 counties across the state. Harvest has ranged from a low of 146 alligators in 2010 to a high of 210 alligators in 2011. Counties with the highest harvest since the spring season began include Henderson (132), Kleberg (121), Fort Bend (67), Atascosa (67), and Cameron (49).

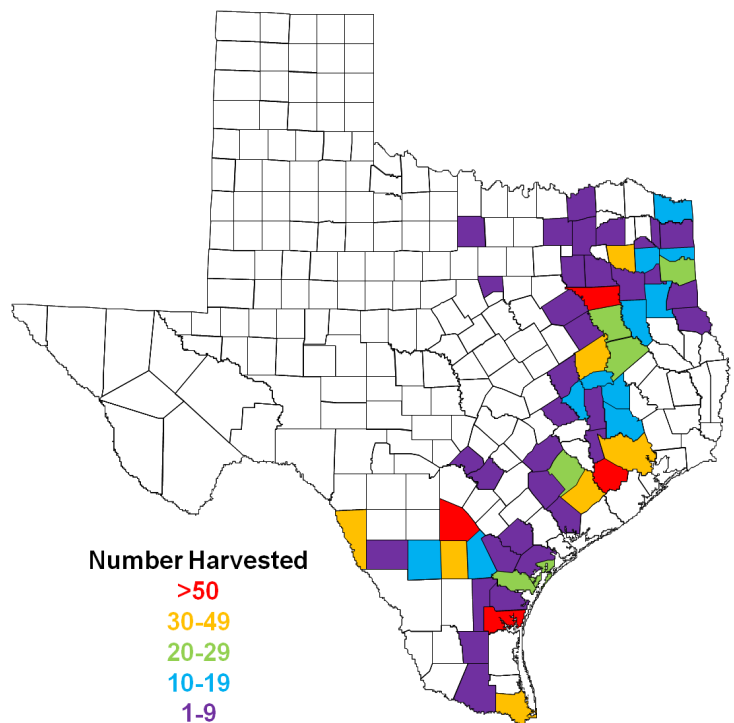
Wildlife District 5 (primarily Post Oak Savannah and Blackland Prairie) is well-represented, with at least 1 alligator harvested from 18 different counties. In fact, Henderson county ranks first in the number of alligators har-

vested during the spring season and 3 of the top 10 counties (Henderson, Leon, and Wood counties) are found in the Post Oak Savannah. Harvest of alligators in the Post Oak has ranged from a low of 29 in 2009 to a high of 73 in 2012.

Average length of harvested alligators has remained relatively constant since the spring season began, with the average alligator harvested measuring 93 inches (7 feet, 9 inches). Across all counties, the highest average length was 95 inches in both 2007 and 2008. The average length decreased slightly for the next 2 years (92 and 90 inches for 2009 and 2010, respectively), but increased again for the next 2 seasons (93 and 94 inches for the 2011 and 2012 seasons, respectively).

A similar pattern was observed for alligators harvested from the Post Oak. The inaugural season yielded the largest alligators, with an average of 99 inches (8 feet, 3 inches). Average length decreased for the next few seasons to a low of 83 inches before increasing to 91 inches for both the 2011 and 2012 seasons.

Several large alligators have been killed across the state. Across all 6 spring hunting seasons, a total of 152 alligators have been taken that meet or exceed 10 feet in length. The South Texas counties of McMullen and Kleberg have



*Number of alligators taken statewide during the spring hunting season, 2007-2012.*

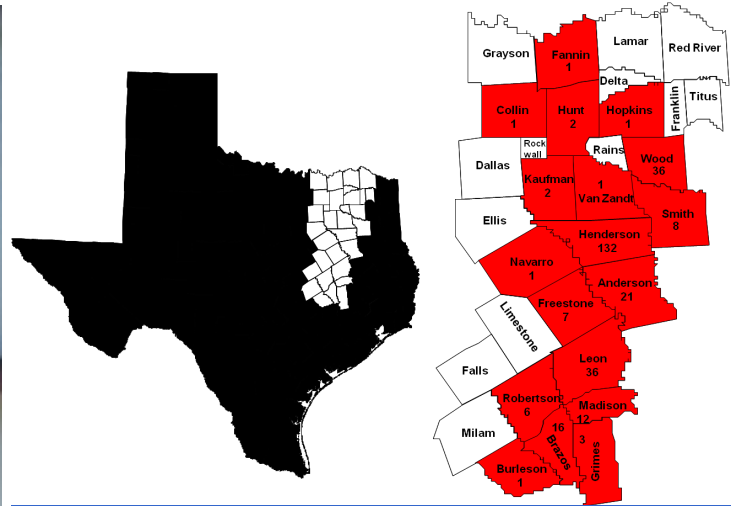


Photo provided by Chris Parker

Chris Parker took this 12' 2" alligator from Anderson County during the spring season in 2012.

had the most 10+-foot alligators taken, with 16 and 14 harvested, respectively. Harris (13) and Henderson (12) are the only other counties having taken more than 10, 10-foot alligators during the spring season.

Looking at the Post Oak, large alligators have been taken in 11 of the 18 counties in which an alligator has been harvested. Henderson county leads the list with 12, followed by Leon (6) and Wood (4) counties. Other Post Oak coun-



Number of alligators taken in the Post Oak Savannah during the spring hunting season, 2007-2012.

ties with at least 1, 10-foot alligator harvested include Anderson, Brazos, Fannin, Grimes, Kaufman, Madison, Robertson, and Smith counties. A total of 32 10+-foot alligators have been taken in Post Oak counties.

Only 12 alligators legally taken from around the state during the 6 spring seasons have exceeded 13 feet in length. The largest measured 13 feet, 9 inches (only 7 inches short of the state record) and was taken in Harris county in 2008. Counties with at least 1, 13-foot alligator harvested include Harris (3), McMullen (2), Leon (2), Madison, Kleberg, Live Oak, Houston, and Cameron.

For more information on alligator hunting regulations, go to [http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/regulations/fish\\_hunt/hunt/alligator/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/regulations/fish_hunt/hunt/alligator/).

## Quotable Quotes

*One of the penalties of an ecological education is that one lives alone in a world of wounds. Much of the damage inflicted on land is quite invisible to laymen. An ecologist must either harden his shell and make believe that the consequences of science are none of his business, or he must be the doctor who sees the marks of death in a community that believes itself well and does not want to be told otherwise.*

**Aldo Leopold**

*We shall never achieve harmony with the land, any more than we shall achieve absolute justice or liberty for people. In these higher aspirations the important thing is not to achieve but to strive.*

**Aldo Leopold**



# PLANT Profile



Photo by Billy Lambert

## TEXAS BLUEBONNET

*(Lupinus texensis)*

Billy C. Lambert, Jr.

When you think of Texas, many symbols come to mind. Examples include longhorns, oil rigs, cowboys, horned toads, and the Lone Star. But, equal to these, and perhaps more so, is the Texas bluebonnet (*Lupinus texensis*). As quoted by Jack Maguire, "It's not only the state flower but also a kind of floral trademark almost as well known to outsiders as cowboy boots and the Stetson hat. The bluebonnet is to Texas what the shamrock is to Ireland, the cherry blossom to Japan, the lily to France, the rose to England and the tulip to Holland."

The bluebonnet represents Texas and Texans so well, the Texas Legislature in 1901 selected it as the state flower. Due to confusion as to which of Texas' 5 bluebonnet species was the actual state flower, the Legislature in 1971 clarified the matter by declaring all varieties of bluebonnet (*L. subcarinosus*, *L. havardii*, *L. concinnus*, *L. plattensis*, and *L. texensis*) as the official state flower.

The Texas bluebonnet has the widest distribution of all the bluebonnets and is also the easiest to grow. A winter annual, germination actually takes place in the fall as small seedlings emerge, followed by a rosette of leaves. Growth occurs slowly over fall and winter, mainly developing the large root system important for drought tolerance. The plants grow rapidly above ground during the spring and then flower during March and April. A few stragglers may continue to bloom into May.

During spring, Texas bluebonnet ranges in size from 8-24 inches. Leaves of the plant range from 1-2 inches in length and are palmately compound with 5-7 pointed leaflets. Leaves are hairy and are green in coloration with a lighter, almost white, edge. A central stalk from which the flowers originate is tipped in white. The flowers are arranged

around the upper 6 inches of the stalk and are most commonly dark blue with occasional white and red patches. Sometimes, wild bluebonnets will produce white or pink flowers (through selective breeding, many color strains are now available commercially). Seeds are small and pea-shaped, ranging in color from tan to blue and there are approximately 13,500 seeds per pound.



Photo by Julie Lambert

Texas bluebonnets do well in a variety of soil types, with the notable exception of poorly-drained soils such as heavy clay. Maximum growth is also obtained in full sunlight and bluebonnets seem to prefer slightly alkaline soils. As a legume, a benefit of bluebonnets is the ability to fix atmospheric nitrogen.

Due to its aesthetic value, Texas bluebonnet is a popular choice for landscaping, but can be difficult to establish due to low germination rates. Commercial varieties tend to have higher germination (due to chemical scarification) than commonly seen with wild seed (less than 20% germination rates for wild seed versus 60% germination for commercial seed).

Seeds should be planted September-December with an optimal soil temperature of 55-70 degrees. Seeds should be planted 1/8" deep or raked in as opposed to broadcast. The seeded area should be watered lightly until plants are established. Subsequently it is important not to over-water Texas bluebonnets, which will diminish plant growth or kill the plants altogether. Bluebonnets are very drought-tolerant and do not require much water.

The major value of the Texas bluebonnet appears to be aesthetic, as it is not considered a quality forage for either livestock or wildlife (it is considered moderately deer resistant). Also, the plant, and especially the seeds, can be toxic to humans and animals.



## HARROWING ALLIGATOR TALE

**Billy C. Lambert, Jr.**

*While the actual intent of the newsletter is to educate and inform, every now and then I get a little sidetracked. Besides, learning all the time is dull.*

I give thanks every day that I made it through alive. The events of 5/18/04 will likely be the most defining event of my life. The terror...the horror...thinking how close to death I was at the hands (or feet I guess, or maybe paws, who knows) of the enraged alligator. I now sometimes awake at night screaming, recalling the events of that awful night. Every detail seems as clear as if it happened last night.

The day began simply enough with a nuisance alligator call. The gator had taken up residence next to a house in the countryside of Madison county. No doubt, I thought, the gator had chosen the site due to the close proximity to an easily-available food supply. Horses, cattle, pets, nothing would be able to escape the fury of the enraged, enormous gator. Then, it would just be a matter of time before the blood-thirsty creature switched to an even easier food source...man. I could see the headlines now, MAN-EATER OF MADISON COUNTY. Not on my watch, I thought, not on my watch.

"No problem", I said smugly to the caller, "I'm a professional wildlife biologist". But when it comes to big gators, there was always some doubt in the back of my mind. I had seen alligators up close (well, on the Discovery Channel anyway), and I knew the damage they could do. Somehow I knew it was just a matter of time before I might be engaged in a life-or-death struggle with one of these prehistoric beasts.

Sweat trickled into the corners of my eyes as we viewed the beast from a distance. This one was going to be tricky. The immense gator was close to the edge of the lake at first, but somehow, it was able to sense our cautious approach, and maybe our intentions. It now eased into the depths of the water, eyes fixated on the would-be captors. Thus began the cat-and-mouse game that would be talked about in hushed voices for generations to come.

For the next hour, we jockeyed for position, the gator looking for an opportunity to attack, the biologists looking for an opportunity to rid the world of this horrible beast. Finally, a break! The creature had impaled itself on a trap set by the ingenious biologists. I hoped the line would hold the weight of the enormous animal, no, devil-creature.

I grabbed the line and began the arduous task of dragging the creature to the bank, knowing full well of the life-or-death struggle that would ensue. I pulled with all of my might, inching the gator closer and closer, knowing that if it were to get away now, he might forever lose his fear of people, and countless lives may be at stake. Thus, is the incredible psychological burden of a wildlife biologist.

Closer and closer it came, when suddenly, it materialized from the depths. I can still recall the eyes of the beast, the deep dark eyes, full of hatred. And the jaws, those powerful hideous jaws that had taken the life of no telling how many innocent animals, and possibly people. Just a few feet more. Fellow biologist Greg Creacy stood poised at the bank, ready to subdue the creature. As the gator neared the bank, Creacy lunged and was able to get him within the grasp of the gator-grabber-thingys. For a second, just for a split second, I thought it was all over, all was under control. Alas, it was not to be.

With a powerful lunge, the gator fell from the grasp of the gator-grabber-thingys. But, all was not lost as I held the line that kept the gator from receding into the depths of the lake. Creacy readied the gator-grabber-thingy for another try, when suddenly...the line broke! Oh, the horror! Creacy was inches away, and seconds from, certain death!

Jumping into action, it was up to me to save him. With complete and total disregard for personal safety, I lunged toward the beast. Creacy grabbed at the head in an attempt to keep the enormous teeth away. If the gator had succeeded, the ensuing death roll would have dragged Creacy into the depths of the lake, never to be seen again (at least until we could have put him back together like a jig-saw puzzle). With all of the stealth and agility of a middle-aged fat guy, I was on the creature. Water and mud sprayed in every direction! The gator's blood-stained teeth flashed in the evening sun! The huge, powerful tail thrashed back and forth, attempting to break the bones of the would-be captors!

But, the tide had turned and the biologists now had the upper hand. Once subdued, the gator simply stared with lifeless, hate-filled eyes. The ordeal was over, and the biologists were the victors. At least they were this time... The photo on Page 10 will give you some idea of what we were up against, the incredible size, the huge jaws, and the dagger-like teeth. I feel fortunate that we were able to spare the lives of countless people in Madison county. I'm sure a parade is in the works. The gator was removed from the area alive and relocated to an area where it could do no further damage.



Photo by Greg Creacy

*The monster of Madison Country*

## Women of the Land Workshop

When: April 19-21, 2013

Where: Scurry, Texas

Hosted By: TWA

Who: All women outdoor enthusiasts welcome!

### Register now for the next Women of the Land workshop!

- Cedar Mountain Lodge
- Scurry, Texas
- April 19-21, 2013

Topics and activities to include: (Activities and topics subject to change)

- Trinity Watershed
- Habitat 101
- Plant I.D.
- Web Soil Survey
- Riparian Area Management
- Nature Walk
- Income Diversification
- Tour of John Bunker Sands Wetlands Center
- Prairie Restoration
- Landowner Resources
- Water Quality Management

[Click here to download the registration form!](#)

Questions? Contact Helen Holdsworth at [hholdsworth@texas-wildlife.org](mailto:hholdsworth@texas-wildlife.org)



## WILDLIFE FOR LUNCH

2013 Webinar Series

The Texas Wildlife Association and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service sponsor lunchtime webinars one Thursday of each month. If you are not able to attend the live webinar, each presentation is archived on the TWA website.

### IT'S EASY!

On the day of the webinar, simply go to [texas-wildlife.webex.com](http://texas-wildlife.webex.com), and click on the title of the webinar you wish to attend. The webinar series provides sound, science-based wildlife management options delivered by experts to you in the comfort of your own home or office.

### NO NEED TO TRAVEL!

Each web-based seminar is fully interactive and allows you to engage the experts, make comments and ask questions during the course of the presentation.

### QUESTIONS?

Contact Courtney Brittain at (210) 826-2904 or [cbrittain@texas-wildlife.org](mailto:cbrittain@texas-wildlife.org)

LIVE WEBINARS  
NOON - 1 P.M.

### 2013 SCHEDULE

#### JANUARY 17

Wildlife Tax  
Valuations  
Linda Campbell

#### FEBRUARY 21

Wildlife Plants  
Ricky Linex

#### MARCH 21

Quail Management  
Dale Rollins

#### APRIL 18

Waterfowl Habitat  
and Management  
Kevin Kraai

#### MAY 16

Predator Control  
Michael Bodenchuk

#### JUNE 20

Small Acreage  
Wildlife Management  
Rufus Stephens

#### JULY 18

Water for Wildlife  
Steve Nelle

#### AUGUST 15

Brush Sculpting with  
Wildlife in Mind  
Ken Cearley

#### SEPTEMBER 19

Deer Antlers as a  
Management Tool:  
The Role of Culling  
David Hewitt

#### OCTOBER 17

Wild Turkey  
Management  
Jim Cathey

#### NOVEMBER 14

Wild Pig  
Management  
Billy Higginbotham

#### DECEMBER 12

Songbird  
Management  
Cliff Shackelford



TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

## UPCOMING Event!

### Drought, Cattle and Feral Hog Workshop

April 3, 1-5 p.m.

Texas Freshwater Fisheries Conservation Center  
5301 County Road 4812, Athens, TX

Dr. Larry Redmon with AgriLife Extension, will provide tips on how to manage cattle during and after drought conditions and also discuss the best strategies for controlling hogs, as well as the laws and regulations associated with them.

Workshops are FREE and open to the public. Two hours of CEUs (1.5 general, 0.5 laws and regs) will be available to attendees.

Those interested in attending should contact Extension Associate Blake Alldredge at 979-845-0916 or [balldredge@tamu.edu](mailto:balldredge@tamu.edu) to RSVP and reserve a spot.





# Wildlife Habitat Management Calendar

**Resource Links <http://>**

**Texas Parks and Wildlife:**  
[tpwd.state.tx.us/](http://tpwd.state.tx.us/)

**Texas Forest Service:**  
[texasforests.tamu.edu/main/default.aspx](http://texasforests.tamu.edu/main/default.aspx)

**NRCS Texas:**  
[www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/](http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/)

**AgriLife Extension:**  
[agrilifeextension.tamu.edu/](http://agrilifeextension.tamu.edu/)

Ragan White

Address:  
 1509 CR 33900  
 Powderly, TX 75473

Phone & Fax:  
 903-784-2610

Email:  
[Ragan.white@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:Ragan.white@tpwd.state.tx.us)

<p><b>January</b></p> <p>Prescribed Fire (Cool)                  Native Grass Planting                  Hardwood Tree Planting                  Light Disking and High Mowing                  Feral Hog Removal                  Brush Control (Grazing)</p>	<p><b>February</b></p> <p>Prescribed Fire (Cool)                  Native Grass Planting                  Hardwood Tree Planting                  Light Disking and High Mowing                  Feral Hog Removal                  Brush Control (Grazing)</p>	<p><b>March</b></p> <p>Prescribed Fire (Cool)                  Native Grass Planting                  Hardwood Tree Planting                  Overseed Legumes (Warm)                  Feral Hog Removal                  Brush Control (Grazing)</p>	<p><b>April</b></p> <p>Native Grass Planting                  Overseed Legumes (Warm)                  Avoid Grass Cutting (Fawns, Turkeys)                  Feral Hog Removal                  Remove Livestock from Wildlife Area</p>
<p><b>May</b></p> <p>Avoid Grass Cutting (Fawns, Turkeys)                  Feral Hog Removal                  Remove Livestock from Wildlife Area</p>	<p><b>June</b></p> <p>Prescribed Fire (Warm)                  Tame Grass Herbicide Work (Warm)                  Avoid Grass Cutting (Fawns, Turkeys)                  Feral Hog Removal                  Waterfowl Planting                  Remove Livestock from Wildlife Area</p>	<p><b>July</b></p> <p>Prescribed Fire (Warm)                  Tame Grass Herbicide Work (Warm)                  Brush Control                  Feral Hog Removal                  Waterfowl Planting                  Deer Surveys</p>	<p><b>August</b></p> <p>Prescribed Fire (Warm)                  Tame Grass Herbicide Work (Warm)                  Feral Hog Removal                  Waterfowl Planting                  Deer Surveys</p>
<p><b>September</b></p> <p>Reserve Hardwood Trees                  Overseed Legumes (Cool)                  Feral Hog Removal                  Deer Surveys &amp; Stand Maintenance                  Mow around Ponds (Dove)</p>	<p><b>October</b></p> <p>Reserve Hardwood Trees                  Overseed Legumes (Cool)                  Feral Hog Removal                  Tame Grass Herbicide Work (Cool)                  Harvest Management Deer                  Plant Wildflowers</p>	<p><b>November</b></p> <p>Prescribed Fire                  Prepare Fire Guards                  Feral Hog Removal                  Deer Harvest</p>	<p><b>December</b></p> <p>Prescribed Fire                  Prepare Fire Guards                  Feral Hog Removal                  Deer Harvest</p>



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