



San Marcos Aquatic Resource Center



Texas Wild Rice



Collecting Salamanders



Texas Blind Salamander

STATION FACTS

- First warm water hatchery west of the Mississippi River, opened in the mid-1890s
- Transferred to Texas State University in the 1960s
- Texas State University donated 116 acres of land for a new facility
- San Marcos National Fish Hatchery and Cultural Development Center was dedicated in 1976
- The name was changed to San Marcos National Fish Hatchery and Technology Center in 1983
- The name was changed to San Marcos Aquatic Resource Center in 2012
- The Center currently works primarily with listed spring associated species

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Friends of the San Marcos Aquatic Resources Center Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/smarc.friends>

Directions:

Located adjacent to I35 on the South side of San Marcos, TX. Take the McCarty Lane Exit 201, go west on McCarty Lane about 0.1 miles and turn left into the Center.

Who We Are

The National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS) is comprised of a network of 71 National Fish Hatcheries which propagate imperiled species for restoration and recovery programs, provide emergency refugia for species whose habitat is threatened, provide fish to benefit Tribes, and mitigate for federal water projects.

How We Help

- Our primary mission is research and support for endangered, threatened, and species at risk
- We provide captive refugia for: San Marcos, Texas blind, and Barton Springs salamanders; Comal Springs riffle beetles; fountain darters; Devils River minnows; and Texas wild rice
- We also work with Peck's cave amphipods, Comal Springs dryopid beetles, and a freshwater mussel. We culture seven species of native aquatic plants to aid in river restoration

Key Initiatives

- Active partner in the Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Plan program

- Working to control Aquatic Invasive Species such as water trumpet and a fish-gill parasite
- Recovery plans for the Devils River Minnow, Leon Springs Pupfish, Barton Springs Salamander and Barton Springs Pool Habitat Conservation Plan

Current and Recent Projects

- Improving and developing culture techniques and tools for spring associated species
- Genetics of San Marcos salamanders, Peck's cave amphipods, Comal Springs riffle beetles, fountain darters, Devils River minnows, and Texas wild rice
- Discovery and description of several spring-associated aquatic arthropods
- Reproductive and other behaviors of San Marcos salamanders and Devils River minnows
- Controlling and monitoring invasive aquatic plants, exotic parasites, and diseases
- Restoration of Texas wild rice in the upper San Marcos River
- Ecology of San Marcos salamanders, fountain darters, and Devils River minnows

Aerial View of the San Marcos Aquatic Resource Center

