



# Texas Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office



Releasing Paddlefish Into the Big Cypress Bayou



Salt Creek Pecos Pupfish Monitoring



Monitoring on the Rio Grande

## STATION FACTS

- Reestablished in 2010 after an absence of twelve years
- Approximate annual Operating budget \$325,000
- Staff: Two permanent, one term, two seasonal
- Monitors the threatened Devils River Minnow
- Monitors the endangered Clear Creek gambusia
- Monitors the threatened Pecos pupfish
- Reintroduced paddlefish to the Caddo Lake area in 2014
- Restored Phantom Springs Ciénega and its endangered fish and invertebrate populations in 2011
- Beginning in 2011 the TXFWCO has worked to create an inventory of Texas dams to determine which structures are true fish barriers
- Lower Rio Grande Ecological Monitoring for Rio Grande silvery minnows

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Who We Are

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices (FWCOs) restore and maintain fish and other aquatic resources for the benefit of the American people, helping ensure that these resources remain among the richest and most diverse in the world. Working across geographic and political borders, FWCO biologists craft partnerships and solutions to conserve, restore, and enhance our natural resources.

## How We Help

- Restore native fishes, wetlands, and aquatic habitats in Texas by working collaboratively
- Promote cooperative efforts to prevent, control, or adapt to, the spread of nonindigenous aquatic nuisance species
- Provide critical information to partners on the condition of habitat and populations of fish and other aquatic species through regular monitoring

## Fish Passage

The state of Texas has over 7,500 waterway barriers that may block the natural migration of fish to historic habitat used for reproduction and

growth. To restore fish habitat, the TXFWCO participates in the National Fish Passage Program (NFPP), which is a voluntary, non-regulatory effort that provides financial and technical assistance to remove or bypass these artificial barriers that impede the movement of fish and contribute to their decline.

## Activity Highlights

- Rehabilitation of culverts for improved fish passage
- Preventing the spread of alligatorweed and other invasive plants in the San Marcos River
- Participates in the Caddo Lake team to develop a plan for Big Cypress Bayou/Caddo Lake to establish a more naturalized flow regime, enhance upland and swamp forest dynamics, bayou channel maintenance, invasive aquatic plant management, paddlefish restoration, and habitat for native aquatic and terrestrial fauna.
- Participates on the Big Bend Science Team to develop a comprehensive Lower Rio Grande Monitoring Plan
- Salamander toxicity project to determine causes for declines in salamander densities.

Phantom Springs One Year After Restoration

