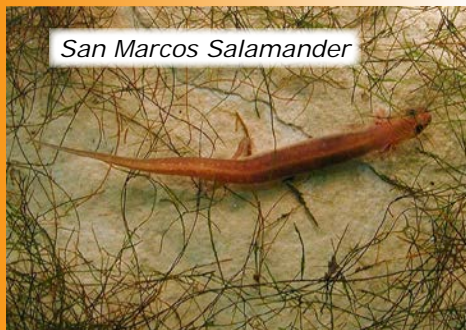




Uvalde National Fish Hatchery



San Marcos Salamander



Sunset Over the Bird Blind



Comanche Springs Pupfish

STATION FACTS

- Approximate annual budget \$485,000
- Six full time staff
- Established in 1935
- Five endangered or threatened species on site
- Primary refugium for the endangered Comanche springs pupfish
- Secondary refugia for the endangered fountain darter, Texas wild rice, threatened Devils River minnow, and San Marcos Salamander
- Outdoor Education Center and trail system
- Wildlife viewing pond with two bird blinds
- The hatchery has 100 acres of mesquite grasslands which have been visited by 373 species of birds and 165 species of butterflies.
- Additional fauna spotted on the hatchery includes dragonflies, the occasional Mexican Free-tailed bat, tarantulas, and snakes, including the threatened eastern indigo snake
- Being located in Uvalde County which hosts over 300 species of wildflowers the hatchery has a diverse variety of wildflowers including the state flower, Texas Bluebonnet

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Directions:
From Hwy 90 on the west side of Uvalde, TX turn onto FM 481 and travel two miles to the hatchery entrance.

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.

Introduction

The hatchery is situated on 100 acres of former mesquite grasslands. The facility has transitioned from a sport fish production hatchery to a facility that maintains populations in refugium and produces aquatic species for recovery purposes. Various life history studies are planned to gain valuable information on our current and future cultured species. Being the southernmost hatchery in the region allows for nearly year-round growth and can provide tremendous cost savings to fish production.

How We Help

The hatchery partners with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to house federally and state listed aquatic species. The short term goal is to

prevent extinction with the long term goal of species recovery. Uvalde NFH occasionally provides catfish for Tribal obligations, state recreational needs, and state sponsored children's fishing events.

Key Initiatives

Uvalde NFH maintains captive populations of several endangered species. These include the Comanche Springs pupfish, fountain darter, Devils River minnow, San Marcos salamander, and Texas wild rice. Negotiations are underway to house additional Texas candidate and listed species.

Environmental Education

The two-acre wildlife pond located across from the Visitor Center features a walking path complete with interpretive signage with several points for bird watching and wildlife observation. The hatchery also features an Outdoor Classroom as part of its Environmental Education program. Additionally, the hatchery sponsors an annual fishing derby with nearly 200 participants. Visitors are always welcome at the hatchery and with a little advanced notice, a guided tour can be provided.

Aerial View of the Hatchery

