



# Texas Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office

## July Events

- 07/6-7/2016: Devils River Minnow sampling at Pinto Creek
- 07/11-15/2016: Paddlefish Tracking in the Big Cypress Bayou
- 07/18-22/2016: Dolan Springs and mussel sampling

## Contact Information

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## June Activities

### Paddlefish Reintroduction Project

The TXFWCO began boat tracking the American paddlefish (*Polyodon spathula*), for the second phase of the Paddlefish Reintroduction Project in the Big Cypress Bayou. Twenty one of the fish were implanted with radio transmitters so biologists from the TXFWCO can track their movements within the watershed. In addition to the boat tracking, five radio telemetry data collecting stations have been strategically placed throughout the watershed to collect data if a paddlefish passes the location. For more information on the Paddlefish Reintroduction Project go to:

<http://www.caddolakeinstitute.us/>



Caddo Lake, Government Ditch

### Texas Wild-Rice Survey

As part of standard endangered species monitoring of Texas Wild Rice (*Zizania texana*) a survey was conducted the week of June 20, 2016. With many cooperating agencies (USFWS, TPWD, Habitat Conservation Crew, and Texas State University, as well as countless volunteers), the San Marcos River was surveyed from the headwaters to its confluence with the Blanco River. With the aid of much rehabilitation and planting of Texas Wild Rice by Texas State University and the City of San Marcos, the 2016 survey yielded 9,808 square meters of wild rice. Although this was a very healthy amount, it was down from the 2015 survey of 11,017 square meters.



Annual Texas Wild Rice Survey

### Cape's Dam Removal Project

On June 21, 2016, The TXFWCO conducted a meeting and site visit concerning the removal of Cape's Dam. Representatives from the USFWS Austin ES Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, TPWD, The Texas Historical Commission, The Environmental Protection Agency, The Texas General Land Office, and the City of San Marcos were present at the meeting. The meeting was to discuss the project and everyone's concerns with the project, and the site visit was for everyone to see the condition of the dam and the safety issues that are associated with it.

### Pecos Pupfish Monitoring

During the week of June 28, Diego Araujo and Chris Chapa conducted biannual monitoring of Pecos Pupfish (*Cyprinodon pecosensis*) in Salt Creek. Recent rains contributed to an increased depth of Salt Creek, however current velocity was minimal. Standard monitoring of ten seine hauls at Charlie Ross reach yielded many adult and juvenile Pecos pupfish, the native plains killifish, and minimal non-native gulf killifish. Standard sampling at the Barranco Ranch reach of Salt Creek yielded many juvenile Pecos pupfish and plains killifish. Adult pupfish were collected but in far few numbers than upstream at Charlie Ross. Gulf killifish were observed and collected in far greater densities than upstream.