

# WATERSHED WEEK IN REVIEW



## Why Axis?



Free-ranging axis deer are quite a problem in the Llano Watershed, especially in critical riparian areas.

In this week's newsletter:

- 1) Learn more about the damage these exotic species can cause in an upcoming webinar.
- 2) Learn how you can help researchers learn more.
- 3) Learn how local businesses can help.

## Webinar - Feb 2nd

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND FROM 2:00 - 3:30 PM

### AXIS DEER IN THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY - WEBINAR

PRESENTED BY HILL COUNTRY ALLIANCE & TEXAS TECH  
UNIVERSITY DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



**DURING THIS FREE WEBINAR, PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN ABOUT AXIS DEER BIOLOGY, ECOLOGY, AND IMPACTS THAT FREE-RANGE POPULATIONS ARE HAVING ON THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY.**

**To join, go to:** <https://zoom.us/j/93754658053>. For those needing to participate by phone on February 2nd, call 1-346-248-7799 and then dial the Meeting ID: 937 5465 8053.

## **Inexpensive Advertising for your Business**

**SEEKING 2021 DONORS FOR PRIZE  
DRAWING**

# **AXIS DEER CONTROL PROJECT**

**DONORS CONTRIBUTING AT LEAST \$25 IN  
PRIZES WILL BE RECOGNIZED IN A  
SERIES OF LOCAL NEWSPAPER ARTICLES**



**CONTACT DANIEL OPPENHEIMER AT  
HILL COUNTRY ALLIANCE (210-287-0478) WITH  
ANY QUESTIONS**

The goal of the Axis Deer Control Project is to raise awareness about the impacts of free-ranging Axis deer, recognize land stewards for their efforts to control this exotic species, and support research that will inform control efforts.

[www.hillcountryalliance.org/wildlife](http://www.hillcountryalliance.org/wildlife)



# How you can Help Researchers Learn More- and be eligible for prizes!

The Llano River Watershed Alliance is partnering with Hill Country Alliance and other conservation organizations across the Hill Country in the 2021 Axis Deer Control Project. [Learn more!](#)



## ***For Immediate Release***

**January 27, 2021**

## **Partners Launch Axis Deer Control Project in Texas Hill Country**

**Junction, Texas** – The Hill Country Alliance, Texas Tech University's Department of Natural Resources Management, Llano River Watershed Alliance, and partners have launched the 2021 Axis Deer Control Project and are encouraging landowners and hunters to participate.

Axis deer are an exotic species that were introduced from India to the Texas Hill Country in the 1930s. Since their introduction, this species has proliferated in several portions of the Hill Country, adversely impacting agricultural production, native wildlife, and riparian, or creek-side, habitat.

The goals of the Axis Deer Control Project are to raise awareness about the impacts of free-ranging Axis deer, recognize land stewards for their efforts to control this exotic species, and support research that will improve control efforts.

"There are certainly landowners that are managing Axis and other exotic species on their properties in a thoughtful, sustainable manner that doesn't impact their neighbors, which is great. This project is intended to spark conversations about another scenario, where landowners with low-fences are seeing large herds of free-ranging Axis deer hinder their agricultural and stewardship goals," notes Daniel Oppenheimer, Hill Country Alliance Land Program Manager.

Participants will be entered into a drawing for prizes from local businesses. In order to participate, hunters and trappers are encouraged to bring a frozen, complete lower jawbone from each harvested Axis deer to one of the scheduled drop-off points. The first set of drop-off dates is as follows:

- February 9<sup>th</sup> at Stonewall Smokehouse in Stonewall from 5 pm – 6:30 pm
- February 10<sup>th</sup> at Gillespie County AgriLife Extension Office in Fredericksburg from 8 am – 12 pm and 1 pm – 5 pm
- February 12<sup>th</sup> at Bandera County River Authority in Bandera from 1 pm – 3 pm
- February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at Blanco County AgriLife Extension Office in Johnson City from 9 am – 5 pm
- February 19<sup>th</sup> at Bandera County River Authority in Bandera from 1 pm – 3 pm
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Texas Tech University Llano River Field Station – Admin Building in Junction from 9 am – 12 pm

# They controlled Zebra Mussels in Lake Waco.

How about the Highland Lakes?



From DailyTrib.com  
by *Daniel Clifton*

*Invasive zebra mussels were recently eradicated from Lake Waco, but that is unlikely to happen in infected waters in the Highland Lakes chain, announced Texas Parks and Wildlife Department officials Jan. 21.*

*“Unfortunately that was a very unique situation,” said Monica McGarrity, TPWD Senior Scientist for Aquatic Invasive Species Management. “If we had a situation of a new lake reported, maybe it could be done. But when you look at, say, Lake Travis, the zebra mussels are so well established. They are all along the shores, along the bottom. It just can’t be done there.”*

*The same holds true further up the chain at Lake Buchanan, which was listed as infested in December 2020. Currently lakes Marble Falls, LBJ, Buchanan, and Travis are on the state’s infested list. Infestation is defined as “an established, reproducing population of zebra mussels” lake or body of water.*

...continue reading

# Trout Stocking at James River Crossing - February 3

Well, according to the WinterFisch Facebook Page, Bernie's wait by the river proved results. It looks like he got one of the big ones released in December.

Remember, Texas Parks and Wildlife will be releasing another 1,000 rainbows into the Llano at the James River Crossing on February 3.

Grab the family and enjoy this perfect socially-distanced activity.



Texas Parks & Wildlife Department  
**Winter Trout Stocking Program  
Angling Tips**

By  
Marcos J. De Jesus



Texas Parks and Wildlife provides some Angling Tips for landing these trout.

This publication provides helpful suggestions for :

- Tackle
- Bait
- Lures
- Rigging

Sorry, nothing on the types of mittens to wear.