

Indian Creek Ranch

Emergency Contacts

Fire

Rocksprings
(830) 683-4111
Barksdale
(830) 234-3473
Camp Wood
(830) 597-6100

Border Patrol

(830) 683-2255

EMS

Rocksprings
(830) 683-3305
Camp Wood
(830) 597-4200

Sheriff & Highway Patrol

(830)683-410



Ranch Contacts

President -	Mike Hoffman,	(713) 301-7088,	mwh1113@hotmail.com
Vice President -	Dan Himmerich,	(512) 656-4748,	Dan_Himmerich@hotmail.com
Secretary/Treasurer- Wildlife Mgmt Committee Chairman –	Robert Lenz,	(512) 657-0854,	Robert_Lenz@Dell.com
Security Committee Chairman -	Randy Wood,	(830) 683-4537,	rw09176997@yahoo.com
Webmaster -	Dan Himmerich,		ICRSecurity@gmail.com
	Philip Nelson,	(210) 863-0360,	PNelson@newtek.com

President's Report

Well, 2011 has come and gone and 2012 starts the 9th year of our Association Newsletters. We try to keep them entertaining but informational, so if you have any ideas on improvements or would like to make contributions please let me know. (Maybe an editorial by a different landowner each newsletter would work?! I know we aren't shy on opinions out there..)

By the time you get this everyone should have submitted their Annual Reports to the Appraisal District. We always request that you record your harvest during the year to help us in the overall Ranch Management Plan. This year 75% of the landowners have submitted harvest information. It would be great if we could get that number up closer to 100%. If you haven't submitted your harvest information to us

yet, it is not too late...please send to Randy Wood as soon as possible.

Also by the time you read this you should have received your Annual Dues statements.....please pay them by March 15, 2012. If





you haven't received your statement please contact Robert Lenz.

On the issue of Budget, we have very successfully managed to minimize expenses in 2012 and have significantly added to our Financial Reserves. We plan to make use of some of

these Reserves, as we discussed at the Annual Meeting, by finding ways to improve our water system.

Since that subject has come up, let me give you an update on what is happening in regards to water system improvements. Several options are currently being discussed including: system reconfiguration; additional storage tanks and pumps; and reworking existing wells to improve overall system performance. Cost estimates are being prepared and, when completed, will be

presented to Board Members and then the recommendations will be communicated to Association members, hopefully by the end of 1Q2012.

Mike



Vice President's Report

Hello, fellow landowners! I haven't been around much the past few months because of some serious medical issues with my wife, but I have talked to a few of you. I hope everyone had a successful hunting season.

This quarter I want to give my thoughts on something near and dear to me – wildlife conservation. We have something special at the ranch – abundant game and a variety of different species to hunt. There is nothing I enjoy more than sitting on my porch and

watching the wildlife in the valley.

I don't know about the rest of you, but I've had some "not so great" experiences at previous places that I've hunted. Some people tend to gauge a successful deer season by the number of deer that they and their guests harvest during the year. After a few years of this, the deer population declines



significantly and people look for another "better" place to hunt. Right now we are fortunate that we can take a number of deer from our places without hurting the population. That only works, however, if we stay within the recommended guidelines for harvest. I know several of you may not like that you should only take one mature buck per year – especially if you are seeing many bucks on your place. Our census, however, shows that buck numbers are declining across the ranch – if we take more than that recommended, we are not only hurting ourselves, but we are also hurting our fellow



landowners. In my opinion you ought to save the buck for yourself or a direct family

member. Tell your guests that they can only shoot does, exotics, or hogs. It may not be popular to restrict your guests, but I have done this for ten years now, and they all seem to understand – especially when you explain what we are trying to do here at the ranch. Let's keep the ranch a special place – a place where you see a

lot of deer and have a chance to get a real trophy!

I hope to be able to go to the ranch more often in the near future. Hope to see you there!

Bill

Wildlife Committee Report

Happy New Year !

Let's hope that we have a more normal precipitation year than 2011. But I hope that you found 2011 a productive and enjoyable hunting and recreational year. A quick analysis of the data from the harvest log indicates that about 75% of the tracts reported harvesting game of some kind. So far 167 whitetail



(101 does and 66 bucks) were taken. 230 hogs, 24 Axis, 7 Aoudad, and 10 turkeys were also reported. As previously mentioned by Mike, if you did not have a chance to record your take in the harvest log, please provide the data to me or the Board Members so that we can have a more complete picture to allow us to look at harvest trends. It is important for us to look at the whole ranch to understand how we are doing at managing the wildlife.

Over the last couple years I have been trying to understand and reconcile the whitetail census and harvest data as compared to TWPD recommendations as well as informal information I gather from Edwards County ranching/hunting operations.



As you know from the past 6+ years of census data, we have increased the deer density to well over the 1 deer per 10 acres recommended by TPWD. Over the past 4 years, my best estimate is that we have harvested between 1-1/2 deer/100acres and 3 deer/100 acres. The higher harvest level - in conjunction with the 2011 drought appears to have reduced our





population relative significantly. While it is hard to get specific numbers from Edwards County Ranchers who lease for hunting, the sense I get is that we harvested between 2 and 4 times the number of deer per acre as the ranchers. TPWD's recommendation is that the target density should be 1 deer per 10 acres--this equates to 10 deer per 100 acres--the normal ICR property size. If that 10 deer is within the normal distribution of 1 buck per 2 does and 1 fawn per 2 does, we would have 2-1/2 bucks, 5 does and 2-1/2 fawns per 100



acres. Given that of the 2-1/2 bucks, one is yearling, the remaining 1-1/2 bucks are distributed from 2-1/2 to 6-1/2 years old. Not real good

odds for each landowner to harvest a goal mature buck. If our density is twice the TPWD recommended level - 1 deer/5 acres, we would have 20 deer per 100 acres. This would breakdown as 10 does, 5 bucks and 5 fawns. Of the 5 bucks, 2 would be yearlings with the remaining 3 as 2-1/2 years and up. Still not great odds to find a mature 4-1/2+ age buck.



Since deer normally travel up to 1 mile from the center of their range, it is appropriate to look at these numbers on a 1000 acre basis - - ie, 10 100 acre properties. this would be 200 deer, 100 does, 50 bucks, 50 fawns. If we assume a normal age distribution of the bucks from 1-1/2 to 6-1/2 years, we would expect approximately 20 yearlings (1-1/2 yrs), 12 2-1/2 year olds, 9 3-1/2 year olds, 6 4-1/2 year olds, 2 5-1/2 year olds and 1 6-1/2 year old. In other words



there would be approximately 9 mature bucks on the 1000 acres. This would average out at slightly less than 1 mature buck per 100 acre tract. This illustrates that even at twice the TPWD recommended density how important it is to abide by the recommended harvest level of one mature buck per 100 acres.

The alternative is to harvest younger bucks and sacrifice the potential for mature bucks next year and into the future.

I know that these thoughts might elicit other thoughts, but I think that a good discussion would be helpful. What do you think?

Randy



Treasurer's Report



As previously mentioned, Annual Association Dues invoices have been sent out.

Please pay them by the March 15 deadline.

Also, we have significantly reduced our 2012 expenses mostly due to lower water system maintenance costs...thanks again to Randy Wood !

Robert



Financial Report

Income and Expense Report - 2011
The Owners Association at Indian Creek

	31-Dec-11							
	2010	1Q2011	2Q2011	3Q2011	4Q2011	YTD	Budget	Remaining
Balance brought forward from 2010:		\$28,855.81						
Total Income:	\$31,143.72	\$17,722.28	\$14,594.36	\$637.47	\$0.00	\$32,954.11	\$32,000.00	(\$954.11)
Annual Assessments	\$31,143.72	\$17,722.28	\$14,594.36	\$637.47	\$0.00	\$32,954.11	\$32,000.00	(\$954.11)
Special Assessments	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses:	\$22,767.98	\$3,365.36	\$647.47	\$3,019.12	\$9,732.99	\$16,764.94	\$32,000.00	\$15,235.06
Road Work	\$14,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8,500.00	\$8,500.00	\$11,300.00	\$2,800.00
Water System Maintenance	\$4,137.00	\$1,463.82	\$0.00	\$1,340.54	\$247.18	\$3,051.54	\$11,400.00	\$8,348.46
Wildlife Biologist	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$570.00	\$0.00	\$570.00	\$500.00	(\$70.00)
Electric Bills	\$3,677.35	\$704.82	\$647.47	\$578.13	\$486.67	\$2,417.09	\$5,200.00	\$2,782.91
Annual Meeting	\$0.00	\$371.46	\$0.00	\$530.45	\$0.00	\$901.91	\$800.00	(\$101.91)
Grounds Maintenance	\$382.84	\$130.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$130.53	\$1,500.00	\$1,369.47
Property Taxes	\$0.00	\$434.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$449.41	\$884.34	\$900.00	\$15.66
Administrative Expenses	\$70.79	\$259.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$259.80	\$400.00	\$140.20
Attorney Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$49.73	\$49.73	\$0.00	(\$49.73)
Raffle Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Reserve	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Current Balance (excluding reserve):		\$17,044.98						
Emergency Reserve		\$28,000.00						
Amount carried over into 2011		\$28,855.81						



Miscellaneous Business

CALENDER - Upcoming Events

May, 2012 - Spring gathering

ICR Website address:

www.Indian-Creek-Ranch.org