

# 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

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<b>Vice President -</b>	<b>Bill Wilson,</b>	<b>(210) 658-6814,</b>	<b><a href="mailto:wilsonwr@earthlink.net">wilsonwr@earthlink.net</a></b>
<b>Secretary/Treasurer- Wildlife Mgmt Committee Chairman –</b>	<b>Robert Lenz,</b>	<b>(512) 657-0854,</b>	<b><a href="mailto:Robert_Lenz@Dell.com">Robert_Lenz@Dell.com</a></b>
<b>Security Committee Chairman -</b>	<b>Randy Wood,</b>	<b>(830) 683-4537,</b>	<b><a href="mailto:rw09176997@yahoo.com">rw09176997@yahoo.com</a></b>
<b>Webmaster -</b>	<b>Dan Himmerich,</b>		<b><a href="mailto:ICRSecurity@gmail.com">ICRSecurity@gmail.com</a></b>
	<b>Philip Nelson,</b>	<b>(210) 863-0360,</b>	<b><a href="mailto:PNelson@newtek.com">PNelson@newtek.com</a></b>

## President's Report

I would like to invite everyone to our annual Spring Gathering that will be held Saturday, May 19, 2012 at the airport. As in years past, we will provide a hot grill and some soft drinks. We also recommend that you bring your own folding chairs as the number of chairs we have is limited. Any potluck dishes or desserts that you would like to bring would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks to everyone that has submitted harvest information for last year. It helps us tremendously when we are able to talk about our ranch accomplishments with ECAD using this collected data. In fact, it helps all ICR landowners.

If you have been out to the ranch lately then you know how different the ranch looks as compared to the end of last year. Let's hope we continue to get the rain that will help our wildlife

population. You will also notice how the whitetail have not been consuming your supplemental food, as they have plenty of natural food to eat. The flowers have also bloomed as I have never seen before.





We have received almost all of our Association dues at the time of writing this newsletter. Thank you for your prompt payments...we are ahead of last year's collection pace.

Since we have had some rain, the Association plans to do additional roadwork to patch

up some parts of the roads that are in need of minor repair. We are expecting to do between one and three days of material moving and grading.

The analysis of upgrades to our water system is continuing. Randy Wood has visited the local water conservation office and has obtained technical information about the wells in and around ICR. An update on the water system upgrade options will be

discussed at our Spring gathering, so come join us.

Mike



### *Vice President's Report*

It is certainly good to finally get some rain at the ranch. Everything is blooming and the deer have plenty to eat. I don't know about the rest of you, but my budget certainly likes it – I haven't had to put protein in my feeder since December! Hopefully, the rain will keep on coming...

Many of you probably lost a lot of trees from last year's drought – I know I did. While it doesn't hurt to leave the dead trees in place, you may want to take this opportunity to remove a few of them in areas you want to open up a little. It

is definitely easier to cut them now than to wait until they are completely dry.

Speaking of clearing, I know a lot of us are finally burning some of that old brush that we've cleared the past two years. While this definitely helps to open some areas, don't forget that making small brush lines on the slopes above creeks can help to reduce the erosion and actually increase your topsoil in those areas. I also make a few heavy brush lines across the creeks in areas where the soil around large oaks is being washed away. While large floods can certainly wash the brush away, I have

managed to get almost a foot of soil around the roots of some of my older oaks by constructing these rudimentary sediment dams.

Let me know if any of you have other tips in improving our habitat at the ranch. See you at the Spring gathering!

Bill



## Wildlife Committee Report

The Ranch has been in good shape all spring but is now showing signs of drying. The agarita berry crop is as good as I have seen, but the persimmons appear to be well below normal. The wildlife also appear to be in good condition. More hogs than normal, but my luck at trapping is poor so far. The turkey seem to be laying eggs (we found a stray egg in our yard) and are probably starting to sit. We will need some rain pretty soon if all these good signs are to mature.



This week, we have experienced the loss of a lot of water from the system--especially in phases III & IV. Trying to identify the problems, we found 2 valves in III and 2 valves in IV open with "no one home". We have very little positive margin in water supply in

these phases , so it is especially important that the supply valves be checked and closed when owners leave.

We have also recently had instances of Trespass; some of which I believe have been referred by affected land owners to law enforcement. Also on a couple of occasions, folks on 4- wheelers have been observed baiting association roads with corn--possibly trying to harvest hogs. The problem is that since the association roads are located through easements on the property of the adjacent tracts, hunting on the road constitutes trespass. Association members have travel access through these easements, but not hunting privileges. Additionally, State Statutes prohibit shooting across property lines without written permission. Shooting on an association road would, in most cases, violate this statute and/or constitute trespass. A land owner could possibly shoot on the road that exists on his tract, but the shooter would have to know precisely where he was standing with relation to the property line and that the shot would not cross the line. My best advice is to not hunt the roads.



Last Quarter I raised the issue of overharvest of whitetail bucks--especially immature bucks less than 4-1/2 years old. I have had several conversations with hunters and wildlife biologists and no one has disagreed with my analysis. The bottom line is that to harvest one mature buck per year per 100 acres , requires a deer population density of one whitetail per 5 acres with a doe to buck ratio of 2 to 1 and a 2 to 1 doe to fawn ratio PLUS NO harvest of immature bucks including spikes or what some folks call cull bucks. If you want quality hunting opportunities on 100 acres every year there are no other options. Also, shooting "someone else's" buck on the theory that they don't





harvest one is at the least unsportsmanlike. Remember we have had an excess of does in the past, so

harvesting does is certainly consistent with the management recommendation. This year's census counts will tell us where we are, and harvest management recommendations will be made in September.

We have developed the Premier ranch and wildlife management association in

Edwards County: let's keep it that way.

Randy



*Treasurer's Report*



Hope everyone had a great turkey season. Lots of rain ranch is green, green!!! Good to see for a change. The animals I have seen look

healthy and in good shape. I am currently finishing up with dues collection....if you haven't paid this is a reminder...I will be making phone calls also.

Hope to see you out at the ranch soon.

Robert



*Financial Report*

Please see email version of the newsletter for the Financial Report.

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*Miscellaneous Business*

**CALENDER - Upcoming Events**

**May 19, 2012 - Spring gathering**

**ICR Website address:**

**[www.Indian-Creek-Ranch.org](http://www.Indian-Creek-Ranch.org)**