

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/Newsletter Editor -	Dan Himmerich,		ICRSecurity@gmail.com
	Philip Nelson,	(210) 863-0360,	PNelson@newtek.com

President's Report

The Big Buck Contest was extended until February 15, so we don't have a winner to announce yet.

I hope everyone had a good hunting season this year. It seems like it by the response we got in our harvest log. Almost 80% of the land-owners provided harvest data. I will be contacting the other 20% to see if we can improve our harvest log numbers even more. Randy

will discuss more detailed results in his wildlife report, but the ranch collectively harvested almost 200 whitetail deer (we harvested more hogs than whitetail). However, this is well below the 594 whitetail recommended for harvest. If this trend continues (it was the same last year), our habitat will not support the whitetail population and the quality of our whitetail herd

that we have worked so hard to improve, will deteriorate. The problem will be magnified if we don't get good rains this spring.

On the other hand, we should be very proud of our collective efforts at wildlife management on the ranchjust look at our herd population (besides the fact we aren't harvesting enough) and the pictures in our



newsletters over the last several years. Our herd quality has continued to improve. I will work with the wildlife committee to discuss and recommend ways to maintain our herd quality and address our overpopulation problem.

By now you should have submitted your Annual reports to the Edwards County Appraisal District. If you are denied your agricultural valuation, please let me know.

We are in excellent shape as far as our 2010 budget is concerned. We ended the year with a nice surplus, which we will carry over into 2011. With our recent freeze, we may use up that surplus very quickly. Without rains, our roads seem to be in decent shape, but some areas that were not deemed high priority in 2010 may need some work in 2011.

Invoices for 2011

Association dues are being sent out. Please pay them promptly.

I would like to thank those landowners that provide me with pictures for our

newsletter...I am sure everyone appreciates seeing some of the wonderful wildlife we are enjoying out on the ranch. Send in pictures of the deer you have harvested this year. I would really like to see them!

Good Luck turkey hunting,

Mike



Vice President's Report



Although hunting season is now over, we still need to maintain our vigilance on ranch security.

January through April seems to be a very high traffic period for

illegals returning to the US. In fact we are seeing an increased presence of Border Control agents on the ranch indicating they are looking for illegal immigrants. This is a reminder to make sure your cabins are properly secured and don't leave items in your cabins that might encourage them to break in (like guns). Report any sightings and vandalism to local authorities, and challenge those people that you see on the ranch that are not familiar.

Our contractor lock system seems to be working well. However there are still

occasions when the main gate is being left open. Please close and lock the gate when entering/leaving the ranch.

You probably get tired of hearing it, but close your valves when you leave the ranch. We are still having problems with our large storage tanks being emptied because someone developed a leak in their lines and left their main valve open when they left the ranch.

A few days ago, Mike Hoffman sent an email to the



membership requesting that everyone walk their entire water system before turning on the association valve to fill their tanks. A few things to look for:

- 1) Look inside your tanks. The commonly used PVC structure for the float valve is particularly susceptible to freeze damage.
- 2) Inspect the joints connecting your lines to your troughs, separation and stripping of threads by ice expansion can create slow leaks that will drain your tanks over time.
- 3) Turn all valves on and off. Sometimes there are cracks in the housing that aren't immediately noticeable until the valve is actuated

4) Inspect your entire line. While the black poly pipe is quite resistant to freeze (unlike the transition pieces), if there is wear on the line (from a rock, a tree, or animal activity), that weak point can spring a leak.



Remember that the association is responsible for, and will repair, the pumps, pump infrastructure, main storage tanks, main lines, and feeder lines up to the association cut-off valve. It is the land-owners responsibility to repair and maintain all water components on the land-owners 'side' of the association valve. If you'd like one of the carbon-steel ball valves for your personal use, please let me know, and I can arrange purchase of a case

for land-owners to subsequently purchase at association cost.

Finally, I'd like to think that I now hold the record for distance in submitting my annual report. I've been on assignment in Hong Kong, and was able to file, via email, my annual report from there.

Anyone submit from further away?

Dan



Wildlife Committee Report

Deer season is over. Based on my review of the harvest log, it was a good season.

In summary, we harvested:

- 70 bucks
- 124 does
- 31 axis
- 233 hogs
- 10 turkey
- 1 sika
- 13 aoudad

6 fallow

1 elk

plus lots of raccoons and porcupines etc. That is one deer per 56 acres--a much higher harvest rate than is expected in this Texas hill country. I am sure that more



game was harvested as some 20 tracts did not report. We did have a good response to our request for data as some 70 property owners did respond.

Now we wait on rain and spring turkey season and look forward to fawns hitting the ground.

Some good bucks made it through the season as I have seen pictures of quality bucks in January.

Hopefully everyone filed their 2010 wildlife management annual reports. As I drive over the ranch looking at the water lines and the roads, I see a lot of progress in habitat management. There is much for us to be proud of and to tell the central appraisal district. We have accomplished much collectively and we have considerate neighbors. I had several calls this past season

from hunters who had trailed wounded animals to a property line and were trying to locate the adjacent property owner to request permission to pursue the animal across the line. For the coming season I would suggest that each of us should get and give advance approval to pursue wounded animals on neighbors property. This will save valuable time and enhance the ability to harvest that animal.

I have talked to Ryan Schmidt, the TPWD biologist for this area, and he expressed his desire to visit with owners and provide assistance as we pursue our management goals. He suggested that it might be productive to spend a day with a group of owners. Anyone interested can call me and I will try to set it up at a convenient time. I think



such consultation would be very advantageous.

As a final note, the recent winter blast produced sub-freezing temperatures for 3+ days and caused considerable damage to our water system. I am sure that significant damage was suffered on each property on the ranch. After we get the main lines repaired and re-pressurized, it will be important for each of us to walk and inspect all lines and valves. It takes up to 5 days to fill some of the tanks while a major leak can empty a tank in 5 hours. Therefore it is important that all damage be found and repaired. If you find a leak on the main line let me know so I can put it on the repair list. Also, please remember to turn your valve off when you leave: three tanks were drained after the freeze through valves that were left open.

Randy



Treasurer's Report

Well, we finished the year by adding to our reserve for 2011. The 2011 Association Dues Invoices are on their way. Please pay them by March 31, 2011.

Safe turkey hunting,

Robert



Financial Report

Please see the newsletter sent out to all landowners.



Miscellaneous Business

CALENDER - Upcoming Events

April, 2011 - Spring landowners gathering at the Airstrip !

Please submit calendar items to mwh1113@hotmail.com or pnelson@newtek.com

ICR Website address:

www.Indian-Creek-Ranch.org

What is available on the site?

Land Owner Info – By-Laws, Newsletters, Ranch Events, etc.

Game Cam Photos – We need new pictures! Please send your photos to Pnelson@newtek.com

Wild Game Recipes – Please share your favorite recipes for game that can be found out at Indian Creek.

If you have any ideas for the site or would like to write an article that would help fellow land owners, please let Mike Hoffman or Philip Nelson know.

Pnelson@newtek.com

