

Edwards Plateau Research Projects

Central Texas hosts a number of wildlife research projects funded by Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD), and Justin Foster, the Research Director of Division II for TPWD, will address the September 26th meeting of the Hill Country Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist. Highlights of completed, ongoing and future research will be the focus of his remarks.

Under the umbrella of completed projects, Foster will discuss

- deer population estimators,
- antlers in progeny of spike white-tailed deer,
- marking techniques for bats at Old Tunnel Wildlife Management Area (WMA),
- javelinas at Mason Mountain WMA,
- feral swine toxicants, and
- habitat, adult behavior and fledgling survival of black-capped vireos.

Ongoing and future projects continue to focus on various aspects of white-tailed deer studies at Kerr WMA, toxicants and baits for feral pigs, and dietary studies of javelinas at Mason Mountain and of white-tailed deer and coyotes across the Edwards Plateau.

Justin Foster has a B.S. in wildlife and fisheries management from Eastern New Mexico University and an M.S. in Range and Wildlife Management from Sul Ross (Alpine, TX) where he studied water use by desert bighorn sheep in the Black Gap WMA. Before becoming the Research Coordinator for Region II with TPWD, Foster was the Assistant manager of the Sierra Diablo WMA (TPWD) and the Director of the Taos Pueblo Game and Fish Department, Taos, N.M. His current research efforts include toxicants for feral pig control and the sensitivity of Texas non-targets to candidate feral pig toxicants.

The monthly meeting of the Master Naturalist is free and open to the public. Please join us on Monday, September 26th 2011 at the Upper Guadalupe River Authority's lecture hall, located at 125 Lehmann Drive in Kerrville, TX. Socializing begins at 6:30, with the program starting at 7 pm. For more information, please contact our V.P. of Programs, Bob McKinley [830-535-6211 or (713) 503-3914] or email him at bobmac9827@gmail.com