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Invasive Species Impacts On Water Resources, Economics and Ecosystems

Water, essential for life, is our most precious and valuable natural resource. But water supply is limited and under increasing pressure from a growing population. How will we protect this resource and plan for a sustainable future? There is a great need for a water-literate public; decisions being made today have far reaching and long lasting effects for our children and future generations.

The Texas Water Symposium provides perspectives from landowners, policy makers, scientists, water resource experts and regional leaders.

Join us as we explore the complex issues and challenges in providing water for Texans in this century.

Each session is free and open to the public. The hour-long program begins at 7:00 pm, followed by discussion time with Q&A. The events are recorded and aired on Texas Public Radio one week later.

Stay informed about future programs by subscribing at hillcountryalliance.org

More information at: texaswatersymposium.org

Photo: Arundo donax (Giant or Carrizo Cane)
Photographer: Monica McGarrity, TPWD

Thursday, April 27, 2017

Texas Tech Hill Country University Center
2818 US-290, Fredericksburg, TX 78624
Doors open at 6:30
Program 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Moderator: [Tim Birdsong, Ecosystem/Habitat Assessment Chief of Inland Fisheries for Texas Parks and Wildlife](#)

Panelists:

Dr. Tom Arsuffi, Director of the Llano River Field Station at Texas Tech University - Junction
Bob Howells, Retired TPWD: Author of *Freshwater Mussels of Texas*
Rachael Ranft, Director of Northern Hill Country River Projects, The Nature Conservancy

Invasive Arundo cane, Zebra Mussels, and Hydrilla are among a host of aquatic plants and animals that are not native to Texas and compete with our native animals and plants for food and space. Because introduced species lack natural enemies in our waterways, they can multiply and spread at an alarming rate, interfering with boat traffic, affecting water quality and quantity, and causing a range of other problems.

Tim Birdsong, aquatic biologist and Ecosystem/Habitat Assessment Chief of Inland Fisheries for Texas Parks and Wildlife will moderate a panel of invasive species specialists in a discussion of invasives in the Hill Country, their potential costs to native wildlife and infrastructure, approaching threats, and the most effective ways for the Hill Country to protect our waterways.

Join Texas Tech University, Texas Public Radio, Schreiner University, and the Hill Country Alliance as we gather diverse perspectives on the challenges of invasive species in Texas – and the future of Texas water resources. The Texas Water Symposium is free and open to the public.