

CONTRIBUTOR'S GUIDELINES

Thank you for your interest in contributing to our site. To be considered for publication on *TeXans on the Fly*, please familiarize yourself with and adhere to ALL of the following guidelines. Writers, photographers, weekend warriors, average Joe's, professional guides and the likes contributing to our site are agreeing to all terms and conditions in the guidelines below, (including future usage rights on other platforms) upon submittal of their material for publication, whether textual and/or visual, including textual prose, poetry, quotes, tips, tactics, techniques, photography, artwork, etc.

SITE GOALS AND EXPECTATIONS

TeXans on the Fly chooses its content based on current editorial need, pitch location, quality of writing/photography, and is always a matter of our team's personal artistic preference. Our unique content strives to inform readers on a broader offering of expressionary viewpoints about the state of TeXas, all aspects of the art of fly fishing, the Great Outdoors, and TeXans, both common and extraordinary.

Our goal is to cultivate a community of TeXas-based anglers from all abilities, lifestyles, and experience levels, as well as support a consortium of fishing-related companies, entrepreneurs, and experts (preferably TeXas-based) whose collective purpose is to enlighten others on fishing destinations, conservation issues, aquatic species found in TeXas, fly tying, exceptional gear, and fishing techniques helpful for harvesting fish in the Lone Star State. However, we are not locked into a "TeXas-only" box. Though we do prefer to boast on the greatest state in the union and her loyal residents, other alien locales and non-native personalities are welcome here.

Also, *SURPRISE!* Our site does not practice exclusivity when it comes to angling modalities. Although our site is called *TeXans on the FLY*, and our primary focus IS to preach the gospel of fly fishing, we are ultimately a *fishing* site above all else.

Our intent is to encourage all accepted fishing techniques from all walks of life. We do not accept stifling discussions of other angling styles, whether conventional or unorthodox - i.e. baitcasting, spin fishing, bow fishing, cast net techniques, noodling, blowguns, et cetera, unless your methods could be considered unprofessional, unethical or flat out illegal, such as (but not limited to) Tannerite, vintage hand grenades, high-voltage Tesla batteries, Dr. Evil's laser beam, giant magnifying glass, det cord, dropping large boulders, drift netting, etc.

Also, we will not tolerate or publish any hateful or disrespectful perspectives or intolerances due to lifestyle differences, ethnicity, race, religion or beliefs.

WRITER'S GUIDELINES

Where our textual articles are concerned, expectations are high. We expect all contributors' writing to be truthful, fact-checked, interesting, fresh, outgoing, and pointed, yet thorough. *TeXans on the Fly* accepts well-written articles (with accompanying photography) on the following topics:

- **FLY SPOTS** - TeXas-based fly fishing destinations (occasionally other states); articles are to be between 350 and 750 words; minimum of 6 high-quality photos (either B&W, color or both); either gps coordinates from google earth or an informative map of the area (either a Google Earth screenshot, a scanned map image at 300 dpi or better, or a professionally drawn map of the area). Articles should include one "[Pro Tip]", any essential gear needed, a selection of useful fly pattern names (pictures of flies are always great!), best time of year, any nearby fly shops/guide services with contact info, other nearby attractions, and concise public access directions.
- **FLY THOTS** – Original, pithy, thought-provoking quotes; maximum 1 to 2 sentences only on the topics of fly fishing, other angling methods, the Great Outdoors, fly fishing techniques, TeXas fish species, other aquatic life, the ocean, famous TeXans fishing, etc. Quotes selected and featured by famous figures are chosen by our editorial team and are not sent in by contributors. Please DO NOT send us unoriginal quotes for this section.
- **FLY KNOTS** – A link to an original, high-quality video you've shot with concise instructions on tying useful fishing knots. Video must be your own, and easily accessible on YouTube or Vimeo or similar.
- **Tips, Tricks & Techniques** on fly fishing, angling, kayak fishing, boat fishing, shore fishing, etc.; 500 words maximum; 6 high-quality photos.

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- TeXas ConSERVation- TeXas fishing habitat updates and/or endangered species concerns; maximum 500 words, requires a selection of 3 high-quality images, informative map of the area of concern, and prospective outlook.
- Gear Reviews – Fishing items reviewed MUST be new, current season items; 350 words maximum; 3 quality ORIGINAL photos (not stock or taken from internet); current retail price; hyperlinks to retailers for readers to click and purchase.
- TeXas Anglers – a survey article on extraordinary TeXans of interest who fish the Lone Star State; maximum 500 words; minimum of 6 high-quality photos (B&W, color, or a mix of both).
- Poetry concerning fly fishing, water, the Great Outdoors, TeXas waterways, TeXas history, famous TeXans, etc.
- If you have other ideas, feel free to share them with us through the pitch form on the Home Page.

TEXT FORMAT

All text should be submitted via email as a Microsoft Word attachment. Saved your article as .doc file. Do not re-format your text - leave them in Word's default margins/font/format.

BEFORE YOU QUERY

- Know your topic or destination well. Send us your new ideas, but stick to what you know and what you think readers want to read.
- Read these guidelines thoroughly and adhere to the word counts and ALL instructions.
- Most articles are limited to 350 – 750 words. We WILL do a word count so keep it inside our parameters.
- Don't waste your time composing a piece that you haven't queried us about first. Submit a query, then our team will decide what ideas make the cut. Be persistent, but respect our decisions.
- No submission is considered "accepted" until you receive an official Assignment Confirmation email from us.
- Only send ONE query at a time. Do not send multiple queries.
- We do not currently pay for contributions. All submissions are *pro bono*. Your compensation is your exposure.
- Once accepted, we maintain the right and obligation to edit all contributions, textual or visual.
- Once accepted, we maintain the right and obligation to fact check all contributions.
- Do not send queries elsewhere if you are sending them to *TeXans on the Fly*.

IF YOU HAVE NO INTENTION OF FINISHING AN ASSIGNMENT OR MEETING A DEADLINE, PLEASE DO NOT QUERY.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXPECTATIONS

With today's ubiquitous online exposure, many angling websites have set extremely high standards for fly fishing photography. Contributors' photography should be impeccably clear (unless blur is the intended effect). Photos should be interesting, sans "effects" or "filters," unless the use of such effect or filter contributes to the subject matter as a whole rather than attempting to make up for poor lighting, poor angles, weak subject matter, or poor quality. For us to consider your textual work, articles must be accompanied by exceptional photography.

PHOTOGRAPHY SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- *TeXans on the Fly* expects thought-provoking photography for all submissions. We have a strong preference for unedited images, but cropping and light/color adjusting are expected. Use "effects" and filters sparingly.
- ALL PHOTOS MUST BE NAMED AND NUMBERED using the following naming convention: "YOUR LAST NAME – PIC # - LOCATION." Example - "Smythe – 01 – San Saba River, TX" ; "Robinson – 02 - Blanco River, TX"
- We accept only high-quality, hi-res digital image files from dSLR's, GoPros (and similar), smart phones with hi-res lenses (10 megapixels and higher), point-and-shoot digital cameras, 1080p drone cams, underwater cameras, etc. Please do not send scanned photos, grainy images. Screenshots from computers are only accepted when submitting images of GoogleEarth maps of the location.
- When submitting "edited" photos (filters, effects, etc), please include the original unedited, processed file.
- Include a "tagline" or "caption" with each photo. This can be done simply as footnotes at the end of a text submission or email body, with the tagline or caption in quotes, following the name of the photo (see naming convention above).
- Please do not submit images that are pixelated, out of focus, or overexposed.

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PHOTO FORMAT

Digital images should be sent as .jpg, .jpeg, .png, or .tiff as email attachments with your article submission. Please DO NOT send photo submissions embedded in the body of the text of an article you are submitting, or in the body of the email submission. Send as email attachments only.

RESCHEDULING

We reserve the right to reschedule any and all "accepted" submissions. Often, we need to reschedule assigned materials for any numbers of timing or seasonal reasons, though we make every effort to run assigned submissions as scheduled. We also reserve the right to cancel any "accepted" assignments.

RIGHTS

Once your article is considered "accepted," *TeXans on the Fly* assumes the following rights:

- Perpetual, exclusive publishing rights for both print and digital submissions.
- Rights to using the material, all or in part, on social media sites (i.e. Instagram, Twitter, etc.).
- Rights to use the material, all or in part, for promotional pieces, newsletters, editorial calendar announcements to contributors and advertisers.
- Rights to use the material for digital edition archives available as downloads to active subscribers or paid customers, either by issue or by article.
- Rights to use the material for article reprints posted on our website for linking from an outside website.

REPRINTS

TeXans on the Fly does not give permission for any of its content, printed or digital, to be replicated on any website or in print. If you wish to feature one of our articles, please insert a hyperlink in your site to the appropriate *TeXans on the Fly* page or article. This ensures your site will exhibit the most current data from our site, as well as links to related articles that have been embedded.

SUBMISSION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

For ALL proposed submissions, initial contact with our team using the online pitch form found on the HOME PAGE of our website is mandatory. Your query outlining the proposed article should be sent before writing the article or sending a submission - we discourage unsolicited material and typically will not read it. Please note that ALL accepted text and artwork will inherently become the sole property of *TeXans on the Fly*, and may be used either in whole or in part in future articles, social media posts, as embedded links, in conservation pieces, accompanying articles in other sections of our site(s) such as *Fly Thots*, *Fly Shots*, *Fly Tots*, *Fly Knots*, among others. *TeXans on the Fly* is not responsible for submissions in transit to and from our office. When sending, please click on "Options" and send a "Read Receipt." We reserve the right and option to edit all textual submissions and/or artwork; however, we make every effort to minimize editing to avoid changing the style or content of manuscripts and artistic expression of the contributor. We encourage writers to collaborate with photographers, allowing for the author of the article to be photographed and featured in their own articles.

CONTACT DETAILS

Once you receive an "accepted" confirmation email, send all completed manuscripts and accompanying images to: W. Chad McPhail, Editor-in-Chief; *TeXans on the Fly*. Email: chadmcphail@gmail.com

LET'S FISH TEXAS!