

NEW EDUCATION BROCHURES

Through an Urban Forestry Partnership Grant from the Texas Forest Service, the Friends of the Rio Bosque have prepared a wonderful new series of educational brochures on different aspects of the natural history of Rio Bosque Wetlands Park. The subjects:

- Trees
- Plants
- Arthropods
- Birds
- Mammals
- Reptiles and Amphibians
- What is a Bosque?
- Rio Bosque: Just Add Water
- Exploring the Rio Bosque: A Guide for Young Naturalists

David Nakabayashi designed the brochures and did the artwork. Maria Trunk was the principal author, with Mike Ross (Reptiles and Amphibians) and John Sproul (Birds) contributing. Alejandro Juárez-Reina is preparing the Spanish translations. Epon El Paso is doing the printing. The Trees brochure is available now. The others will be coming off the presses soon. Look for them at the visitor center when you visit the Park. We sincerely thank the Texas Forest Service for making this project possible. ✂

WILDLIFE NOTES

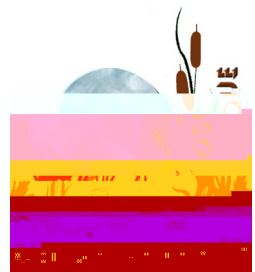
Since December 17, the Park has been receiving all of the treated effluent from the adjacent Roberto Bustamante Wastewater Treatment Plant. The wet-



Wetland Cell 2, Jan. 10, 2005

land cells are completely flooded. Wintering waterfowl are taking full advantage of the habitat provided, though numbers (1000-2000) are down somewhat compared to other years. Diving ducks, never common at the Park, have been almost completely absent.

Fall brought sightings of two new vertebrate species at the Park: long-tailed weasel and Long-eared Owl. Both were expected. The Park supports good populations of some of the weasel's favored prey items: spotted ground squirrel, hispid cotton rat, pocket gopher. Long-eared Owls, rare in winter in the El Paso area, sometimes roost in saltcedar thickets, of



Friends of the Rio Bosque Membership Application

Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Bosque Buddy (12 and under) \$4 <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$8 <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (62+) \$8
Address: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$15 <input type="checkbox"/> Bosque Booster \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Cottonwood Commando \$75-\$249 <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration Patron \$250-\$499 <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands Society \$500+
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Please make checks payable to *Friends of the Rio Bosque* and mail to: Maria Trunk, Treasurer, Friends of the Rio Bosque, 1100 Kelly Way, El Paso, TX 79902.

Next Meetings

Thurs., Jan 27

