

## Wildlife Biologist Blake Hendon to Present Wittliff Lecture at SMA



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date:** April 12, 2017  
**Contact:** Shelley Henry  
Communications Director  
(512) 753-8006  
henrys@smabears.org

## Wildlife Biologist Blake Hendon to Present Wittliff Lecture at SMA

Local wildlife biologist Blake C. Hendon will discuss “Emerging Issues in Wildlife and Resource Conservation” at the Wittliff Lecture Series at San Marcos Academy.

The lecture, which is open to the public, will take place at 9:40 a.m. April 19 in the Robinson Christian Center on the Academy campus.

Hendon, who serves Hays, Blanco and Travis counties as a Wildlife Biologist for the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, will give his perspective on issues that affect wildlife and resource conservation in the hill country.

Appointed to his current position in 2007, Hendon has responsibilities that include professional planning, management and research duties associated with wildlife and habitat

## **Wildlife Biologist Blake Hendon to Present Wittliff Lecture at SMA**

resources within the Hill Country District. He is passionate about educating sportsmen and landowners about the value of preserving a range of botanical and wildlife species including monitoring various infectious agents such as Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in White-tailed Deer.

Recently, Hendon had a leadership role in the establishment of the Blanco Valley Wildlife Management Association, composed of property-owners from a multitude of ranches focusing on conservation.

Hendon received his B.S. Degree in Wildlife Ecology in 1993 from Texas A&M University, where one of his instructors was Dr. Joel Bach, who is currently on the San Marcos Academy faculty. Hendon also received his M.S. Degree in Rangeland Ecology and Management in 1999 from Texas A&M.

The Wittliff Lecture series was endowed by Theresa “Mitzie” Wittliff in honor of her husband, Dr. James L. Wittliff, a 1956 graduate of San Marcos Academy. A distinguished cancer researcher, scholar and inventor, Wittliff is Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics and Research Professor of Surgery at the University of Louisville. In addition to his ties with the Academy, Dr. Wittliff has a Texas State University connection through his brother, Bill Wittliff, a founder of the University’s Wittliff Collections.

The Lecture Series was established to acknowledge the more than 200 American and international students and research fellows from almost 40 countries who trained in Dr. Wittliff’s laboratory. The goal of the series is to attract noteworthy scientists and educators to San Marcos Academy to advance the Academy’s STEM program.

## **Wildlife Biologist Blake Hendon to Present Wittliff Lecture at SMA**

The intent, according to Dr. Wittliff, is to expose SMA students to the career journeys and accomplishments of exceptional individuals who have had an impact on areas of critical importance for mankind's advancement.

Photo: Wildlife Biologist Blake C. Hendon supervises a controlled burn. Hendon will give a lecture on emerging issues in wildlife and resource conservation at San Marcos Academy's Wittliff Lecture Series.