

# WEC News

## Waterborne Education Center

*Fostering appreciation & stewardship of coastal resources, heritage and culture by providing hands-on waterborne education services*

by Wes Kruger

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### Moss Bluff repairs:



Thanks to the Chambers Liberty County Navigation District, the Moss Bluff received some cosmetic work as seen in the picture above. A new deck plate was installed, rotten boards on the classroom replaced and some touch ups on the paint performed. The WEC went out on the water to start the spring season on March 11th with the freshly repaired Moss Bluff in wonderful working condition.



### 2010 Spring Season:

The WEC kicked off it's 2010 spring season last month. After the long lasting cold season, the warm weather was welcomed towards the end of March. It was good to see the wildlife beginning to stir and the vegetation starting to blossom. As always, its great to see the students being able to get in the water, see the ecosystem up close and have that hands on experience. The students were able to use the seine net and dipping nets to catch flounder, crabs, and silver fish. The water temp that day was still in the high 50's, but with the heat of the day

reaching almost 80 degrees, it was a good contrast as we waded along the waters of Long Island Bayou. The area at the mouth of Long Island Bayou, where we conduct our field labs, has begun to silt in. This is



good for our outdoor classroom and gives the WEC groups more areas to explore and use the netting to catch more specimens. We are looking forward to a good spring with great weather. There is nothing better than spending the day on the water this time of year. Just ask our buddy below.



We were lucky enough to see this alligator in the same spot three straight days. Estimated length: 10ft.



All student and wildlife pictures seen here where taken by Wes on March 30, 2010.

The  
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*Check out the website*

[www.txwaterborne.org](http://www.txwaterborne.org)

## Mark Your Calendar

- **Public Days:** First come/first served. Free to the public. The vessel fills up quick. Check the dates and call WES.  
**April 24**  
**May 8 and 22**  
**June 5**
- **May 13th-** WEC board meeting. 4 pm. @ WEC office
- **May 15th-** Bay Day. Presented by the Galveston Bay Foundation at the boardwalk in Kemah, TX.

## Field Labs

### Field Lab Cost:

Due to the rising cost of fuel, maintenance, crew, slip, and general operation costs, the WEC has chosen to charge \$950 per field lab.

Partial scholarships are available to nonprofit student and educational groups such as public and private schools, colleges, universities, church and scout groups. This scholarship is not available to for-profit organizations. Applications can be found at the WEC website.

We look forward to getting all groups on the water and experience life in the marsh. Contact the field lab coordinator WES KRUGER to set up your group.

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"We forget that the water cycle and the  
life cycle are one."

- Jacques Cousteau -