

# LONG STRAW RANCH REPORT

2197 NETHERLY ROAD, FORESTBURG, TEXAS | 817-296-3104

e-newsletter

march 2017



## THIS ISSUE

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## WELCOME BACK!

We would like to welcome readers back to our "new look" Long Straw Ranch Report electronic newsletter.

You may notice that the last issue of the Newsletter was back in 2012. So, why the long gap?

I could attribute it to a "senior moment" but that would be a long one. Actually, although the ranch has been operating and we've hosted a great many hunters since 2012, we were just busy doing other things. We built our main house at the ranch and have moved out here full time. We've done a great deal of consulting work around the country, we've further built up the Higgins Branchini Shooting Foundation (we've now awarded over \$100,000 in grants to collegiate shotgun shooters around the country), and we've remained active in the Park Cities Quail organization and the U.S. Helice Association. Basically, I just didn't get around to doing a newsletter. But we're back!

Both the newsletter and our web site will continue to share news and announcement about LSR activities and events.



## HABITAT MANAGEMENT

The bright spot here is... the drought is over!

All our ponds are full again (overflowing at times) and with the rain, the cover has been outstanding. We've also developed some large Chickasaw Plum thickets that are great bird (and hog) cover. The large bunch grasses have come in strong, and we've continued an aggressive Red Cedar and briar removal program.

We are expecting to be able to conduct at least one controlled burn this year (there was no chance of doing a burn during the drought).

Best of all, from all the quail we've released in the last few years, we've established 5-7 resident coveys that seem to survive well from season to season. This is a **very** positive reflection on how well the cover has developed and held up. Chasing these coveys also gives our pointer, Tony, something to do in the off season.



## HUNTING SEASON

We've had many of our regular hunters on property this season and we've put out over 1,000 Bobwhite Quail and Chukar.

For the first time, we conducted two hunts "off property". Two of our neighboring ranches wanted to put on hunts at their properties, so Long Straw Ranch went "mobile" and took guides, dogs and birds to them. In both cases this worked out very well.

We also continued our tradition of hosting a fund raising quail hunt for Higgins Branchini Shooting Foundation in the fall of 2016 (the fifth in a row).

We were gratified to have hunters join us from Texas, Louisiana and Missouri to take part in the fundraiser. Once again, Beretta Gallery, Lone Star Ag Credit and Reata Restaurant in Ft. Worth were major supporters. This hunt will occur again in the fall of 2017 and is a great way to entertain clients (while getting a tax write-off).



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We'll be putting birds out until March 19 this Spring, when we finish up with a Pheasant tower shoot. Depending on weather, we'll be open for business again in October 2017. Remember, you can use PayPal to book and pay for hunts online via the LSR web site ([www.LongStrawRanch.com](http://www.LongStrawRanch.com)).
- We have had a modest price increase, with half-day hunts going to \$375/person and full-day hunts now \$550.
- Western Star Outfitters (Ronnie Smith) is still our principle guide service.

We look forward to seeing you in the fall of 2017.

Mike & Melinda.

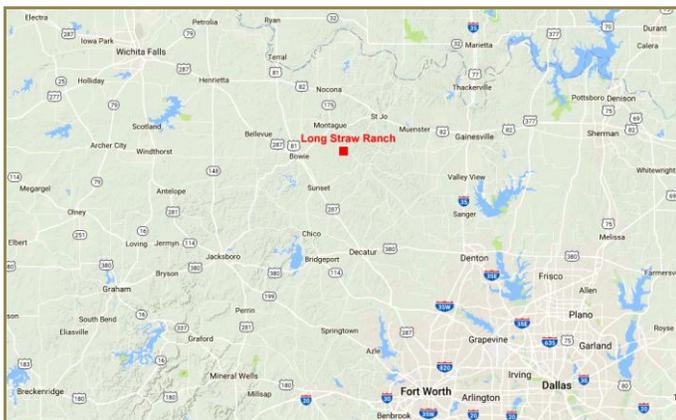


## ABOUT LONG STRAW RANCH

Long Straw Ranch is a 400-acre recreational day hunting property in North Central Texas. The ranch boasts 150 acres of pasture planted for bird cover, 250 acres of native timber, and four pristine ponds.

We specialize in upland bird hunts featuring Chukar and Bobwhite Quail.

The ranch is located in beautiful Montague County, Texas, approximately 70-80 miles northwest of the Dallas/Fort Worth metropolitan area in Forestburg.



We are easily accessible from Dallas, Fort Worth, or Oklahoma City (from Dallas or Oklahoma City via I-35; from Fort Worth via US-287).

Our proximity to interstates and airports in the metroplex area make Long Straw Ranch ideal for individuals who want to get out to hunt but need to be back home in time for supper or family obligations.



## THE NEWSLETTER

The **Long Straw Ranch Report** electronic newsletter is published as a service for clients, friends, and supporters of Long Straw Ranch.

Issues contain information about products and services of interest to our customers, announcements of scheduled LSR events, and notices regarding upcoming hunts, seminars, and training programs.

The **Report** will also include feedback from our clients, as well as forums for questions and answers regarding equipment, hunting techniques, dog training, etc.

Supplemental issues are periodically made available in conjunction with special announcements or by request.

Back issues of the **Report** are available on the Long Straw Ranch web site ([www.LongStrawRanch.com](http://www.LongStrawRanch.com)).

