



Greg Capers, Sheriff

# SAN JACINTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

75 W. Cedar Avenue  
Coldspring, Texas 77331

Main – 936.653.4367  
Fax – 936.653.5058

## PRESS RELEASE

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### San Jacinto County Sheriff's Office Receives an Unusual Animal Control Call

At approximately 5:45am, in the Holiday Villages subdivision on Lake Livingston, Mr. Curtis Davis went outside his travel trailer to enjoy the brisk morning air. He heard something hissing behind him and looked under his trailer and observed a large alligator resting under it. He ran back inside his trailer and called 911.

San Jacinto County Sheriff's Deputies Kyle Barnes and Jeremiah Ledesma responded to the location in the 100 block of Hidden Oaks. Upon arrival, they found a very large alligator resting under the travel trailer. Due to the San Jacinto County Game Warden being temporarily assigned to the border, Polk County Game Wardens David Johnson and Brandon Thacker responded to the location. After assessing the situation it was decided to bring in a "Gator Wrangler" to assist. Mr. Stephen Moye, of Livingston, arrived on the scene and was successful at trapping the alligator alive for relocation. The alligator actually measured 11 foot in length and was so heavy that a tractor had to be used to load it.

The location where the alligator was located is approximately 1 mile from Lake Livingston. Residents near waterways or the lake should always use caution when outside so as to not become entangled with the native animals in our area.

### Some Statistical Information on our Alligators

The "American Alligator", in Texas, is mostly found in our fresh water lakes and waterways. It is a large, semi-aquatic, armored reptile that is related to crocodiles. Their body alone ranges from 6 - 14 feet long. American alligators normally avoid humans, but they can become perceived as a nuisance when they establish territories around people. As human populations in Texas continue to expand, there have been an increased number of encounters between people and alligators. While typically "inactive" from October to March, alligators will still range away from the water in search of food. Alligators are carnivorous, and will eat anything they can catch, including fish, turtles, lizards, snakes, small mammals, water birds, crustaceans and other alligators. Alligators have been known to prey on pets and must be treated with caution. Alligators can be surprisingly quick on land and are capable of running quickly over short distances. Additionally, while no longer on the endangered species list, the American Alligator is now a protected game animal in Texas. Special permits are required to hunt, raise, or possess alligators. *(Statistical Information courtesy of Texas Parks & Wildlife website)*

### Scene Photographs

