



THE

QUAIL-TECH

ALLIANCE



TONGUE RIVER RANCH FIELD DAY!

Quail-Tech and the Tongue River Ranch are happy to invite the public to the **QUAIL-TECH ALLIANCE 2nd** annual field day!!!!

Come join us for a day of learning and tour one of the finest ranch headquarters in the state of Texas!

When: Saturday, October 01, 2011 from 8:30am until 3:30pm.

Activities/Topics:

- Disease Update
- Predator Control
- Supplemental Feeding
- Release of pen-reared birds
- New facility for wild-strain birds
- Artificial cover structures
- Current drought implications

Invited Speaker:

Dr. Bill Palmer, Game Bird Research Director of the Tall Timbers Research Station will discuss Quail Management Strategies from the Southeastern US that might work in Texas.



Free to the public but you must RSVP by Friday, September 23, 2011 at 5:00pm.

RSVP by email to: Dr. Brad Dabbert, brad.dabbert@ttu.edu

Barbeque lunch will be provided!

Tongue River Ranch is located in Dumont, TX, 57 miles north of Aspermont.



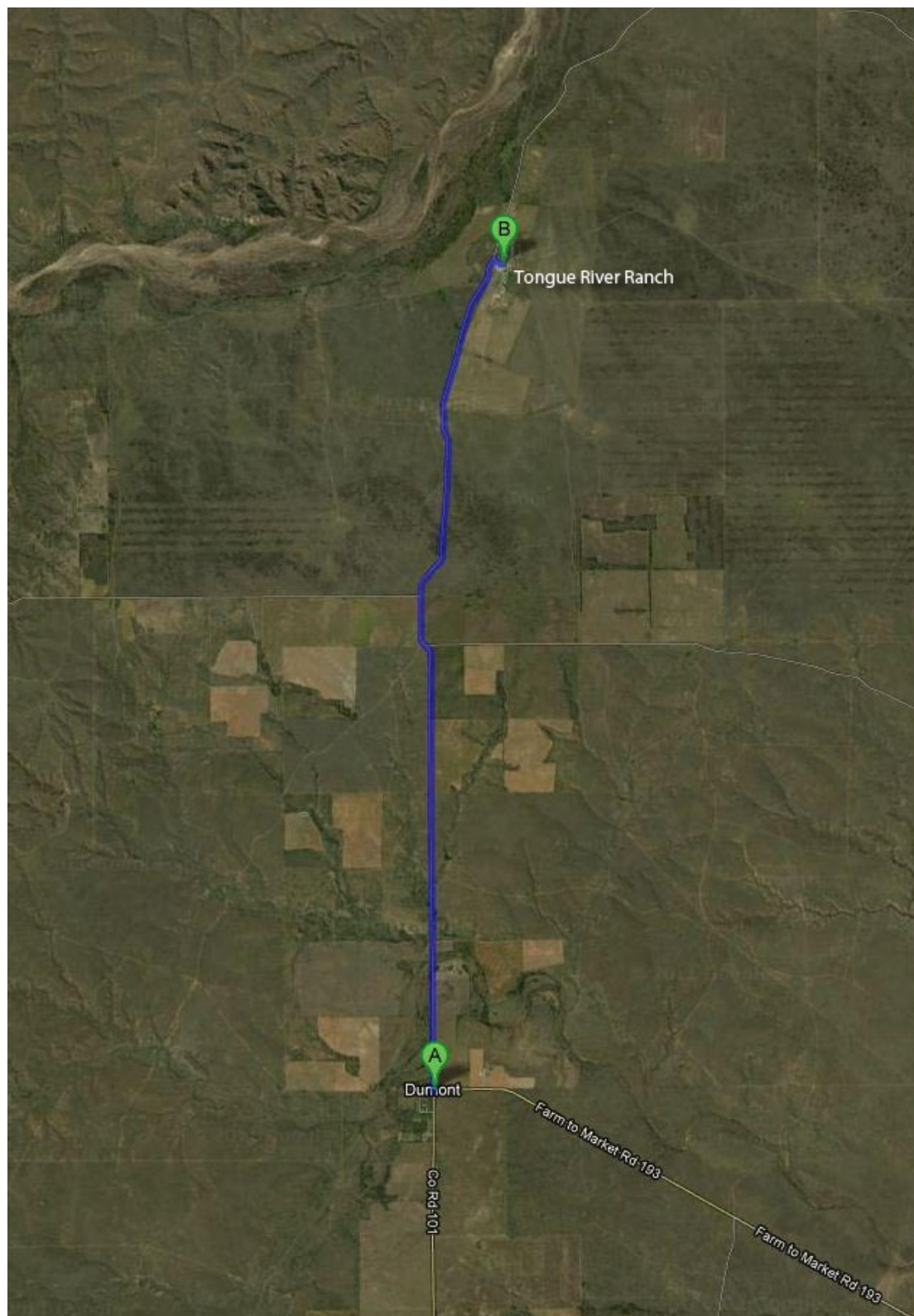
Directions & Map/Aerial

At 4way intersection in Dumont, go north on FM 2569.

When pavement changes to dirt, the road changes to CR 290.

You will come to a fork, take left fork (continue on CR 290).

You will see Tongue River Ranch overhead sign at cattle guard, continue on CR 290 approx. 2.5 miles to the ranch headquarters on the right.





Game Bird Program

Bobwhites are the premiere game bird in the greater Red Hills and **Albany** Georgia regions. Thanks to dedicated land stewardship in our area bobwhite populations are at historically high levels. However, outside of the bobwhite plantation belt this bird and its habitats are in serious trouble. In much of the Southeast, bobwhite numbers are only a small fraction of what they were only 25 years ago due to changes in land use and the reduction of frequent prescribed fire on the landscape. Given the importance of bobwhite to our area and its conservation value, we conduct **a wide variety of research on projects** to develop best management practices for bobwhites. At Tall Timbers we manage over 3500 acres of upland habitat for bobwhites. This makes our research station unique because we manipulate resources in controlled, replicated experiments to determine how management influences bobwhite numbers.



The study of bobwhites began right here with the co-founder of Tall Timbers, Herbert Stoddard. Between 1924 and 1931, he conducted research on the life history and management of the quail, publishing his monograph *The Bobwhite Quail: Its Habits, Preservation, and Increase*, in 1931. Mr. Stoddard promoted good habitat management through the use of fire and timbering to maintain healthy populations of quail. He recognized that quail were part of the larger natural system and he stressed the

importance of understanding how other species interacted with quail. Today our program conducts research on Tall Timbers Research Station as well as on shooting plantations in the Red Hills and Albany Area, in south Florida on ranchlands, and in Alabama and South Carolina. We also provide management advice on public lands in Florida (**UERP**) and private lands across much of the southeast.

Our goal is to provide bobwhite enthusiasts with the best information on how to manage bobwhites and other important wildlife species. Much of our research is conducted by our own staff, but also with dedicated graduate students attending universities throughout the world. By attracting talented minds we ensure our program remains a leader in game bird management and ecology and provides the best information possible to game bird enthusiasts.

Our **staff in the Game Bird Program** would like to thank all of the dedicated supporters who have made this research possible. The advancement of quail research and management is directly due to you. We hope you **find our research** useful and educational.

Bill Palmer, Ph.D.

Did you know?

Ed V. Komarek Sr., a founding father of Tall Timbers, wrote in 1977 that interest in bobwhites has remained "paramount" at Tall Timbers and that bobwhite research is a "central part" of our research program. In that spirit, Tall Timbers recommitted to quail research and management.



Photo take in 1995



Photo taken in 2007

Using the principles outlined in our Forest Stewardship Guide and remembering Stoddard's declaration that bobwhite is the "fire bird", we reduced invasive hardwoods, increased prescribed fire frequency to every other year, and used mechanical and herbicidal treatments to enhance the effectiveness of fire to maintain open pine forests. Tall Timbers piney woods now support the correct mix of grasses, forbs and shrubs necessary to sustain fire-adapted species, including bobwhite.