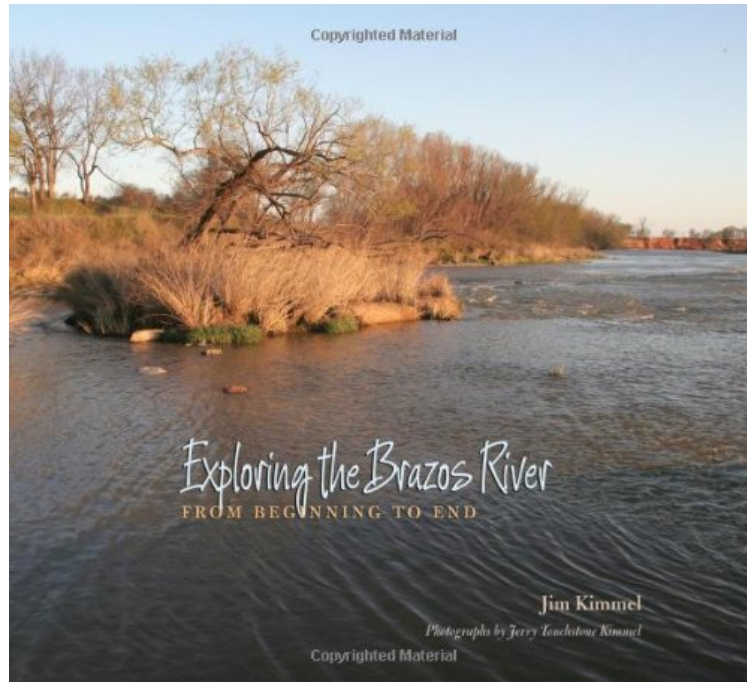


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## Exploring the Brazos River: From Beginning to End (River Books, Sponsored by The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, Texas)

*Jim Kimmel*

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**Jim Kimmel : Exploring the Brazos River: From Beginning to End (River Books, Sponsored by The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, Texas)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Exploring the Brazos River: From Beginning to End (River Books, Sponsored by The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, Texas):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Just a wonderful, extremely readable documentary of everything you ever wanted to know about the Brazos River.By Special KI must start this review by stating I am biased here; Jim Kimmel, the author, is my second cousin. That said, Jim's book about the Brazos River is must reading for anyone with any sort of connection to this river. Jim takes us from the headwaters and follows the river throughout its length, giving remarkable insight as to the geography of not only the Brazos and the land it touches, but of the state of Texas itself. I found out about the book when Jim and I communicated about the fact that my Father and his first cousin discovered the Lubbock Lake Site in northwest Lubbock back in the 1930s, which happened to be on a tributary of the Brazos River.. This site later became and is today a great archeological find as to the discovery of ancient cultures in this area over 11,000 years ago.Again, the book is remarkably readable, unlike so many books on geography.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Enjoying the Journey along the BrazosBy Pam B.I am loving Exploring the Brazos. As someone new to Texas, I wanted to learn more about the river that crosses my path on various road trips.

The photography is wonderful and the descriptions of the various ecoregions are very informative. I think the book is a perfect blend of technical and layman's information. It's a great learning tool about rivers in general and the Brazos in particular. It makes me want to visit all the areas that are discussed in the book. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Around first Bend of the River by Marty Robbins By Dallusray This River has 50 years of canoe and kayak camping trip memories. This book brought every bend in the river on memory recall. Thanks, Dalusray

From its ancient headwaters on the semiarid plains of eastern New Mexico to its mouth at the Gulf of Mexico, the Brazos River carves a huge and paradoxical crescent through Texas geography and history. Its average flow is the largest of Texas rivers, but its floods, low flows, silt, and natural salt have often frustrated human desires. It is one of the most dammed of Texas rivers, but its lower four hundred miles constitute one of the longest undammed stretches of river in North America. In *Exploring the Brazos River*, Jim Kimmel follows this long, changeable river from its rocky arms in West Texas, through the stretch made famous by John Graves in his classic book, *Goodbye to a River*, to its lumbering presence as it flows, undammed and mostly untouched, down the Brazos Valley and into the Gulf of Mexico. Exploring the entire river system, Kimmel first sets the context of climate and geology that determines the characteristics of the Brazos. He then explains the ecological processes that define the Brazos watershed before focusing on four reaches of the river, from the headwaters to the mouth. Each chapter features the captivating photography of Jerry Touchstone Kimmel and includes maps, charts, and descriptions of the water, land, ecology, and people. To encourage readers to explore on their own, Kimmel closes the chapters with tips on where best to experience the river and the surrounding countryside. Amateur and professional naturalists and outdoor enthusiasts of all stripes will find *Exploring the Brazos River* a practical and inspiring guide for the introduction or re-acquaintance with one of the most important, historic, and diverse natural resources in the Lone Star State. To learn more about The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, sponsors of this book's series, please [click here](#).

Popular histories occasionally sacrifice detail for accessibility, but this text infuses its descriptions with information about the scientific, cultural, and historical nature of the river that is both digestible and comprehensive. Kimmel maintains a level of informality and openness that is both effective and appropriate. A love for the land and a desire to make its history known transcends the text itself. *Exploring the Brazos River: From Beginning to End* affords a very good introduction to a system that is both complex and understudied. The book is well-written and well-researched. Moreover, it succeeds in making the riverscape a place that can be experienced on a personal level. This text should be mandatory reading for anybody interested in the waterways of Texas. Kenna Lang Archer, *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*