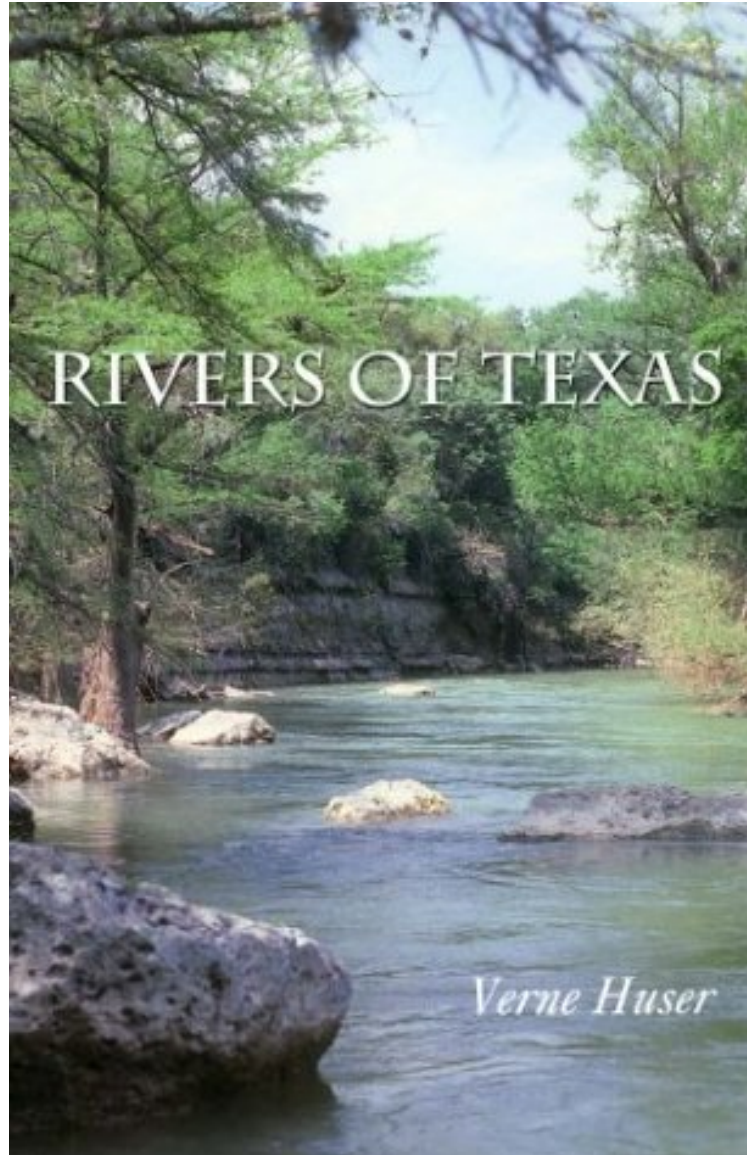


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## Rivers of Texas (Louise Lindsey Merrick Natural Environment)

*Verne Huser*

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**Verne Huser : Rivers of Texas (Louise Lindsey Merrick Natural Environment)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rivers of Texas (Louise Lindsey Merrick Natural Environment):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy robert p boundsExcellent Book!4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. a nice guideBy Charles KennedySince I live in Texas this book had great interest for me. The book mentions every river in the state and describes its beginning, course and ending. If you are interested in

rivers this book would be a very good guide to take along on a trip around the state. Many of the author's descriptions of the rivers include little nuggets of history associated with the river. There are lots of photographs of the rivers although these are all black and white. I think for what this book sets out to do it succeeded very well. I like it. I'm glad I own it. 14 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Too Much Polemic By G. W. B. I was so looking forward to a good book on the geology and history of Texas rivers. I was disappointed. The travelogues are sketchy but useful. In every chapter, over and over again, we hear that industrialization is bad for rivers, dams stop the free flow of rivers, and that Anglo settlers stole the land from native Americans. Yes, that's true and probably can be profitably discussed in a preface. Something like John Graves "Good Bye to a River" engenders sympathy and makes you care about the rivers. Huser's treatment of the subject leaves the reader merely irritated at the author.

Texas' rivers are part of the state's history, charm, and lore. Battles have been fought on their banks, cities have been founded along their cool currents, and countless legends have been told of their treacherous crossings and brackish waters. Texas' rivers are showcases of nature's variety. The mossdraped streams in the Big Thicket and bayous of the southeast, the sandy banks of the high plains, and the canyons of the Rio Grande form a diverse backdrop. In *Rivers of Texas*, Verne Huser captures the mystery and beauty of the state's waterways. By presenting the landscape, historical accounts, geologic facts, economic development, and recreational opportunities along the many streams, Huser displays how everything in Texas impacts or is impacted by the rivers. Huser establishes four categories of Texas rivers: Border Rivers, Heart of Texas Rivers, Regional Rivers, and Gulf Coast Rivers. Each specific river is then invested with information about its size, location, tributaries, discharge, and special sites along that system. Narratives about each river are also included, combining documented history with colorful legends and stories and personal anecdotes based on Huser's own experiences. Brilliant descriptions of the wildlife and vegetation enhance the text, as do the black and white photographs, which capture the distinct beauty of each watershed. Using straightforward language and an approachable tone, *Rivers of Texas* is both informative and entertaining. Huser's love for his subject and his wisdom gained from traveling and studying these rivers is evident, while his fresh blend of facts and folklore makes this an excellent traveling companion, useful to anyone who wants to learn more about the waterways of Texas. It is also an excellent guidebook for adventurers and explorers who want to experience the rivers in every aspect.

"Huser is a superb writer ... the guts of *Rivers of Texas* offer almost as much enjoyment as a river trip itself." About the Author Verne Huser, a retired English teacher, now archivist at Albuquerque Academy, has been a river guide for more than forty years, a seasonal National Park Service ranger/naturalist, and an environmental mediator. He is the author of five previous books on rivers and river recreation and the editor of an anthology of river literature.