Unmarked, unofficial detour around the San Jacinto River in times of high water.
Lone Star Hiking Trail – Magnolia Section – Mile 71.05 Revised November, 2015

CAUTION: This detour is not for the novice hiker! The “bushwhack” involves forcing your way through underbrush for 0.25 miles without benefit of a defined path or trail markings of any kind. Use at your own risk!

Eastbound Hikers:
From the San Jacinto River, backtrack 1.2 miles on the LSHT to gravel road Freeside Lane (FS 2126).
Turn right (north) .0.4 miles to paved Butch Arthur Road.
Go right (east) 1.8 miles on Butch Arthur Road. Watch for the address 1840-1842 Butch Arthur Road and a sign on the left for “Rafter Cattle Company.” Continue 0.1 miles north and east of that address and watch for a powerline crossing the road and the road turning due north.

You will see a brown metal “barn” with attached carport 50 yards northwest of the road and an unmarked gravel road (FS 2120) (N30 32.969, W95 09.876) on your right; go east down FS 2120. You will know you have the correct road when you see a yellow Forest Service Boundary sign (“2120 Corner Post”, see photo) about 100 yards in, and FS 2120 Gate 30 yards beyond the corner post. Go through the gate and continue to follow FS 2120, keeping right at the fork in the road. Soon you will come to a large open area and an oil well. Enter the woods just left of the oil well and head southeast 30 yards to a small creek. Water shoes may be needed to cross the stream, called Clear Creek. After crossing the creek, turn right and follow it downstream to a barbed wire fence. DO NOT CROSS THE FENCE. Now bushwhack steadily uphill Southeast, bearing 130 degrees, keeping the barbed wire fence on your right side. Eventually, you will hit sandy road FS 280B1. Head northeast on 280B1 for 0.2 miles until you come to a “T” junction (N30 32.893, W95 09.473) with sandy Forest Service Road 280B. The north leg of this “T” is now heavily overgrown, but you won’t go that way. Turn southeast (right) on FS 280B for 0.45 miles to the Lone Star Trail.

Westbound Hikers:
From the San Jacinto River, backtrack east 1.8 miles to sandy Forest Service Road 280B. (N30 32.625, W95 09.177). Don’t turn on FS 280D by mistake!

Turn left (north) 0.45 miles on FS 280B until the road ends in a “T” (N30 32.893, W95 09.473) at FS 280B1. Turn left (southwest) on 280B1 for 0.2 miles until you hit a barbed wire fence. Stop at the fence!. The road continues through a gate in the fence, but it is PRIVATE PROPERTY on the far side.

Now begins the bushwhack. Turn right and head Northwest, keeping the fence on your left side, for 0.15 miles. When you hit a small stream (Clear Creek), turn right before crossing and following upstream for roughly 100 yards. Cross the stream when you can see the oil well on the far side. Go to the open area around the oil well and head out Northwest on sandy road FS 2120. Stay left at the first road junction. Eventually you will pass through a gate and soon meet paved Butch Arthur Road.

Go left (southwest) 1.8 miles on paved Butch Arthur Road to sandy Freeside Lane (FS 2126).
Turn left (South) on Freeside Lane 0.4 miles to the Lone Star Trail.

Below is a photo of the Brown Metal “Barn” opposite unmarked FS 2120 at Butch Arthur Road.