Shane Townsend, senior advisor with The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University, has authored *Paddling Texas: A Guide to the State's Best Paddling Routes*, the newest addition to Falcon Guides' popular paddling series.

Texas is home to some of the fastest growing cities in America, and paddling—canoe or kayak—is the fastest growing outdoor sport in the country. Paddling Texas is a guide for those who are new to either and all those who love both. Featured trips offer easy access, secure environments, good facilities, great fishing, superb wildlife viewing and beautiful scenery. Paddling Texas gives recreational paddlers and anglers all the information they’ll need to paddle many of the best trips in Texas, from the canyons of Big Bend National Park to the cypress swamps of Pine Island Bayou. Central Texas highlights of the book include the Comal River, argued to be the shortest river in the world, and the four-day, 260-mile route of the Texas Water Safari, which *Canoe & Kayak Magazine* referred to as “The World’s Toughest Canoe Race.”

Townsend has hiked the Andes, fished with machetes in the Amazon basin, and paddled dugout canoes deep within Southeast Asia's Ring of Fire. He is a lifelong outdoorsman and a former Peace Corps volunteer. His writing has appeared in *Field & Stream, Quail Forever Journal, USA Today Hunt & Fish, GAFF Magazine, Canoe & Kayak* and *Native Peoples*, among others.