

J U L Y 2 0 , 2 0 1 8

# Watershed Week in Review

A Publication of  
Llano River Watershed Alliance and  
Llano River Field Station

## Opportunity to Tour LRFS Exclosures



The public is invited to join members of the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan Coordination Committee to tour the wildlife exclosures at the Llano River Field Station on Wednesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>.

The tour will begin at the Pavilion across from Packard Hall at 5:30pm. Members of the Field Station and Texas Parks and Wildlife will be available to answer questions.

The walking tour will last about 45 minutes and conclude with refreshments at the Pavilion.

*For more information...*

## Save the Date Mason and Llano Co Landowners

The Llano River Watershed Alliance is partnering with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to host an informational program about the new River Access and Conservation Area (RACA) program. The program offers generous monthly payments to landowners who lease a portion of their land to TPWD for fishing and boating access.

Join us at **6pm- Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>** -at Castell General Store for an informational meeting about the program. TPWD personnel will be on hand to answer landowner questions. Dinner will be provided.

More details to follow.

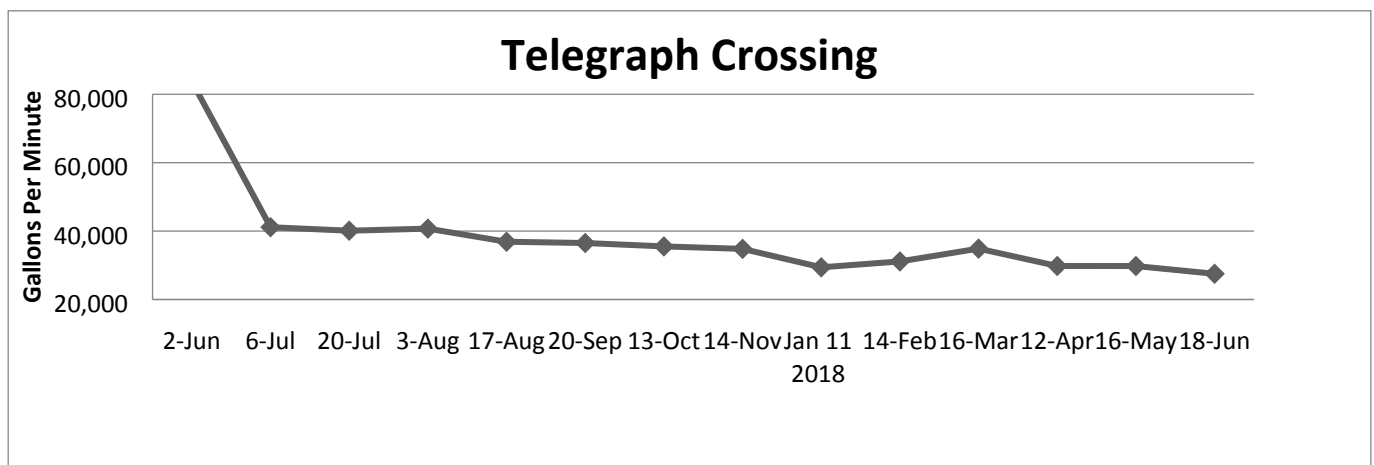
## Kiosk Complete!

The roof is now on the kiosk at Boone's Crossing. The sign was installed on June 30<sup>th</sup> at the River Clean-Up, but we had to wait for the concrete to set before installing the roof.

Special thanks go out to John Botros (Texas Parks & Wildlife) and Andrew Burnard (LRWA) for coming back out to help finish the job.



## South Llano Flows



A bit of 'better news' during this heat wave is that the flows of the South Llano River closer to the headwaters springs have not dropped as precipitously in the last few months as points further downstream. This is due to less exposure of the River to heat, wind, and pumping.

The flow at Telegraph Crossing (upper crossing of US 377), recently measured by Joel Pigg with Real-Edwards Conservation and Reclamation District, is 27,513 gallons per minute (gpm) or 61 cubic feet per second (cfs). This is a decrease of 8% since May. Downstream at the Second Crossing, Joel measured flows at 30,281 gpm or 67 cfs. This is a decrease of about 5% since May.

Compare this to March 16, 2018 flows of 39,044 gpm (87 cfs-30% decrease) at Upper Crossing and 42,248 gpm (94 cfs-28% decrease) at Lower Crossing.

Further downstream at Flat Rock, flows on the South Llano have dropped 45% since March (72 cfs to 40 cfs); at Llano River at Junction 43% (66 cfs to 37 cfs); and at Llano River at Llano 81% (90 cfs to 17 cfs).

# Irrigation in Texas in 1902

Water-Supply and Irrigation Paper No. 71

Series I, Irrigation, 13

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
CHARLES D. WALCOTT, DIRECTOR

## IRRIGATION SYSTEMS OF TEXAS

Here is another [historical document to peruse](#) whilst thee seeks shelter from this summer.

The description of Edwards and Kimble counties begins on page 42.

*Irrigation in Kimble County is chiefly confined to the valleys of the creeks tributary to Llano River and its two branches, the North Llano and the South Llano. This is due to the great violence of the river during high stages and consequently difficulty of building dams and maintaining ditches.*

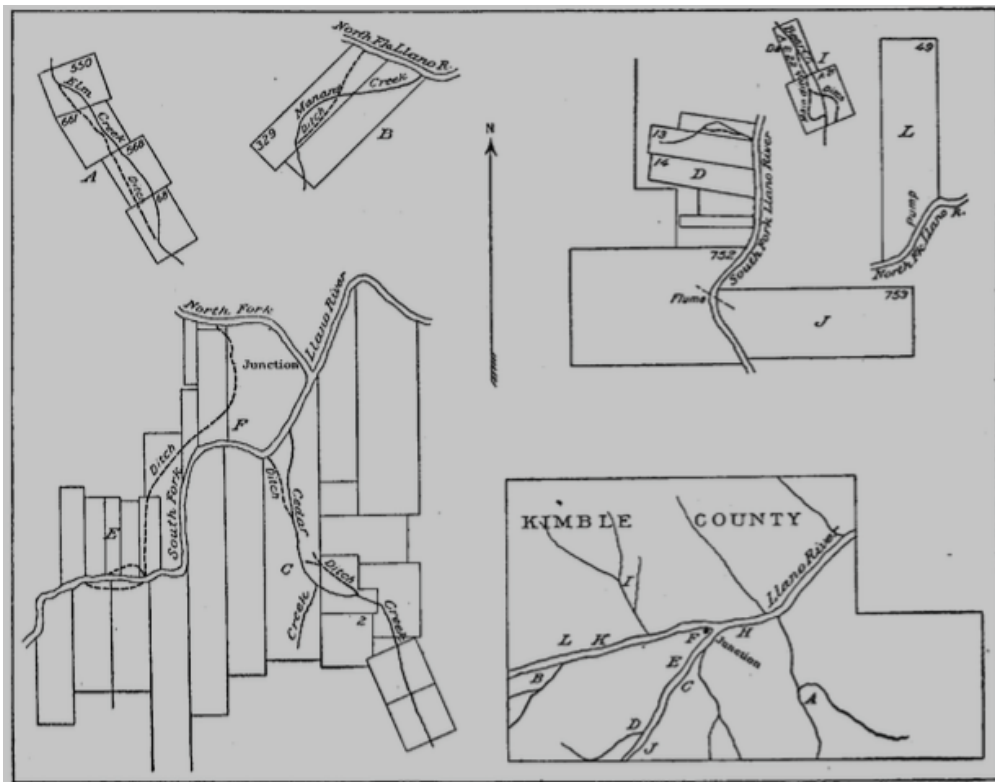


FIG. 14.—Map of Kimble County irrigation systems.



## City of Mason Implements Drought Plan

*John Palacio*  
*City of Mason Administrator*

The public water system of the City of Mason has reached a Critical, Level 1 condition recently, and the City Administrator John Palacio has implemented additional water conservation measures. While we do not fear immediate water shortages, we feel it is necessary to move to voluntary measures to protect the water levels for everyone and the increase demand of the limitations of our water system. As the hot summer winds continue to blow and the dry conditions only worsen, the City of Mason will now begin to start looking at water conservation measures throughout the community. All even numbered houses can water either on Monday, Wednesday, or Friday and all odd numbered houses can water either on Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday we will limit each water customer to watering only twice a week and only between the hours of 6:00 pm and 9:00 am, or hand watering at other times

We hope that everyone will cooperate and limit all non-essential water use. ...[continue reading](#)



## Master Naturalist to Discuss Invasives

*From Hill Country Chapter Master Naturalist*

The public is invited to attend the **July 23, 2018** meeting of the Hill Country Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist program. Michael P. Masser Ph.D., a Professor and Extension Fisheries Specialist, will be the evening's presenter. Dr. Masser will discuss both aquatic plant and animal invaders of Texas and what their impacts are or can be as they expand on our aquatic ecology. In a couple of cases he will include a species that is not here yet but that we expect to come.

Dr. Masser was Head of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences at Texas A&M University from 2012-2017 and retired to become a half-time working retiree in 2018. He has authored over 175 publications and presented over 300 national and international talks on aquaculture, private impoundment management, and aquatic vegetation management. He has a passion for fishing, managing private waters, and educating the public on aquaculture and aquatic ecology.

The meeting is free and open to the public. It will be held at the Upper Guadalupe River Authority's lecture hall, 125 North Lehmann Drive in Kerrville. **Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; the program begins at 7:00 p.m.**





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## Family Park Programs, July 13 – July 22

### South Llano River State Park

Phone: (325) 446-3994

#### Under the Microscope – Friday, July 13th, Drop by 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Held at the Park Headquarters porch

Stop by park headquarters between 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm to see what's under the microscope. Whether it's Buck Lake water, a butterfly wing, a feather, or something quite different, it will be exciting!



#### River Seining – Saturday, July 14th, 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Meet at the river crossing parking lot.

(Head toward the park exit. Parking lot is on the right before the bridge.)



What kind of fish live in the river? Come seining with us and find out! Water shoes, sun protection, and drinking water are recommended – and be prepared to get wet! Because this activity takes place in the river, adults age 17 and older must possess a valid fishing license to use the sein net. All ages welcome!

#### Skins, Skulls, and More! - Saturday, July 14th

#### Drop by between 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm

Held at the Park Headquarters porch.

Stop by park headquarters between 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm to see and touch animal furs and skulls, and find out what a skull can tell us about how an animal lives! All ages welcome.



#### Japanese Fish Printing – Sunday, July 15th, 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Meet at the Acorn Bird Blind (down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)



By J.G.

Try your hand at the ancient art of Gyotaku, a method that Japanese fishermen used to record their catch! All materials are provided. All ages welcome! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

#### River Bugs! - Saturday, July 21st, 10:00 am - 11:00 pm

Meet at the 2nd Day Use parking lot (Take the road across from Headquarters, follow to the end. Look for the water bug pole)

Come find out what kinds of insects live in the river! We will show you how to use a dip net and a magnifying glass to discover cool aquatic insects! Sun protection and drinking water recommended. Wear clothes you can get wet! Children must be accompanied by an adult.



#### Under the Microscope – Saturday, July 21st, Drop by 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Held at the Park Headquarters porch



Stop by park headquarters between 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm to see what's under the microscope. Whether it's Buck Lake water, a butterfly wing, a feather, or something quite different, it will be exciting!

#### The Park After Dark – Saturday, July 21st, 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Meet at the Acorn Blind (down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)

Experience the park after dark! We'll learn how animals use their senses and we will walk an easy trail as we look for fireflies, bats, deer, spiders, and more! Good walking shoes, bug spray, drinking water, and a flashlight are recommended. All ages welcome! No pets, please.



#### Buck Lake Scavenger Hunt – Sunday, July 22nd, 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Meet at the Acorn Blind (Down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)



On this easy morning stroll, we'll walk past beautiful Buck Lake as we use magnifiers, binoculars, and sharp eyes to find our scavenger hunt targets. There is one steep but short hill. The rest of the dirt path is fairly level. Good walking shoes and drinking water are recommended, and dress for the weather! All ages welcome.

*Park programs are open to the public and free with park entrance fee*