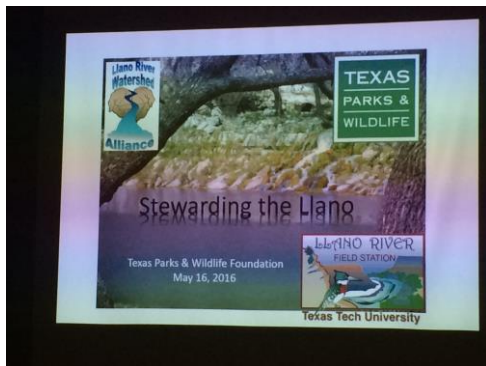


M A Y 2 0 , 2 0 1 6

Watershed Week in Review

Llano River Watershed Alliance

Texas Parks & Wildlife Foundation visits the Llano.



Earlier this week, staff and donors of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation visited the Llano to

experience the river and learn more about the numerous programs underway to improve our river. The Foundation provides financial support to Texas Parks and Wildlife in their mission to manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of Texas.

Llano River Watershed Alliance members made a presentation to Foundation members over dinner at Mason Mountain Wildlife Management Area on Monday, then joined them on Tuesday morning for a paddle trip below James River Crossing.

See pictures on page 5...plus you will never believe what is on page 6

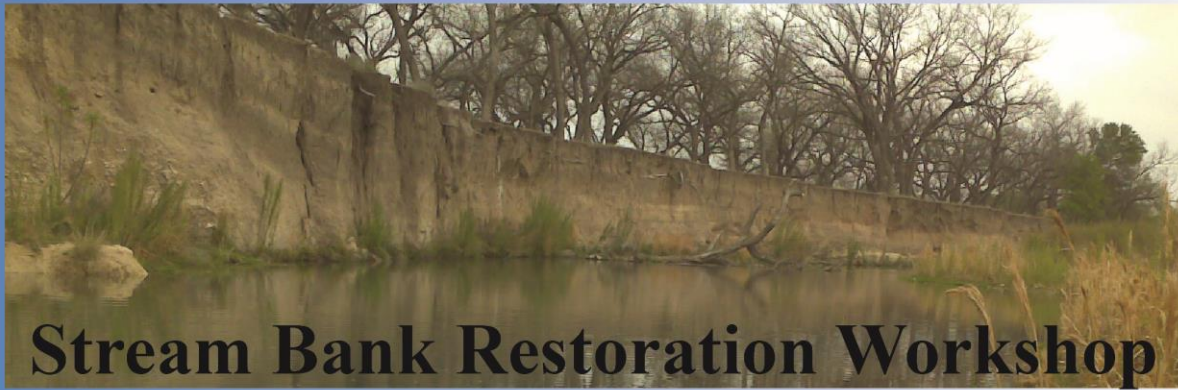
Are you losing lands to Stream Bank Erosion?



If so, make plans now to attend the Stream Bank Restoration Workshop at the Llano River Field Station on **June 3rd**.

Details about this FREE event are found on page 2 of the newsletter.

Reservations close on May 30th.



Stream Bank Restoration Workshop

Friday, June 3rd, 2016 8:30am - 5:00pm
Texas Tech University Llano River Field Station
Junction, Texas

Funded Through the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan

Please join us for this **FREE** workshop. The morning session will introduce hydrology, river/floodplain function and mechanics, flood morphology, bank erosion, channel erosion/deposition, land use/management, and restoration design principles in the Upper Llano Watershed. Attendees will learn how to identify the cause of instability and its effect of sediment imbalance (degradation/aggradation), water quality, water supply, effects on downstream landowners, and aquatic habitat destruction. Other workshop topics will include bank erosion estimation, bank restoration techniques, and land use best management practices.

The afternoon workshop session will be conducted riverside on the South Llano. Bring your shoes for wading. Activities will include "hands on" identification of near bank stress, bank erosion estimation, and function of river features.

RSVP includes free lunch. Include in the RSVP questions/pictures of your unstable river segment.

RSVP to southllanoriver@gmail.com by May 30th

Workshop Presenters

Tom Arsuffi, PhD

Director - Texas Tech University Llano River Field Station

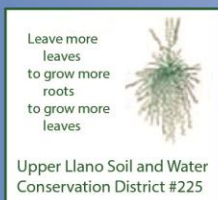
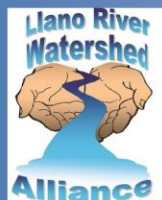
Tyson Broad

Watershed Coordinator - Upper Llano River WPP

Bruce Cole, CFM

Hydrologist & Stream Restoration Specialist

Cole Blaylock & Associates, LLC



This cooperative project has been funded in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency

Alliance Board member joins Junction City Council

Znobla Wootan, past President and current Board Member of the Alliance, was sworn in this week as a member of the Junction City Council. Znobla won her election bid earlier this month. Congratulations and thank you, Znobla.



Photo: Donnette Dickerson

Panelist Discuss Endangered Species Act



A panel of experts gathered in Junction Wednesday night to discuss Endangered Species during the latest installment of the [Texas Water Symposium](#).

The panel, consisting of Adam Zerrenner (US Fish and Wildlife Service Field Supervisor), Dr. Robert Gulley (Texas Comptroller's Office Director of Economic Growth and

Endangered Species Management), and Dr. Tom Arsuffi (Llano River Field Station Director and Alliance Board Member), discussed the economic and conservation impacts of endangered species in Texas, with much of the discussion focusing on potential future listings of fresh-water mussels and the Monarch butterfly. Former Texas Water Development Board member and Llano Watershed rancher Weir Labatt served as moderator.

The program was taped and will be rebroadcast on Texas Public Radio. Stay tuned for airing dates.

A full slate of family-friendly activities at South Llano River State Park this weekend



Life's better outside.®



Like us on Facebook!

Facebook.com/SouthLlanoRiver

Family Park Programs

South Llano River State Park

Phone: (325) 446-3994

Monarch Larva Monitoring Project!

Friday, May 20th, 9:00 am - 10:30 am

Meet at the Fawn Trail parking lot
(behind Park Headquarters)



Photo from www.csiro.au

Monarch butterflies are passing through the area laying eggs on milkweed plants. Join the Park Ranger as we monitor the park's milkweed patch for eggs and caterpillars!

The trail is an easy, 1-mile round trip route, and we'll be kneeling and squatting to check the plants. Long pants, close-toed shoes, sun protection, and drinking water are recommended. All ages welcome!



Yellow-breasted Chat

Bird Walk

Sunday, May 22nd, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Meet at the Fawn Trail parking lot
(behind Park Headquarters)

Join us for a bird walk, and see how many kinds of birds we can spot! Binoculars provided, or bring your own. Good walking shoes, sun protection, and drinking water are recommended. All ages welcome!

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

Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation visits the Llano



Special thanks to [Red Sands Ranch](#) for providing convenient access to these beautiful bluffs of the Llano. Photo: Tim Birdsong



No Llano trip is complete without a Guadalupe Bass



Alliance Vice-President Dr. Gary Garrett paddling along the sandstone cliffs of the Llano below the James River Crossing

No, it is not April Fool's Day

ALLIGATORS?!

London man finds alligators in tank

Debbie Kistler
The Junction Eagle

When one thinks about Kimble County wildlife, what generally comes to mind are deer, javelinas, turkey, snakes, bobcats, beer joints, dance halls, Russian Boar hogs, axis, the occasional passing mountain lion, alligators.....wait...alligators? In the Texas Hill Country? Well, no.....not since April of 1977 have local folks thought about sharing their living waters with alligators. So, imagine Michael Fritz's surprise when he observed an alligator cruising around in a stock tank on his

property outside of London!

Since the gator was all together unwelcome, Fritz phoned a friend, Athena MacLean, of Mason, to dispose of the rude reptile. MacLean lured the 47 1/2-inch fellow with bread and dispensed with him, however, she informed Fritz that he had another, larger alligator living in the same tank. Apparently, he is not only larger, he's wiser. He did not fall for the bait offering and remains at large.

MacLean explained that, based on the size of the head of the remaining resident that she saw in Fritz's pond, it appears to be "quite a bit bigger". From April 1 to June 30,

anyone with a hunting license can kill alligators without obtaining the "nuisance license" that would normally be required.

Fritz is bewildered by the presence of alligators on his property. He explained that his tank is 3.25 miles from Big Saline Creek, which he assumes may have been their previous home. That is, of course, only a guess.

In any case, the residents of Fritz's tank pale by comparison to the 12' monster gator captured at Flatrock in 1977. That story is reprinted from *The Junction Eagle* on page 6 of this edition.



Photo courtesy of Athena MacLean

This almost four-foot male alligator was one

Alligator Found at Flatrock

Story originally published in April 21, 1977, edition of *The Junction Eagle*

A funny thing happened to David Teel on his way home Monday night - he found a 12 foot alligator on Flatrock Crossing.

Teel and his companion, Fane Burt, Jr., knew what to do about it. They radioed for help on the C.B. The response was just what might be expected. All the good buddies who got a copy advised David to go home and sleep it off, but he persisted, finally convincing the sheriff's dispatcher to send some gator aid.

Chief of Police Durwood Bradshaw, Deputy Sheriff Grover Grant, Game Warden Larry Brock and Wayne Woods responded. None could qualify as an alligator wrestler when they arrived, but all say they can now. The only casualty was Grant, who got too close to the alligator's teeth.

The bite on his arm was not serious.

It took two and a half hours to subdue the monster and get him securely bound, but Bradshaw estimates it will take even longer to get the ropes off. The alligator was then loaded into Bradshaw's pick-up with the help of a tow truck and is not being transported to a wildlife preserve in Aransas Pass.

When the alligator surfaced in Junction, so did a number of alligator authorities, who provided the following pertinent information:

The [Flatrock] gator is approximately 40 years old, has led a sheltered life (no visible battle scars) and is overweight at about 350 lbs.

One final bit of gator lore: they usually run in pairs, according to expert John Liverman.

Reprinted with permission from The Junction Eagle, Wednesday, May 18, 2016