WATERSHED WEEK IN REVIEW



Forecast Calls for Watchful Eye this Week

A very wet Friday is forecast across the State, but the majority of precipitation is forecast for areas to the east of the Llano Watershed. Most of the Llano is now forecast to receive about 2-3 inches.

However, with waterways in the Watershed still flowing above normal, soils still saturated, and vegetation now dormant, things could change very quickly with heavy rainfall.

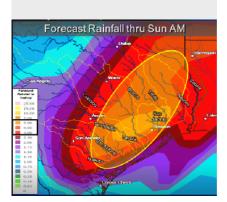


Photo: Don Gray

Trout Release in the Llano

Texas Parks and Wildlife has begun its annual winter release of Rainbow Trout in the Llano and other rivers across the State. Trout are not native to the Llano and will not survive the return of warmer temperatures later this spring. In the meantime, the release provides an opportunity to get folks on the River.

Trout were released last Tuesday at South Llano River State Park, with another release slated for Jan 15, 2019. This Saturday, they will be released at James River Crossing (page 2) and on February 2. Castell is scheduled to have a release Jan 9.

Thanks to LRWA Sponsor, Tony Plutino of <u>Llano River</u> <u>Region Adventures</u>, Saturday's release will also include Fly Fishing Demos, Live Music, Naturalist Talks and Fly Tying Demos. The program is scheduled from 1-5pm. Organizers will be keeping a very close eye on potentially changing river conditions (left) and the Alliance list serve and Facebook page will post any postponements should they occur.



While you are out Fishing...



<u>The End of This Year</u> marks the end of the Guadalupe Bass Contest. In October of 2017, brood stock used to raise and reintroduce more than 700,000 native Guadalupe Bass back into the South Llano were tagged and released back home. Anglers who catch one of these fish are eligible for a prize from Bass Pro Shops.

Good luck; Only 25 days left. <u>Details</u> of the contest...

Water Supply Enhancement through Brush Control

Upper Llano River Watershed

Several fact sheets from the Texas Tech - Llano River Field Station and the Texas A&M AgriLife Texas Water Resources Institute are now available through the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan. This <u>factsheet on Brush Control</u> highlights the striking potential benefits to the Upper Llano...

"Ecological modeling used in the creation of the Upper Llano

River Watershed Protection Plan suggests that over the course of 25 years, removing 9,000 acres of brush annually from selected areas, coupled with follow-up prescribed burning, decreases evapotranspiration by 63,000 to 75,000 acre-feet annually during normal years and about 46,000 acre feet annually during drier periods."

Water Symposium Addresses the Future of Flooding in Texas

By Kimberly Meitzen for <u>Rivard Report</u>



The frequency and severity of weather events ranging from the recent flooding along

the Llano, Colorado, Trinity, and Blanco rivers, as well as devastating flooding from Hurricane Harvey, have left communities ill-prepared, with experts and elected officials pondering the future impact in a state where climate change is not universally accepted by top state officials and lawmakers, and where a continuing population boom and urban development pose major challenges.

More than 100 scientists, students, and concerned citizens gathered at the LBJ Theatre at Texas State University for a Nov. 15 panel discussion, part of the 35th annual Texas Water Symposium, a quarterly event co-organized by the Hill Country Alliance and its sponsors. Moderated by Rivard Report Publisher and Editor Robert Rivard, the evening's program was titled "The Future of Flooding in Texas: How do we protect life and property in the face of extreme weather events?"

The 100-year flood construct – a flood with a 1 percent chance of occurring in any given year – is no longer sufficient for land-use planning, Slade said, noting that over the past decade, flood peaks have increased by 40 percent on the Guadalupe River, 125 percent on the Blanco River, and 162 percent on the San Marcos River.

continue reading...

Feral Hog Reporting Tool Available

A new feature on Texas A&M Natural Resources Institute wild pig website offers Texas landowners and homeowners an easy-to-use tool to report sightings of wild pigs and the damage that may have occurred. This new online reporting tool takes only a few minutes to capture data like location of siting, number of feral hogs sited, estimations on age, the type of damage being caused and includes an entry for photo submissions. The submitted reports will be used to support outreach efforts and help locate areas of high activity to guide both management and educational efforts across the state.

