

J U L Y 1 2 , 2 0 1 5

Watershed Week in Review

South Llano Watershed Alliance

Kimble County Historical Commission earns award

The Kimble County Historical Commission, our friends who sponsor the annual trip to 700 Springs, recently received the [Distinguished Service Award](#) from the Texas Historical Commission. Congratulations!



Paddlers

**As always, do not litter
and please respect the
rights of property
owners along the river.**



Falls on the South Llano River

Stevenson Falls are located near former governor Coke Stevenson's ranch on the South Llano River above Telegraph.

The falls are accessible by paddling upstream about three miles from the Upper (second) crossing of US 377. Recent measurements by Real-Edwards Conservation & Reclamation District show flow at the 2nd Crossing at 92 cubic ft/sec, so you may want to wait for lower flows.

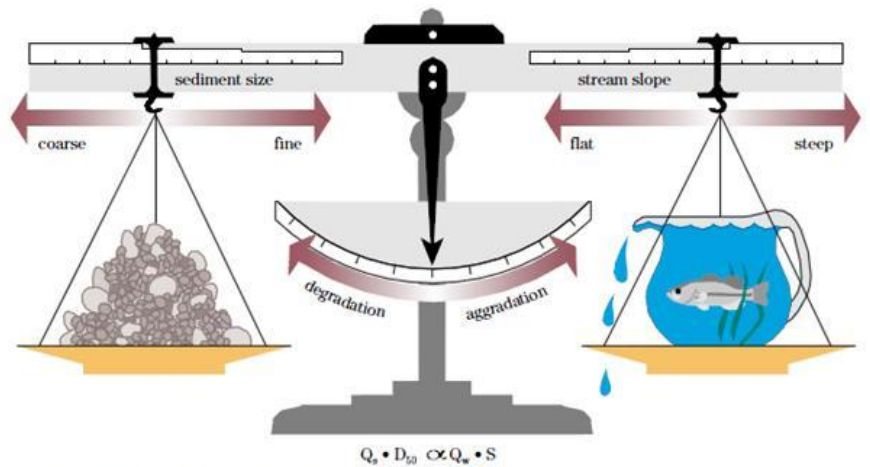


Steve Nelle explains Lane's Balance and Stream Morphology

What is Lane's Balance?

Lane's Balance helps us understand how a river channel adjusts depending on the amount of discharge, the slope, the bed load material, and the size of that material. Sound confusing? Not really.

[Watch Steve Nelle explain.](#)



From Rosgen (1996), from Lane, Proceedings, 1955.
Published with the permission of American Society of Civil Engineers.

UT Professor and Local Rancher featured in NY Times

Dr. David Hillis, UT Professor and Pontotoc Rancher discusses the evolution of longhorns in the [NY Times](#).

Like all cattle, they were domesticated about 10,000 years ago...But they are special because they went wild a second time and were domesticated.

Dr. Hillis' [Double Helix Ranch website](#) also discusses El Nino cycles and their impact on rainfall in the Hill Country.



In the news

Sonora Workshop

The Texas Grazing Lands Coalition will be hosting a Grazing Management Clinic on August 5, 2015, at the Sutton County Civic Center in Sonora.

Topics include: capturing solar energy, creating a more efficient water cycles, building a dynamic mineral cycle, enhancing biodiversity...[learn more](#)



84th Legislature-Bill Summary

What bills passed (or did not pass) this last session that affect groundwater, surface water, eminent domain, and landowner liability?

[Check out the Agricultural Law blog](#) from Texas A&M Agrilife...

New Landowner Conference-Menard

New landowners seeking information on a variety of topics should attend the Menard County New Landowner Conference on July 31st in Menard. Topics include: Agricultural and Wildlife Special Use Appraisals; Local Plant ID; Animal Options for the Edwards Plateau; Water Well Regulation and Permits; Wildlife Management by the Month.

[...more info](#)



Not all Texas Reservoirs are full

"Sometimes people see a whole bunch of full lakes and think the drought is over"

"I expect in the next month or so you'll probably start seeing water usage come back up...it seems like people stick their heads in the sand once you get a little bit of water". [more](#)

50 years ago

From the Junction Eagle--reprinted with permission.

July 8, 1965—Real progress is evident these days at the site of the construction of the dam on the South Llano. In the foreground to the right is one edge of the form for the east end wall of the dam. Construction Superintendent E.H. Soloman said he expected to finish pouring the concrete for the wall, Wednesday, July 7, starting early in the morning.

Portions of the first part of the sides of the dam can be seen in the middle, under construction. Soloman expects to finish this eight foot segment from wall-to-wall by the end of the week.

Gravel is being used to fill under the re-enforced concrete side skin which will reach all the way to the top of the walls in the shape seen outlined on the poured west wall. Middle of the dam will be slightly lower than the edges to allow the natural flow of the South Llano to go over at that point.

Behind each end wall will be an 18 inch perpendicular concrete wall 50 feet long anchored by columns of re-enforced cement which in turn will go down to the rock bottom of the river bed.

Each side of these perpendicular walls will be filled with tamped gravel and then a 50 foot slab of cement poured on top to keep rises in the river from cutting out behind the ends of the dam.

