

South Llano Watershed Alliance

WATERSHED WEEK IN REVIEW

February 6, 2015



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South Llano Watershed Alliance Board Meeting

Public Invited

[Map](#) to Meeting Location

The Board of the South Llano Watershed Alliance will meet the evening of February 10th to discuss the upcoming Oasis Fire Restoration Workshop, last week's Watershed Protection Plan meeting, a natural gas pipeline crossing the Llano, and potentially changing the name of the Alliance.
The public is welcome to attend.



LIP Facts

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Landowner Incentive Plan available for Llano watershed



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Landowner Incentives in the Llano Watershed

Landowner Incentive Program Facts

Active Restoration

Almost 7,000 acres in the Llano watershed have active restoration programs currently in place

River Miles Restored

60 miles of river habitat has been restored along the North and South Llano, Llano and James Rivers.

Technical Guidance

Technical guidance regarding management practices that benefit aquatic resources has been provided to landowners who manage more than 65,000 acres in the watershed

Funding

LIP is a cost-share reimbursement program. Depending on the funding series, TPWD will contribute between 50-75% of a total project cost.

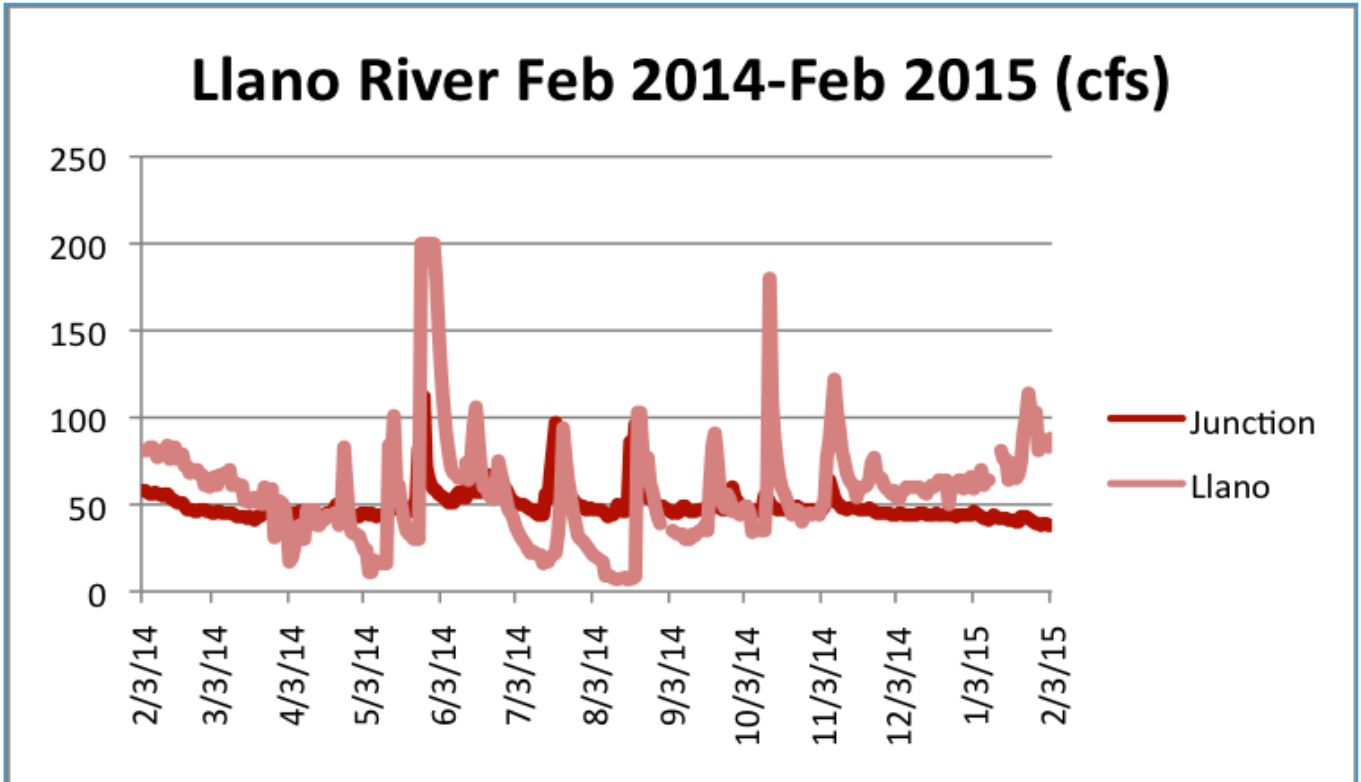
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has funding through the Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) to do restoration projects in the Llano watershed. This cost-sharing program targets both riparian and upland habitats.

The LIP Watershed Funding is dedicated to conservation actions that positively impact the Llano & James River Watersheds. **Property does not have to include a riparian area to be considered. Many forms of conservation land stewardship will qualify, including upland habitat enhancements.** The goal is improve water quality, increase water quantity, restore riparian systems, remove non-invasive species, and reduce stream system fragmentation.

To learn how to get involved with this program, what are some of the criteria for applying, what type of projects are eligible, and how much funding is available, [click on this link](#) and scroll down to the LIP Watershed Funding Series.



Arundo Donax – Carrizo Cane



Flows of the Llano

Last week, we talked about the fact that the Llano River at Llano currently has twice the flow of the Llano River at Junction. How did this happen?

The graph above shows the *average daily flow* at the two gages over the last year. (Note that the maximum flows have been truncated at 200 cfs to make it easier to read the graph). Looking at the two lines, it becomes apparent that much of the rainfall in the watershed over the past year has occurred between Junction and Llano, especially the rains in October and November. The *peak stream flows* following the nice rains at the end of May were 3,600 cfs at Llano, but only 271 cfs at Junction. Only five other years have had a lower peak streamflow at Junction; 2010 was the lowest with 88 cfs.

How often does it happen that flows at Llano are

twice those of Junction? Since both gages have been in existence (1939), *monthly flows* at Llano have been at least twice those at Junction about 28% of the time. While most of the time, this happens in April and May- (due to spring rains), there have been 18 years when this has occurred in January.

Conversely, you might ask, how often are *monthly flows* at the Junction gage greater than those at Llano? The answer is about 11% of the time, mostly during July and August when spring flows support the Junction gage and the Llano gage reflects the result of greater evaporation and downstream water use.

In the News

Satellites paint a disturbing picture on Texas groundwater

The analysis of satellite data indicated that the state lost 84 million acre-feet of water during the peak of the drought, but had only recovered about 10 percent as of earlier this month, according to scientists at UT Austin's Center for Space Research.

[Read article](#)

Water issues get new home in Texas Senate

From Texas Tribune...

*The political dynamic got more interesting when Lt. Gov. **Dan Patrick** shook up the Senate committees and created an Agriculture, Water and Rural Affairs Committee, chaired by freshman Republican **Charles Perry** of Lubbock. Previously, water had been under the Senate Natural Resources Committee, which Patrick has now put in charge of economic development. **Troy Fraser**, R-Horseshoe Bay, who chairs that committee, said he expects Perry's committee to take over most groundwater regulation issues.*

[Read full article](#)

Storm waters brewing on the Llano River

Bill Neiman's article in Texas Wildlife Association magazine about water and property right conflicts resulting from the Pilot-Flying J truck stop controversy.

[Read article](#)



Greenthroat Darter

The Greenthroat Darter is a small species of fish found in the Texas Hill Country. It is typically found in shallow riffle habitats with aquatic vegetation in rivers that have a large portion of the stream flow coming from springs. Male Greenthroat darters are brightly colored during their reproductive season and have a distinct bluish green patch along their throat. The darter species is highly sensitive to changes in water quality and its presence is a good indicator of a healthy ecosystem. (Photo and text from "Common Fish of the Upper Llano Watershed", by Dr. Preston Bean, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)



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