

WATERSHED WEEK IN REVIEW



700 Springs Tour

APRIL 24, 2021

It is Official... 2021's Tour of the 700 Springs Ranch is scheduled for Saturday April 24th!

Anyone interested should meet at the Kimble County Court House at 10:00am then caravan out together. It is suggested that you bring a chair, a sack lunch, and a jacket.



Another RACA Site on the Llano to Address Problems



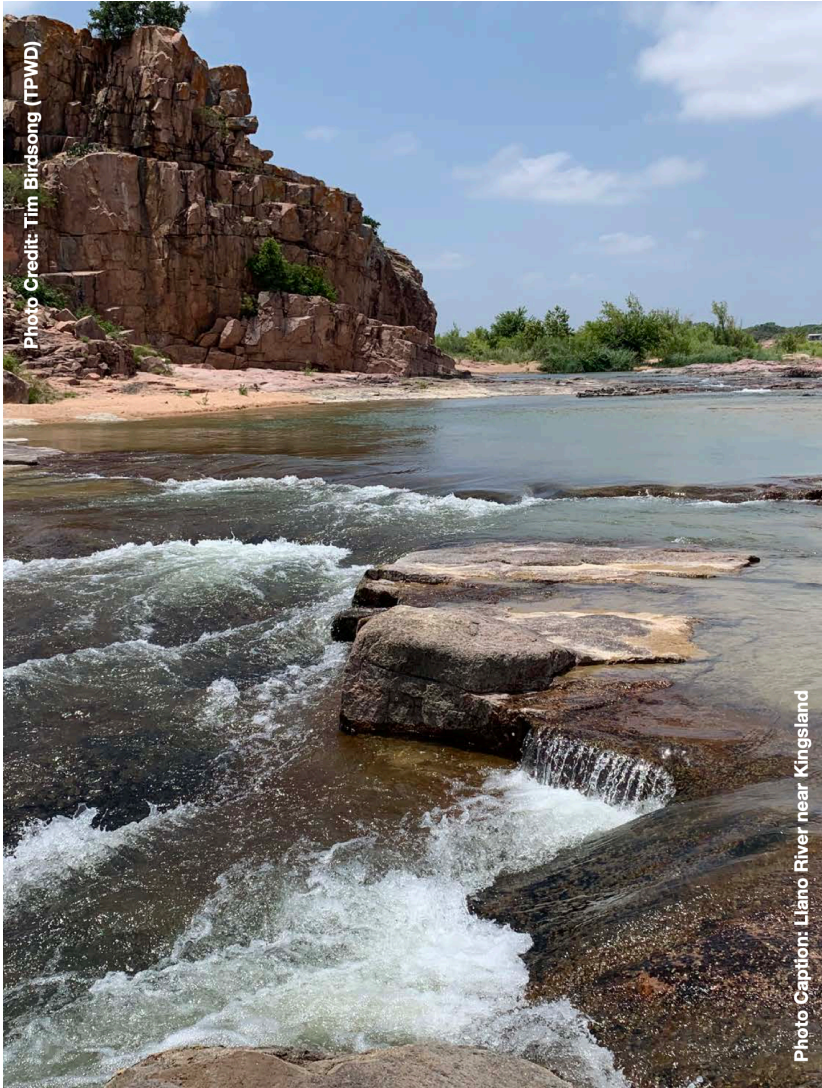
Photo: Texas Parks & Wildlife

Kingsland Slab (Ranch Road 3404) has long been a contentious, heavily-used recreation site on the Llano. Hopefully, Texas Parks and Wildlife's latest River Access and Conservation Area (RACA) site will alleviate many of the problems previously experienced.

The Kingsland Slab RV Park located on the southeast corner of the low-water crossing, offers 750 feet of river access for fishing, boating and swimming. RV camping with electric, water, and sewer is available through the campground.

This is the sixth RACA site on the Llano. The is most RACA sites on any river in the state.

Guadalupe Bass Conservation Efforts Continue on the Llano



It has been 30 years since the Guadalupe Bass, a resident of the Llano and other Texas rivers, was named the State Fish of Texas. Over this time, Texas Parks and Wildlife has partnered with numerous agencies and organizations, including the Llano River Watershed Alliance, to reduce the threats of extirpation by habitat degradation, flow alteration, and hybridization with non-native Smallmouth Bass.

To date over 2.4 million genetically pure Guadalupe Bass have been released to Texas rivers, including over 700,000 in the Llano, through the Guadalupe Bass Restoration Initiative. In addition to stocking to reduce

hybridization, the program also focuses on habitat restoration projects and watershed-scale management of riparian invasives such as elephant ear and giant cane.

Details of the Llano Guadalupe Bass Restoration Efforts can be found on page 6 of the recently released 2020 Annual Report from Texas Parks and Wildlife on the Guadalupe Bass Restoration Initiative.

Highly Successful Junction's Farmers Market Returns

Come one, come all to

THE JUNCTION AREA

FARMERS MARKET

Shop for the freshest produce, baked goods, eggs, and artisan creations the Hill Country has to offer.

Live music

Free draft beer

Free admission

Rush for the goodies on

**SATURDAY, MARCH 20TH
FROM 9AM TO 1:00PM**

Groundwater in Granite

Groundwater flow is generally well understood on the Edwards Plateau. Conceptually, rainfall that falls on the Plateau either evaporates, runs off to gullies and creeks as surface water, or finds a recharge feature such as a cave or conduit in the limestones of the Edwards Plateau and sinks into the earth to become groundwater. Once becoming groundwater, it either moves downward along the conduits, eventually appearing as springflow somewhere along a canyon wall or streambed, or it remains stored within the limestone of the aquifer for longer periods of time.

Groundwater movement in the Llano Uplift is much more difficult to understand conceptually. The rocks of the Llano Uplift generally do not have a high porosity, so water instead has to move along fractures in the rock. But as these rocks have been uplifted and eroded numerous times during the course of their one billion years existence, these fractures are numerous.

Brian Hunt, Senior Hydrogeologist at the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District, also has a cabin in Mason County. When faced with the task of finding water for his place, he began to research this complicated system.

Fortunately, his report helps us all to better understand the numerous factors which relate to well yields and, in some cases, springflow in the lower reaches of the Llano.

