



# Texas L.I.P.

LANDOWNER INCENTIVE PROGRAM



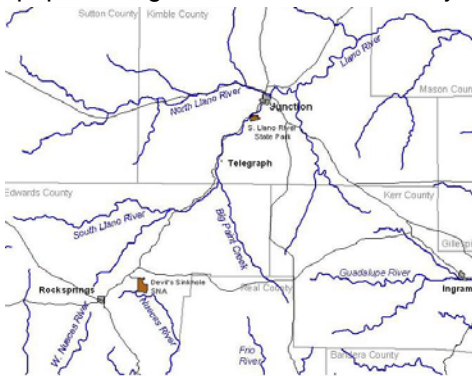
## The Texas Guadalupe Bass Restoration Initiative – LIP Funding Series



The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has begun an initiative to focus and coordinate actions to conserve rare species of black basses in the United States. Although the initiative plans to address all species of endemic black bass in the southeast, the first project will address the State Fish of Texas, the Guadalupe bass. This initiative will be coordinated by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and one of the initial focal areas will be the South Llano River.

The Guadalupe bass (*Micropterus treculii*) is a Central Texas endemic, naturally occurring only in streams draining the Edwards Plateau region (San Antonio, Guadalupe, Colorado and Brazos river systems). In 1989, it was designated the State Fish of Texas by the Texas Legislature, in recognition of the unique character of both the Guadalupe bass and its habitat. Guadalupe bass has long provided a popular sport fishery in the Edwards Plateau region of Texas.

Guadalupe bass numbers have decreased over recent decades and for that reason the Guadalupe Bass Restoration Initiative was developed to reverse the trend. The decline in abundance is due to a combination of factors, including decreased stream flow, habitat degradation and hybridization with smallmouth bass (*M. dolomieu*). Habitat loss and genetic contamination problems are pervasive throughout the range of Guadalupe bass. Stream flow declines and a decrease in habitat quality are due mainly to human cultural activities and population growth, and thus are likely to continue.



**The Texas Guadalupe Bass Restoration Initiative – LIP Funding Series** is dedicated to protecting Guadalupe bass populations and their habitat by developing networks of willing landowners interested in implementing coordinated landscape conservation actions at **watershed-scales**. Conservation actions implemented by private landowners to promote functional riparian and stream systems, and emphasize the conservation of native fish communities and supporting habitats. The networks will attempt to reduce or eliminate activities on the landscape that degrade water quality, reduce water quantity, degrade riparian systems, favor non-native species, or fragment stream systems, while encouraging a wide array of sustainable land-use activities that are compatible with aquatic resource conservation.

For the 2010/2011 fiscal year this funding is specifically available to landowners located within the north and south fork reaches of the Llano River watershed (property does not have to include a riparian area to be considered and all projects potentially benefitting the watershed are eligible – *riparian corridor enhancement; invasive species control; fence out projects; alternate water source projects; upland brush control, improved grazing practices, etc.*). This all location of Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) funding is made possible through a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Southeastern U.S. Native Black Bass Keystone Initiative as well as partnerships with Anheuser Busch. All projects approved for funding are thereby subject to the terms and conditions of that grant including.

### Important points:

- Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis and should be submitted by a TPW biologist
- Priority will be given to applications with 50:50 cost share.
- Match can be in-kind as well as monetary (labor, materials, etc.)
- This is a reimbursement program. Landowners submit invoices to TPW for reimbursement on project costs.
- Contracts are written for one year with two, one year renewals (a 3 year project period)

Interested landowners are encouraged to contact their local TPWD biologist to discuss their options.

Direct programmatic questions and application requests to Arlene Kalmbach [Arlene.kalmbach@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:Arlene.kalmbach@tpwd.state.tx.us) 512.924.6987 and watershed questions to Gary Garrett [gary.garrett@tpwd.state.tx.us](mailto:gary.garrett@tpwd.state.tx.us) 830-866-3356 (ext 212)

