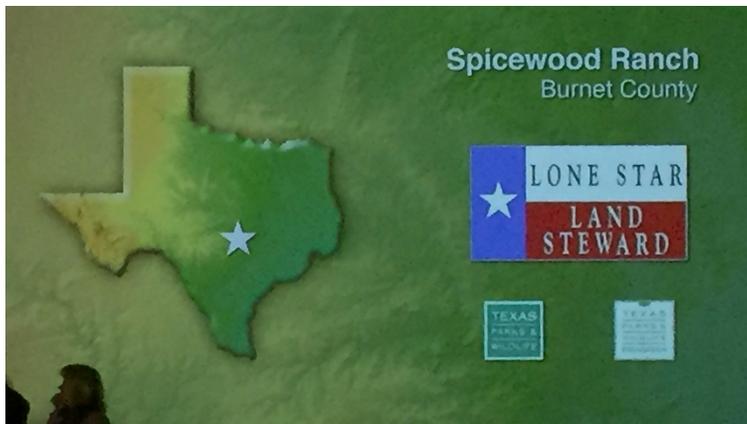


M A Y 1 8 , 2 0 1 8

Watershed Week in Review

A Publication of
Llano River Watershed Alliance and
Llano River Field Station

Lone Star Land Steward Banquet



Congratulations to Spicewood Ranch in Burnet County for being selected by Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) to receive the Lone Star Land Steward Award for the Edwards Plateau.

Four other ranches and organizations were 2018 Ecoregion Award Recipients at last night's Awards Banquet at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Austin.

As the 2013 Landowner Association Award recipient, members of the Alliance are annually invited to attend. The Texas Tech Llano River Field Station also attended as a sponsor of the event.

Save the Date
June 30, 2018

Texas Parks and Wildlife's River Access and Conservation Areas (RACA) Leased Public Access program aims to increase sustainable fishing and paddling access to river and streams by **leasing riverside properties from landowners.**

On June 30th, join the Alliance at the South Llano River RACA site (Boone's Crossing -Kimble County Road 150) for a river float (*shuttle provided*), trash pickup, FREE BBQ, and a chance to learn more about the RACA program and its opportunities.

Everyone welcome.
Details to follow.

...Lone Star Land Steward Banquet

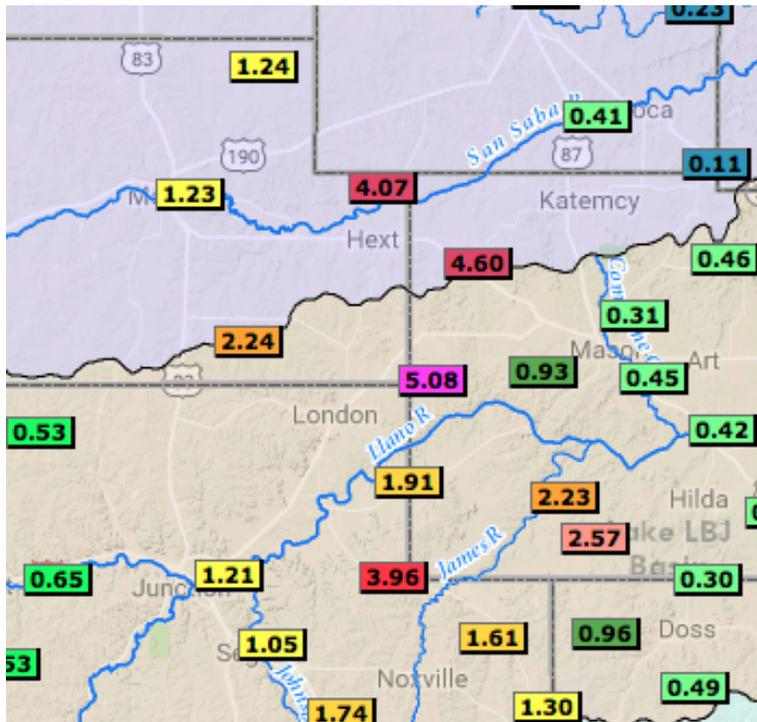
The highlight of this inspirational evening was the presentation of the evening’s highest Land Steward Award, [Sand County Foundation Leopold Conservation Award](#) to Laborcitas Creek Ranch in Falfurrias.

TPWD prepares a great short video for each award winner. The video for [Spicewood Ranch](#) contains many practices applicable across the Llano Watershed.

[Here is a link](#) to all of last night’s motivational videos. And if you have never seen [the Alliance’s 2013 video...](#)



Monday Night Showers Cover Part of the Watershed



A slow moving line of thunderstorms brought some good rains to western Mason and eastern Menard and Kimble counties Monday night. Unofficial reports from Calf Creek on the San Saba note 7.5”, resulting in a peak on the San Saba near Brady of 15,000 cfs. The Llano near Mason reached 1,500 cfs, but upstream and Junction, the peak was only 133 cfs.

Replacing Mother Nature gets Expensive

From Texas Public Radio

“We take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude,” Dr. Tom Arsuffi stressed near the beginning of the most recent Texas Water Symposium. The panel discussion, moderated by Katherine Romans, Executive Director of the Hill Country Alliance, also brought together District 53 Rep. Andy Murr and Texas A&M researcher Hughes Simpson to discuss the preservation

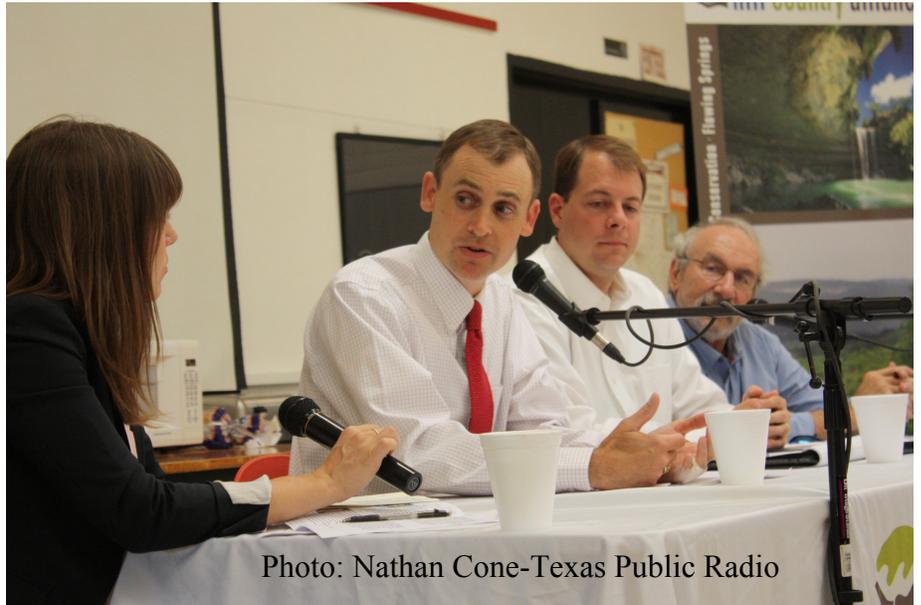


Photo: Nathan Cone-Texas Public Radio

Field Station Helps Neighbors



Photo: Karen Lopez- TTU

From Texas Tech eLearning Newsletter...

Over the weekend of April 27-29, a capacity crowd attended [South Llano River State Park's First Annual Birding Festival](#).

Birders from all across Texas and as far away as West Virginia and Oregon participated in guided bird walks and photography sessions around the 2,600-acre park.

Assisting the State Park with logistics for this event was the Texas Tech University Center at Junction Llano River Field Station (LRFS). The LRFS is a long-time collaborator with the Texas Parks and Wildlife and South Llano River State Park in efforts to educate the public about [Guadalupe Bass](#) (the State Fish of Texas), riparian restoration, wildlife management and outdoor recreation.

[Continue to article](#)

Alliance Loses a Good Friend

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Alliance supporter [Bobby Gierisch](#) last week.

Bobby attended numerous Alliance events over the years, was always delighted to share his stewardship successes and failures on the family ranch in Streeter, and was an astute instructor on the ‘workings’ of the Texas Legislature.

The Alliance offers our deepest condolences to Diane and his family.



Bobby Gierisch (left) lends a hand during a December 2016 Alliance Adopt-a-Highway clean up.

Catch the Good Times Rolling on the rivers

By Shannon Tompkins/Houston Chronicle



Photo: Shannon Tompkins/Houston Chronicle

Just upstream from a wicked little roller coaster of a rapid in the South Llano River sits a deep, long, fish-filled pool that, over more than 20 years of never-regular-enough visits, has invariably shone as a highlight on a waterway that can gift anglers with an almost unbroken string of memorable moments.

It’s the kind of place and the kinds of moments and experiences available to anglers paddling and fishing many Texas rivers during those often too-brief windows when conditions — weather, water, fish — cooperate and set the stage for wonderful things to happen. [*read on*](#)

FREE Rainwater Harvesting Workshop Coming to Junction, June 9



Rainwater Harvesting Class
June 9, 2018
9:00 to 12: noon
FREE
 Texas Tech University - Junction
 Center
 Address: 254 Red Raider Ln, Junction,
 TX 76849
 Location Phone: 325-446-2301
 Class Information Number:
 972-952-9688
 Registration:
wateruniversity.tamu.edu



[Click
Here to
Register](#)



Think “Big Tank” and help save on your customer’s water bill!!! This program covers design, construction, maintenance and benefits of a large rainwater collection system. Participants will learn how to calculate rainwater capture, design an above or below ground collection system and utilize rainwater using large tank systems for home or business applications. This program will also cover installing drip irrigation.



Life's better outside.



Like us on Facebook!
Facebook.com/SouthLlanoRiver

Family Park Programs, May 12th - 20th
South Llano River State Park
Phone: (325) 446-3994

Birding 101 - Saturday, May 12th

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Meet at the Acorn Bird Blind (down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)

How do you tell all those colorful birds apart? Join us to learn binocular and bird ID tips, and then we'll practice our newfound skills at the bird blind! If time permits, we may also take a short bird walk. Good walking shoes and drinking water are recommended. Binoculars provided, or bring your own. All ages and skill levels welcome!



Skins, Skulls, and More! - Saturday, May 12th

drop in between 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Held at Headquarters Front Porch

Stop by Park Headquarters between 1:30 and 2:30 to see and touch animal furs and skulls, and find out what a skull can tell us about how that animal survives! Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Bird Walk - Friday, May 18th

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Meet at the Fawn Trail parking lot (behind Park Headquarters)

South Llano River State Park is a great place to go birdwatching. Join us and see what we can spot! We will walk to the bird blind and see what birds come in to bathe, drink, or feed. If time permits, we may walk the trail to look for target species. Good walking shoes and drinking water are recommended. Binoculars provided, or bring your own. All ages and skill levels welcome!



Yellow-breasted Chat

"The Park After Dark" Night Hike - Saturday, May 19th

8:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Meet at the Acorn Bird Blind (down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)

Experience the park after dark! We'll walk an easy trail (~ 1 mile round-trip) in the pecan forest and look for fireflies, bats, deer, spiders, and more! Good walking shoes, bug spray, drinking water, and a flashlight are recommended. All ages welcome! No pets, please.



Japanese Fish Printing - Sunday, May 20th

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Meet at the Acorn Bird Blind (down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)

Try your hand at the ancient art of Gyotaku, a method that Japanese fishermen used to record their catch! All materials are provided. All ages welcome! Children must be accompanied by an adult.



By J.G. Wang

Park programs are open to the public and free with park entrance fee