

South Llano Watershed Alliance

WATERSHED WEEK IN REVIEW

February 13, 2015

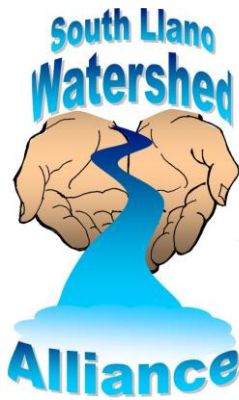


Photo by Marvin Ivy

South Llano Watershed Alliance Changes Name

The South Llano Watershed Alliance Board of Directors met the evening of February 10th to discuss changing the name of the Alliance to better represent our mission.

See next page for results



South Llano Watershed Alliance Board Meeting

In early 2009, the organizers of what would eventually become the Alliance gathered several Saturday mornings around Walter Curry's kitchen table to discuss the formation of the group. At the time, the group understood the importance of not being over-ambitious. So, while it was recognized that there are water issues across the Llano and other watersheds of the Edwards Plateau, it was decided to focus initial efforts on the South Llano.

Six years later, the South Llano Watershed Alliance is fortunate to have outgrown its name. The Alliance now works on issues on the North Llano and main stem of the Llano. Consequently, at last Thursday's Board meeting, it was unanimously decided to change the name of the organization to **Llano River Watershed Alliance**.

This name change will be a gradual one. Such a change must be ok'd with the Secretary of State first. The name change must also be worked into bylaws, websites, Facebook page, logos, and IRS records.

Stay tuned for more information about upcoming events to celebrate our growth. In the meantime, we continue to welcome new and returning members and business sponsors. Memberships are the primary revenue source for the all-volunteer Alliance.

[Click here to for Membership Application](#)

Upcoming Events

Next Board Meeting

March 10th at Hacienda Maria-Native American Seed. 5:30pm

Oasis Fire Workshop

April 18th. Details soon

700 Springs Tour

April 25th.

[Details here](#)

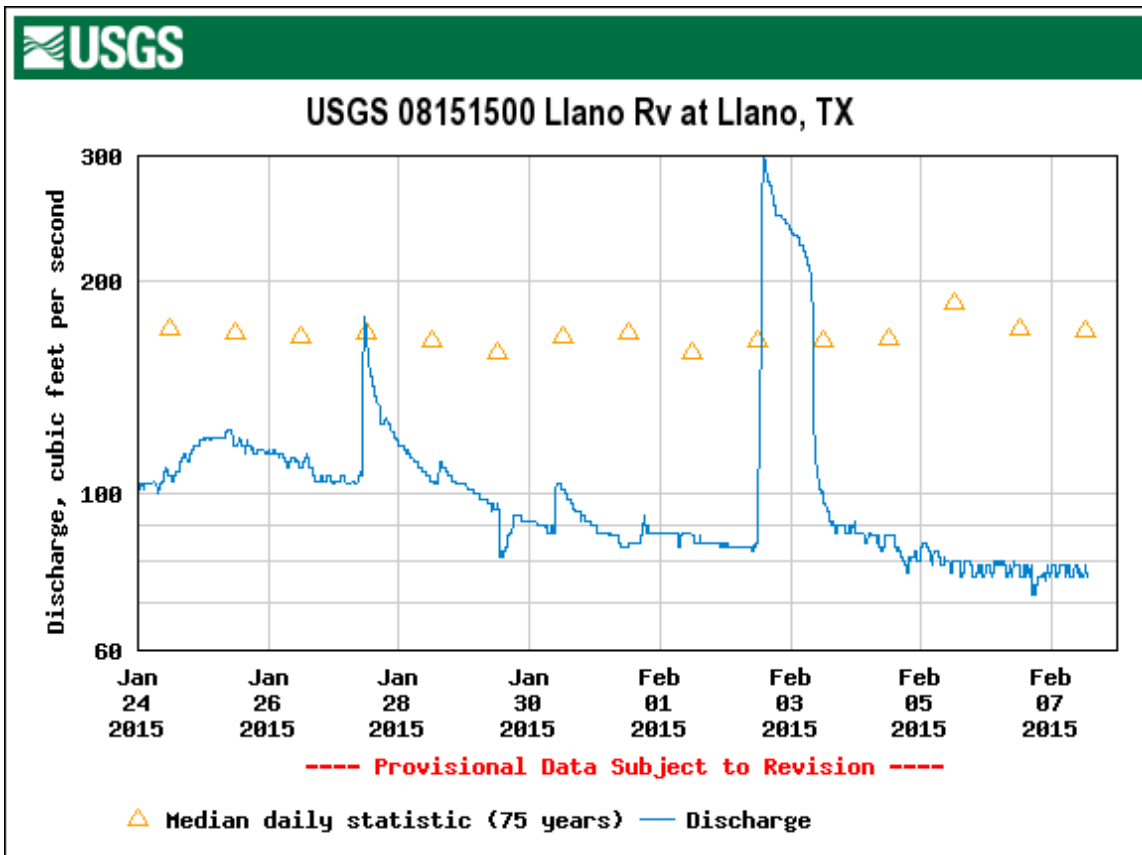
Events of Interest

Land Stewardship Conference

April 23-24

Kerrville

[details](#)



Flows of the Llano

Last week newsletter contained an article discussing the reasons why the Llano River in Llano is flowing twice the volume that it is in Junction. Last week, this discrepancy increased, but it wasn't because of more rain between Junction and Llano.

The City of Llano, in an effort to increase the storage capacity of its water supply reservoir, is dredging the bed of the reservoir.

Projects that restore or maintain the storage capacity of existing public water supplies are exempt from [Texas Parks and Wildlife Permits](#) for removing marl, sand, gravel, shell or mudshell from public waterways.

In preparation for the dredging, [City crews opened the floodgate on dam](#) to begin dredging the reservoir.

Here is a [video from photographer Tom Suarez](#) showing the reservoir after it was lowered. In the video you can see the City of Llano's water treatment facility next to the dam on the right bank of the river.

Between the dam and the new bridge, you can see the pilings of the old bridge that was [washed away in the flood of 1935](#). By the way, the peak discharge of that flood was 380,000 cfs. For comparison, the flood of 1997 was 260,000, the second largest recorded flood on the Llano.

Who knows when we will get the next flood, but when it occurs, it will likely bring a new supply of sediment into Llano's reservoir.

In the News

TWDB finds early warning indicators for drought

Certain climatic conditions in the spring, such as atmospheric pressure and soil moisture, can be used to better predict drought over Texas in the summer...If we can predict summer drought in April, or as early as January, water providers have more time to prepare”.

[Learn more](#)

Landowners along Colorado near Goldthwaite fight proposed dam on river

An application has been filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to amend a water right to permit construction of a dam on the Colorado River above Lake Buchanan. Water lost to evaporation from this proposed dam is estimated by TCEQ to be 1,142 acre-feet per year-that’s 372 million gallons per year.

[Learn more](#)

New gas pipeline slated for Mason County

Some Mason County landowners recently learned of a proposed gas pipeline through the Streeter area, up into Camp Air and over toward Voca to service the sand mines in the area. Mason County News editor Gerry Gamel provided an [editorial on the matter](#).

[Pipeline route map](#)

[Click here](#) for some landowner tools for dealing with the condemnation process



Rio Grande Cichlid

The Rio Grande Cichlid, commonly called the Texas Cichlid, is the only cichlid species native to Texas. It is a common aquarium fish. In adults, the back half of the body is typically very dark while the forward half of the body is lighter in color. The Rio Grande Cichlid does well in warmer waters and is also tolerant of pollution and habitat changes. When flows are very low and rivers are reduced to a series of warm pools, it is common to find large schools of Rio Grande Cichlids as one of the few remaining species. (Photo and text from “Common Fish of the Upper Llano Watershed”, by Dr. Preston Bean, Texas Parks and



[Grand Opening February 14, 2015](#)

The new Science Mill in Johnson City will hold its Grand Opening tomorrow.