

WATERSHED
WEEK IN
REVIEW -



HALLOWEEN
HOME OF THE
QUACALUPE
BASS

Mystery Location Game

Round 12 Answer

Last week we asked how the the US Geological Survey recorded the highest flood on Llano in 1935 when the gage wasn't installed to 1939.

Two answers.

Following floods, USGS uses a technique known as indirect measurements to determine flood discharge. This technique uses flood-water elevations based on debris lines and channel geometry. This technique was used to determine the flood stage and flow for the 1935 flood. The 2nd answer relates to last week's coordinates. USGS installed a stream gage in 1923 just up from Schneider's Crossing. It operated until 1939.

Don't forget to let your voice be heard regarding State Park funding

Back in 1993, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 706 that authorized the legislature to dedicate revenue from the 6.25% sales tax on sporting goods to Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) and the Texas Historical Commission (THC). **Since 1993, nearly \$2.5 billion in revenues have been collected, but only 40% of that amount has been allocated to TPWD and THC.** The remainder has gone to the General Fund of the State to be used for other purposes. Our state parks now suffer from more than \$800 in deferred maintenance.

Proposition 5 on the November ballot would change that. *"The constitutional amendment dedicating the revenue received from the existing state sales and use taxes that are imposed on sporting goods to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas Historical Commission to protect Texas' natural areas, water quality, and*

*history by acquiring, managing, and improving state and local parks and historic sites **while not increasing the rate of the state sales and use taxes.***

As we mentioned in last week's newsletter, the Alliance, as a non-profit entity, is prohibited from lobbying, but we are permitted to provide factual information. Here are just the facts, ma'am:

- Proposition 5 requires no new taxes or fees.
- The Texas House voted 143-1 and the Texas Senate 30-1 to refer this measure to the voters.
- Should the State need to tap some of these funds in the future for other purposes, they may reduce the allocation amount up to 50% with a 2/3 vote in each chamber.
- State Parks in 2018 generated an estimated \$891 million in sales to the local economy and accounted for 6,800 jobs.
- South Llano River State Park generated nearly \$750,000 for the local economy and 16 jobs.
- **Early voting is October 21- November 1.**
- Election Day is November 5.

South Llano River State Park Managed Game Hunt Schedule:

*From 5 p.m. on Oct. 28 until 2 p.m. on Oct. 31, 2019.

*From 5 p.m. on Nov. 3 until 2 p.m. on Nov. 7, 2019.

*From 5 p.m. on Nov. 24 until 2 p.m. on Nov. 27, 2019.

*From 5 p.m. on Dec. 2 until 2 p.m. on Dec. 5, 2019.

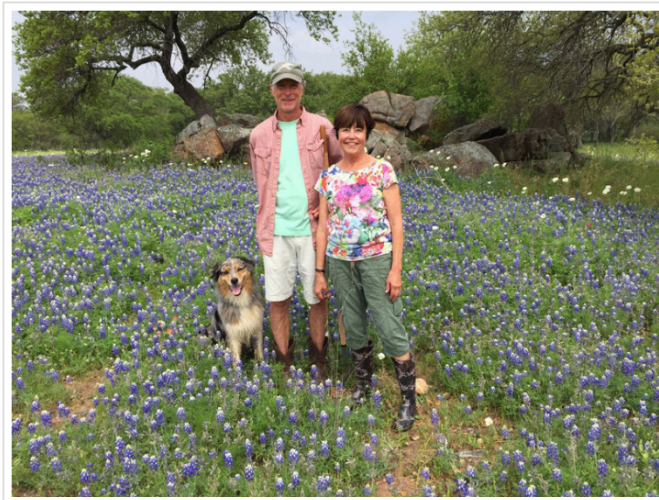
*From 5 p.m. on Dec. 16 until 2 p.m. on Dec. 19, 2019.

*From 5 p.m. on Jan. 6 until 2 p.m. on Jan. 9, 2020.

*From 5 p.m. Jan. 13 until 2 p.m. on Jan. 16, 2020.

The park will be closed during these periods in order to manage game and reduce browsing pressure in watershed, especially in the riparian zone.

Llano Watershed Landowner Program Featured



Jack and Jill Nokes take the family dog on a hike through trails they developed on their 60 acres of land in southwest Llano County. The Nokes are clearing brush and seeding once-depleted landscape to help bring it back to its original Hill Country splendor. Courtesy photo

The Picayune newspaper in Marble Falls recently featured an article regarding the Resource Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). The Alliance has partnered with other conservation organizations across Central Texas, including Hill Country Conservancy, to bring more than \$5 million in additional Farm Bill money to the region through the Program. One correction to the article is that the project area does not include Sandy Creek, which lies just outside the Llano watershed.

New Water Quality Monitors

A hearty band of new citizen scientist gathered in Castell last Friday to learn how to monitor water quality. More trainings to come.



Blue Mountain Peak Ranch Tour



Those that missed the tour of Blue Mountain Peak ranch missed out on great hospitality, visiting restored springs, enjoying sweeping vistas, meeting new friends, and excellent BBQ. Look for new tours in the spring.



Newsletter taking a Time Out

Watershed Week in Review will be taking a vacation break next week. Look for the next newsletter on November 15th.