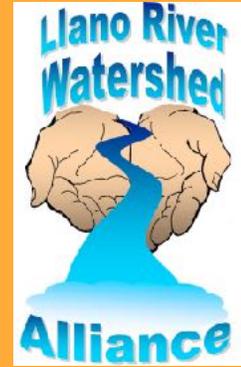


# WATERSHED WEEK IN REVIEW



## Mystery Location Game

### Round 12 Coordinates

The last issue of the newsletter talked about two of the gages on the Llano: Llano R @ Llano and Llano R near Castell. The gage below Llano is on private property. But there is a chance to see the other one. More info on page 3



*Photo of Llano R @ Llano by Thomas Pinckney.*

This week's coordinates

[30.503866, -99.734086](#)

## Winterfish Returns December 7 - Mason



The Llano River Watershed Alliance is a sponsor of WinterFisch this year. Bring the family out to James River Crossing (RR 2389) southwest of Mason on December 7 and try your luck. While these fish are non-native, their release by TPWD provides a wonderful opportunity for young and old to appreciate the river.

**More details page 2.**

## More on Winterfish...

**December 7, from 1-5pm**, will be the annual WinterFisch event at the James River Crossing in Mason County. Thanks to Tony Plutino and other local sponsors, this is the 3rd year of an event that provides a great chance for everyone to experience fishing and learn about the River. This year, there is also an opportunity to get your hands dirty. But more about that shortly.

Every winter, Texas Parks and Wildlife releases hatchery-reared 9-12 inch rainbow trout in more than 100 locations across the state, including South Llano River State Park, Castell, and James River Crossing. Most fish are caught within a few weeks after stocking. These non-native cold-water fish do not survive the warmer waters in summer and have been shown to have minimal impact on the ecosystem.

This year, thanks to generous donations from Texas River Protection Association and Fly Fishers International, and in partnership with Winterfish, TPWD, Llano River Region Adventures and the Alliance, volunteers will have the opportunity help restore stream-side habitat at two locations in Mason County: the Jamie Hemphill Nature Trail at Fort Mason Park and the island at James River Crossing. The stream side (or riparian) area along Comanche Creek by the nature trail is in pretty good shape, but needs some attention to restore bare areas and control erosion. The island at James River Crossing was severely altered by the floods in October of last year and will benefit from some additional plantings that expedite aquatic habitat recovery.

**Restoration activities will begin at 10am-noon at Fort Mason Park and resume from 2-3pm at James River Crossing.** Riparian experts will be available at both locations to explain riparian processes, aquatic habitat, and flood recovery.



Photo : Winterfish

## Youth Range Workshop

Each year the Llano River Watershed Alliance partners with the Upper Llanos Soil and Water Conservation Board to provide scholarships to students to attend the Youth Range Workshop at the Llano River Field Station in Junction.



The Texas NRCS recently highlighted this great event.

*“The Texas Section Society for Range Management (TSSRM) was organized in 1949, and they quickly recognized the need to provide an opportunity for youth to learn about rangeland ecology and natural resource management. The first camp was held in 1955, and over the past 65 years, more than 2,000 students have completed the program, becoming future leaders in the stewardship of our Texas Rangelands.”*

*-Dandy Kothmann, NRCS District Conservationist and TSSRM President*

## Llano County Gaging Stations



*A benchmark is all that remains of the USGS gaging station near Schneider Slab. The station was discontinued in 1939. It may be observed where the RACA site is currently located.*



*The cableway across the Llano River at the gaging station downstream of the bridge is still used from time to time to measure flood flows. The scientist that frequently use these cableways don't often get acknowledged for their bravery. Photo left: Thomas Pincknev. Right: USGS.*

## City of Austin Report looks at Flooding Impacts

The City of Austin has released a document examining the City's response to the October 2018 floods. City residents were forced to boil their drinking water after sediment overwhelmed the filtration plants. The report notes that floodwaters had significant amount of silt, dirt and debris as a result of the extremely dry summer conditions. The reality is that the large volume of sediment was the result of 14 years of dry conditions with no significant rises. Read the [KUT article](#) with links to the COA report.



Flooding last fall overwhelmed the city's water treatment plants and forced the city to order residents to boil their water.

JORGE SANHUEZA-LYON / KUT



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### South Llano River State Park Programs for November 2019

**Pre-K in the Park** – Join a Ranger and have fun at a program designed for the little ones (ages 3-5) in our lives. This program will explore “The Lorax” by Dr. Seuss and we will also learn about the trees around us. Meet at the **Acord Blind**. **Friday, November 15, 2019 – 10am**

**Atl What? Atl Who? Atlat!** – Come practice your prehistoric hunting skills. Find out how hard it is to catch dinner. Meet at the **Main Day Use parking lot** (the big lot). **Saturday, November 16, 2019 – 1:30pm**

**Night Hike!** -Come experience the park after the sun sets! Meet at the **Acorn Blind**. Trail will be about a mile and half round-trip. Bring: flashlight or headlamp (red if you got one), good walking shoes, bug spray, and water. **Saturday, November 16, 2019 – 6:00 pm**

**“When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world.”**

**- John Muir**