

AUGUST 23RD, 2015

# Watershed Week in Review

Llano River Watershed Alliance

## Save the Date!

The Llano River Watershed Alliance Fall Outing will take place on Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm. Meet at South Llano River State Park for an informative paddle down to Flat Rock Crossing in Junction.

Researchers on the trip will provide information on the latest efforts to preserve and restore the South Llano, highlighting riverbank and riparian rehabilitation efforts, invasive species removal, and Guadalupe Bass restoration.

Participants will be responsible for providing their own equipment and shuttle.

Stay tuned for more info...

## JUNCTION

*The Hill Country. The Llano river is a clear-water stream. Fishing and camping spots numerous. The wild, rugged natural formations are a constant pleasure to the visitor. Sheep and goat ranches.*

*Pop. 1269 Elevation 2100 ft. Two banks.*

*OST Officials—Coke R. Stevenson, Vice President.*

*Tourist Camp—In pecan grove on Llano river, maintained by the community. Nicely equipped.*

### FIRST NATIONAL BANK

C. R. Stevenson, Pres. OST Vice Pres. Correspondence invited.

### FRITZ HOTEL Reasonable Rates

Best beds and meals on the Trail. Good fishing resort.

### JUNCTION STATE BANK

W. P. Riley, Pres. Investors' correspondence solicited. Ask for information.

### HANKINS DRUG CO Jno. M. Hankins

Magazines, newspapers, cigars and tobaccos. Candies, cold fountain service.

### CITY CAFE Fresh Bakery Goods Daily

Good meals at all hours. Tourists' rest and wash room.

(Continued on next page)

Historian Frederica Wyatt's newsletter last week called our attention to a [website regarding](#) the upcoming centennial of the Old Spanish Trail. The road ran from St. Augustine, Florida to San Diego, California, passing through Junction. Ideas for the road were conceived in 1915, but due to World War I, the road did not become a reality until the 1920s.

Above is part of the 1923 service map and travel log. Note the OST official and the 'clear-water stream'.

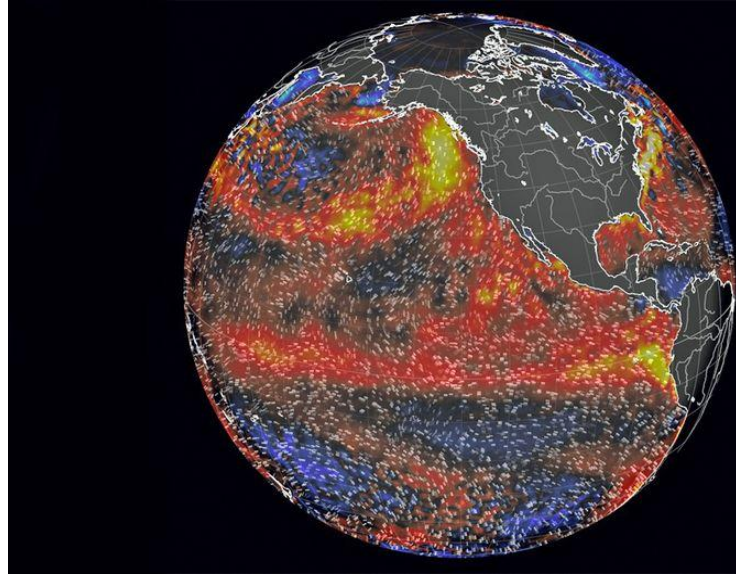
## In the News

### *'Godzilla' El Niño headed our way this winter?*

The strengthening El Niño in the Pacific Ocean has the potential to become one of the most powerful on record as warming ocean waters surge toward the Americas, setting up a pattern that could bring once-in-a-generation storms this winter to drought-parched California and flash floods to Texas.

"This definitely has the potential of being the Godzilla El Niño," said Bill Patzert, a climatologist with NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in La Cañada Flintridge.

[Read more...and what it means?](#)



### *American Lawn is now the largest single 'crop' in the U.S.*

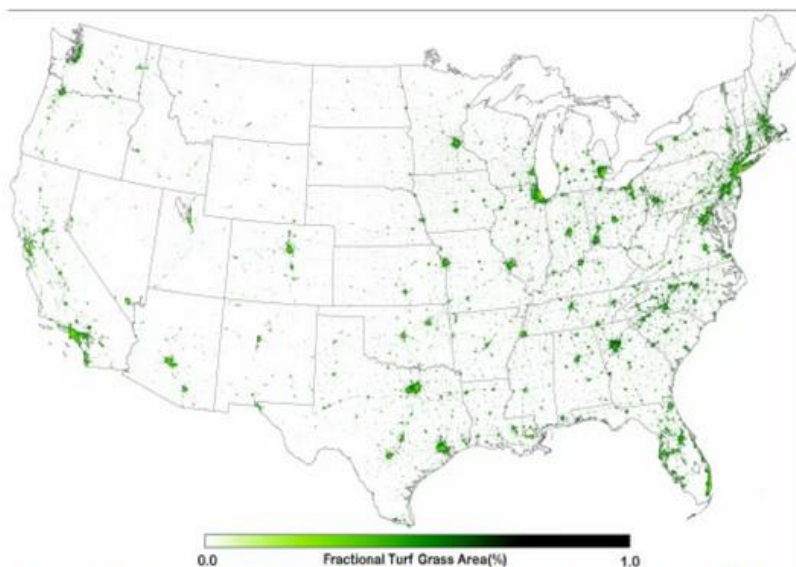


Figure 1. Distribution of the fractional turf grass area (%) in the conterminous U.S.

**American's lawns now cover an area 3x larger than any irrigated crop in the U.S.**

According to a new study from NASA, there is now an estimated total of 63,000 square miles of lawn in American.

[Click here to read article](#)

Editors Note: The article notes that 63,000 square miles is about the size of Texas. Actual size of Texas is 268,820 square miles.

# Landowner Incentives in the Llano Watershed



***Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has funding through the Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) to do restoration projects in the Llano watershed. This cost-sharing program targets both riparian and upland habitats.***

The LIP Watershed Funding is dedicated to conservation actions that positively impact the Llano & James River Watersheds.

**Property does not have to include a riparian area to be considered. Many forms of conservation land stewardship will qualify, including upland habitat enhancements.** The goal is improve water quality, increase water quantity, restore riparian systems, remove non-invasive species, and reduce stream system fragmentation.

To learn how to get involved with this program, what are some of the criteria for applying, what type of projects are eligible, and how much funding is available, [click on this link](#) and scroll down to the LIP Watershed Funding Series.

## ***What's it like participating in the LIP Program?***

Are you interested in participating in the LIP program, but unsure of what to expect?

LIP Participant Jill Nokes of Llano County has been participating in the Program since 2014. [She shares, through her blog](#), some of the techniques and management strategies she has found to be most successful in restoring her land. She also shares tips for setting land stewardship goals and where to find help.

Most importantly, she shares the lessons learned – what has worked, what hasn't – that may save the rest of us a lot of time and frustration in the future.

## Landowner Incentive Program Facts

### Active Restoration

Almost 7,000 acres in the Llano watershed have active restoration programs currently in place

### River Miles Restored

60 miles of river habitat has been restored along the North and South Llano, Llano and James Rivers.

### Technical Guidance

Technical guidance regarding management practices that benefit aquatic resources has been provided to landowners who manage more than 65,000 acres in the watershed

### Funding

LIP is a cost-share reimbursement program. Depending on the funding series, TPWD will contribute between 50-75% of a total project cost.



# Upcoming Events



## A Vision for the Hill Country Sept 24<sup>th</sup> - Fredericksburg

### Hill Country Alliance's Annual Leadership Summit Speakers include:

- State Representative Andy Murr*
- Com Mims - Nueces River Authority*
- Dr. Robert Mace – Texas Water Development Board*
- Roel Lopez – Texas A&M Institute Renewable Natural Resources*
- Bob Yaro – Visiting Professor, University of Texas*

[...more info](#)

### 25th Anniversary Celebration



**Eckert James River Bat Cave Preserve**  
A Nature Conservancy Property

**MONDAY, AUGUST 24TH**

**6:00 - 8:30 pm**

**M. Bevan Eckert Memorial Library**

**SPEAKER**

**Nyta Brown**

**TPWD Ranger, Old Tunnel Wildlife Management Area**

**REFRESHMENTS - BAT GAMES - BAT GOODIES**

**Contact: Vicki Ritter - 325-347-5970**

## *Eckert Bat Cave Celebrates 25 years Monday night in Mason*

*The Eckert James River Bat Cave 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Presentation will be this Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 8:30 at the Eckert Memorial Library in Mason.*

*The speaker program runs from 6:00-7:15 followed by mingling, cake, coffee, and fun and games from 7:15-8:30pm*

*Note: Some websites have noted that this event is to take place at the Bat Cave. This is not correct.*