

# Public Meeting Announcement

## Texas Tech University Research Project

Ecology and management of free-ranging axis deer and their effects on riparian habitats of the Upper Llano River Watershed



The North and South Llano rivers are used extensively for recreation and as a municipal water supply due to their high quality and reliable flows while also supporting numerous wildlife and plant species. Consequently, the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan was developed to maintain and protect the quality of the rivers and surrounding habitats.

Overabundant axis deer are likely contributing to degradation of water quality and riparian habitats by overgrazing and trampling resulting in erosion into the rivers. Yet, the precise effect of axis deer on riparian habitats, as well as other factors of their ecology remains unknown. A new project being developed and initiated by researchers from Texas Tech University seeks to fill in those knowledge gaps.

To facilitate this work and to provide an opportunity for public input a **public meeting** will be held at the Texas Tech University Center at Junction on Thursday, April 6th at 6:00 PM.

Topics to be covered include:

- Introductions of the research team
- An overview of the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan
- Research objectives, methods, and potential implications
- Opportunities for partnerships and collaboration between researchers, wildlife professionals, and the public

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