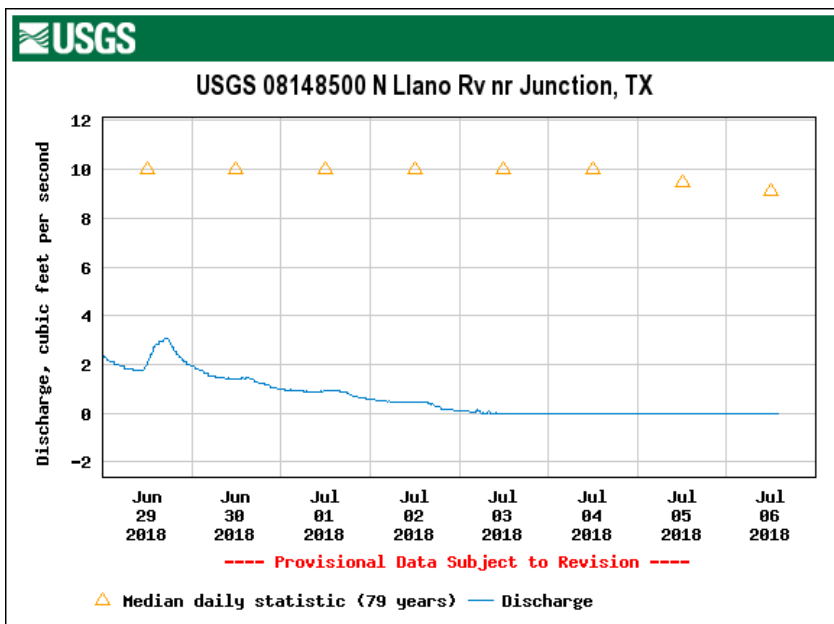


J U L Y 6 , 2 0 1 8

# Watershed Week in Review

A Publication of  
Llano River Watershed Alliance and  
Llano River Field Station

## North Llano Ceases to Flow



The North Llano River above Junction ceased flowing on Tuesday (July 3) this week. This is the first time since 2014 flows have reached 0 cubic feet per second (cfs) at the gage. During the drought at the beginning of this decade, the North Llano ceased flowing every summer from 2011-2014.

It is not unusual to see 0 cfs at this gage. The portion of the Edwards-Trinity Aquifer that feeds the springs of the North Llano is not as thick, and consequently doesn't store as much water, as the portion of the aquifer that feeds the South Llano.

According to the National Weather Service, **Junction has 6.53 inches of rainfall this year, 7.11 inches below normal.**

## RACA River Float and Clean Up

Hearty volunteers from as far away as San Saba and San Marcos made short work of the trash between the First/Lower Crossing of US 377 and Boone's Crossing at KC 150.



Alliance Board member, J.D. Kidwell, pictured with his wife Kim Paxson, collected the most trash along the way, but deferred the Texas Parks Pass prize to the next volunteer.

See Page 2

# RACA River Float and Clean Up



*Volunteers install and level sign kiosk under the watchful supervision of Board Member Art Mudge*



*The day's haul from the South Llano and Boone's Crossing*

**A special thank you to South Llano River State Park for help installing the kiosk! Saved everyone a lot of digging.**



*Mission Accomplished – well almost. Kiosk roof to be added once concrete sets.*



**Thanks to Alliance Board member Nol Dear for sharing her lovely (and cool) spot along the South Llano**

*Following delicious Lum's BBQ, John Botros from TPWD answers landowner questions about the River Access and Conservation Area (RACA) Program.*

**DO YOU OWN PROPERTY ALONG THE RIVER?  
WOULD YOU LIKE TO EARN SOME EXTRA MONTHLY INCOME?  
Check out the RACA link on our website.  
AND...Stay tuned for a RACA Event in Castell later this summer.**

## City of Llano and Junction move Deeper into Drought Plans

As the flows of the Llano River continue to diminish, the two communities that rely on the River for their water supply, moved into the next phase of their Drought Contingency Plans.

Junction has implemented Stage 3 of its plan prohibiting outdoor irrigation except between 6 and 11 AM and 6-11 PM on Monday and Friday for even-numbered addresses and Tuesday and Saturdays for odd-numbered addresses.



Llano is currently at Stage 2 but may have to rapidly jump to Stage 5. The Llano City Council is meeting next Monday to make amendments to the existing Drought Contingency Plan

## Sandy Creek Sand Dredging Issue Continues

*Llano News*  
By Jodi Lehman

As the news of a planned sand dredging and crushing operation along Sandy Creek has spread, controversy about this commercial project has grown.

Property owners upstream and downstream from the proposed site on the Nash Ranch are voicing environmental, lifestyle and safety concerns about allowing Collier Materials, Inc. to refine tons of sand and gravel from Sandy Creek with massive amounts of water drawn from the already sensitive underground watershed.



Fermin Ortiz raises cattle upstream from the Nash Ranch...[continue reading](#)



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Facebook.com/SouthLlanoRiver

## Family Park Programs, June 30 – July 8

### South Llano River State Park

Phone: (325) 446-3994



#### River Seining – Saturday, June 30th, 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Meet at the river crossing parking lot.

(Head toward the park exit. Parking lot is on the right before the bridge.) What kind of fish live in the river? Come seining with us and find out! Water shoes, sun protection, and drinking water are recommended – and be prepared to get wet! Because this activity takes place in the river, adults age 17 and older must possess a valid fishing license to use the sein net. All ages welcome!

#### Skins, Skulls, and More! - Saturday, June 30th, Drop by 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm



Held at the Park Headquarters porch.

Stop by park headquarters between 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm to see and touch animal furs and skulls, and find out what a skull can tell us about how an animal lives! All ages welcome.

#### The Park After Dark – Saturday, June 30th, 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Meet at the Acorn Blind (down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)



Experience the park after dark! We'll learn how animals use their senses and we will walk an easy trail as we look for fireflies, bats, deer, spiders, and more! Good walking shoes, bug spray, drinking water, and a flashlight are recommended. All ages welcome! No pets, please.

#### Japanese Fish Printing – Sunday, July 1st, 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Meet at the Acorn Bird Blind (down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)

Try your hand at the ancient art of Gyotaku, a method that Japanese fishermen used to record their catch! All materials are provided. All ages welcome! Children must be accompanied by an adult.



By J.G.

#### Animal Tracks – Sunday, July 1st – Drop by 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm



Held at the Park Headquarters porch

Stop by park headquarters between 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm to make tracks and learn how to identify the tracks of common park wildlife. All ages welcome.

#### 3rd Annual 4th of July Campground Parade – Wed., July 4th, 9:00 am - 10:30 am

Meet at the Overflow parking lot (across from campsites 18 and 20)



Bring your bike, your kids in a wagon or stroller, or your friendly dog on a leash, and join us for a patriotic parade around the 1-mile campground loop! Decorating will begin at 9:00 am. We will have some decorations available, or bring your own. Parade starts from Overflow parking lot at 10:00 am.

#### Under the Microscope – Thursday, July 5th, Drop by 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Held at the Park Headquarters porch

Stop by park headquarters between 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm to see what's under the microscope. Whether it's Buck Lake water, a butterfly wing, a feather, or something quite different, it will be exciting!



#### Skins, Skulls, and More! - Friday, July 6th, Drop by 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Held at the Park Headquarters porch

Stop by park headquarters between 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm to see and touch animal furs and skulls, and find out what a skull can tell us about how an animal lives! All ages welcome.



#### Buck Lake Birds, Butterflies, Bugs & More – Saturday, July 7th, 9:00 am - 10:00 am

Meet at the Acorn Blind (Down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)

On this easy morning stroll, we'll walk past beautiful Buck Lake, named for the family who donated the land for the state park. We'll look for birds, butterflies, turtles, frogs, insects, lizards and more! There is one steep but short hill. The rest of the dirt path is fairly level. Good walking shoes and drinking water are recommended, and dress for the weather! All ages welcome.



#### River Bugs! - Saturday, July 7th, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Meet at the 2nd Day Use parking lot (Take the road across from Headquarters, follow to the end. Look for the water bug pole)



Come find out what kinds of insects live in the river! We will show you how to use a dip net and magnifying glass to discover cool aquatic insects! Sun protection and drinking water are recommended. Wear clothes you can get wet! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

#### Backyard Bass – Sunday, July 8, 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Meet by the floating dock at Buck Lake (down the path from the restrooms, between campsites 39 and 41)



Rods and reels provided. Come practice casting and reeling in your catch! No bait needed, since we will not catch real fish. Don't know how to fish? This fun game will help you learn the basics! All ages welcome.

*Park programs are open to the public and free with park entrance fee*

# Land Stewardship 101

## Becoming Good Stewards of the Land

How long has it been since you had an opportunity for an Outdoors Experience in a beautiful setting, while earning Professional CEU's? Well that's too long!

**JOIN US FOR AN OUTDOOR LEARNING EXPERIENCE ON THE BEAUTIFUL LLANO RIVER!**



**What is it?** –An interdisciplinary environmental educational experience taught by education professionals and natural resource specialists. You will sharpen your skills and teaching methods to engage students in science, nature, and conservation.

**Who Should Attend?** – Anyone who is interested in learning more about fostering a relationship between our youth and the natural world– teachers, scout leaders, parents, naturalists, park rangers, zoo educators, youth group leaders, and private citizens.

**Date:** July 17-19, 2018

**Cost:** \$195.00

**(Includes 2 nights lodging, 6 meals, and curriculum materials)**

**16 Hours of Professional Continuing Education Units**

**Certification in Leopold Education Program curriculum**

For more information, contact Christine Moseley at [Christine.moseley@utsa.edu](mailto:Christine.moseley@utsa.edu)

## Texas Tech University Center in Junction, TX

<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/junction/>

Topics	Activities	Sponsors
Soils	Fishing	Texas Tech University -Junction
Water quality	Kayaking	McCulloch SWCD
Land ethics	Swimming	Upper Llanos SWCD
Biodiversity	Birding	Menard SWCD
Plant ID	Nature Walks	
Habitat management	Journaling	

**Scholarships may be available through local Soil and Water Conservation Districts**

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE!

[Click here for more info...](#)