



Partners:

Texas Tech University at Junction
Llano River Field Station

Texas Water Resources Institute
Llano River Watershed Alliance

Texas Parks and Wildlife
Department

Texas State Soil and Water
Conservation Board

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For more information:
llanoriver.org

Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan

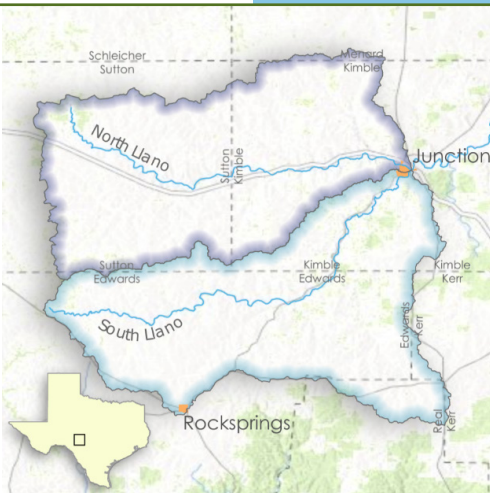
A Healthy Watershed Approach



A TRUE GEM OF THE HILL COUNTRY

The Upper Llano River, which includes the North and South Llano rivers, is a true gem of the Texas Hill Country. Due to the pristine nature and relatively constant flow of its springs, the Upper Llano is currently a healthy ecosystem supporting a variety of aquatic and terrestrial communities and numerous recreational opportunities.

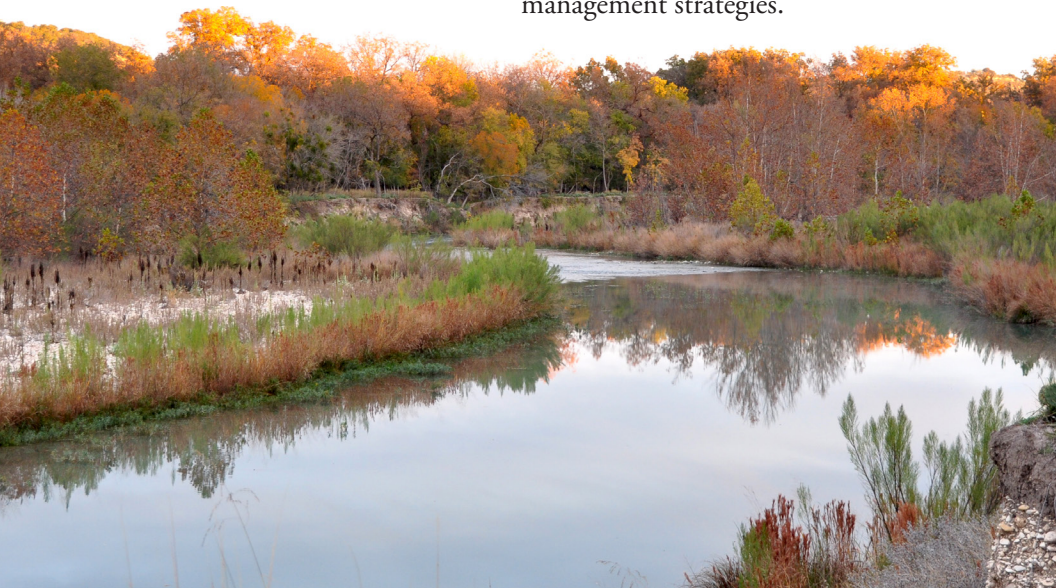
Changes in spring flows, land fragmentation, loss of riparian habitat, spread of invasive species and encroachment of juniper species on upland habitats, however, threaten this system and are impacting stream health, water quality and flows.



PROACTIVE AND VOLUNTARY ACTIONS

Potential issues in the Upper Llano were identified through stakeholder input, local project partner experience, modeling and water quality monitoring during the development of the watershed protection plan.

To proactively address the threats to the Upper Llano, local stakeholders developed a holistic set of strategies to restore and/or protect the quantity and quality of surface water and groundwater resources through voluntary, non-regulatory watershed management strategies.



PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan is on a 10-year timeframe, focusing on eight different management measures. Each measure has annual implementation milestones, expected funding needs and identified organizations that will guide and carry out each of the plan's recommended actions.



RECOMMENDED VOLUNTARY ACTIONS

- Septic Systems: Repair and replace 100 systems
- Feral Hogs: Decrease the feral hog population by 66% (or 26,000)
- Wildlife and Exotics: Increase the number of ranches with wildlife management plans by at least two annually, particularly in riparian areas
- Livestock: Enroll > 250,000 acres of ranchlands in conservation plans
- Brush Control: Treat > 144,000 acres of brush to improve range conditions and increase water supply
- Streambank Restoration: Begin restoration on 14 miles of areas lacking a riparian buffer and begin to improve vegetation conditions along 10% of the riparian zone
- Stormwater Runoff: Identify and implement best management practices to address urban runoff
- Water Conservation: Improve water use efficiency by 10%

