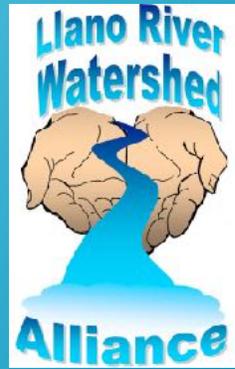


# WATERSHED WEEK IN REVIEW

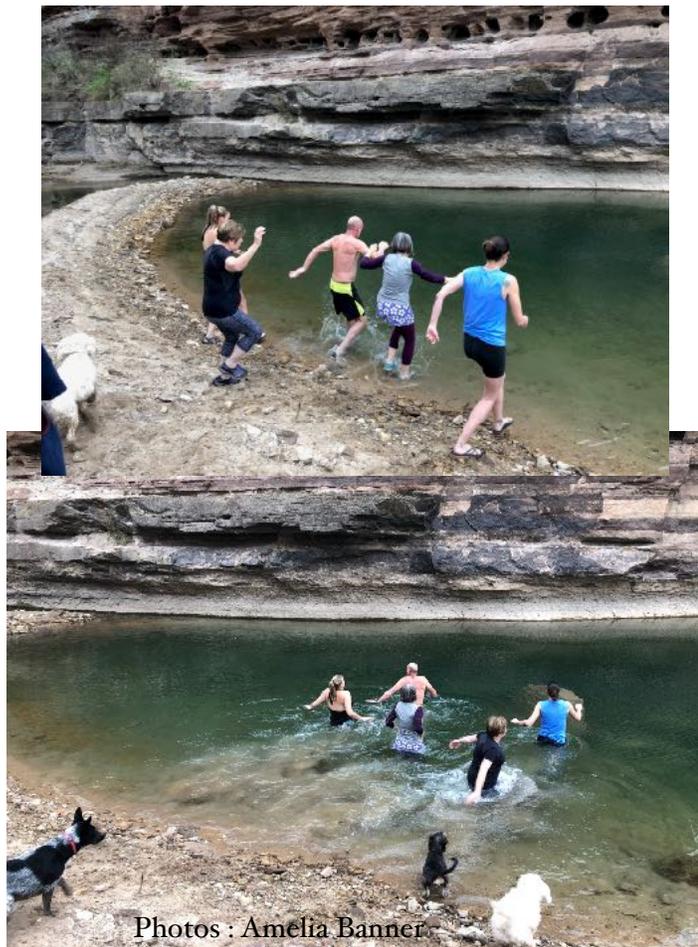


## More Trout Scheduled for the Llano

Rainbow Trout will again be stocked in the Llano in the coming weeks. About 2,400 fish are to be released at Castell next Wednesday on January 9th while a second release at South Llano River State Park south of Junction will occur on Tuesday, January 15th. An additional release at James River Crossing is planned. Although not native, these fish do not survive the warmer waters later in the year.

## Diving into the New Year

These 'brave' souls started the New Year refreshed after jumping into the Llano River below James River Crossing. They were joined by other fellow polar bears downstream at Castell.



Photos : Amelia Banner

## River Access Parking Improves on Llano

Through Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) River Access and Conservation Area (RACA) program, parking problems at Castell (photo right) and Schneider Slab Crossings on the Llano have been greatly improved. For more information about the program, [visit the TPWD website](#).



## Fish and Flooding

The Alliance has been receiving several inquiries regarding the impact of the October floods on the aquatic habitat. As mentioned in [TPWD Press Release following the flood](#), native fishes have adapted over the millennia to periodic flooding in the Hill Country and can, with help from landowners, actually benefit from flooding.

The Alliance and TPWD seined the river at Castell last Friday (right), and while we didn't find a lot of fish, we did find some, including this beautiful Orange-throated darter.

Fisheries recovery may take some time, but the Alliance is working with TPWD and fellow anglers to closely monitor the recovery.



Photos : John Botros- TPWD

## Flat Rock Crossing Bridge



The bridge at Flat Rock Crossing just south of Junction sustained significant damage from the October floods. Because Flat Rock serves as a critical access point in the South Llano River Paddling Trail, the use of the trail is severely limited at this time. The Alliance is working with TPWD to evaluate alternative access points until damage to the bridge can be addressed.

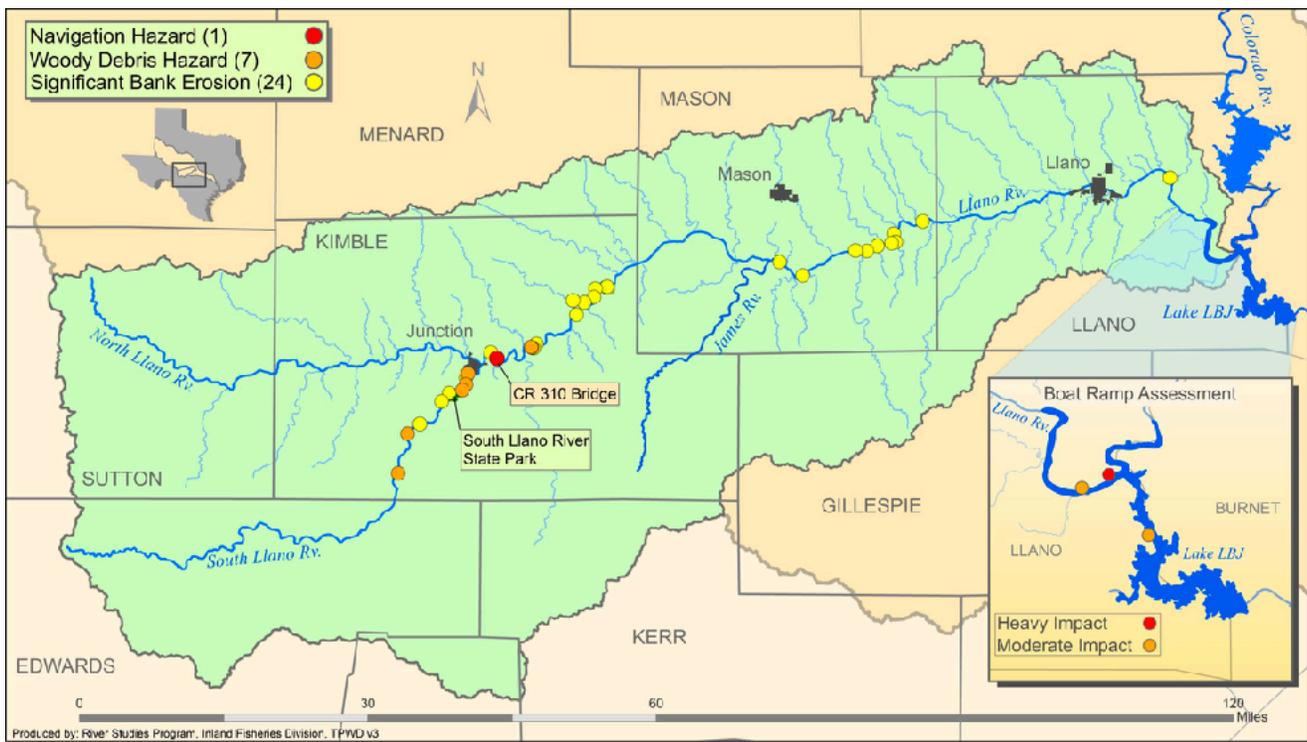
## Prescribed Burn Association Annual Meeting - Jan 10

Fire is a great tool for maintaining the health of the watershed. To learn more about prescribed burning and how it can benefit your land, plan to attend the annual meeting of the Upper Llanos Prescribed Burn Association, Thursday, January 10, at 5:30pm in the county courtroom of the Kimble County Courthouse. Prescribed burns planned and scheduled in 2019 will be discussed, as will burn



protocols, notification requirements, radios, and equipment needs. Come learn more about this land management tool next Thursday.

## Alliance and TPWD Assess Flood Impacts



The Alliance and Texas Parks and Wildlife Inland Fisheries, Law Enforcement and State Parks Division are collaborating to develop an assessment of the effects of the fall 2018 floods on recreational access facilities, navigation, and aquatic and riparian habitats on approximately 150 miles of the Llano River and tributaries.

An Executive Summary of the Assessment is [available here](#).

Later this month, the Alliance and TPWD will release a full report to provide a detailed description of the series of flood events that occurred in the Llano River watershed during September-October 2018, including information on rainfall distribution and totals; river flows; observed changes to aquatic and riparian habitats; impacts to recreational access; hazards to river navigation; effects on fish and aquatic communities; and recommended actions to support post-flood recovery of natural resources and repair of damaged recreational access facilities.

Stay tuned for the release announcement.