

# WATERSHED WEEK IN REVIEW



## Treating Arundo

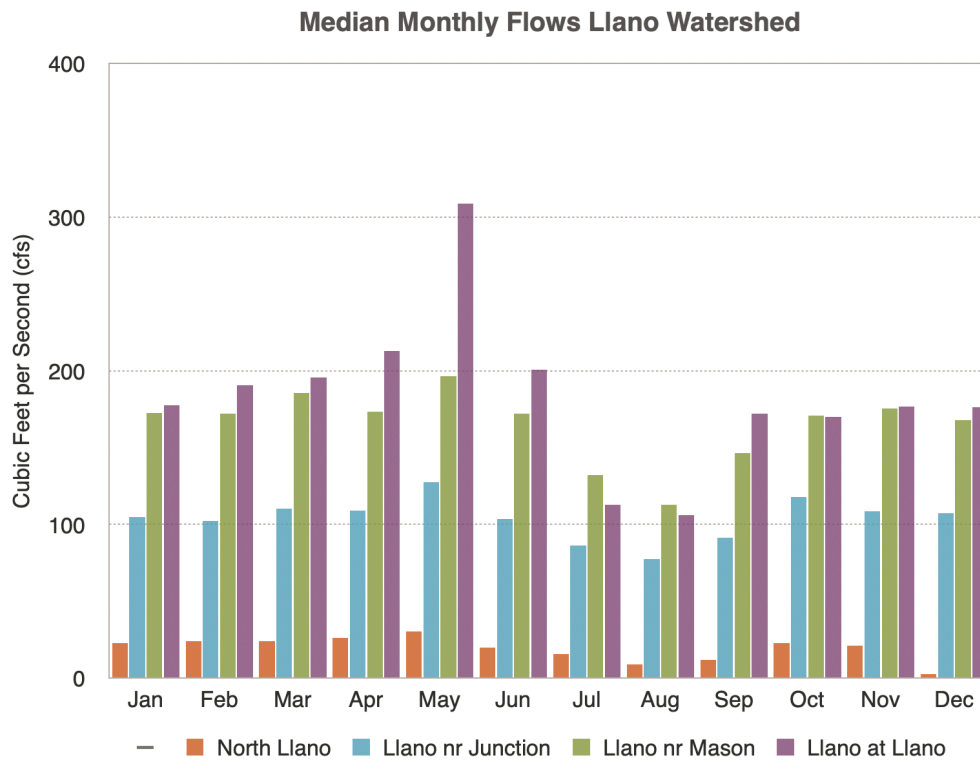


Before & After Treatments on Arundo Donax. Photo : Texas Parks & Wildlife

Thanks to the efforts of Texas Parks and Wildlife and partners such as Texas Tech Llano River Field Station, South Llano River State Park, the Alliance, and landowners like you, we are making headway against the spread of *Arundo Donax* in the Llano.

Contractors for TPWD were along the South Llano this week treating and retreating large patches of this invasive, also known as Giant Cane. The Alliance will continue to contact landowners in the basin to set up appointments for surveying Arundo stands for future treatments. Little by little, and with the help of all landowners, we can hopefully keep Arundo from infesting our river banks. Just have a look along the Pedernales to see how bad things can become.

# Flows of the Llano



Last week we featured a graph showing the average monthly flows for four river gages along the Llano. In the feature, we noted that, based on average monthly volumes, computed on the USGS website, October was now the month with the most flow.

As one reader correctly noted, large events such as the October flood of 2018 can skew data and using the median provides more meaningful results. So with a little bit of work, we calculated the medians for all gages. The results are shown above.

Flows increase downstream, except for July and August between Mason and Llano, where evaporation and possible channel losses diminish flows during the summer months.

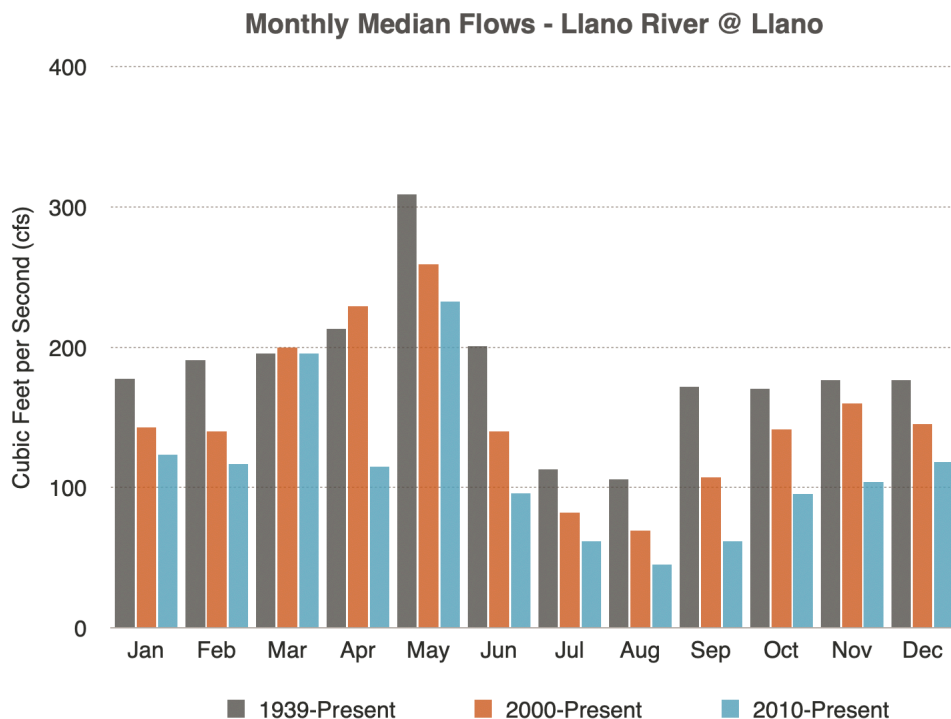
May does indeed remain the month with generally the most flow, but the fact that it is over 100 cfs more than the other months is somewhat an

artifact of the data as well as fortuitous timing.

For those who haven't thought about statistics in a while, remember that the median value is the midpoint in an ordered list of values. Ordered values tend to be fairly close to each other in the middle of the list. In the case of May median flows at Llano however, the value of 309 cfs is a leap ahead of the next lowest value, 280 cfs. So while May is still the month with the most flow, the data are a bit skewed.

Another interesting note about May on the Llano in Llano... All of the lowest discharge values for every month, except May, occurred during the drought of the fifties. So even during this epic drought, some rain seemed to fall in May. The lowest value for May occurred in 1984, followed by more recent years: 1996, 2011, 2017, 2018.

Which introduces us to next week's discussion, flows over the last ten to twenty years. The graphic below shows that over the last ten years, flows have been considerably below normal, with June through September being at least 50% of average. But more on this next week.



## Please Support our Partners

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Oct. 19, 2020



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### **SIDEWALK SALE**

Friday, Oct 23rd - Methodist Church Parking Lot

9:00 am-Noon (or sold out)

***NO SALES BEFORE 9***

***Pre-Orders will be at the sidewalk sale for pick-up!***

**Call or stop by our office for more info:  
UPPER LLANOS SWCD**

902 College St., Junction, TX (325)446-2722

**ORDER FORM, SELECTION LIST & INFO ONLINE:**  
www.ulswcd and on our Facebook Page or call to have one  
emailed to you. Forms also available at the office!



# Remember the Date - Come Volunteer!

*Only a Few Volunteer Spots left due to Covid-19 Protocols*

*If you are available to help, please email [southllanoriver@gmail.com](mailto:southllanoriver@gmail.com)*



Help restore the  
**pecan  
bottomlands**

at South Llano River  
State Park!

October 15-16, 2020

9:30 am -3:30 pm

Please bring your lunch and  
snacks, plenty of water, a  
hat, sunscreen, kneeling pad  
(if desired), and work gloves.

Meet at HQ.



We are launching the pilot of a long-term restoration of the native pecan bottomland. This fall, we will be planting over 200 pecan saplings which were germinated from local trees. We're excited to get these trees in the ground, but we need your help! We'll train participants on the morning of October 15. October 16 schedule will be dependent on how much was accomplished on the 15th.

**TEXAS  
PARKS &  
WILDLIFE**

1927 Park Road 73, Junction, TX 76849