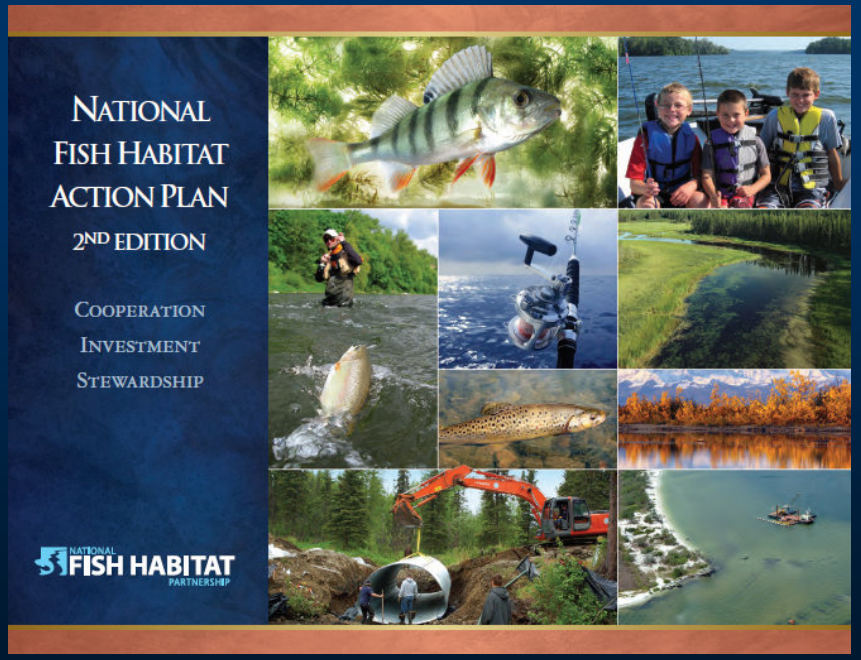

Expanded Support for Conservation of Texas Rivers
TEXAS
PARKS &
WILDLIFE

NATIONAL FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

- 40% of N. American fishes considered imperiled
  - More than two-thirds federally threatened or endangered
- Habitat alteration is the principle contributing factor
- Habitat is the principle motivation for the development of the National Fish Habitat Partnership

Processes that Support Naturally Functioning Habitats and Sustainable Fish Populations

- Healthy watersheds
- Functional riparian zones
- Natural fluvial processes
- Natural flow regimes
- Physical connectivity
- Intact food webs

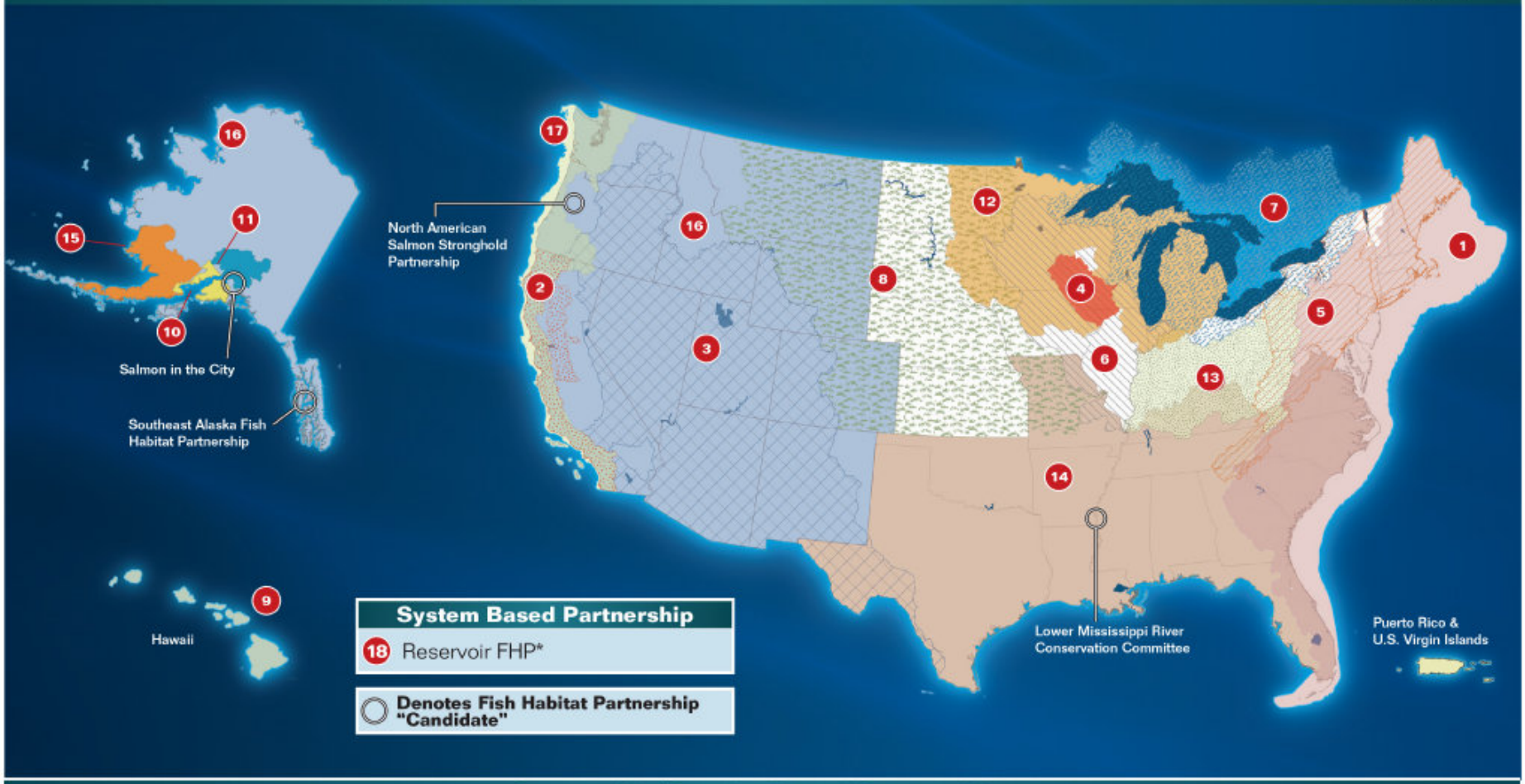


NATIONAL FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

- Non-regulatory and voluntary
- Science-based
- Grass-roots driven
- Strategic investments
  - Local projects
  - Regional strategies and priorities
  - National attention and funding

Fish Habitat Partnerships January 2012

NATIONAL FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP



Geographic/Species Based Partnerships

1. Atlantic Coastal FHP
2. California Fish Passage Forum
3. Desert FHP
4. Driftless Area Restoration Effort
5. Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture
6. Fishers and Farmers Partnership
7. Great Lakes Basin FHP
8. Great Plains FHP
9. Hawaii FHP
10. Kenai Peninsula FHP
11. Matanuska-Susitna Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership
12. Midwest Glacial Lakes Partnership
13. Ohio River Basin FHP
14. Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership
15. Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership
16. Western Native Trout Initiative
17. Pacific Marine and Estuarine FHP

NATIONAL FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

- Since 2006:
  - 341 on-the-ground habitat restoration projects
  - $56M in project funding
  - > $1B in local economic impact
    - 18:1 return on investment
  - 19,300 jobs supported

NORTHERN LARGEMOUTH
(*Micropterus salmoides*)
Location: Widely distributed, other than central and south Florida
Length requirement: 14 inches

FLORIDA LARGEMOUTH
(*Micropterus salmoides floridanus*)
Location: Central and south Florida
Length requirement: 16 inches

SMALLMOUTH
(*Micropterus dolomieu*)
Location: Widely distributed
Length requirement: 12 inches

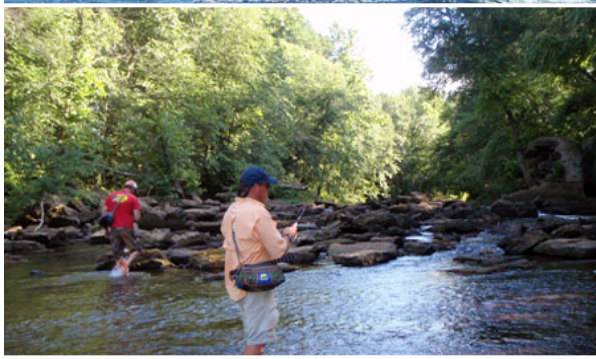
SPOTTED (*Micropterus punctulatus*)
Location: Widely distributed
Length requirement: 12 inches

SHOAL (*Micropterus cataractae*)
Location: Florida, Georgia
Length requirement: 12 inches

REDEYE (*Micropterus coosae*)
Location: Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee
Length requirement: 12 inches

GUADALUPE (*Micropterus treculii*)
Location: Texas
Length requirement: 10 inches

SUWANEE (*Micropterus notius*)
Location: Suwannee and Ochlockonee river systems of Florida and Georgia, spring-fed lower reaches of the Santa Fe and Ichetucknee rivers, tributaries of the Suwannee River and the St. Marks and Aucilla/Wacissa systems
Length requirement: 10 inches

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San Marcos River, TX 28 • Homestake Creek, CO 40
Bishop Creek Drainage, CA 22 • DC's Pikesicle 54
Gila Wilderness Area, NM/AZ 34

Focus on Small Waters

By MIKE PEHANICH
Senior Writer

Do you find you're spending less time on the water these days because of the family budget, crowded ramps and less free time? Beat the bassin' blues – and stoke the fire in newcomers for fishing – by targeting small waters near home

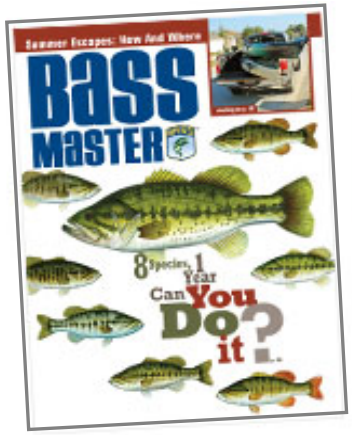
YES, TIMES ARE tough. Budget-stretched fishermen complain they can't afford to haul their bass boats to their favorite fishing holes quite as often as they did during those halcyon days of yore.

Alas, they could be fishing more and complaining less — while still holding to the family budget — by turning attention to small local waters they may have passed hundreds of times before with only a passing thought to bass fishing.

THE CASE FOR SMALL WATERS

Small waters have bred more anglers than all the millions of acres of America's sprawling reservoirs combined. (Continued)

audio
Bonus content at bassmaster.com/mag



BASSMASTER
July/August 2009

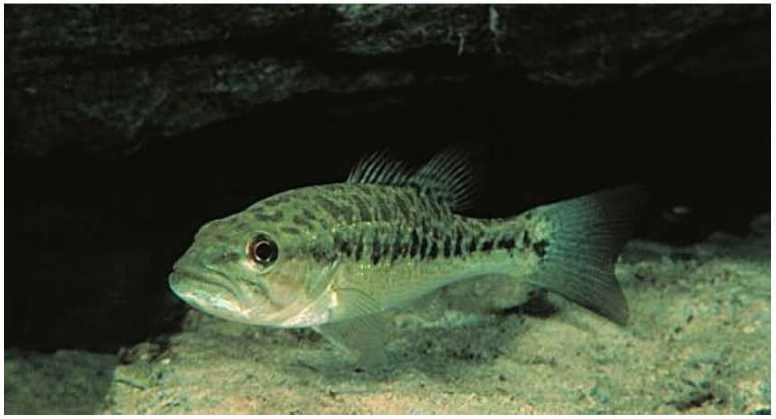
BASS Slam

The Angler's Ultimate Challenge

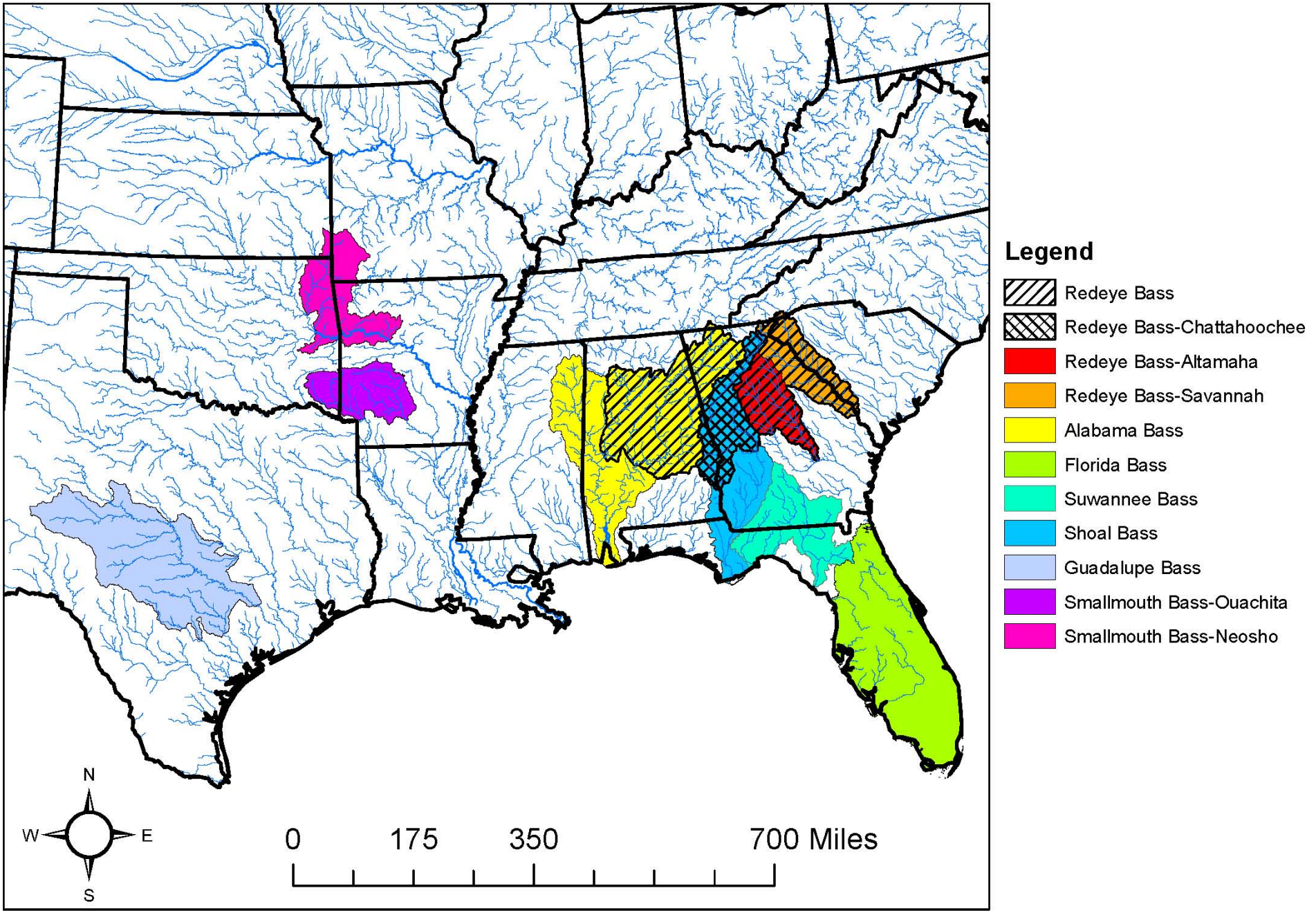
By JAMES HALL
Editor

A Business Plan for the Conservation of Native Black Bass Species in the Southeastern US:

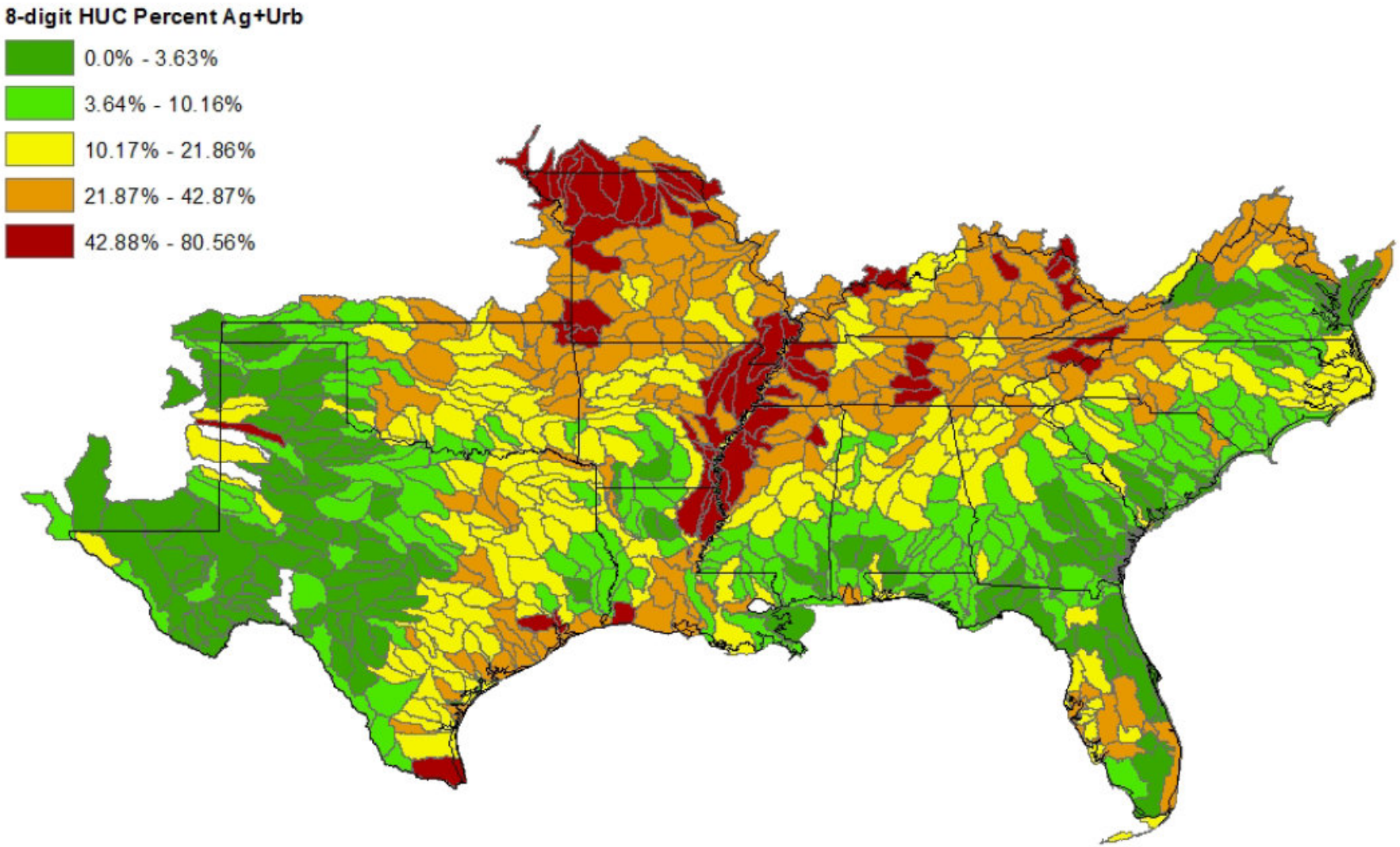
A Ten Year Plan



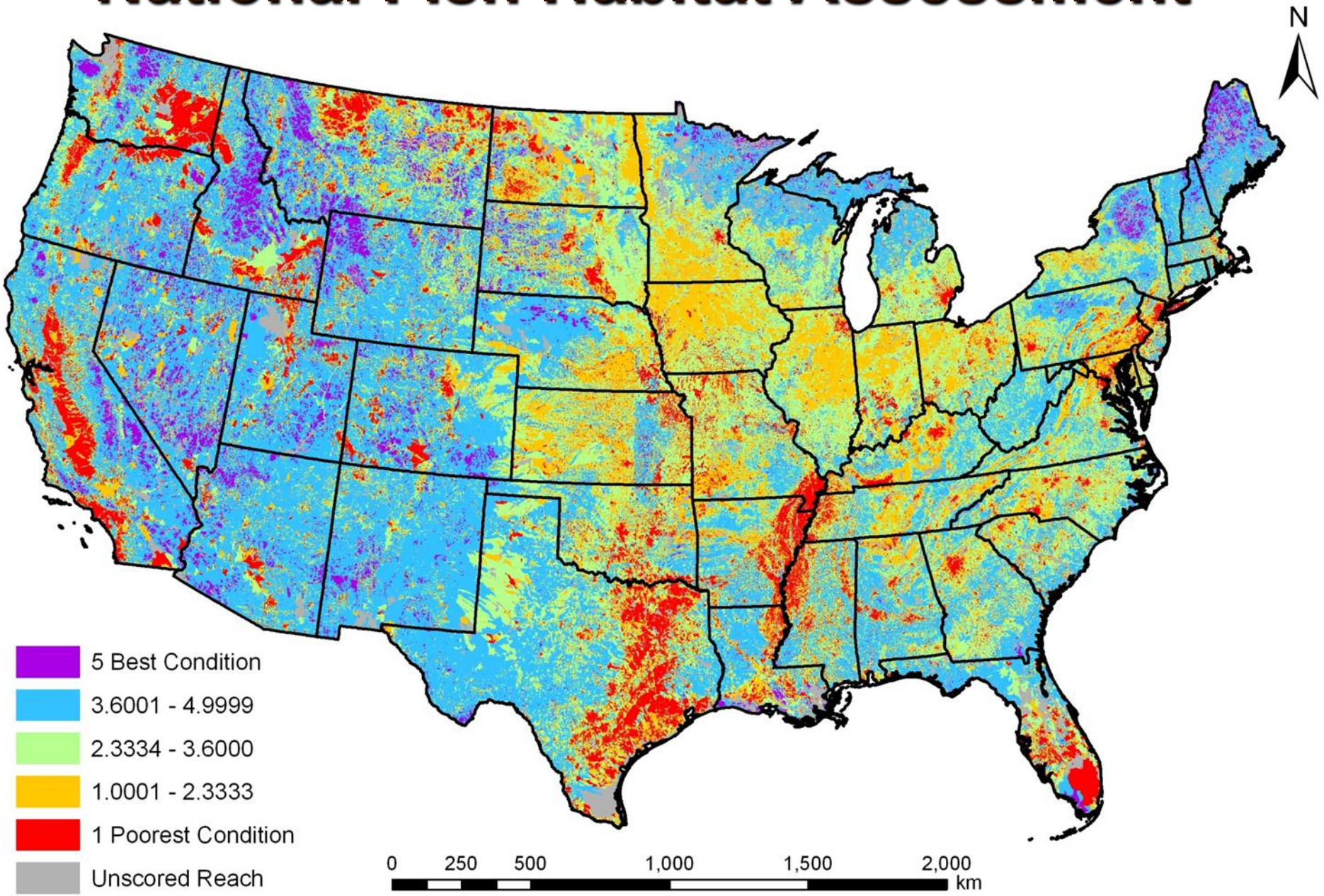
February 2010


Legend
Redeye Bass
Redeye Bass-Chattahoochee
Redeye Bass-Altamaha
Redeye Bass-Savannah
Alabama Bass
Florida Bass
Suwannee Bass
Shoal Bass
Guadalupe Bass
Smallmouth Bass-Ouachita
Smallmouth Bass-Neosho
N
W
E
S
0
175
350
700 Miles

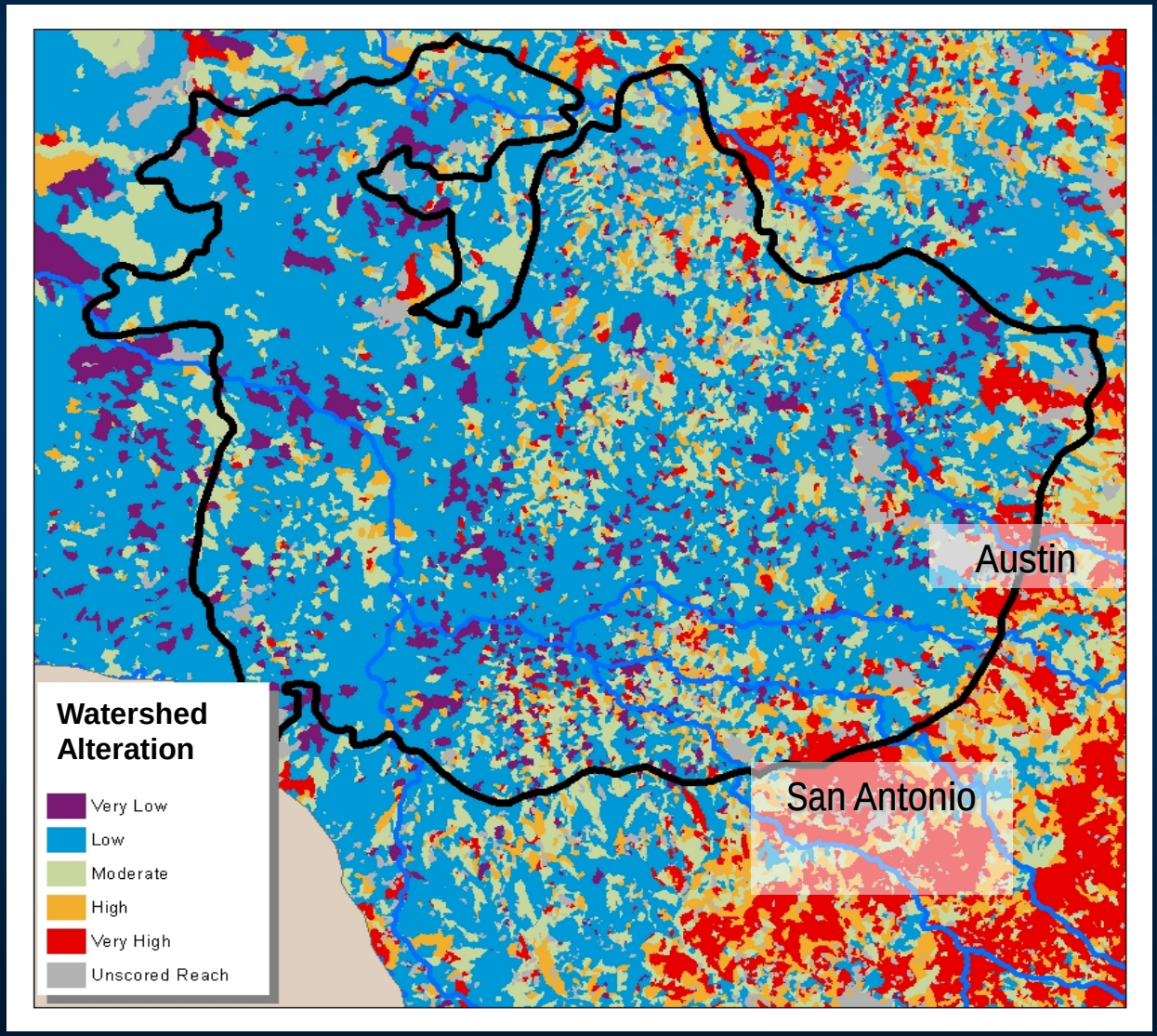
Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership
Regional Riparian Assessment

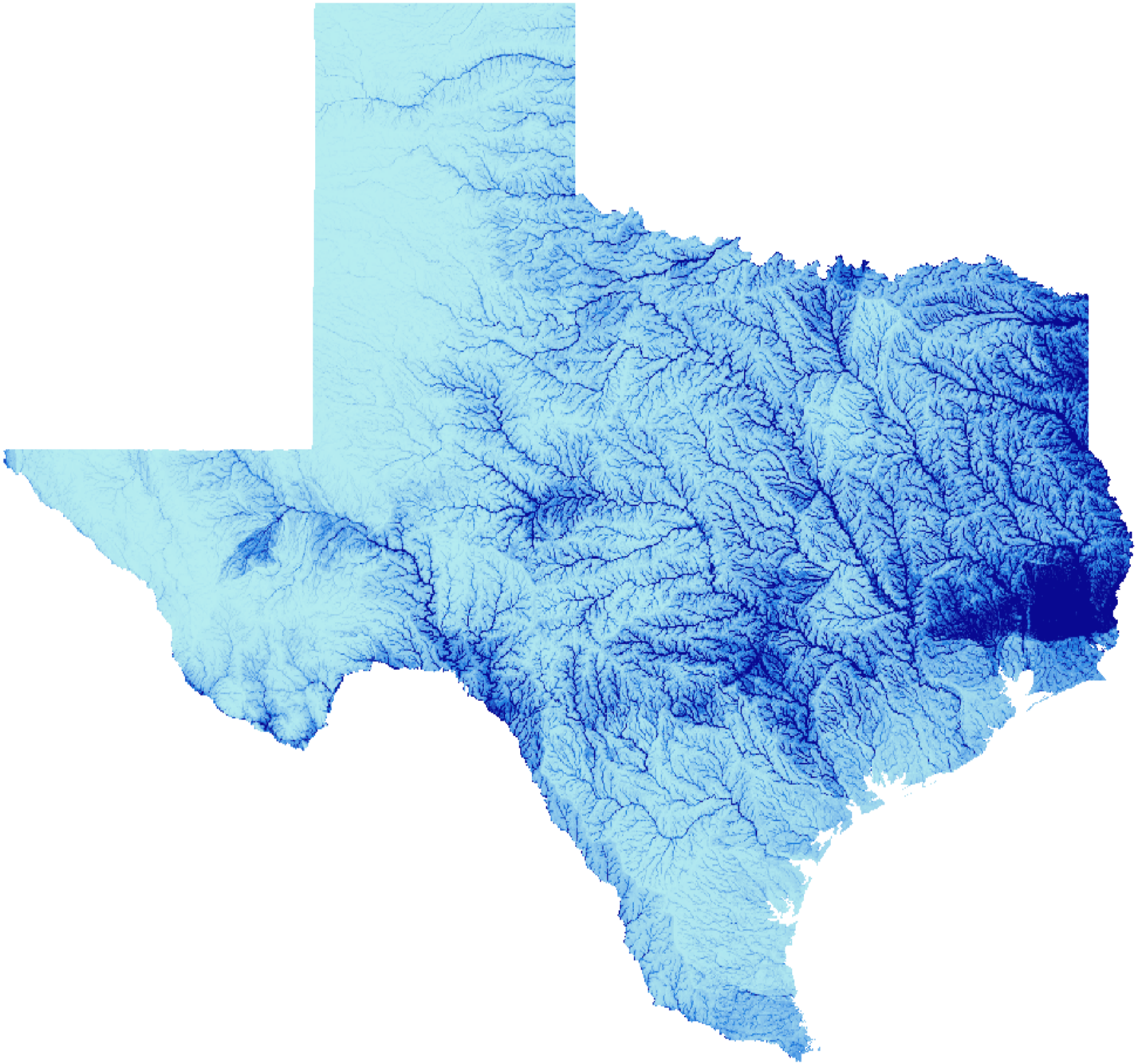


National Fish Habitat Assessment

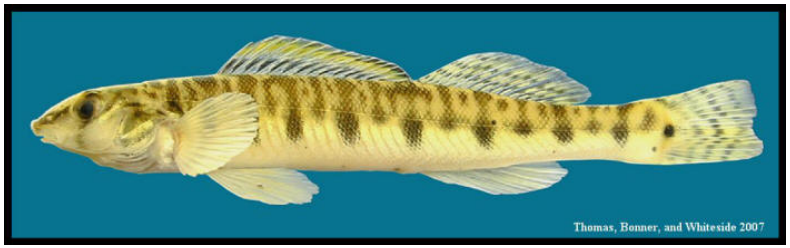


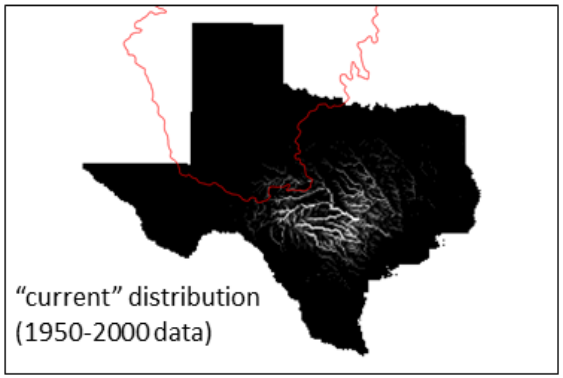
Watershed Condition in the Edwards Plateau Ecoregion





Percina carbonaria





GPLCC boundary

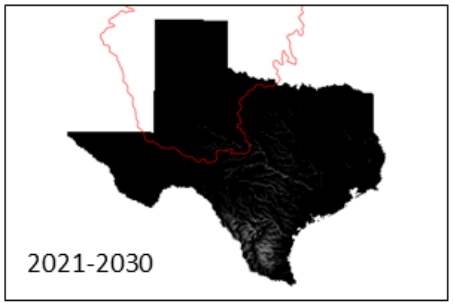
Environmental suitability

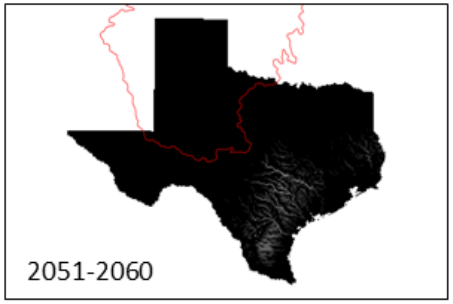
0.9 - 1.0
0.8 - 0.9
0.7 - 0.8
0.6 - 0.7
0.5 - 0.6
0.4 - 0.5
0.3 - 0.4
0.2 - 0.3
0.1 - 0.2
0.0 - 0.1

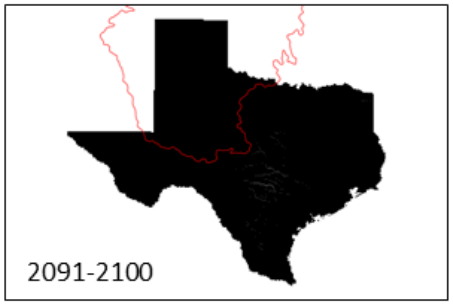
contributing environmental parameters

rank	layer	AUC
1	precipitation seasonality	0.8785
2	temperature annual range	0.8679
3	precipitation of driest period	0.8613
4	mean temp of wettest quarter	0.8549
5	temperature seasonality	0.8507

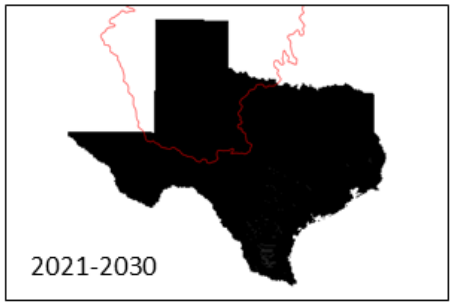
A2 scenario (extreme)

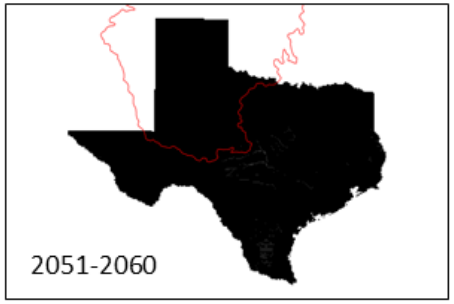


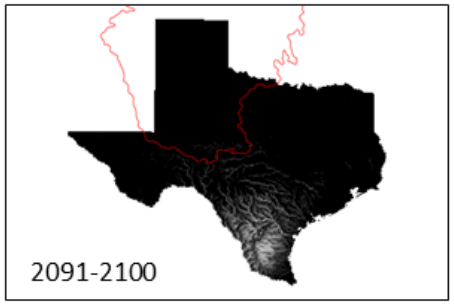




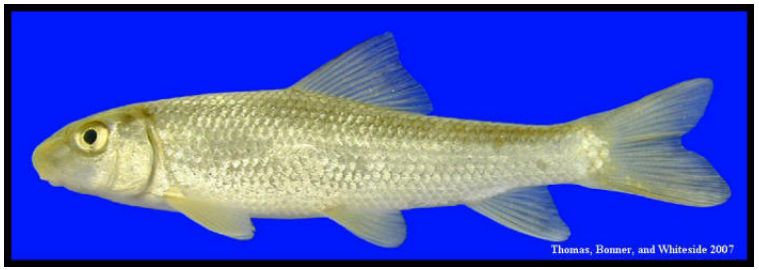
B1 scenario (conservative)

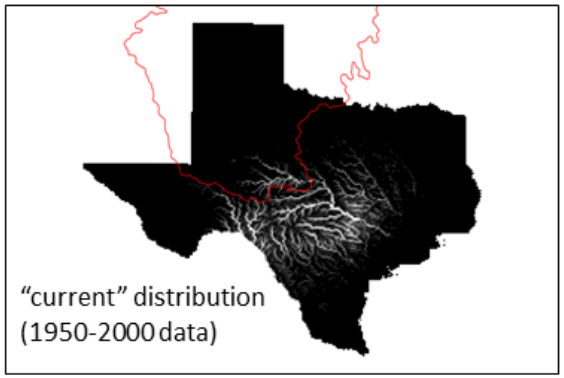






Moxostoma congestum





GPLCC boundary

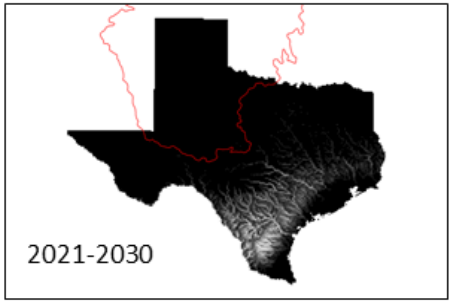
Environmental suitability

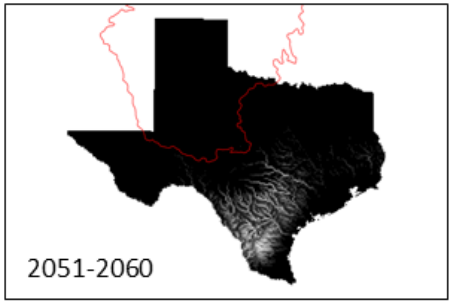
0.9 - 1.0
0.8 - 0.9
0.7 - 0.8
0.6 - 0.7
0.5 - 0.6
0.4 - 0.5
0.3 - 0.4
0.2 - 0.3
0.1 - 0.2
0.0 - 0.1

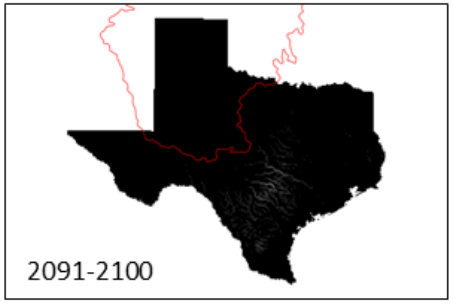
contributing environmental parameters

rank	layer	AUC
1	temperature seasonality	0.8457
2	temperature annual range	0.8429
3	min temp of coldest period	0.8069
4	mean temp of coldest quarter	0.8045
5	precipitation seasonality	0.7975

A2 scenario (extreme)







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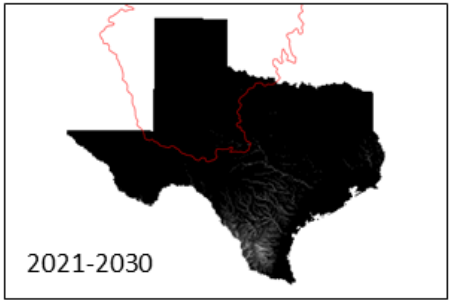
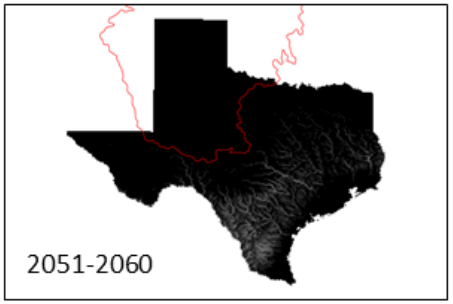
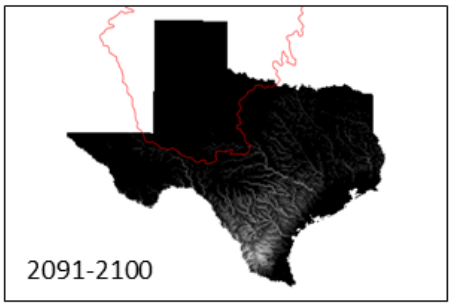
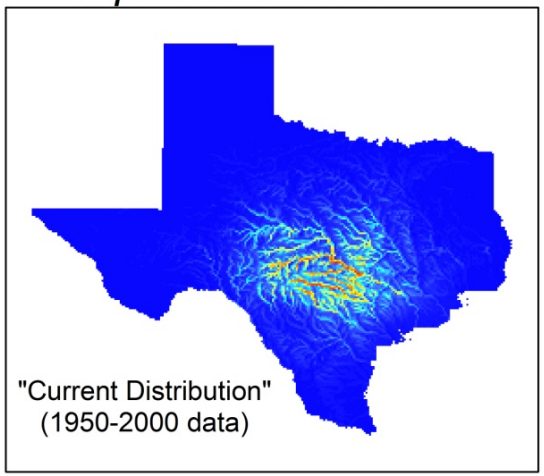
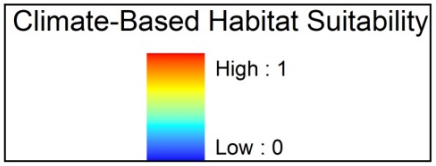




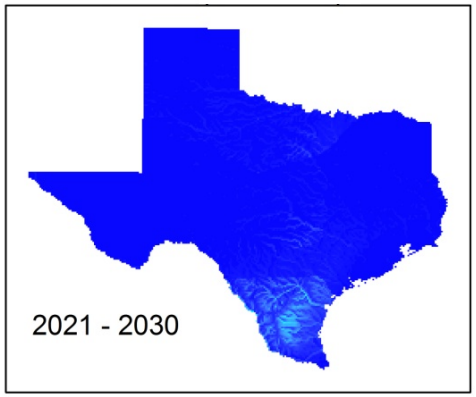


Micropterus treculii

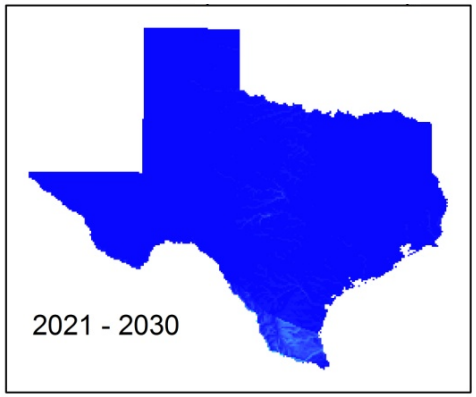


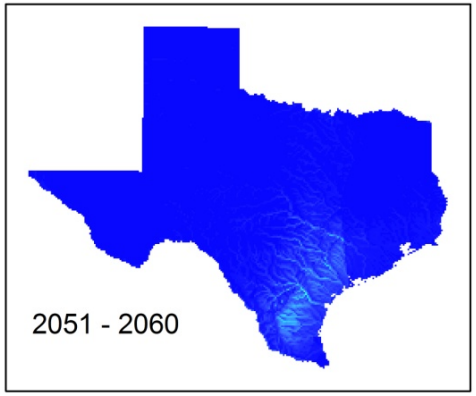


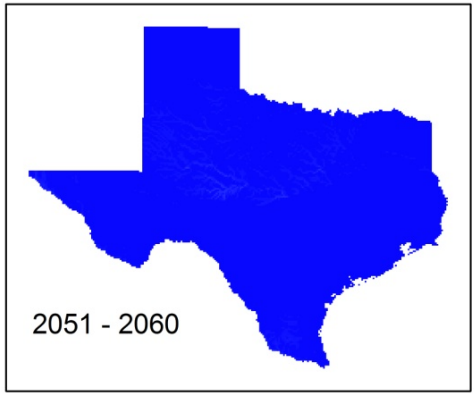
A2 scenario

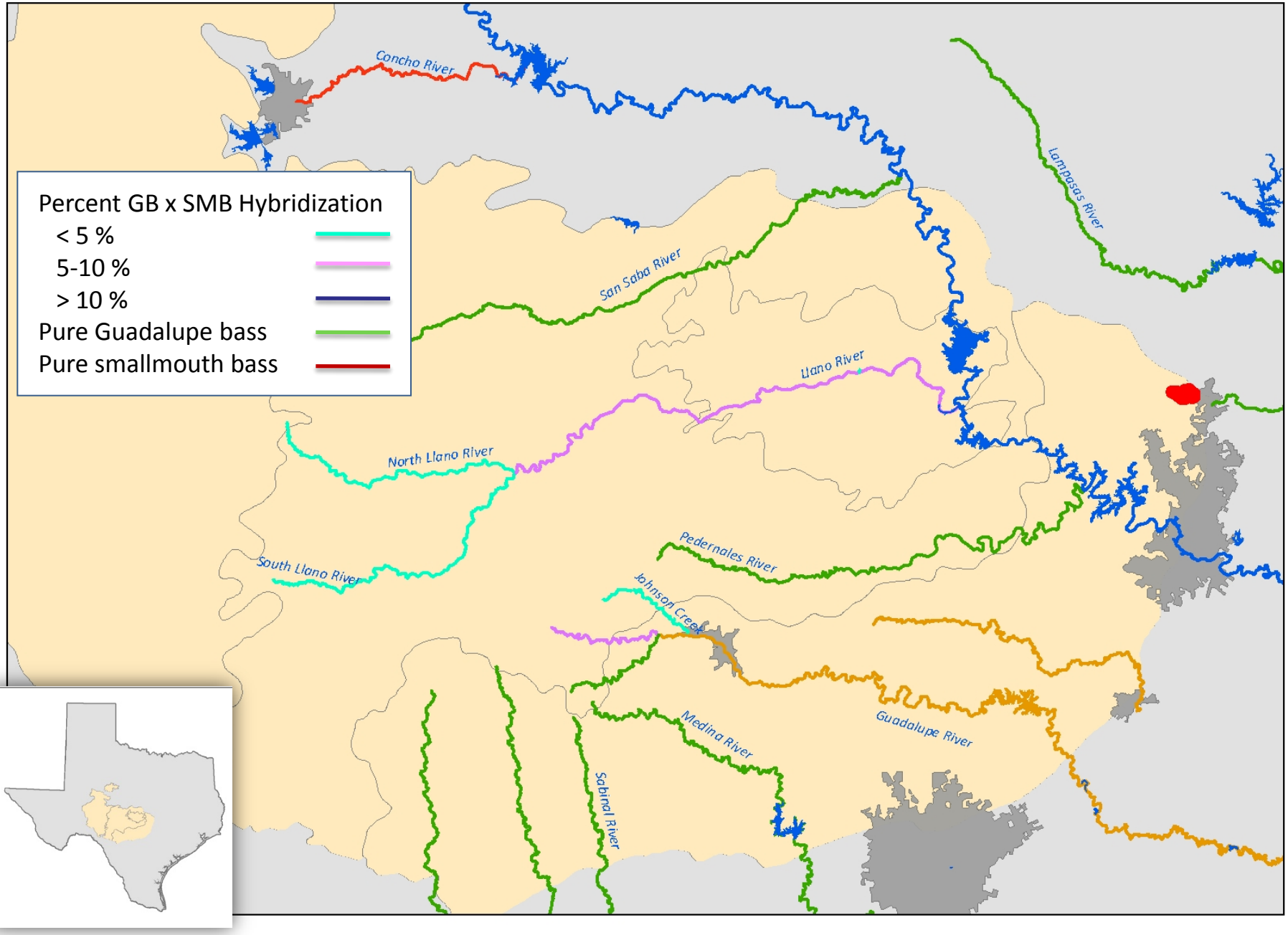


B1 scenario








Percent GB x SMB Hybridization
< 5 %
5-10 %
> 10 %
Pure Guadalupe bass
Pure smallmouth bass
Concho River
San Saba River
Llano River
North Llano River
South Llano River
Pedernales River
Johnson Creek
Medina River
Sabinal River
Guadalupe River
Lampasas River

Assessment of Ecological Integrity - South Llano River

Category	Key Ecological Factor	Indicator	Indicator Rating (Shaded = Indicator Current State; Italics = Goal) Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Basis for Indicator Rating
Condition	Recruitment	Abundance of juveniles	<5 catch/hour	5-10 catch/hour	10-20 catch/hour	*>20 catch/hour*	TPWD surveys
Condition	Genetic Introgression	Introgression	>10%	5-10%	<5%	*None*	TxState rangewide assessment; TPWD genetic monitoring
Condition	Naturalized exotic fishes	Abundance and distribution of non-native fishes	River dominated by predatory non native species	River dominated by non-native species	Natives/non-natives codominant	*Native species dominate*	Fishes of Texas Database; TPWD surveys
Landscape Context	Flow alteration	Dam storage density	>250 acre-ft/km2	50-250 acre-ft/km2	0-50 acre-ft/km2	*None*	NHD+; TNC Assessment
Landscape Context	Functional Riparian Zone	Natural cover	<25%	24-50%	50-75%	*>75%*	SARP Riparian Assessment; NLCD; TNC Assessment
Landscape Context	Connectivity	Occurrence of fish passage barriers	Barriers present that prevent passage at any given flow	Barriers present that prevent passage during low flow conditions	Barriers present that prevent passage at variable but not continuous flows	*No barriers during normal flow conditions*	USFWS Fish Passage Program; TNC assessment
Landscape Context	Watershed Condition	NFHAP Risk Score	High-Very High	Moderate	Low	*Very Low*	NFHAP Assessment

Restoration Threshold

Minimum Integrity Threshold

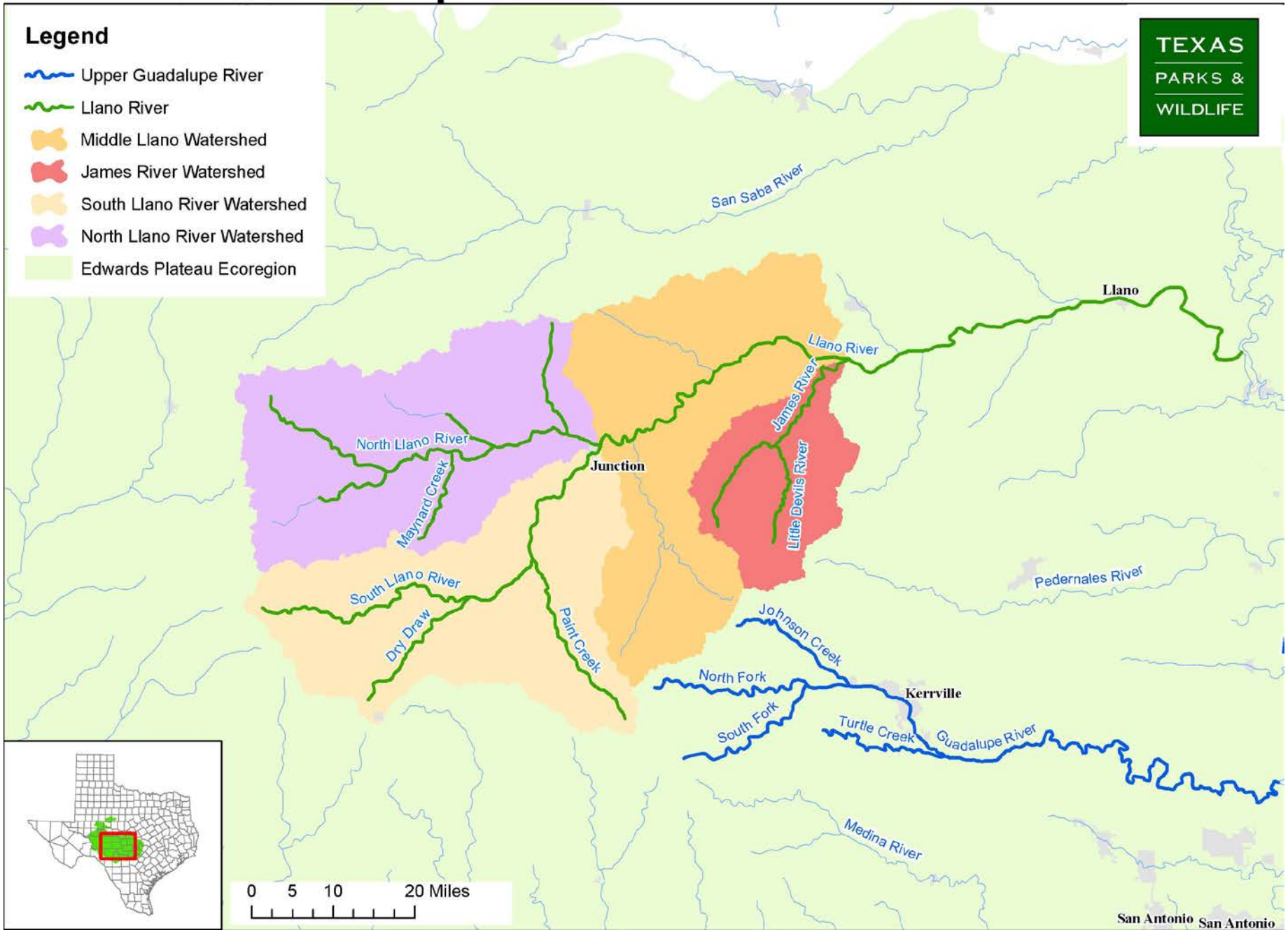
Preferred Threshold

Watershed Prioritization Critical Elements

1) Natural processes remain intact
2) Contains habitats that support all life history stages
3) Large enough to support long-term persistence
4) Agreements can be developed across management jurisdictions and land ownerships to sustain aquatic and riparian habitat integrity

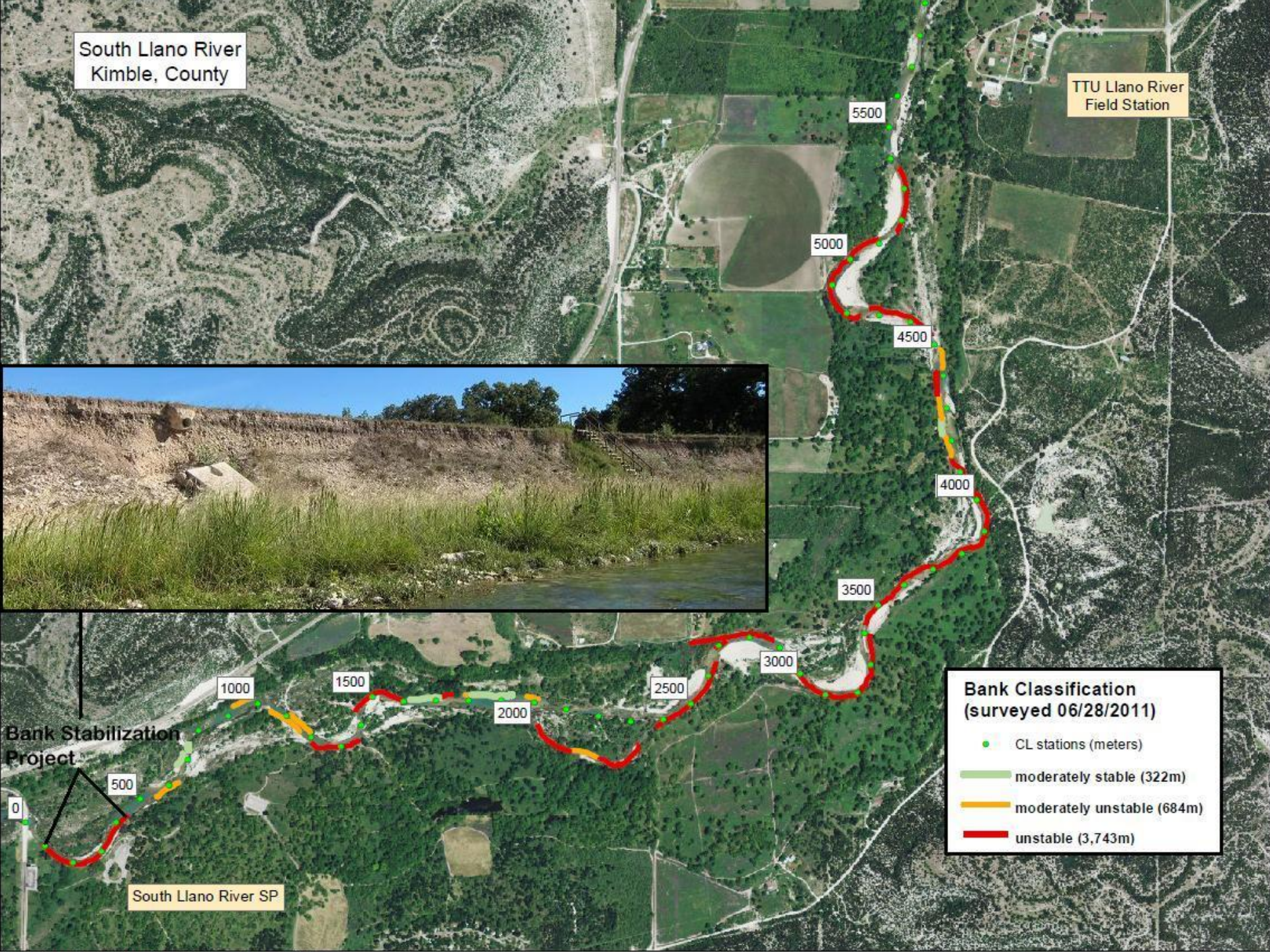
Williams et al. 2011. Fisheries 36:267-277

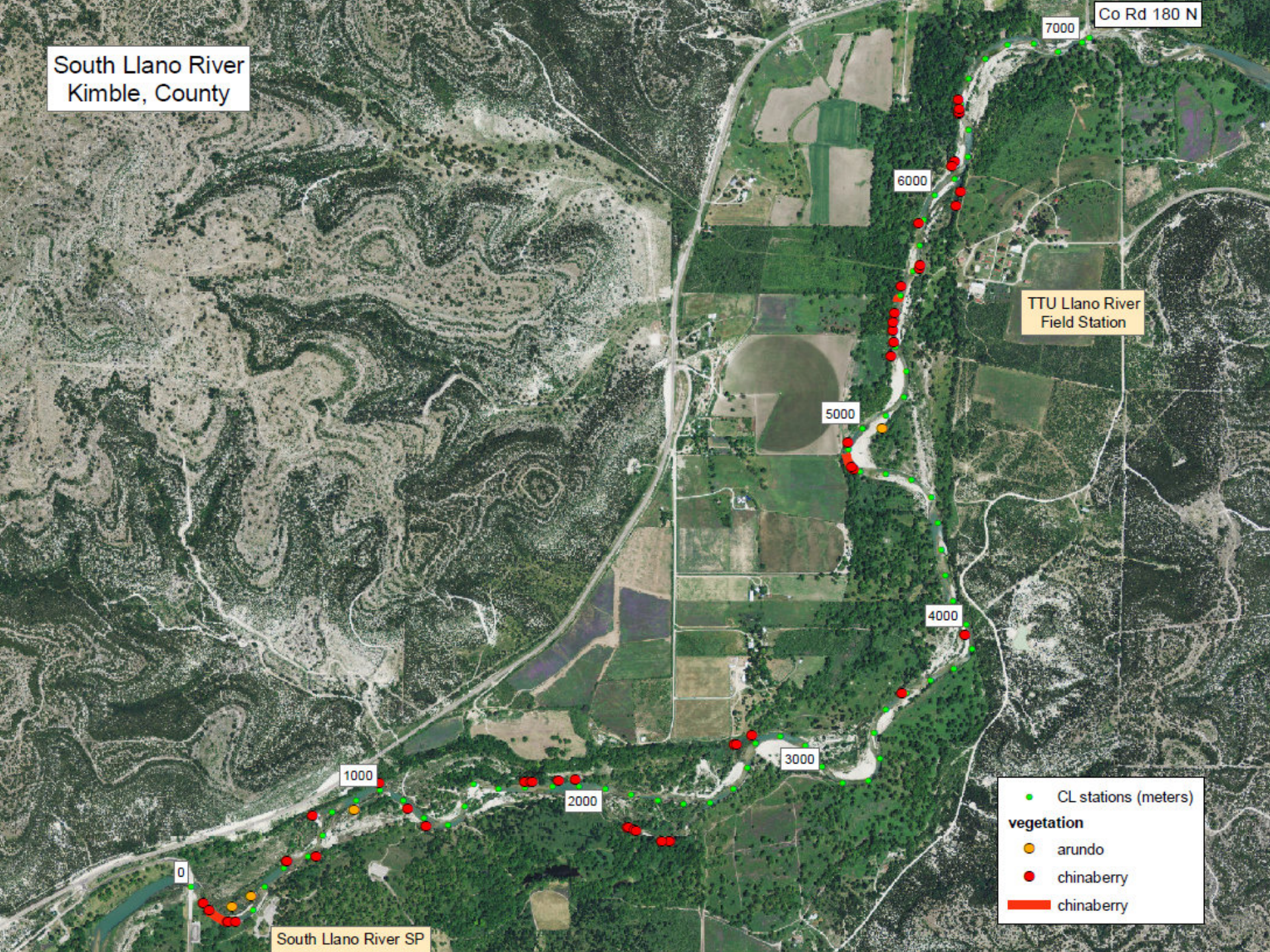
Guadalupe Bass Restoration Initiative

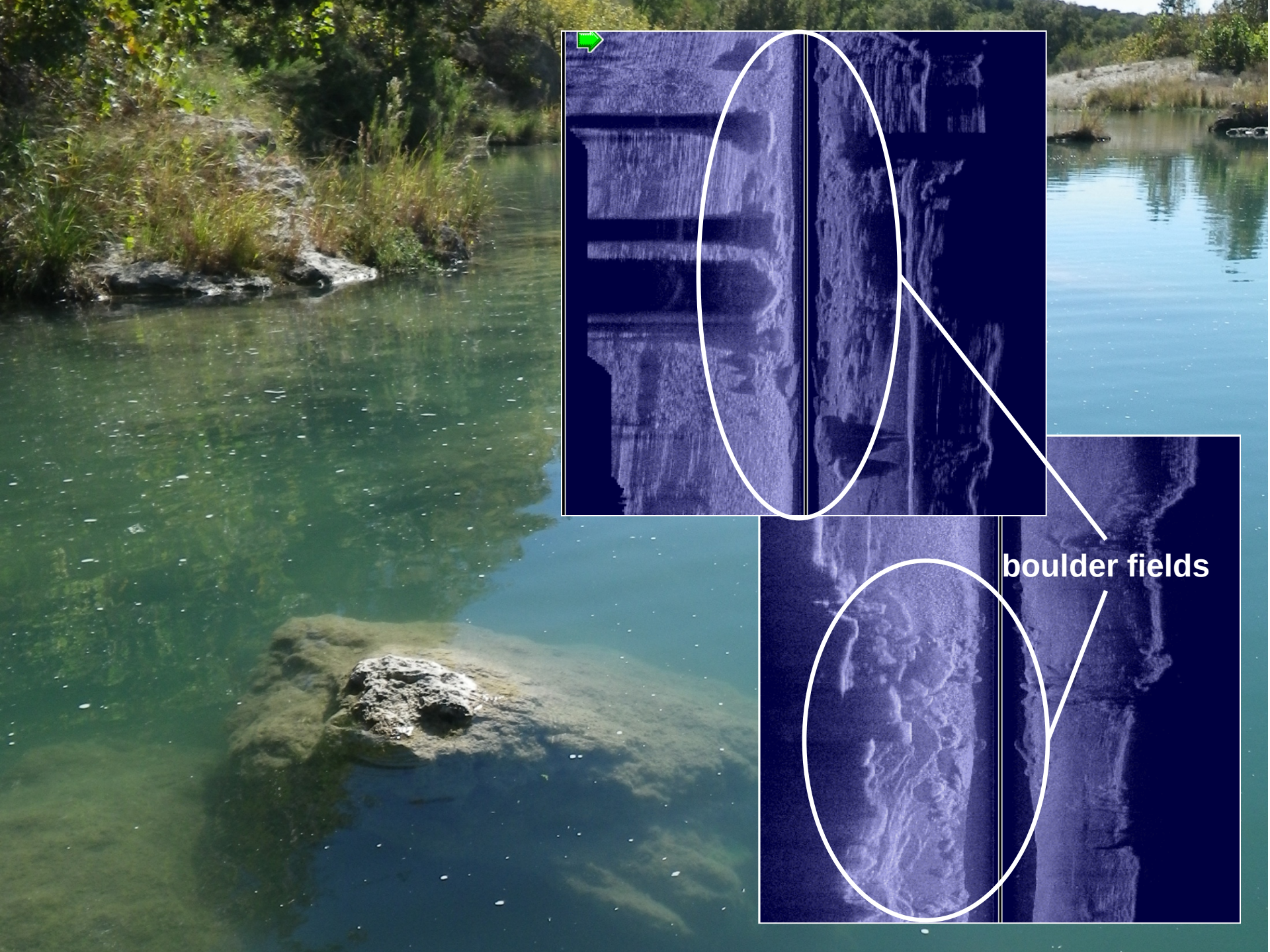


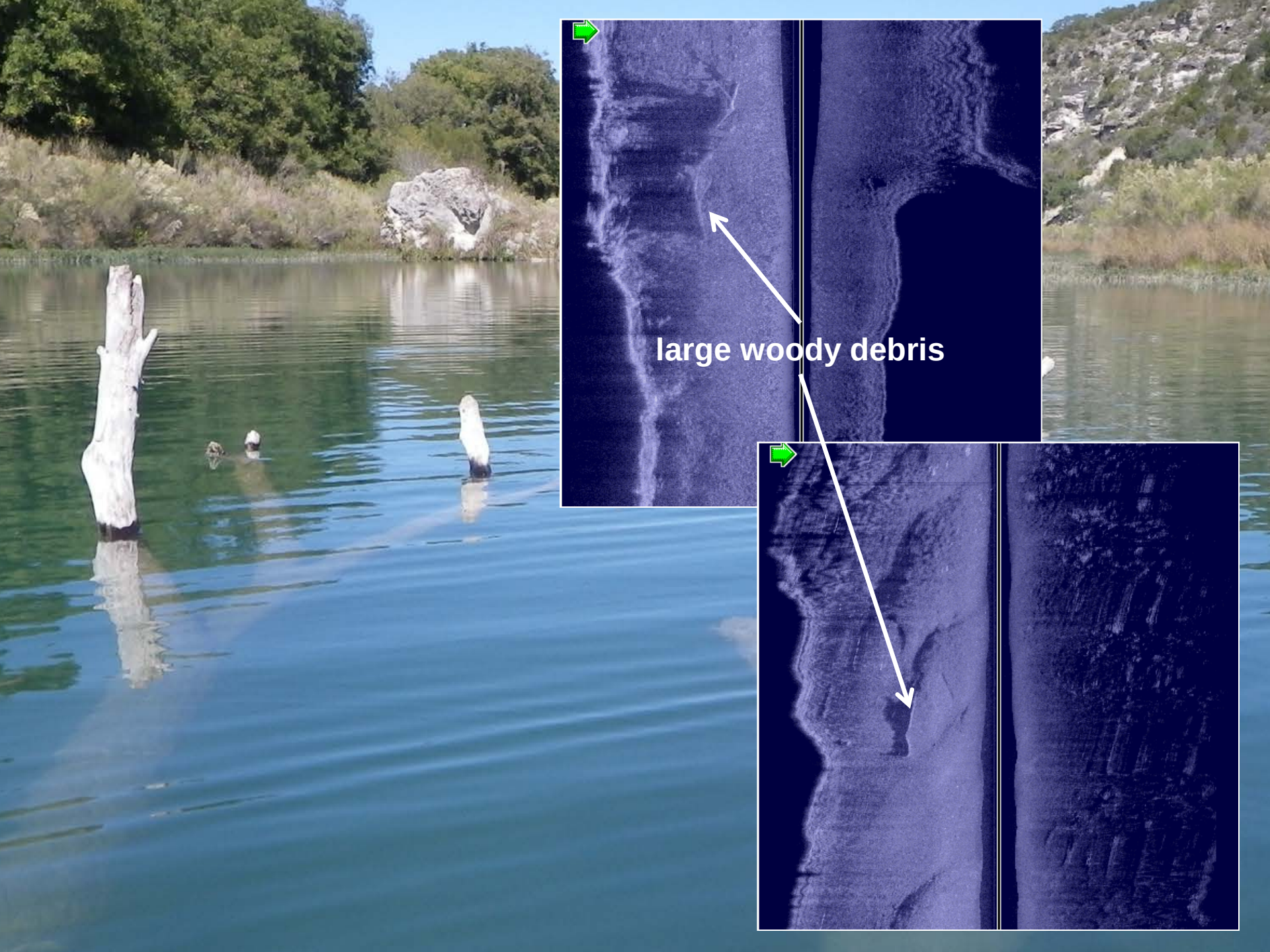
Coordinated Watershed Conservation

- Development of a Watershed Conservation Plan for the Upper Llano River
- Expansion of existing landowner cooperative
- Riparian and upland habitat BMPs
- Instream habitat enhancement
- Genetic restoration of Guadalupe bass


South Llano River
Kimble, County
TTU Llano River
Field Station
5500
5000
4500
4000
3500
3000
2500
2000
1500
1000
500
0
Bank Stabilization
Project
South Llano River SP
Bank Classification
(surveyed 06/28/2011)
CL stations (meters)
moderately stable (322m)
moderately unstable (684m)
unstable (3,743m)


South Llano River
Kimble, County
Co Rd 180 N
7000
6000
5000
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
TTU Llano River
Field Station
South Llano River SP
CL stations (meters)
vegetation
arundo
chinaberry
chinaberry


boulder fields


large woody debris


Legend
individual_boulders
substrate-boulder_field
substrate-SAV
substrate-cobble_gravel
substrate-gravel_cobble
substrate-gravel_sand
Llano River Field Station
South Llano River State Park

Search

Best Management Practices
for the conservation of Texas watersheds

Home | BMP Index | Contact

Guadalupe Bass Restoration Initiative

Guadalupe Bass Restoration Initiative in the Llano River watershed The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation has begun an initiative to focus and coordinate actions to conserve rare species of black basses in the United States. Although the initiative plans to address all species of endemic black bass in the southeast, the first project will address ...

View full post

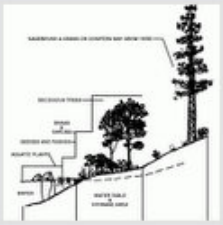
Home

Over 2,000 BMPs are available through this website and are search-able by conservation objective or land use type. To further facilitate the conservation of Texas watershed habitats, species lists, critical habitats, and regional conservation priorities and information have also been compiled and will be added to the website upon the update of the Texas Conservation Action Plan.

Conservation best management practices (BMP's) are methods or actions that promote the conservation, protection, and/or restoration of our natural resources.

Conservation BMPs are an important tool for implementing plans and actions necessary to conserve, protect, and/or restore natural resources. This project was developed in Texas to identify BMPs to address landscape factors, land use practices, and impairments affecting the health of freshwater watershed habitats and ecosystems. To date, over 2000 BMPs from more than 150 local, state, national, and international organizations and agencies have been collected to address these threats. Scientific literature, species lists, critical habitats, and conservation priorities were also compiled to more effectively facilitate conservation planning and habitat restoration.

BMPs by Conservation Objective



Establish, improve, maintain riparian zones

(Riparian summary information is from Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership's Southeast Aquatic Habitat Plan) Riparian zones buffer the impacts on adjacent water bodies from human land use activities while supporting aquatic as well as terrestrial habitats. Wenger (1999) defines riparian zones as land areas located adjacent to water bodies, often naturally vegetated with grasses, shrubs and trees. ...

View page »

Improve and maintain water quality

(Water quality summary information is from Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership's Southeast Aquatic Habitat Plan) The quality of water includes physical, chemical, and biological characteristics that sustain plant and animal life and support a variety of human uses including drinking water, fishing and boating, agriculture and industry, and other types of recreation and transportation. Water quality characteristics ...

View page »

Improve and maintain watershed connectivity

(Watershed connectivity summary information is from Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership's Southeast Aquatic Habitat Plan) Watershed connectivity in a habitat context can be described as physical, chemical, and biological conditions that accommodate the movements of aquatic organisms, nutrients, water, or energy into various necessary habitats or habitat types. Water bodies, whether flowing or static, require regular and, ...

View page »

Improve or maintain appropriate hydrologic conditions for biota

(Hydrolic conditions summary information is from Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership's Southeast Aquatic Habitat Plan) The quantity and flow of freshwater in waterbodies varies naturally by season and precipitation, and unnaturally by human alteration and withdrawal of water from rivers and lakes as well as groundwater from aquifers. Both are important to aquatic communities. High flows and ...

View page »

Establish, improve, and maintain appropriate sediment flows

(Sediment flow summary information is from Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership's Southeast Aquatic Habitat Plan) In a watershed, some sediment is carried in suspension by flowing water from inland to coastal waters, while some is deposited on banks and channel beds, supporting and sustaining aquatic habitats and their ecological systems. Sediment can positively and negatively affect the ...

View page »

remarkable

YOUR RIPARIAN

How awareness, understanding and a network of private landowners can maintain and restore the Nueces Basin headwaters.


"The destruction of soil
is the most fundamental economic loss
which the human race can suffer."
Erosion and Prosperity 1921
Aldo Leopold
southlano.org
EXIT

Restoration Funding Sources

- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- State Wildlife Grants Program
- Sport Fish Restoration Program
- NFHP – Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership
- USFWS Partners Program
- USFWS Fish Passage Program
- Private Corporations (e.g., Anheuser-Busch, Toyota)
- Private Landowners
- Farm Bill – VPA-HIP
- Fish kill restitution funds
- NPS Blueways Initiative

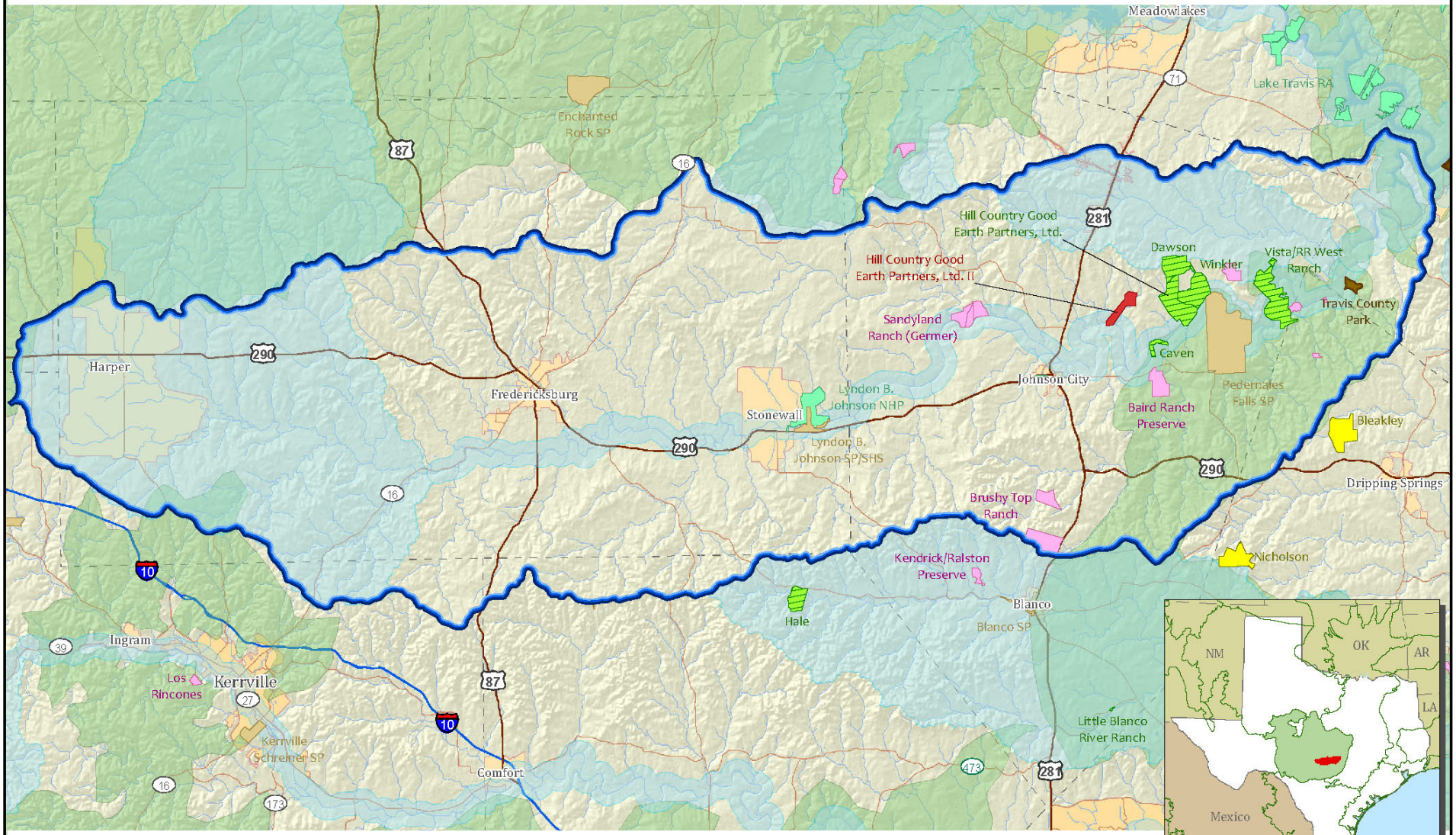
2010-2012 Accomplishments Llano River Watershed

- 17 ranches (52,808 acres)
- 1,926 acres of habitats restored or enhanced
- 34.62 miles of the Llano River and tributaries

The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

Pedernales River Project Area

Edwards Plateau Ecoregion



Pedernales River Project Area
TNC Easement
Assist - Conservation Easement
Pending TNC Easements
Federal Managed Land
State Managed Land
Local Managed Land
Private Managed Land
EP Aquatic Portfolio
EP Terrestrial Portfolio
Lake
River
Interstate
US/State Highway
State/County Highway
County Boundary

N

0 3 6 12
Miles

Map Created by
The Nature Conservancy of Texas GIS Department
PedernalesRiver_Project_8.5x11.mxd 4/27/2011


Devils River
Working Group
Final Report &
Recommendations
January 2012

Devils River Working Group Report and Recommendations

- Develop River Use Management Plan
  - Minimize land fragmentation in watershed
  - Maintain water quality/quantity
  - Support long-term sustainability of native fish populations
  - Preserve wilderness experience
  - Manage access and use to avoid or minimize negative impacts to aquatic resources

River Access and Conservation Areas

- Requires local community partner and willing private landowner
- Priority river segments:

(1) High quality riverine and riparian habitats;

(2) High recreational potential

(3) Limited public access

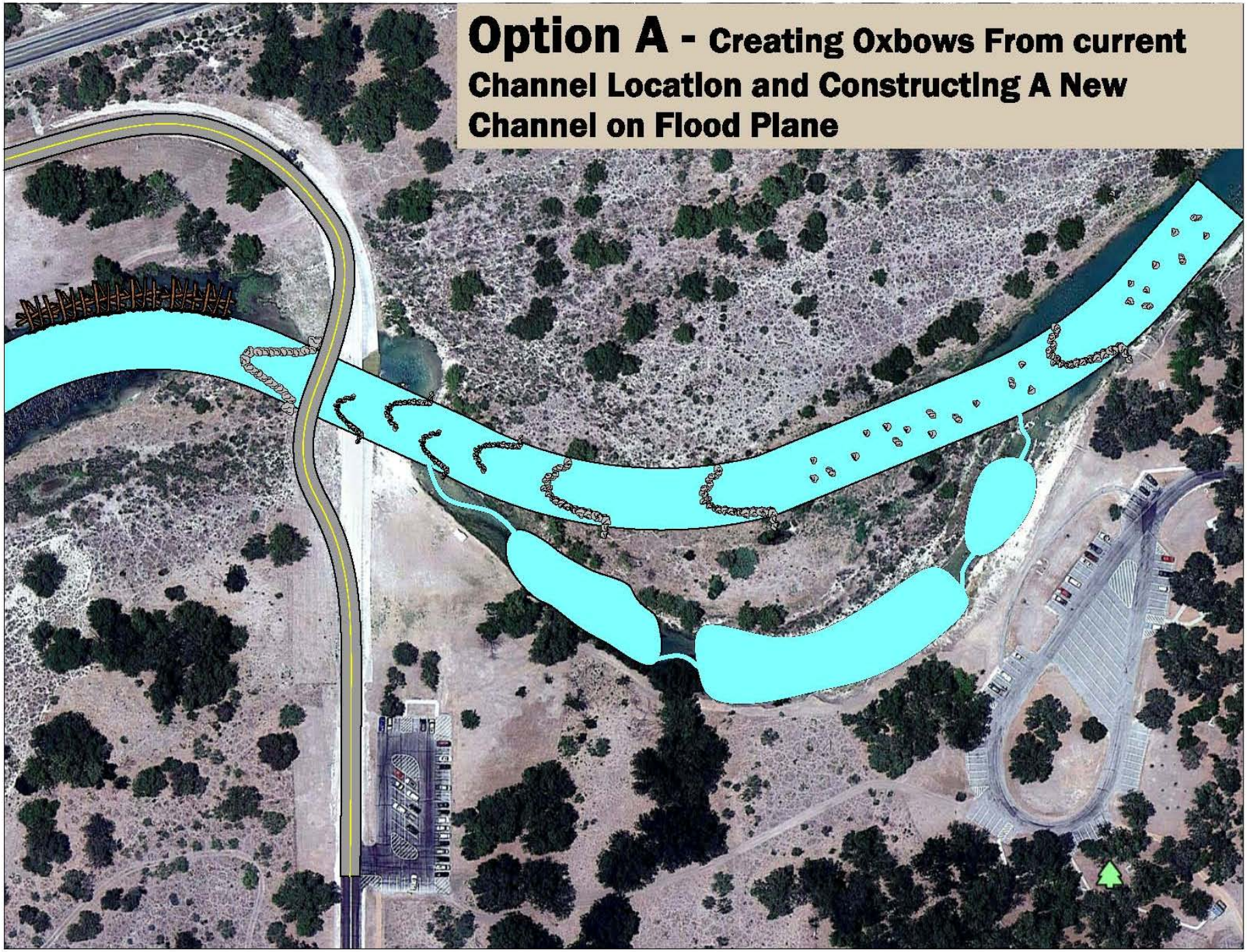
(4) Strategically-located

(5) Lease agreement of 10 years+

River Access and Conservation Areas

- Infrastructure improvements – parking, trails, educational kiosks/signage
- Implement habitat best management practices


Legend
individual_boulders
substrate-boulder_field
substrate-SAV
substrate-cobble_gravel
substrate-gravel_cobble
substrate-gravel_sand
Llano River Field Station
South Llano River State Park


Option A - Creating Oxbows From current
Channel Location and Constructing A New
Channel on Flood Plane


TEXAS
PADDLING TRAIL


Water, water, everywhere
Where does it come from?
Where does it go?
Spring-fed streams flow year-round
Connected to a larger landscape
Shaped by glaciers
One watershed shared by many
The Bridge Creek Fire


MISSION
REACH
Ecosystem Restoration and Recreation Project
Phase 3 Under Construction
Planned Completion,
Fall 2013
COMMUNITY
VENUES
RIVER

River Fishing

- Leased Public Access
- Dallas-Fort Worth
- State Parks
- Texas Paddling Trails
- Texas River Guide
- USGS Water Watch
  (current stream flow conditions)

More Places to Fish:

- Freshwater
  - Lakes
  - Rivers
- Saltwater
  - Boat Ramps & Access Points
  - Wheelchair Access
  - Catch Rates by Minor Bay
- Urban Areas
- Free Fishing in State Parks

River Fishing in Texas

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is conducting a survey about Fishing Rivers and Streams of the Texas Hill Country. If you've fished a Hill Country stream in the past 12 months, we want to hear from you! Anglers who complete the survey will be entered in a drawing for a rod and reel prize package.

Texas contains approximately 191,000 miles of rivers and streams, comprising forty-one major waterways. These waters range from clear, fast-flowing hill country streams to turbid, slow-moving bayous. Fishing success often slows on Texas reservoirs during the summer, but may remain excellent on Texas rivers.

Getting to the River

Finding public access can be a challenge, as many riverbank areas are privately owned. Here are some of our best river fishing opportunities.

Leased Public Access Areas 2012-2013

With funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program, TPWD has signed temporary agreements with property owners to improve fishing access to rivers and streams. Visit the links below for directions, details and any limitations on the use of individual sites.

Guadalupe River - River Road area downstream from Canyon Lake

- Whitewater Sports
- Rio Raft and Resort
- Mountain Breeze Campground
- Camp Huaco Springs

Brazos River - downstream from Lake Whitney

- Brazos River Cliffs Nature Center
- Brazos River Talking Waters Nature Center

River Fishing in Dallas-Fort Worth

Map and list of public bank fishing areas on the Trinity River and its tributaries

State Parks with River Fishing Access

- Blanco
- Colorado Bend
- Devil's River State Natural Area
- Dinosaur Valley (Paluxy River)

http://www.fishconserve.org/campaigns/basssymposium.html

Black Bass Diversity: Multidisciplinary Science For Conservation

February 7–10, 2013 In Nashville, TN

Call for Papers and Abstract Submission

The Fisheries Conservation Foundation's North American Black Bass Coalition is proud to be a sponsor of a special three-day symposium focusing on the conservation and diversity of the black basses (genus *Micropterus)*. This symposium will be held in Nashville, TN from February 7–10, 2013 in conjunction with the Southern Division American Fisheries Society (SDAFS) Annual Meeting.

The symposium will include invited presentations from black bass experts throughout North America, as well as contributed abstracts that fit the topics of the symposium. All presentations will be considered for manuscript submission for a final symposium book.

Topics to be highlighted on the species and subspecies of black bass will include:

- Biology
- Ecology
- Life History and Behavior
- Habitat Requirements and Status of Native Habitats
- Population Genetics
- Fisheries Management
- Angler's Perspective

Some of the more popular and/or controversial topics will include:

- New updates on the shoal bass, Alabama bass, redeye bass, and Guadalupe bass.
- The BASS SLAM program, promoted by B.A.S.S. for all 9 species of black bass.
- Angler attitudes on the protection of black bass populations.
- Effects of hybridization between species, such as the shoal bass, redeye bass, smallmouth bass, and Guadalupe bass populations.
- Research on the effects of endocrine disruption and intersex in black bass. What we know and what we don't know.
- The effects of river and watershed habitat restoration programs on black bass populations.
- The possible impacts of fishing for nesting bass.
- The history of black bass management over the last 100 years

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2012
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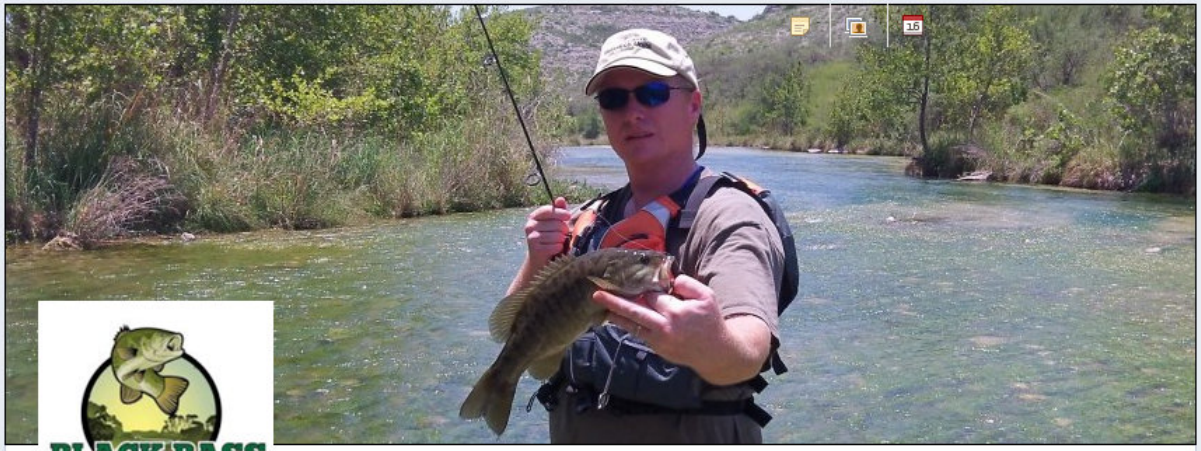

American Fisheries Society Black Bass Conservation Committee

40 likes · 2 talking about this

Organization
The AFS Black Bass Conservation Committee works to advance the conservation of black bass species within their native ranges by facilitating the sharing of science-based

About

Photos

40

Likes

Events

2013 Black Bass Diversity Sympos
A special symposium being organized to b

Notes 1

Highlights

Status Photo / Video Event, Milestone +

What's on your mind?

American Fisheries Society Black Bass Conservation Committee
October 11

For all those planning to attend our Symposium at the 2013 Southern Division AFS meeting, rooms at the Sheraton Nashville Downtown are going fast. Make your reservations ASAP to ensure you have a place to stay. For more information, check out http://www.sdafs.org/meetings/2013/default.htm

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Edward James Enriquez
Guadalupe bass with a crayfish in its throat. Caught at th...
1 · September 2 at 9:34pm

Edward James Enriquez
Guadalupe bass caught in the Pedernales River just below...
1 · August 29 at 1:17pm

Joe E. Slaughter IV
Joe posted a photo.
2 2 · June 27 at 7:55pm

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American Fisheries Society Black Bass Conservation Committee

The AFS Black Bass Conservation Committee works to advance the conservation of black bass species wi...

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Partners and Acknowledgements

- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
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- Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation
- Anheuser-Busch Corporation
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- The Nature Conservancy
- Texas State University
- Texas Tech University at Junction
- Texas A&M University
- University of Texas
- BASS
- FLW Outdoors
- KT Diaries
- World Fishing Network
- Trout Unlimited - Guadalupe River Chapter
- City of Junction
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service