



GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY

GBRA Public Hazard Survey Summary

27 respondents as of June 16, 2003

1. What is your zip code?

78155: 74%

77954: 15%

78124: 4%

78108: 4%

78123: 4%

2. Is your home in a floodplain?

Yes: 44%

No: 48%

I don't know: 7%

3. Do you have flood insurance?

Yes: 41%

No: 52%

I don't know: 4%

3A. If no, why not?

- In 1998 my home was totally destroyed- I had insurance at that time and used mitigation approaches, demolished and rebuilt an elevated my home BFE 8'8" above the ground. Currently I am trying to obtain flood insurance but was quoted \$1300 a year, when I was paying \$185 a year for a house located at ground level two lots adjacent from the elevated house. As it turns out, the survey-elevation certificate was wrong. I am working on correcting this and if it gets corrected and I can afford the insurance I will buy it. I won't get this straight for this month then insurance doesn't go into effect for 30 days. This is hurricane season.
- Too expensive- (attached insurance quote for premium of \$10,835)
- Area never flooded.
- I don't own the house.
- Rental, doesn't flood there, limited income.
- It has never flooded in the area where we live.
- Am in the sandhills across FM466 from El Capote Ranch.
- Don't feel I need it. Pecans flooded and were damaged. Didn't get a dime back in 1998 or 2002, lost about \$10,000. So I canceled.
- Not in floodplain.

4. Please select the hazard you think is the *highest threat* to your neighborhood:

Flood: 59%

Tornado: 15%

Wildland Fire: 7%

Hazardous Materials Spill: 7%

Pipeline Accident: 4%

Urban Fire: 4%

Transportation Accident: 4%

5. Please select the hazard you think is the *second highest threat* to your neighborhood:

Tornado: 15%

Drought: 15%

Hazardous Materials Spill: 11%

Dam Failure: 11%

Flood: 11%

Transportation Accident: 11%

Wildland Fire: 7%

Hail: 7%

Pipeline Accident: 4%

Urban Fire: 4%

Winter Storm: 4%

6. In your opinion, what are some steps your local government could take to reduce or eliminate the risk of future damage in your neighborhood?

- 77954- Provide a buy-out program to anyone who wants to get off the river and not rebuild or absolutely do not allow homes to be built on riverfront property that is prone to repetitious flooding. Land owners should use this property as mobile, weekend resort property and not to be lived on by permanent structures.
- 78155- Get responsible people to do radio news in time of flood. Bad information on KWED caused additional loss last time.
- 78155- Clean out Deadman's Creek and investigate the clay pit on Longhorn Train Run by the Cimex company.
- 77954- Close communications with railroad about train speed through Cuero; track conditions; re-routing rail outside the city of Cuero.
- 77954- Better warning devices and better info to be shared with public regarding flooding, tornadoes, hurricanes, hail, etc.
- 78123- Provide insurance coverage at a reasonable rate.

- 78155- Test the air quality and the water in Lake Placid.
- 78155- Wildfire: County officials need to enforce County residents in residential areas to keep grass and weeds mowed down. Where I live the landlord mows twice a year on his lot- the weeds are brown and dry and tall with drought conditions. Myself and other tenants are in danger especially with lack of access. If weeds catch fire, it could be deadly – next to my propane tank.
- 78155- Hazardous material control.
- 78155- Stop ignoring Geronimo Creek, not everyone lives on the Guadalupe River. Continue to work with the upstream tributaries, but also try to monitor the Geronimo Creek. Determine how high water levels along the creek will probably get based on actual readable levels at Highway 123, FM 20, US 90, US 90A. This will allow down stream residents to plan for rises before it is too late. Monitor the creek. There are no monitoring devices presently installed along this creek. KWED only pays attention to the GBRA color codes for the river. Darren Dunn laughs at calls about creek flooding.
- 78155- My home is in a downward plane from the other land around and my driveway floods and collects water in front of the garage door and does get “water logged”. Please come out and put a drainage pipe at driveway entrance so that my home does not flood.
- 78155- Lower speed limit especially on trucks. Ban hazardous materials.
- 78155- Enforce the existing laws and building codes, especially those pertaining to floodplains.
- 78155- There needs to be more coordination between all governments and agencies all up and down the Guadalupe River! Possibly more flexibility in regulations at Canyon Dam also.
- 78155- Better volunteer fire departments.
- 78155- Flood control dams on feeder creeks to the Guadalupe River.
- 78155- Emergency preparedness drills coordinating activities of city, county, state, media, lake groups, and home owner’s associations.
- 78155- Clear obstructions from lower end of Geronimo Creek.
- 78155- Create zones higher up the river to help prevent more flooding. Wider roads around the neighborhood, particularly at River Oaks by the golf course.

- 78155- Raise and widen the bridge over York Creek on Huber Rd. N. of FM 1101.
- 78155- The 2002 flood left a gravel bar in Guadalupe River 100 to 200 yards south of bridge on 466 (Nolte Park). Causes river to rise very quickly. It should be removed.
- 78155- Make certain all the gates in Guadalupe River dams are working. Provide fill material for locations with severe bank erosion. Better coordination of water releases at all the dams. More water flow gages (McQueeney, Placid, Seguin).
- 78155- Mail information about flooding to those in the floodplain.
- 78155- Monitor use of land near river, including specifically crop fields which are graded to drain off the crops and into the river, but often cross and flood other properties. There seems to be no penalty for this or if there is, I can locate no one who knows about it. I understand the need for land (fields) to drain and that the river may be an appropriate place, but not at the expense of others' properties.
- 78155- Improve visibility of street signage.
- 78155- Enforce building codes.
- 77954- In view of all the recent discussion concerning water availability for the future, so very little attention is given to construction of reservoirs to capture water in times of plenty to use in times of need as well as reduce down stream flooding. Canyon Lake is a good example of this.
- 77954- Consider dredging the Guadalupe to hold more water and evacuate faster.

7. Has any hazard in your neighborhood increased in severity in recent years?

- 78155- Flood- we flooded 4 times in one year.
- 77954- Flooding on the Guadalupe River.
- 77954- In and near Cuero we have had several train car wrecks over the past 2-3 years. Fortunately the train cars did not have hazardous chemicals in them, but many of he cars carry this material.
- 78155- Air pollution from SMI. I know they are not filtering emissions.
- 78155- Flood increased in severity in a nearby neighborhood and other areas of town.

- 78155- Traffic on FM 467 has increased and there are two warning signs in the front of my house. Both signs have been run over by vehicles at all hours of the day or night and that may cause vehicle or house damage to my property.
- 78155- Duh! Does a bear live in the woods?!!
- 78155- Flooding- Too much building in Hill Country with tree cutting has lead to more problems when heavy rains.
- 78155- If there is flooding or prolonged rains the creeks that cross FM 466 make it hazardous or impossible to get out.
- 78155- Dry fields.
- 78155- Two major floods in the last 4 years.
- 78155- Flood.
- 78155- Increased flooding of late concerns us.
- 78155- Floods have become more frequent on Huber Rd. at York Creek. County has installed a culvert pipe under Huber Rd. at York Creek that is way too small to channel flood waters.
- 78155- Gates at Seguin Dam cannot or are not being opened. Lake Placid Dam failed in 1998 and gates did not function properly in 2002.
- 78155- Flooding in 1998 and 2001.
- 78155- Flood (98 & 02) I would say more severe due simply to frequency.
- 78155- Ozone air pollution due to loss of tree canopy.
- 78124- Silting of waterway, changing of normal flow.
- 77954- Major flooding (35 feet and more above normal) has definitely increased in the last 5 years (1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002).

8. Is there another hazard not listed in this survey that you think is a wide-scale threat to your neighborhood?

- 78155- Erosion from floods.

- 78155- Pollution to Lake Placid due to contaminants to Deadman's Creek.
- 78123- Area under Treasure Island Bridge should be posted "No wake zone" similar to many other lakes. Remove ski jump from Lake McQueeney. Very dangerous at night and does not have proper lighting.
- 78155- The unusable (and ugly) pedestrian and water line bridge across the Guadalupe River on Business Highway 123.
- 78155- Geronimo Creek flooding. The development of Eastern Seguin and the areas north of Seguin toward San Marcos and New Braunfels cause much more runoff. The creek is less able to handle this excessive runoff. Also, the undergrowth along the creek causes the water to back up more and flow out of the channel at a slower rate. The Geronimo channel should be surveyed for impervious cover and blockage due to growth of development and underbrush.
- 78155- Across the street there is a lot of trash items stored and the people buy and sell used "stuff"- so there is an increase of varmints, opossums, and rats in the neighborhood. I have 3 pets outside that can get deadly diseases and then may become a health problem.
- 78155- Traffic is very dangerous.
- 78155- Yes. Politicians and the silly laws, and self-serving laws they pass.
- 78155- Water pollution, especially from New Braunfels sewage plant.
- 78155- Bank erosion. Several homes in the Parkview area are being endangered by continuing bank erosion.
- 78155- People unfamiliar with wind currents out here and leaving fires or logs smoldering.
- 78155- Any threat that the aquifer is lowered.
- 78155- City of Seguin annexation is always a hazard. They couldn't lead a boy scout troop into the woods.
- 78155- Ozone air pollution; global warming.
- 78124- Disposal of sewage sludge on land surface. Subject to wash into Santa Clara Creek, an intermittent flowing creek to which wildlife and livestock have access.