



Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority  
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## Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust Secures 6,200-Acre Easement in Goliad County

### For More Information

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GOLIAD COUNTY - More than 6,200 acres of property along the San Antonio River in Goliad County is being preserved through a conservation easement with the Fuller family and the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust (GBRTrust). The easement, executed Dec. 16, 2009, becomes the largest tract of property secured by the GBRTrust since its inception in 2001.

Dr. James Fuller, his wife Mary and family own the 6,201-acre tract that features seven miles of San Antonio River frontage and diverse topography. The Fullers plan to pass the land to their three sons who are actively involved with the management of the land.

"The Fuller family is leaving a legacy that will benefit their children, grandchildren, local community and State of Texas," Janaé Reneaud, GBRTrust executive director said, explaining that "a conservation easement is a legal agreement between a landowner and a conservation organization or government agency that permanently limits a property's uses in order to protect the property's conservation value."

"We wanted to see this beautiful property preserved for our three sons and ultimately for their families, rather than being fragmented and developed," Dr. Fuller said.

"All of us love the ranch, and our sons are environmentally conscious and concerned about keeping the property in tact - preserving it for future generations. This easement will help us do that," Mary Fuller explained.

Reneaud explained that it was in the interest of the GBRTrust to see the riparian zone maintained on the property to ensure future water quality in the river for wildlife and to protect the beautiful vistas in the watershed.

The Fullers also participate in the Conservation Crop Rotation Program with Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), which provides food, cover and water for livestock and wildlife, specifically quail.

In addition to NRCS, the family also works with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to manage their land for wildlife, yet still manage an active ranch. They also practice wildlife management techniques, such as controlled burns.

The Fuller's homestead is situated at the highest point on the property, which allows a stunning view from the wrap-around front porch.

The GBRTrust worked with the Fullers to create an agreement that allows the Fullers to have flexibility for five future home sites and use of the land as needed for ranching and wildlife management.

As the Fullers began to acquire the land over the years, they worked hard to clean up the land of abandoned homes and other debris that past owners left behind.

Over the years the family had considered entering into a conservation easement and recently decided it was time to move forward with the easement to protect the land from future development and to preserve it for future generations.

The Trust is a charitable, non-profit 501(c)3 organization that was developed to conserve the land and water of the Guadalupe River watershed for its natural, recreational, scenic, historic and productive value.

The mission of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust is to promote and encourage the conservation, stewardship and enjoyment of the land and water resources of the Guadalupe River watershed, while maintaining its unique and irreplaceable natural heritage.

More information about the Trust is available at [www.gbrtrust.org](http://www.gbrtrust.org).