



Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
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Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust Secures Blanco River Conservation Easement in Hays County

For More Information

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HAYS COUNTY - More than 1,000 feet of Blanco River frontage is being preserved through a conservation easement with the Braniff family and the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust (GBR Trust). The easement, executed Dec. 23, 2010, assists in preserving more than a half mile of contiguous Blanco River and creek frontage.

The Braniffs placed a conservation easement on a 20 acre tract of land that is situated along the Blanco River just three miles from Wimberley, Texas. The approximately 20 acre tract historically has been used for grazing, and other various practices. The property has been engaged in active wildlife management since it was purchased. The property provides both active and passive aesthetic enjoyment to the landowners. On this particular property, wildlife management and family-oriented recreation are the primary current uses.

The Braniff property follows along the Blanco River and consists of riparian woodlands along the river banks and a mixture of improved pastures and juniper brush land along the flood plain paralleling the river. The riparian woodland provides roosting sites for Rio Grande wild turkey and the open grass and brush land provide habitat for mourning dove and white-tailed deer. The landscape of the Blanco River lies at a geological and climatic confluence that has produced a wide variety of habitats and eco-regions in addition has a creek that runs along the west side of the property.

This property is special, but has added value because the adjacent property owners donated a conservation easement of 664 acres in 2009. The neighboring conservation easement combined with the Braniff easement is conserving in perpetuity a half-mile stretch of Blanco River frontage.

"Mr. Braniff has a unique tract of land that sits next to a conservation easement that the GBR Trust acquired in 2009, and he has preserved over 1,000 feet of Blanco River Frontage and Shelton Hollow which empties into the Blanco River," said GBR Trust Board President, Roger Welder.

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 preserve the unique natural heritage of the Guadalupe watershed for future generations, by protecting open landscapes, working farms and ranches, and wildlife habitat through conservation easements, education, and outreach that connects people to the water and the land. More information about the Trust is available at www.gbrtrust.org.