



Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
933 E. Court Street, Seguin TX 78155
www.gbra.org

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January 16, 2013

Lower Guadalupe River Basin Residents to be asked for Input to River Studies

For more information

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On January 29 and 30, the Texas Instream Flow Program will hold two public meetings in Seguin and Victoria to gain local perspectives and knowledge for technical studies about how much water is needed in the lower Guadalupe River to maintain a healthy environment. The program is an initiative of three state agencies, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and Texas Water Development Board. For the study of the lower Guadalupe River, the Texas Instream Flow Program will be partnering with the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority. "We're actively seeking public input in order to ensure local knowledge and interests are represented in the studies," said Mark Wentzel of the Texas Water Development Board.

The Guadalupe River originates at the confluence of its North and South Forks in Kerr County and stretches over 400 miles through eight counties, until it enters San Antonio Bay. The river is a valuable resource, providing for the daily needs of people, industry, agriculture, and the environment. The river is also much loved for its beauty and the recreational opportunities it provides.

Texas Instream Flow Program

Public Meetings

GBRA RIVER ANNEX

6:30 pm

January 29

905 Nolen St.

Seguin, TX 78155

Refreshments will be served

VICTORIA COMMUNITY CENTER

12:30 pm

January 30

2905 E. North St.

Victoria, TX 77901

Refreshments will be served

Although not required, please RSVP by January 28th by emailing tifp@twdb.state.tx.us or calling 512.936.0817

The Texas Instream Flow Program will study the lower portion of the river, beginning below the city of Seguin, to its confluence with the lower San Antonio River. This stretch of river travels approximately 230 miles through Guadalupe, Gonzales, DeWitt, Victoria, and Calhoun counties. Approximately 275,000 people live in these counties.

The Instream Flow Program was created by state lawmakers in 2001 to determine how much water is needed to maintain a healthy environment for rivers and streams across Texas. The program provides river flow science for use in water planning, permitting and conservation.

The program also provides scientific data for the adaptive management phase of the "environmental flows" process created by state lawmakers in 2007. Environmental flows include flows required to maintain the health of both rivers and bays. Using the best available science at the time, stakeholders and scientists from the Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission, and Aransas Rivers and San Antonio Basin and Bay system made recommendations for environmental flows for their area in 2011. TCEQ considered their recommendations as well as other factors and adopted flow standards in 2012. The adaptive management phase of the environmental flows process allows stakeholders to revise their recommendations in response to additional scientific studies, such as the upcoming study to be conducted by the Texas Instream Flow Program and GBRA.

After the public meetings on January 29 and 30, workshops will be held to help the Texas Instream Flow Program develop a study design for the lower Guadalupe River.

For more information about the Texas Instream Flow Program, visit

<http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/surfacewater/flows/instream/index.asp>.



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