



## Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust

933 East Court Street 9 Seguin, Texas 78155

www.gbrtrust.org

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# Preservation Matters

www.gbrtrust.org

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## The Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust is Hiring!

The Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust is seeking a qualified candidate to fill our Executive Director position. This position is responsible for the management of Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust, an accredited 501(c)(3) land and water trust. The Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust was created in 2001 by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority to conserve land in the Guadalupe River Watershed for its natural, recreational, scenic, historic and productive value. The Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust was the first accredited land trust in Texas.

The Executive Director works closely with the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust Board, and the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority's Executive Manager of Science, Intergovernmental Relations and Policy. This individual conducts meetings of the Trust Board and Trust committees and may conduct

executive sessions of the Trust Board as needed. This position is responsible for implementing and managing a multi-faceted development program of land and water conservation projects under the organization's mission and its conservation goals. This position will perform the following duties or have direct oversight including, but not limited to finances, fundraising, administration, marketing, conservation project development, implementation and monitoring, conservation easements, establishing contacts with landowners, developing project partners, education and outreach, and board development. Salary range is \$64,640 to \$103,422 and competitive benefits are offered.

For more information on the position visit [www.gbrtrust.org](http://www.gbrtrust.org).

### Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust

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Summer 2014

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GBR Trust retains the right to determine the editorial content and presentation of information contained herein. Articles or opinion written by guest writers do not necessarily reflect official views of the GBR Trust or its Board of Trustees. The GBR Trust is a charitable, non-profit 501(c)3 organization that was founded 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.

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WS-Tru/GBRT Spring 2014 NwsLtr/4.14.2014

by Jeff Crosby

Through a unique partnership between Caldwell County, the City of Lockhart and the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT), the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust (GBR Trust) has permanently protected 265 acres of wetlands just outside of Lockhart. The wetlands on the property were originally built as mitigation for the construction of State Highway 130 stretching from Georgetown to Seguin. Consolidating all of the wetland mitigation requirements into a single location created a large block of habitat in a part of central Texas where this does not exist.

The property contains a diverse mix of habitat types, including over a mile of riparian woodlands along Plum Creek, emergent and forested wetlands, and deep water wetland units. Originally, TXDOT approached the City and County about operating the site as a public park for the local community. Maintaining the site to the environmental standards that are required for wetland mitigation sites led to local officials reaching out to the GBR Trust for guidance.

The GBR Trust saw this as a unique opportunity as wetland habitats of this size are rare in central Texas. Proximity to a large and growing population base allows for significant use of the property by schools and other community groups as an

outdoor classroom and for additional education programming. There are over five miles of trails that navigate throughout the property providing significant opportunities for outdoor recreation.

The GBR Trust decided to acquire the property from TXDOT, who agreed to contribute to an endowment fund that would assist in the long-term management and conservation of the property.

The GBR Trust is currently developing a management plan for the property and has identified three primary goals:

1. Protect, maintain and enhance the wetland, riparian and additional

wildlife habitat on the property.

2. Provide appropriate outdoor recreational opportunities while protecting the conservation values of the property.

3. Provide scientific and educational opportunities related to wetlands, wildlife and conservation

Following the completion of the management plan, the GBR Trust will work in partnership with Caldwell County, the City of Lockhart, public citizens and other conservation organizations to implement these goals for the benefit of the local and regional communities as well as the wildlife resources found in the region.



Photo by Jeff Crosby



# WETLAND PROJECT

## Completed on Calhoun County Preserve

by Jeff Crosby

The Hog and Schwings Bayou's Preserve in Calhoun County, owned and managed by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust, near the Guadalupe River delta has long been a productive home for numerous wildlife species including deer, waterfowl and alligators. Through a partnership with Ducks Unlimited, a project was undertaken to enhance the wetland features on the property to provide an even greater benefit to the wildlife.

The preserve contains 816 acres and is bordered on three sides by water; Schwings Bayou to the south, Hog

Bayou to the north and a freshwater diversion canal along the west. The eastern boundary of the property extends to Highway 35. Using the natural topography of the property, engineers at Ducks Unlimited designed a 25-acre shallow water wetland. With recent rains along the coast the completed wetland project was full of water almost immediately after completion. Additional improvements to the habitat of the property are planned for the future.



Photo by Kevin Hartke



Photo by Fain Zimmerman

GBRA Stock Photo



Photo by Connie Rothe



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Photo by Alvin Schuerg



Photo by Janet Thome



### Help protect the Guadalupe River!

If you are looking for options to support the GBR Trust efforts to help protect the wildlife, scenic views and lifestyle within its 15-county region, you may want to consider including the GBR Trust in your will. You will be helping to continue the conservation efforts throughout the Guadalupe River watershed. If you choose to include the GBR Trust in your will, please contact the staff to initiate the appropriate stewardship choices.