LCRA Creekside Conservation Program
Pedernales SWCD (Blanco County)

LCRA Creekside Conservation Program

LCRA was created in 1934 as a Texas conservation and reclamation district. Now decades later, LCRA remains dedicated to land stewardship through the Creekside Conservation Program. This program began in 1990 to help landowners retain soil and enhance land productivity. It benefits the entire river basin by reducing sedimentation of streams, lakes and water supply reservoirs and lessening degradation of water quality and aquatic habitat.

LCRA
ENERGY • WATER • COMMUNITY SERVICES

Natural Resources Conservation Service

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is the federal agency that works hand-in-hand with the American people to conserve natural resources on private lands. NRCS is a valuable land stewardship partner in Blanco County, providing the technical service necessary to implement soil and water conservation plans. NRCS brings 60 years of scientific and technical expertise to the Partnership.

NRCS

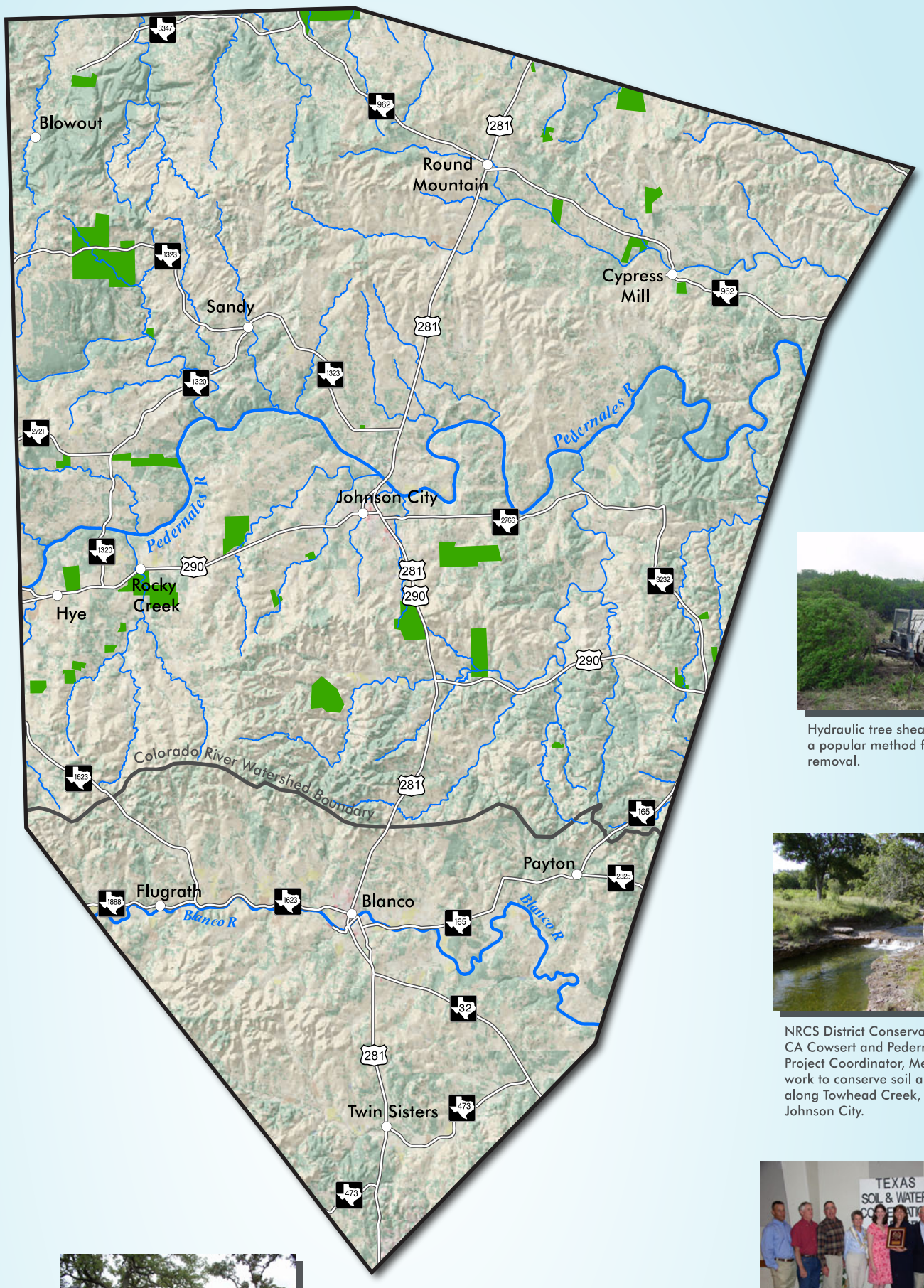
Pedernales Soil and Water Conservation District

In the 1930's our country experienced some of the worst dust storms recorded in history. Protection of topsoil became a priority and as a result, soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) were formed so landowners could work together at the local level to solve this major problem. The Pedernales Soil and Water Conservation District (PSWCD) is the cornerstone of land stewardship in Blanco County.

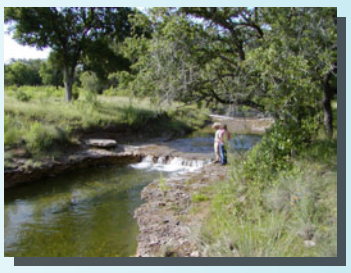
Federal 319 (h) Grant Augments the Creekside Conservation Program

In 2004, the LCRA Creekside Conservation Program was awarded a three-year, $507,000 grant from the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In 2007, the TSSWCB approved another three-year grant totaling $458,000. This funding enables more landowners to implement conservation practices on their land.

Soil Water TSSWCB
Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board



Hydraulic tree shearing has become a popular method for selective brush removal.



NRCS District Conservationist, CA Cowsert and Pedernales Brush Project Coordinator, Melissa Grote work to conserve soil and water along Towhead Creek, west of Johnson City.

Recognizing Excellence in Education at the 2006 Regional SWCD Awards Banquet in Wall, Texas. Left to Right: Blanco County NRCS District Conservationist CA Cowsert, Director Jim Odiorne, Director Ralph Ebeling Jr., Director Anne Holt, District Secretary Katie Murrah, Johnson City Teacher Phyllis Woods, Director Dwayne Hoppe, Pedernales Project Coordinator Melissa Grote, Director Roy Bruemmer.

The LCRA Creekside Conservation Program assists Blanco County landowners with the cost of cross fencing for improved grazing management.

At the 2005 Blanco County Land Stewardship field day, landowners discuss conservation efforts with LCRA Creekside Project Coordinator, Bobby Humphrey (straw hat)

2006 LCRA Creekside Conservation Partner Sign Presentation. Left to right: Ranch Owner, Bob Keith; Pedernales SWCD Board Member, Dwayne Hoppe; LCRA Board Director, Connie Granberg; Ranch Owner, Frana Keith.

Creekside Conservation Program Properties

0 3 6 Miles

Pedernales SWCD: LCRA Creekside Conservation Program Participation

Year	1992	1993	1994	1995	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2004	2005*	2006*	2007*	Total
Number of Participants	2	1	1	1	3	1	2	4	4	7	2	4	3	35
Dollars Reimbursed to Landowners	$5,010.90	$2,307.50	$1,490.35	$2,425.80	$12,964.93	$7,265.00	$8,750.00	$19,490.00	$29,035.00	$38,940.00	$21,000.00	$40,597.00	$63,644.00	$252,920.48
Management Acres	81	80	287	234	299	524	562	994	400	2,428	489	1,489	4,400	12,267
Brush Acres	20	0	40	0	90	47	160	404	391	808	410	212	668	3,250
Range Reseeding Acres	20	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50
Pasture Planting Acres	29	18	0	41	0	47	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	135
Critical Area Planting/Shaping Acres	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Cross Fencing Feet	4,000	1,500	0	3,050	3,200	3,100	0	0	0	0	0	1,738	10,000	26,588
Ponds	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Water Troughs	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Pipeline Feet	0	0	0	0	3,200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,200

* A Federal 319 (h) grant provided partial funding for projects during these years.

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