



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
July 28, 2023

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UGRA and LCRA Target Waterway Polluters

The Upper Guadalupe River Authority (UGRA) is pleased to announce that once again the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) has provided funding to help offset the bounty costs of hogs harvested in the Llano River drainage in northwest Kerr County. “Management of feral hogs in Kerr County is important to help protect the quality of our land and water and LCRA is pleased to participate in this effort with UGRA and Kerr County,” said Mike Allen, a member of the LCRA Board of Directors. The \$2,500 grant from LCRA is its fourth annual contribution to continue UGRA’s and Kerr County’s water quality protection program to slow the spread of feral hogs.



Pictured L-R: Tara Bushnoe, UGRA General Manager; Mike Allen, member of the LCRA Board of Directors; Aaron Bulkley, UGRA Vice President; and Don Harris, Kerr County Commissioner, Precinct 4.

“Kerr County and UGRA greatly appreciate the support from LCRA through this financial assistance to benefit our efforts to curb the growth of the feral hog population in Kerr County. Since 2017, the Feral Hog Management Program has assisted Kerr County ranch owners in the removal of over 10,000 feral hogs,” said Aaron Bulkley, UGRA Vice President.

Feral hogs seek out areas along waterways to wallow in the mud and shallow water. As a result, feral hogs heavily use riparian areas, the dense band of vegetation along rivers and creeks, as travel corridors. Research has demonstrated that the loss of riparian vegetation due to rooting and

trampling by feral hogs leads to increased stormwater runoff and erosion. This increased runoff in turn carries sediment into the waterway along with bacterial contamination and nutrients from hog feces. In some areas, hogs are contributing to water quality degradation so severe that the waterbody cannot support healthy recreation or aquatic life.



Feral hogs trample and root in riparian vegetation causing erosion and poor water quality.

Since 2017, UGRA and Kerr County have proactively partnered to offer competitive bounties for feral hogs and trapping assistance to encourage reduction in the feral hog population. Over the last six years, the bounty payments have supported the removal of over 10,000 feral hogs from ranchland in Kerr County. To request a bounty payment, bring your hog tails to Kerr County Animal Services at 3600 Loop 534 in Kerrville or call (830) 257-3100. For more information, visit www.ugra.org/major-initiatives/feral-hog-management

Let's Keep *Our* River Clean