

Date

Dear Friend,

I am writing to request your help in opposing to a plan that will cause irreparable harm to a Texas treasure.

Developers of *Honey Creek Ranch* near Bulverde, Texas propose to release up to 500,000/gallons per day of treated sewage effluent from a planned subdivision of 2,396 new homes on 592 acres directly into an unnamed tributary that flows into Honey Creek just upstream of the [Honey Creek State Natural Area](#) and [Guadalupe River State Park](#).



Preliminary water quality testing indicates that Honey Creek is one of the clearest-flowing streams in the Texas Hill Country. Guadalupe River State Park, immediately downstream of the confluence of Honey Creek and the Guadalupe River, has long been one of our state's most popular places to toss in a tube and 'float the Guadalupe.'

If Honey Creek Ranch gets this permit to dump wastewater directly into Honey Creek, a substantial portion of the flow into the State Park would consist of nutrient-laden effluent, impacting recreational activities such as swimming, fishing, canoeing, and inner tubing on the river.

Local residents have been joined by the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance, the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, Texas Cave Management

Association, Bexar Grotto, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Rivers Protection Association, Bulverde Area Republican Women, Democrats of Comal County, and local economic development agencies to convince the State of Texas that it should deny this permit.

TCEQ has not yet ruled on approving the permit. In our experience of opposing the introduction of sewage effluent directly into Hill Country waterways that recharge the Edwards and Trinity aquifers, we expect that the permit will be approved.

We have experts in the fields of water chemistry, karst geology, aquatic biology, economic development, land use planning willing to go to court to testify on the harm this permit will cause. All predict that the introduction of such a large amount of sewage effluent into the pristine waters of Honey Creek would permanently alter an aquatic ecosystem that is internationally famous as unique to the Texas Hill Country. Experts also warn that floods would cause effluent from the sewage treatment plant to flow into [Honey Creek Cave](#), the longest known cave in Texas.

Given that the citizens of Texas have made such a substantial investment in the Honey Creek State Natural Area and Guadalupe River State Park, we are asking you to help us to save Honey Creek whether you live nearby or just appreciate the chance to preserve one of the cleanest waterways in Texas.

The Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance is taking the lead in organizing opposition and raising funds to cover the legal expenses of contesting this permit. A generous donor has offered \$15,000 to match all donations of \$50 or more.

You can mail donations to GEAA at PO Box 15618, San Antonio, Texas 78212. Be sure to note Honey Creek on the check.

We are still \$10,000 short of making the match. Please mail in your tax deductible contribution to Save Honey Creek today.

Sincerely,

P.S. You can learn more about the impact of sewage on Hill Country waterways at <https://aquiferalliance.org/waste-water-discharge/>. And, you can enter the discussion, post pictures, and keep up with the latest news at the [Save Honey Creek Face Book page](#).