

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



This month, we spotlight our member group, LAS MORAS SPRINGS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION.

Mission

The purpose of Las Moras Springs Conservation Association (LMSCA) is to protect, preserve, and promote the sustainable management of Las Moras Springs and the groundwater resources that supply Las Moras and other springs in Kinney County for the benefit of the environment and wildlife, the economies of the city of Brackettville, Fort Clark Springs, and Kinney County at large, as well as for the social and recreational benefit of present and

future generations of people living in and visiting the city of Brackettville, Fort Clark Springs, and Kinney County at large.

History

Las Moras Springs Conservation Association (LMSCA) was founded by concerned citizens and landowners downstream of Las Moras Springs in 2022, when the springs drained completely for the first time in decades and Las Moras Creek ran dry. Since then, the spring continues to dry up each summer–an unprecedented phenomenon. Our organization has grown to include members from the city of Brackettville, Fort Clark Springs, and ranchers and landowners throughout the county. We host monthly LMSCA meetings, deliver turnout to monthly GCD meetings, conduct research on past and ongoing data collection and groundwater modelling, build relationships with local and regional elected officials and environmental/planning organizations, and mobilize our members to get out the vote in local elections. We understand that maintaining springflow and aquifer sustainability are complex issues requiring a multitude of solutions.

Progress

- Turned 2 GCD seats in the last election
- Got GCD to create a Rules Committee and place an LMSCA representative on it
- Developed a Drought Management Plan for consideration by the GCD using local hydrological data and frameworks from comparable GCDs in the state
- Secured endorsements of the Drought Management Plan from six rules committee members including ranchers, Fort Clark Springs representatives, and private landowners, as well as a supporting letter of opinion from attorney Deborah Trejo
- Began filming a short documentary in collaboration with Fin and Fur on the history and current predicament of Las Moras Springs, to debut in 2026
- Worked with Representative Eddie Morales to order a state audit of the GCD, which is now published
- Helped secure a \$60,000 grant from Coypu Foundation for an isotope study to be conducted by South West Research Institute in order to better understand underground flow paths to Las Moras Springs
- Worked with The Border Organization to establish the Southwest Water Coalition, a
 regional effort consisting of local environmental organizations, landowners, city and
 county officials, and concerned citizens from Kinney, Uvalde, Val Verde, and Maverick
 counties to address threats of large-scale groundwater export from our counties,
 public conservation education, and build relationships with state legislators.

Upcoming Events

LMSCA meetings occur on the Monday preceding every second Wednesday of the month, from 6-7 pm at 23 McClernand Rd. in Brackettville, TX.

Southwest Water Coalition meetings are currently held every third Friday of the month from 11:30 am-1pm at Border Federal Credit Union on Bedell Street in Del Rio, TX.

How to follow and support

Join our Facebook group here for frequent updates and additional information Watch our activity at monthly GCD meetings here Email us at lmscatx@gmail.com

Press

Water board to discuss a drought plan-The Brackett Beacon Let's not kill Las Moras Springs-The Border Chronicle Community members meet for water solutions - 830Times