2009 Texas Invasive Plant and Pest Conference
Field Trip – Eagleland Segment of the San Antonio River Improvements Project

Date: Saturday, November 14, 2009
Time: 1:00 – 4:00 PM
Location: Meet at Ruth Taylor Foyer, Trinity University
Maximum: 30 people
Coordinator: Jim Houser, Texas Forest Service, jhouser@tfs.tamu.edu
Trip Leader: Lee Marlowe, San Antonio River Authority, lmarlowe@sara-tx.org

The Eagleland Segment of the San Antonio River Improvements Project aims to restore ecological functions and values to a portion of the river between South Alamo Street and Lone Star Boulevard, just south of downtown San Antonio. The Eagleland Segment consists of approximately 1 mile of river length which has undergone previous channelization to reduce flood damage. The project includes approximately 17 acres of restoration plantings composed primarily of prairie plants with some young native trees and shrubs. It was originally planted in 2005, but numerous disturbances have resulted in a patchwork of plantings at various stages of development including the most recent plantings during Fall 2009. The restoration planting has undergone many challenges including damage by adjacent projects, invasion by non-native as well as native species, extreme drought conditions, and periodic flooding.

The San Antonio River Authority will operate and maintain the Eagleland Segment in perpetuity. Current operation and maintenance of the area involves short and long term management techniques and approaches with the goal of establishing a native plant dominated community within the project area. Various techniques are used to manage the common invasive non-native plants in our region, as well as two very new invaders that may prove to be a challenge for other restoration projects. Lee will discuss the project, focusing on the operation and maintenance completed to date at Eagleland in an effort to manage invasive non-native species, as well as undesirable native species. Lee received her Bachelor of Science degree in Ecology, Evolution and Behavior from the University of Minnesota, and has over ten years of professional experience on a variety of ecological restoration and management projects large and small.