Michael Klepac

I own property in Jarrell that has the Salado creek running through it. My property lies in Bell and Williamson counties as does my neighbors property.

There are two proposed sewer plants in Williamson County that are in the TCEQ permitting process. The Reserve at Salado Creek, permit number #WQ0016658001, is on my neighbors property in Williamson County. My neighbor owns a small portion of Salado creek that is in Bell County. This plant will dump their effluent into that Bell County portion of the Salado creek.

There is another proposed sewer plant about 1.6 miles upstream in Williamson County. This plant, the Jarrell Landing, permit #WQ0016207001, is proposing pumping their effluent 1.6 miles down to the small portion of the Salado creek that is in Bell County on my neighbors land.

It's obvious that the Edwards Aquifer protections in Williamson county need to be extended into Bell County to protect the Aquifer. These plants could not pump their effluent into the Salado creek in Williamson County without meeting much more stringent requirements. Protection is needed for the Edwards Aquifer in Bell County and any other county where it is recharged. At the public meeting in Salado regarding the WQ0016658001 permit, one of the folks from TCEQ said the Edwards Aquifer wasn't in Bell County. It appeared that since it isn't protected in Bell County, it isn't recognized by TCEQ.

The Salado Salamander is present in the Salado Creek. Protections need to be in place to ensure the survival of this species.