

PROJECT UPDATE

Lake Ralph Hall is a special place (a natural place, a quiet place, a hospitable place) both for people and for the environment, assuring a reliable water supply for generations to come.

A Year of Progress and Looking Ahead to 2023

Looking Back at 2022

This past year has been one of tremendous progress for Lake Ralph Hall. In 2022, Upper Trinity Regional Water District and our contractors have made significant headway on several key components including:

- Building up the dam embankment and pouring concrete for the spillway. When complete, the dam will be 2.3 miles in length.
- Completing most of the project's bridges and roadways.
 The pedestrian-friendly State Highway 34 bridge to cross the future lake is nearly finished after placing the last of the decking this fall. Also, the Merrill Creek bridge is almost complete as the last of the concrete was poured recently.

On the Horizon

In 2023, Upper Trinity will kick off several additional parts of the Lake Ralph Hall project:

- · Installing the 32 miles of underground pipeline needed to transport raw water from the lake to our treatment facility. This part of the project also includes building a balancing reservoir and pump station.
- · Beginning environmental mitigation in early 2023. A portion of the former North Sulphur River, downstream of the Leon Hurse Dam, along with several tributaries will be restored to its natural, meandering path.

Crews will continue to:

- · Finish the remaining road and bridge work, which is on schedule for completion by this spring.
- · Clear the lake area, east of State Highway 34—creating fish habitats in the process.

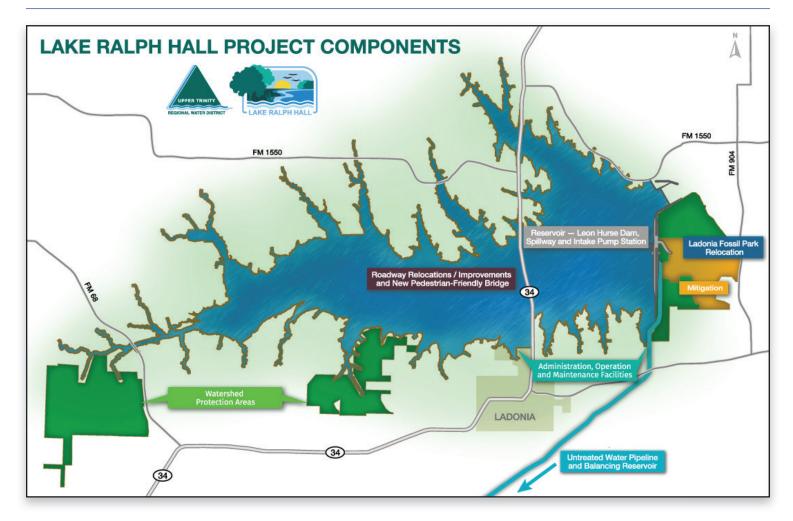


The Leon Hurse Dam begins to take shape thanks to hard work during 2022

"I want to thank the team and our contractors for their hard work and making sure everyone stayed safe during construction," said Upper Trinity Executive Director Larry Patterson. "Construction of Lake Ralph Hall is vital. It helps us avoid a water shortage by having a new, safe and reliable water supply by the mid-20s and provides water for generations of future North Texans."



PROJECT COMPONENTS UPDATE



Reservoir, Leon Hurse Dam & Spillway

Constructing a 2.3 mile-long dam, intake pump station to pump water into the untreated water pipeline and spillway to release excess water back into the North Sulphur River.

- Around 70 construction workers are onsite placing and compacting dirt for the embankment on both ends of the dam.
- Crews have begun to clear the general lake area east of SH 34.
- Crews are pouring concrete for the spillway and dam.

Roadway and Bridge Improvements

Constructing a new pedestrian-friendly SH 34 lake bridge, relocating part of FM 1550 and improvements and closures to various county roads.

- Crews are pouring the last of the bridge decking for the Merril Creek Bridge, after which they will only need to finish the bridge barriers.
- Construction continues on new sections of FM 1550 to accommodate the future lake shoreline. All state roadway work is scheduled to finish this spring.



Administration, Operation and Maintenance Facilities

Building facilities for the lake's day-to-day operation, management and maintenance facilities.

• Halff Associates and Freese & Nichols are currently planning/designing all lake facilities.

Pipeline

Installing a 32-mile underground pipeline and creating a balancing reservoir to provide water to Upper Trinity's water system for treatment and delivery.

- UTRWD continues the process of acquiring the necessary easements for the pipeline and has acquired the property for the balancing reservoir.
- The designs for the pipeline and pump station are both nearly finished. UTRWD has begun the process of acquiring the necessary pumps, pipes and valves so they can begin construction on these components spring/ summer of next year.

Mitigation/Watershed Protection Areas

Returning a portion of the former North Sulphur River to its natural, meandering path. Leaving other areas in their natural condition to protect water quality in the lake.

- Designers are preparing final plans for mitigation, with plans to begin construction this spring.
- The temporary fossil park continues to attract fossil hunters from all around.

SPOTLIGHT

Environmental Improvements to Break Ground in 2023

Last spring Upper Trinity's Board of Directors approved a contract with Texas Mitigation Solutions (TMS) to restore areas near the future Lake Ralph Hall—construction required to offset the environmental impacts of the new lake. Since that time, TMS has been working to finish designs so they can begin on stream restoration this spring.

The goal of this mitigation project is to restore a key portion of the North Sulphur River to its original, winding path surrounded by healthy, forested floodplains. Crews will set up work trailers and identify the best areas to stage



The remnant of the former North Sulphur River will be restored as part of mitigation plans for Lake Ralph Hall.

equipment and supplies. Then, preparations for stream restoration will begin—removing invasive/nuisance plants and clearing and collecting trees to improve current stream designs. Stream construction should be underway by this summer.



