



Next Steps

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Mid Pecan Bayou
Recreational Use Attainability Analysis
January 9, 2012
Brownwood, TX

Water Quality in Texas

- Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB)
 - Agricultural & Silvicultural Nonpoint Source
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
 - Point Source Permitting (WWTF, CAFO, MS4)
 - All other forms of Nonpoint Source





Federal Clean Water Act

- “restore & maintain the chemical, physical & biological integrity of the Nation’s waters”
 - “water quality which provides for the protection of fish, shellfish, & wildlife & provides for recreation in & on the water”
- also, federal Safe Drinking Water Act





Federal Clean Water Act

- requires States to establish Water Quality Standards to achieve objective & goals
- requires States to identify waterbodies failing to meet water quality standards & not supporting their designated uses
 - this list of impaired waterbodies is known as the *Texas 303(d) List*
 - must be submitted to USEPA for review & approval every two years



Restore Water Quality

(tools to remove from 303(d) List)

- additional monitoring demonstrates now achieving water quality standards
- conduct a Use Attainability Analysis to change water quality standards
- develop/implement Total Maximum Daily Load & Implementation Plan for adoption/approval
- develop/implement a Watershed Protection Plan



Next Steps - Timeline

- Public Comment on both Technical Reports ends Friday, January 13
- AgriLife and TIAER will address any discussion from tonight and comments received thru Friday and make appropriate changes to documents then deliver to TSSWCB
- TSSWCB will forward the RUAA Report and supporting documentation to TCEQ, prior to February 1, with a cover letter reflecting the path forward and recommendations discussed tonight



Next Steps - Timeline



- TCEQ will evaluate RUAA Report and conduct their own public comment process
- TCEQ will then evaluate Report and any comments received and formulate a staff recommendation to either change or not change the WQS for MPB
- TCEQ staff recommendation on whether or not to change the WQS as a result of the RUAA will be discussed throughout the public process for the next Triennial Review (2013) of the TSWQS
- USEPA must subsequently approve or disapprove any revisions to the TSWQS



Discussion

1. Based on findings described in both the RUAA and Source Survey Technical Reports, what is the most appropriate tool to utilize to address the bacteria impairment on Mid Pecan Bayou?
2. Based on findings described in the RUAA Technical Report, what is the most appropriate designated recreational use (PCR, SCR1, SCR2, NCR) for Mid Pecan Bayou?



Discussion

3. From the Source Survey Technical Report, almost all of the data used in assessing water quality and defining the bacteria impairment of MPB comes from station 12504, which is located in the upper portion of the watershed. To better assess water quality and define pollutant sources along MPB, an additional monitoring station at the lower end of the segment would be useful. Should this recommendation be made to the Texas Clean Rivers Program (TCEQ + LCRA)?

4. Given that through the interviews it was confirmed that primary contact recreation does occur on MPB, and presuming that TCEQ/USEPA does not move forward with a change to the WQS, what is the preferred alternative tool to address the bacteria impairment?



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