

# The Mill Creek Watershed Protection Plan



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Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

*Mill Creek  
March, 2015*

**TEXAS A&M**  
**AGRILIFE**  
**EXTENSION**



## *THE MILL CREEK*



- The Mill Creek watershed drains an area of about **412 mi<sup>2</sup>** or **265,000** acres
- The main stem of Mill Creek is formed by the East and West forks which join west of Bellville.
- Mill Creek flows into the Brazos River
- ***Population centers:***
  - Brenham: 16,101
  - Bellville: 4,170
  - Burton: 302
  - Industry: 309

# MILL CREEK WATERSHED



# Texas Integrated Report for CWA

## 2014 Texas Integrated Report - Texas 303(d) List (Category 5)

SegID: 1202K Mill Creek (unclassified water body)

From confluence of East and West Mill Creeks downstream to confluence with Brazos River

Parameter(s)

Category

Year Segment First Listed

**bacteria**

**5c**

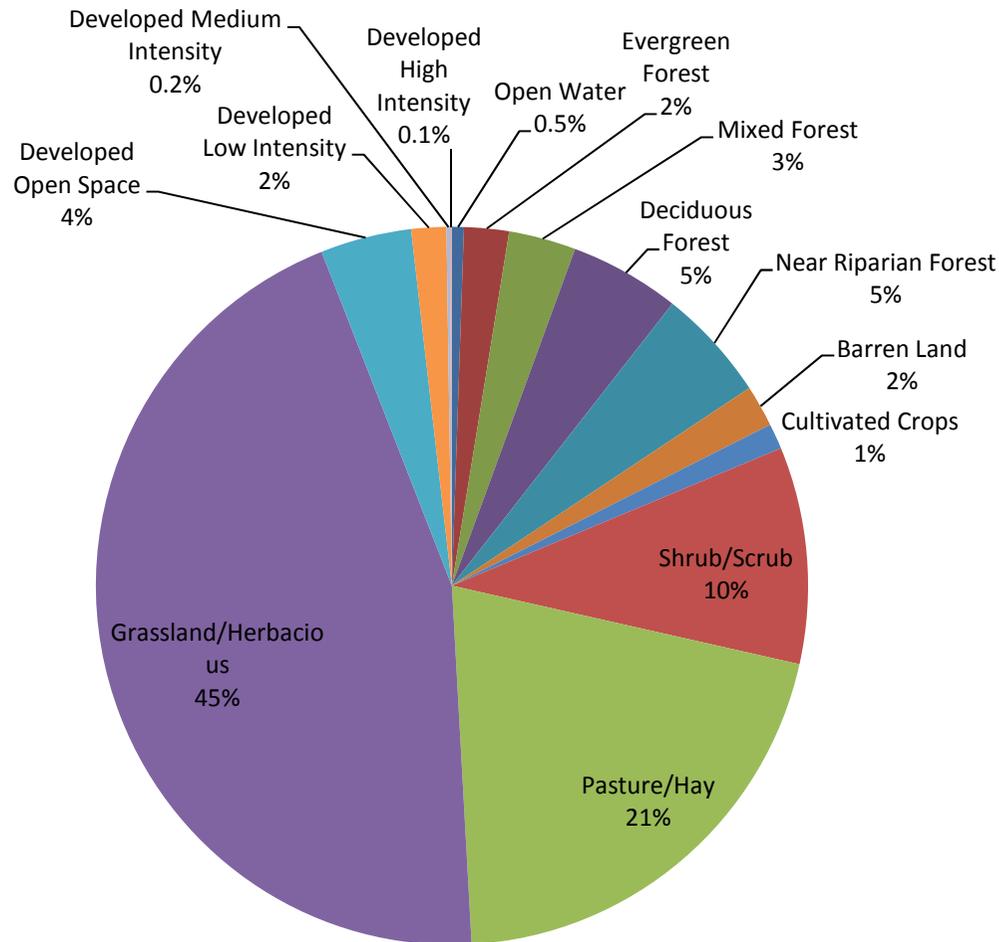
**2010**

1202K\_01 Portion of Mill Creek from confluence with Brazos River upstream to confluence with East/West Forks Mill Creek in Austin County.

Between 2005 and 2012 the geometric mean for bacteria in Mill Creek was 192 cfu/100 mL, exceeding the recreational use standard of 126 cfu/100 mL.

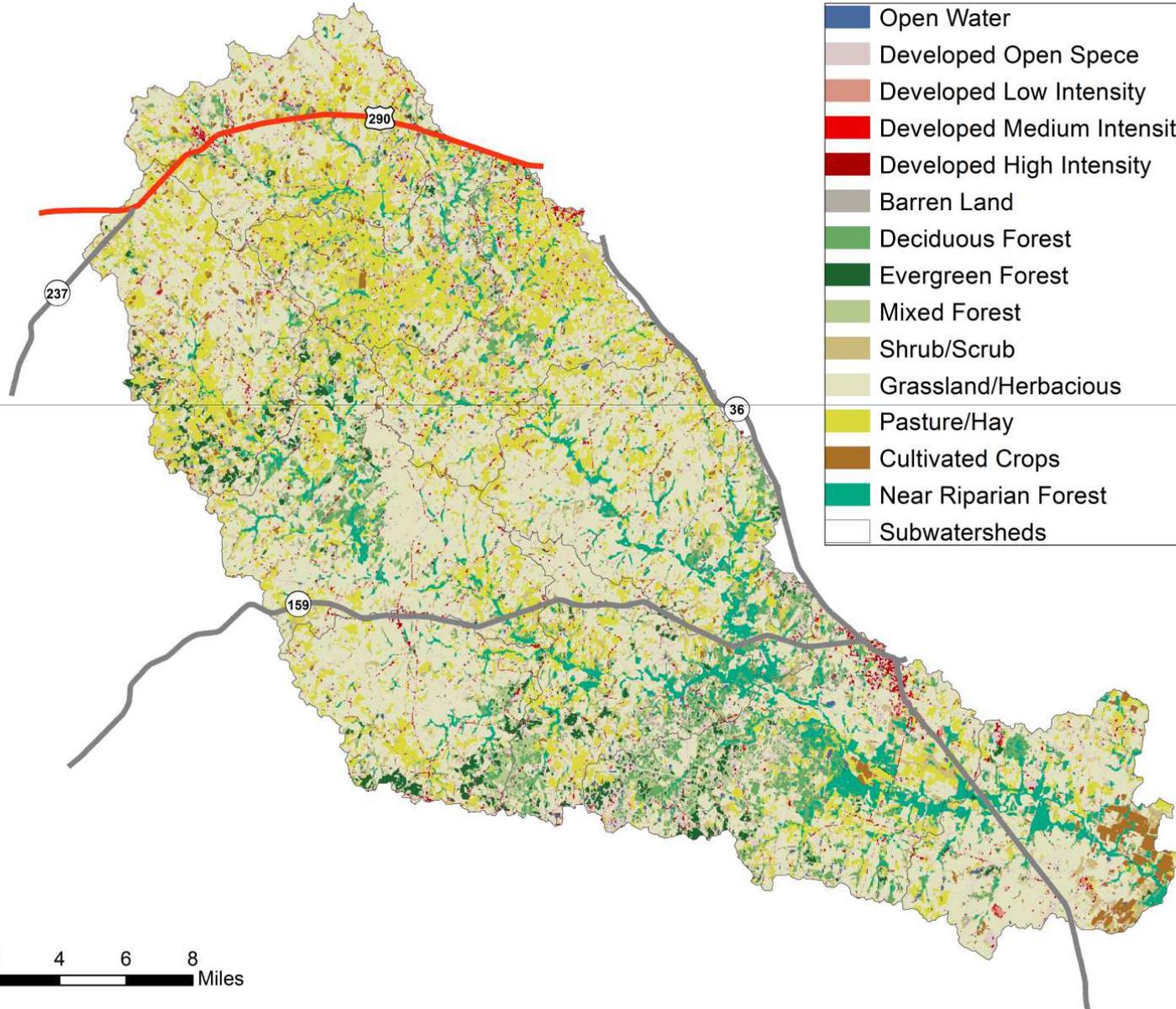
# Land Use Land Cover

- Satellite Imagery Analysis



Land Use	Acres (Ac)
Grassland/Herbaceous	118308
Pasture/Hay	54323
Shrub/Scrub	25696
Near Riparian Forest	13429
Deciduous Forest	13192
Developed Open Space	10892
Mixed Forest	8036
Evergreen Forest	5364
Barren Land	4938
Developed Low Intensity	4192
Cultivated Crops	3025
Open Water	1400
Developed Medium Intensity	404
Developed High Intensity	251

# Land Use Land Cover



- Open Water
- Developed Open Space
- Developed Low Intensity
- Developed Medium Intensity
- Developed High Intensity
- Barren Land
- Deciduous Forest
- Evergreen Forest
- Mixed Forest
- Shrub/Scrub
- Grassland/Herbaceous
- Pasture/Hay
- Cultivated Crops
- Near Riparian Forest
- Subwatersheds

# Goals

- Develop stakeholder-driven WPP.
- Obtain EPA acceptance.
- Demonstrate the potential for streamlined WPP development process.

# *4 Steps of Watershed Planning*

1. Establish a “Partnership”
2. Prepare a Watershed Protection Plan
  - Characterize the watershed
  - Establish goals and strategies
  - Develop an implementation strategy
3. Implement the Watershed Plan
4. Measure Progress and Make Adjustments

*All of which rely heavily on local stakeholder  
input and participation*

# *Project Timeline*

- June – Initial funding, QAPP/contract development
- July – Local Advisory Group meeting
- September – WQ sampling begins
- November – Kickoff meetings
- January – First Partnership meeting
- Feb.-May – WPP development

# *Milestones*

- WQ monitoring underway – Sept. 2014
- Kickoff meetings – Nov. 2014
- Formed Partnership & SC – January 2015
- Finalized draft sections 1-3 – February 2015

# Mill Creek WPP Outline

1. Watershed Management
  2. Overview of the Watershed
  3. The Mill Creek Partnership
  4. Methods of Analysis
  5. Pollutant Source Assessment
  6. Management Measures
  7. Measures of Success
  8. Project Implementation
- 
- January
- February
- March-May

# Contact Info

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