



Assessment of Water Quality and Watershed Based Planning for Nolan Creek

Water Body	Nolan Creek / South Nolan Creek (Seg 1218)
Location	Bell County
River Basin	Brazos River Basin (12)
Contractor	Texas Institute for Applied Environment Research (TIAER)
Project Period	September 1, 2012 to February 29, 2016
Project Total	\$459,418 (Federal 60% and Local Match 40%)

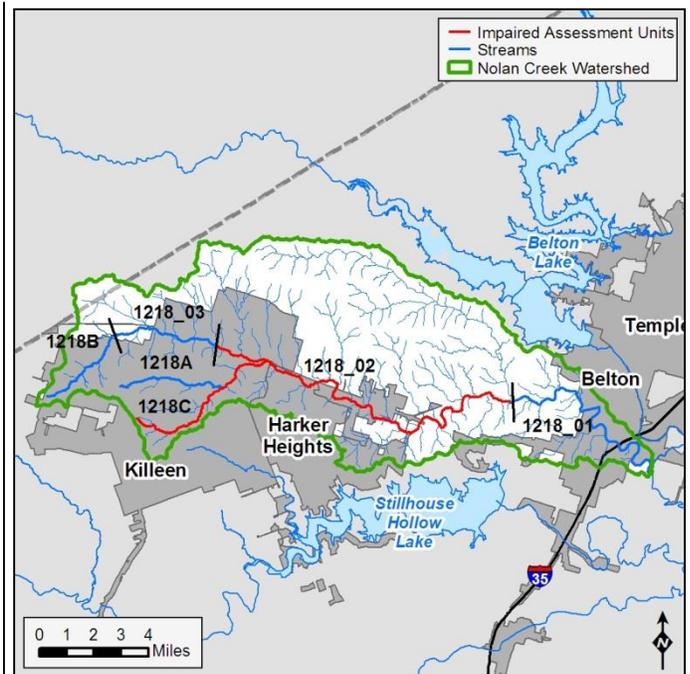
Background

Segment 1218 was first listed on the 1996 303(d) List for elevated bacteria concentrations. The 2010 303(d) List identifies assessment unit 1218_02 (portion of South Nolan Creek from confluence with North Nolan/Nolan Creek fork upstream to confluence with Liberty Ditch in City of Killeen in Bell County) and 1218C (Little Nolan Creek from confluence with Nolan Creek/South Nolan Creek upstream to headwaters in the City of Killeen, Bell County) for elevated bacteria concentrations. Both assessment units are classified as 5b, indicating that a review of the water quality standards for this water body will be conducted before a total maximum daily load (TMDL) will be scheduled. In addition, the 2010 Texas Water Quality Inventory identifies the following concerns: nitrate, total phosphorus, and orthophosphorus.

Project Description

Through this project, project partners and collaborating entities will work with local stakeholders to progress through the data collection and analysis components of the first two tiers of the Bacteria TMDL Task Force recommended three-tier approach. The goal of the data collection and analysis effort is to remove waterbodies in the study area from the 303(d) List; however, the mechanism is not predetermined. This three-year assessment project may conclude: 1) waterbodies are achieving current water quality standards, 2) adequate data exists to develop a Watershed Protection Plan, or 3) adequate data exists to develop a TMDL and Implementation Plan for TCEQ adoption.

This project should complete Element A and address large portions of Element B of the nine required elements of a watershed plan specified in the Environmental Protection Agency's Handbook for Developing Watershed Plans to Restore and Protect Our Waters.



Current Status

This project is complete and reports are available on the project website. A new project to develop a watershed protection plan for the Nolan Creek/South Nolan Creek watershed has started. Public participation is ongoing in the watershed.

For More Information

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Project Highlights

- 09/01/2012 – Contract executed
- 09/21/2012 – Post Award and QAPP Planning meeting was conducted
- 03/2013 – Public Participation Plan approved.
- 05/02/2013 – Monitoring and modeling QAPPs were approved
- 09/2013 – Data set submitted.
- 12/2013 – Data set submitted.
- 01/2014 – Stakeholder meeting held
- 03/2014 – Data set submitted.
- 03/2014 – Annual updates of monitoring and modeling QAPPs completed
- 06/2014 – Data set submitted.
- 09/2014 – Stakeholder meeting held.
- 12/2014 – Draft Watershed Characterization Report submitted.
- 12/2014 – Draft Source Survey Technical Report submitted.
- 12/2014 – Water quality data submitted.
- 03/2014 – Water quality data submitted.
- 10/2014 – Water quality data submitted.
- 03/2015 – Water quality data submitted.
- Spring 2015 – 6 month contract extension.
- 06/2015 – Phase I of the Watershed Characterization Report finalized.
- 06/2015 – Water quality monitoring completed.
- 07/2015 – Final water quality data submitted.
- 07/2015 – Phase II of the Watershed Characterization Report finalized.
- 09/2015 – Contract executed for the Nolan Creek Watershed Protection Plan development project.
- 10/2015 – Stakeholder meeting held.
- 12/2015 – Phase III of the Watershed Characterization Report finalized.
- 01/2016 – Stakeholder meeting held.
- 02/2016 – Final Report approved.
- 02/2016 – Project closed.