



## Geronimo Creek Implementation

<b>Water Body</b>	Geronimo Creek (Seg 1804A)
<b>Location</b>	Guadalupe County
<b>River Basin</b>	Guadalupe River (18)
<b>Contractor</b>	City of Seguin
<b>Project Period</b>	September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2016
<b>Project Total</b>	\$277,817 (Federal 60% and Local Match 40%)

### Background

Geronimo Creek (Segment 1804A) originates near New Braunfels and empties into the Guadalupe River south of Seguin. Since 2006, the lower portion of the creek in and near Seguin has been listed on the 303(d) list with an impairment of the contact recreation use due to elevated bacteria levels. The same portion of the creek was listed as early as 2000 and again in 2010 with a concern for nitrate-nitrogen concentrations that exceed the established screening levels.

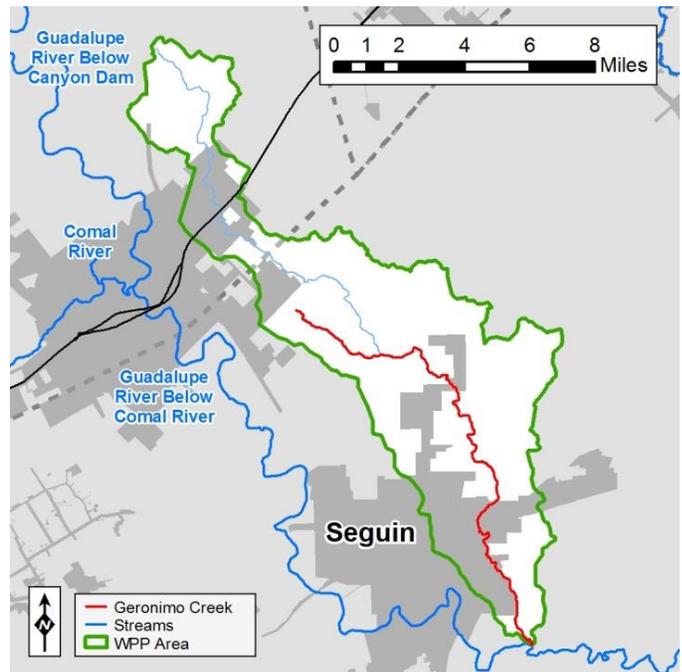
In response to these water quality issues, local stakeholders developed a Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) for Geronimo Creek and its major tributary Alligator Creek. The Environmental Protection Agency approved the WPP in 2012. The WPP identifies failing septic systems as one of the primary causes of the impairment and concerns for Geronimo Creek.

### Project Description

For this project, the City of Seguin will provide for the decommissioning of septic systems in areas with recurring septic system problems. The City will extend sanitary sewer service into some of these areas. The cost and responsibility for decommissioning sewer systems rests with the homeowners. However, the City of Seguin will help offset the decommissioning costs for homeowners who arrange for their systems to be decommissioned as soon as sewer service becomes available. This will provide earlier and larger total reductions in bacteria loading from the area to Geronimo Creek.

### Current Status

Decommissioning is complete. A total of 131 septic systems have been decommissioned, resulting in an estimated *E. coli* potential load reduction of  $4.22 \times 10^{13}$  cfu/day



### For More Information

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Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Watershed Partnership  
<http://www.geronimocreek.org>

## Project Highlights

- 09/2013 – The contract was initiated, and the post-award conference was held.
- 05/2014 – First community education meeting held.
- 08/2014 – A total of 130 homes have been signed up for septic system decommissioning.
- 10/2014 – Decommissioning work began.
- 04/2015 – 78 septic systems have been decommissioned.
- 01/2016 – A total of 131 were decommissioned resulting in an estimated load reduction of  $4.22 \times 10^{13}$  *E. coli* cfu/day.
- 08/2016 – Final Project Report completed.