

Public Participation in the Guadalupe River (Above Canyon) TMDL Project



Segment 1806 – Bacteria

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Environmental Planning and Implementation Division



Why Involve Stakeholders?



Why Involve Stakeholders?

- Better solutions come with broad participation from stakeholders
- To increase the degree of understanding issues, possible solutions, and constraints
- To build support within the watershed for necessary management measures
- Multiple parties often needed to implement solutions (Implementation Plan for the Guadalupe River (Above Canyon))



Who Are Stakeholders?

- All individuals or organizations in the watershed who:
 - live in the watershed or use the water resource
 - contribute a significant degree of impact to the watershed
 - may be required to carry out control measures
 - can help to develop or implement actions
 - have statutory or regulatory responsibilities
 - are significantly affected by the problem(s)
 - are directly affected by the project's outcome



Facilitating the formation of a Watershed Advisory Group (WAG)

➤ Soliciting Members

- Identify stakeholders for WAG to have a balanced representation within the watershed
- House Bill 2912 – No more than 24 members
- Maximize group effectiveness; members must be empowered to speak and act
- Invite members, formalize commitment
- Establish and maintain a roster of members and groundrules



Balanced Representation

24 – Member group represents a diversity of viewpoints on issues to be discussed

- Geography
- Income levels
- Ethnicity
- Business (different types and sizes)
- Governments (different sizes and levels)
- Associations, trade groups, organizations
- Consumer and public interest groups
- Industries or occupations regulated and affected



Operating the Stakeholder Group

- TCEQ Approval
 - Formation of group
 - Membership
- Conduct of Meetings
 - Open to the public, inclusive
 - Ground rules and structure
 - Agendas and minutes
 - Maintain web site at:



<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/water/tmdl/65-guadalupeabovecanyon.html#meetings>



TCEQ's Commitment to Stakeholders is to:

- Work with stakeholders to ensure they understand the issues and their ideas are considered
- Solicit stakeholder comment at each milestone in the project's development



[www.tceq.state.tx.us/water/
quality/tmdl/](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/water/quality/tmdl/)



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