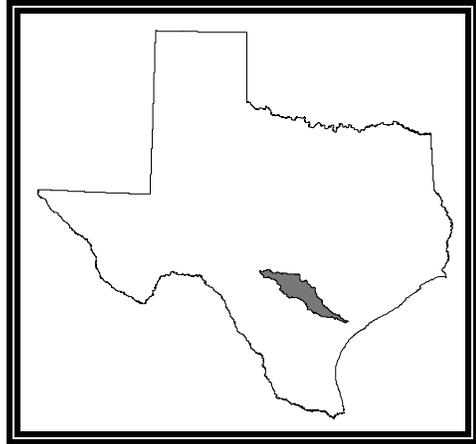


Basin 19

San Antonio River



San Antonio River Basin Narrative Summary

The San Antonio River originates in Brackenridge Park in San Antonio and flows southeastward to its confluence with the Guadalupe River near the Gulf Coast. San Antonio, the third-largest city in the state, is the largest metropolitan area in the basin. The total basin drainage area is 4,180 square miles. Principal tributaries to the San Antonio River include the Medina River, Leon Creek, Cibolo Creek, and Salado Creek.

The San Antonio River Basin has been divided into 13 classified segments, including 11 stream segments encompassing 611 stream miles and two reservoirs encompassing 6,075 acres. There are 108 active surface water quality monitoring stations in the San Antonio River Basin.

Historically, water quality in the San Antonio River was relatively poor, particularly during periods of low flow. In recent years, advanced waste treatment has been instituted at the three major City of San Antonio wastewater treatment plants (Dos Rios, Leon Creek, and Salado Creek), and a former facility, the Rilling Road WWTP, has been eliminated. As a result, dissolved oxygen concentrations in the San Antonio River have increased substantially, and aquatic life has been enhanced.

Elevated fecal coliform levels occur in five classified segments and one unclassified segment. Concerns exist for low dissolved oxygen concentrations in three classified segments and one unclassified segment, and for nutrients in six classified segments and two unclassified segments. Concerns exist for sediment contaminants in one segment.