

MEMORANDUM.....

DATE: April 1, 2009

TO: Danny Vance, Chair, and Members,
Trinity and San Jacinto Rivers and Galveston Bay Stakeholder Committee

FROM: Dr. William W. Espey, Jr.  Chair, Trinity and San Jacinto Rivers and Galveston BBEST

RE: BBEST Meetings Update

BBEST has held three meetings thus far, and at each meeting we have discussed organizational matters, the budget, and reviewed available SAC guidance. Additionally, at each meeting we have had informative presentations and workshops by various individuals.

Texas A&M, Galveston, January 15, 2009

Presentations by Committee Members:

Joe Trungale, "Environmental Flows in the Cypress River Basin"

David Buzan, "Freshwater Inflows"

Robert McFarlane, "Missing: A Graph, a Model, and a Proof of Concept"

L. James Lester, "An Alternate Approach to Addressing Freshwater Inflow Management"

Sammy Ray, "Galveston Bay System Oyster Reefs" and "Processed Waste Water: Potential Tool for Promoting Oyster Reefs in High-Salinity Waters"

Lone Star College, The Woodlands, February 11, 2009

Presentation:

Dan Opdyke, TPWD, gave an overview of Hydrology based Environmental Flow Regime method.

Presentations by Committee Members:

Antoinetta Quigg presented on freshwater inflows to Galveston Bay and primary productivity as an indicator of ecosystem function;

George Guillen presented the historical perspective of instream flow methodologies;

Richard Browning gave an overview of historical flows in the Trinity River Basin, discussing confidence and uncertainty, and Region H Water Planning Group targets.

Lower Colorado River Authority, Austin, March 11, 2009

Presentations:

Leah Manning LCRA, introduced two studies conducted by LCRA and SAWS regarding instream flow and bay health;

Bryan Cook, LCRA "Matagorda Bay Health Evaluation" and "Aquatic Habitat Studies"

Presentations and Workshops by Committee Members:

Mike Turco, "Streamflow Data Information" and distributed handout re: "Recent Improvements to the US Geological Survey Stream Gaging Program"

Joe Trungale presented an example of the application of instream flow information.

Formulation of Instream Flow and Bay and Estuary Subcommittees

Frontiers of Flight Museum, Dallas, April 8, 2009

Tentative agenda items:

- New Business/SAC Comments/HEFR Development by BBEST Participants
- Presentation on Brazos River Authority HEFR App. System Operation Permit Phil Price- BRA
- Norman Johns presentation on bays and estuaries
- Mike Reedy will discuss his work –Region H Environmental Report
- Discussion on deliverable Geographic Scope of Instream Flow Recommendations – SAC - Kathy Alexander, TCEQ
- Discussion on topics covered at Bays and Estuaries subcommittee meeting (Lester)
- Joe Trungale/Corey Horan will provide briefing of Sabine BBEST effort

Budget Review/Update

TCEQ Cory Horan Update