

**Trinity and San Jacinto and Galveston Bay  
Basin and Bay Area Stakeholder Committee (BBASC)  
Work Plan Items for Future Consideration**

Component	Category	BBEST Item No.	Description
Instream	General	2	Mapping of unique features
	Hydrology	4	High flow pulse and overbank assessment
		5	Loss/gain
		6	Continued flow regime component characterization
	Hydraulics/Habitat/ Geomorphology	7	Surveys of long reaches covering TCEQ-adopted flow sites
		11	Initiate long-term monitoring of key parameters at study sites (subsequent to intensive study)
		12	Intensive site-specific studies of lower priority sites
13		Continued long-term monitoring	
Instream	Ecology	16	Identification of typical riffle-run sequences, conduct low flow subsistence monitoring, biological surveys
		17	Synoptic survey of selected rivers under baseflow conditions
		18	Coordinated surveys during high flow pulses
		19	Basin-wide baseline surveys of (state listed species) mussels and related studies
		20	Establishment of long-term riparian monitoring sites
Instream	Ecology	22	Gather water quality data and sediment characteristic data within the segments related to Gages TR near Oakwood (Note: within SB 2 segment for TR), TR at Romayer, SJR near Cleveland, and WFSJR near Conroe
		23	Gather Trinity River channel physical data for segments related to Gages TR near Oakwood (Note: within SB 2 segment for TR), TR at Romayer, SJR near Cleveland, and WFSJR near Conroe
		25	Develop long-term action plan to gather data and perform analyses of water quality conditions for river segments associated with other proposed gages
		26	Gather water quality data and sediment characterization data with the segments related to selected other proposed gages
		27	Gather Trinity River channel physical data for segments related to selected other proposed gages
		28	Analyze data and develop findings and conclusions regarding the relationship between water quality data and the proposed flow regimes
		29	Develop analytical tools and/or mathematical models to be used in assessing moderate to high flow wate quality conditions
30	Develop/adapt eutrophication mathematical model to Lake Livingston		

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Instream	Water Quality	31	Evaluate the effect of the appropriate flow recommendations on salinity zones for additional indicators starting with, but perhaps not limited to, those initially identified by the TSJ B&E subcommittee
		32	Test the conclusion that these indicators (either the three immobile species or an expanded list) are appropriate for representing the health of Galveston Bay
		33	Recognizing that estuarine species have broad tolerances for salinity ranges, if a set of indicators responsive to salinity cannot be identified "as representing a healthy Galveston Bay ecosystem in its entirety" this should be explicitly stated and some attempt to quantify the relative benefit of preferred salinity zones to overall estuarine health might be attempted
		34	Evaluate the response of various estuarine indicators throughout their range in the estuary including tidal streams and bayous. These areas are currently not sampled. Therefore, the lack of correlation between individual and community metrics obtained from TPWD biological data and freshwater inflow and related variables (e.g., salinity, nutrients) may reflect the bias associated with only sampling open bay areas
		35	Consider the addition of new species which were previously not recognized during the BBEST process
		36	Documentation of the specific sources utilized to select how specific salinity niche parameters for particular life stages were obtained
		38	Analyze geographic factors related to flows and salinity zone areas
		40	Evaluate annual freshwater inflow targets (WAM< TxBLEND)
		41	Evaluate salinity circulation model
		42	Evaluate whether salinity is an important parameter for estuarine health, quantify relative importance of other factors (nutrients, sediments) associated with freshwater inflow
Estuary	Nutrients/Sediments	44	Nutrient concentration water sampling at frequencies shorter than two weeks
		46	BBEST evaluate data obtained from monitoring projects designed to develop flow-nutrient model and make recommendations on validation of any indicators based on nutrient-flow relationships
		47	BBEST consider and recommend further studies to refine indicators developed based on a nutrient-flow relationship

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Estuary	Estuarine Ecology	48	BBEST draft proposals for development of baseline values for the estuary which will be used to evaluate whether changes in freshwater inflow are affecting estuarine health
		49	BBEST draft proposals to identify data collection, analysis and research needed to evaluate and refine the recommendations of the BBEST for freshwater inflows to Galveston Bay
		51	BBEST identify analysis, data collection, research needed. Possible examples include: Additional monitoring of phytoplankton, zooplankton, and benthos and their relationships to flow; monitoring of biological communities in tidal streams (upstream of areas traditionally sampled by TPWD); analysis of brittle star occurrence in TPWD data, analysis of seagrass occurrence; relationship between rainfall runoff to coastal watersheds (ex. Houston bayous) and freshwater inflow to the bays, etc.
		52	BBEST will communicate needs to analysis, data collection and research needs to organizations
		53	Set the parameters of indicator baselines
		55	Development of data an analyses that will permit improved recommendations
		56	Identify data collection, analysis and research needed to validate or refine the freshwater inflow standards. For certain parts of the ecosystem, critical relationships between seasonality of flow and ecological health are expected
		57	Identify data collection, analysis and research needed to develop strategies to meet standards set by TCEQ
Estuary	Benthics/Oysters	58	BBEST will meet at least annually to provide progress updates
		59	BBEST will compare available information to baseline values 4 years after implementation of the work plan
		60	BBEST deliberate on the suitability and efficiency of other indicators of benthic ecological health. Suggest additional monitoring to assess proposed benthic indicators
		63	Initiate efforts to determine the cause of the current oyster decline
		64	BBEST will coordinate with resource management agencies to design and implement a program of monitoring benthic community that incorporates multiple correlates of freshwater inflow