Sept 26, 2008 SB3 Website Suggestions

Suggested Category: Published Reports

1. TPWD River Studies

Link to scientific reports produced by the River Studies Team, an interdisciplinary river and stream assessment program within the Inland Fisheries Division. Its primary goal is to assure sufficient quantity and quality of water to maintain the natural biodiversity of aquatic ecosystems and their associated wetlands and riparian lands. The River Studies Team works to characterize aquatic ecosystems, evaluate impacts to those systems, and determine water quantity and quality needs to address policy and regulatory issues.

Publications by the TPWD River Studies Team
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/conservation/fwresources/reports.phtml

Particular emphasis is added to River Studies Report No. 16 An Evaluation of Spring Flows to Support the Upper San Marcos Spring Ecosystem, Hays County, Texas

2. Coastal Bay and Estuary Inflows:

A. Synopsis of the 1994 publication *Freshwater Inflows to Texas Bays and Estuaries*, William Longley editor

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/conservation/freshwater_inflow/texas_approach/index.phtml

Two main themes are examined in the report: 1) demonstrating the effects of freshwater inflows on living and non-living components of estuarine ecosystems, and 2) presenting a methodology for assessing the freshwater inflow needs of Texas bays and estuaries that satisfies the requirement on maintaining an ecologically sound environment and the productivity of fish, shellfish, and other estuarine life. The information in this document guided development of the inflow recommendations for individual bay systems. Full text copies of this report and individual bay systems are available upon request from Lynne Hamlin, lynne.hamlin@tpwd.state.tx.us.

B. Summary Inflow Recommendations by Estuary

1. Trinity-San Jacinto
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/conservation/freshwater_inflow/galveston_bay/
2. Sabine Lake
No summary available, please contact Lynne Hamlin, TPWD, for report.
3. Guadalupe
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/conservation/freshwater_inflow/guadalupe/index.phtml
4. Nueces
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/conservation/freshwater_inflow/nueces/
5. Matagorda
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/conservation/freshwater_inflow/matagorda/
6. Laguna Madre
No summary available, please contact Lynne Hamlin, TPWD, for report.

3. Other TPWD publications of interest

Ecologically Significant Stream Segment Reports

As a result of the passage of Senate Bill 1 (SB1) in 1997, water planning in Texas became the domain of regional planning groups. As a part of the planning process, each regional planning group may include recommendations for the designation of ecologically unique river and stream segments in their adopted regional water plan. Stream segment designation is to be supported by a recommendation package that includes a physical description, maps, photographs, literature citations, and data pertaining to each candidate stream segment.
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/environconcerns/water_quality/sigsegs/

Texas Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy

The strategy was developed by TPWD with the input of many groups and individuals over a year long process that began at the 2004 Wildlife Diversity Conference held in August, 2004 at Texas State University, San Marcos. Species-based working groups were developed at this conference and those groups worked for several months to provide a list of Species of Concern along with information on those species and the habitats where those species exist. In addition to providing detailed species information, broad scale habitat information was compiled that is based on the major ecoregions of Texas with more detailed information compiled on the habitat types within those ecoregions. This information included problems and needed conservation actions that are associated with those habitats.
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/pwd_pl_w7000_1187a/media/I.pdf

Seagrass Conservation Plan for Texas 1999
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd_bk_r0400_0041.pdf

Harmful Algal Blooms
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/environconcerns/hab/

4. Non-TPWD Environmental Flows Publications and Resources

Instream Flow Council
The Instream Flow Council (IFC) is an organization that represents the interests of state and provincial fish and wildlife management agencies in the United States and Canada dedicated to improving the effectiveness of their instream flow programs. It consists of a Governing Council of appointed instream flow representatives of these agencies. The IFC recently published an excellent reference book about instream flows (below).
http://www.instreamflowcouncil.org

Instream Flows for Riverine Resource Stewardship. 2004. Instream Flow Council. (Book)
The material in the book represents an exhaustive treatment of a very complex and highly technical subject. It frequently, and appropriately, stresses the importance of addressing five riverine components (i.e., hydrology, biology, geomorphology, water quality, and connectivity) and three policy components (legal, institutional and public involvement) when developing, commenting on, or designing instream flow programs. The numerous IFC position statements and critical opinions highlighted throughout the book will definitely be a considerable help to agencies and others who have long sought such statements.
http://www.instreamflowcouncil.org/ifcbook2.htm

Lower Colorado Instream Flow Guidelines by Bio-West. 2008.
http://www.lcra.org/library/media/public/docs/lswp/findings/BIO_LSWP_IFguidelines_FINAL.pdf

Caddo Lake Environmental Flows Project
The Caddo Watershed Environmental Flows Project was initiated in 2004 with the assistance of the Nature Conservancy (TNC) in partnership with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The goal of the project is to assure adequate instream flows to sustain the ecological and economic values of Caddo Lake and its watershed.
http://www.caddolakeinstitute.us/flows.html

A collaborative and adaptive process for developing environmental flow recommendations by Richter, B.D., Warner, Andrew T., Meyer, Judy L., and Lutz, K. 2006.
http://nature.org/initiatives/freshwater/files/rra892_22_3_297_318.pdf

UT Center for Water Resources Online Publications
CRWR Online Reports are technical reports whose original form is maintained in electronic format. This is a separate report series from the printed technical reports. Each report has the title page, abstract and table of contents presented in html for viewing using a normal world wide web browser, and linkages in the table of contents to adobe pdf files for each report chapter or to the report as a whole so that the contents can be downloaded. An Adobe pdf file is created using Adobe Acrobat software and the file can be read using a freely available reader which can be downloaded directly from Adobe.
http://www.crwr.utexas.edu/online.shtml

Assessment of hydrologic alteration software by E. Hersch and D. Maidment 2006
http://www.crwr.utexas.edu/reports/pdf/2006/rtp06-11.pdf

An integrated stream classification system for Texas – E. Hersch and D. Maidment 2007
http://www.crwr.utexas.edu/reports/pdf/2007/rpt07-02.pdf

User manual for the Hydroecological Integrity Assessment Process software including the New Jersey Assessment Tools. 2006.
http://www.fort.usgs.gov/Products/Publications/21598/21598.pdf

Bays in Peril
http://www.texaswatermatters.org/projects/bays-in-peril/bays-in-peril_report.pdf

Managing Freshwater Inflows to Estuaries: A Methods Guide
http://www.nature.org/initiatives/freshwater/files/methodsguidev61.pdf

Mixed Category: Reference lists with links to online databases and published reports

Texas Water Resource References

Raymond Slade is a well known certified professional hydrologist who is now retired from the USGS and working in central Texas. The following links will take you to his very helpful list of water resource-related documents and online databases. Note that some links may have changed however they point you in the right direction. If you find a broken link it is often helpful to use the first half of the URL and look for the document or data using the search feature.

http://www.eardc.txstate.edu/files/publications/Online%20Databases%20for%20Texas%20Water%20Resources.pdf (Online databases for Texas water resource data)

http://www.eardc.txstate.edu/publish/TxPrecip.pdf (Documentation of databases, summaries, and analyses of Texas meteorological data)

http://www.eardc.txstate.edu/files/publications/Online%20Report%20Catalogues%20for%20Texas%20Water%20Resources.pdf (Online report catalogues for Texas water resources)

Attached Offline Report

Statewide Minimum Streamflow Recommendations by Bounds and Lyons. 1979.

This is a background document about the development and application of Lyon's method to calculate minimum flow requirements for Texas stream fisheries.