



Dry Comal Creek/Comal Creek Watershed Protection Plan Phase I

Water Body	Dry Comal Creek (1811A), Comal River (1811)
Location	Comal County
River Basin	Guadalupe (18)
Contractor	City of New Braunfels
Project Period	August 6, 2015 – July 31, 2016
Project Total	\$200,000 (Federal 60% and Local Match 40%)

Background

In 2012, Dry Comal Creek (Segment 1811A), a major tributary of the Comal River, was listed as impaired for bacteria. Based on analysis of data collected under ongoing programs, Dry Comal Creek is contributing to the increasing bacteria levels in the Comal River (Segment 1811). The Dry Comal Creek and the Comal River watersheds, which stretch from New Braunfels to the eastern suburbs of San Antonio, are rapidly urbanizing.

Project Description

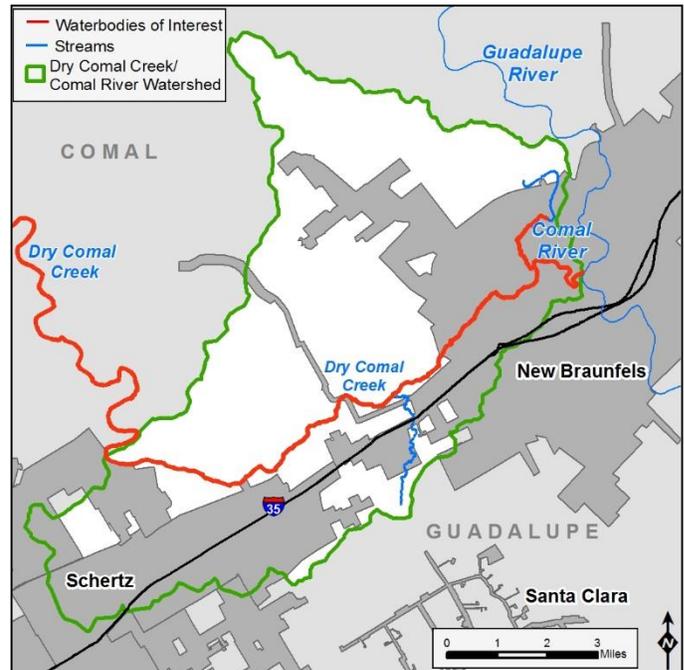
Phase I will produce a watershed characterization of the Dry Comal Creek and the Comal River Watershed, which will provide the foundation for the development of a watershed protection plan. Potential bacteria loads from various sources within the watershed will be evaluated and load duration curves (LDCs) will be used to calculate pollutant load reductions needed to meet state water quality standards.

Current Status

The LDCs were successfully developed. A stakeholder meeting was held in New Braunfels to share the results of the LDCs and seek local input on wildlife distributions and potential load contributions throughout the watershed.

Public Participation

Stakeholder participation is key to developing and implementing a well-rounded watershed protection plan. The City of New Braunfels has established a water quality workgroup to provide opportunities for public education and involvement. This project will coordinate with the City's education efforts and will build upon previous work to identify the significant



subcategories of pollutants that need to be addressed. Stakeholders will be recruited and educated through a variety of programs that focus on the impairment parameters, local water quality issues, and what can be done to improve and protect water quality.

For More Information

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Project Highlights

- 09/2015 – Post-award meeting held.
- 02/2016 – Public stakeholder meeting in New Braunfels.