



## West Fork San Jacinto River and Lake Creek Watershed Protection Plan and Characterization of Spring and Cypress Creeks

<b>Water Body</b>	West Fork San Jacinto (1004), Lake Creek (1015), Spring Creek (1008), Cypress Creek (1009)
<b>Location</b>	Montgomery, Waller, Grimes, and Harris Counties
<b>River Basin</b>	San Jacinto River Basin (10)
<b>Contractor</b>	Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC)
<b>Project Period</b>	July 22, 2015 to August 31, 2018
<b>Project Total</b>	\$759,000 (Federal 60% and Local Match 40%)

### Background

The watersheds of the West Fork of the San Jacinto River Basin serves as a drinking water source to about six million people in the Houston metropolitan area. These watersheds are experiencing concerns or impairments for bacteria. Additionally, Lake Creek, Spring Creek, and Cypress Creek have concerns for dissolved oxygen.

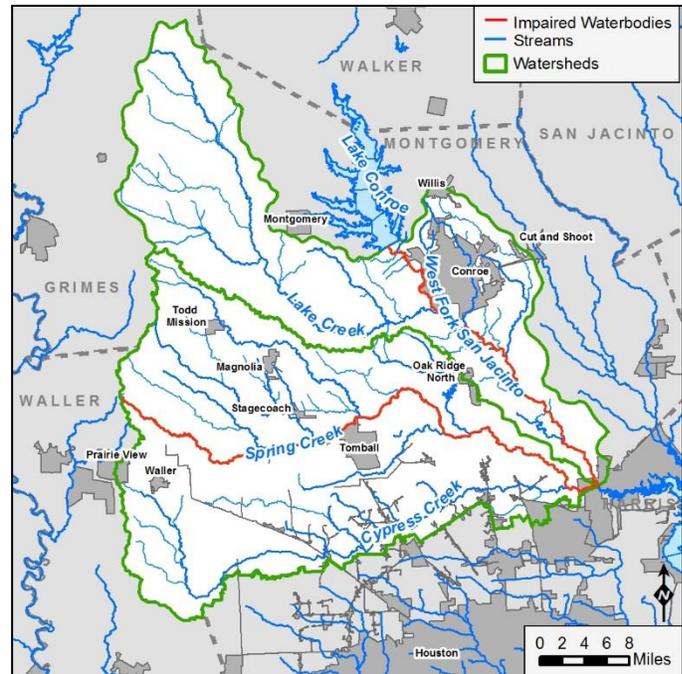
The watersheds of the West Fork of the San Jacinto River Basin have been identified in previous watershed planning efforts. These efforts include the Bacteria Implementation Group's Implementation Plan for Houston Area TMDLs, the "Implementation Plan for Seventy-Two TMDLs for Bacteria in the Houston-Galveston Region", as well as the TMDL for Bacteria in the East and West Forks of the San Jacinto River.

### Project Description

This project will produce a watershed protection plan (WPP) for the West Fork of the San Jacinto River and Lake Creek watersheds. The WPP will be developed through a comprehensive stakeholder process to address water quality impairments. A characterization of the Spring Creek and Cypress Creek watersheds, which are also part of the West Fork of the San Jacinto River Basin, will be completed. This project will collect, analyze, and evaluate the results of monitoring data and conduct modeling efforts necessary to understand the conditions and sources of pollutant loading in all four watersheds.

### Current Status

Input from stakeholders is being obtained through public stakeholder meetings and smaller meeting with key stakeholders. The steering committee has been formed and will lead stakeholder decisions. Load duration curves have been updated. The SELECT model has been built and stakeholders will discuss input assumptions at November work group meetings.



### Public Participation

Three public stakeholder meetings have occurred.

### For More Information

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## Project Highlights

- 07/2015 – Post Award Meeting held.
- 03/2016 – Public Participation Plan approved.
- 03/2016 – Modeling and Acquired Data QAPP approved.
- 05/2016 – First meeting of the West Fork San Jacinto Watersheds Partnership held. Stakeholders were introduced to the WPP process and provided input on water quality concerns in the watershed.
- 07/2016 – Load duration curves updated to incorporate recent data.
- 07/2016 – Second meeting of the West Fork San Jacinto Watersheds Partnership held. Stakeholders learned about the trends in water quality for different parts of the watershed and provided feedback.
- 10/2016 – Third meeting of the West Fork San Jacinto Watershed Partnership held. Stakeholders provided feedback on specific water quality concerns and issues in the watershed in preparation for discussion of modeling assumptions in work groups.