



Upper Cibolo Creek: Watershed Protection Plan

Water Body	Upper Cibolo Creek (Seg 1908)
Location	Kendall County
River Basin	San Antonio River (19)
Contractor	City of Boerne
Project Period	August 18, 2009 to November 30, 2012
Project Total	\$590,533 (Federal 66% and Local Match 34%)

Background

Cibolo Creek originates in the hills west of Boerne in southern Kendall County, Texas. The Upper Cibolo Creek Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) includes the portion of Upper Cibolo Creek (Segment 1908) that flows for 23 miles from its headwaters to the confluence of Balcones Creek near the Comal and Kendall County line in the City of Fair Oaks Ranch. Upper Cibolo Creek is home to the Guadalupe bass, the State Fish of Texas, and many other wildlife species who utilize healthy aquatic systems. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has determined Segment 1908 supports high levels of aquatic life and the lower reach has been described as an exceptional water body. However, a history of water quality concerns, coupled with increasing population growth and changes in land use practices, have created concern for the long-term health of the Creek.

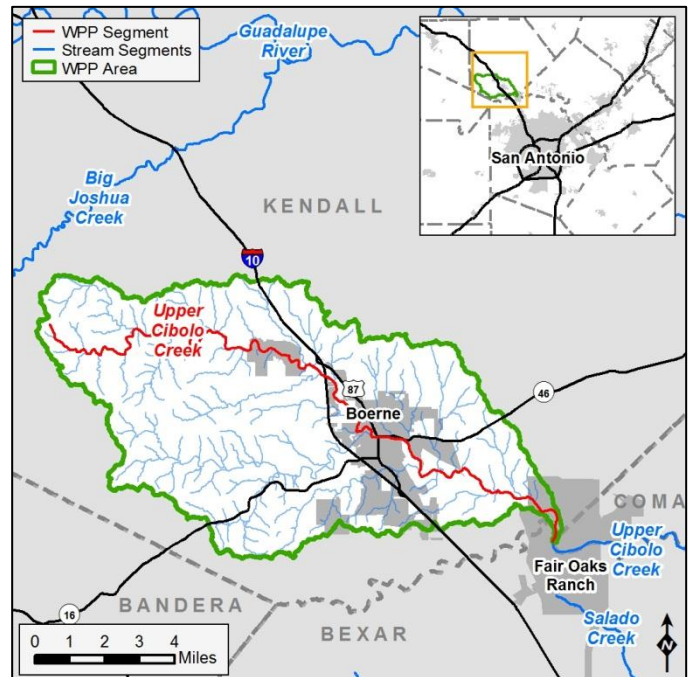
Segment 1908 is currently listed for elevated bacteria levels on the Texas 303(d) List. Screening level data in 2010 indicated a concern for phosphorus and DO.

WPP Development

The Upper Cibolo Creek WPP was developed by the City of Boerne in partnership with the Cibolo Nature Center and local stakeholders. The WPP project included development of a stakeholder group, water quality monitoring, modeling, and the completion of a 9-element WPP. The plan includes measures and best management practices (BMPs) to address current sources of bacteria. In addition, nutrients and concerns of the partnership have been incorporated into the plan.

Current Status

The WPP has been drafted and the City of Boerne is addressing comments. To date, eight partnership meetings, two rounds of subcommittee meetings, and two rounds of focus group meetings have been held.



Public Participation

Participation in the Upper Cibolo Creek Watershed Partnership is open to all who live, play, or work in the watershed. The Partnership Steering Committee and work groups are a diverse group of stakeholders representing the interests of various local, state, and federal organizations. Involvement in the Partnership is welcomed through input at meetings and volunteering for citizen scientist projects, tree planting, and invasive species removal events.

For More Information

TCEQ Project Manager

Arthur Talley
512.239.4546; Arthur.Talley@tceq.texas.gov

City of Boerne

Ryan Bass
830.249.9511 ext.61175; rbass@ci.boerne.tx.us

Websites

<<http://www.ci.boerne.tx.us/index.aspx?nid=147>>

WPP Development Status

Start Date: August 2009

Projected End Date: 2013

TCEQ Approval:

EPA Approval:

WPP Highlights

- **08/2009** – The City of Boerne contract was signed.
- **11/2009** – The first Partnership Meeting was held.
- **06/2010** – The Partnership took a tour of the Upper Cibolo Watershed.
- **01/2010** – Began meetings to refine goals, identify sources and causes, and develop the water quality monitoring plan.
- **02/2011** – The monitoring Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) was approved and water quality monitoring commenced.
- **09/2011** – The Upper Cibolo Creek Watershed Festival was held in Boerne.
- **12/2011** – The modeling QAPP was approved and modeling activities commenced.
- **03/2012** – Beginning of two sets of focus group meetings to discuss model activities, including land use statistics being utilized, preliminary modeling results, and the utilization of a decision support system to select best management practices based on effectiveness in this watershed and costs.
- **05/2012** – The modeling QAPP was amended to better characterize pollutant sources by adding new and revised land use statistics based on stakeholder comments.
- **11/2012** – The draft WPP was released for stakeholder comment.