

Still Creek (1242C) Recreational Use Attainability Analysis Summary and Recommendation

A recreational use-attainability analysis (RUAA) was conducted on Still Creek (1242C) in the summer of 2009 to determine the appropriate recreational use and numeric criteria. Still Creek is an unclassified perennial water body in Brazos County, approximately 9 miles in length. It was identified in the 2012 Texas Clean Water Act Sections 303(d) List of Impaired Water Bodies as not supporting its recreation use due to elevated bacteria levels. It was initially identified as impaired in 2006.

The RUAA identified evidence indicating the designated use of primary contact recreation (PCR) for Still Creek is appropriate. PCR 1 is defined in §307.3 (a) of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards as activities that are presumed to involve a significant risk of ingestion of water (e.g. wading by children, swimming, water skiing, diving, tubing, surfing, and the following whitewater activities: kayaking, canoeing, and rafting).

During the field surveys one of two individuals interviewed for study identified PCR as a personal use and had witnessed PCR as well, wading by children. The average thalweg of the stream was 0.33 meters (12.99 in) and pools greater than one meter deep were found. General public access is moderate as the creek flows through a residential neighborhood, Bonham Park in Bryan, and two elementary schools before flowing through an undeveloped area west of Bryan.

Due to evidence collected during the RUAA determining that PCR is an existing use, the TCEQ recommends Still Creek retain its PCR use and corresponding geometric mean criteria of 126 colonies *E. coli*/100mL for the entire segment, from the confluence with Thompson's Creek upstream to the confluence with Cottonwood Branch. This recommendation is in accordance with §307.4 (j)(1) of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards.