

## Deer Creek (1242J) Recreational Use Attainability Analysis Summary and Recommendation

A recreational use-attainability analysis (RUAA) was conducted on Deer Creek (1242J) in the summer of 2012 to determine the appropriate recreational use and numeric criteria. Deer Creek is an unclassified intermittent with pools water body in central Texas, approximately 27 miles in length. It is currently listed on the 2012 Texas Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Impaired Water Bodies due to elevated bacteria levels. It was initially listed in 2006.

The RUAA identified evidence indicating the designated use of primary contact recreation (PCR) for Deer 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 eight individuals interviewed for the study identified PCR as a personal use and four had observed PCR on the stream. One individual had heard of PCR on Deer Creek and an inner tube was found on the stream. Physical characteristics of the stream include an average thalweg of 0.32 meters (12.60 in) and eight pools greater than one meter deep. Although no publicly owned recreational areas were found on the stream public access is described as moderate.

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