Trimmier Creek (1216A) Recreational Use Attainability Analysis Summary and Recommendation

A recreational use-attainability analysis (RUAA) was conducted on Trimmier Creek (1216A) in the summer of 2012 to determine the appropriate recreational use and numeric criteria. Trimmier Creek is an unclassified perennial water body in Bell County, approximately 8 miles in length. It was identified in the 2012 Texas Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Impaired Water Bodies due to elevated bacteria levels. It was initially identified as impaired in 2010.

The RUAA identified evidence indicating the designated use of primary contact recreation (PCR) for Trimmier 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).

No primary contact recreation activities were observed by technicians during the field surveys. One interviewee stated that they allow their children to wade in the stream. Another interviewee had witnessed PCR and there was also one instance of heard of PCR in Trimmier Creek. One public recreation area was found on Trimmier Creek. General public access was estimated to be moderate. The creek is in close proximity with residential neighborhoods. Physical characteristics include an average thalweg of 0.52 meters (20.5 inches), two substantial pools deeper than one meter, and normal to low flow.

Due to evidence collected during the RUAA determining that PCR is an existing use, the TCEQ recommends Trimmier Creek retain its PCR use and corresponding geometric mean criteria of 126 colonies *E. coli*/100mL for the entire segment, from the confluence with Stillhouse Hollow Lake upstream to its headwaters, southwest of Killeen in Bell County. This recommendation is in accordance with §307.4 (j)(1) of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards.