

West Fork Trinity River Below Bridgeport Reservoir (0810) Recreational Use Attainability Analysis Summary and Recommendation

A recreational use attainability analysis (RUAA) was conducted on the West Fork Trinity River Below Bridgeport Reservoir (Segment 0810) in the summer of 2010 to determine the appropriate recreational use and numeric criteria. The West Fork Trinity River Below Bridgeport Reservoir is a classified perennial water body in east central Texas, approximately 36 miles in length. It is currently listed on the 2010 Texas Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Impaired Water Bodies due to elevated bacteria levels, and was initially listed in 1998.

The RUAA identified evidence indicating the designated use of primary contact recreation (PCR) for the West Fork Trinity River Below Bridgeport Reservoir is appropriate. PCR is defined in §307.3 (a)(47) 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).

An interview of a resident in the watershed stated that his son sat under the spillway at the low water dam and let the water flow over him. In addition, there were discarded swimsuits found at two different locations, a rope swing found on the stream and a local kayak club that takes monthly group trips down the river from Bridgeport. Physical characteristics of the stream include an average thalweg of 1.05 meters (41.34 in) and substantial pools greater than one meter deep. Public access was found at 11 of 13 survey sites.

Due to evidence collected during the RUAA determining that primary contact recreation is an existing use, the TCEQ recommends the West Fork Trinity River Below Bridgeport Reservoir retain its primary contact recreation use and corresponding geometric mean criteria of 126 colonies *E. coli*/100mL for the entire segment, from the confluence with the Brazos River in Grimes County to Sterling C. Robertson Dam in Leon/Robertson County in accordance with §307.4 (j)(1) of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards.