

# **Tributaries of the Neches River Below Lake Palestine (Middle Neches) I-Plan Coordination Committee Meeting**

**June 7, 2021 at 9:00am**

Online Zoom Meeting

## **Meeting Summary**

### **Housekeeping and Agenda Review**

- Anna Gitter (TWRI) briefly discussed housekeeping notes and the agenda for the meeting.

### **TSD/TMDL Update and Watershed Review**

- Gitter informed participants that the TSD is posted online for review and that the draft TMDL is currently being reviewed by TCEQ.
- Gitter provided an overview of the watershed and its statistics.

### **Management Measures**

- Gitter provided definitions and explanations of what a management measure is and emphasized that they are voluntary.

### **Regulated and Unregulated Bacteria Sources**

- A broad definition of regulated and unregulated bacteria sources, including examples, was presented.

### **Management Measures**

- Gitter presented several different management measures that were developed based on conversations with stakeholders in the watershed. These measures included:
  - Livestock (Conservation Plans and Water Quality Management Plans)
  - Sustainable Forestry Practices
  - Hog Management
  - Reducing SSO and Unauthorized Discharges
    - Gitter stated that SSO initiatives are already ongoing and could just be documented for the I-Plan.
  - Ordinances
    - Another example of documenting work that is already occurring.
  - Education and Outreach measures
    - Volunteer monitoring
    - Clean River Programs monitoring
    - Addressing F.O.G. and illegal dumping

## Discussion

- Donna Work, Texas A&M Forest Service
  - Discussed upcoming stakeholder meeting and how they could use the I-Plan to spark discussion and supplement their BMP presentations. The meeting will likely be held in November of this year.
- Lucas Gregory, TWRI
  - Discussed how presentation of these management measures to stakeholders are imperative for their success.
- Justin Parks, USDA NRCS
  - Discussed the importance of using forest buffers as a potential agriculture land management measure. Also mentioned the importance of keeping the idea of watershed management in the back of our mind when talking to landowners.

## Next Steps

- Project timeline was discussed and plans before the next meeting, which includes working on the management measures and working on load reduction calculations, was mentioned.
- Gitter stated that she will follow-up with other coordination committee members and stakeholders regarding the management measures and I-Plan.

**Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:25am.**

<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Justin Parks	USDA NRCS
Carla Ethridge	ANRA
Jeremiah Poling	ANRA
Nicole Reed	TCEQ
Tim Cawthon	TCEQ
Donna Work	Texas A&M Forest Service
Anna Gitter	TWRI
Lucas Gregory	TWRI
Ryan Marrero-Vila	TWRI