

————— Minutes —————  
Lower West Fork Trinity River  
Total Daily Maximum Loads (TMDLS)  
Public Meeting  
North Central Council Texas of Governments  
616 Six Flags Drive  
Tom Vandergriff Conference Center (First Floor Centerpoint II)  
William J. Pitstick Executive Board Room  
Arlington, TX 76011  
July 18, 2012  
1:30 – 3:30 pm

**Attendee**

Jennifer Vuitel  
Jimmy Brock  
Michael Brooks  
Glenn W. Lubke  
Howard Redfearn  
Lauren Seydewitz  
Jeff Shiflet  
Mark Ernst  
Dewey Stoffels  
Krista Pender  
Walter Shumac  
Neil Strassman  
Stephanie Corso  
Echo Rexroad  
Becca Grassl-Petersen  
Angela Kilpatrick  
Karen Siddall  
Garry Fennell  
Jay McCorley  
Darrel Andrews  
Amy Beussink  
Ranjan Muttiah  
Kris Russell  
Paul White  
Nusrat Munir  
Kevin Cokely

**Representing (As Stated on Meeting Sign-In Sheet)**

North Central Texas Council of Governments  
City of Colleyville  
United States Department of Agriculture (NRCS)  
United States Department of Agriculture (NRCS)  
City of Mansfield  
Gresham Smith and Partners  
City of Irving  
Tarrant Regional Water District  
City of Grapevine  
City of Carrollton  
City of Benbrook  
Tarrant County Judge's Office  
City of Bedford  
City of Grand Prairie  
Tarrant County Public Health  
Trinity River Authority  
City of Irving  
City of Irving  
Texas Department of Transportation  
Tarrant Regional Water District  
United States Geological Survey  
City of Fort Worth  
Dallas/Fort Worth Airport  
City of Dallas  
City of Dallas  
National Broadcasting Company

### **Support Staff**

Dania Grundmann - Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

Larry Hauck - Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research (TIAER)

John Mummert - TCEQ

Jimmy Millican - TIAER

### **Administrative Issues**

A public meeting on the Lower West Fork Trinity River Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) project was conducted on Wednesday, July 18, 2012 from 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm at the North Central Texas Council of Governments Centerpoint II building in Arlington, Texas. The meeting was conducted to present the draft allocations for the ongoing Lower West Fork Trinity River (Segment 0841) Bacteria TMDLs project. Hard-copies of the PowerPoint presentations were provided along with maps.

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Ms. Dania Grundmann welcomed everyone. Introductions were made by each attendee.

### **Overview of TMDL Process and Status of Water Quality Projects in North Central Texas**

Ms. Grundmann provided an overview of the TMDL process which included definitions of TMDLs and Implementation Plans (I-Plans). Ms. Grundmann explained that an I-Plan is a stakeholder-driven, adaptive management process. Ms. Grundmann provided the audience with an update on the status and brief overview of TCEQ-related projects within the Trinity River Watershed. Those projects include 18 bacteria TMDLs, 12 polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) TMDLs, 16 recreational use attainability analyses (RUAAs), Vilbig Lake bacteria monitoring, and the Greater Trinity Bacteria I-Plan.

Ms. Grundmann informed the attendees that the TMDLs for the Lower West Fork Trinity River and each unclassified tributary will be given load allocations based on the primary contact geometric mean criterion of 126 MPN/100mL. Ms. Grundmann also explained that wastewater treatment facilities (WWTFs) within the Lower West Fork Trinity River watershed will be given load allocation based on an outfall *E. coli* concentration of 63 MPN/ 100mL, which was prescribed for the City of Dallas WWTF within the Upper Trinity River bacteria TMDLs. Ms. Grundmann informed attendees that the TCEQ TMDL Program was currently working with the TCEQ permits section to develop a practical approach to municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permits in TMDL watersheds.

### **Draft TMDL Allocations for Lower West Fork Trinity Watershed**

Dr. Larry Hauck provided attendees with background information specific to the Lower West Fork Trinity River bacteria TMDLs. This background information included location and names of streams within the project area and a summary of the Texas 2010 Integrated Report assessment. Dr. Hauck provided attendees with the timeline for the TMDL development. A brief overview of land use characteristics and potential sources of bacteria within the Lower West Fork Trinity River watershed was also provided.

Dr. Hauck informed attendees that the endpoint for the TMDLs is to maintain concentrations of *E. coli* below the geometric mean criterion of 126 MPN/100 mL. A brief overview of the TMDL

allocation process was provided along with an explanation of the basic TMDL allocation equation. Dr. Hauck introduced attendees to the load duration curve (LDC) method. Dr. Hauck explained the steps involved in creating a LDC and how to interpret data plotted on a LDC. Dr. Hauck informed attendees that the assimilative capacity for TMDLs within the Lower West Fork Trinity River watershed was calculated for the median value of the Very High Flow regime on LDCs.

Dr. Hauck presented the expanded TMDL allocation equation and defined each component. The rationale and methods used to account for upstream loadings were presented. The methods used to calculate the Future Growth component of the TMDL were also explained. The method used to calculate permitted storm water allocations was explained. A summary of the TMDL allocations for the Lower West Fork Trinity River watershed was presented.

Dr. Hauck informed the attendees of the next steps involved in TMDL development which included a timeline for development of the draft TMDL document and the TMDL adoption process.

Sam Brush with the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) informed attendees of the NCTCOG involvement in I-Plan development for bacteria TMDLs in North Texas. Mr. Brush described the ongoing involvement between NCTCOG and stakeholders. Mr. Brush concluded by stating that final approval of an I-Plan for the Greater Trinity area is scheduled to occur August 2014.

### **Questions**

Q: A question was asked on how specific source loads were identified.

A: Ms. Grundmann answered that general sources were used rather than specific sources such as a particular species of animal.

Q: The question was asked if the FDCs were actually displaying higher flows than would actually occur since full permitted flows were applied to the FDCs.

A: Dr. Hauck answered that the flows displayed on FDCs would indeed be higher than if actual measured discharge values were applied. Dr. Hauck went on to explain that the TMDL process requires that the full permitted flow values are applied.

Q: A question was asked in regards to an example LDC that was presented. Specifically the question was about a sampling point displayed within the very high flow regime that was labeled as a non-wet weather event.

A: Dr. Hauck explained that the method used to define wet-weather versus non-wet weather events was not perfect and it would be reasonable to assume that some sampling points may not be accurately identified as being or not being wet-weather events.

Q: A question was asked regarding what the acronym FDA stood for.

A: Dr. Hauck answered that the FDA stands for fraction of drainage area and refers to the fraction of drainage area covered by MS4 permits within a specific watershed.

Q: A question was asked if daily average flow or daily peak flow was used for the streamflows in LDCs.

A: Dr. Hauck answered that daily average flow was used.

Q: The question was asked in regards to the existing loadings for the TMDL watersheds.

A: Dr. Hauck answered that existing loadings are not available for the outlet of the watersheds; which is where allocations are applied since bacteria data does not exist for those locations. Dr. Hauck did add that existing loadings for individual sampling stations do exist.

Q: A question was asked if data existed regarding physical characteristics of the impaired streams such as depth, width, and drainage area that might provide information that would lead to sources of impairment.

A: Dr. Hauck answered that some land use information was available but physical measurements were relatively scarce. Dr. Hauck went on to explain that a limited number of RUAs have been conducted within some of the impaired streams that would provide a limited amount of physical data. Dania Grundmann added that actual bacteria data for each sampling station is provided as an appendix in the technical support document.

Q: A question was asked concerning streams that only had a couple of years of bacteria data or less that were used in the study.

A: Dania Grundmann answered that only stations with at least 20 data samples were used.

Q: Several questions were asked in regards to the TMDL table and associated allocation values that were presented and how those values would affect stakeholders.

A: Dr. Hauck with assistance from Ms. Grundmann answered that the TMDL values represent the maximum loading a water body is allowed that will comply with the contact recreation criterion. Ms. Grundmann added that for regulated entities the more meaningful values are the actual criterion values in units of MPN/100 mL and that future assessments will be based on the water quality standard (126) rather than the loading values.

Q: The question was asked if *E. coli* populations within a stream were static or dynamic.

A: Dr. Hauck answered that bacteria populations were dynamic and referred to some studies that indicate that under different conditions populations may die-off or exhibit re-growth.

Q: A question was asked about the history of the 63 MPN/100 mL criterion used for WWTFs.

A: Ms. Grundmann answered that the use of 63 MPN/100 mL originated in the Houston area bacteria TMDLs. Ms. Grundmann added that the City of Dallas was receptive to the 63 MPN/100 mL criterion and that the criterion provides more assimilative capacity for other sources in the receiving water body.

**The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.**

## **AGENDA**

### **LOWER WEST FORK TRINITY RIVER TOTAL DAILY MAXIMUM LOADS (TMDLs)**

North Central Council of Governments  
616 Six Flags Drive  
Tom Vandergriff Conference Center (First Floor Centerpoint II)  
William J. Pitstick Executive Board Room  
Arlington, TX 76011

**Wednesday, July 18, 2012  
1:30 – 3:30 P.M.**

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Overview of TMDL Process
3. Status of Water Quality Projects in North Central Texas
4. Draft TMDL allocations for Lower West Fork Trinity Watershed
5. Adjourn

The TCEQ web page for the TMDL projects may be found at:  
[www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/66-lwforktrinity-bacteria.html](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/66-lwforktrinity-bacteria.html)  
[www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/water/tmdl/66-trinitybacteria.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/water/tmdl/66-trinitybacteria.html)  
[www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/water/tmdl/66\\_cottongrape\\_bacteria.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/water/tmdl/66_cottongrape_bacteria.html)  
[www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/water/tmdl/77-trinity\\_pcbs.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/implementation/water/tmdl/77-trinity_pcbs.html)

The web page includes the project overview, meeting information,  
meeting summaries, and project documents.