



Improving Water Quality Upstream of Mountain Creek Lake A TMDL Project to Restore Recreational Uses

Cottonwood Creek, Fish Creek, North Fork Fish Creek, Kirby Creek, and Crockett Branch are water bodies located in the Trinity River Basin. High concentrations of bacteria, which are found in both human and animal waste, have been observed in these water bodies. The presence of these bacteria may indicate a health risk to people who swim or wade in them—activities referred to as contact recreation.

In response to this condition, the TCEQ initiated total maximum daily load (TMDL) projects to determine the measures necessary to improve water quality in these water bodies.

A TMDL is like a budget for pollution—it determines the amount (or load) of a pollutant that a body of water can receive and still be suitable for all its uses. The allowable load is then allocated among categories of sources within the watershed. Stakeholders work with the state to develop a plan to implement TMDLs (I-Plan) with measures that reduce pollution.

Learn more about water quality standards and management by reading *Preserving and Improving Water Quality*, available on our website at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tmdl/.

Project Watershed

The project watershed is located within the Dallas–Fort Worth Metroplex area in Dallas and Tarrant counties. The total drainage area for the project watershed is about 24,745 acres.

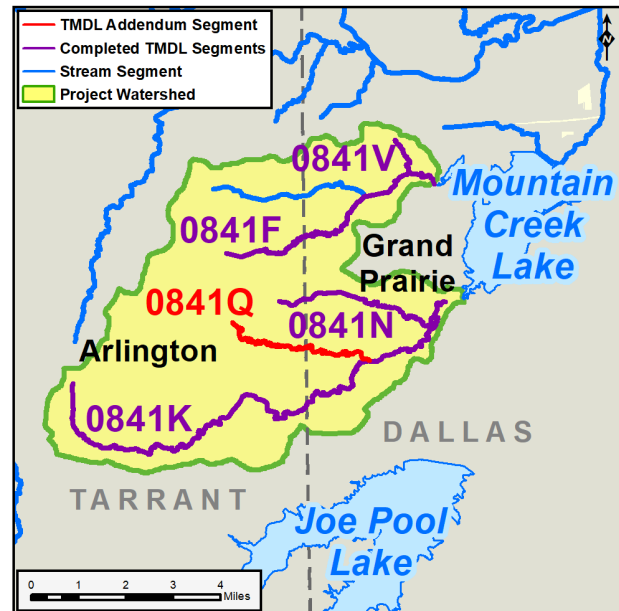
The segments and assessment units (AUs) included in the original TMDL project are:

- Cottonwood Creek: 0841F_01,
- Fish Creek: 0841K_01,
- Kirby Creek: 0841N_01, and
- Crockett Branch: 0841V_01.

TCEQ is adding to the original TMDLs through an addendum. The AU included in the addendum to the TMDL project is:

- North Fork Fish Creek: 0841Q_01

The dominant land uses vary slightly throughout the TMDL study area, with residential areas covering the largest portion of most of the TMDL watersheds, while commercial/industrial areas comprise



the dominant land use in others. In summary, the land use mix reflects that of a large urban area with some variations in category of dominance by geographic location.

Public Participation

In all its projects, the TCEQ gathers opinion and information from people who represent government, permitted facilities, agriculture, business, environmental, and community and private interests in the watershed. The TCEQ solicits advice and comment from these stakeholders at meetings and through print and electronic media notices.

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is providing coordination for public participation in this project. In June 2015, the Coordinating Committee members from the Greater Trinity River Bacteria Implementation Plan (I-Plan) project voted to accept the addition of this project's watershed to the area covered by its existing I-Plan, which was approved in December 2013.

For More Information

Contact one of the people listed, or visit the project website at:

<www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/nav/66-greatertrinitybacteria/66-trinity-library.html>

TCEQ Central Office:

Jason Leifester, TMDL Project Manager
512-239-6457, jason.leifester@tceq.texas.gov

NCTCOG

Tamara Cook, Manager of Environment & Development Programs
817-695-9221, tcook@nctcog.org

TMDL Adoption

TCEQ Adoption: November 2, 2016

EPA Region 6 Approval: December 7, 2016

I-Plan Approval

TCEQ Approval: December 11, 2013

Addendum Development

Start Date: September 2018

Projected End Date: January 2020

Highlights

- The NCTCOG is coordinating public participation for this project.
- In June 2015, the Coordination Committee voted to add this project's area to the Greater Trinity River I-Plan.
- The original TMDL document was adopted by the TCEQ on November 2, 2016, and it was approved by the Environmental Protection Agency on December 7, 2016.
- An addendum will be added to the original TMDL through a future update to the Water Quality Management Plan.

Visit our website at: <www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tmdl/>