



Improving Water Quality in Sycamore Creek A TMDL Project to Restore Recreational Uses

Sycamore Creek is a water body located in the Trinity River Basin. High concentrations of bacteria, which are found in both human and animal waste, have been observed in this water body. The presence of these bacteria may indicate a health risk to people who swim or wade in them—activities referred to as contact recreation.

The TCEQ is conducting a total maximum daily load project to determine the pollutant limits necessary to restore support of the use. The goal of a TMDL is to determine the amount (or load) of a pollutant that a body of water can receive and still support its assigned 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, monitoring, and TMDLs by reading *Preserving and Improving Water Quality*, available on our website at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/tmdl/.

Sycamore Creek Watershed

The watershed is located in Fort Worth in Tarrant County. The total drainage area for the watershed is about 37 square miles. The segment and assessment unit (AU) for Sycamore Creek is o806E_01.

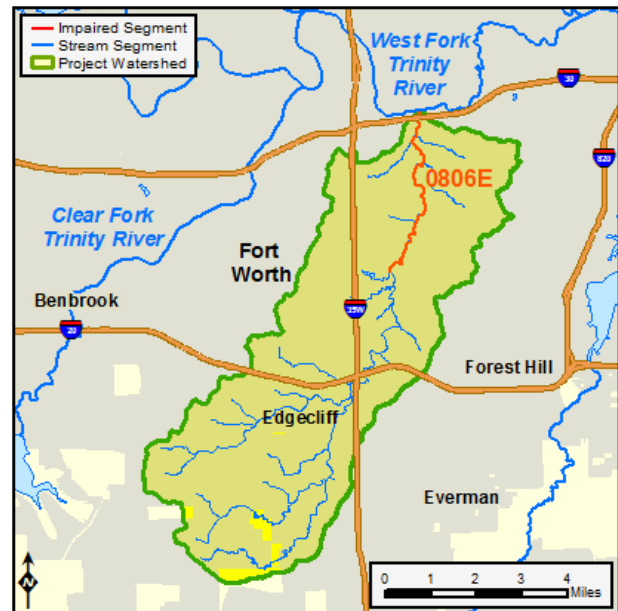
The land uses vary throughout the TMDL watershed, with residential areas covering the largest portion. The remaining land uses include vacant areas along with commercial and industrial uses. In summary, the land use mix reflects that of a large urban area with some variations in category of dominance by geographic location.

Project Development

The TCEQ began this project in September 2016 in collaboration with the Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Science (TIAER). The TIAER completed a technical support document for the TMDLs in August 2017.

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 as part of the Greater Trinity River Region Bacteria TMDL I-Plan. The Coordinating Committee members from the Greater Trinity River Region have indicated their support 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 below, or visit the Greater Trinity River Region project website at:

www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/nav/66-greatertrinitybacteria/66-trinityimplementation

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NCTCOG

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TMDL Development

Start Date: September 2016

TCEQ Adoption: January 16, 2019

Highlights

- The NCTCOG is coordinating public participation during development of this TMDL.
- In June 2017, the Coordination Committee for implementing the Greater Trinity River Region bacteria TMDLs met to discuss the status of bacteria TMDL development for Sycamore Creek. The Coordinating Committee members indicated their support for adding the Sycamore Creek TMDL watershed to the area covered by its existing I-Plan, which was approved in December 2013.
- A public meeting to present preliminary TMDL information was held at 6:00 p.m. on August 15, 2017 at the Ella Mae Shamblee Branch Library in Fort Worth, Texas.
- Stakeholders passed a resolution on June 14, 2018 to add this TMDL watershed to the area covered by the Greater Trinity River I-Plan.
- The TCEQ held a public meeting to hear comments from the public about the proposed TMDL on June 26, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Ella Mae Shamblee Branch Library in Fort Worth, Texas.
- The commission adopted the TMDL on January 16, 2019. EPA approved it on March 27, 2019.
- The Coordination Committee for implementing the Greater Trinity River Region bacteria TMDLs approved a revision to the I-Plan to formally include Sycamore Creek at the annual meeting on June 13, 2019.

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