

## Meeting Summary

### Neches River Tidal and Hillebrandt Bayou TMDL and I-Plan Meeting

Date: August 19, 2020

Time: 10:00 am – 10:45 am

Location: Online via Zoom

## Meeting Summary

### Welcome and Introductions

Michael Schramm (TWRI) began the meeting with brief housekeeping/instructions for remote sign in and how questions will be handled during the online session. Sign-ins were requested via a Google form with the web URL posted in the chat box for attendees to click and fill out.

## Meeting Presentation

*Process for determining TMDL waste load allocations.*

Dania Grundmann with the TCEQ TMDL Team provided a detailed discussion about the development of the waste load allocations in Neches River Tidal. The presentation started by describing the primary contact recreation use 1 and the associated geometric mean and single sample criteria used for water quality assessment and wastewater permit compliance. Dania described the different types of wastewater discharges in the watershed and pointed out those with bacteria limits are included in the waste load allocation calculations. There are currently six industrial and three domestic wastewater treatment facilities in the watershed. The waste load allocations are calculated based on the full permitted discharge and the geometric mean criterion. Dania pointed out that the current permitted single sample Enterococci limits in Neches River Tidal watershed permits will not change as a result of the recent Texas Water Quality Standards changes. Permits will maintain their current single sample limits (89 or 104 cfu/100 mL Enterococci) and not increase to 130 cfu/100 mL Enterococci in any future permit amendments.

Dania followed up with a description of how the waste load allocation for permitted stormwater sources was determined. The area of regulated stormwater was calculated based on the municipality city limits for the City of Beaumont Phase I MS4 permit, the U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Urbanized Areas for Beaumont and Port Arthur for the various Phase II MS4 permits, and footprint of individual WWTFs with stormwater permits outside of MS4 areas. A description of how the wasteload allocations compare to the other components of the TMDL allocations was also provided.

The meeting concluded with a request for feedback from the regulated stakeholders regarding their permits, if needed. A brief discussion of the TMDL Implementation Plan process was provided and participants were encouraged to participate in the Coordination Committee and/or technical workgroups. The participants were told of the tentative schedule of the adoption process for the draft TMDLs by TCEQ.

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## Meeting Questions

Andrew Bruno (Lower Neches Valley Authority) asked for clarification on the use of the geometric mean and single sample limits in the wasteload calculations and permitting. He wanted to know how the TMDL will affect permitted discharges for LNVA's North Regional Treatment Plant. Dania answered that for compliance with permits the existing single sample criterion is used (89 cfu or 104 cfu Enterococci) and will not backslide, and the 35 cfu geometric mean criterion for Enterococci still applies. Mr. Bruno also asked to be added to the stakeholder list.

## Adjournment

<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Nicole Reed	TCEQ – TMDL Team
Heather Robinson	TCEQ – Nonpoint Source Team
Jason Watson	LNVA
Nikki Fitzgerald	AgriLife Extension
Jeannie Bowlen	LNVA
Alyssa Cook	TCEQ – Stormwater Permits Team
Lucas Gregory	TWRI
Brielle Patronella	LNVA
Dawn Cole	Lion Elastomers
Dalila Loiacomo	TCEQ – Stormwater Permits Team
Jess Liao	City of Beaumont
Jodie Goff	Texas Farm Bureau
Tim Cawthon	TCEQ – TMDL Team
John Concienne	LJA Engineering
Macayla Coleman	TCEQ – Stormwater Permits Team
Andrew Bruno	LNVA
Molly Villareal	City of Beaumont
Amber Wheatley	LNVA
Michael Schramm	TWRI
Michael Redda	TCEQ – Industrial Permits Team
Dania Grundmann	TCEQ
	1 user via phone or did not sign in