

**Response to Public Comment**  
**Implementation Plan for Two TMDLs for Indicator Bacteria in the Tidal Segments of the Mission and Aransas Rivers**  
 April 5, 2016

<b>Tracking Number</b>	<b>Date Received</b>	<b>Affiliation of Commenter</b>	<b>Summary of Request or Comment</b>	<b>Summary of TCEQ Action, or Explanation</b>
001	10/29/15	Nueces River Authority (NRA)	The commenter requests that the NRA be added to the list of Responsible Parties and Entities Administering Education /Outreach Programs for Management Measure #1 – “Develop and implement conservation plans in priority areas of the watershed.”	In response to the comment, the TMDL Implementation Plan document was modified to include a paragraph describing the NRA’s Riparian Education Program. Also, the NRA was added to the list of Responsible Parties and Entities Administering Education /Outreach Programs for Management Measure #1.

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002	11/05/15	Jack Chaney, Aransas County Commissioner Precinct 1-1A	(a) The commenter would like to see more statewide requirements for wastewater treatment facilities that enter into or near a water body.	(a) Regulation of wastewater discharges into and adjacent to waters in the State of Texas is accomplished through the Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) program. The TPDES program is designed to protect water quality, human health, and the environment by evaluating applications for permits to discharge wastewater from certain municipal, industrial, and agricultural operations. The requirements stipulated in TPDES discharge permits are tailored to each specific operation and are designed to protect receiving waters, human health, and the environment. The TCEQ holds a forum for public participation in issues associated with wastewater permitting. The forum, known as the Water Quality Advisory Work Group (WQAWG), is a voluntary group of participants who meet on a quarterly basis to discuss issues related to water quality, wastewater permits, and wastewater standards. The WQAWG is open to the public. Anyone who is interested in issues associated with wastewater treatment facility requirements under the TPDES may attend and participate in WQAWG meetings. No change was made to the document as a result of this comment.

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			<p>(b) The commenter states that not enough is being done about the upkeep of silt fencing on construction sites.</p>	<p>(b) Silt fences are one method that may be employed at construction sites to control runoff to surface waters in the state. Construction sites disturbing one acre or more are required to have coverage under TCEQ's Construction General Permit (CGP) for Stormwater (TXR150000). If a site chooses to use silt fences as part of the stormwater pollution prevention plan required by the CGP, then those fences are required to be maintained in good working order. Specific complaints about failure to properly maintain silt fences at particular construction sites in Aransas County may be reported to TCEQ's Region 14 Office in Corpus Christi at 361-825-3100 or toll free at 1-888-777-3186. Also, Management Measure No. 6 of the TMDL Implementation Plan document calls for the establishment of educational programs to improve stormwater management practices and to improve adherence to existing stormwater rules. No change was made to the document as a result of this comment.</p>
			<p>(c) The Commenter states that he would like to see Aransas County's drainage plan included in the TMDL Implementation Plan Document.</p>	<p>(c) In response to the comment, the TMDL Implementation Plan document was modified to include a description of the Aransas County Stormwater Management Plan.</p>

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			(d) The commenter states that there is not enough general authority to address water pollution issues in the state and that the Implementation Plan should give someone the authority to enforce restrictions on those who are negatively impacting water quality.	(d) The TMDL Implementation Plan is composed of Control Actions and Management Measures. Control Actions are compulsory based on existing federal, state, and local regulations. Management Measures are voluntary actions taken by watershed stakeholders to improve local water quality. Federal agencies, state agencies and regional and local governmental subdivisions are bound by the limitations of the authority granted to them by the federal government and the State of Texas. No change was made to the document as a result of this comment.
003	11/19/2015	Private Citizen	Opposes the release of any water into Lewis Creek.	The TCEQ respects the commenter's opinion, but the comment is not relevant to the TMDL Implementation Plan, as Lewis Creek is outside of the Mission River and Aransas River Watersheds. No change was made to the document as a result of this comment.