

Meeting notes

Hillebrandt Bayou and Neches River Tidal I-Plan Coordination Committee Meeting

Date: May 17, 2021

Time: 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Location: Online via MS Teams

Meeting Summary

Welcome and Introductions

Michael Schramm (TWRI) began the meeting with the agenda and introduction of the committee members.

Updates

Schramm noted that the draft Hillebrandt Bayou TMDL is available online. The Technical Support Documents for Hillebrandt Bayou and Neches River Tidal are also available online. The I-Plan will rely heavily on these documents.

Management Measure Discussion

This portion of the presentation focused on management measures for inclusion in the I-Plan. The management measures include:

- Implementing Conservation Plans and Water Quality Management Plans
- Promoting Participation in Conservation Programs
- Promoting Sustainable Forest Practices
- Feral Hog Management Programs
- Implement MS4 Phase II Activities
- Implement MS4 Phase I Activities
- Reduce SSO and Unauthorized Discharges
- Assess Contributions from Homeless/Transient Encampments
- Maintain and Repair OSSFs
- Adult and Youth Watershed Education
- Continue Clean Rivers Program Implementation
- Utilize Public Events to Increase Water Quality Awareness
- Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring

During the discussion, Dale Parish (Lower Sabine-Neches SWCD) noted the National Parks Service at the Big Thicket Unit now has a feral hog trap program for landowners adjacent to the Big Thicket. Schramm said we will make note to include that information in the I-Plan.

Parish also noted that the SWCD has difficulties due to technology and information constraints in identifying agricultural property owners in the watershed. Schramm noted that TWRI has resources to assist if needed and the second management measure is intended to address that issue. Schramm and Parish will follow up after the meeting to discuss further. Lucas Gregory (TWRI) said that direct mailing increased landowner interest in Conservation Plan around four-fold in a different watershed.

Jeannie Bowlen (LNVA) noted that LNVA and ANRA will be holding a Texas Stream Team training this summer at the Saltwater Barrier. Parish also mention the cost of the test kits has increased to approximately \$580.

No attendees raised issue with inclusion of the draft management measures. Schramm said they will provide a draft I-Plan to the Committee with anticipated schedule and resulting load reductions. The next meeting will be a discussion on any short-coming or identified issues in the I-Plan.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55pm.

Attendees

Attendee Name	Organization
Ryan Marrero-Vila	TWRI
Michael Schramm	TWRI
David Villarreal	Texas Department of Agriculture
Duncan K. Ahimbisibwe	TWRI
Nicole Reed	TCEQ
Carla Ethridge	ANRA
Craig Sterling LNVA (Guest)	LNVA
Brian French	LJA Engineering
Jeannie Bowlen	LNVA
Lucas F. Gregory	TWRI
Tim Cawthon	TCEQ
Brielle Patronella	LNVA
Dale Parish	Lower Sabine-Neches SWCD
Bethany Stanton	
Ronda Conlin	Jefferson County
Molly Villarreal	City of Beaumont