



**North Central Texas
Council of Governments
Environment & Development**

**Greater Trinity River Bacteria TMDL Project Coordination Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 1, 2013
Meeting Summary**

A meeting of the Coordination Committee for the Greater Trinity River Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Project was held on Wednesday, May 1, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. at NCTCOG offices in Arlington. NCTCOG staff in attendance were Jennifer Vuitel, Sam Brush, and Edith Marvin.

1. **Welcome and approval of the July 11, 2012 meeting summary** – Sam Brush, NCTCOG, opened the Coordination Committee meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance. Attendees introduced themselves. The meeting summary from the July 11, 2012 meeting was accepted as presented.
2. **Program summary** – NCTCOG staff provided a brief summary of program activities and I-Plan edits since the July 2012 Coordination Committee meeting. There were no major changes proposed by TCEQ (the Texas Soil and Water Conservation Board elected not to review the I-Plan). Changes requested from the time of submittal (August 30, 2012) through March 2013 focused mainly on language clarification, semantics, and accessibility concerns.
3. **Draft I-Plan timeline** – The current draft of the I-Plan is now referred to as a Management Review Draft. Barring any further changes requested by TCEQ management, this will become a Public Review Draft.
 - On June 18, 2013 the draft I-Plan will go on TCEQ’s Commissioners Court agenda in order to be released for public comment.
 - The public comment period on the draft I-Plan will be July 5 – August 5, 2013. A public meeting will be held in the evening the week of July 22nd or July 29th (Committee members will be notified).
 - From August through September 2013, TCEQ, NCTCOG, and the Coordination Committee will address any comments as necessary.
 - I-Plan approval by the Commissioners should happen by the end of the calendar year.
4. **TCEQ public meeting on TMDL for Lower West Fork segment 0841 and tributaries** – The TMDL for the Lower West Fork Trinity segment 0841 and its 11 tributaries is moving ahead. The public comment period will be from June 7 – July 12, 2013. A TCEQ public meeting on the TMDL will be held at NCTCOG offices at 6:30 p.m. on June 19, 2013.
5. **Support documents** – With the I-Plan draft clear of any significant changes from the state and moving into the public comment phase, support documents from Coordination Committee members are necessary. Sample support documents, including a letter of support and resolution of support, can be found online at: <http://www.nctcog.org/envir/SEEclean/wq/tmdl/TMDLI-Plan.asp#samples>. Bill Brown, City of Arlington, mentioned the need for an educational presentation for city council members to introduce the concept of the I-Plan and garner their

support. The presentation should be short, clear, and descriptive. Mr. Brown volunteered to help NCTCOG staff produce the presentation by providing feedback.

6. **Bacteria TMDL I-Plan implementation, FY 2014 and beyond** – NCTCOG staff discussed the provisions in the bacteria I-Plan that have some cost to coordinate. Those implementation strategies include, feral hog meetings and trainings, annual meetings for the Coordination Committee and all technical subcommittees, and annual reports to determine efficacy of implementation strategies. The TCEQ funding for work on the bacteria TMDL I-Plan will end on August 31, 2013 with the exception of some limited tasks related to the approval of the I-Plan. NCTCOG staff proposed a modest bacteria TMDL I-Plan maintenance program funded through a cost share arrangement with stakeholders similar to those already in place with the Regional Stormwater Management Program. Approximately \$30,000 was estimated to fund all of the coordination-related measures in the I-Plan and the staff is continuing to explore options and funding sources that might help underwrite these management measures. Feedback from the committee members highlighted potential difficulties in coming up with funding cost shares due to tight budgets. There was interest expressed in exploring options for incorporating these I-Plan activities and the funding to do them as part of the Regional Storm Water Management Program. There was also a general suggestion to work toward consolidation of local program invoices among the cost share programs administered by NCTCOG.
7. **FY 2014 PCB TMDL I-Plan project** – In September 2013, NCTCOG staff will begin work on facilitating stakeholder development of an implementation plan to address PCB contamination in several segments of the Trinity River, including the Upper Trinity, West Fork Trinity, and lower Clear Fork Trinity. Input was sought as to who or what organizations should be included as stakeholders. Coordination Committee members mentioned power companies, historic manufactures (of PCBs), fishing groups, Texas Parks and Wildlife inland fisheries, owners of transformers (private), Lockheed Martin, the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, representatives from Lake Worth’s legacy pollutant project, and industries that handle the disposal of transformers. Some discussion also ensued regarding the appropriateness of PCBs being included under the Clean Water Act and TMDLs rather than Superfund, also known as CERCLA, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act.
8. **Next meeting** – Committee members agreed that the next meeting of the Coordination Committee would be mid-year 2014 barring any major changes requested in the bacteria I-Plan during the public comment period. The summer 2014 meeting date will also give the technical subcommittees time to meet prior to the Coordination Committee.