

Meeting notes

Neches 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 url posted in the chat box for attendees to click and fill out.

Meeting Presentation

Process for determining TMDL waste load allocations.

Dania Grundmann 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 that 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 single sample limit will not change.

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 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 fit into the TMDL allocations was also provided.

The meeting was concluded with a summary of the Implementation Plan process and next steps.

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 and how the TMDL will effect 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) and will not backslide, and the 35 cfu geometric mean criterion still applies. Mr. Bruno also asked to be added to the stakeholder list.

Adjournment

Attendees

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