

Meeting notes

Sandy and Wolf Creek I-Plan Coordination Committee Meeting

Date: February 8, 2021

Time: 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Location: Online via WebEx

Meeting Summary

Welcome and Introductions

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

TMDL I-Plan Status

Schramm provided a brief review of the goals of the I-Plan and TMDL process. Schramm said the draft TMDL is currently under internal review at TCEQ and the Technical Support Document is available for review at: <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/waterquality/tmdl/118sandywolfcreeks/118-sandy-wolf-td-2020june.pdf>

Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) Discussion

Schramm briefly provided an overview of the watershed and impaired AUs in Wolf and Sandy Creeks. Wolf Creek is more rural than Sandy Creek which includes the City of Jasper. Schramm presented on stakeholder feedback for the preferred planning option, which includes a WPP and TMDL I-Plan. Schramm presented the differences between both planning approaches. WPPs require 319 approval but are linked to 319 grant funding for projects outlined in the WPP. Some potential challenges of getting WPP approved with these watersheds included lack of monitoring sites, and two separate watersheds in one WPP. Stakeholders have indicated that they are interested in a WPP for at least Sandy Creek.

The committee did not indicate a preference to proceed with a WPP in Sandy Creek or in both watersheds.

Brian Koch (TSSWCB) and Jeremiah Poling (ANRA) suggested additional discussion with stakeholders before a final decision.

Brent Meaux (Local resident) asked if the current planning activities would benefit from having the local park master plan incorporated. Schramm indicated that it is the type of information that is beneficial to include in both I-Plans and WPPs.

Schramm indicated that he would continue to facilitate development of the I-Plan and we can fold that into a WPP if the group decides it is beneficial to go that route in the end.

Sources and Management Measure Discussion

Schramm transitioned discussion to the fecal indicator bacteria (FIB) impairments and identifying management measures to reduce FIB loads in the impaired waterbodies. Schramm described what management measures are to the committee. Schramm emphasized that measures are voluntary actions that result in direct or indirect pollutant load reductions. Measures need to include the actions, implementation schedule, technical and financial resources, measurable milestones, monitoring, responsible entities and

anticipated load reduction. Schramm also differentiated between permitted and nonpermitted sources. For permitted sources, Schramm described permitted point sources (WWTP), SSOs and regulated stormwater.

Potential management measures for regulated sources include: continued compliance, smoke testing sanitary sewer network, infrastructure maintenance and upgrades (i.e. with a master plan), participating in TCEQ's SSO Initiative Program, and FOG education programs.

Unregulated pollutant sources include, agriculture, OSSF, pets, and wildlife. Provided SELECT visuals of potential loadings per subwatershed.

Greg Kelley (City of Jasper) indicated the city is already participating in the SSO Initiative, conducting smoke testing, and holds fats, oils and greases programs and education. Schramm will work with the City to document these management measures.

For livestock, potential management measures include: implementing NRCS Conservation Plans and TSSWCB Water Quality Management Plans, workshops and extension programs.

For septic systems, potential management measures include workshops and extension programs, OSSF inspection/repair/replacement programs, and connection to sanitary sewer system.

For household pets, potential management measures include: signs and waste stations in public spaces, and mailers, videos and other public education resources. There is potential to include signage in park spaces in Jasper.

For feral hogs/wildlife, potential management measures include: feral hog management extension programs, and trapping assistance program. Poling said there is interest in feral hog management in watershed, just issues with funding and resources.

Other measures discussed include working with forest landowners, urban riparian restoration/protection, water quality monitoring, and general water quality education.

Meeting Ended: 1:54pm

Attendees

Attendee	Organization
Michael Schramm	TWRI
Anna Gitter	TWRI
Sarah Bailey	Texas A&M Forest Service
Greg Kelley	City of Jasper
Jacob Spivey	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
Jeremiah Poling	ANRA
Bethany Stanton	
Nicole Reed	TCEQ
Brian Koch	TSSWCB
Brielle Patronella	LNVA
Jeannie Mahan	LNVA
Jazmyn Milford	TCEQ
Brent Meaux	Local resident
Manuel S. Martinez	
Paul	
David Villarreal	TPWD