



Recreation/Hunting Workgroup Meeting
February 19, 2015
5:30 – 7:30 PM
Chambers Recovery Team

MEETING SUMMARY

Stakeholders: Becky Fancher, Guy Jackson

Project Team: Ryan Bare (HARC), Abby Ficklin (Shead), Stephanie Glenn (HARC), Brian Koch (TSSWCB), Brandie Minchew (Shead), Linda Shead (Shead)

1. Sign-In, Introductions, Review Agenda

Linda reviewed the agenda, which will cover: a reminder of the water quality issues to be addressed, a review of management measures that were previously identified by this workgroup, consideration of other measures, and a draft outline of the Watershed Protection Plan document.

She also noted the workshop on septic systems, coming on March 31.

2. Quick Review of Results of Source Modeling and Water Quality Sampling

Stephanie provided a summary of key points in the modeling and sampling results that had previously been presented. The information is to help consider where placing best management practices (BMPs) might have the most benefit. The first set of maps showed the model's results for potential concentrations of bacteria in various subwatersheds. The graphs showed that all the sampling sites except the wastewater treatment plant and the upper East Fork had geometric means of bacteria that were over the TCEQ water quality criterion. She also explained the terminology of water quality management measures (WQMM), which is often used to describe a group of BMPs, and reminded folks of factors for effective measures, such as having a responsible party, the cost, potential load reduction, and others. Sometimes the responsible party may be a coordinator, or an agency person, or someone with the County. Linda noted that not every listed measure will have information on all of these factors, but the more that are available, the more likely the measure will be effective.

3. Presentation/Discussion: Potential Management Measures

Linda reviewed the flip chart lists for management measures, explaining the color coding. Red is the larger category for pollution source, such as boater waste. The brown items are what are recognized as WQMMs, such as education and outreach. The team had taken all the previous stakeholder suggestions for individual BMPs (shown in green on the flip charts), and added a few

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Double Bayou Watershed Partnership is a project of the following entities:



more that might apply (in purple), such as ones found in other watershed protection plans. There was also a handout of WQMMs found in other Texas WPPs, some of which might be applicable here.

The management measures for each ***bacteria source*** were then discussed. The following tables reflect the outcomes of the discussion.

Boater Waste

| <i>Category</i> | <i>Measure</i> | <i>Potential Responsible Party</i> | <i>Location / Priority</i> |
|--|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| <u>Pump-out Station at Job Beason Park</u> | Installation and Maintenance | County; GBF | |
| <u>Education and Outreach</u> | Work w/ County officers and TPWD on event, for attention to issue | Watershed Coordinator | |
| | Promote GBF hotline | | |
| | Continuous ad in newspaper | | |
| | Logs of violations in newspaper | | |
| | Partner with GBF for promotion with west-side boaters (coming to Double Bayou) | | |
| | ChambersWild website, and others | | |
| | Roots & Shoots group | | |
| | School materials (age encompassing) | ChambersWild; Extension | |

Lack of Sanitation Facilities

| <i>Category</i> | <i>Measure</i> | <i>Potential Responsible Party</i> | <i>Location / Priority</i> |
|----------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| <u>Potential Other Restrooms</u> | Installation & Maintenance | Work with ChambersWild | Low priority |
| <u>Education and Outreach</u> | Add icon for existing park restrooms to local maps and websites, both in and near the watershed | Watershed Coordinator | |

Disposal of Carcasses

| <i>Category</i> | <i>Measure</i> | <i>Potential Responsible Party</i> | <i>Location / Priority</i> |
|-------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| <u>Education and Outreach</u> | BBQ + education | Watershed Coordinator | |
| | Reinforce hunter education w/ licensing and supplies; and promote Operation Game Thief | | |
| | Continuous ad in newspaper | | |
| | Logs of violations in newspaper | | |
| | Illegal dumping campaign | | |
| | Provide information on proper disposal (incl. game vs. nuisance rules) | | |

Concentrations of Scavengers

| <i>Category</i> | <i>Measure</i> | <i>Potential Responsible Party</i> | <i>Location / Priority</i> |
|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| <u>Education and Outreach</u> | Program to provide alternate disposal, and inform of proper disposal, of carcasses, away from water | | |
| <u>Rain Gardens / Rainwater harvesting</u> | At gutter downspouts of County buildings | County; ISD | County-wide |

The management measures for ***other sources*** of water issues were then discussed. The following tables reflect the outcomes of those discussions.

Litter

| <i>Category</i> | <i>Measure</i> | <i>Potential Responsible Party</i> | <i>Location / Priority</i> |
|-------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| <u>Education and Outreach</u> | Mention County facilities for residents (tags for household – and subsidize?) | | |
| | Continuous ad in newspaper | | |
| | Logs of violations in newspaper | | |

| <i>Category</i> | <i>Measure</i> | <i>Potential Responsible Party</i> | <i>Location / Priority</i> |
|--------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| | Signs at parks | | |
| | School materials (age encompassing) | | |
| | Library exhibit | | |
| | Clean-up days for the watershed | | |
| | Trash Bash & Adopt-a-Beach | | |
| | Reporting info hotline (number to call, app) | | |
| | Notify sheriff for littering violations | | |
| <u>Monofilament Collection</u> | Installation and Maintenance of receptacles at bridges | Sea Grant | |

Sedimentation – from erosion (by ATVs and motorboats); from loss of vegetation (prevention)

| <i>Category</i> | <i>Measure</i> | <i>Potential Responsible Party</i> | <i>Location / Priority</i> |
|-------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| <u>Education and Outreach</u> | School materials, age appropriate | Watershed Coordinator | |
| | GBF Hotline | | |
| | ChambersWild website | | |
| | Ad in paper | | |
| | Test-Your-Knowledge game -> facebook | | |
| | Riparian Education, including outreach, workshops, management plan for invasives (?) | | |
| | Hotline / Number to call for enforcement | | |
| <u>Structural</u> | Drop structure / grade stabilization structure | Landowner; TSSWCB; NRCS | |

Oil Sheen from Motorboats

| <i>Category</i> | <i>Measure</i> | <i>Potential Responsible Party</i> | <i>Location / Priority</i> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| <u>Education and Outreach</u> | Inform, and encourage newer motors | Watershed Coordinator | |
| <u>Legislation</u> | TERP-type program of incentives | (larger issue; of concern to stakeholders) | |

Invasive Species

| <i>Category</i> | <i>Measure</i> | <i>Potential Responsible Party</i> | <i>Location / Priority</i> |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <u>Education and Outreach</u> | Websites | Watershed Coordinator | |
| | Gatorfest | | |
| | Boat Parade | | |
| | Physical removal days | | |
| | Riparian area outreach | | |
| | Riparian workshops | | |
| | Discuss need for management plan for invasives – plant & animal; aquatic & terrestrial | | |
| | Inform about boat motor wash | | |

In addition to the items above, the group mentioned adding invasive species management to the Agriculture management measures (such as brush control), and visiting with the Corps of Engineers to find out how to make the landowner permit process easier for erosion control structures.

4. Presentation/Discussion: Draft Form and Contents for Watershed Protection Plan

Stephanie went over the contents of the draft outline for the Watershed Protection Plan. She noted that the “Elements” mentioned in the outline are the ones that EPA requires for a WPP to be consistent with what they believe works. The stakeholders are the only ones who approve the WPP, but if EPA finds the plan consistent with the elements, then measures in the plan become eligible for funding. Everyone will have a chance to read, discuss, and edit the plan as chapters are rolled out for review.

5. Wrap-Up, Next Steps, and Next Meeting

In March, there will be a septic system workshop for homeowners. April 21 will be the next general meeting, when all the management measures from the workgroups will be pooled and presented to everyone. Also, some of the WPP early chapters will be available for review.

Regarding a question about when the WPP will be going to EPA, the current plan is to have a complete version to stakeholders in October, to be approved by November, and then submitted to EPA in the November-December timeframe. There may be some tweaking after EPA reviews it, but the goal is for us to craft it in a way that meets what EPA has previously found to be consistent. EPA will have up to 60 days to review. The goal is to have a meeting in January to present the document that went to EPA, and then have an answer from EPA by the end of March. Between now and October, the WPP will be submitted to stakeholders chapter by chapter, to give everyone enough time to review it all.