



# 2014 Standards Update for the Brazos Basin



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# 2014 Triennial Revision

- Preliminary comments received (July, 2011)
- Advisory Workgroups (March, May, November 2012)
- Proposed (August 21, 2013)
- Public hearing (October 17, 2013)
- Adoption Agenda (February 12, 2014)
- Effective as a state rule (March 6, 2014)
- Sent to EPA (April 23, 2014)



# 2014 Triennial Revision

- EPA Action Letter
  - September 23, 2014
- Action letters posted on TCEQ website
- Highlighted 2014 rule indicates status of approval



# Statewide Approvals

- Revision of statewide toxic criteria
  - Human health criteria are all based on water column concentrations
- Temperature Criteria
  - Different mixing zone sizes for specific numeric criteria
  - Industrial cooling water areas



# Statewide Revisions Under Review

- Primary Contact Recreation 2
  - Bacteria criterion of 206 cfu/100mL
  - Activities like swimming and wading by children that occur on a less frequent basis due to limited public access or physical characteristics of the water body
  - Requires a contact recreation study



# Brazos River Basin Approvals

- Leon River Below Proctor Lake (1221) split into two segments at confluence of Plum Creek
- Leon River Above Belton Lake (1259)
- Designated uses and numeric criteria for segment 1259 remain the same as 1221



# Brazos River Basin Approvals

- Oyster Creek Above Tidal (1110) split into two segments
- Middle Oyster Creek (1258) – No longer hydrologically connected to Oyster Creek Above Tidal
- Temperature criteria of 95° F is based on the existing criterion from an adjacent water body (1245)
- All other designated uses and numeric criteria remain the same as segment 1110



# Brazos River Basin Approvals for SCR 1

- Navasota River Above Lake Mexia (1210A)
- East Yegua Creek (1212B)
- Bullhead Bayou (1245C)
- Unnamed Tributary of Bullhead Bayou (1245D)





# Brazos River Basin Approvals for SCR 2

- Walnut Creek (1221F)





# Still Under Review by EPA

- South Leon River (1221B) proposed SCR 1
- Resley Creek (1221A) proposed SCR 2
- Indian Creek (1221D) proposed SCR 2



# Still Under Review by EPA

- Total dissolved solids standards adjusted on two segments
- San Gabriel River (1214)
  - 550 mg/L (500)
- North Fork San Gabriel (1248)
  - 400 mg/L (350)



# 2017 Revision

- Preliminary Comment: March 6<sup>th</sup> notice of *Texas Register*
  - 30 day public comment period
- Stakeholder meetings: Winter and spring 2016
- Proposal: Late spring 2017
- Adoption: Fall 2017



# Getting Involved

- Surface Water Quality Standards Advisory Workgroup
- Nutrient Criteria Development Advisory Workgroup





# Questions

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