



**Galveston Bay Foundation and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Oyster Waters TMDL Implementation Plan Public Meeting Minutes
July 20-22, 2010 7:00 PM**

Public Meetings were held for the Oyster Waters TMDL Implementation Plan. The purpose of the public meetings was to give all stakeholders an update on the progress that the workgroups have been making toward developing bacteria reduction management measures for the Galveston Bay area.

Introduction and Background

Lisa Miller-Marshall gave a brief presentation discussing the background of the Oyster Waters TMDL Implementation Plan Project. The affected six water bodies, the indicator bacteria and the definition of a TMDL were explained. The presentation also included the workgroup topics, components of an Implementation Plan (I-Plan), and the timeline for the next year for this I-Plan. Following the background information, each of the workgroup chairs discussed the potential management measures that each of their groups had developed to reduce the bacteria in the bay.

Science and Monitoring – Linda Broach

Linda and Amanda Ross from the Science and Monitoring Workgroup summarized the sampling data that they are in the process of analyzing. They have been plotting fecal coliform concentrations with salinity and temperature and will continue to look at the data in order to find relationships and possible sources of bacteria. This workgroup will also coordinate the monitoring measures for each of the other workgroups.

Boater Waste – Helen Paige

The boater waste workgroup is focusing on reducing the boater sewage dumped into Clear Lake and Galveston Bay by increasing the number of pumpouts in the area, making Galveston Bay a No Discharge Zone, and continuing an education and outreach campaign.

On-Site Sewage Facilities – Marty Entringer

The On-Site Sewage Facility (OSSF) workgroup wants to identify and prioritize failing septic systems. The workgroup would like to pursue funding for low income repairs and active identification of failing systems as well as increase the education and outreach to the public and public officials.

Waste Water Treatment Facilities – Leonard Levine

The Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF) Workgroup currently has 19 management measures that fit into four categories: measures that set goals, measures that provide the facilities the tools to meet those goals, measures that verify that the facilities are meeting the goals, and measures where if the facility is not meeting the specified goals, they provide targeted specific feedback to help them achieve compliance with the goals.

Policy and Outreach – Bob Stokes

The Policy and Outreach Workgroup will coordinate policy and outreach activities from each of the other workgroups. This group would also like to develop a general message that is positive and that will increase the awareness of bacteria in the bay.

Flower Garden at NOAA - July 20, 2010 at 7:00 PM 4700 Avenue U, Bldg. 216 Galveston, TX 77551

Attendees: Jae-Younh Ko (Public), Steven Johnston (GBEP), Ryan Gerlich (Texas Agrilife Extension Service), Rachel Powers (H-GAC), Earlene Lambeth (TCEQ), Amanda Ross (TCEQ), Martin Entringer (GCHD), Leonard Levine (GCWDA), Linda Broach (TCEQ), Bob Stokes (GBF), Scott Jones (GBF), Lisa Miller-Marshall (GBF)

American Legion Hall – July 21, 2010 at 7:00 PM 1704 South Main St. Anahuac, TX 77514

Attendees: Ben and Jeri Nelson (Jeri's Seafood), Cynthia Brum (GBEP), Kim Laird (TCEQ), Earlene Lambeth (TCEQ), Amanda Ross (TCEQ), Martin Entringer (GCHD), Leonard Levine (GCWDA), Scott Jones (GBF), Lisa Miller-Marshall (GBF)

Clear Lake Park – July 22, 2010 at 7:00 PM 5001 NASA Parkway Seabrook, TX 77586

Attendees: Rebecca Collins (The Bay Area Observer), Garrett Johnson (Boy Scout), Linda Shead (Shead Conservation Solutions), Gerhard Meinecke (Public), Steven Johnston (GBEP), Sam Brady (Boy Scout), Charriss York (TX Agilife Extension Service), Connor Brady (Boy Scout), Cynthia McIntyre (Harris County Precinct 2), Timothy Love (AECOM), Bryan Eastham (TCEQ), Earlene Lambeth (TCEQ), Amanda Ross (TCEQ), Helen Paige (Marina Bay Harbor), Martin Entringer (GCHD), Leonard Levine (GCWDA), Scott Jones (GBF), Lisa Miller-Marshall (GBF)