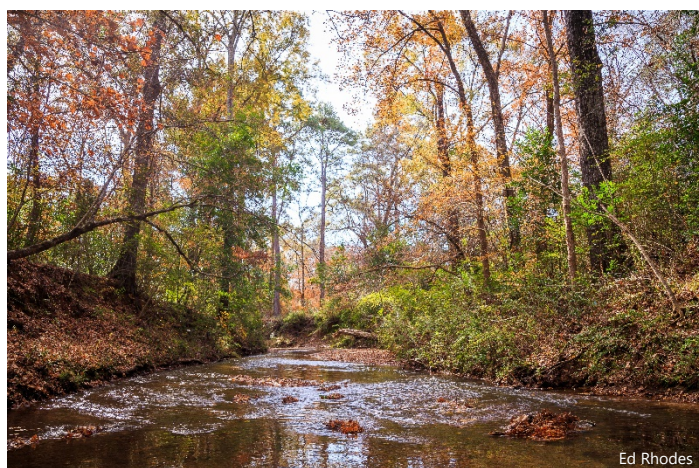


# Neches River Tidal and Hillebrandt Bayou Water Quality Planning

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Texas Water Resources Institute

April 9, 2020



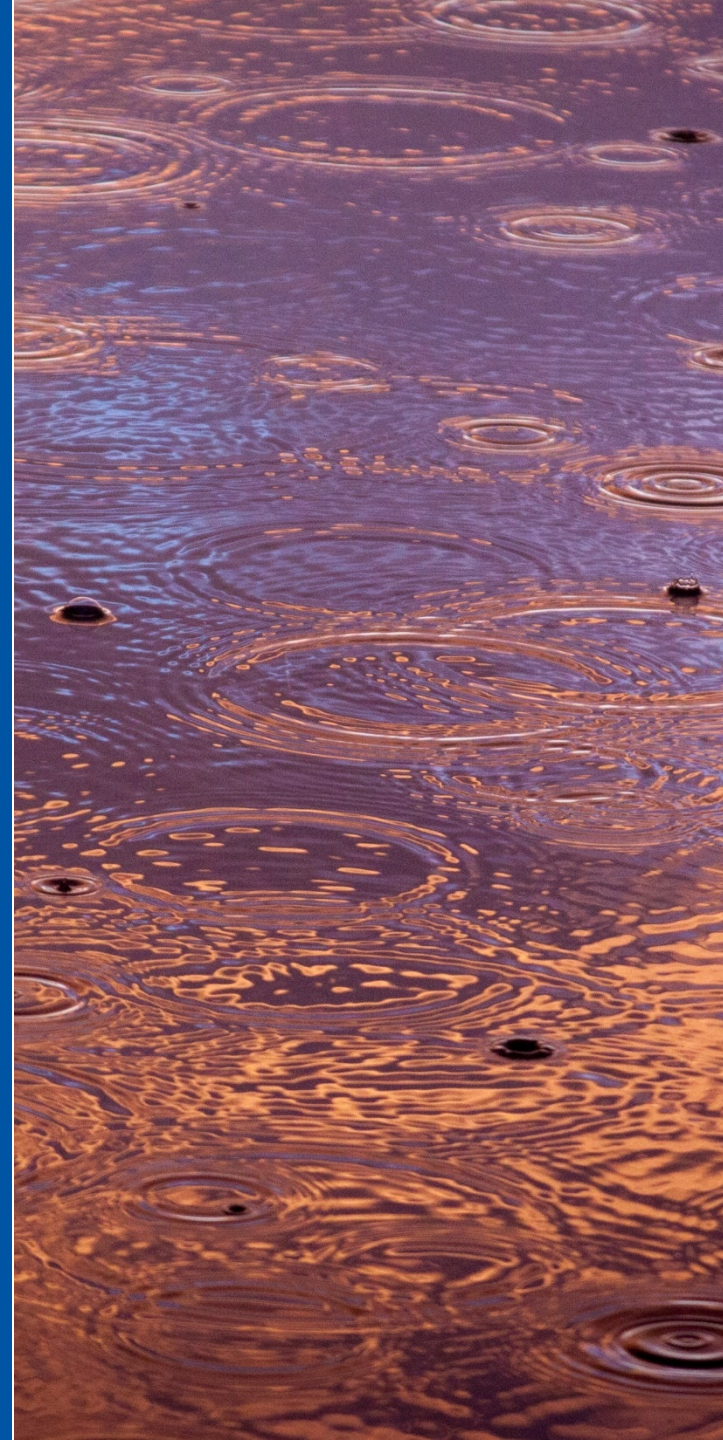
Before we start:

- 1) Please mute your microphones.
- 2) If you have questions, please use the chat box and our moderator will chime in to make sure your question is addressed.
- 3) The slides and meeting notes will be posted online after the meeting at:  
<https://twri.tamu.edu/neches/lower-neches>  
<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/nav/118-hillebrandtbayou-bacteria>  
<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/nav/118-nechestidal-bacteria>
- 4) Please sign in using our webform, the link will be posted in the chat box.



# Agenda

- 1: Introductions
- 2: Water Quality Planning and Implementation in Texas (Dania Grundmann TCEQ)
- 3: Planning frameworks for addressing water quality (Michael Schramm)
- 5: Next Steps





# Approach to Address Water Quality & Stakeholder Involvement

Michael Schramm



# I-Plan

- The TMDL Implementation Plan (I-Plan) is a document outlining steps and schedules for reducing a pollutant load in the water body covered by the TMDL.
- The Implementation Strategies identified in the I-Plan are developed by local stakeholders.
- I-Plans address the pollutant of concern in the TMDL.



Photo: Ed Rhodes

TMDL	I-Plan
Driven by Clean Water Act requirements	Associated with the TMDL
Addresses impairments prioritized by the state	Addresses impairments in TMDL
Establishes allowable loading for specific pollutant	Establishes strategies and schedules to achieve the TMDL
Administratively removes water body from 303(d) list	
Approved by TCEQ & EPA	Approved by TCEQ
Well suited for watersheds with regulated discharges	Well suited for watersheds with regulated and unregulated discharges

# What is a stakeholder?

- A group or individual who:
  - Has the responsibility for implementing a decision
  - Is affected by the decision
  - Assists with problem identification
  - Promotes awareness, education, and action
  - Facilitates implementation of solutions

# Types of stakeholders

- Stakeholders can belong to the following entities:
  - Landowners
  - County or regional representatives
  - Local municipal representatives
  - State and federal agencies
  - Business and industry representatives
  - Citizen groups
  - Community service and Religious organizations
  - Universities, colleges, and schools
  - Environmental and conservation groups
  - Soil and water conservation districts



# Major Tasks for Stakeholders

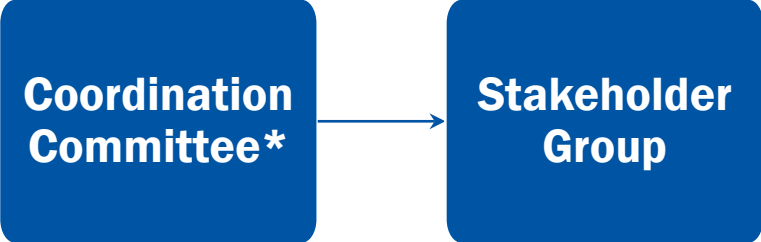
- Provide guidance and input on potential sources of bacteria and estimated pollutant loads
- Set goals and objectives
- Guide identification of measures that could be implemented to address bacteria
- Identify level of implementation that's reasonable
- Identify outreach and education that is needed
- Oversee development of an implementation plan & schedule

# Key Definitions

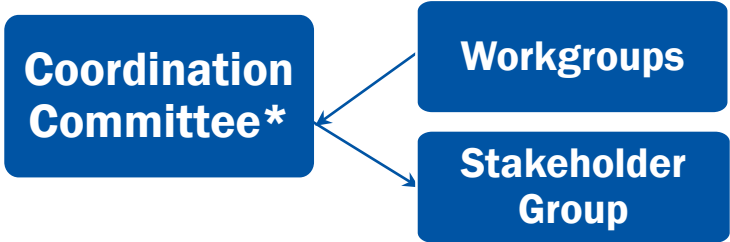
- Stakeholder Group – An open membership group that participates in public meetings (can be a decision-making group)
- Coordination Committee – A defined decision-making body made representing stakeholders from diverse interest/backgrounds
- Workgroup – Groups made up of stakeholders of a similar interest/background

# Stakeholder Frameworks

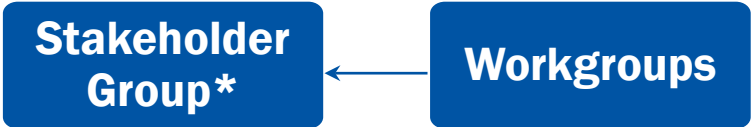
## Option 1



## Option 2



## Option 3



\* Decision-making group



# Coordination Committee

- Made up of representatives from various interests groups to voice different concerns (including non-agency representatives)
- Set ground-rules
- Decide on strategies and schedules in the I-Plan

# Work groups

- Groups of individuals representing similar interests or expertise. Can provide expertise and guidance to decision-making body on impact and effectiveness of implementation strategies and resources needs.
- Typically –
  - Education and Outreach
  - Permitted Wastewater
  - Septic/OSSF
  - Agriculture/Silviculture/Wildlife
  - Urban Stormwater
  - Others as appropriate

# Questionnaire

- Link:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScon6ZGaHLeEizqEO7lQb\\_6rg9IPGPqpuiSczMgn5TMBRFGsA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScon6ZGaHLeEizqEO7lQb_6rg9IPGPqpuiSczMgn5TMBRFGsA/viewform) (see clickable link in the chatbox)
- What is your desired stakeholder structure?
- Can you serve on coordination committee and/or work groups?
- What are your preferred meeting frequency and formats?



# Next steps – Near Term

- I-Plan Development:
  - Identify and finalize desired stakeholder and decision-making structures based on responses to questionnaire
  - Form coordination committee/work groups/stakeholder groups as desired
    - Ground rules, meeting frequency, meeting format will be determined by group
    - Work groups may outline preferences for meeting frequency and format.
  - Identify potential management measures
- TMDL Development:
  - Presentations on technical work

Thank You!

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Lucas Gregory – [lfgregory@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:lfgregory@ag.tamu.edu)