



# Jarbo Bayou Bacteria TMDL: Work Group Report

## Boaters and Marinas

Sept. 11, 2014

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**I. OVERVIEW**

Per Umbrella Contract 582-14-42709, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) requested Public Outreach support from the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) for Jarbo Bayou Bacteria TMDL project, with activities for all elements of Public Outreach including, but not necessarily limited to:

- Identifying and Reserving Facilities for Meetings and / or Events;
- Providing a Facilitator for Any Meetings (As Needed);
- Providing Support for Organizing and Advertising Meetings and / or Events;
- Distribution and Posting of Meeting Agenda(s);
- Preparation of Meeting and / or Event Summaries;
- Preparation of Printed or Other Presentation Materials in Support of a Meeting and / or Event;
- Use of the H-GAC Website for Posting Meeting and / or Event Information; and
- Any Other Necessary Support Activities.

On September 11, 2014 H-GAC facilitated the Boaters and Marina's work group meeting to vote on whether to join the Bacteria Implementation Group (BIG) or to develop an implementation plan (I-Plan) and next steps.

**II. LOCATION / GEOGRAPHY**

According to the Texas State Historical Association, Jarbo Bayou, a part of the San Jacinto - Brazos basin, rises two miles northeast of League City in northern Galveston County and flows northeast for two miles to its mouth on Clear Lake, just east of Clear Lake Shores and west of Kemah.



### III. **PURPOSE**

Since 2002, high concentrations of bacteria, which are found in both human and animal waste, have been observed in the bayou.

The presence of these bacteria may indicate a health risk to people who swim or wade in the bayou-activities referred to as "contact recreation" in the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards.

The Purpose of this work group meeting was to discuss the following:

- *Review progress to date - H-GAC will review progress to date with the work group,*
- *Vote to either join the BIG or develop an I-Plan - H-GAC will facilitate a discussion on whether to join the Bacteria Implementation Group or to develop an independent I-Plan. Work group will vote to either join the BIG or to develop an I-Plan,*
- *Develop and discuss recommendations that will be presented to the Coordination Committee that support the result of the vote. and*
- *Discuss next steps - The work group will discuss next steps.*

### IV. **APPROACH**

Interested and invited individuals were contacted directly via e-mail and/or phone to verify interest in participating in the Boaters and Marinas work group meeting; identify best dates / times for the meeting; to notify them of meeting details; and to remind the attendees of the upcoming meeting.

### V. **NOTIFICATION**

Notification of the work group meeting took place via e-mail and/or phone. Additionally, TCEQ asked H-GAC to post meeting details to the project webpage:

<http://www.h-gac.com/community/water/tmdl/jarbo-bayou.aspx>.



**VI. MATERIALS**

The following materials were made available for the meeting:

- 1. Sign-In Sheet(s)
- 2. Boaters and Marinas Work Group Meeting Agenda
- 3. Watershed Map
- 4. Results of the work group's review of sections of the BIG I-Plan, and Dickinson Bayou I-Plan.

**VII. MEETING SYNOPSIS**

***Location***

Clear Lake Shores Civic Club  
931 Cedar  
Clear Lake Shores, TX 77565

***Date & Time***

Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2014  
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

***Attendees***

NAME	ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED
Neally Rhea	Galveston Bay Foundation
Charlene Bohanon	Galveston Bay Foundation
Dewayane Hollin	TX SeaGrant

**To view the sign-in sheet in its entirety, please see Attachment A.**

***Meeting Summary by Agenda Items:***

- *Progress to Date – H-GAC staff reviewed the progress to date with the attendees. Staff noted that the group reviewed during the last meeting, sections of I-Plans and watershed protection plans similar to their subject area. The group highlighted areas of each plan that they felt were important to any plan that would be developed for Jarbo Bayou. Staff then reviewed a spreadsheet with the work group that compared the highlighted areas from each stakeholder. The comparison allowed the work group to see areas interest that was similar for stakeholders across the plans and for areas that were unique to reviewers.*



- Vote to either join the BIG or develop an I-Plan – Attendees discussed the benefits and potential problems with joining the BIG. Attendees then proceeded to vote. All attendees noted that it was a difficult decision and that while not strongly recommending they all voted to develop an I-plan.
- Develop recommendations – Attendees reasons for leaning towards developing an I-plan include:
  - *Liking local plan specificity,*
  - *Strong local attitude and bay culture,*
  - *Issues differ, including Boaters and Marinas,*
  - *Smaller group will not get lost in a larger group process, and*
  - *There is a large amount of established I-Plans to draw from to develop an independent I-Plan.*
- *Discuss next steps - The work group discussed the next steps which will include taking the results of the vote to the Coordination Committee for their review and vote. Recommendations will document the decision and offer any comments that the Coordination Committee might consider deliberating the question to join the BIG prior to a vote.*

**VIII. NEXT MEETING**

To Be determined