

The background of the slide is a photograph of a person in a pink swimsuit swimming underwater, with a child also visible in the water. The scene is set in a clear, blue body of water with some aquatic plants visible at the bottom. The title text is overlaid on the upper portion of this image.

Recreational Use-Attainability Analyses

Lori Hamilton
Water Quality Standards Group
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
May 19, 2009

TSWQS Revisions-Proposed Changes



- Broaden recreation categories & revise numerical criteria



- Freshwater categories & geometric means (*E. coli*)

- Primary contact recreation (PCR)

- 206/100 ml

- Secondary contact recreation (SCR)1

- 630/100 ml

- SCR 2

- 1030/100 ml

- Noncontact Recreation (NCR)

- 2060/100 ml





Revised Recreational UAA Procedures

- Contact Information Form
 - Contact local entities (river authorities, TCEQ region staff, etc.)
- Coordinate with TCEQ
- Quality Assurance Project Plan
- Site Selection & Data Collection Timeframes
- Maps
- Historical Information Review
 - Comprehensive RUAA





Revised Recreational UAA Procedures

- Basic RUAA Survey and Comprehensive RUAA
- Conduct UAA
 - Field Data Sheets (Temperature, flow, depth/width, uses observed, etc.)
 - Weather conditions
 - Photos
 - Comprehensive Recreational UAA Interview Form
- Recreational UAA Summary Sheet
- UAA Report



Buffalo Bayou & Whiteoak Bayou UAA

➤ Conducted summer of 2008

➤ 303(d) listed waters

- Buffalo Bayou Above Tidal (Segment 1014)
- Whiteoak Bayou Above Tidal (Segment 1017)
- Unclassified:

Buffalo Bayou

Bear Creek

Langham Creek

Mason Creek

Neimans Branch

Rummel Creek

Spring Branch

South Mayde Creek

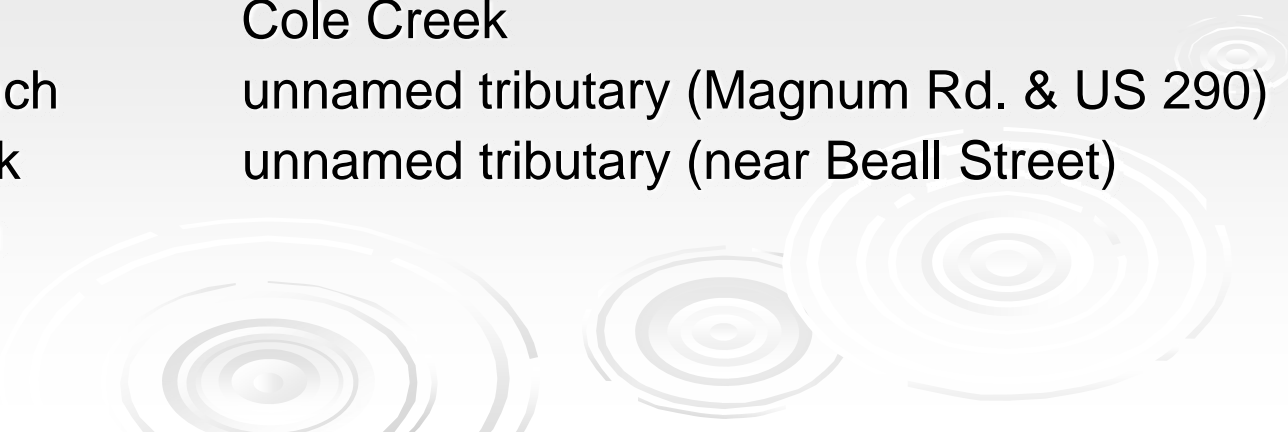
Turkey Creek

Brickhouse Gully

Cole Creek

unnamed tributary (Magnum Rd. & US 290)

unnamed tributary (near Beall Street)



Buffalo Bayou & Whiteoak Bayou UAA

➤ Data collection effort

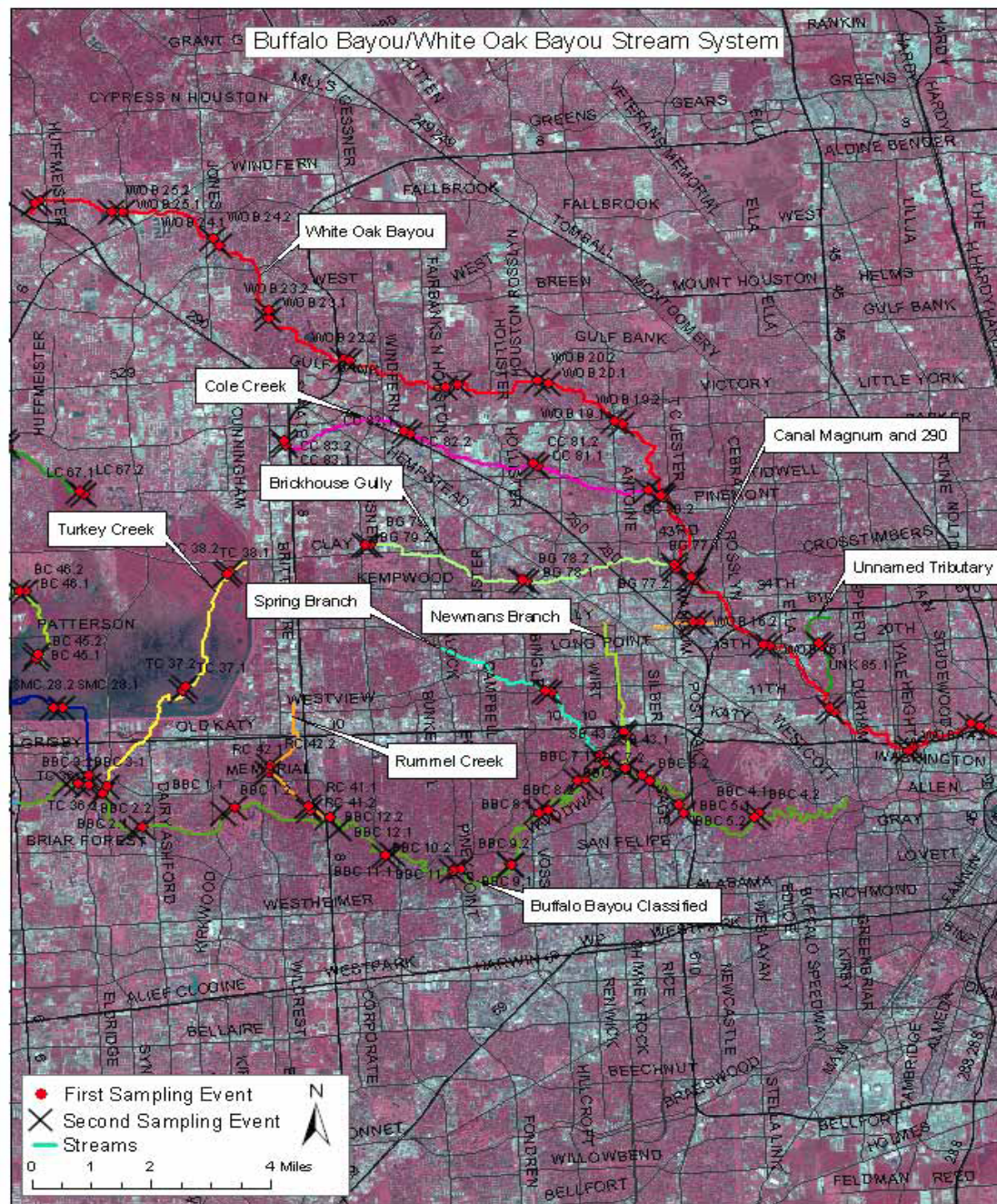
- Historical review
- Photographs
- Data (flow, depth, etc.)
- Recreational use observations

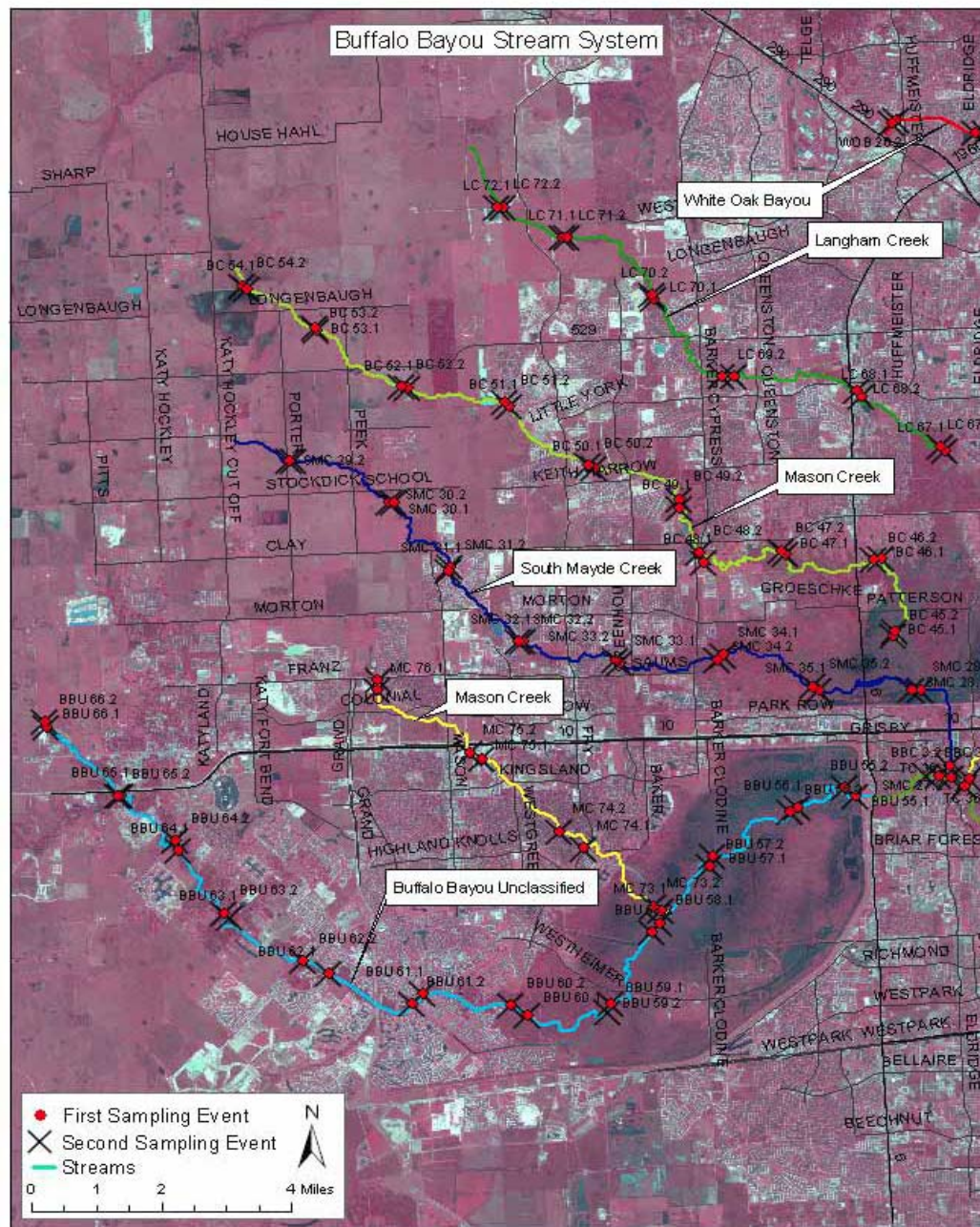
➤ Evaluation and recommendations

- Include results in current WQS revision?
- EPA review & approval

➤ Report available on TCEQ WQ Standards website

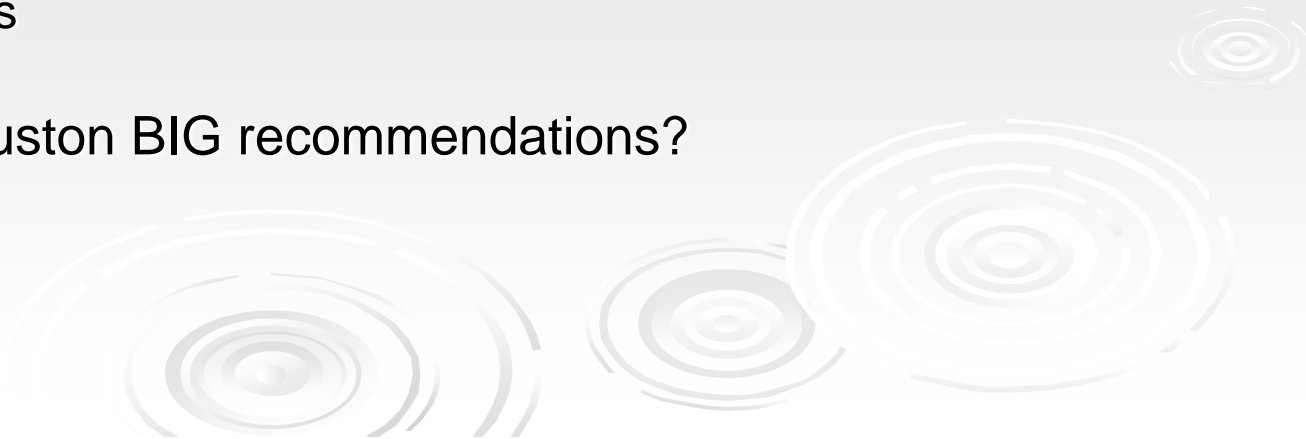
- http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water_quality/stakeholders/swqsawg_handouts.html#ruaa





Potential Recommendations

- Option 1:
 - PCR- Buffalo Bayou & Whiteoak Bayou (classified)
 - SCR 1- other 13 unclassified water bodies
- Option 2:
 - PCR- Buffalo Bayou & Whiteoak Bayou (classified) and Buffalo Bayou (unclassified)
 - SCR 1- other 12 unclassified water bodies
- Option 3:
 - SCR 1 – Brickhouse Gully (concrete lined); 2 unnamed tributaries (small channelized ditches)
 - PCR – all others
- Option 4:
 - Additional Houston BIG recommendations?





Photos Courtesy of:

- O'Henrys Hideaway
- River Sports Tube
- Texas Water Safari

