Watershed Outreach Workgroup
Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, August 29, 2012
2:00 pm to 3:30 pm
H-GAC Conference Room B, Second Floor

Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions

Welcome & Introductions

Review Agenda

Discussion

- **Overview** (10 minutes)
    - Update on I-Plan process
    - Review Implementation Strategy
    - Discuss annual report
- **Harris County Prioritization Plan** (15 minutes)
- **Most Wanted/Most Likely to Succeed lists** (15 minutes)
- **Identify Priorities** (25 minutes)
    - What are the priorities towards which we should be focusing our efforts?
- **Discuss next steps** (20 minutes)

Wrap-up

Review tasks

BIG Mid-Year Meeting: October 16, 2012, 1:30 to 3:30 (tentative)

Adjourn

Geographic Prioritization Framework

In order to achieve state standards for contact recreation in the BIG region's waterways, all stakeholders will need to be responsible for some aspects of I-Plan implementation. Some Implementation Activities (IAs), such as additional requirements for wastewater treatment facilities as described in Implementation Strategy 1.0, will be implemented throughout the BIG region. Others, such as addressing failing onsite sewage facilities (IA 3.1) and pilot studies to evaluate results of education efforts (IA 8.1.2), will be implemented in targeted areas. It is this second group of IAs, those that are geographically targeted, which need a framework of prioritization. The framework described here provides guidance to communities in setting local implementation priorities.

As a community prioritizes actions within its watersheds it should consider five main categories of concern: bacteria level, accessibility, use level, implementation opportunities, and future land use changes. Table *** lists criteria included in these categories. Communities may want to gather input from residents when setting priorities. This can be accomplished through public meetings or surveys. However, a logical approach needs to be considered as well, such as targeting specific watersheds or suspected sources.

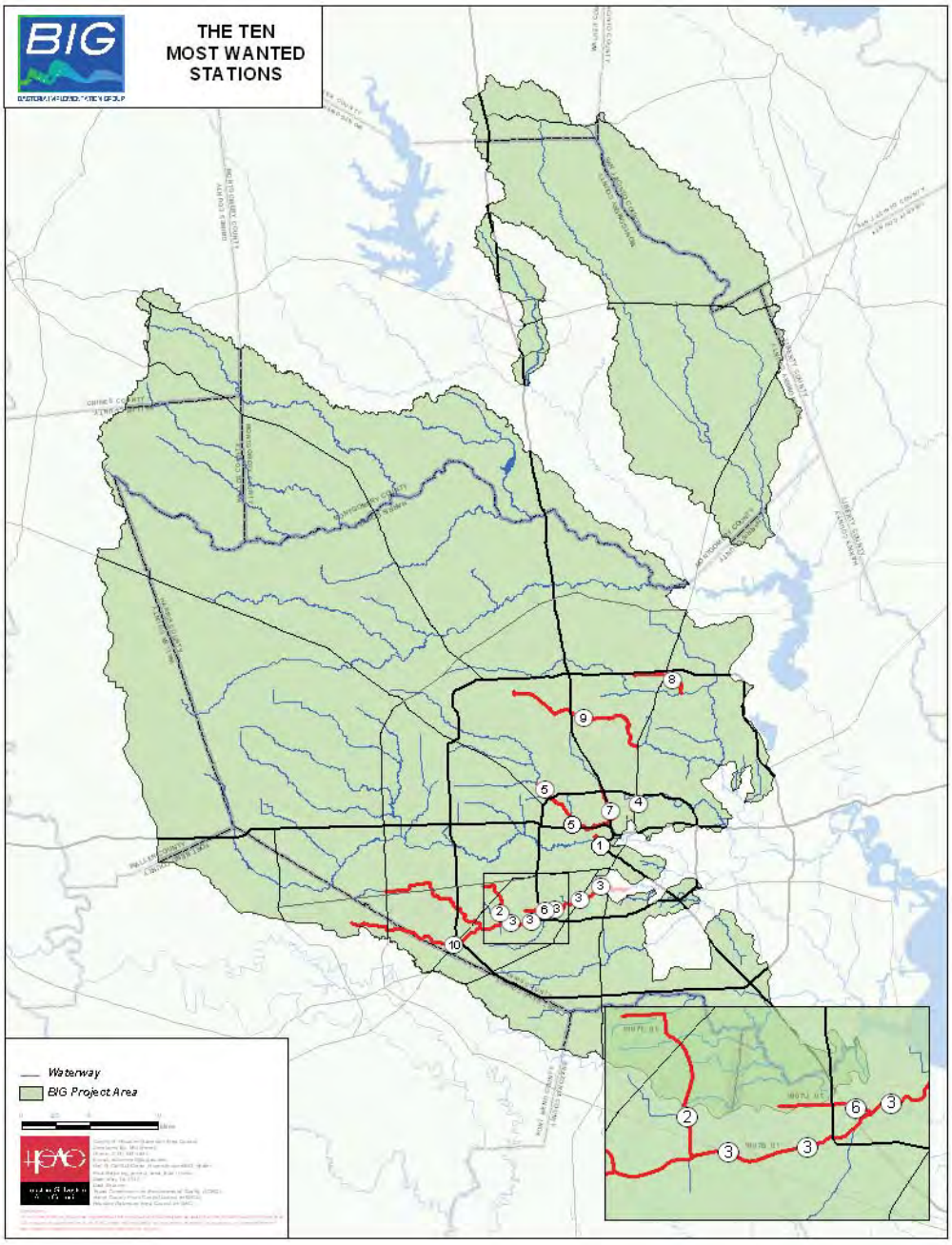
Table ***. Criteria to consider in watershed prioritization

Category	Criteria to Consider
Bacteria Level	• Is the 7-year bacteria geometric mean for the waterway above the water quality criteria for bacteria? If yes, what is the magnitude of the exceedance? • Based on land use surrounding the waterway, is the source of bacteria more likely human or animal? • Is the flow in the waterway primarily effluent from wastewater treatment facilities? • How many impaired stream segments could be affected by the transport of bacteria downstream from the waterway?
Accessibility	• Is there a large population within 0.25 miles of the waterway? [Note: The meaning of the phrase "large population" can differ from community to community.] • Are there public access points (ramps, bridges, trails, developed parks) to the waterway?
Use Level	• Is contact recreation occurring in the waterway? • If the waterway is not currently used for recreation, would the waterway be used for recreation if the bacteria level were low? • Is the waterway part of a drinking water supply? • Are there signs that the waterway is being used for recreation (rope swings, fishing debris, beer cans, or graffiti)? • Is there an existing group that promotes protection and improvement of the waterway as a community asset? • Are the characteristics of the waterway such that individuals could use it for recreation (appropriate flow, depth, natural or man-made banks)?
Implementation Opportunities	• Are there existing groups to partner with for implementation? • Is there political will to lower a particular waterway's bacteria level? • What funds are available?

	• Can funding be leveraged with funding from upstream or downstream jurisdictions to expand spatial extent of an IA? • What are initial construction or installation costs? • What are estimated long-term maintenance costs? • Is there a waterway that could easily meet the standard? • Can a specific source of bacteria be singled out to better target IAs? • How much land is available to develop storm water treatment facilities?
Future Land Use Changes	• What development is expected in the watershed? • Is the waterway threatened, but not yet listed as impaired? [Note: H-GAC Clean Rivers staff periodically analyzes water quality data to determine trends and can provide this information to interested communities. Additionally, raw data is available for download from the H-GAC website.]

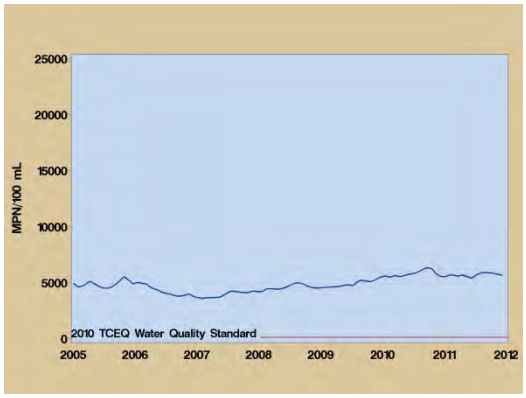
Most Wanted & Most Likely Succeed

Most Wanted: The ten Assessment units with the stations with the highest geometric means for bacteria relative to the state standard



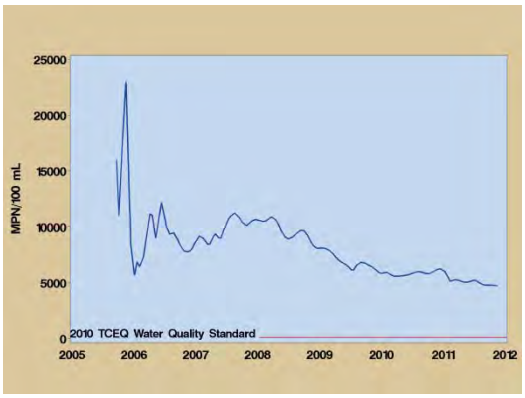
1) Assessment Unit 1013C_01: Glennwood Cemetery (5807)

- Station 16675.
- Geomean for 65 *E. coli* samples: 5807.
- Geomean relative to standard: 46 times the standard.
- Description: An unnamed tributary of Buffalo Bayou at Glennwood Cemetery, not far from the intersection of Lubbock and Sawyer Streets just upstream of downtown Houston. Adjacent to the Houston Police Officers Memorial and Eleanor Tinsley Park. This assessment unit is the most upstream assessment unit for this waterbody. The area is undergoing construction currently to upgrade the biking and running trails along the Bayou.
- KM 493K.
- First listed in 2002.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/16675s.jpg



2) Assessment Unit: 1007T_01: Bintliff Ditch

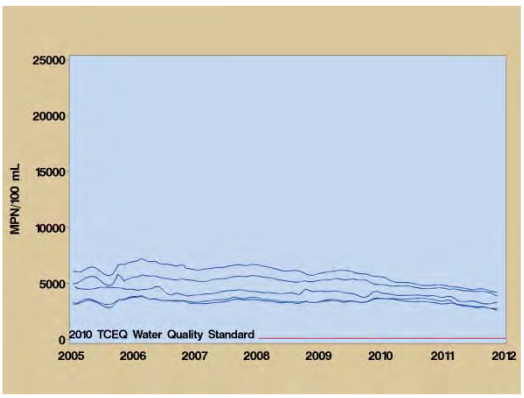
- Station 18690.
- Geomean for 55 *E. coli* samples: 5107.
- Geomean relative to standard: 41 times the standard.
- Description: A tributary of Brays Bayou near the intersection of Bissonet at Fondren in southwest Houston. This assessment unit is the most upstream assessment unit for this waterbody. May be showing improvement.
- KM 530Q.
- First listed in 2010.



3) Assessment Unit 1007B_01: Brays Bayou

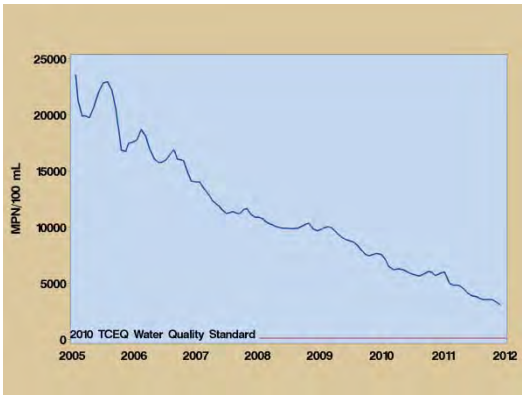
- Five monitoring stations, from the Meyerland area outside the 610 Loop east to Hermann Park: 15854, 15853, 11138, 15859, 15855.
- First listed in 2002.
- Station 15854:
  - Geomean for 66 *E. coli* samples: 4410.
  - Geomean relative to standard: 35 times the standard.
  - Description: Brays Bayou at South Rice Ave.
  - KM 531U.
  - May be showing improvement.
- Station 15853:
  - Geomean for 65 *E. coli* samples: 4218.
  - Geomean relative to standard: 33 times the standard.
  - Description: Brays Bayou at Hillcroft.
  - KM 531S.
  - May be showing improvement.
- Station 15859:
  - Geomean for 66 *E. coli* samples: 2964.
  - Geomean relative to standard: 24 times the standard.
  - Description: Brays Bayou at Greenbriar.
  - KM 532M.
- Station 15855:
  - Geomean for 66 samples: 2931.
  - Description: Brays Bayou at Stella Link Road.
  - Geomean relative to standard: 23 times the standard.
  - KM 532N.
- Station 11138:
  - Geomean for 65 *E. coli* samples: 3510.
  - Geomean relative to standard: 28 times the standard.
  - Description: Brays Bayou at Almeda Road.
  - KM 533F.

- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/15854s.jpg



4) Assessment Unit 1007R_01: Schramm Gully

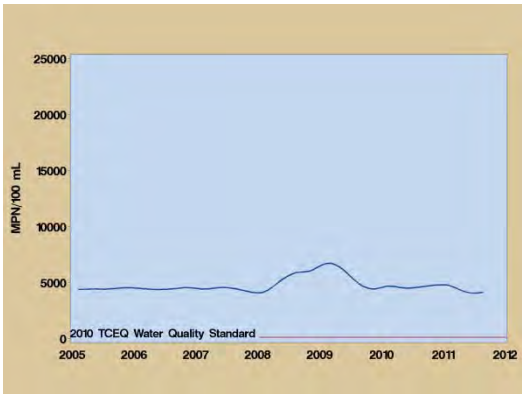
- Station 15869
- Geomean for 66 *E. coli* samples: 4397
- Geomean relative to standard: 35 times the standard.
- Description: Tributary of Hunting Bayou at Cavalcade St. in northeast Houston.
- KM 454X.
- First listed in 2002.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/15869s.jpg



5) Assessment Unit 1017_04: White Oak Bayou

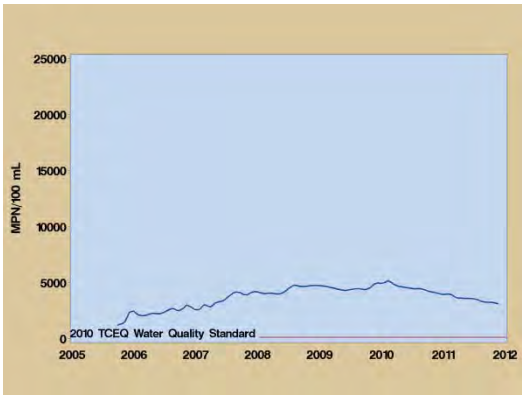
- Two monitoring stations, one downstream of Heights Blvd, the other at West TC Jester, both northwest of downtown Houston: 11387, 16637.
- First listed in 1996.
- Station 11387:

  - Geomean for 26 *E. coli* samples: 4130.
  - Geomean relative to standard: 33 times the standard.
  - Description: Whiteoak Bayou at Heights Blvd.
  - KM 493E.
- Station 16637:
  - Geomean for 27 *E. coli* samples: 3637.
  - Geomean relative to standard: 33 times the standard.
  - Description: Whiteoak Bayou at Heights Blvd.
  - KM 493E.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/11387s.jpg



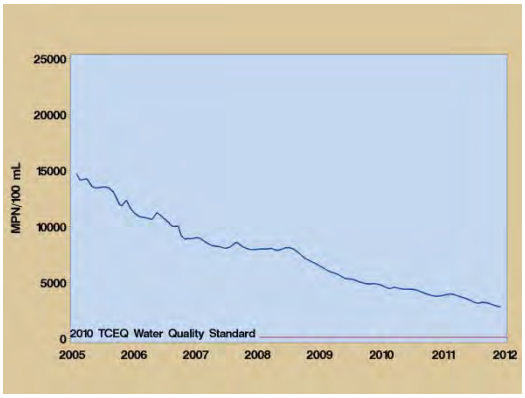
6) Assessment Unit 1007U_01: Mimosa Ditch

- Station 18691.
- Geomean for 56 *E. coli* samples: 3613.
- Geomean relative to standard: 29 times the standard.
- Description: Tributary of Brays Bayou at Newcastle Drive near the south boundary of Bellaire.
- KM 531R.
- First listed in 2010.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/18691s.jpg



7) Assessment Unit 1013A_01: Little White Oak Bayou

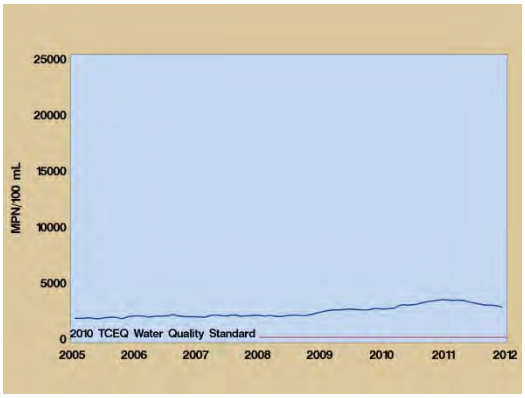
- Station 11148.
- Geomean for 66 *E. coli* samples: 3478.
- Geomean relative to standard: 28 times the standard.
- Description: Little White Oak Bayou at Trimble Street/North Edge of Hollywood Cemetery north of downtown Houston.
- KM 453Y.
- First listed in 2002.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/11148s.jpg



8) Assessment Unit 1016D_01: Unnamed Tributary of Greens Bayou

- Station 16676.
- Geomean for 66 *E. coli* samples: 3336.

- Geomean relative to standard: 26 times the standard.
- Description: Unnamed Tributary of Greens Bayou at Smith Rd in Northeast Houston.
- KM 375X.
- First listed in 2002.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/16676s.jpg



9) Assessment Unit 1006D_02: Halls Bayou at Airline

- Station 17490.
- Geomean for 66 *E. coli* samples: 2416.
- Geomean relative to standard: 19 times the standard.
- Description: Halls Bayou at Airline Road in North Houston.
- KM 375X.
- First listed in 2002.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/17490s.jpg

10) Assessment 1007C_01: Keegans Bayou

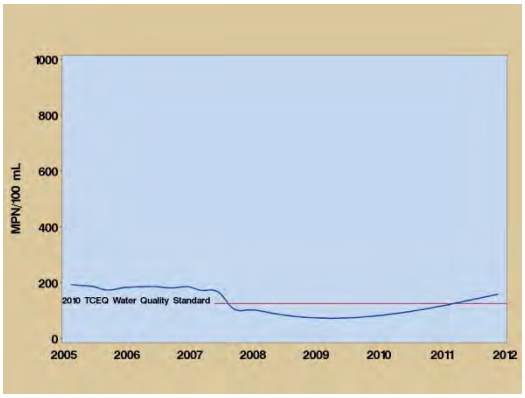
- Station 11169.
- Geomean for 65 *E. coli* samples: 2178.

- Geomean relative to standard: 17 times the standard.
- Description: Keegans Bayou at Roark Road near US 59 just southwest of Houston City Limits
- KM 469C.
- First listed in 2002.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/11169s.jpg

Most Likely to Succeed: The ten assessment units with the stations with the lowest geometric means, relative to the state standard for bacteria, that exceed the state standard

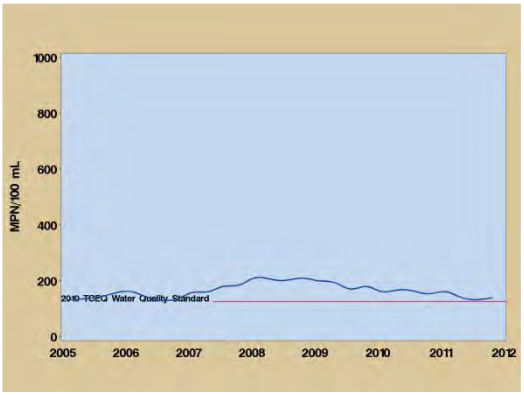
1) Assessment Unit 1102C_01: Hickory Slough

- Station 17068.
- Geomean for 20 *E. coli* samples: Geometric Mean: 127.
- Geomean relative to standard: 1.01 times the standard.
- Description: Hickory Slough, a tributary of Clear Creek above tidal at Robinson Drive in Pearland.
- KM 615B.
- First listed in 2008.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/17068s.jpg



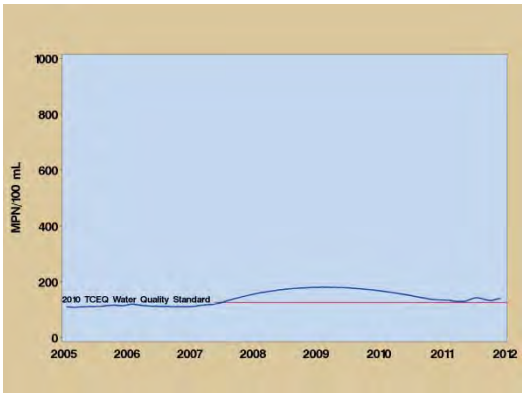
2) Assessment Unit 1008B_01: Upper Panther Branch

- Station 16629.
- Geomean for 27 *E. coli* samples: Geometric Mean: 138.
- Geomean relative to standard: 1.1 times the standard.
- Description: Upper Panther Branch at Research Forest Dr. in the Spring Creek watershed.
- KM 217T.
- First listed in 2010.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/16629s.jpg



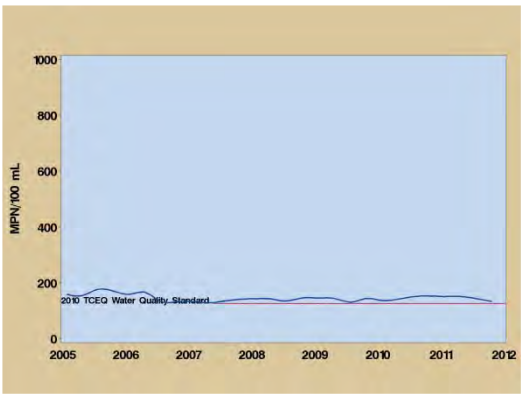
3) Assessment Unit 1011_01: Peach Creek

- Station 16625.
- Geomean for 24 *E. coli* samples: Geometric Mean: 133.
- Geomean relative to standard: 1.1 times the standard.
- Description: Peach Creek at Old HWY 105.
- KM 192C.
- First listed in 2010.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/16625s.jpg



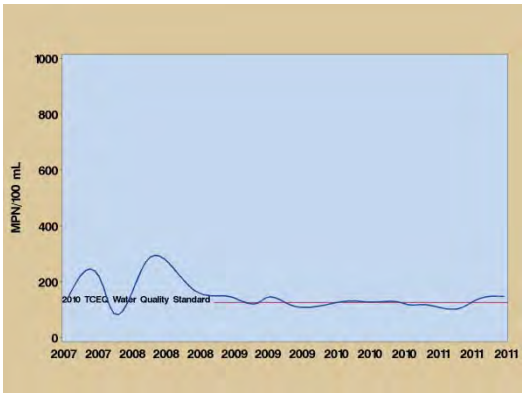
4) Assessment Unit 1008C_02: Lower Panther Branch

- Station 16627:
- Geomean for 27 *E. coli* samples: 147.
- Geomean relative to standard: 1.2 times the standard.
- Description: Lower Panther Branch at Sawdust Road in the Spring Creek Watershed.
- KM 251U.
- First listed in 2010
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/16627s.jpg



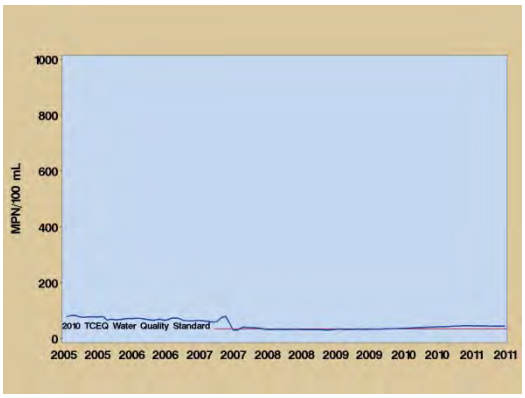
5) Assessment Unit 1008_04: Spring Creek at Roberts Cemetery Road West in Spring Creek Watershed

- Station: 18868
- Geomean for 18 *E. coli* samples: Geometric Mean: 148.
- Geomean relative to standard: 1.2 times the standard.
- Description: Peach Creek at Old HWY 105.
- KM 285M.
- First listed in 2010.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/No_Image_Available.jpg



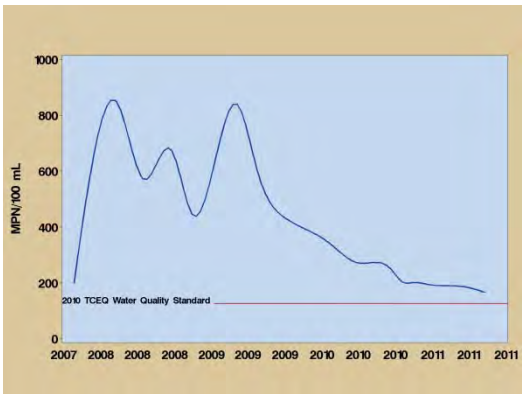
6) Segment ID 1101_03 Clear Creek Tidal at SH 3

- Station 11446
- Geomean for 57 Enterrococci samples: Geometric Mean: 44.
- Geomean relative to standard: 1.2 times the standard.
- Description: Clear Creek Tidal at SH3 near Webster.
- KM 658D.
- First listed in 2010.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/11446s.jpg



7) Segment ID: 1010_03 Caney Creek at Firetower Road, Caney Creek Watershed

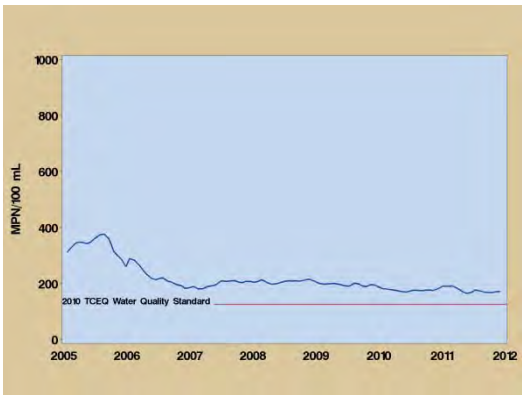
- Station 20452.
- Geomean for 16 *E. coli* samples: Geometric Mean: 167.
- Geomean relative to standard: 1.3 times the standard.
- Description: Caney Creek at Firetower Road, Caney Creek.
- KM 221V.
- First listed in 2010.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/20452s.jpg



8) Segment 1007R_03 Hunting Bayou at North Loop East, in Houston Ship Channel/Buffalo Bayou Tidal

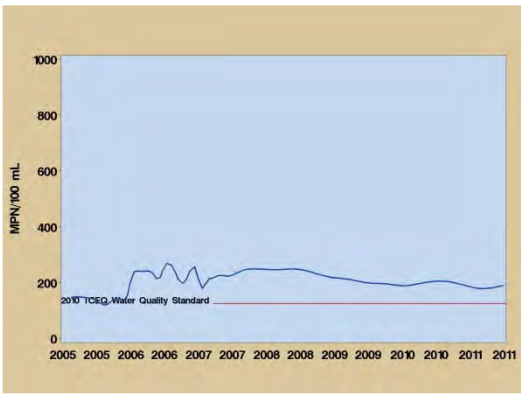
- Station 11129.
- Geomean for 66 *E. coli* samples: Geometric Mean: 170.
- Geomean relative to standard: 1.4 times the standard.
- Description: Hunting Bayou at North Loop East.
- KM 455Y.
- First listed in 2010.

- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/11129s.jpg



9) Segment ID 1102_02 Clear Creek at Telephone Road, Clear Creek Watershed

- Station 11452.
- Geomean for 44 *E. coli* samples: Geometric Mean: 182.
- Geomean relative to standard: 1.4 times the standard.
- Description: Clear Creek at Telephone Road.
- KM 575W.
- First listed in 2010.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/11452s.jpg



Folder of station photos: \\ntfs05\media\CommunityEnvironmental\Photos\Program Areas\Water Resources\Regional Monitoring\Monitoring Photos by Organization\Misc Stations

10) Segment ID 1008C_01: Lower Panther Branch at Sawdust

- Station 16628.

- Geomean for 27 *E. coli* samples: Geometric Mean: 185.
- Geomean relative to standard: 1.5 times the standard.
- Description: Garners Bayou at Old Humble Road.
- KM 251U.
- First listed in 2010.
- Photo: http://arcgis02.h-gac.com/Reference/WRIM/StationPics/16628s.jpg