

2025 SRA Steering Committee/Coordinated Monitoring Meeting Minutes Longview Texas

11:35 Sabine River Program Update-Kaleb McDade

-CRP

-Partnership between TCEQ and regional authorities. SRA: CRP partner for Sabine basin

- Focus on keeping Texas waters healthy through data, collaboration, and action.

-SRA-TX Objectives for CRP

-Monitor water quality at 38 sites monthly. Identify and mitigate/fix any water quality issues.

-Engage public through meetings and outreach.

-Support data-driven water management.

-2025 Program Highlights

-SRA-TX monitored 38 sites monthly. TCEQ and City of Longview added 11 more.

-Most data meet Texas Surface Water Quality Standards.

-Top Issues: Elevated bacteria (*E. coli*, *Enterococcus*). Likely source: Storm runoff, wildlife, and point source pollution.

11:48 Questions

-Do we have stream reaches on 303d list? Yes, Upper Lake Fork Creek arm (0515_05) was listed for high pH.

-Does bacteria in the water mean total organic material? No, bacteria in the water means *E.coli and enterococcus* specifically.

12:00 Natural Resources Management-Bill Kirby

-Goals and Objectives

-Interact with State, Federal, and local agencies on natural resource issues.
EX: Threatened and Endangered species, Invasive Species

-Public outreach and Education

-Conduct/Facilitate surveys and research on species of concern

-Alligator Snapping Turtle Public awareness campaign

-Signage at all SRA public boat ramps

-Provide Educational Materials to Schools in the Sabine Basin

-Conducting Mussel Surveys on 2 species of interest in the Sabine River Basin

-Toledo Bend Eel Passage and Surveys

12:10 Questions

-Are there any efforts to educate public on turtle misconceptions? Yes, through public outreach and communication

12:15 Drought Contingency Plan and Community Assistance Program-Jamie East

-Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan have been updated and are included in SRATX website.

-Community Assistance Program provides financial assistance for eligible local and regional water resource projects in the Sabine River Basin of Texas.

-No Questions

12:25 Coordinated Monitoring Meeting

-CRP: No comments

-SWQM: Is it possible to do a 24hr DO monitor on Wards Creek (0505G)? Harris Creek (0506A)? Further discussion will take place.

-Continue current sampling program

-Who conducted Little Cypress IBI?

-City of Longview: Proceed under current sampling program with QAPP, if issues not rectified, release CoL from SRA QAPP.

-TCEQ Tyler dropping Lakes: Murvaul, Martin, Brandy, Quitman, and Winnsboro

-Dallas Water Utilities- Data available for 2 sites. No additional comments.

-END

Orange Texas

11:30 **Sabine River Program Update-Kaleb McDade**

(Same presentation as Longview)

11:41 Over last 50 years has the Sabine River discharged significantly?

11:50 When you're sampling, do you record latest rainfall events?

11:55 Texas Paddling Trail – any possibility of developing boat ramp/kayak launch in Cow Bayou at Hwy 105?

11:57 Is the Toledo Bend spillway velocity too high?

11:59 How is SRA-TX connected and work with SRA Louisiana?

12:00 What issues are there with Cow Bayou (TMDL)? What is the status and how long will this study take? Could possibly be holding up permits for industry.

12:01 What are some major non point pollution sources? How have we worked with LNVA? Are we still providing Streat Team kits and the certification process?

12:11 Does SRA have any planned infrastructure improvements?

12:15 **Natural Resources Management-Bill Kirby**

12:24 Could you give this presentation to/on Lake Tawakoni?

12:25 What are the different symbols for occurrences on the Alligator Snapping Turtle reporting website? Do mussel species intermingle?

12:30 **Drought Contingency Plan and Community Assistance Program-Christine Gartner**

12:35 **Coordinated Monitoring Meeting**

(Same discussion as Longview meeting)

Dear Sabine Basin Stakeholder:

The Sabine River Authority of Texas (SRA-TX) has scheduled two Sabine River Basin Steering Committee meetings on March 19th and 20th from 11:30 – 1:30 to review the Draft *2025 Basin Program Update Report* for the Texas Clean Rivers Program (CRP). A coordinated monitoring meeting will be held directly after the steering committee meeting.

March 19th Agenda

**Location: Homewood Suites in Longview Conference Center
205 N Spur 63
Longview, TX 75601**

Welcome and Introductions
SRA-TX Texas Clean Rivers Program Overview
Draft *2025 Basin Program Update Report* for the CRP
SRA-TX Natural Resources Update
Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan
Community Assistance Program
Brief Break
Coordinated Monitoring Meeting

March 20th Agenda

**Location: SRA Environmental Laboratory
2065 Woodland Ridge Dr.
Orange, TX 77632**

Welcome and Introductions
SRA-TX Texas Clean Rivers Program Overview
Draft *2025 Basin Program Update Report* for the CRP
TMDL Update
Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan
Community Assistance Program
Brief Break
Coordinated Monitoring Meeting

I will send out final reminders via email a few days before the meeting.

Your participation is appreciated and provides valued input to the SRA-TX water quality monitoring efforts in the Sabine River Basin. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kaleb McDade
Field Coordinator
Sabine River Authority Environmental Services
(409) 746-3284