

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
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