

Public Participation Plan

for the Joe Pool Lake Watershed Protection Plan

August 2020

JOE POOL LAKE
WATERSHED PROTECTION



Trinity River Authority of Texas

*On the cover:
Stakeholders 'make it rain' and learn about watershed
functions with Trinity River Authority's
interactive AR Sand Box.*

Public Participation Plan

for

The Joe Pool Lake Watershed Protection Plan

Funded by

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
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Investigating Entities



The Trinity River Authority of Texas
Texas A&M AgriLife Research

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List of Acronyms

BMP	best management practice
COG	Council of Governments
DFW	Dallas-Fort Worth
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FWS	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
JPL	Joe Pool Lake
NCTCOG	North Central Texas Council of Governments
NRCS	U.S. Department of Agriculture - Natural Resource Conservation Service
SWCD	Soil & Water Conservation District
TAG	Technical Advisory Group
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
TPL	Trust for Public Land
TRA	Trinity River Authority of Texas
TRWD	Tarrant Regional Water District
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
WPP	watershed protection plan

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Project Overview

The Joe Pool Lake (JPL) Watershed Protection effort was initiated to address water quality concerns in both Joe Pool Lake and its tributaries. Drinking water from Joe Pool Lake is utilized by over forty thousand people in the City of Midlothian and the communities of Venus, Rockett, Mountain Peak, Sardis, and parts of southern Grand Prairie. In addition to this existing use by the City of Midlothian, Joe Pool Lake is expected to be further developed by the Cities of Cedar Hill, Duncanville, and Grand Prairie for their own municipal use. Joe Pool Lake has also been designated as a potential terminal storage reservoir for the Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) and Dallas Water Utilities (DWS) Integrated Pipeline Project (IPL), which seeks to connect three reservoirs in east Texas (Richland Chambers, Cedar Creek, and Lake Palestine) to other reservoirs in the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) metroplex to enhance the future water supply of the region and to provide for redundancy in the water supply system.

Walnut Creek, one of Joe Pool's two main tributaries, is listed on the 2014 TCEQ Texas Water Quality Inventory and 303(d) List due to elevated levels of E. coli, with its first listing occurring in 2006. The majority of the impaired segment flows through the city limits of Mansfield, who approached TRA in late 2015 as they were considering restoration options available for Walnut Creek. Additionally, the Mountain Creek arm of Joe Pool Lake is currently listed on the 2014 Water Quality Inventory—Water Bodies with Concerns for Use Attainment and Screening Levels for general use concerns due to elevated levels of nitrate. The Cities of Cedar Hill, Grand Prairie, and Mansfield all border this segment of concern.

According to the Texas Water Development Board Population Projections identified during the 2016 Regional Water Planning process, the population of the four counties encompassed in this project are expected to increase a combined 60% from 4.9 million to 7.9 million people over the next 50-year water planning horizon. Conversion of farm land and rapid development in the watershed indicate that water quality has and will continue to be negatively affected unless more vigorous management measures are put in place. To combat this degradation, local stakeholders have elected to take a proactive approach to ensure that appropriate management measures are in place to ensure that the water quality in the lake is protected.

1.2 The Importance of Public Participation

The goal of this project is to develop a watershed protection plan (WPP) for the Joe Pool Lake watershed which 1) establishes an analytical framework for managing water quality, 2) produces a plan of action to address water quality issues, and 3) satisfies the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) nine-element criteria for WPPs. To achieve this goal, robust public participation and outreach components are vital. Effective WPPs utilize local knowledge and expertise to guide the planning process, ensuring that the best management practices (BMPs) selected for implementation are relevant to the watershed's issues, applicable to the environmental setting of the watershed, and feasible for the watershed residents, given the resources they have available. If this process is followed, local stakeholders are more likely to modify their behaviors and adopt the BMPs identified in the WPP.

2.0 Stakeholder Groups

2.1 General Group Structure

The public effort for the Joe Pool Lake Watershed Protection effort will consist of three stakeholder groups, each with its own set of responsibilities and focus areas (Figure 1). Membership will be dependent on these elements, as will meeting content, group size, and meeting frequency. To ensure that watershed interests are well-represented, efforts will be made by the project team to ensure that stakeholder representation is well-distributed, both spatially throughout the watershed, and topically amongst multiple users with varying needs.

2.2 Watershed Protection Partnership (Partnership)

The JPL Watershed Protection Partnership (Partnership) will function as the overall stakeholder group, consisting of all stakeholders, including subgroup members and general members. As such, there are no formal membership requirements, and members may come and go as they please, attending meetings at their leisure. Partnership meetings will serve as a public forum for stakeholder concerns and updates on project progress.

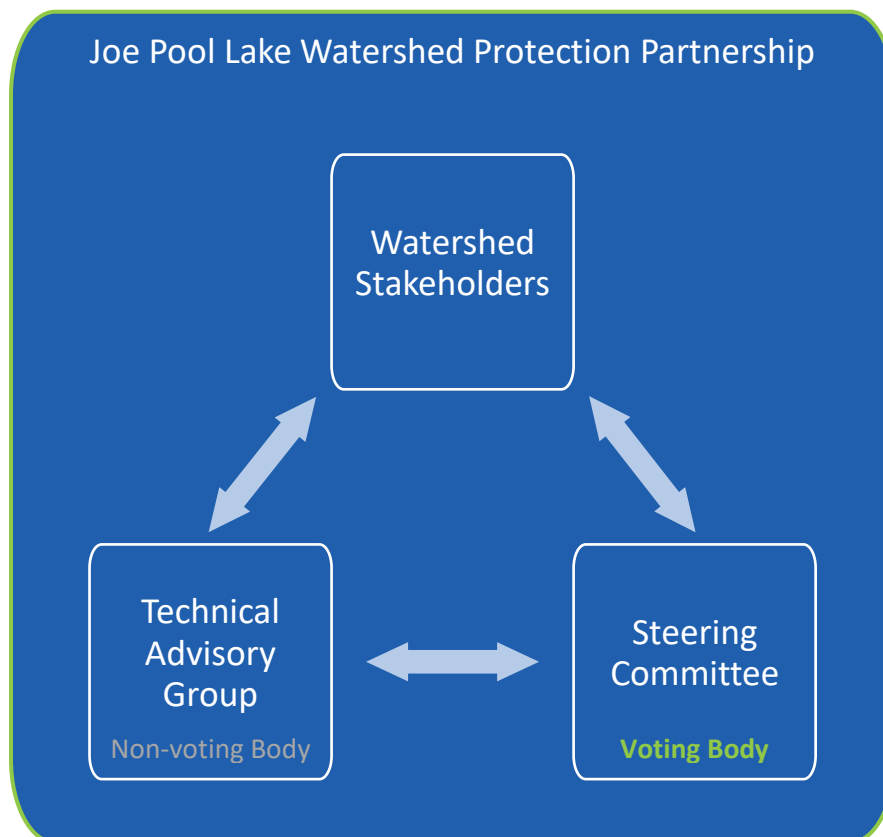


Figure 1. Joe Pool Lake Watershed Protection Partnership group structure.

No formal meeting ground rules will be adopted for the Partnership meetings, but attendees are asked to abide by a few simple rules of etiquette during meetings:

- Save questions until after each presentation has been given (unless otherwise instructed by the presenter);

- Limit discussion to 5 minutes per person;
- Any additional questions may be answered during the open discussion period before the meeting's end; and
- To be respectful of others' time and points of view.

At a minimum, Partnership meetings will be held semi-annually, with content generally focusing on high-level overviews of project components, data collection/pollutant source identification analysis updates, and general project progress updates. Additional information on meeting content is provided in Section 4.0.

The Partnership will be responsible for many of the decisions towards the beginning of the project's lifespan, and will act as the initial coordinating body responsible for electing the initial Steering Committee members. Once formed, the Steering Committee (Committee) will be the main decision-making body of the Partnership, although some minor decisions may be left to the Partnership to decide as a whole during public meetings. If any decision topic becomes contentious, either the meeting facilitator or the Partnership may motion to have the topic deferred to the Committee for a decision.

2.3 Steering Committee

To facilitate the decision-making process, a core group of stakeholders will act as the voting body of the Partnership, which will be known as the Steering Committee (Committee). The Committee will vote on key watershed decisions and review potential water quality improvement BMPs for applicability in the watershed. These recommendations may eventually become part of the WPP, which the Committee will review on a chapter-by-chapter basis.

The intent of the Committee is to provide a wide representation of varied focus groups, including local landowners, businesses, and government officials. The initial group composition will be selected from and approved by an initial coordinating body (the Partnership) by a panel vote. Once approved, the initial Committee group will assess its membership, adding, removing, or replacing members internally by a group vote. The initial panel of members and focus groups is provided in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Initial Steering Committee membership and focus groups.

At any point during the lifetime of the project, the Committee may see a need to create a special subcommittee to address a specific resource or contaminant source concern. Creation/dissolution of these subcommittees and approval of members for any such subcommittees will be left to the discretion of the Committee. If such action is proposed by the Committee, consultation of the watershed coordinator, the TAG, and TCEQ is recommended to ensure that all available resources are identified to assist the proposed subcommittee in their mission.

The Committee will also be required to abide by a set of ground rules, which have been written into a separate document which will be presented for approval at the first Committee meeting. An overview of these ground rules was presented to the Partnership prior to approval of the initial Committee group, and a full copy was provided to potential Committee members. Additional details concerning the formation, procedures, responsibilities, and limitations of the Committee are described in the document, which is provided as Appendix A.

2.4 Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

During initial Partnership meetings, TRA recommended the creation of a second stakeholder subgroup that would provide technical guidance, resource information, and funding opportunity information to both the Committee and the Partnership. Partnership members were presented with candidate agencies to be considered for this Technical Advisory Group (TAG), and asked to recommend any additional agencies/organizations which may benefit the WPP process. The TAG will serve strictly in an advisory capacity and have no formal voting power, making recommendations to the Partnership and Committee as needed. The initial list of recommended entities is provided in Figure 3.

Technical Advisory Group (12 members)

- North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)
- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)
- Texas AgriLife Extension & Research (AgriLife)
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
- Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research (TIAER)
- Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD)
- Trinity River Authority of Texas (TRA)
- Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS)
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Figure 3. Technical Advisory Group membership.

A formal meeting schedule for the TAG is not anticipated, but the group may elect to adopt such a schedule if deemed necessary. Presently, it is expected that the majority of TAG business will be conducted via phone/email coordination, with the occasional formal group meeting when the group deems necessary, or at the direction of the Partnership or Committee.

2.5 TRA Roles

TRA will act as the project facilitator for the Joe Pool Lake WPP, with the TRA watershed coordinator acting as the principal point of contact for project and administrative-related matters. The watershed coordinator is responsible for:

- Scheduling and facilitating project meetings;
- Incorporating stakeholder decisions and comments into the WPP;
- Coordinating with the TAG to provide technical guidance to stakeholders during WPP development;
- Coordinating with funding agencies to ensure that deliverable and budget targets are achieved; and
- Ensuring the success of the WPP by verifying compatibility with EPA's nine elements for successful WPPs.

2.6 Funding Agency Roles

Funding for this project is provided by TCEQ through a Clean Water Act Section 319(h) grant from EPA, with match funding from TRA and the Cities of Cedar Hill, Grand Prairie, Mansfield, and Midlothian.

TCEQ and EPA will:

- Provide technical assistance with WPP development;
- Provide federal funding; and
- Review WPP for compatibility with nine key elements for successful WPPs.

The TRA and Cities of Cedar Hill, Grand Prairie, Mansfield, and Midlothian will:

- Provide non-federal match funds and
- Provide insight to ensure the WPP fulfills the needs of local stakeholders.

3.0 Outreach Campaign

3.1 Overall Strategy

This project will employ the use of several public, print, and online interactive approaches to increase awareness about the watershed, its ecological issues, and the planning process aimed at remedying those issues. The intent of the campaign is to begin with broad topics, then to bring in the focus and differentiate amongst more specific topics as project partners learn more about the stakeholders, their interests, and the needs of the watershed. To support this approach, the outreach campaign will begin with public meetings to introduce the watershed-based planning approach to stakeholders, providing them with informative outreach materials in the process. As exposure and education progress, participation will be encouraged for special planning committees, as well as for public feedback periods that will be inherent to some of the project documents. Throughout the life of the project, TRA will also host several educational workshops focused on certain elements of watershed health and water quality to address specific concerns identified in the watershed.

3.2 Fact Sheet

In May 2020, a project fact sheet was developed for distribution at events and meetings related to the project, or for community meetings where project interest may exist. The fact sheet was designed to fit vital project information on a single front-and-back page, including the setting, problem statement, proposed solution, map, and contact information for those that may be interested in becoming involved. As the project proceeds and grows, the content of the fact sheet will change to meet the needs of the project. An example of this fact sheet is provided in Appendix B.

3.3 Website

A project website was launched in May 2019. The site consists of:

- A home page with current events,
- An “About” page with project background information,
- A “Meetings” page with logistics for upcoming meetings and information from past events, and
- A “Maps & Data” page which contains themed maps and GIS files for the watershed.

As with the project fact sheet, the website is intended to grow with the project, and in time will include additional pages to support project results as they become available. The website’s address is:

https://www.trinityra.org/basin_planning/joe_pool_lake_wpp/index.php

3.4 Project Meetings

At the beginning of the project, TRA engaged several stakeholder groups separately to ascertain interest in the project. This included:

- Municipalities;
- Federal/state/local resource agencies,
- Regional Water Authorities;
- Non-governmental organizations;
- Environmental/conservation groups;
- Local businesses/industries;
- Citizen/community/religious organizations;
- Landowners; and
- Academia.

TRA endeavored to ascertain each group’s knowledge of the watershed, the project, and its water quality issues before the meeting, catering the content to each group’s interest. If additional stakeholder groups are identified during the planning process, TRA will set up additional meetings with those groups to ensure an appropriate representation of interests is achieved.

After initial stakeholder engagement meetings were conducted, TRA began hosting open public (Partnership) and subgroup (Committee and TAG) meetings to disseminate project information, coordinate efforts, and share the results of project investigations. Please refer to Section 2.0 for more information on Partnership and subgroup meetings.

3.5 Community Meetings & Events

Another method of increasing awareness of the project involves participation in community events and open meetings. This includes participation in meetings hosted by other organizations that have a direct or indirect connection to the project, such as regional and local watershed initiative and planning meetings hosted by resource agencies or regional councils of governments (COGs). This may also include, but is not limited to, participation at community events, such as lake/river cleanups, informational community events like Earth Day, or participation in high school/college career fair events. TRA expects to participate in as many of these events as possible. Since TRA does not plan or schedule many of these events, they will not be a part of any formal meeting schedule.

3.6 Educational Workshops

In addition to regular project meetings for the Partnership and subgroups, TRA will also coordinate with other entities to provide educational opportunities to stakeholders via workshops focused on specific elements tied to watershed health and management. These are intended to broaden stakeholder knowledge on a variety of subjects that cannot be covered in-depth during normal project meetings and are open to the public. Early workshops will focus on broader watershed-related topics (general stewardship, riparian zones), with later workshops targeting more specific audiences (water well owners, pond management, lawn care). A tentative list of proposed workshop topics is provided in Section 4.0.

4.0 Tentative Meeting Schedule and Content

Table 1 lists the tentative schedule for group meetings and workshops. Tentative dates are accompanied by an objective which describes the meeting content.

Public Participation Plan for Joe Pool Lake WPP

Table 1. Tentative watershed planning meeting schedule for the Joe Pool Lake WPP.

Title	Meeting Type	Project Quarter	Tentative Date(s)	Objective
Project informational meetings	Project		as needed	Meet with stakeholder groups to inform them of project details and goals. Scheduled as needed, when requested by a specific group or if new stakeholder groups are identified
Community meetings/events	Community		as needed	Attend community events and meetings to promote project awareness and inform public about project details, goals, and ways for them to get involved
Texas Watershed Stewards Workshop	Educational	FY21Q1	9/2020	Provide stakeholders with overview of watershed science and stewardship, including watershed characterization, contaminant identification, and implementing solutions
Partnership Meeting #1	Project	FY21Q1	11/2020	Public kickoff meeting, introduce project components and timeline, review existing data, solicit interest in TAG and Steering Committee
Partnership Meeting #2	Project	FY21Q2	1/2021	Provide in-depth look at stakeholder involvement, including interconnectivity of Partnership, Committee and TAG; review final monitoring plan
Riparian & Stream Ecosystems Workshop	Educational	FY21Q2	1/2021	Provide stakeholders with educational content focused on riparian ecosystems and factors influencing their physical, chemical, and biological health
Partnership Meeting #3	Project	FY21Q2	2/2021	Approve initial Committee members, provide an overview of load duration curves/SELECT analysis
Steering Committee Meeting #1	Project	FY21Q3	2/2021	Assess membership, approve ground rules, discuss future meeting schedule & content, begin review of nutrient screening values
Texas Well Owner Network Workshop	Educational	FY21Q3	3/2021	Provide stakeholders with educational content focused on water well function, testing, and maintenance
Partnership Meeting #4	Project	FY21Q3	03/2021	Provide overview of urban/residential BMPs, present example WPP document, monitoring update.
Steering Committee Meeting #2	Project	FY21Q3	04/2021	Review and make recommendations for chapters: 1) Watershed Management, Watershed Characterization, Watershed Conditions (Final WPP to stakeholders and state is June 2021)
Pond Management Workshop	Educational	FY21Q3	04/2021	Educate stakeholders about inputs to, function of, & management of different ponds, including: ag, detention, retention, & decorative
Partnership Meeting #5	Project	FY21Q3	05/2021	Provide overview of agricultural BMPs; Present and discuss content for chapters: 1) Watershed Management, Watershed Characterization, Watershed Conditions
Septic System Maintenance Workshop	Educational	FY21Q3	5/2021	Educate stakeholders about function & maintenance of onsite wastewater treatment systems (septics)
Steering Committee Meeting #3	Project	FY21Q3	5/2021	Approve previous chapters, review and make recommendations for chapters: 1) Estimates of Pollutant Source Loads/Needed reductions, 2) Management Measures, 3) Technical/Financial Assistance Needs, 4) Educational/outreach needs (Draft of WPP to Stakeholders and TCEQ is May 2021)
Lone Star Healthy Streams Workshop	Educational	FY21Q4	06/2021	Provide stakeholders with overview of available water quality BMPs for livestock & ag production
Partnership Meeting #6	Project	FY21Q4	06/2021	Present and discuss content for chapters: 1) Estimates of Pollutant Source Loads/Needed reductions, 2) Management Measures, 3) Technical/Financial Assistance Needs, 4) Educational/outreach needs
Steering Committee Meeting #4	Project	FY21Q4	06/2021	Approve previous chapters, review and make recommendations for any remaining discussion points, review & approve Draft WPP for public comment (Final WPP to stakeholders and state is June 2021)
Partnership Meeting #7	Project	FY22Q1	09/2021	Review of Draft WPP before releasing for public comment, outline WPP review process & next steps after EPA acceptance of WPP
Steering Committee Meeting #5	Project	FY22Q1	10/2021	Discuss public comments on WPP before 11/2021 submittal, continue building strategy for implementation

Appendix A

Steering Committee Ground Rules

**JOE POOL LAKE
WATERSHED PROTECTION**



**STEERING COMMITTEE
GROUND RULES**

Adopted

April 13th, 2021

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ARTICLE I. ORGANIZATION

Section 1. Organization Name

The official name of this organization shall be the "Joe Pool Lake Watershed Protection Steering Committee" (COMMITTEE).

Section 2. Establishment and Purpose

The COMMITTEE was established through coordination with member focus groups and approved by the Joe Pool Lake Watershed Protection Partnership (Partnership) members during a public meeting. The purpose of the COMMITTEE shall be to provide regional input into the Joe Pool Lake Watershed Protection Plan (WPP).

Section 3. Principal Administrative Office

The principal administrative office of the COMMITTEE shall be the principal business offices of the Trinity River Authority (AUTHORITY). The Watershed Coordinator shall be the principal point of contact at the AUTHORITY.

Section 4. Responsibilities

The COMMITTEE shall be responsible for providing input and information for selecting, designing, and implementing water quality management measures. Foremost among those responsibilities shall be identification of areas with the greatest concerns, making recommendations for additional monitoring, and selecting Best Management Practices (BMPs). The COMMITTEE will attempt to make these decisions with careful consideration of the potential impacts from multiple perspectives, including but not limited to those of environmental, economic, and public health concerns.

The Watershed Coordinator will act as the Project Facilitator (Facilitator) for all meetings, and is responsible for scheduling, announcing, and facilitating all meetings of the COMMITTEE. The Facilitator will be responsible for documenting all meeting activities and incorporating decisions into the WPP document, ensuring compatibility of these decisions with EPA's nine elements for successful WPPs.

ARTICLE II. VOTING MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Initial Composition

The initial voting members of the COMMITTEE were selected by the initial coordinating body (the Partnership). Member focus groups were identified to ensure adequate and balanced representation of the interests of individuals and entities that have a vested interest in the health and preservation of the Joe Pool Lake watershed (the Watershed) or are directly affected by project outcomes or decisions, including the general public, local businesses, associations, government, industry, regional entities, fee payers, and other interested parties.

The entity or focus group that has been asked to participate shall appoint an individual or individuals to be their designated representative(s).

Section 2. Voting Membership

The current Voting Membership of the COMMITTEE shall include adequate and balanced representation of the interests of individuals and entities that have a vested interest in the health and preservation of the Watershed and other interests as determined by the COMMITTEE. The Voting Membership of the COMMITTEE may also include persons added or removed as provided under this Article and Article III. The Voting Membership of the COMMITTEE shall not be limited, but must remain of a size that is practical and does not impede the decision-making process.

Section 3. Terms of Office

All voting members are considered to be permanent members for the duration of the project. Anticipated project duration is from November 1, 2020 through August 31, 2022. Membership will be reassessed when the project enters the Implementation stage.

If a designated representative is unable to serve for the duration of the project, the entity or focus group that the individual represents will be asked to appoint a new individual (or individuals) to represent their interests.

Section 4. Conditions of Membership

In order to be eligible for Voting Membership on the COMMITTEE, a person, at the time of taking office, must represent the group for which a member is sought, be willing to participate in the WPP process, and abide by these Ground Rules.

Section 5. Attendance

All members shall make a good faith effort to attend all COMMITTEE meetings. Records of attendance shall be kept by the AUTHORITY at all COMMITTEE meetings. Voting members of the COMMITTEE who have three consecutive absences shall be subject to removal from membership under Section 7 of this Article. Representation by a designated alternate pursuant to Article V does not constitute an absence, but excessive reliance on alternates may be taken into account when assessing ongoing participation.

Section 6. Code of Conduct

Members and designated alternates of the COMMITTEE shall ethically conduct the business of the COMMITTEE and shall avoid any form or appearance of a conflict of interest, real or apparent.

Potential conflicts of interest shall be clearly stated by the voting member or designated alternate prior to any deliberation or action on an item with which the voting member or designated alternate may be in conflict. Where the potential conflict is restricted to a divisible portion of an item, the Facilitator may divide the agenda item into parts, at the Facilitator's discretion, for deliberation and voting purposes. An abstention from participation in deliberations, decisions, or voting and

the reasons therefore shall be noted in the minutes.

The fact that a member is also an employee or public official of an entity which has some relationship, direct or indirect, with the COMMITTEE (e.g., County Judge, Mayor, City Manager, Water District or River Authority member or employee), shall not disqualify such person from Voting Membership and full participation. These Ground Rules recognize that such circumstances will probably arise in the very nature of the work and the legal structure of the COMMITTEE and that it is appropriate to expressly recognize such facts.

Section 7. Removal of Voting Members

The following shall constitute grounds for removal of a voting member:

- a. excessive absenteeism as defined under Section 5 of this Article determined by the COMMITTEE;
- b. resignation;
- c. change in status so that the member no longer represents the interest he or she was selected to represent;
- d. failure to abide by the Code of Conduct provisions set forth under Section 6 of this Article;
- e. falsifying documents or information presented to the COMMITTEE;
- f. any other serious violation of these Ground Rules as may be determined by the voting members; or
- g. The voting member's designated alternate fails to abide by the Code of Conduct provisions set forth under Section 6 of this Article.

ARTICLE III. SELECTION OF ADDITIONAL GROUPS TO THE VOTING MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Timing

No later than 14 calendar days prior to the next meeting, a voting member shall submit to the Facilitator a written proposal for consideration of an additional focus group and a written request that the item be added to the next meeting's agenda.

Section 2. Proposal Requirements

The proposal shall identify the particular focus group for which the nomination is requested and describe the need for this group to be represented.

Section 3. Vote Required

The voting members shall make a decision for the addition of a focus group by a majority vote of the Voting Membership.

Section 4. Membership Criteria

In the consideration of new groups, the Voting Membership shall strive to achieve geographic, ethnic, and gender diversity.

ARTICLE IV. DESIGNATED ALTERNATES

Voting members shall have the ability to designate an alternate to represent him/her when he/she is unable to attend a meeting or hearing. Each voting member must notify the Facilitator in writing, electronic mail acceptable, of the selection of a designated alternate, or in the event that the designated alternate has changed.

The designated alternate shall enjoy the same voting privileges and shall be bound by the same duties, terms, and conditions as the member they represent, except as otherwise provided in these Ground Rules.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

Section 1. Public Participation

All meetings of the COMMITTEE shall be open to the public. All actions of the COMMITTEE shall be deliberated and undertaken in open meeting. Copies of all materials presented or discussed during meeting shall be made available for public inspection.

The Facilitator must be present at all COMMITTEE meetings. TCEQ must receive prior notification of the meeting, and may choose to participate in the meeting at their own discretion.

Section 2. Regular Meetings

At least two regular meetings of the COMMITTEE shall be held each year, in quarters alternating with those of open Partnership meetings. The Facilitator shall ensure that an advance notice for regular meetings will be provided to the Voting Membership of the COMMITTEE.

Section 3. Special Meetings

A simple majority of the total Voting Membership of the COMMITTEE may call special meetings of the COMMITTEE. A special meeting of the COMMITTEE may also be held at the behest of the Partnership, if it is deemed necessary by the Partnership, or in the event that the Partnership cannot reach consensus on a voting issue. The Facilitator shall ensure that advance notice is provided to the Voting Membership of the COMMITTEE.

Section 4. Agenda

The Facilitator shall ensure that an agenda is prepared for all meetings of the COMMITTEE. Items shall be placed on the agenda as deemed necessary by the Facilitator. Copies of the agenda and all

supporting information shall be made available for public inspection.

Section 5. Quorum

There will be no quorum requirement for meetings of the COMMITTEE, unless enacted prior to the voting event by a majority of the Voting Membership, and with consultation of the Facilitator.

ARTICLE VI. MAKING DECISIONS

Section 1. Absentee Representation by Proxy

Proxies shall be allowed to participate in decision-making by the COMMITTEE. However, proxies shall only be allowed to participate in decision making if the voting member has notified the Facilitator beforehand in writing, electronic mail acceptable, prior to the start of the meeting, identifying which current standing member of the Voting Membership will be representing them.

If the voting member does not wish to use another as a proxy, the voting member may also contact the Facilitator directly to convey their intents, concerns, and voting decisions to relay at the meeting. The Facilitator is responsible for providing written consent from the absent voting member to act on their behalf.

Section 2. Decision-Making Process

The COMMITTEE shall agree by consensus whenever possible. If consensus cannot be reached, the COMMITTEE will make decisions and take action by a vote of a simple majority of the Voting Membership, unless otherwise specified in these Ground Rules.

ARTICLE VII. COMPENSATION

Members of the COMMITTEE are not to be compensated for their services by the State of Texas or the AUTHORITY.

ARTICLE VIII. ADOPTING AND AMENDING THE GROUND RULES

These Ground Rules shall have full force and effect upon approval and adoption by the voting members of the COMMITTEE. The voting members shall adopt these Ground Rules and any amendments thereto by a two-thirds vote of the Voting Membership.

Appendix B

Project Fact Sheet



Joe Pool Lake Watershed Protection Plan



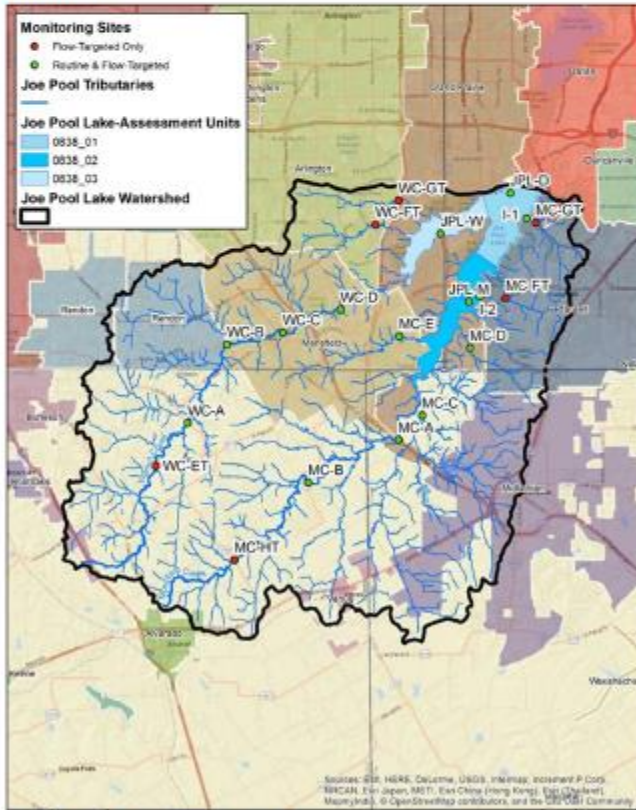
Background

Joe Pool Lake (JPL) has a total drainage area of 304 sq. miles and is fed by the waters of Walnut Creek and Mountain Creek. Walnut Creek's headwaters are in the City of Burleson and flow approximately 24 miles northeast, emptying into JPL in southeastern Tarrant County. Mountain Creek's headwaters are in the City of Alvarado and flow approximately 19 miles northeast, emptying into JPL in northwestern Ellis County. The JPL watershed is comprised of urban areas in the northern end of the watershed, with industrial, municipal complexes and agricultural use throughout the center and southern extent. In 2014, segments of Mountain Creek had concerns for nitrate and Walnut Creek did not meet state water quality standards for bacteria. Both waterbodies have since been delisted. Currently, water from Joe Pool Lake is being withdrawn by the City of Midlothian as part of its municipal water supply. This water withdrawal is used to supply the communities of Venus, Rockett, Mountain Peak, Sardis, and parts of southern Grand Prairie. JPL is expected to be used as a future water source for many Dallas-Fort Worth cities. Two projects are occurring to develop a watershed protection plan (WPP) for JPL watershed to improve water quality and to mitigate future impacts of rapid urbanization.

River Basin: Trinity River

Water Body: Joe Pool Lake (Segment 0838)

Location: Dallas, Ellis, Johnson, and Tarrant Counties



Project Descriptions

Sept. 2018 – Feb. 2022

- Complete a characterization of the watershed
- Routinely conduct bi-monthly water quality monitoring and stormwater monitoring at 14 sites within JPL
- Develop a stakeholder group

Nov. 2019 – Feb. 2022

- Identify pollutant contributions
- Expand and define involvement of stakeholder groups
- Develop effective WPP that will provide implementation guidance for restoring water quality in the JPL watershed

Funding Agencies

- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Local Partnership Group consisting of the Cities of Cedar Hill, Grand Prairie, Mansfield, and Midlothian and the TRA

For More Information

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