



May 21, 2014

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) and Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research (TIAER) cordially invite you and your neighbors to the final meeting regarding the Recreational Use Attainability Analysis (RUAA) Project for Sweetwater Creek. At this meeting, you will have the opportunity to hear results from the RUAA project. The meeting will be held June 11, 2014 at 6:00pm in the Wheeler County Ag and Family Life Center, located at 7939 US Hwy 83 in Wheeler, Texas 79096. A map to the meeting place is printed on the back of this invitation and a meeting agenda is enclosed.

Sweetwater Creek is currently listed on the *Texas 303(d)* List due to elevated levels of *E. coli*, an indicator bacteria found in warm-blooded animals. These indicator bacteria are used to identify the possible presence of pathogens that may increase the risk of illness when participating in primary contact recreation activities in the water body. Sweetwater Creek has a designated use of primary contact recreation based on the *Texas Surface Water Quality Standards* (TSWQS). Prior to June 2010, only two categories of recreational use existed in Texas. In June 2010, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) adopted revisions to the TSWQS that expanded the designation of contact recreation into three categories, while maintaining a fourth category of noncontact recreation. Water bodies listed as impaired for bacteria are now being studied to determine if primary contact recreation is the correct use or if another recreational use category may be more appropriate.

At this meeting, the final technical report for the RUAA field surveys and the historical information review will be presented. Your participation and input is fundamental to the success of this project.

More information about the study along is available at:

<http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/en/managementprogram/RUAASWEETWATER>.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Leah Taylor at (254) 968-0513, or ltaylor@tiaer.tarleton.edu. We look forward to seeing you on June 11th at 6:00pm.

Sincerely,

Leah Taylor
Project Coordinator, TIAER at Tarleton State University

Enclosure: 1

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Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board*

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