

STORMWATER

QUALITY MANAGEMENT



Project #: HAS25155



HAYS COUNTY

Stormwater Management Program

TCEQ Small MS4 Permit No. TXR040544

Permit Term: Dec. 30, 2025 - Aug. 14, 2029

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	STORMWATER MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	1
1.1	Background	1
1.2	Stormwater Regulations.....	2
1.2.1	Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permit	2
1.2.2	Stormwater General Permit for Construction Activity.....	3
1.2.3	Stormwater Multi-Sector General Permit for Industrial Activity.....	3
1.3	Permit Applicability and Coverage.....	4
1.4	Hays County.....	4
2.0	WATER QUALITY	7
2.1	Overview of Water Quality Assessment in Texas	7
2.2	Water Quality of Hays County	8
2.2.1	Onion Creek (Assessment Units 1427_02 and 1427_03)	17
2.2.2	Plum Creek (Assessment Units 1810_01 and 1810_03)	17
2.2.3	Lower Blanco River (Assessment Units 1809_01 and 1809_02).....	18
2.2.4	Lower San Marcos River (Assessment Units 1808_03 and 1808_04)	18
2.2.5	Upper San Marcos River (Assessment Units 1814_01 and 1814_04).....	18
2.3	Watershed Protection Programs for Plum Creek and Upper San Marcos River	19
2.4	Targeted Controls for Impaired Water Bodies	19
2.5	Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone.....	20
2.6	Considerations for Threatened and Endangered Aquatic Species.....	21
3.0	SMALL MS4 GENERAL PERMIT OVERVIEW.....	22
3.1	Minimum Control Measures Summary.....	23
3.1.1	MCM 1: Public Education and Outreach.....	23
3.1.2	MCM 2: Public Involvement/Participation	24
3.1.3	MCM 3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)	25
3.1.4	MCM 4: Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control	25
3.1.5	MCM 5: Post-Construction Stormwater Management (New/Redevelopment)..	27
3.1.6	MCM 6: Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations..	27
3.1.7	MCM 7: Industrial Stormwater Sources (Level 4 only).....	29
3.1.8	MCM 8: Authorization for Construction Activities where the Small MS4 is the Site Operator (Optional)	29
3.2	Impaired Waters and Total Maximum Daily Load Summary	29
3.3	Program Development Summary	30
4.0	COMPLIANCE APPROACH.....	31



4.1	Best Management Practices	32
4.1.1	Assessment of Existing BMPs.....	32
4.1.2	Identification of Additional BMPs.....	32
4.2	Selection Process for Measurable Goals and Implementation Schedule.....	32
4.3	Measurable Goal Evaluation Process.....	33
4.4	Legal Authority and Regulatory Mechanism	33
4.5	Allowable Non-Stormwater Discharges.....	34
5.0	RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING	36
5.1	Recordkeeping	36
5.2	Annual Report	36
5.3	Stormwater Management Program Updates.....	37
5.3.1	Changes that do not require a NOC.....	37
5.3.2	Changes that require a NOC.....	38
5.4	Reference Material.....	39
6.0	DEFINITIONS	40

Table of Figures

Figure 1.	Hays County Regulated Area	6
Figure 2.	Hays County Receiving Water.....	10

Table of Tables

Table 1.	Water Quality Summary for Receiving Waters	13
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APPENDICES

- APPENDIX A: BMP Activities and Schedule
- APPENDIX B: BMPs by Permit Requirement
- APPENDIX C: TPDES Small MS4 General Permit
- APPENDIX D: Notice of Intent (NOI) and General Permit Authorization
- APPENDIX E: Notice of Change (NOC) Documentation
- APPENDIX F: Year 1 (2025) Annual Report
- APPENDIX G: Year 2 (2026) Annual Report
- APPENDIX H: Year 3 (2027) Annual Report
- APPENDIX I: Year 4 (2028) Annual Report
- APPENDIX J: Year 5 (2029) Annual Report

1.0 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The County is subject to the requirements of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) General Permit No. TXR040000 (Permit), issued August 15, 2024, which establishes the requirements and conditions for stormwater discharges from a small municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) to surface waters in the state. The County previously developed and implemented a stormwater management program (SWMP) to comply with the original TPDES Small MS4 General Permit issued in August 2007 since it was located within the Austin, Texas and San Marcos, Texas Urban Areas (UA) with a population of 50,000 or more, as defined by the 2020 U.S. Census. This SWMP was developed to comply with the MS4 Phase II General Permit (TXR040000) issued on August 15, 2024. It describes the County's planned actions to protect water quality from potentially polluted stormwater runoff throughout the County's regulated area and serves as the County's documentation of intended compliance with General Permit No. TXR040000, effective August 15, 2024. Based on the 2020 U.S. Census, the County has a population of 41,035. As a result, the County is classified as a Level 2b Small MS4 under the renewed permit. Five levels of small MS4s are identified in the permit, with increasing responsibilities at each level.

This program identifies fourteen (14) best management practices (BMPs) that the County already has implemented or will implement over the next five years to meet the requirements of the permit. The County has selected the required number of BMPs from the Permit appropriate for the community to protect water quality, recognizing the importance of protecting the County's natural and financial resources. A five-year implementation, maintenance, and documentation approach can be found in Appendix A of this SWMP.

1.1 BACKGROUND

Stormwater pollution affects the quality of water in urban lakes, rivers, neighborhood creeks, and storm drains. Pollutants (e.g., pesticides, oil, detergents, and bacteria) present on urban land and impermeable surfaces (e.g., streets and parking lots) can be transported by stormwater runoff into stormwater drainage systems. These drainage systems, both natural and man-made, convey the stormwater runoff away from urban areas and into nearby water bodies.

To protect water quality, it is necessary to identify the types and sources of pollution and implement plans to protect the County's water resources. Historically, waters have been protected through state and

federal regulation of “point sources” or end-of-pipe sources of pollution. Over time, it has become more evident that overland runoff sources of pollution, such as urban stormwater runoff, can create serious problems in waterways and impact the community’s quality of life.

1.2 STORMWATER REGULATIONS

Under the requirements of the Clean Water Act (CWA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is required to protect the water quality for natural waters throughout the country. The EPA established the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program to identify sources of water pollution and work to reduce or eliminate the pollutants from waters of the U.S. The EPA has delegated responsibility for the NPDES program in Texas to TCEQ, who administers the TPDES. In addition to issuing discharge permits to traditional “point sources,” such as municipal wastewater treatment plants and industrial wastewater discharges, the TCEQ is also responsible for minimizing pollution from other sources, such as stormwater runoff from construction sites, industrial facilities, and some stormwater drainage systems. For construction sites and industrial facilities, the TCEQ issued requirements for minimizing stormwater pollution within general permits specific to those industries, which typically require development and implementation of site-specific stormwater pollution prevention plans.

1.2.1 Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) General Permit

In most areas of the country, storm drainage systems are separate from sanitary sewer systems and are thereby classified as “separate storm sewer systems.” Separate storm sewer systems include ditches, curbs, gutters, storm sewers, and similar means of collecting or conveying runoff that do not connect with a wastewater collection system or treatment facility before discharging into water bodies. A “municipal separate storm sewer system” (or MS4) is a system owned or operated by a public agency like a city, flood control district, county, or state agency.

In 1999, the EPA issued NPDES regulations to protect stormwater quality in small MS4s (known as Phase II MS4s) within UAs. TCEQ, who was delegated the responsibility of implementing the stormwater quality regulations, finalized the initial Small MS4 General Permit (officially named TPDES General Permit No. TXR040000) on August 13, 2007. This TPDES permit, commonly called the “Small MS4 General Permit”, has a five-year term but has been extended administratively each of the first two permit terms while TCEQ negotiated the renewed permit conditions with EPA. The renewed Small MS4 General Permit became effective on January 24, 2019 and had a five-year permit term, ending in 2024. As of August 15, 2024, the

permit was renewed again with a five-year permit term. The County is one of several hundred permittees subject to the permit.

1.2.2 Stormwater General Permit for Construction Activity

TCEQ regulates stormwater discharges from most construction activity through TPDES General Permit No. TXR150000. For construction sites disturbing one acre or more, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWP3) must be developed, and site controls must be installed, such as silt fence, inlet protection, and a stabilized construction site entrance, to minimize the discharge of sediment and other pollutants from the construction site. When construction is complete and the site is re-vegetated or otherwise stabilized, the control measures may be removed.

Small MS4s do not have direct responsibility to inspect and enforce construction sites for compliance with the requirements of the TCEQ Construction General Permit (CGP), but requirements do exist for small MS4s to require proper sedimentation and erosion control measures to be installed and maintained on construction sites, including the implementation of an ordinance or other regulatory mechanism. Many small MS4 cities reference the TCEQ CGP in their ordinance or other regulatory mechanism for compliance consistency, and the permit provides a specific allowance for regulated MS4s to reference the TCEQ CGP to demonstrate their own compliance with construction site related oversight requirements.

1.2.3 Stormwater Multi-Sector General Permit for Industrial Activity

TCEQ regulates stormwater discharges from developed sites in certain industrial classifications through TPDES General Permit No. TXR050000. Sites operating in certain identified industrial sectors are required to develop, implement, and maintain a SWP3 for operations at the facility. These industrial sectors have been identified by EPA and TCEQ as high-potential sources of significant stormwater pollutants, and as a result, the implementation of BMPs is required to protect water quality from stormwater runoff pollution. Types of BMPs for industrial facilities range from covered storage of materials to staff training. Ongoing stormwater monitoring of wet weather events is required to observe and test for stormwater pollution.

Cities that are small MS4s often have their own facilities subject to the industrial stormwater permit. Municipal landfills, wastewater treatment plants, and municipal airports are common city facilities that must comply with the industrial stormwater permit. Each of these facilities is required to be documented within the small MS4's SWMP. Level 4 MS4s (operators of traditional small MS4s that serve a population of 100,000 or more within an urban area with a population of at least 50,000 people or more) are also

required to develop and implement a program to inspect and enforce stormwater quality runoff protection from industrial facilities that discharge to the MS4. This would be expected to include facilities subject to the industrial stormwater permit, although it also may include additional facilities determined by the MS4 to have a high potential for stormwater pollution.

1.3 PERMIT APPLICABILITY AND COVERAGE

The County has updated this SWMP to comply with the requirements of the renewed permit. This permit applies to operators of publicly-owned storm sewer systems located in an urban area with a population of 50,000 people or more and authorizes the County to discharge stormwater runoff from their stormwater drainage system. UAs represent densely developed areas and encompass residential, commercial, and other non-residential urban land uses. These UAs may change depending on population density fluctuations that occur. However, the SWMP must include UAs that existed in 2000 and beyond, even if the area is no longer identified as a UA. Therefore, the term “Regulated Area” is being used to identify the boundaries of the comprehensive UA. The Regulated Area includes the Urbanized Areas from 2000 and 2010 U.S. Census and the 2020 UA with a population of 50,000 or more within the UA boundary. The County is located within the Austin, Texas and San Marcos, Texas UAs as shown in Figure 1.

The SWMP encompasses the County’s MS4 area to the County limit boundaries. The SWMP includes BMPs that will be implemented by the County to reduce stormwater pollution to the maximum extent practicable (MEP), as required by the permit. This document serves as the County’s SWMP.

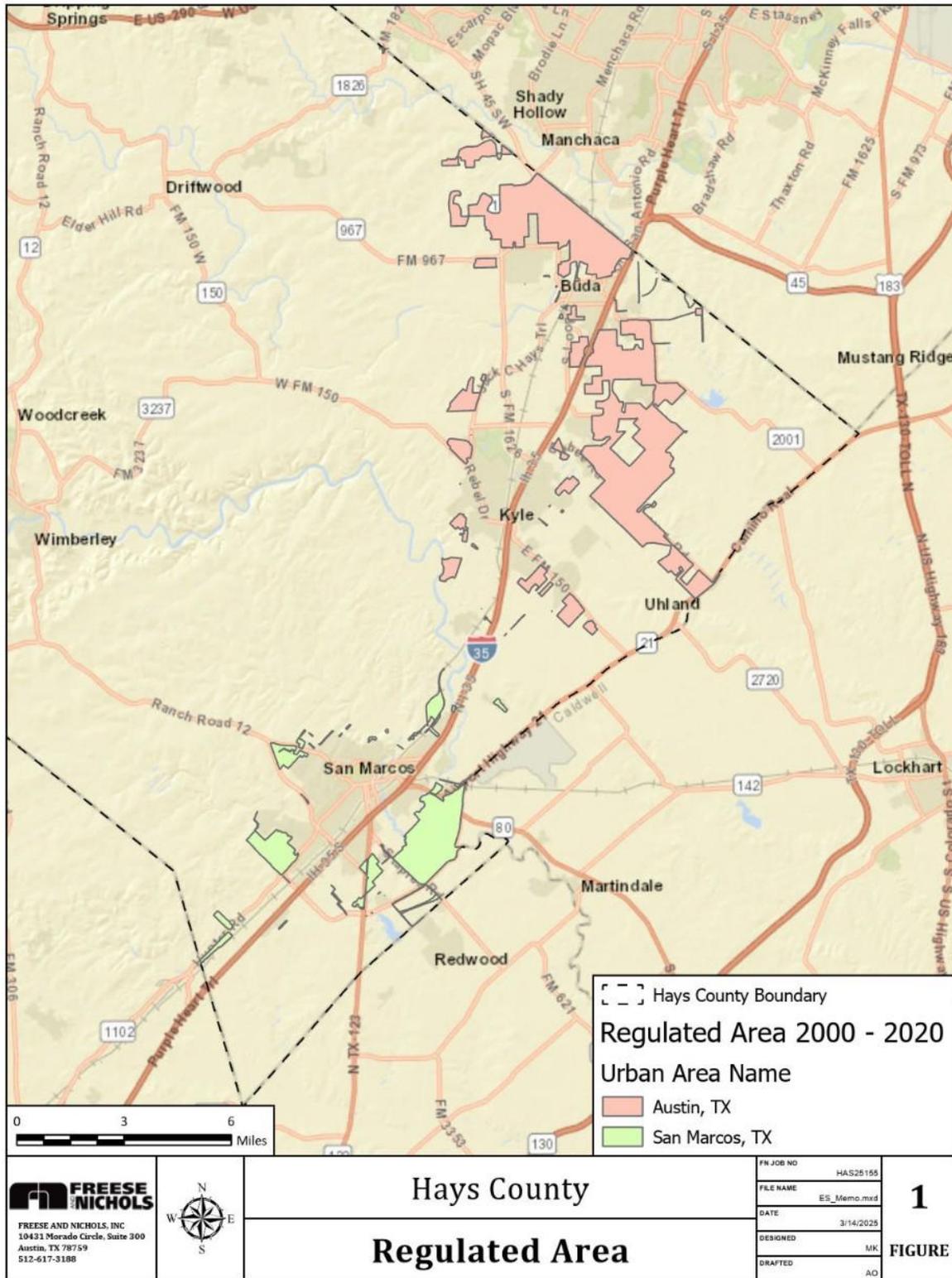
Following the development of this SWMP, the County members will electronically submit the Notice of Intent (NOI) using the NeT-MS4 online e-permitting system made available by TCEQ. The County will publish this SWMP on a designated webpage no later than 30 days after the Notice of Intent (NOI) or Notice of Change (NOC) approval date.

1.4 HAYS COUNTY

The County is in South Central Texas. The County is located approximately 16 miles south-southwest of Austin, Texas and 11 miles northwest of San Marcos, Texas. The regulated County limits encompass approximately 19.31 square miles, with a population density of 2,126 people per square mile. In the ten-year period from 2010 to 2020, the County experienced a 59.9% population growth. According to 2020 U.S. Census data, the population of the County was 41,035.

The County is located within the Edwards Plateau, Texas Blackland Prairies Ecoregion, specifically Balcones Canyonlands and Northern Blackland Prairie. The Balcones Canyonlands Ecoregion is characterized by springs, streams, and rivers working above and below ground to create canyons, sinkholes, and caverns and has clay and limestone soils. The Northern Blackland Prairie Ecoregion is characterized by fine textured, clayey soils, and predominantly prairie natural vegetation (United States Geologic Survey, 2024). The County is located within Koppen Climate Zone C, defined by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) as a moist subtropical mid-latitude climate defined by mild winters and warm humid summers (NOAA, 2024). The average maximum temperature for the region is measured at the Austin Bergstrom Airport and occurs in August (97 degrees Fahrenheit [°F]); the average minimum temperature occurs in January (37.7°F) with an average annual temperature of 68.4°F. Rainfall is the predominant type of precipitation. It is distributed throughout the year and reaches a slight peak in May. Prevailing winds in the area are from the south.

Figure 1. Hays County Regulated Area



2.0 WATER QUALITY

2.1 OVERVIEW OF WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT IN TEXAS

The TCEQ is charged through federal mandate with protecting the quality of waters within Texas. TCEQ's approach to this mandate includes measuring water quality at locations across the state, determining if the quality in streams, lakes, and creeks is acceptable, and implementing plans to clean up water bodies that are impacted.

TCEQ Texas Surface Water Quality Standards are rules designed to establish goals for water quality throughout the state and provide a basis for regulatory programs to attain those goals. Water quality standards serve to signal a situation where water quality may be inadequate to meet the use or uses of a particular water body. Five general categories for water use, known as "designated uses", are defined in Texas:

- General
- Aquatic life
- Recreation
- Public water supply
- Fish consumption

Major surface water bodies in the state have been classified with site-specific designated uses in Title 30, Chapter 307 of the Texas Administrative Code (30 TAC §307), but many smaller water bodies have not been classified and do not have site-specific designated uses. All unclassified surface water bodies without site-specific designated uses are protected by the "general criteria" defined in 30 TAC §307.4.

The TCEQ divided water bodies into "segments" to provide the basic unit for assigning site-specific standards and for applying water quality management programs. Segments can be further divided into "assessment units." All classified water bodies and some smaller unclassified water bodies have been assigned a unique segment identification code (TCEQ Segment ID). However, many water bodies in the state have not been assigned a TCEQ Segment ID.

Because it would be impractical to test every water body for all possible pollutants, assessments of water quality in Texas are performed by evaluating indicators of water quality. Indicators are an indirect measure of the health or quality of a particular part of the aquatic system. Some indicators, such as the health of fish communities, are tied to specific designated uses, while others, such as nutrients are not. Some of

the most common indicators used by TCEQ to determine the quality of water bodies include bacteria, dissolved oxygen, dissolved solids, metals, and organic substances.

If the indicator data published in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report of Surface Water Quality* (TCEQ, 2024) reveal that water quality is inadequate to meet the goals of the water body's designated use, the TCEQ identifies the water body as an impaired water in a section of the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* called the 303(d) list. The 303(d) list is required by the federal CWA and is submitted to EPA for approval. Water bodies added to the list are subject to a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) assessment of the root cause of poor water quality. An Implementation Plan (or I-Plan) developed by local stakeholders to remediate pollution sources usually accompanies the TMDL.

For the purpose of this permit, a water body is impaired if it has been identified, pursuant to the latest TCEQ- and EPA-approved CWA 303(d) lists or the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* for CWA Sections 305(b) and 303(d). Additionally, water bodies with concerns for non-attainment or screening levels are identified within the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* and can be useful for evaluating potential sources of impairment.

2.2 WATER QUALITY OF HAYS COUNTY

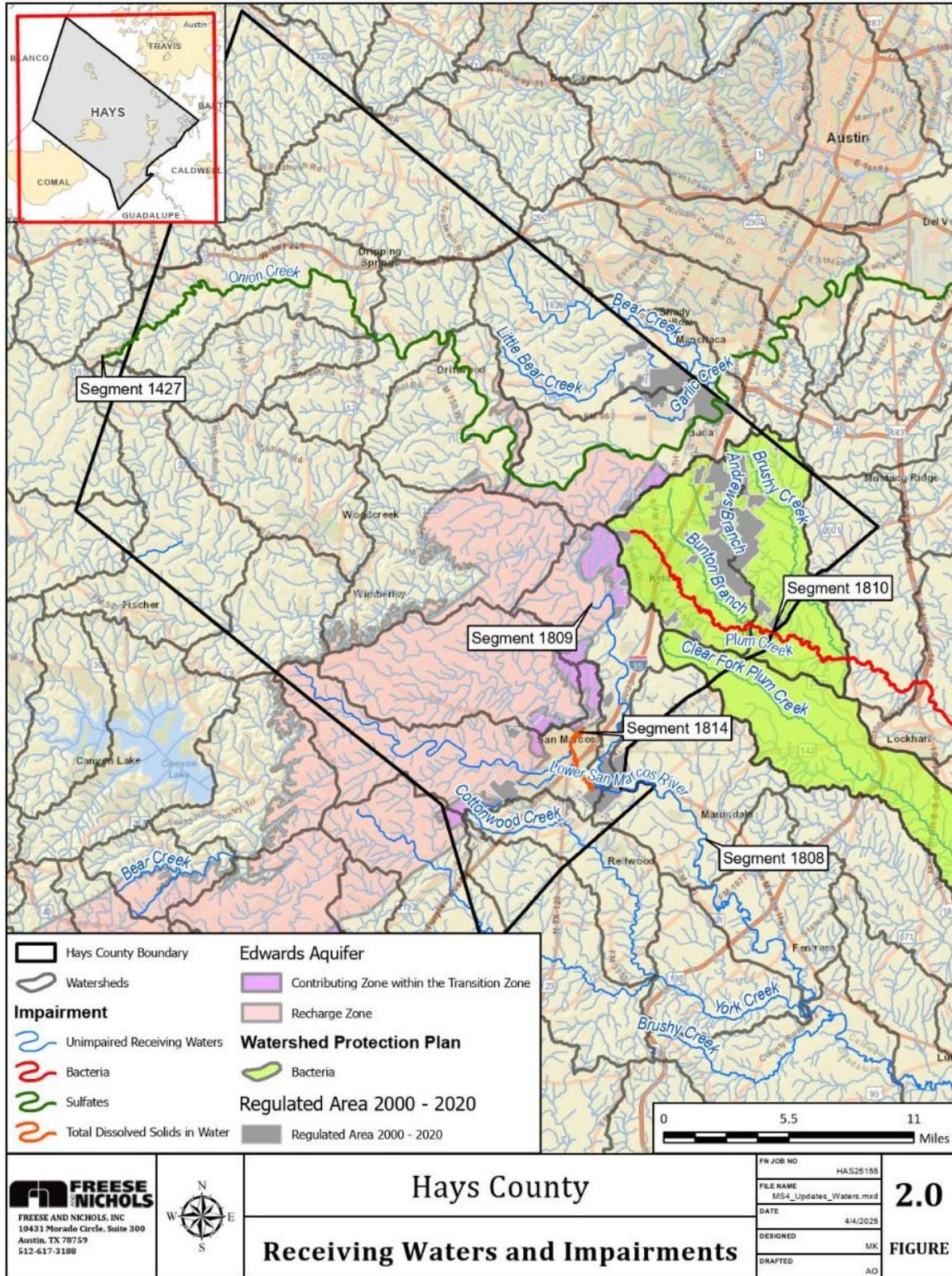
The permit requires that the classified segment(s) that first receive(s) the County's stormwater discharges, either directly or indirectly, be identified. For the purposes of this evaluation, the MS4 is directly discharging to a receiving water if the waterbody is the first water of the U.S. receiving stormwater discharges from a regulated MS4 outfall. Indirect stormwater discharges include all stormwater flows outside of the MS4 boundary and segments downstream of the direct receiving water. Stormwater discharges from the County limits eventually reach the following classified segments:

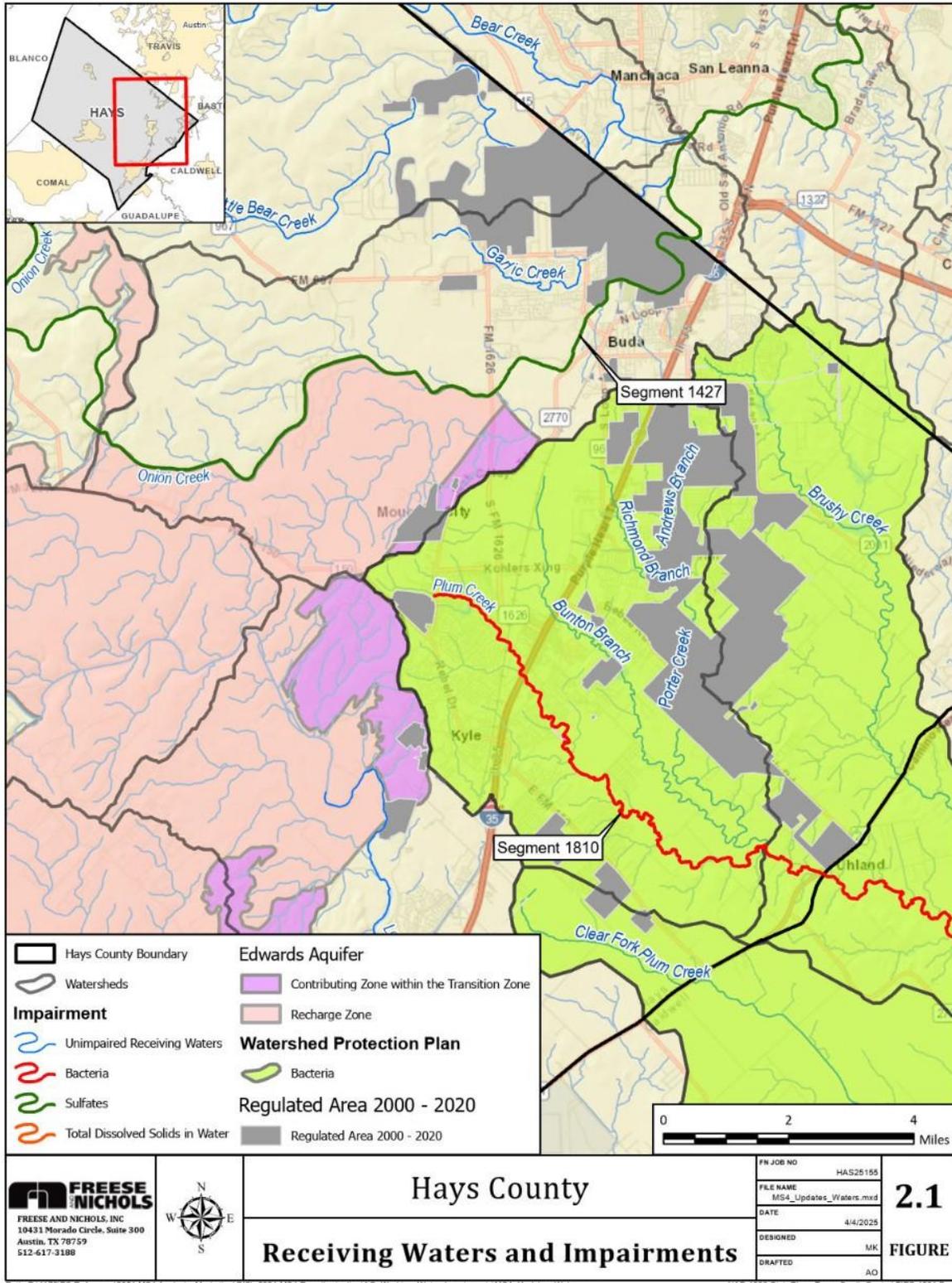
- Onion Creek (Segment 1427)
- Plum Creek (Segment 1810)
- Lower Blanco River (Segment 1809)
- Lower San Marcos River (Segment 1808)
- Upper San Marcos River (Segment 1814)

The classified segment listed above, as well as unclassified water bodies that receive stormwater discharges before reaching the classified segment, are displayed in Figure 2 and summarized below in Table 1. If the MS4 is discharging directly to an impaired segment or is discharging indirectly to a segment

with a TMDL, it is subject to additional requirements to reduce the discharge of the pollutant of concern from the MS4.

Figure 2. Hays County Receiving Water





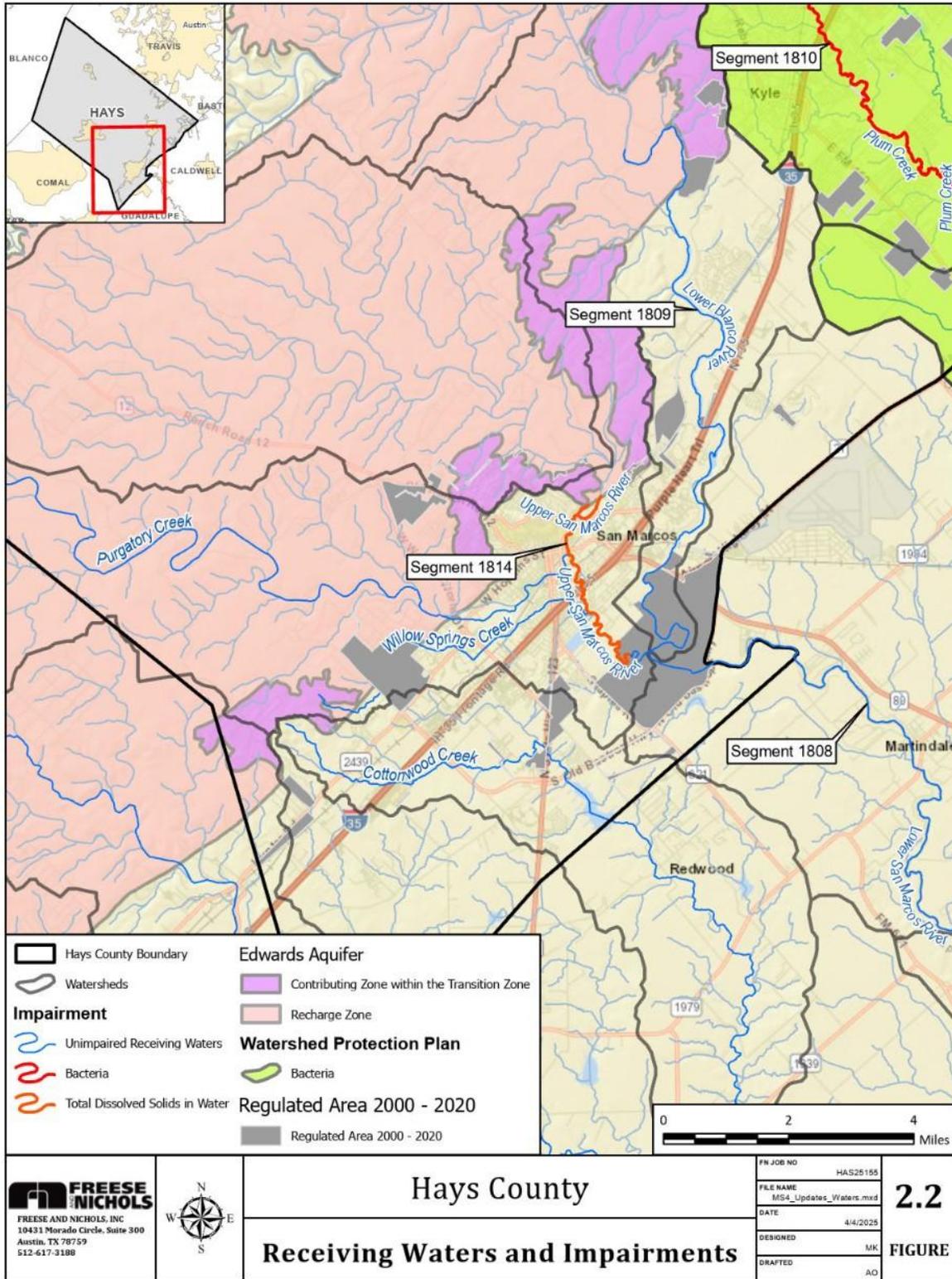


Table 1. Water Quality Summary for Receiving Waters

Receiving Watershed(s)	Receiving Water Body	Receives Stormwater Directly or Indirectly	303(d) List Category 5	Impairment with TMDL Category 4	Listed Water Quality Concerns
Bear Creek	Onion Creek (1427_02)	Indirectly	No	No	None
	Bear Creek (1427C_01)	Indirectly	No	No	None
	Little Bear Creek	Directly	No	No	None
	Unnamed Tributaries	Directly	No	No	None
Mustang Branch – Onion Creek	Onion Creek (1427_02)	Directly	No	No	None
	Onion Creek (1427_03)	Indirectly	Yes	No	Category 5: Sulfate in water
	Garlic Creek	Directly	No	No	None
	Mustang Creek	Indirectly	No	No	None
Mustang Branch – Onion Creek	Unnamed Tributaries	Directly	No	No	None
Brushy Creek – Plum Creek	Plum Creek (1810_03)	Indirectly	No	Yes	Category 4: Bacteria in water Plum Creek WPP Developed
	Brushy Creek	Directly	No	No	Plum Creek WPP Developed
	Unnamed Tributaries	Directly	No	No	Plum Creek WPP Developed

Receiving Watershed(s)	Receiving Water Body	Receives Stormwater Directly or Indirectly	303(d) List Category 5	Impairment with TMDL Category 4	Listed Water Quality Concerns
Bunton Branch – Plum Creek	Plum Creek (1810_03)	Indirectly	No	Yes	Category 4: Bacteria in water Plum Creek WPP Developed
	Plum Creek	Directly	No	No	Plum Creek WPP Developed
	Andrews Branch	Directly	No	No	Plum Creek WPP Developed
	Richmond Branch	Directly	No	No	Plum Creek WPP Developed
	Porter Creek	Directly	No	No	Plum Creek WPP Developed
Bunton Branch – Plum Creek	Bunton Branch	Directly	No	No	Plum Creek WPP Developed
	Unnamed Tributaries	Directly	No	No	Plum Creek WPP Developed
Clear Fork Plum Creek	Plum Creek (1810_01)	Indirectly	No	Yes	Category 4: Bacteria in water Plum Creek WPP Developed
	Clear Fork Plum Creek	Indirectly	No	No	Plum Creek WPP Developed
	Unnamed Tributaries	Directly	No	No	Plum Creek WPP Developed

Receiving Watershed(s)	Receiving Water Body	Receives Stormwater Directly or Indirectly	303(d) List Category 5	Impairment with TMDL Category 4	Listed Water Quality Concerns
Blanco River	Lower Blanco River (1809_02)	Directly	No	No	None
	Lower Blanco River (1809_01)	Directly	No	No	None
	Unnamed Tributaries	Directly	No	No	None
Morrison Creek – San Marcos River	Lower San Marcos River (1808_04)	Directly	No	No	None
	Unnamed Tributaries	Directly	No	No	None
Sink Creek	Upper San Marcos River (1814_04)	Indirectly	Yes	No	Category 5: Total Dissolved Solids in water Upper San Marcos River WPP developed
	Sink Creek	Directly	No	No	Upper San Marcos River WPP developed
Purgatory Creek – San Marcos River	Upper San Marcos River (1814_01)	Directly	Yes	No	Category 5: Total Dissolved Solids in water Upper San Marcos River WPP developed
	Purgatory Creek	Indirectly	No	No	Upper San Marcos River WPP developed
	Willow Springs Creek	Directly	No	No	Upper San Marcos River WPP developed
	Unnamed Tributaries	Directly	No	No	Upper San Marcos River WPP developed
	Lower San Marcos River (1808_04)	Directly	No	No	None



Receiving Watershed(s)	Receiving Water Body	Receives Stormwater Directly or Indirectly	303(d) List Category 5	Impairment with TMDL Category 4	Listed Water Quality Concerns
Redwood Cemetery – Cottonwood Creek	Lower San Marcos River (1808_03)	Indirectly	No	No	None
	York Creek	Indirectly	No	No	None
Redwood Cemetery – Cottonwood Creek	Cottonwood Creek	Directly	No	No	None
	Unnamed Tributaries	Directly	No	No	None
Middle York Creek	Lower San Marcos River (1808_03)	Indirectly	No	No	None
	York Creek	Indirectly	No	No	None
	Unnamed Tributaries	Directly	No	No	None
Upper York Creek	Lower San Marcos River (1808_03)	Indirectly	No	No	None
	York Creek	Indirectly	No	No	None
	Unnamed Tributaries	Directly	No	No	None

Source: TCEQ 2024 Texas Integrated Report of Surface Water Quality

2.2.1 Onion Creek (Assessment Units 1427_02 and 1427_03)

Onion Creek is located within the regulated limits of the County and receives discharges directly to Assessment Unit 1427_02 and indirectly to Assessment Unit 1427_03. Onion Creek also receives discharges by way of Bear Creek (1427C_01), Little Bear Creek, Unnamed Tributaries, Garlic Creek, and Mustang Creek. Onion Creek has designated uses of Drinking Water, Aquatic Life, Swimming and Boating, and Other. Assessment Unit 1427_02 was not listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* (specifically the 2024 Index for Water Quality Impairments). Assessment Unit 1427_03 was listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* for sulfate in water. No TMDLs are established for either Assessment Unit.

Bear Creek is an unclassified stream located outside of the regulated limits of the County and receives discharges indirectly to Assessment Unit 1427C_01. Bear Creek has designated uses of Aquatic Life, Swimming and Boating, and Other. It was not listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* (specifically the 2024 Index for Water Quality Impairments).

Little Bear Creek, Garlic Creek, and unnamed tributaries are unclassified streams without segment IDs that are located within the regulated limits of the County and receive direct discharges. The streams were not listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* (specifically the 2024 Index for Water Quality Impairments).

Mustang Creek and unnamed tributaries are unclassified streams without segment IDs that are located outside of the regulated limits of the County and receive indirect stormwater discharges. Mustang Creek was not listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* (specifically the 2024 Index for Water Quality Impairments).

2.2.2 Plum Creek (Assessment Units 1810_01 and 1810_03)

Plum creek is located within the regulated limits of the County and receives discharges indirectly to Assessment Unit 1810_03 and directly to Assessment Unit 1810_01. Plum Creek also receives discharges by way of Brushy Creek, unnamed tributaries, Andrews Branch, Richmond Branch, Porter Creek, Bunton Branch, and Clear Fork Plum Creek. Plum Creek has designated uses of Drinking Water, Aquatic Life, Swimming and Boating, and Other. Both assessment units are listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* (specifically the 2024 Index for Water Quality Impairments) as a Category 4 impairment for bacteria in water. A Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) was developed in 2008 for Plum Creek due to elevated bacteria levels. The County will continue to participate in the WPP.

Brushy Creek, unnamed tributaries, Andrews Branch, Richmond Branch, Porter Creek, and Bunton Branch are all located within the regulated limits of the County and receive direct stormwater discharges. The streams are unclassified without segment IDs and were therefore not listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* (specifically the 2024 Index for Water Quality Impairments).

Clear Fork Plum Creek is located outside of regulated limits of the County and receives indirect stormwater discharges. Clear Fork Plum Creek is an unclassified stream without a segment ID and was therefore not listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* (specifically the 2024 Index for Water Quality Impairments).

2.2.3 Lower Blanco River (Assessment Units 1809_01 and 1809_02)

The Lower Blanco River is located within the regulated limits of the County and receives discharges directly to Assessment Units 1809_01 and 1809_02. The Lower Blanco River also receives discharges by way of unnamed tributaries. The Lower Blanco River has designated uses of Drinking Water, Aquatic Life, Swimming and Boating, and Other. The Lower Blanco River is not listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* (specifically the 2024 Index for Water Quality Impairments).

2.2.4 Lower San Marcos River (Assessment Units 1808_03 and 1808_04)

The Lower San Marcos River is located within the regulated limits of the County and receives discharges directly to Assessment Unit 1808_04 and indirectly to Assessment Unit 1808_03. The Lower San Marcos River also receives discharges by way of York Creek, Cottonwood Creek, and unnamed tributaries. The Lower San Marcos River has designated uses of Drinking Water, Aquatic Life, Swimming and Boating, and Other. The Lower San Marcos River is not listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* (specifically the 2024 Index for Water Quality Impairments).

2.2.5 Upper San Marcos River (Assessment Units 1814_01 and 1814_04)

The Upper San Marcos River is located within the regulated limits of the County and receives discharges directly to Assessment Unit 1814_01 and indirectly to Assessment Unit 1814_04. The Upper San Marcos River also receives discharges by way of Silk Creek, Purgatory Creek, Willow Springs and unnamed tributaries. The Upper San Marcos River has designated uses of Drinking Water and Other. Both Assessment Units are listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* (specifically the 2024 Index for Water Quality Impairments) as a category 5r impairment for total dissolved solids in water. A WPP was developed

in 2018 for total dissolved solids in water levels in the Upper San Marcos River. The County will continue to participate in the WPP.

Silk Creek, Willow Springs, and Unnamed Tributaries are located within the regulated limits of the County and receive direct stormwater discharges. Both streams are unclassified streams without segment IDs and were therefore not listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* (specifically the 2024 Index for Water Quality Impairments).

Purgatory Creek is located outside of the regulated limits of the County and receives indirect stormwater discharges. Purgatory Creek is an unclassified stream without a segment ID and was therefore not listed in the *2024 Texas Integrated Report* (specifically the 2024 Index for Water Quality Impairments).

2.3 WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAMS FOR PLUM CREEK AND UPPER SAN MARCOS RIVER

The MS4 directly and indirectly discharges to the Plum Creek and Upper San Marcos River and their contributing watersheds. Both Plum Creek and Upper San Marcos River are impaired; however, in lieu of a TMDL, a WPP was developed for bacteria and total dissolved solids in water. Both WPPs have been fully implemented and therefore the County will continue to implement bacteria focused BMPs. More information on the additional bacteria BMPs can be found in Section 2.4 Targeted Controls for Impaired Waterbodies.

2.4 TARGETED CONTROLS FOR IMPAIRED WATER BODIES

As summarized in Section 2.2 and Table 1, there are direct and indirect discharges of stormwater to the Plum Creek Watershed (Assessment Units 1810_01 and 1810_03), which are impaired segments with approved WPPs for bacteria in water. There are also direct and indirect discharges to the Upper San Marcos River watershed (Assessment Units 1814_04 and 1814_01) which are impaired segments with approved WPPs for total dissolved solids in water. Both WPPs have been completed. The County will continue to comply with WPP requirements as well as include focused BMPs with corresponding measurable goals related to Part III.A.5.(e) of the permit (Impairment for Bacteria).

Bacteria is considered the priority pollutant of concern within the County and is the cause of continued impairment in Plum Creek. Through the update of this SWMP, the County must implement BMPs that meet the prescribed measurable goals from the Permit to address impairments for bacteria. The BMPs shall address the following:

- On-Site Sewage Facilities (for entities with appropriate jurisdiction)
 - Identify and address failing systems
 - Address inadequate maintenance of on-site sewage facilities
- Illicit Discharge and Dumping
 - Place additional effort to reduce waste sources of bacteria, for example, from OSSFs, grease traps, and grit traps
- Animal Sources
 - Assess and address, if feasible, all complaints received about feral hogs in the regulated MS4 area within the impairment watershed each year. If infeasible, the County will maintain documentation of the reason. Additionally, the County will prohibit the feeding of ducks and geese in 100% of public Parks or similar greenspaces in the regulated MS4 areas within the impairment watershed each year.
- Residential Education
 - Utilize signage to increase focus and educate residents on identifying and reporting illicit discharges or illegal dumping

The County will not be implementing the prescribed BMPs for the maintenance and operation of a sanitary sewer system. The County does not operate a sanitary sewer system and therefore cannot complete the prescribed measurable goals as listed in the Permit.

The County will check annually to determine if impaired water within its permitted area has been added to the latest 303(d) or 305(b) list or the *2024 Texas Integrated Report*. Within two years following the approval date of the addition of any impaired water bodies, the County will assess if the MS4 discharges are a source of the pollutant of concern, and if so, identify targeted controls, measurable goals, and benchmarks for addressing the pollutant consistent with the permit requirements.

2.5 EDWARDS AQUIFER CONTRIBUTING ZONE

The County is partially located within the Edwards Aquifer Contributing and Transition Zones, and must meet all applicable requirements of, and operate according to, 30 TAC §213 (Edwards Aquifer Rule). As such, the County's development criteria address the Edwards Aquifer Rule requirements, including submittal of Water Pollution Abatement Plans (WPAP) for regulated activities.

2.6 CONSIDERATIONS FOR THREATENED AND ENDANGERED AQUATIC SPECIES

Aquatic federally-listed threatened and endangered species were considered in the preparation of the SWMP. As of February 2025, the following federally-listed threatened and endangered aquatic species are known to potentially occur near the County:

Amphibians

- Austin blind salamander (*Eurycea waterlooensis*) Endangered
- Barton Springs salamander (*Eurycea sosorum*) Endangered
- Joyville Plateau salamander (*Eurycea tonkawae*) Threatened
- San Marcos salamander (*Eurycea nana*) Threatened
- Texas blind salamander (*Eurycea rathbuni*) Endangered

Fishes

- Fountain darter (*Etheostoma fonticola*) Endangered

Clams

- False spike (*Fusconaia mitchelli*) Endangered
- Guadalupe fatmucket (*Lampsilis bergmanni*) Endangered
- Guadalupe orb (*Cyclonaias necki*) Endangered
- Texas fatmucket (*Lampsilis bracteate*) Endangered
- Texas fawnsfoot (*Truncilla macrodon*) Threatened
- Texas pimpleback (*Cyclonaias petrina*) Endangered

Crustaceans

- Peck’s Cave amphipod (*Stygebromus pecki*) Endangered

The listed species are threatened mostly by larger-scale issues and environmental concerns including direct take and development. The BMPs to be implemented as part of this SWMP will not contribute to these issues. Additionally, these BMPs were selected to protect and improve stormwater quality including actions that reduce soil erosion, manage urban runoff, and increase infiltration and aquifer recharge. As such, no adverse impacts to these species or their habitats are expected due to regulated stormwater discharges from the County.

3.0 SMALL MS4 GENERAL PERMIT OVERVIEW

The County is required to update this SWMP and describe specific actions that will be completed over a five-year period to reduce pollutants and protect the County's stormwater quality in the regulated MS4 area. This SWMP also sets measurable goals and provides a schedule for the implementation of BMPs over the next five years. The permit divides MS4 operators into one of five categories, or "levels", based on the population served within the 2020 urban area. The level of a small MS4 may change during the permit term based on the MS4 operator acquiring or giving up the regulated area, such as by annexing or de-annexing. However, the level of a small MS4 will not change during the permit term based on population fluctuation. The five levels are described below:

Level 1

Operators of traditional small MS4s that serve a population of less than 10,000 within an "urban area with a population of at least 50,000 people".

Level 2a

Operators of traditional small MS4s that serve a population of at least 10,000 but less than 40,000 within an "urban area with a population of at least 50,000 people".

Level 2b (Hays County)

Operators of all non-traditional small MS4s such as counties, drainage districts, transportation entities, military bases, universities, colleges, correctional institutions, municipal utility districts and other special districts regardless of population served within the "urban area with a population of at least 50,000 people", unless the non-traditional MS4 can demonstrate that it meets the criteria for a waiver from permit coverage based on the population served.

Level 3

Operators of traditional small MS4s that serve a population of at least 40,000 but less than 100,000 within an "urban area with a population of at least 50,000 people".

Level 4

Operators of traditional small MS4s that serve a population of 100,000 or more within an "urban area with a population of at least 50,000 people".

3.1 MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURES SUMMARY

Various BMPs have been developed by TCEQ for the minimum control measures (MCMs) that are expected to minimize or eliminate stormwater pollutants discharged into the storm sewer system and provide water quality protection for receiving water bodies. Six MCMs are required for all MS4s and a seventh MCM is required only for Level 4 MS4s. An optional eighth MCM to address municipal construction activities through their SWMP is available for use by the County but has not been selected for inclusion in this SWMP. Specific requirements according to the small MS4 level have been developed by the TCEQ for each MCM, and the general descriptions of the MCMs are provided below. The County is required to conduct an annual review and make updates to the SWMP, as necessary, and record changes in the annual report. The specific requirements and goals for each MCM are provided in Appendix A. A general description and summary of each MCM is provided in the following sections.

3.1.1 MCM 1: Public Education and Outreach

The County will assess and modify existing elements, and develop and implement new elements, as necessary, for a public education and outreach program regarding stormwater quality issues and to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the regulated MS4 area to the MEP. The program requires the selection of target audiences, educational topics, and Best Management Practices (BMPs) to implement the program. To support public education and outreach, the County will at a minimum, conduct at least one of the following or similar:

- Plan, or assist with planning, the distribution of materials
- Coordinate volunteers
- Contribute supplies, materials, tools, or equipment
- Provide assistance from County staff to distribute materials
- Provide financial support

As a Level 2b small MS4, the County is not required to select additional target audiences. The County will focus on educating residents within the regulated MS4 area on the importance of septic system upkeep and how failing systems can impact surface waters.

The County will implement a minimum of four public education and outreach BMPs to reach the target audiences and distribute educational material. The following BMPs were selected for implementation:

- Information on MS4 operator's website
- Social media posts, social media campaigns

- Fact sheets/brochures/utility bill inserts/door hangers
- Permanent stormwater-related signage (Bacteria focused BMP)
- Promote, host, or develop educational meetings, seminars, or trainings

3.1.2 MCM 2: Public Involvement/Participation

The County will assess and modify existing elements, and develop and implement new elements, as necessary, for a public involvement/participation program regarding stormwater quality issues and to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the regulated MS4 area to the MEP. The public involvement and participation program involves creating opportunities for citizen groups to become involved in improving stormwater runoff quality. To support public involvement and participation, the County will at a minimum, conduct at least one of the following or similar:

- Plan, or assist with planning, the event or activity
- Contribute supplies, materials, tools, or equipment
- Provide assistance from County staff during the activity
- Provide assistance with recruiting volunteers for events
- Make a space available for projects, meetings, or events
- Advertise for events
- Supply disposal services
- Arrange land or stream access
- Provide financial support
- Provide donations of goods and services such as food.

The County will implement a minimum of three public involvement/participation BMPs. The County has selected the following BMPs to implement and improve stormwater runoff quality:

- MS4 area-wide stormwater survey for input on program implementation
- Educational display/booth at a school, public event, or similar event to provide information or displays that work to improve public understanding of issues related to water quality
- Public meeting for input on the program implementation such as a council meeting, board meeting, or stakeholder meeting

3.1.3 MCM 3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)

The County will assess and modify existing elements, and develop and implement new elements, as necessary, for a program to detect, investigate, and eliminate illicit discharges into the small MS4. The program involves the creation of County regulations that prohibit non-stormwater discharges to the MS4, except those outlined as allowable non-stormwater discharges in the current permit and give the County the authority to perform inspections and enforce the requirements through sanctions or other enforcement mechanisms for continued reduction of pollutants in the regulated MS4 area discharge to the MEP. If necessary, new elements will be implemented by the end of the permit term. In summary, the County will support the following program goals:

- A current and accurate MS4 map
- Methods for informing and training MS4 field staff
- Methods and tracking for facilitating public reporting of illicit discharges and illegal dumping
- Procedures for responding to illicit discharge, illegal dumping, and spills
- Procedures for tracing the source of an illicit discharge and illegal dumping
- Inspections conducted in response to complaints including follow-up inspections, and procedures for inspections
- If applicable, implement procedures to prevent and correct leaking on-site sewage disposal systems (septic systems) that discharge into the small MS4 (Level 2 or higher)

3.1.4 MCM 4: Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

The County will assess and modify existing elements, and develop and implement new elements, as necessary, for a program to continue reducing illicit discharges from small and large construction activities. An ordinance or other regulatory mechanism will be developed and/or maintained that allows for the County to enforce the requirement to receive or collect information, such as stormwater plans and reports, enter and inspect private property related to stormwater discharges to the small MS4, prohibit the discharge of wastewater from washout of concrete and wastewater from water well drilling operations, unless managed by an appropriate control; wastewater from washout and cleanout of stucco, paint, from release oils, and other construction materials; fuels, oils, or other pollutants used in vehicle and equipment operation and maintenance; soaps or solvents used in vehicle and equipment washing; and discharges from dewatering activities, including discharges from dewatering of trenches and

excavations, unless managed by appropriate BMPs. In summary, the County will implement and support the following program goals within the regulated MS4 area:

- Implement procedures and require construction operators to implement and maintain appropriate erosion and sediment control BMPs, including erosion and sediment controls and soil stabilization BMPs
- Enforce State and County construction site standards to minimize discharge of pollutants from construction sites. Prohibited discharges include:
 - Wastewater from well drilling operations
 - Wastewater from washout and cleanout of concrete, stucco, paint, from release oils, and other construction materials
 - Fuels, oils, or other pollutants used in vehicle and equipment operation and maintenance
 - Soaps or solvents used in vehicle and equipment washing
 - Discharges from dewatering activities, including dewatering of trenches and excavations, unless appropriate BMPs are utilized
- Implement and enforce procedures to review construction plans
 - Site plans will consider the potential for water quality impacts
 - Site plans may not be approved unless appropriate site-specific control measures are identified that, at a minimum, meet minimum requirements in the Construction General Permit
- Implement and enforce procedures to inspect and enforce construction site stormwater management
 - Inspections shall evaluate factors including soil erosion potential, site slope, project size and type, sensitivity of receiving water bodies, proximity to receiving water bodies, non-stormwater discharges, and past records of non-compliance by site operators
 - Inspections will occur during the active construction phase
 - Inspections will, at a minimum, determine if the site has appropriate coverage under TXR150000, determine control measures have been selected, installed, implemented, and maintained, assess compliance with County regulations, and report the outcome of the inspection to the primary site operator
 - The County will perform and document follow-up inspections or enforcement as needed to ensure site compliance with permit requirements and the SWMP
- Develop, implement, or maintain procedures to receive, respond, and track information received from the public

- Conduct training for MS4 field staff whose primary job duties are related to implementing the construction plan review and inspection program

3.1.5 MCM 5: Post-Construction Stormwater Management (New/Redevelopment)

The County will assess and modify existing elements, and develop and implement new elements, as necessary, for a program to control stormwater discharges from new development and redeveloped sites that disturb one acre or more, to reduce the discharge of pollutants into the regulated MS4 area to the MEP. An ordinance or other regulatory mechanism will be developed or maintained to allow for County enforcement of post-construction structural controls and the receipt and collection of information, such as stormwater plans and reports, and to enter and inspect private property related to stormwater discharges to the small MS4. In summary, the County will implement and support the following program goals:

- Implement and enforce requirements for newly developed and redeveloped sites over an acre to control stormwater discharges, including projects that disturb less than one acre but are part of a larger common plan of development
- Develop a County regulation to address post-construction runoff from new development and redevelopment projects
- Enforce long-term operation and maintenance of structural stormwater controls in accordance with County regulation
- Maintain records of enforcement actions in accordance with County regulations
- Carry out long-term maintenance of post-construction stormwater controls either by the County or the owner or operator under a maintenance plan and schedule. The maintenance plan and schedule will be on file in the real property records of the county in which the property is located

3.1.6 MCM 6: Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

The County will assess and modify existing elements, and develop and implement new elements, as necessary, for an operation and maintenance program for municipal operations to continue the reduction of discharge of pollutants from the regulated MS4 area to the MEP. In summary, the County will implement and support the following program goals:

- Develop and maintain an inventory, including permits, registrations, and authorizations, of MS4 facilities and stormwater controls owned or operated by the MS4, which will include, but is not limited to, the following, as applicable:

- Composting facilities
- Equipment storage and maintenance facilities
- Fuel storage facilities
- Hazardous waste disposal facilities
- Hazardous waste handling and transfer facilities
- Incinerators
- Landfills
- Materials storage yards
- Pesticide storage facilities
- Buildings, including schools, libraries, police stations, fire stations, and office buildings
- Parking lots
- Golf courses
- Swimming pools
- Public works yards
- Recycling facilities
- Salt storage facilities
- Solid waste handling and transfer facilities
- Street repair and maintenance sites
- Vehicle storage and maintenance yards
- Structural stormwater controls
- Require MS4 staff training on pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices, and maintain a training attendance list
- Properly dispose of waste material in accordance with 30 TAC Chapter 330 or 335, as applicable
- Include contract language requiring compliance with County stormwater pollution prevention measures, good housekeeping practices, and facility-specific stormwater management operating procedures for contractors hired by the County
- Implement and follow written procedures for maintenance activities and municipal operations
- Identify pollutants of concern that could be discharged from municipal operations

- Develop, implement, and inspect pollution prevention measures to reduce the discharge of pollutants in stormwater, and identify pollutants of concern that could be discharged during operations and maintenance activities
 - Track County application of deicing and anti-icing compounds in the County and record the amount of compound used
 - Place barriers around or direct runoff away from deicing chemical storage areas to prevent discharge into surface waters
- Implement and follow written procedures for maintenance activities on structural controls that define frequency of inspections and provide guidance for inspectors
- Structural control maintenance will be performed at least annually, on a documented schedule, by the MS4 and will not limit the effectiveness of the BMP
- Create and maintain an annual inventory for all MS4 owned and operated facilities and controls

3.1.7 MCM 7: Industrial Stormwater Sources (Level 4 only)

The County is a Level 2b small MS4; therefore, MCM 7 Industrial Stormwater Sources is not required to be implemented.

3.1.8 MCM 8: Authorization for Construction Activities where the Small MS4 is the Site Operator (Optional)

This optional MCM requires development of a detailed plan addressing how the County's construction activities will meet construction stormwater permit requirements where the County meets the definition of construction site operator. The County has elected not to utilize this MCM for this permit term.

3.2 IMPAIRED WATERS AND TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD SUMMARY

In addition to the MCM requirements, the permit describes required actions if a regulated MS4 area discharges a pollutant of concern to an impaired water body or discharges into a water body that is part of a watershed with an approved TMDL, regardless of whether the water body itself is impaired. For the administration of this permit, a watershed boundary is considered as defined by the TMDL requirements and/or I-Plan. Not all regulated MS4 areas discharge into an impaired water body, and thus these requirements do not apply to all regulated entities. If a regulated MS4 area discharges a pollutant of concern to an impaired water body with an established TMDL, the regulated MS4 area will be consistent with the approved TMDL Waste Load Allocations (WLA) and Implementation Plan in order to be eligible

for coverage by the permit. The TMDL process includes an intensive assessment of the root cause of poor water quality, a determination of the maximum pollutant loading allowable while still meeting water quality use standards and development of a plan by local stakeholders to remediate pollution sources.

For MS4s discharging a known pollutant of concern into impaired water bodies, their SWMP will include information on the implementation of “targeted controls”, which are activities, practices, or structural controls that focus on reducing the water quality impact of the specific pollutant. For each targeted control, a measurable goal, implementation schedule, and “benchmark” will be established. A benchmark is a quantifiable goal designed to assist in determining if the targeted controls are effective in addressing the pollutant. The exceedance of a benchmark does not indicate a permit violation; it does, however, help in the evaluation of the progress toward reducing pollutant discharges.

Section 2.3 addresses the County’s specific pollutants of concern to impaired waters or watersheds subject to a TMDL and evaluates the progress of controlling those pollutants, as applicable. The County’s stormwater discharges are considered a source of bacteria and focused BMPs will be developed and implemented to assist with the reduction of bacteria source generation; therefore, targeted controls are scheduled for implementation.

3.3 PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY

Existing County programs and activities that protect the County’s stormwater quality were identified and are included in the SWMP as applicable. These programs and activities will be supplemented with several new BMPs to provide additional protection of stormwater quality as required by the permit.

An implementation schedule and measurable goals to track the implementation progress have been developed for each of the BMPs in this SWMP. The County has selected the required number of BMPs from the permit appropriate for the community to protect water quality, recognizing the importance of protecting the County’s natural and financial resources.

The implementation schedule and measurable goals were selected so new stormwater program activities will be steadily phased in over the permit term, as allowable. The County will review the implementation progress each year and modify the SWMP as necessary.

The BMP Activities Schedule (Appendix A) is designed to schedule all activities within the SWMP in accordance with the Permit. It identifies each BMP with activity descriptions, how it meets specific permit requirements, responsible County departments, measurable goals, implementation schedules, and

documentation needs over the five-year permit period. Appendix B lists the BMPs by permit requirement. The subsequent appendices provide reference material and help serve as a toolbox to keep the SWMP updated as required. Section 4 details the SWMP development process.

4.0 COMPLIANCE APPROACH

The County developed this SWMP to comply with TPDES requirements for stormwater discharges and certain non-stormwater discharges. The SWMP is intended to aid in the County's efforts to reduce stormwater pollutants being discharged from the County's regulated MS4 area to the MEP as required by the permit.

The SWMP describes specific actions that will be taken over this permit term to reduce pollutants and protect the County's stormwater quality. The specific activities to be implemented are referred to as BMPs. Various BMPs have been developed by the TCEQ for each of the required MCMs. The SWMP also sets measurable goals and provides a schedule for the implementation of the BMPs. Implementation of the selected BMPs is expected to result in a reduction of pollutants discharged into the County's streams, ponds, and lakes.

The BMP Activities Schedule (Appendix A) has been developed to demonstrate compliance in one location with descriptions, measurable goals, and implementation and maintenance schedules for the BMPs the County has implemented or will implement. Appendix A will serve as the summary of written procedures describing how the permittee will implement the provisions in Parts IV and V of the Permit. In addition to Appendix A, the County will develop specific standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the day-to-day operations of its SWMP. The SOPs will provide greater specificity for the activities the County will conduct to address the compliance requirements and the documentation that will be maintained to demonstrate compliance through the annual report.

The County will annually review the SWMP and the implementation procedures for MCMs 1 through 6 and update as necessary. Refer to Section 5.3 Program Updates for the identification of all applicable reporting requirements related to Notice of Change (NOC).

4.1 BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The County has selected the required number of BMPs from the permit appropriate for the community to protect water quality, recognizing the importance of protecting the County's natural and financial resources.

4.1.1 Assessment of Existing BMPs

The County has historically implemented various BMPs intended to protect stormwater quality. An important aspect of developing an effective, compliant, and cost-efficient SWMP is to account for the existing programs that are efficiently benefiting water quality. As such, one of the initial steps of the assessment process, which included meetings with staff from County departments, involved selecting appropriate BMPs from the options provided in the general permit.

4.1.2 Identification of Additional BMPs

The second step identified additional BMPs that would meet the requirements of the permit and protect water quality to the MEP. Additional BMPs were selected to supplement the County's existing programs and to satisfy the new requirements of the permit. The additional BMPs were evaluated based on their ability to meet at least one, and preferably several, of the MCM requirements. Where the County had a choice, BMP considerations were evaluated based on the following criteria:

- How does the BMP fit into the County's existing goals, operations, and activities?
- What is the anticipated effectiveness of the BMP?
- What is the general cost range to implement the BMP?
- What is most applicable to the County's current development?

Specific costs for the BMPs were not identified during the development of this SWMP; however, BMPs with significant investment requirements and relatively minor stormwater quality benefits were not selected. More detailed budget requirements will be evaluated, as needed, during the implementation of the BMP.

4.2 SELECTION PROCESS FOR MEASURABLE GOALS AND IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Specific prescribed measurable goals have been developed by the TCEQ for each BMP. In accordance with the permit requirements, measurable goals will be used to evaluate the success of the County's SWMP

toward reaching the goal of protecting water quality and reducing pollutants to the MEP. The County has selected the required number of BMPs and will meet the prescribed measurable goals from the permit appropriate for the community to protect water quality, recognizing the importance of protecting the County's natural and financial resources.

TCEQ has authorized the steady implementation of new BMPs over a multi-year period, unless stated otherwise. For new BMPs, the first year of the permit program is largely dedicated to identifying the approach to implementing each activity. The second through fifth years focus on implementation, evaluating the effectiveness of existing BMPs, and tracking the implementation of new BMPs.

4.3 MEASURABLE GOAL EVALUATION PROCESS

The selected measurable goals for each BMP will be evaluated on an annual basis. Implementation of each BMP will be tracked as appropriate during each permit year to provide documentation of the BMP activities. Relative success at achieving the measurable goals, as well as an assessment of the effectiveness of each BMP, will also be evaluated on an annual basis.

Multiple County departments are responsible for implementing portions of the SWMP and for tracking and evaluating the County's success in meeting the program's measurable goals. Each County department with activities or responsibilities that may impact stormwater quality will maintain documentation showing progress towards meeting the annual measurable goals for each BMP and make this information available to the person designated for SWMP coordination.

4.4 LEGAL AUTHORITY AND REGULATORY MECHANISM

In accordance with the permit conditions in Part IV, Section C.3, the County will review and revise within two years of the effective date of the permit, if needed, the relevant ordinance(s) or other regulatory mechanism(s), or adopt a new ordinance(s) or other regulatory mechanism(s) that provide the County with adequate legal authority to control pollutant discharges into and from its regulated MS4 area in order to meet the requirements of this permit. The County's legal authority will be reviewed to address the following:

- Authority to prohibit illicit discharges and illicit connections
- Authority to respond to and contain other releases – Control the discharge of spills, and prohibit dumping or disposal of materials other than stormwater into the small MS4

- Authority to require compliance with conditions in the County regulations, permits, contracts, or orders
- Authority to require installation, implementation, and maintenance of control measures
- Authority to receive and collect information, such as stormwater plans, inspection reports, and other information deemed necessary to assess compliance with this permit, from operators of construction sites, new or redeveloped land, and industrial and commercial facilities
- Authority, as needed, to enter and inspect private property including facilities, equipment, practices, or operations related to stormwater discharges to the small MS4
- Authority to respond to non-compliance with BMPs required by the small MS4 consistent with their ordinances or other regulatory mechanism(s)
- Authority to assess penalties, including monetary, civil, or criminal penalties
- Ability to enter into interagency or interlocal agreements or other maintenance agreements, as necessary

4.5 ALLOWABLE NON-STORMWATER DISCHARGES

In accordance with the requirements of the permit, the following non-stormwater sources may be discharged from the County's regulated MS4 area and are not required to be addressed in the Illicit Discharge, Detection, and Elimination or other minimum control measures, unless they are determined by the County or TCEQ to be significant contributors of pollutants to the County's regulated MS4 area, or they are otherwise prohibited by the County:

- Water line flushing (excluding discharges of hyperchlorinated water unless the water is first dechlorinated and discharges are not expected to adversely affect aquatic life)
- Runoff or return flow from landscape irrigation, lawn irrigation, and other irrigation utilizing potable water, groundwater, or surface water sources
- Discharges from potable water sources that do not violate TCEQ Texas Surface Water Quality Standards
- Diverted stream flows
- Rising ground waters and springs
- Uncontaminated ground water infiltration
- Uncontaminated pumped ground water
- Foundation and footing drains
- Air conditioning condensation

- Water from crawl space pumps
- Individual residential vehicle washing
- Flows from wetlands and riparian habitats
- Dechlorinated swimming pool discharges that do not violate TCEQ Texas Surface Water Quality Standards
- Street wash water excluding street sweeper wastewater
- Discharges or flows from emergency fire-fighting activities (emergency fire-fighting activities do not include washing of trucks, runoff water from training activities, test water from fire suppression systems, and similar activities)
- Other allowable non-stormwater discharges listed in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations Chapter 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1)
- Non-stormwater discharges that are specifically listed in the TPDES Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP) TXR050000 or the TPDES Construction General Permit (CGP) TXR150000
- Discharges that are authorized by a TPDES or NPDES permit or that are not required to be permitted
- Other similar occasional incidental non-stormwater discharges such as spray park water, unless the TCEQ develops permits or regulations addressing these discharges.

5.0 RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING

5.1 RECORDKEEPING

The County will maintain all records, a copy of the permit and all data used to complete the NOI for this permit, for a period of at least three years, or the term of this permit, whichever is longer. A current, up-to-date copy of the SWMP and a copy of the general permit requirements will be maintained at <https://www.hayscountytexas.gov/departments/transportation-department/stormwater-ms4-areas>.

Additionally, the County will make the compiled records, including the NOI and SWMP, publicly accessible through posting on the County's website. The County will make the NOI and SWMP available to the public at reasonable times during regular business hours if requested to do so in writing within 10 days of the request. Following the development of this SWMP the County will electronically submit the Notice of Intent (NOI) using the NeTMS4 online e-permitting system made available by TCEQ.

The period during which records are kept will be automatically extended to the date of the final disposition of any administrative or judicial enforcement action that may be instituted against the permittee.

5.2 ANNUAL REPORT

The County will sign (in accordance with 30 TAC § 305.128 relating to Signatories to Reports) and submit an annual report to TCEQ by March 31st of each year for the previous calendar year using the online electronic reporting system, NeTMS4, available through the EPA's Central Data Exchange (CDX) website. Authorization for the County to discharge stormwater begins when the NOI is administratively approved by TCEQ. The permit requires annual reports to be submitted through NeTMS4 90 days following the end of the Calendar Year. January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 will be considered Year 1 for this SWMP. Therefore, the first annual report for the County is due on March 31, 2026. A copy of the annual report must be made readily available for review by TCEQ personnel upon request. The County will post the annual reports on the County's website no later than 30 days after the annual report due date of March 31st.

The annual report will include:

- The status of compliance with permit conditions, an assessment of the appropriateness of the identified activities/BMPs, progress towards achieving the statutory goal of reducing the discharge of pollutants to the MEP, the measurable goals for each of the MCMs, and an evaluation of the success of the implementation of the measurable goals

- A summary of the results of information collected and analyzed, during the reporting period, including monitoring data used to assess the success of the program at reducing the discharge of pollutants to the MEP
- If applicable for receiving water bodies, a summary of any activities taken to address the discharge to impaired water bodies, including a summary of the small MS4s BMPs used to address the pollutant of concern, and if sampling was conducted include the sampling results
- A summary of the stormwater activities the County plans to undertake during the next reporting year
- Proposed changes to the SWMP, including changes to any activities/BMPs or any identified measurable goals that apply to the program elements
- A description and schedule for implementation of additional activities/BMPs that may be necessary, based on monitoring results, to ensure compliance with applicable TMDLs and implementation plans. For water bodies that are listed as impaired after discharge authorization pursuant to Part III, include a list of such water bodies and the pollutant(s) causing the impairment, and a summary of any actions taken to comply with the requirements of Part III
- Notice that the County is relying on another government entity to satisfy some of its permit obligations (if applicable)
- The number of construction activities where the small MS4 is the operator and authorized under the optional 8th MCM, including the total number of acres disturbed
- The number of construction activities that occurred within the jurisdictional area of the small MS4 (as noticed to the permittee by the construction operator), and that were not authorized under the optional 8th MCM

5.3 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM UPDATES

This program may be updated by the County at any time. Changes to the SWMP that are made after TCEQ approval of the NOI may require the submittal and approval of a NOC by the TCEQ if the modifications are significant. Requirements for changes to the SWMP are outlined as follows:

5.3.1 Changes that do not require a NOC

Minor modifications to the SWMP that include administrative or non-substantial changes, such as a change in personnel or reorganization of departments responsible for implementing any portion of the SWMP, minor clarification to the existing BMPs, correction of typographical errors, etc. Additionally, an NOC is not required when TCEQ revises a TMDL WLA identified by the MS4 to increase the load.

5.3.2 Changes that require a NOC

- Changing one or more contacts listed in the NOI or updating their contact information
- Adding components, controls, or requirements to the SWMP
- Adding areas such as annexing land, or otherwise acquire additional land that expands the boundary of the small MS4, or subtracting areas, such as by de- annexing lands
- Adding impaired water bodies that are identified pursuant to Part III
- Adding more frequent monitoring or reporting by the permittee
- Replacing a BMP specifically identified in the NOI and SWMP with an alternative BMP, (for example, replacing a structural BMP with a non-structural BMP would be considered a replacement). The SWMP must include documentation for changes as described below:
 - For changes to BMPs for impaired water bodies with a TMDL, document the following:
 - an analysis of why the BMP is ineffective or infeasible (including cost prohibitive)
 - expectations of the effectiveness of the replacement BMP
 - an analysis of why the replacement BMP is expected to achieve the goals of the BMP to be replaced
 - For all other BMP changes, document the reason for the change
- When TCEQ revises a TMDL WLA identified by the MS4 to decrease the load, permittees must revise the SWMP and submit an NOC to identify the revised WLA within 90 days of TCEQ publishing the change

5.4 REFERENCE MATERIAL

Several sources of information are available for use in the maintenance and update of the SWMP. Each of these resources is recommended for additional information about alternative BMP options.

Environmental Protection Agency. Waters GeoViewer. <https://www.epa.gov/waterdata/waters-geoviewer>. Data Obtained February 2025.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Climate Zones. <https://www.noaa.gov/jetstream/global/climate-zones/>. Data Obtained February 2025.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. National Centers for Environmental Information. U.S. Climate Normals. <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/us-climate-normals/>. Data Obtained February 2025.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Segments with TMDLs. <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/nav/tmdlsegments>. Data Obtained February 2025.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Surface Water Quality Segments Viewer. <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/segments-viewer>. Data Obtained February 2025.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Texas Integrated Report of Surface Water Quality for Clean Water Act Sections 305(b) and 303(d). <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/assessment>. Data Obtained February 2025.

Texas Parks and Wildlife. Texas Watershed Viewer. <https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/water-education/Watershed%20Viewer>. Data Obtained February 2025.

United States Census Bureau. QuickFacts United States. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/>. Data Obtained February 2025.

6.0 DEFINITIONS

The following are definitions of key words or phrases that are used throughout this SWMP. The definitions are taken directly from the renewed TPDES General Permit No. TXR040000.

Arid Areas – Areas with an average annual rainfall of less than ten inches.

Benchmarks – A benchmark pollutant value is a guidance level indicator that helps determine the effectiveness of chosen best management practices (BMPs). This type of monitoring differs from “compliance monitoring” in that exceedances of the indicator or benchmark level are not permit violations, but rather indicators that can help identify problems at the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) with exposed or unidentified pollutant sources; or control measures that are either not working correctly, whose effectiveness need to be re-considered, or that need to be supplemented with additional BMP(s).

Best Management Practices (BMPs) – Schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, structural controls, local ordinances, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control runoff, spills or leaks, waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage areas.

Catch Basins – Storm drain inlets and curb inlets to the storm drain system. Catch basins typically include a grate or curb inlet that may accumulate sediment, debris, and other pollutants.

Classified Segment – A water body that is listed and described in Appendix A or Appendix C of the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards, at 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 307.10.

Clean Water Act (CWA) – The Federal Water Pollution Control Act or Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972, Pub.L. 92-500, as amended Pub. L. 95-217, Pub. L. 95-576, Pub. L. 96-483, and Pub. L. 97-117, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et. seq.

Common Plan of Development or Sale – A construction activity that is completed in separate stages, separate phases, or in combination with other construction activities. A common plan of development or sale is identified by the documentation for the construction project that identifies the scope of the project, and may include plats, blueprints, marketing plans, contracts, building permits, a public notice or hearing, zoning requests, or other similar documentation and activities.

Construction Activity – Soil disturbance, including clearing, grading, excavating, and other construction related activities (e.g., stockpiling of fill material and demolition); and not including routine maintenance that is performed to maintain the original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of the site (e.g., the routine grading of existing dirt roads, asphalt overlays of existing roads, the routine clearing of existing right-of-ways, and similar maintenance activities). Regulated construction activity is defined in terms of small and large construction activity.

Small Construction Activity is construction activity that results in land disturbance of equal to or greater than one acre and less than five acres of land. Small construction activity also includes the disturbance of less than one acre of total land area that is part of a larger common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb equal to or greater than one and less than five acres of land.

Large Construction Activity is construction activity that results in land disturbance of equal to or greater than five acres of land. Large construction activity also includes the disturbance of less than five acres of total land area that is part of a larger common plan of development or sale if the larger common plan will ultimately disturb equal to or greater than five acres of land.

Construction Site Operator – The entity or entities associated with a small or large construction project that meet(s) either of the following two criteria:

- The entity or entities that have operational control over construction plans and specifications (including approval of revisions) to the extent necessary to meet the requirements and conditions of this general permit; or
- The entity or entities that have day-to-day operational control of those activities at a construction site that are necessary to ensure compliance with a stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWP3) for the site or other permit conditions (for example they are authorized to direct workers at a site to carry out activities required by the SWP3 or comply with other permit conditions).

Control Measure – Any BMP or other method used to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to water in the state.

Conveyance – Curbs, gutters, man-made channels and ditches, drains, pipes, and other constructed features designed or used for flood control or to otherwise transport stormwater runoff.

Discharge – When used without a qualifier, refers to the discharge of stormwater runoff or certain non-stormwater discharges as allowed under the authorization of this general permit.

Edwards Aquifer – As defined in 30 TAC § 213.3 (relating to the Edwards Aquifer), that portion of an arcuate belt of porous, water-bearing, predominantly carbonate rocks known as the Edwards and Associated Limestones in the Balcones Fault Zone trending from west to east to northeast in Kinney, Uvalde, Medina, Bexar, Comal, Hays, Travis, and Williamson Counties; and composed of the Salmon Peak Limestone, McKnight Formation, West Nueces Formation, Devil’s River Limestone, Person Formation, Kainer Formation, Edwards Formation, and Georgetown Formation. The permeable aquifer units generally overlie the less-permeable Glen Rose Formation to the south, overlie the less-permeable Comanche Peak and Walnut Formations north of the Colorado River, and underlie the less-permeable Del Rio Clay regionally.

Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone – Generally, that area where the stratigraphic units constituting the Edwards Aquifer crop out, including the outcrops of other geologic formations in proximity to the Edwards Aquifer, where caves, sinkholes, faults, fractures, or other permeable features would create a potential for recharge of surface waters into the Edwards Aquifer. The recharge zone is identified as that area designated as such on official maps located on the TCEQ website or in the offices of the TCEQ.

Final Stabilization – A construction site where any of the following conditions are met:

- A. All soil disturbing activities at the site have been completed and a uniform (for example, evenly distributed, without large bare areas) perennial vegetative cover with a density of 70 percent (%) of the native background vegetative cover for the area has been established on all unpaved areas and areas not covered by permanent structures, or equivalent permanent stabilization measures (such as the use of riprap, gabions, or geotextiles) have been employed.
- B. For individual lots in a residential construction site by either:
 1. The homebuilder completing final stabilization as specified in condition (a) above; or
 2. The homebuilder establishing temporary stabilization for an individual lot prior to the time of transfer of the ownership of the home to the buyer and after informing

the homeowner of the need for, and benefits of, final stabilization.

- C. For construction activities on land used for agricultural purposes (for example pipelines across crop or range land), final stabilization may be accomplished by returning the disturbed land to its preconstruction agricultural use. Areas disturbed that were not previously used for agricultural activities, such as buffer strips immediately adjacent to a surface water and areas which are not being returned to their preconstruction agricultural use must meet the final stabilization conditions of condition (a) above.
- D. In arid, semi-arid, and drought-stricken areas only, all soil disturbing activities at the site have been completed and both of the following criteria have been met:
 - 1. Temporary erosion control measures (e.g., degradable rolled erosion control product) are selected, designed, and installed along with an appropriate seed base to provide erosion control for at least three years without active maintenance by the operator, and
 - 2. The temporary erosion control measures are selected, designed, and installed to achieve 70 percent (%) vegetative coverage within three years.

General Permit – A permit issued to authorize the discharge of waste into or adjacent to water in the state for one or more categories of waste discharge within a geographical area of the state or the entire state as provided by Texas Water Code (TWC) § 26.040.

Groundwater Infiltration – For the purposes of this permit, groundwater that enters a municipal separate storm sewer system (including sewer service connections and foundation drains) through such means as defective pipes, pipe joints, connections, or manholes.

High Priority Facilities – High priority facilities are facilities with a high potential to generate stormwater pollutants. These facilities must include, at a minimum, the MS4 operator's maintenance yards, hazardous waste facilities, fuel storage locations, and other facilities where chemicals or other materials have a high potential to be discharged in stormwater. Among the factors that must be considered when giving a facility a high priority ranking are: the amount of urban pollutants stored at the site, the identification of improperly stored materials, activities that must not be performed outside (for example, changing automotive fluids, vehicle washing), proximity to water bodies, proximity to sensitive aquifer recharge features, poor housekeeping practices, and discharge of pollutant(s) of concern to impaired water(s).

Hyperchlorinated Water – Water resulting from hyperchlorination of waterlines or vessels, with a chlorine concentration greater than 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L).

Illicit Connection – Any man-made conveyance connecting an illicit discharge directly to a municipal separate storm sewer.

Illicit Discharge – Any discharge to an MS4 that is not entirely composed of stormwater, except discharges pursuant to this general permit or a separate authorization and discharges resulting from emergency fire-fighting activities.

Impaired Water – A surface water body that is identified as impaired on the latest U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved Clean Water Act (CWA) § 303(d) List or waters with an EPA approved or established TMDL that are found on the latest EPA approved *Texas Integrated Report of Surface Water Quality for CWA Sections 305(b) and 303(d)* which lists the category 4 and 5 water bodies.

Implementation Plan (I-Plan) – A detailed plan of action that describes the measures or activities necessary to achieve the pollutant reductions identified in the total maximum daily load (TMDL).

Indian Country - Defined in 18 USC § 1151 as: (a) All land within the limits of any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the United States (U.S.) Government, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent, and including rights-of-way running through the reservation; (b) All dependent Indian communities within the borders of the U.S. whether within the original or subsequently acquired territory thereof, and whether within or without the limits of a state; and all Indian allotments, the Indian titles to which have not been extinguished, including rights- of-way running through the same. This definition includes all land held in trust for an Indian tribe.

Indicator Pollutant – An easily measured pollutant, that may or may not impact water quality that indicates the presence of other stormwater pollutants.

Industrial Activity – Any of the ten categories of industrial activities included in the definition of “stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity” as defined in 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 122.26(b)(14)(i)-(ix) and (xi).

Infeasible – For the purpose of this permit, infeasible means not technologically possible, or not economically practicable and achievable in light of best industry practices. The TCEQ notes that it does not intend for any small MS4 general permit requirement to conflict with state water right laws.

Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP) – The technology-based discharge standard for MS4s to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges that was established by the CWA § 402(p). A discussion of MEP as it applies to small MS4s is found in 40 CFR § 122.34.

MS4 Operator – For the purpose of this permit, the public entity or the entity contracted by the public entity, responsible for management and operation of the small municipal separate storm sewer system that is subject to the terms of this general permit.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) – A conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains):

1. Owned or operated by the U.S., a state, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to state law) having jurisdiction over the disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, stormwater, or other wastes, including special districts under state law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under the CWA § 208 that discharges to surface water in the state;
2. That is designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater;
3. That is not a combined sewer; and
4. That is not part of a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) as defined in 40 CFR § 122.2.

Non-traditional Small MS4 – A small MS4 that often cannot pass ordinances and may not have the enforcement authority like a traditional small MS4 would have to enforce the stormwater management program. Examples of non-traditional small MS4s include counties, transportation authorities (including the Texas Department of Transportation), municipal utility districts, drainage districts, military bases, prisons, and universities.

Notice of Change (NOC) – A written notification from the permittee to the executive director providing changes to information that was previously provided to the agency in a Notice of Intent.

Notice of Intent (NOI) – A written submission to the executive director from an applicant requesting coverage under this general permit.

Notice of Termination (NOT) – A written submission to the executive director from a permittee authorized under a general permit requesting termination of coverage under this general permit.

Outfall – A point source at the point where a small MS4 discharges to Waters of the U.S. and does not include open conveyances connecting two municipal separate storm sewers, or pipes, tunnels, or other conveyances that connect segments of the same stream or other Waters of the U.S. and are used to convey Waters of the U.S. For the purpose of this permit, sheet flow leaving a linear transportation system without channelization is not considered an outfall. Point sources such as curb cuts; traffic or right-of-way barriers with drainage slots that drain into open culverts, open swales, or an adjacent property, or otherwise not actually discharging into Waters of the U.S. are not considered an outfall.

Permittee – The MS4 operator authorized under this general permit.

Point Source – (from 40 CFR § 122.22) any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance, including but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, landfill leachate collection system, vessel or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture or agricultural stormwater runoff.

Pollutant(s) of Concern (POCs) – For the purpose of this permit, includes biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), sediment or a parameter that addresses sediment (such as total suspended solids (TSS), turbidity or siltation), pathogens, oil and grease, and any pollutant that has been identified as a cause of impairment of any water body that will receive a discharge from an MS4. (Definition from 40 CFR § 122.32(e)(3)).

Redevelopment – Alterations of a property that changed the “footprint” of a site or building in such a way that there is a disturbance of equal to or greater than one acre of land. This term does not include such activities as exterior remodeling, routine maintenance activities, and linear utility installation.

Semiarid Areas – Areas with an average annual rainfall of at least ten inches, but less than 20 inches.

Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) – A conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, or storm drains):

1. Owned or operated by the U.S., a state, city, town, borough, county, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, stormwater, or other wastes, including special districts under state law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under CWA § 208;
2. Designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater;
3. Which is not a combined sewer;
4. Which is not part of a POTW as defined in 40 CFR § 122.2; and
5. Which was not previously regulated under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) or a Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) individual

permit as a medium or large municipal separate storm sewer system, as defined in 40 CFR §§ 122.26(b)(4) and (b)(7).

This term includes systems similar to separate storm sewer systems at military bases, large hospitals or prison complexes, and highways and other thoroughfares. This term does not include separate storm sewers in very discrete areas, such as individual buildings. For the purpose of this permit, a very discrete system also includes storm drains associated with certain municipal offices and education facilities serving a nonresidential population, where those storm drains do not function as a system, and where the buildings are not physically interconnected to a small MS4 that is also operated by that public entity.

Stormwater and Stormwater Runoff – Rainfall runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage.

Stormwater Associated with Construction Activity – Stormwater runoff from an area where there is either a large construction or a small construction activity.

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) – A comprehensive program to manage the quality of discharges from the MS4.

Structural Control (or Practice) – A pollution prevention practice that requires the construction of a device, or the use of a device, to capture or prevent pollution in stormwater runoff. Structural controls and practices may include but are not limited to wet ponds, bioretention, infiltration basins, stormwater wetlands, silt fences, earthen dikes, drainage swales, vegetative lined ditches, vegetative filter strips, sediment traps, check dams, subsurface drains, storm drain inlet protection, rock outlet protection, reinforced soil retaining systems, gabions, and temporary or permanent sediment basins.

Surface Water in the State – Lakes, bays, ponds, impounding reservoirs, springs, rivers, streams, creeks, estuaries, wetlands, marshes, inlets, canals, the Gulf of Mexico inside the territorial limits of the state (from the mean high water mark (MHW) out 10.36 miles into the Gulf), and all other bodies of surface water, natural or artificial, inland or coastal, fresh or salt, navigable or nonnavigable, and including the beds and banks of all water courses and bodies of surface water, that are wholly or partially inside or bordering the state or subject to the jurisdiction of the state. Waters in treatment systems which are authorized by state or federal law, regulation, or permit, and which are created for the purpose of waste treatment are not considered to be water in the state.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) – The total amount of a substance that a water body can assimilate and still meet the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards.

Traditional Small MS4 – A small MS4 that can pass ordinances and have the enforcement authority to enforce the stormwater management program. An example of traditional MS4s includes cities.

Urban Area – A statistical geographic entity consisting of a densely settled core created from census blocks and contiguous qualifying territory that together have at least 2,000 housing units or 5,000 persons as defined and used by the U.S. Census Bureau in the 2020 Decennial Census.

Urbanized Area (UA) – A retired statistical geographic entity type consisting of a densely settled core created from census tracts or blocks and adjacent densely settled territory that together have a minimum population of 50,000 people which was used by the U.S. Census Bureau in the 2000 and the 2010 Decennial Census.

Waters of the United States – Waters of the United States or Waters of the U.S. means the term as defined in 40 CFR § 122.2.

APPENDIX A: BMP Activities and Schedule

Best Management Practice	MCM	BMP #	Implementation Activities	Measurable Goals	Permit Years (2025-2029)				
					2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
BMP 1 Distribute Educational Material	1	1(a)	Information on the MS4 operator's website	i Maintain one webpage with current and accurate information and working links to educate residents . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check all links and update the page annually, as necessary. Links must address failing septic system topics. Maintain webpage information for the full year on an annual basis. <i>Part IV, Section D.1.a.3.b.iii.</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				ii Post the SWMP no later than 30 days after the NOI or NOC approval date. <i>Part IV, Section D.1.a.3.a.</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				iii Review the SWMP once a year in conjunction with annual report development. Document results in corresponding annual report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the latest 303(d) or 305(b) list or the Texas Integrated Report annually in conjunction with the preparation of the annual report. <i>Part IV, Section D.1.a.3.a. & Part III</i>		X	X	X	X
				iv Within two years following the approval date of the addition of any impaired water bodies, the County will assess if the regulated MS4 area discharges are a source of the pollutant of concern, and if so, identify targeted controls, measurable goals, and benchmarks for addressing the pollutant consistent with the permit requirements. <i>Part III</i>			X		X
				v Post the annual report no later than 30 days after March 31 st of each year. <i>Part IV, Section D.1.a.3.a.</i>		X	X	X	X
	1	1(b)	Social media posts and campaigns	i Post a minimum of four times each year (one post per quarter) on a minimum of one social media platform . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The message shall address ways the residents can minimize or avoid adverse stormwater impacts from failing septic system or provide practices to improve the quality of stormwater runoff. The messages shall be seasonally appropriate. All quarterly posts must be visible by the residents for the full year, each year. <i>Part IV, Section D.1.a.3.b.iii</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	1	1(c)	Fact sheets/brochures/utility bill inserts/door hangers	i Develop material that covers topics that are specific to intended audiences that address activities or pollutants of concern. ii The number of fact sheets, brochures, bill inserts, door hangers, or handouts distributed each year shall at a minimum be enough to reach at least 75% of the residents . iii Develop and implement a tracking system that estimates the percentage of the residents reached. <i>Part IV, Section D.1.a.3.b.iii.</i>	X	X	X	X	X

Best Management Practice	MCM	BMP #	Implementation Activities	Measurable Goals	Permit Years (2025-2029)				
					2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
BMP 1 Distribute Educational Material	1	1(d)	Promote, host, or develop educational meetings, seminar, or trainings	i. Hold, host, or promote a minimum of one event annually . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The events shall address ways attendees can minimize or avoid adverse impacts to stormwater or practices to improve the quality of stormwater runoff. These events may address different pollutants and audiences. <i>Part IV, Section D.1.a.3.b.iii.</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	1*	1(e)	Permanent stormwater-related signage <i>Focused BMP for Bacteria</i>	i. Inspect and maintain, as necessary, 100% of the signage in the regulated MS4 area once annually . <i>Part IV, Section D.1.a.3.b.iii & Part III, Section A.5.(e)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
BMP 2 Stormwater Reporting by Public	3,4	2(a)	Maintain and publicize a public reporting method for the public to report illicit discharges, illegal dumping, or water quality impacts	i. Maintain a minimum of one public reporting mechanism (i.e., webpage, hotline, etc.) for receipt of information submitted by the public 100% of the time during the permit term. <i>Part IV.D.3.(c)(3) & Part IV.D.4.(b)(5)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				ii. Publicize the public reporting mechanism a minimum of two times annually in a method designed to reach a majority of the residents . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement a tracking system that estimates the percentage of the residents reached. <i>Part IV.D.3.(c)(3)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				iii. In addition, if the MS4 operator has a public website, the public reporting mechanism must be publicized on the public website 100% of the time during the permit term . <i>Part IV.D.3.(c)(3)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	4	2(b)	Develop, implement, and maintain procedures for receipt and consideration of information submitted by the public	i. Review and update procedures for the receipt and consideration of information submitted by the public at least one time annually to address changes and make improvements to the established procedures where applicable. <i>Part IV.D.4.(b)(5)</i>	X	X	X	X	X

Best Management Practice	MCM	BMP #	Implementation Activities	Measurable Goals	Permit Years (2025-2029)				
					2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
BMP 3 Public Involvement Opportunities	2	3(a)	Regulated MS4 area-wide stormwater survey for input on program implementation	i Provide or support a minimum of one public survey annually for input on the program implementation to be distributed to reach at least 75% of the residents in the regulated MS4 area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement a tracking system that estimates the percentage of the residents reached. <i>Part IV.D.2.(a)(3)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	2	3(b)	Educational display/booth	i Provide one booth or display at minimum annually . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The booth or display must be staffed during the time which the event is open to the public. <i>Part IV.D.2.(a)(3)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	2	3(c)	Public Meeting	i Host or support a minimum of one meeting annually for input on the program implementation to be advertised to at least 75% of the residents in the regulated MS4 area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement a tracking system that estimates the percentage of the residents reached. <i>Part IV.D.2.(a)(3)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
BMP 4 Storm Sewer System Map	3	4(a)	Maintain a current and accurate MS4 map	i Review and update, as necessary, at least one time annually to include features which have been added, removed, or changed within the regulated MS4 area. <i>Part IV.D.3.(c)(1)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	6	4(b)	Permittee-owned Facilities and Control Inventory	i Develop and maintain an annual inventory for 100% of the County owned and operated facilities and controls within the regulated MS4 area. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(1)</i>	X				
				ii Review and update the inventory at least once annually to address changes or additions to the facilities and controls within the regulated MS4 area. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(1)</i>		X	X	X	X

Best Management Practice	MCM	BMP #	Implementation Activities	Measurable Goals	Permit Years (2025-2029)				
					2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
BMP 5 Illicit Discharge and Spill Inspection, Investigation, and Response	3*	5(a)	Develop and maintain procedures for responding to illicit discharges, illegal dumping, and spills <i>Focused BMP for Bacteria</i>	i Review and update the response procedures at least once annually to address changes and make improvements to the established procedures where applicable. Procedures must address activities that contribute bacteria including OSSFs, grease traps, and grit traps. <i>Part III.A.5.(c) & Part IV.D.3.(c)(4)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	3*	5(b)	Inspection Procedures <i>Focused BMP for Bacteria</i>	i Review and update the inspection procedures at least once annually to address changes and make improvements to the established procedures where applicable. Procedures must address activities that contribute bacteria including OSSFs, grease traps, and grit traps. <i>Part III.A.5.(c) & Part IV.D.3.(c)(6)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	3	5(c)	Inspections in response to complaints	i Conduct inspections in response to 100% of complaints in the regulated MS4 area each year according to the established procedures. <i>Part IV.D.3.(c)(6)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				ii Conduct follow-up inspections in the regulated MS4 area in 100% of cases each year where necessary as described in the established procedures. <i>Part IV.D.3.(c)(6)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	3	5(d)	Source investigation and elimination of illicit discharges and illegal dumping	i Respond to 100% of known illicit discharges and illegal dumping incidents in the regulated MS4 area each year to investigate sources. <i>Part IV.D.3.(c)(5)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				ii Each year , respond to 100% of high priority discharges in the regulated MS4 area each year, such as sanitary sewer discharges within 24 hours . <i>Part IV.D.3.(c)(5)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				iii For 100% of known illicit discharges or illegal dumping incidents where the small MS4 does not have jurisdiction, notify the adjacent MS4 operator or the applicable TCEQ regional office each year . <i>Part IV.D.3.(c)(5)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				iv Notify TCEQ immediately of 100% of illicit flows believed to be an immediate threat to human health or the environment throughout the permit term. <i>Part IV.D.3.(c)(5)</i>	X	X	X	X	X

Best Management Practice	MCM	BMP #	Implementation Activities	Measurable Goals	Permit Years (2025-2029)				
					2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
BMP 5 Illicit Discharge and Spill Inspection, Investigation, and Response	3	5(e)	Corrective action to eliminate illicit discharges and illegal dumping	i For 100% of illicit discharges or illegal dumping in the regulated MS4 area where a source has been determined, notify the responsible party of the problem within 24 hours . • Require the responsible party to perform all necessary corrective actions to eliminate the illicit discharge. <i>Part IV.D.3.(c)(5)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	*	5(f)	On Site Sewage Facilities <i>Focused BMP for Bacteria</i>	i Request and maintain an inventory of 100% of known OSSFs in the regulated MS4 area within the impaired watershed from the Authorized Agent and determine if they are failing by requesting inspection reports. Maintain an inventory of 100% of the known OSSFs within the impaired watershed and their status each year by requesting information from the Authorized Agent. <i>Part III.A.5.(b)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				ii Develop and implement procedures to screen 20% of the regulated MS4 area within the impaired watershed annually to identify failing OSSFs. <i>Part III.A.5.(b)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				iii Request an updated inventory in the regulated MS4 area from the Authorized Agent at least once each year to address changes or additions. <i>Part III.A.5.(b)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				iv Notify the Authorized Agent of 100% of OSSF complaints identified in the regulated MS4 area through the public reporting mechanism implemented by the MS4 each year . <i>Part III.A.5.(b)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
BMP 6 Plan Review	4	6(a)	Maintain and implement site plan review procedures that describe which plans will be reviewed as well as when an operator may begin construction	i Review and update site plan review procedures at least one time annually to address changes and make improvements to the established procedures where applicable. <i>Part IV.D.4.(b)(3)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				ii Implement site plan review procedures for 100% of new construction site plans in the regulated MS4 area received each year . <i>Part IV.D.4.(b)(3)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
BMP 7 Construction Site Inspection and Enforcement	4	7(a)	Implement procedures for inspecting large and small construction projects	i Review and update inspection procedures at least once annually to address changes and make improvements to the established procedures where applicable. <i>Part IV.D.4.(b)(4)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				i Conduct inspections at a minimum of 80% of active construction sites in the regulated MS4 area annually according to the established procedures. <i>Part IV.D.4.(b)(4)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	4	7(b)	Conduct construction site inspections	ii Each year, conduct follow-up inspections in the regulated MS4 area in 100% of cases where necessary as described in the established procedures. <i>Part IV.D.4.(b)(4)</i>	X	X	X	X	X

Best Management Practice	MCM	BMP #	Implementation Activities	Measurable Goals	Permit Years (2025-2029)					
					2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	
BMP 8 Structural Control Maintenance, Inspection, and Enforcement	5	8(a)	Document and maintain records of enforcement actions and make them available for review by the TCEQ	i Maintain records of 100% of enforcement actions taken each year. <i>Part IV.D.5.(b)(1)</i>	X	X	X	X	X	
				ii Make 100% of enforcement records available to TCEQ for review within 24 hours of request. <i>Part IV.D.5.(b)(1)</i>	X	X	X	X	X	
	5	8(b)	Ensure the long-term operation and maintenance of structural stormwater control measures installed	i Each year , require 100% of the owners or operators of any new development or redeveloped sites in the regulated MS4 area to develop and implement a maintenance plan and schedule addressing maintenance requirements for any structural control measures installed on site. <i>Part IV.D.5.(b)(2)</i>	X	X	X	X	X	
				ii Require the site owner or operators to maintain documentation onsite of 100% of the maintenance performed and made available for review by the County or TCEQ within 24 hours of the request. <i>Part IV.D.5.(b)(2)</i>	X	X	X	X	X	
	6	8(c)	Structural Control Maintenance	i At least once annually , perform maintenance of 100% of the structural controls which require maintenance where the County is responsible for maintenance. Maintenance must follow a plan and schedule, and be consistent with maintaining the effectiveness of the BMP. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(6)</i>	X	X	X	X	X	
				ii Develop and maintain one written procedure that defines the frequency of inspections and how they will be conducted. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(6)</i>	X	X	X	X	X	
				iii Review and update one maintenance procedure at least once annually to address changes or additions to pollution prevention measures. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(6)</i>	X	X	X	X	X	
	BMP 9 Maintenance Contractor Oversight	6	9(a)	Contractor Requirements and Oversight	i Each year , ensure that 100% of contractors hired by the MS4 to perform maintenance activities on permittee-owned facilities within the regulated MS4 area is contractually required to comply with all stormwater control measures, good housekeeping practices, and facility-specific stormwater management operating procedures described in Parts IV.D.6.(b)(2)-(6). <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(4)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
					ii Implement oversight procedures of 100% of contractor activities within the regulated MS4 area to ensure that contractors are using appropriate control measures and SOPs each year. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(4)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
iii Oversight procedures must be maintained on-site 100% of the time and made available for review by TCEQ within 24 hours of request. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(4)</i>					X	X	X	X	X	

Best Management Practice	MCM	BMP #	Implementation Activities	Measurable Goals	Permit Years (2025-2029)				
					2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
BMP 10 Municipal Activity Operations and Maintenance	6	10(a)	Assessment of County operations	i Evaluate 100% of O&M activities for their potential to discharge pollutants in stormwater annually including but not limited to road and parking lot maintenance, bridge maintenance, cold weather operations, and right-of-way maintenance within the regulated MS4 area. • Evaluate procedure reviews as appropriate when evaluating O&M activities. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(5)a.</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	6	10(b)	Identify pollutants of concern	i Identify 100% of known pollutants of concern that could be discharged from all of the O&M activities within the regulated MS4 area described in Part IV.D.6.(b)(5)b and develop a list of 100% of the pollutants identified. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(5)b.</i>	X				
				ii Review and update the pollutants of concern list at least once annually to address changes or additions to the O&M activities within the regulated MS4 area. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(5)b.</i>		X	X	X	X
	6	10(c)	Pollution Prevention Measures	i Track 100% of the County application of deicing and anti-icing compounds in the regulated MS4 area and record the amount of compound used for each application annually . <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(5)c.</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				ii Place barriers around or direct runoff away from 100% of deicing chemical storage areas to prevent discharge into surface waters each year . <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(5)c.</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	6	10(d)	Inspection of Pollution Prevention Measures	i At least once annually , visually inspect 100% of pollution prevention measures implemented at permittee-owned facilities within the regulated MS4 area to ensure they are working properly. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(5)d.</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				ii Develop and maintain one written procedure that describes the frequency of inspections and how they will be conducted by December 2025 . <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(5)d.</i>	X				
				iii Review and update the inspection procedures at least once annually to address changes or additions to the pollution prevention measures. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(5)d.</i>		X	X	X	X
				iv Maintain a log of 100% of the inspections conducted annually and make the log available for review by the TCEQ within 24 hours of a request. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(5)d.</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	BMP 11 County Facility Operation and Maintenance	*	11(a)	Animal Sources <i>Focused BMP for Bacteria</i>	i Assess and address, if feasible, 100% of complaints received about feral hogs within the regulated MS4 area each year . If infeasible, maintain documentation of the reason. Prohibit the feeding of ducks and geese in 100% of public parks or similar greenspaces in the regulated MS4 area within the impairment watershed each year. <i>Part III.A.5.(d)</i>	X	X	X	X
BMP 12 Disposal of Collected Waste	6	12(a)	Disposal of Waste Material	i Ensure that 100% of waste from the County is disposed of in accordance with 30 TAC Chapters 330 or 335, as applicable each year . <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(3)</i>	X	X	X	X	X

Best Management Practice	MCM	BMP #	Implementation Activities	Measurable Goals	Permit Years (2025-2029)				
					2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
BMP 13 Staff training	3	13(a)	Conduct IDDE training for all field staff.	i Conduct a minimum of one training annually for 100% of MS4 field staff that may encounter or otherwise observe an illicit discharge, illegal dumping, or illicit connection to the small MS4 as part of their normal job responsibilities. <i>Part IV.D.3.(c)(2)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	4	13(b)	Construction stormwater program training	i Conduct a minimum of one training annually for 100% of MS4 staff whose primary job duties are related to implementing the construction stormwater program. <i>Part IV.D.4.(b)(6)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
	6	13(c)	Training and Education	i Conduct a minimum of one training annually for 100% of employees involved in implementing pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(2)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
				ii As applicable, for small MS4s which use only contractors to implement pollution prevention and good housekeeping practices, ensure training of 100% of applicable contract staff is conducted at least one time annually using contract language or another similar method. <i>Part IV.D.6.(b)(2)</i>	X	X	X	X	X
BMP 14 Stormwater Quality Regulatory Mechanisms	3*	14(a)	IDDE Regulatory Mechanism <i>Focused BMP for Bacteria</i>	i Within two years of the effective date of the permit (August 15, 2024) review and update the IDDE regulatory mechanism at least once during the permit term to address changes and make improvements to the regulatory mechanism where applicable. Regulatory mechanisms must address activities that contribute bacteria including OSSFs, grease traps, and grit traps. <i>Part III.A.5 & Part IV.C.3.(a)</i>		X			
	4	14(b)	Develop and maintain a regulatory mechanism	i Within two years of the effective date of the permit (August 15, 2024) review and update the construction site stormwater runoff control regulatory mechanism at least once during the permit term to address changes and make improvements to the regulatory mechanism where applicable. <i>Part IV.C.3.(a) & Part IV.D.4.(b)(2)</i>		X			
	4	14(c)	Prohibit discharges	i Within two years of the effective date of the permit (August 15, 2024) review and update the construction site stormwater runoff control regulatory mechanism at least once during the permit term to address changes and make improvements to the regulatory mechanism where applicable. <i>Part IV.C.3.(a) & Part IV.D.4.(a)</i>		X			
	5	14(d)	Develop and maintain a regulatory mechanism	i Within two years of the effective date of the permit (August 15, 2024) review and update the post-construction regulatory mechanism at least one time during the permit term to address changes and make improvements to the post-construction regulatory mechanism where applicable. <i>Part IV.C.3.(a) & Part IV.D.5.(a)(2)</i>		X			
	-	14(e)	Enforcement Measures	i Develop and implement one standard operating procedure to respond to violations. <i>Part IV.C.6.</i>	X				

*Best Management Practices that are shaded directly benefit WPP Implementation

APPENDIX B: BMPs by Permit Requirement

Table B-1. Stormwater Management Program BMPs by Permit Requirement

Permit Section	Location in SWMP
Part II.E.4 Discharges to the Edwards Aquifer Recharge Zone	Section 2.5
Part II.E.4 Endangered Species Act	Section 2.6
Part II.F.5 SWMP General Requirements	Section 2.0 Appendix A
Part II.G.1 Authorization Under the General Permit	Not Applicable
Part III. Impaired Water Bodies and Total Maximum Daily Load Requirements	Section 2.0
Part IV.A SWMP Review	BMP 1
Part IV.C.1 SWMP Development and Schedule	Appendix A
Part IV.C.2(a) Contents of the SWMP	Section 3.1
Part IV.C.2(b) Contents of the SWMP	BMP 14
Part IV.C.2(c) Contents of the SWMP	Appendix A
Part IV.C.2(d) Contents of the SWMP	Section 4.0
Part IV.C.2(e-f) Contents of the SWMP	Section 2.0
Part IV.C.3 Legal Authority	Section 4.4 BMP 14
Part IV.C.6 Enforcement Measures	BMP 14
Part IV.C.7(a) General Requirements	Section 1.4
Part IV.C.7(b) General Requirements	Section 1.4

Permit Section	Location in SWMP
Part IV.C.7(c) General Requirements	Appendix A
Part IV.C.7(d) General Requirements	Appendix A
Part IV.C.7(e) General Requirements	Section 4.0
Part IV.C.7(f) General Requirements	Section 4.0
Part IV.D.1 Public Education and Outreach	BMP 1
Part IV.D.2 Public Involvement/Participation	BMP 3
Part IV.D.3 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)	BMP 2 BMP 4 BMP 5 BMP 13 BMP 14
Part IV.D.4 Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control	BMP 2 BMP 6 BMP 7 BMP 13 BMP 14
Part IV.D.5 Post Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment	BMP 8 BMP 14
Part IV.D.6 Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations	BMP 4 BMP 8 BMP 9 BMP 10 BMP 11 BMP 12 BMP 13
Part IV.D.7 Industrial Stormwater Sources	Not Applicable
Part IV.D.8 Authorization for Construction Activities where the Small MS4 is the Site Operator	Opted Out

APPENDIX C: TPDES Small MS4 General Permit



APPENDIX D: Notice of Intent (NOI) and General Permit Authorization

APPENDIX E: Notice of Change (NOC) Documentation

APPENDIX F: Year 1 (2025) Annual Report

APPENDIX G: Year 2 (2026) Annual Report

APPENDIX H: Year 3 (2027) Annual Report

APPENDIX I: Year 4 (2028) Annual Report

APPENDIX J: Year 5 (2029) Annual Report



FREESE AND NICHOLS

LEADS

▶ (L) LEARN CONTINUOUSLY

◀ (E) ENGAGE AS FAMILY

▲ (A) ACT WITH INTEGRITY

▶ (D) DELIVER QUALITY

◀ (S) SERVE ALWAYS



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