



# Leon Creek Watershed WQ Model and Analysis



# Agenda

- Project Goals
- HSPF Model Development
- Discussion of Results



# Team

**River Authority**

**Sheeba M Thomas, Project Manager**

**Joan Bryant**

**Joshua Spencer**

**Dr. Yu-Chun Su, LAN Project Manager**

**Dr. Ka-Leung Lee**



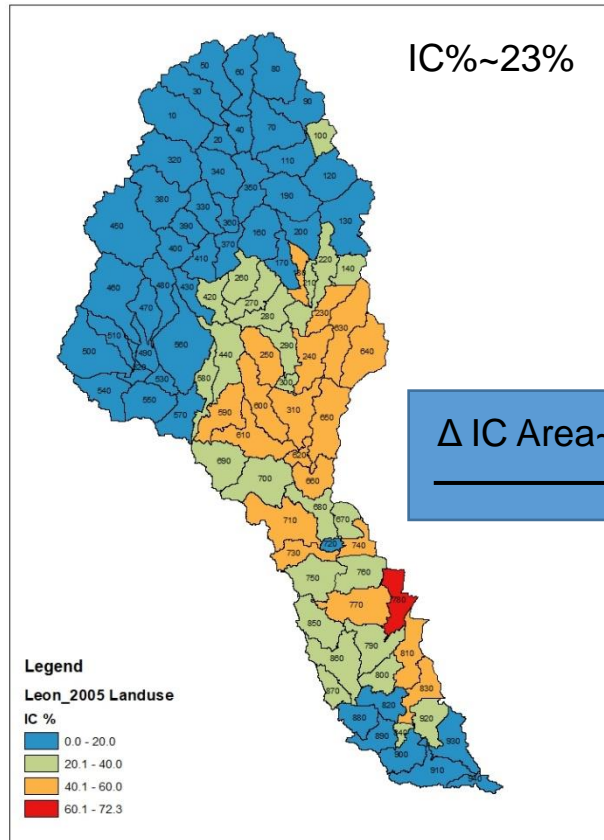
**Paul Hummel, RESPEC Project Manager**

**Paul Duda**

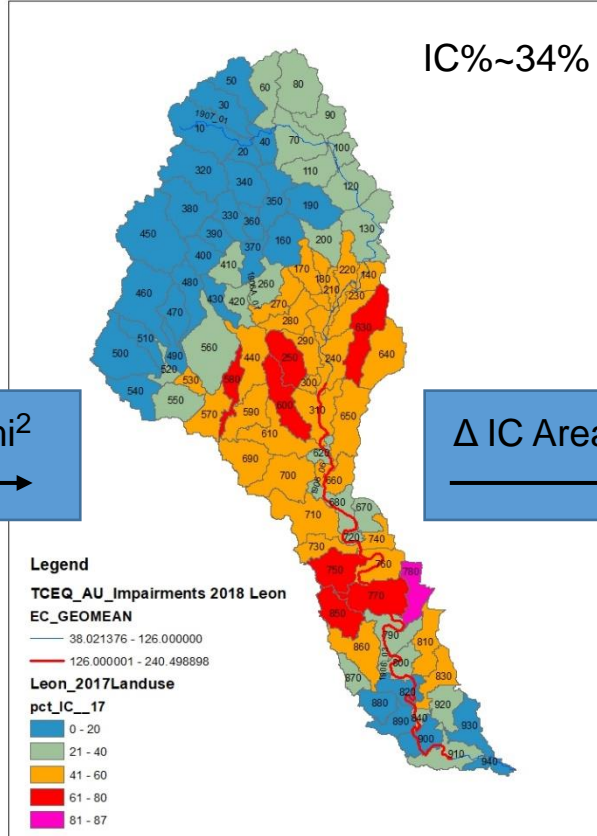
**Dr. Tong Zhai**



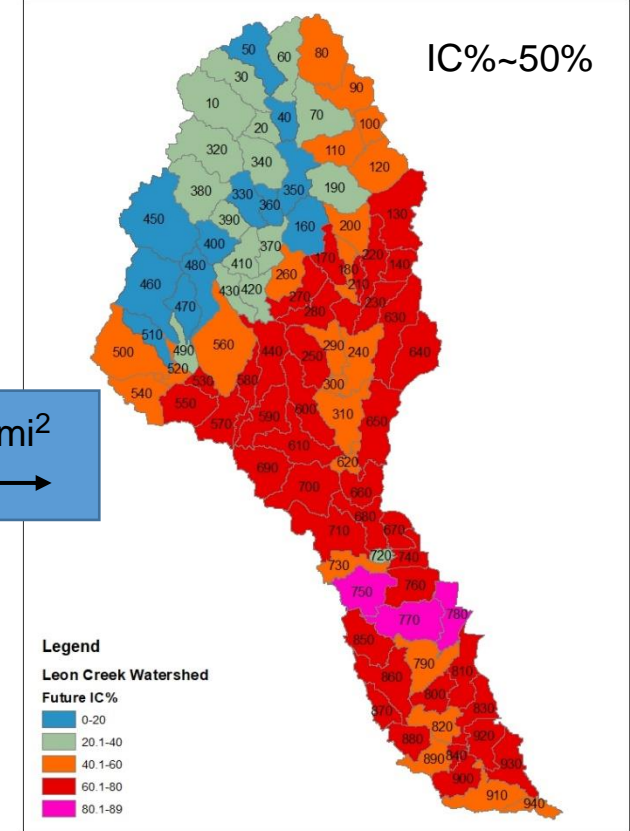
# Leon Creek Watershed



2005 Impervious Cover



2017 Impervious Cover



2040 Impervious Cover

Δ IC Area~26 mi<sup>2</sup>

Δ IC Area~38 mi<sup>2</sup>

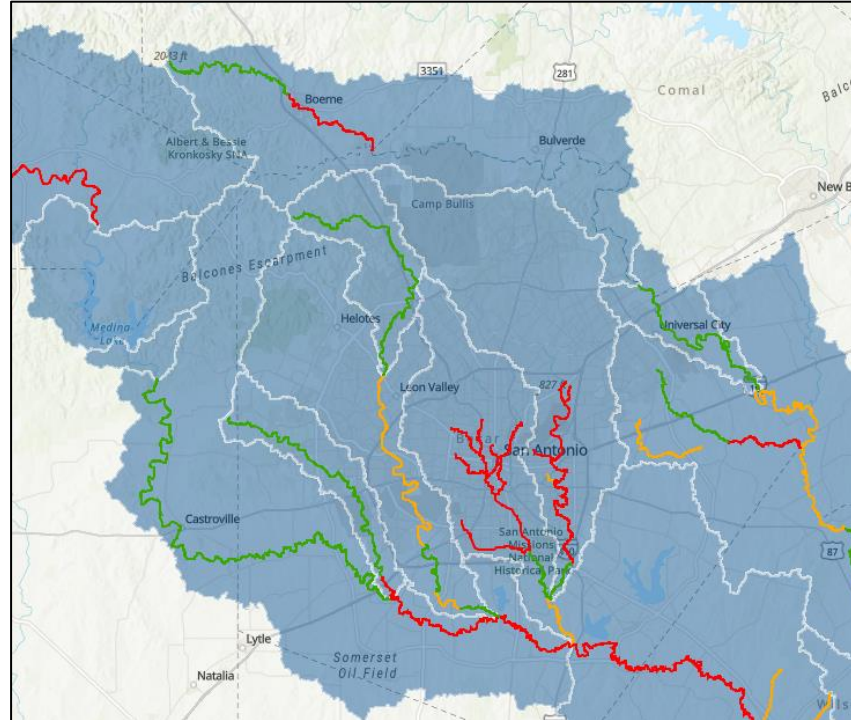
# Contact Recreation E-coli Standards

E-Coli Standards	Concentration
Primary Contact Recreation 1	126 #/dL
Primary Contact Recreation 2	206 #/dL
Secondary Contact Recreation 1	630 #/dL
Secondary Contact Recreation 2	1030 #/dL
Noncontact Recreation	2060 #/dL

\*Source: 2014 Texas Surface Water Quality Standards



# 2020 WQ Assessment



Source: <https://sara-tx.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=3a4ca132222e41589e6f41eebfe6d36d>



# Project Goals

- Develop WQ model with 2017 landuse data, simulate 2011-2019 and recalibrate
- Simulate future conditions scenario
- Develop priority subbasins (i.e. location and quantification of where mitigation needs to occur)





# Tasks

			FY 20					FY21										FY 22				
Tasks	Start	End	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Data Collection and Analysis	3/24/2020	10/30/2020																				
Update Channel Characteristics	6/1/2020	1/29/2021																				
Draft model development	10/1/2020	2/1/2021																				
Calibration of Existing Conditions Model	2/3/2021	6/23/2021																				
Update WQ Modeling Tools	1/2/2021	6/23/2021																				
Develop Future Conditions Model	4/1/2021	7/31/2021																				
WQ Modeling Tools Application	2/1/2021	9/15/2021																				
Sensitivity Analysis	7/1/2021	9/10/2021																				
Prepare WQ Priority Subbasins	9/15/2021	10/15/2021																				
Report	9/1/2021	10/29/2021																				





# Data

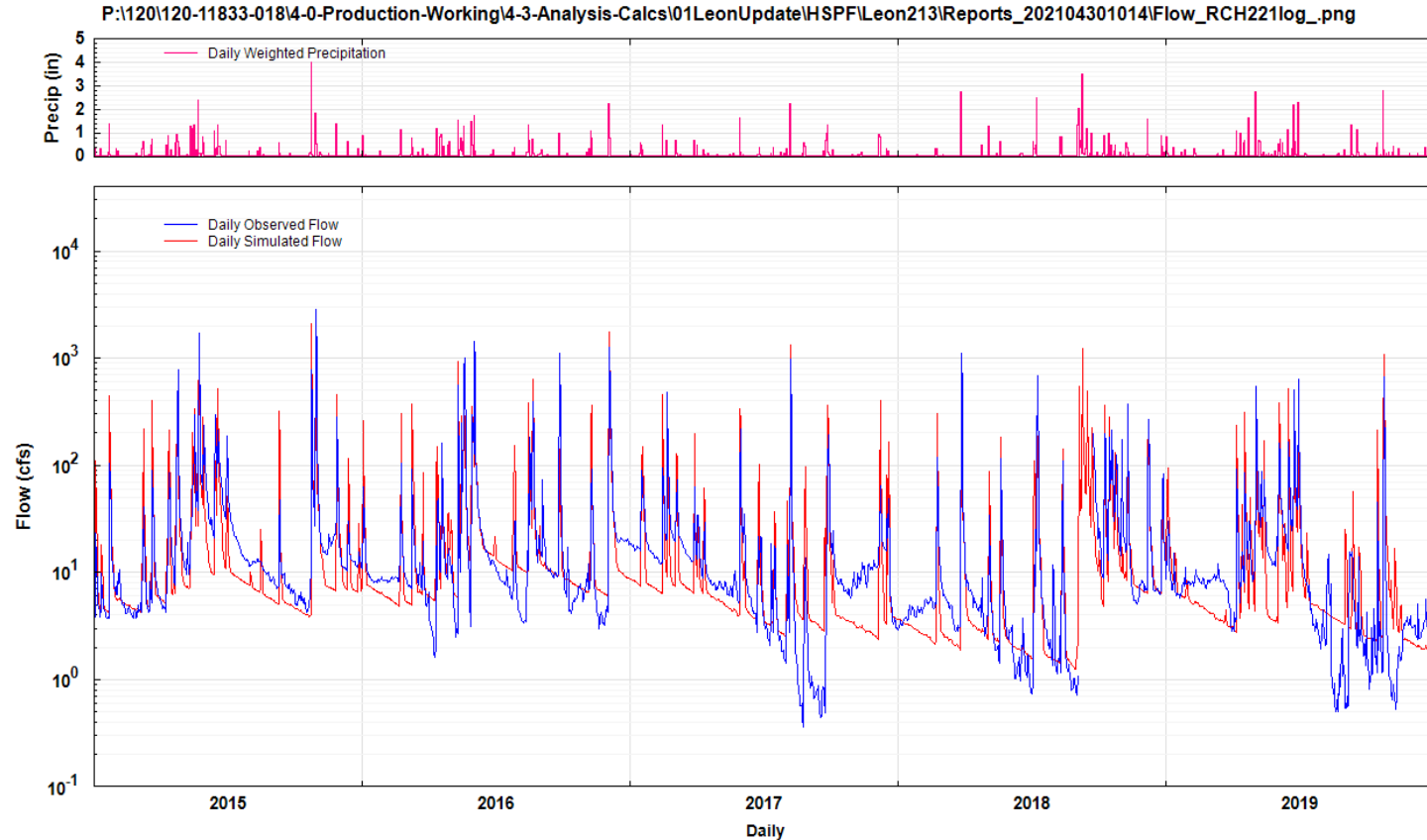
- DFIRM
  - Subbasin delineation
  - Stream shapefile
  - HEC-HMS
  - HEC-RAS
- Topography
  - DEM
  - Contours
- Aerial images
- SSURGO soil data
- Landuse & IC%
- Met data (NOAA)

- Rainfall\*
  - NOAA
  - EAA (gage, NEXRAD)
  - SARA
  - USGS
- Diversion
- Wastewater data
- USGS flow data\*
- Water Quality
  - SWQM
  - USGS
- 2020 303(d)
- Screening levels

- SSO\*
- OSSF (estimates)
- Dams/reservoirs
  - From HMS
- Groundwater recharge & spring flow
- Major development centers
- QUAL-TX models
- Atmospheric deposition
- No relevant data
  - Agricultural data
  - SELECT or EC loading estimates



# Leon Creek Hydro Calibration Results



# Model Quality

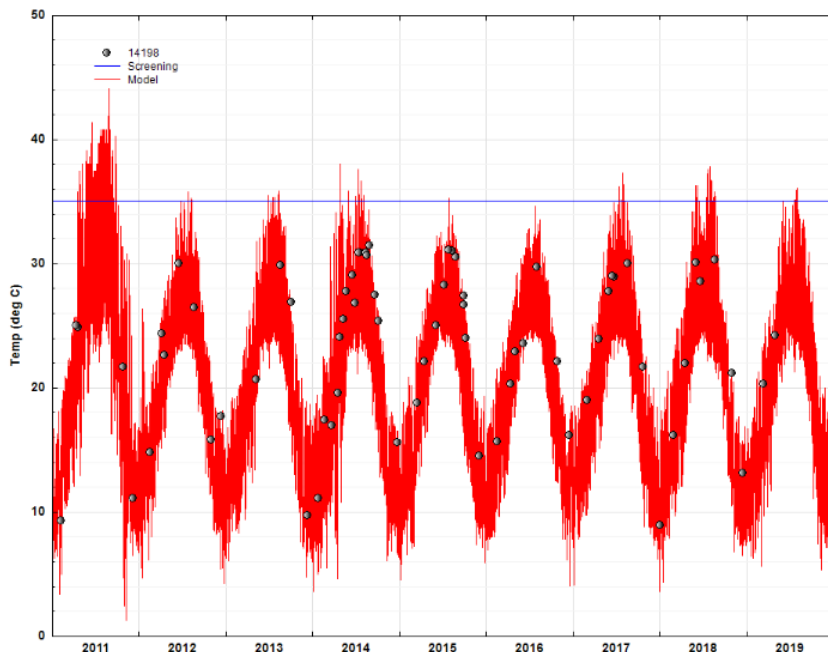
Comparison at USGS Gauge -8181480 Leon Creek @IH 35

	08181480, Leon Creek at IH 35, San Antonio			
	Volume (inches)		% error	Assess
	Observed	Simulated		
Total volume	1.993	1.952	-2.0	very good
Yearly comparison				
2015	2.973	2.613	-12.1	good
2016	2.858	2.913	1.9	very good
2017	1.237	1.448	17.1	fair
2018	1.499	1.214	-19.1	fair
2019	1.286	1.464	13.8	good
Monthly comparison				
Jan	0.070	0.098	40.9	fair
Feb	0.083	0.081	-2.9	very good
Mar	0.126	0.142	12.3	very good
Apr	0.122	0.137	12.6	very good
May	0.364	0.332	-8.8	very good
Jun	0.293	0.260	-11.3	very good
Jul	0.103	0.083	-19.8	good
Aug	0.116	0.156	34.8	fair
Sep	0.123	0.108	-12.3	very good
Oct	0.302	0.268	-11.3	very good
Nov	0.108	0.096	-11.0	very good
Dec	0.168	0.188	12.3	very good
R2 (daily)	0.514			fair
NSE (daily)	0.487			fair
R2 (monthly)	0.844			good
NSE (monthly)	0.836			very good

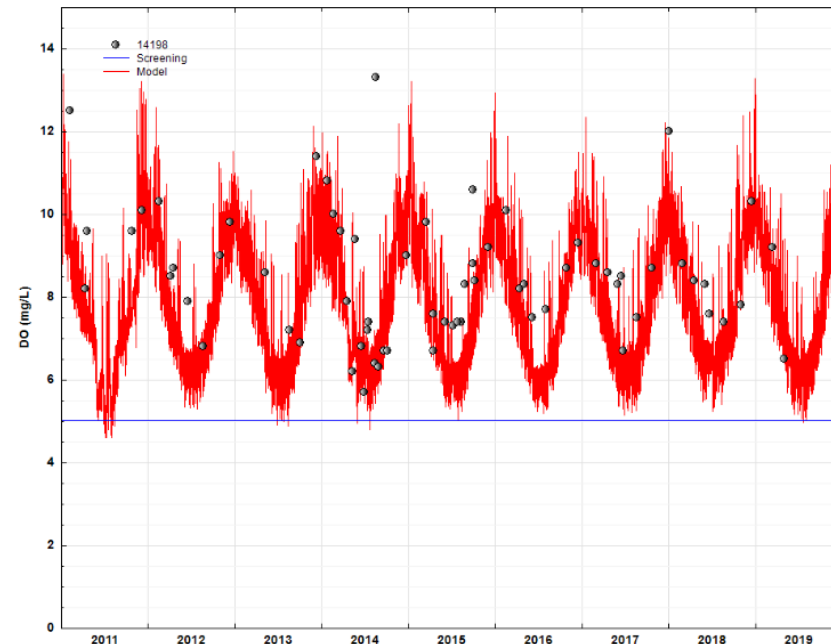
	08181480, Leon Creek at IH 35, San Antonio				
	Observed	Simulated	% error	Criteria	Assess
total volume (inches)	1.993	1.952	-2.048	10	OK
10% highest flows (inches)	1.400	1.456	4.011	15	OK
25% highest flows (inches)	1.653	1.686	1.959	10	OK
50% highest flows (inches)	1.847	1.826	-1.101	10	OK
50% lowest flows (inches)	0.146	0.126	-14.012	10	
25% lowest flows (inches)	0.040	0.043	6.964	10	OK
10% lowest flows (inches)	0.008	0.013	65.115	10	
baseflow recession rate	0.958	0.985	-0.027	0.03	OK
storm volume (inches)	1.344	1.154	-14.108	15	OK
Seasonal volume			-21.829	10	
average storm peak (cfs)	606.110	517.010	-14.699	15	OK
summer volume (inches)	1.005	0.932	-7.234	20	OK
winter volume (inches)	0.324	0.371	14.596	15	OK
summer storm volume (inches)	0.788	0.683	-13.294	15	OK
winter storm volume (inches)	0.131	0.128	-1.949	15	OK



# WQ Results



Plot for Temperature



Plot for Dissolved Oxygen



# Peer-Review Comments

- Overall, the setup of the model appears to have been an extensive and impressive effort with a high level of detail, especially in the spatial definition for both land uses and stream reaches.
- In summary, the model demonstrates that a significant and comprehensive effort was invested in this model development work. The models contain reasonable parameter sets, have no serious flaws (to our knowledge), and should provide a sound basis for future use.







# Results



# SARA Suite of WQ Tools

- Tools
  - Timeseries Utility
  - Load Reduction
  - Enhanced BMP
- BMPs
  - Database

San Antonio River Authority

## River Authority Water Quality Modeling Standards

In 2013, the River Authority authored the Water Quality Modeling Standards document, which details guidelines on the development, calibration/validation, linkage, and applications of water quality models. The River Authority document is the first of its kind to help ensure the quality and consistency of all developed water quality models within the San Antonio River Basin.

## River Authority Load Reduction Tool

The River Authority Load Reduction Tool enables users to determine the constituent load reductions necessary to reach WQ standards or screening levels that may be achievable through the application of BMPs/LIDs. The River Authority Load Reduction Tool automatically determines load reduction needed for all sub-basins within a watershed for each constituent to meet user-specified WQ constituent concentrations.

[DOWNLOAD](#)

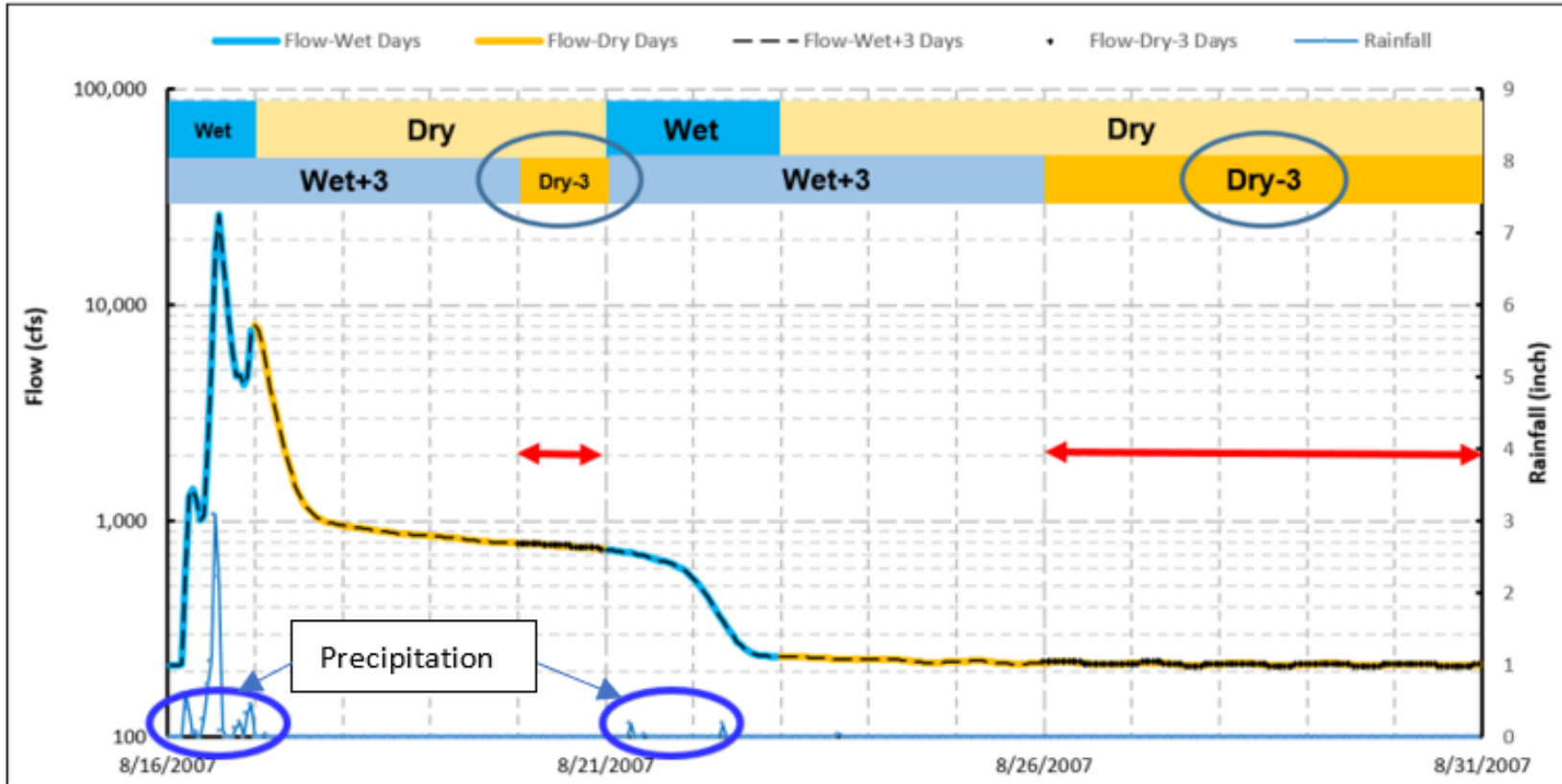
## River Authority Enhanced BMP Tool

The River Authority BMP Processor compiles individual BMP/LID unit-cost and effectiveness information to assess potential incentives for implementing BMPs/LIDs. The River Authority Enhanced BMP Tool determines the optimal combinations that would minimize the BMP/LID costs while achieving the needed load reduction. The River Authority Enhanced BMP Tool includes a comprehensive BMP Tool Database, compiling available BMP/LID data and the application of engineering economic analyses to convert the collected data to annual costs for equal-footing comparison and optimization. The River Authority Enhanced BMP Tool uses the EPA SUSTAINOPT as its core engine. The optimal results from SUSTAINOPT are then fed back into the HSPF model to verify the preferred load reductions are met.

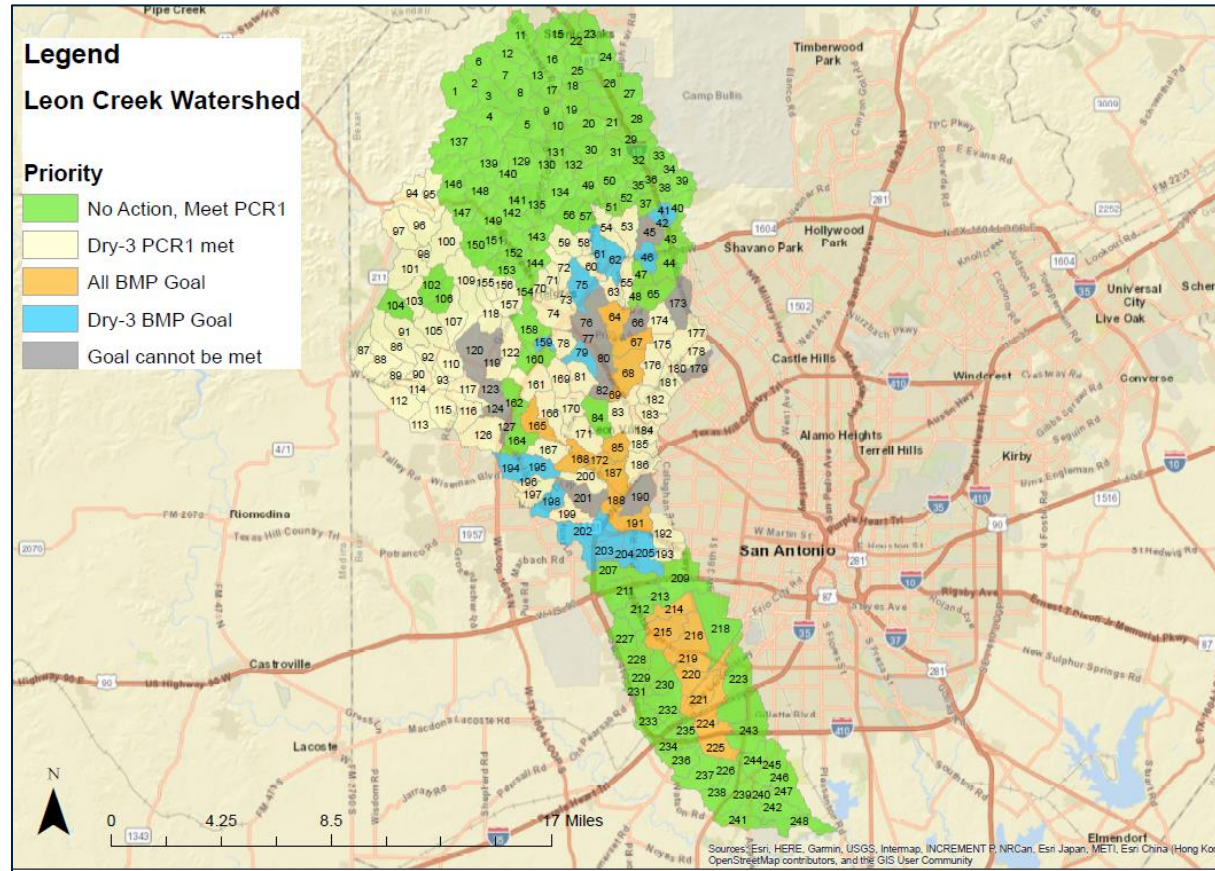
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# Classification of Results



# BMP Implementation in the Leon Creek Watershed



# BMP Implementation Category 1

- No BMP implementation required
- Subbasins account for 49.4% of the Watershed
- PCR 1 is met during “All” conditions.



# BMP Implementation Category 2

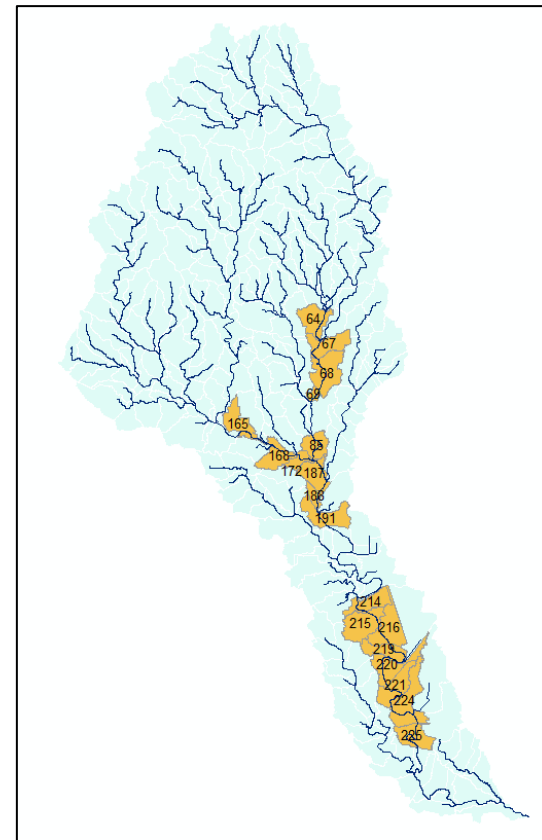
- PCR1 is not achievable during “All” conditions
- Subbasins account for 30.1% of the Watershed
- PCR 1 is met during “Dry-3” conditions without any BMP deployment
- Subbasins have steep slope
- Includes parks



# BMP Implementation Category 3

- Subbasins account for 8.8% of the Watershed

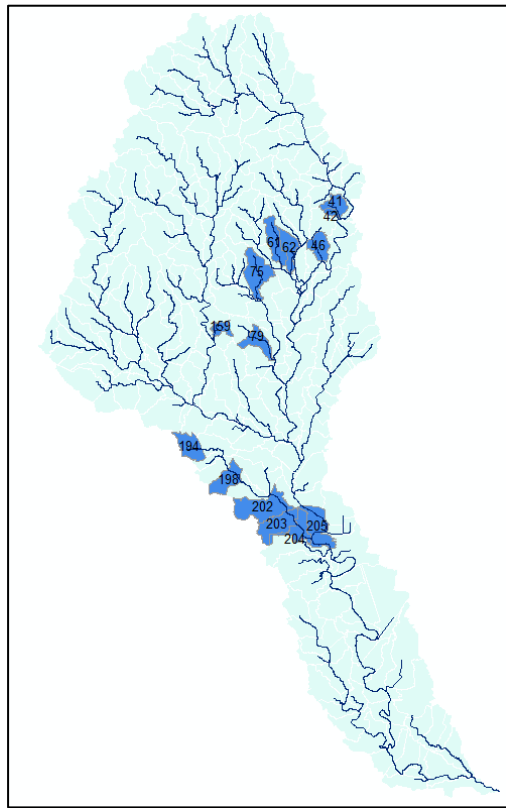
Subbasin ID	Edwards Aquifer Regulatory Zone	Area (acres)	%IC Existing	% IC Difference	Required BMP Footprint (acres)	Required Footprint as % Subbasin area	Regional Center
64	Yes	733.7	51.96	4.82	11.0	1.5%	Northwest
67	Yes	700.5	48.08	2.51	17.4	2.5%	Northwest
68	Yes	1049.6	46.15	1.4	34.7	3.3%	Northwest
69		134.5	45.79	11.79	3.6	2.7%	West Northwest
85		566.0	55.58	4.78	17.0	3.0%	West Northwest
165		712.9	60.2	4.4	24.6	3.4%	West Northwest
168		685.9	55.8	9.7	24.9	3.6%	Far West
172		282.4	54.5	3.6	7.6	2.6%	West Northwest
187		698.8	43.72	12.69	19.2	2.7%	West Northwest
188		235.2	48.04	20.7	7.9	3.4%	Far West
191		855.1	45.19	32.67	22.5	2.6%	Far West
214		637.2	40.82	35.26	4.6	0.7%	Port SA
215		1003.1	57.54	23.66	22.8	2.3%	Port SA
216		1015.5	72.71	16.88	30.5	3.0%	Port SA
219		590.9	25.96	19.23	11.7	2.0%	Port SA/Southwest
220		805.9	21.57	11.1	7.7	1.0%	Southwest
221		820.3	38.24	36.91	20.7	2.5%	Southwest
224		1152.8	19.1	44.2	8.2	0.7%	Southwest
225		701.5	15	48.7	0.8	0.1%	Far Southwest



# BMP Implementation Category 4

- Subbasins account for 5.4 % of the Watershed

Subbasin ID	Subbasin Area	Edwards Aquifer Regulatory Zone	IC% Existing	%IC Difference	Required BMP Footprint (ac)	Required BMP Footprint as % Subbasin Area	Regional Center
41	365.7	Yes	70.5	11.3	13.0	3.6%	UTSA
42	85.9	Yes	35.1	39.3	2.2	2.6%	UTSA
46	473.2	Yes	57.6	32.4	13.7	2.9%	UTSA
61	626.2	Yes	33.4	24.5	18.6	3.0%	Northwest
62	494.0	Yes	47.7	9.3	15.2	3.1%	Northwest
75	890.2	Yes	49.4	21.2	17.6	2.0%	Northwest
79	492.8	Yes	61.6	1.8	29.3	5.9%	West Northwest
159	234.8	Yes	77.3	2.8	8.7	3.7%	West Northwest
194	583.4		63.9	20.4	20.3	3.5%	Hwy 151 and Loop 1604
195	628.3		55.9	26.7			Hwy 151 and Loop 1604
198	615.1		52.7	23.3	23.7	3.9%	Far West
202	1202.1		61.1	15.4	33.0	2.7%	Far West
203	765.4		50.9	11.4	20.5	2.7%	Far West
204	549.8		59.1	2.1	18.9	3.4%	Far West
205	873.7		27.7	20.1	12.0	1.4%	Far West



# EA WPAP Rules

- Using simplified analysis

Subbasin	Goals Potentially Addressed by WPAP Rules
41	18%
42	68%
46	32%
61	36%
62	13%
75	21%
79	2%

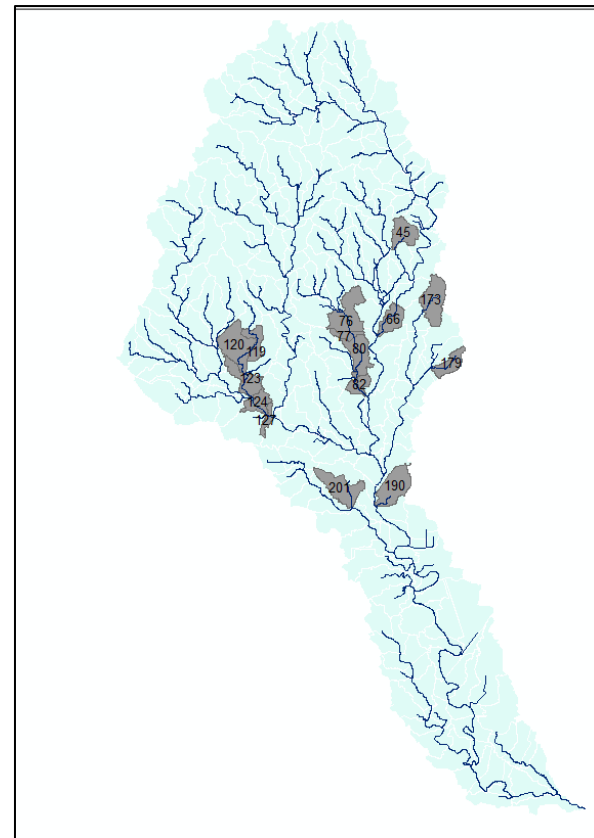




# BMP Implementation Category 5

- Subbasins account for 6.2 % of the Watershed

Subbasin ID	Edwards Aquifer Regulatory Zone	AREA (ac)	Existing %IC	% IC Difference	Standard met during Dry-3 With BMP Deployment
45	Yes	597.3	46.7%	37.3%	PCR2 (206 #/dL)
66	Yes	522.1	59.0%	4.5%	PCR2
76	Yes	1051.6	50.7%	8.6%	SCR1 (1030 #/dL)
77	Yes				
80	Yes	767.4	48.0%	4.1%	PCR2
82		336.1	48.6%	6.8%	PCR2
119		430.2	31.5%	13.4%	Not CR standards met
120	Yes	1083.3	25.1%	31.6%	SCR1 (630#/dL)
123		635.35	47.7%	12.9%	SCR1
124		433.4	53.5%	9.8%	SCR1
127		197.3	79.8%	7.5%	PCR2
173	Yes	892.3	84.6%	1.5%	PCR2
179	Yes	458.9	51.5%	18.0%	PCR2
190		938.9	51.5%	23.8%	PCR2
201		907.2	54.5%	16.2%	PCR2



*Questions?*

*Contact Information:*

*[sthomas@sariverauthority.org](mailto:sthomas@sariverauthority.org)*

*210-302-4290*

