Upper Cibolo Creek

Cibolo Creek originates in the hills west of Boerne in southern Kendall County, Texas. The upper segment (Segment 1908) of Cibolo Creek flows for 23 miles from its headwaters to the confluence of Balcones Creek near the Comal and Kendall County line in Fair Oaks Ranch. Upper Cibolo Creek is fed by numerous tributaries within its 76 square-mile watershed and lies within the San Antonio River Basin. Cibolo Creek as a whole, stretches southeast for almost 100 miles before it merges with the San Antonio River.

Upper Cibolo Creek is home to Guadalupe bass, the State Fish of Texas, and many other wildlife species who utilize healthy aquatic systems. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has determined Segment 1908 supports high levels of aquatic life and the lower reach has been described as an exceptional water body. However, a history of water quality concerns, coupled with trends in population growth and changes in land use practices within the watershed, have created an interest in the long-term health of the Cibolo.

The Upper Cibolo Creek Watershed Partnership

To address these concerns, the Upper Cibolo Creek Watershed Partnership, a collaboration between local citizens, the City of Boerne, the Cibolo Nature Center, and state and federal agencies has been formed. The purpose of the Partnership is to develop and implement a voluntary Watershed Protection Plan (WPP).

- Anyone can be a member of the Partnership and participate in work groups.
- A Steering Committee will be formed as the decision making body for the Partnership.
- Work Groups will be created by the Steering Committee to address specific issues, identify and make recommendations on implementation strategies, and support development of the WPP.
- A Technical Advisory Group composed of personnel from key state and federal natural resource agencies will provide support and guidance.

For More Information Please Visit the Upper Cibolo Creek Watershed Partnership Link at www.ci.boerne.tx.us
Or Contact Ryan Bass, Watershed Planning Coordinator
City of Boerne  P.O. Box 1677  •  402 E. Blanco  Boerne, Texas 78006  (830) 248-1538  rbass@ci.boerne.tx.us
Watershed Planning is a voluntary program driven by local stakeholders and includes the following key tasks: 1) Identify desired water quality conditions and measurable goals, 2) Prioritize appropriate management practices and needed education and awareness programs to achieve those goals, 3) Assist in developing the WPP document, 4) Lead the implementation of the plan at the local level. 5) Communicate implications of a WPP to constituents within the watershed.

Water Quality Issues

Every two years the TCEQ evaluates water quality throughout the state. In 1999, UCC was listed on the Texas Water Quality Inventory and 303(d) List of impaired waterbodies for depressed dissolved oxygen (DO) and elevated levels of fecal coliform bacteria that exceed limits for contact recreation. From 2000-2004, UCC was listed for depressed DO and from 2006-2008 the upper reach of UCC was listed for bacteria. The 2010 303(d) List again identifies the upper reach of UCC for elevated levels of bacteria. Screening level data in 2010 also indicated a concern for phosphorous and DO.

Watershed Planning

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Please Join the Partnership

Participation by a diverse group of stakeholders from throughout the watershed is essential for the planning process to be successful. Beginning in November 2009, regularly scheduled public meetings will be held in Boerne to gather input and ideas that will be incorporated into the watershed protection plan. Several levels of participation are available during the planning phase ranging from attendance at scheduled meetings to working as a member of the Steering Committee. Please plan to participate in this effort to improve and protect your water resources and encourage others to do so as well.