



WELCOME!

Water Quality Advisory Committee 2020



AGENDA

- **Lisa Benton, LCRA**
 - Clean Rivers Program and LCRA Water Quality Updates
 - TCEQ Integrated Report
- **Chelsea Jones, TX CPA**
 - Matagorda Bay Ecosystem Assessment
- **Brent Bellinger, City of Austin**
 - Lady Bird Lake Harmful Algal Blooms
- **Jessica Wilson, City of Austin**
 - Rain Catcher Pilot Program
- **Roundscreen Discussion**



COLORADO RIVER BASIN CLEAN RIVERS PROGRAM UPDATES

WQAC Meeting 2020

Lisa Benton

Clean Rivers Program, Water Quality Protection

Lower Colorado River Authority

What is the Clean Rivers Program?

- Partnership between the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and regional water authorities
- GOAL: improve the quality of surface water within each river basin in Texas
- TASKS:
 - Water quality monitoring
 - Quality assurance
 - Assessment
 - Reporting
 - Stakeholder participation

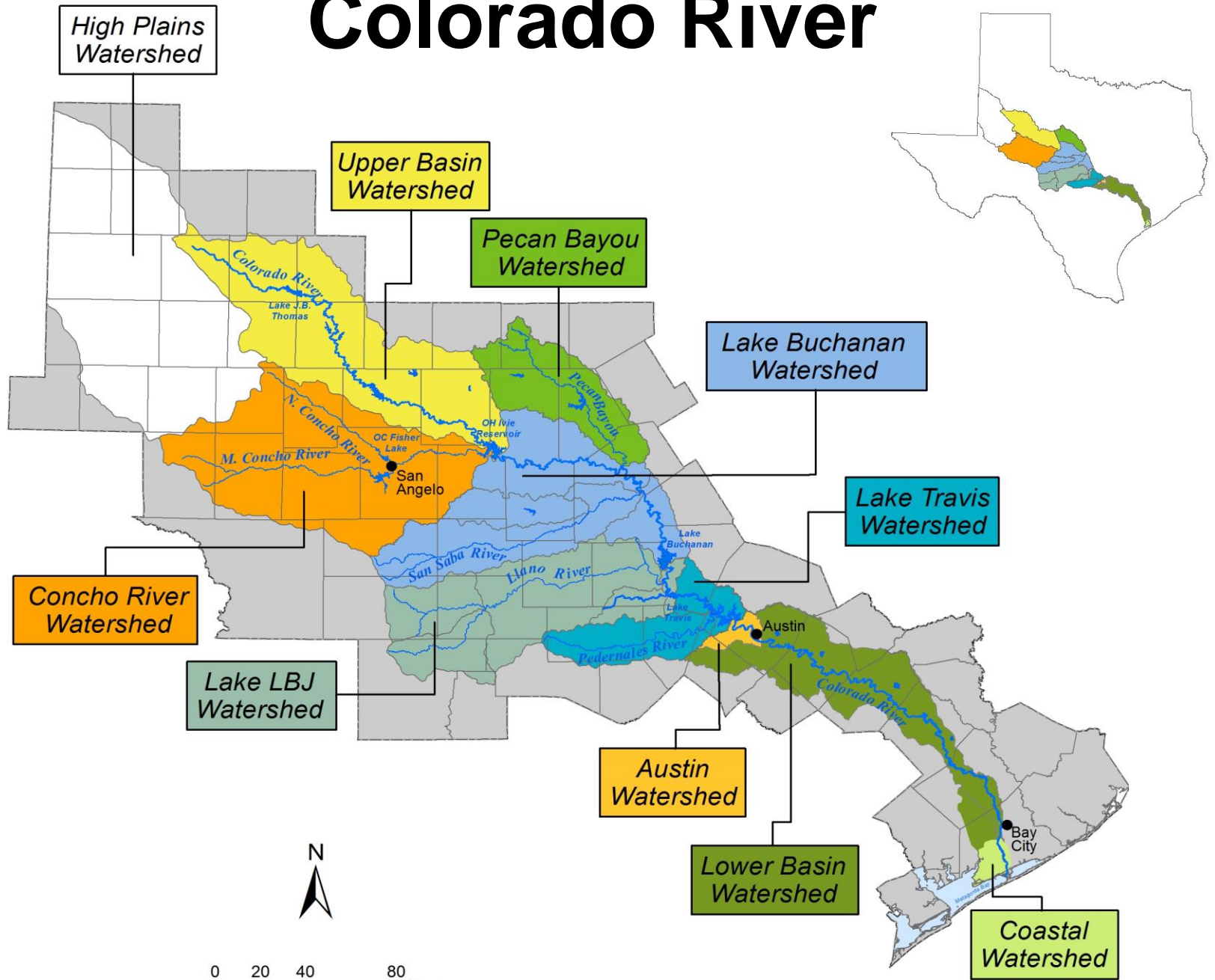


2020 Colorado River Basin Highlights Report

A SUMMARY OF WATER QUALITY
IN THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN

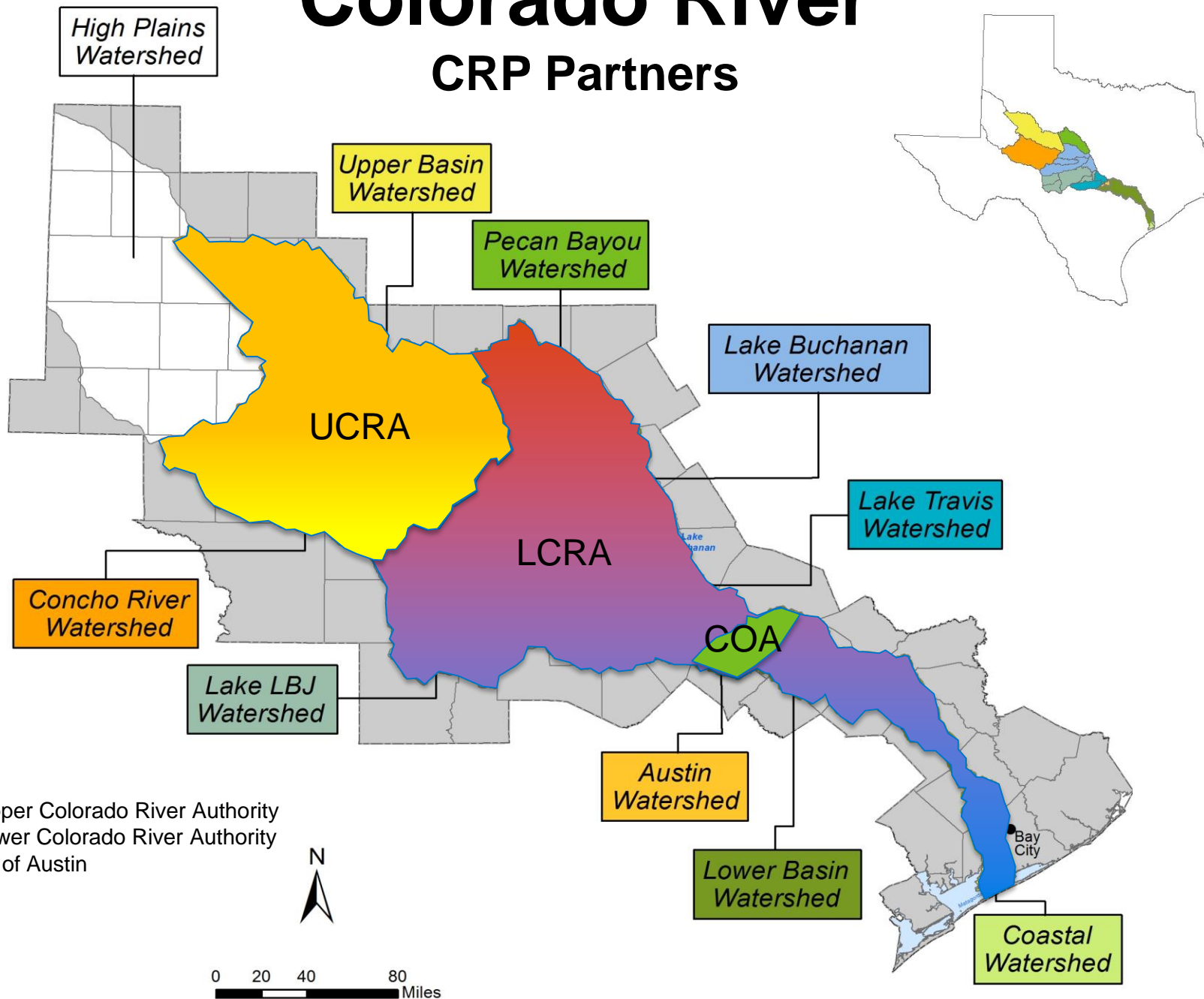
[.lcra.org/water/quality/texas-clean-rivers-program/resources-and-publications/](https://www.lcra.org/water/quality/texas-clean-rivers-program/resources-and-publications/)

Colorado River



Colorado River

CRP Partners

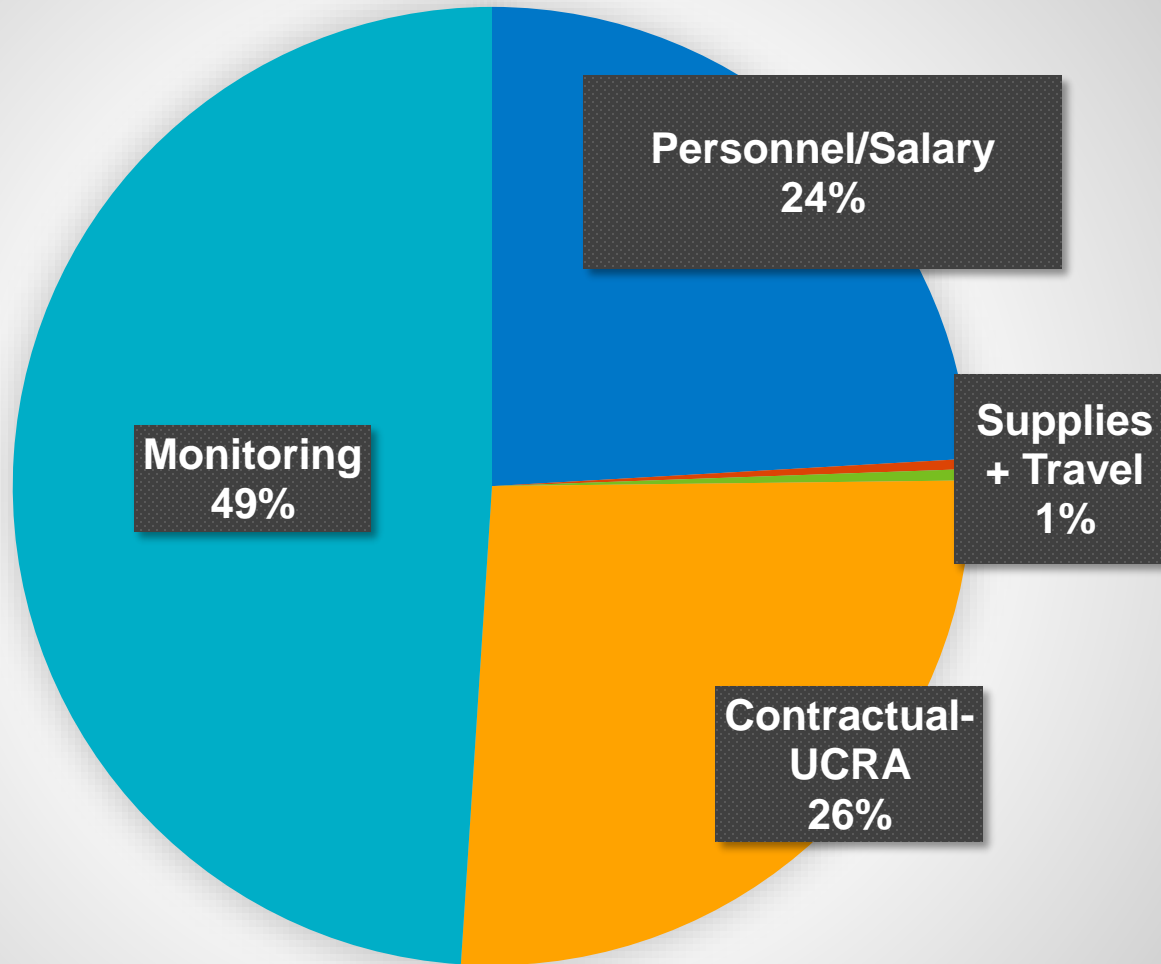


UCRA = Upper Colorado River Authority
LCRA = Lower Colorado River Authority
COA = City of Austin

Colorado River Basin CRP Funds

Contract Year	State Dollars	Federal Dollars	Total
2014-2015	\$789,718	\$0	\$789,718
2016-2017	\$487,594	\$400,000	\$887,594
2018-2019	\$543,548	\$455,902	\$999,450
2020-2021	\$816,694	\$0	\$816,694

LCRA CRP Allocation of Funds



LCRA Water Quality Protection Dept Updates

lcra.org/water/quality/harmful-algal-blooms/



Harmful Algal Blooms

Anyone experiencing severe symptoms related to potential blue-green algae exposure should contact a doctor or poison control center (1-800-222-1222). If your pet has excessive drooling, seizures, weakness, vomiting or diarrhea after contact with a natural water body, seek veterinary help immediately.

Freshwater algal blooms and cyanobacteria

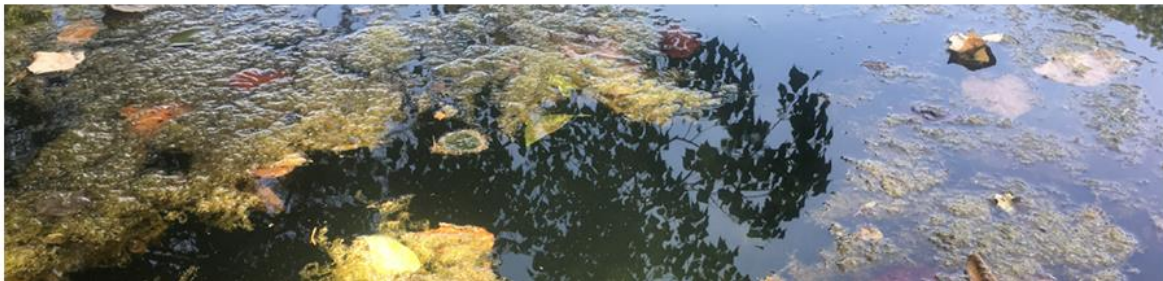
Freshwater algae plays an important role in aquatic ecosystems. Most algae is harmless, but some species (notably blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria) can on occasion produce toxins known as harmful algal blooms, or HABs, that can be dangerous to people and animals.

Current HAB status in the Highland Lakes

To date, LCRA is not aware of any active toxic algal blooms in the Highland Lakes. If a toxic bloom is identified, LCRA will post locations on this webpage and will notify any applicable local jurisdictions.

REPORT A SUSPECTED HAB

Blue-green algae



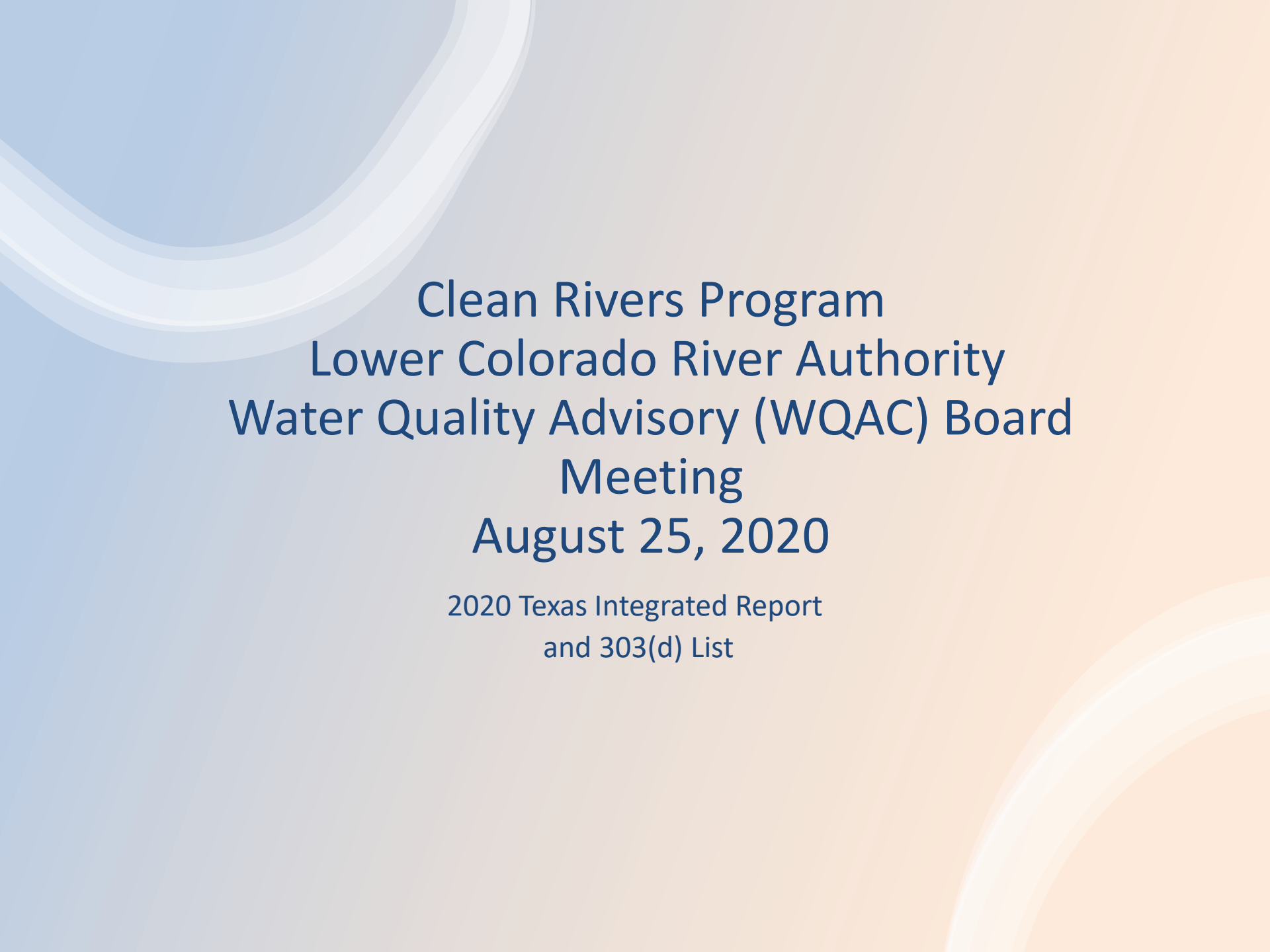
Zebra Mussel Infestation Status

- Infested Reservoirs:
 - O.H. Ivie
 - LBJ
 - Marble Falls
 - Travis
 - Austin
 - Lady Bird Lake
- Colorado River downstream of Austin
 - Adults found as far Colorado County

LCRA Water Quality Resources

- WATERQUALITY.LCRA.ORG: CRP monitoring sites and data
- CMS.LCRA.ORG: Monitoring frequency, parameters, agencies, sites, segments
- CRWN.LCRA.ORG: Volunteer monitoring sites and data
- HYDROMET.LCRA.ORG: Flow, lake levels, rainfall, radar





Clean Rivers Program
Lower Colorado River Authority
Water Quality Advisory (WQAC) Board
Meeting
August 25, 2020

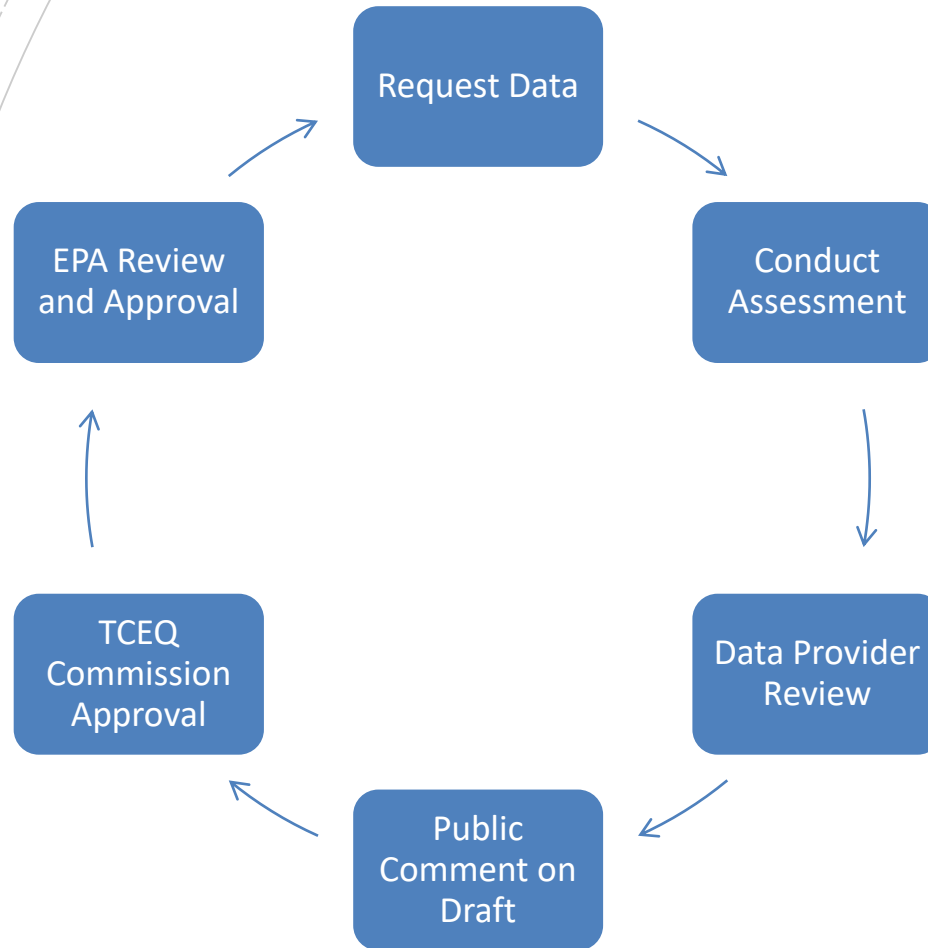
2020 Texas Integrated Report
and 303(d) List



Texas Integrated Report and 303(d) List

- Statewide assessment of the status of state waters
 - Compares water quality data to approved water quality standards and screening levels
 - Evaluates all readily available data
 - Identifies impaired waters for TMDLs on the 303(d) List
- Required by:
 - Federal Clean Water Act, Sections 305(b) and 303(d)
- Conducted every two years
 - Draft due to EPA on April 1 of even numbered years

Assessment Cycle



2020 Texas Integrated Report and 303(d) List

❖ **Approved by EPA on May 12, 2020**

Period of Record: 12/01/2011 – 11/30/2018

Statewide

- 1485 water bodies evaluated
- 1090 water bodies assessed
- 556 impaired water bodies

Colorado River Basin

- 137 water bodies evaluated
- 89 water bodies assessed
- 20 impaired water bodies

2020 Texas Integrated Report Colorado River Basin

Water Bodies Removed from the 303 (d) List

- 1413 Lake J.B. Thomas – sulfate
- 1427 Onion Creek – sulfate
- 1432 Upper Pecan Bayou – E. coli

Impaired Water Bodies		
SEGID	WaterBody Name	Impairment Description
1402C	Buckners Creek	Dissolved Oxygen 24hr
1402H	Skull Creek	Dissolved Oxygen 24hr
1403A	Bull Creek	Dissolved Oxygen 24hr
	Spicewood Tributary to	
1403J	Shoal Creek	E. coli
1403K	Taylor Slough South	E. coli
		Aluminum (dissolved), Copper (dissolved), Nickel (dissolved), Zinc (dissolved), pH, Total Dissolved Solids, Sulfate
1407A	Clear Creek	
1411	E. V. Spence Reservoir	Total Dissolved Solids, Chloride, Sulfate
	Colorado River Below	
1412	Lake J. B. Thomas	Enterococcus
1412B	Beals Creek	Enterococcus
1413	Lake J. B. Thomas	Total Dissolved Solids, Chloride
1416	San Saba River	E. coli
1416A	Brady Creek	Dissolved Oxygen 24hr
1421	Concho River	Dissolved Oxygen 24hr
1425	O. C. Fisher Lake	Total Dissolved Solids, Chloride
1427A	Slaughter Creek	Macrobenthic Community
1428B	Walnut Creek	E. coli
1428C	Gilleland Creek	E. coli
1429C	Waller Creek	Macrobenthic Community, E. coli
1433	O. H. Ivie Reservoir	Nutrients (excessive algal growth)
1434G	Alum Creek	E. coli

- Added in 2020

Going Forward

Draft 2022 Integrated Report

- Currently updating and reviewing GIS information, databases, and assessment guidance
- Call for data March 2021
 - Period of record for the 2022 IR:
12/1/2013 – 11/30/2020
- Start assessing April 2021
- Aim to complete draft by end of June 2021

The image features decorative curved lines in the top-left and bottom-right corners. These lines are composed of multiple overlapping layers in shades of light blue, grey, and light orange, creating a sense of depth and movement.

Questions?