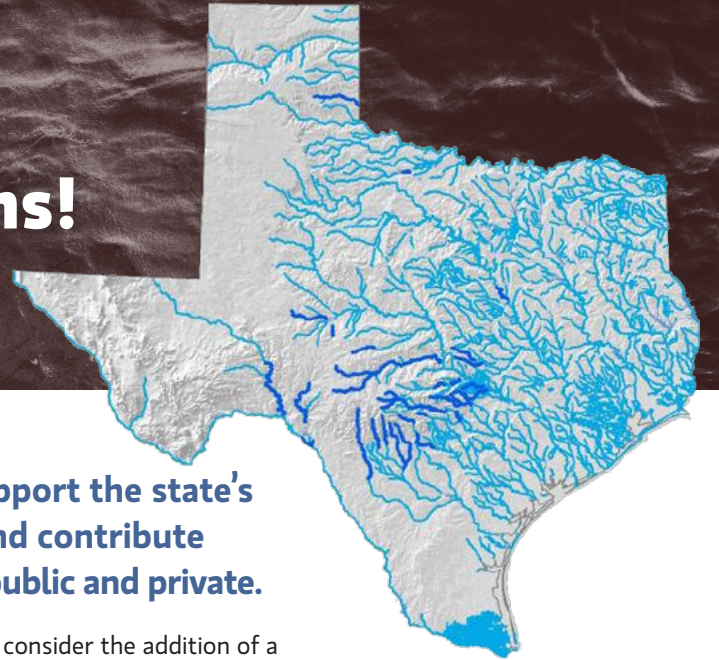


Wastewater is the last thing we need in our last few pristine streams!



Clean, clear pristine rivers and streams in Texas support the state's vibrant tourism and recreation-based economies and contribute known value to the lands that surround them, both public and private.

The map above highlights 22 stream segments and 1,373 miles of native, natural, pristine waterways. These are some of Texas' most beloved places—the aqua blue Devils, many cypress-lined Hill Country rivers like the Blanco, Frio and Nueces, two upper forks of the San Gabriel, and Barton, Hondo and Onion Creeks, among others.

These stream segments deserve special protection because they naturally carry very low levels of phosphorus. The addition of even highly treated domestic wastewater effluent carries levels of phosphorous and other nutrients that far exceed the natural levels found in these Texas streams. And sadly, experience has taught us that discharge of wastewater into pristine streams will degrade the water quality and turn it ugly.

These 22 stream segments contain an amount of Total Phosphorous below detectable levels (.06 mg/l) found in 90 percent of all samples taken in the last ten years of monitoring by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). This data is certified, stored and publicly available in the agency's official Surface Water Quality Monitoring (SWQM) database.

Today, we are asking TCEQ to promulgate a new rule that prohibits wastewater discharge into 22 stream segments where the addition of phosphorus will degrade water quality. This rule will provide much needed clarity for development, will save time and great expense for those who must organize to contest each individual domestic wastewater permit application, and will protect water quality in these unique and fragile, favorite places.

With a new rule in place to protect the specified stream segments, applicants who once may have sought a wastewater discharge permit will be directed to apply for a Texas Land Application

Permit (TLAP) and to consider the addition of a 210 Reuse authorization for one or more other beneficial uses.

The attached Pristine Streams Petition, requesting the new rule, was filed with TCEQ on January 31, 2022. It is supported by landowners, community groups, conservationists and local governments who recognize the value of clean, clear streams for the well-being of all Texans.

The rule is a fair, balanced and necessary action to protect the last pristine streams in Texas.

Won't you join us?

Make your voice be heard!

Online

www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/Index.cfm?fuseaction=main.welcome

ENTER	Permit number: 2022-014-PET-NR
HIT	'Next' button
ACCEPT	Privacy Policy (click button)
COMPLETE	Personal Contact Information (everything that doesn't say optional)
TYPE	Comments in the box and/or upload an attachment
SUBMIT	to TCEQ

Mail

TCEQ chief clerk, Mail Code 105,
P. O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087

— Covered Stream Segments
— Stream Segments Not Covered

Source: TCEQ Surface Water Quality Monitoring Data, Selected segments (Exhibit B). Map by Robin Gary, WVWA, 2/10/2022.

North Fork Red River
South Fork San Gabriel River
North Fork San Gabriel River
Llano River
Middle Concho/South Concho River
Onion Creek
Barton Creek
Lower Blanco River
Upper Blanco River
Cypress Creek
Johnson Creek
North Fork Guadalupe River
South Fork Guadalupe River
Medina River above Medina Lake
Upper Sabinal River
Upper Nueces River
Upper Frio River
Hondo Creek
Seco Creek
Devils River
Lower Pecos River
San Felipe Creek