

Lower Prairie Dog Town Fork Red River watershed public meeting set for June 26, 27, and 28 in Silverton, Memphis, and Childress

SILVERTON, MEMPHIS, CHILDRESS, TEXAS – Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research and the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board invite residents in the Lower Prairie Dog Town Fork Red River watershed to a public meeting to discuss results of the recreational use attainability analysis (RUAA) field surveys conducted in the watershed. *For logistical convenience of the Lower Prairie Dog Town Fork Red River stakeholders, three separate meetings will be held. The first on June 26, 2017 at the Silverton Library located at 401 Broadway in Silverton. The second meeting will be held June 27, 2017 in the First Bank and Trust (Bronze Room) located at 501 Main Street, Memphis. And the third meeting will be held June 28, 2017 at the South Plains Electric Annex Building, located at 1900 Avenue C NW in Childress.* All meetings will be held from 6:00 pm to 8:00 p.m. (with sign in at 5:45 p.m.) and will discuss the same material.

Lower Prairie Dog Town Fork Red River is within the Red River Basin within Armstrong, Briscoe, Hall and Childress Counties. The waterbody extends from immediately upstream of the confluence of Buck Creek in Hardeman County to the confluence of Salt Creek in Armstrong County. Lower Prairie Dog Town Fork Red River is on the state's list of impaired waters for having bacteria levels that exceed water quality standards for primary contact recreation.

At this meeting, landowners and citizens will be updated on the findings from the RUAA and discuss the path forward. The draft technical report entitled "*Recreational Use Attainability Analysis for Lower Prairie Dog Town Fork Red River (0207) in the Red River Basin*" will open for a 30 day public comment period immediately following the meeting.

Since decisions made about this waterbody will affect landowners, citizens, industries, and municipalities, local participation and input on the technical draft is essential to ensure current and historical uses of the water body is adequately represented.

This project is funded by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board through a state nonpoint source grant to the Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research.

For more information about the meeting, visit the project website at <http://tiaer.tarleton.edu/ruaa/lower-prairie-dog-town.html> or contact Leah Taylor at 254-968-0513 or at ltaylor@tiaer.tarleton.edu.

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board administers Texas' soil and water conservation law and delivers coordinated natural resource conservation programs through the State's 216 soil and water conservation districts. The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board is the lead agency for planning, implementing, and managing programs for preventing and abating agricultural and silvicultural nonpoint sources of water pollution. The agency also administers a water supply enhancement program through the targeted control of water-depleting brush; works to ensure the State's network of 2,000 flood control dams are protecting lives and property by providing operation, maintenance, and structural repair grants to local government sponsors; and facilitates the Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee.

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