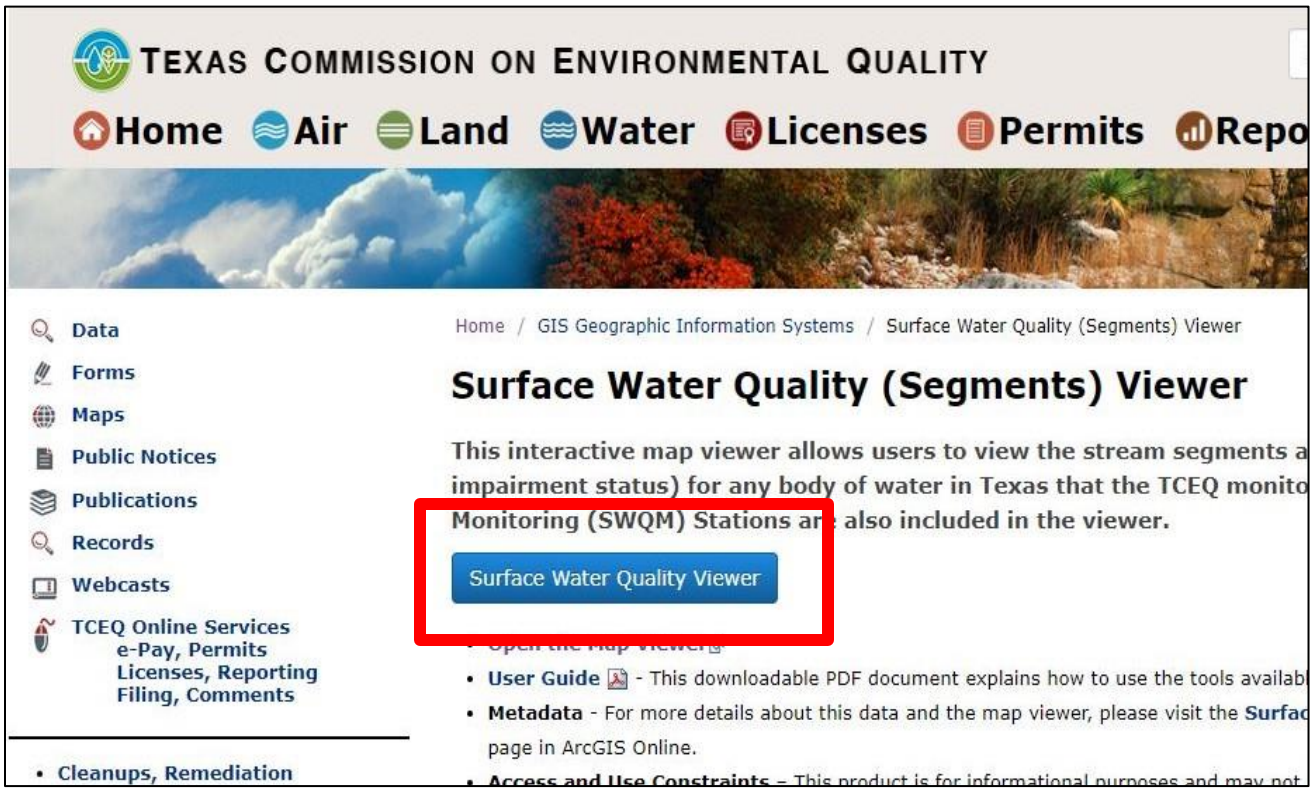
This job aid will assist you in utilizing the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) website to determine relevant information to complete Section 1.11 Receiving Waters of the SWP3 Summary Sheet.

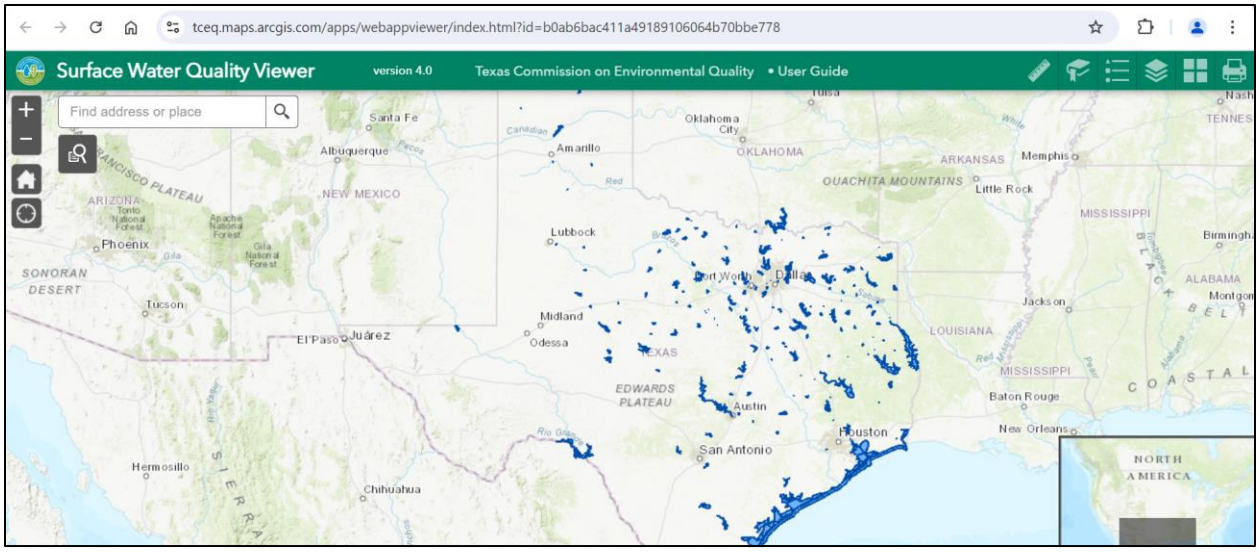
Receiving Waters Determination

Use the following information to determine the receiving waters and flow path from the construction site:

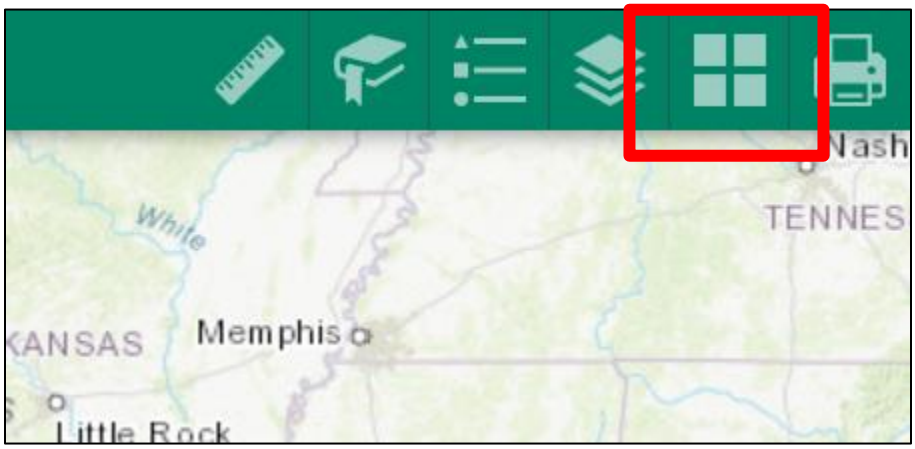
1. Go to the TCEQ Surface Water Quality Viewer and click on "Surface Water Quality Viewer". This home page provides information, including a "**User Guide**" on how to utilize the Surface Water Quality Viewer. It is your responsibility to read and understand those steps.

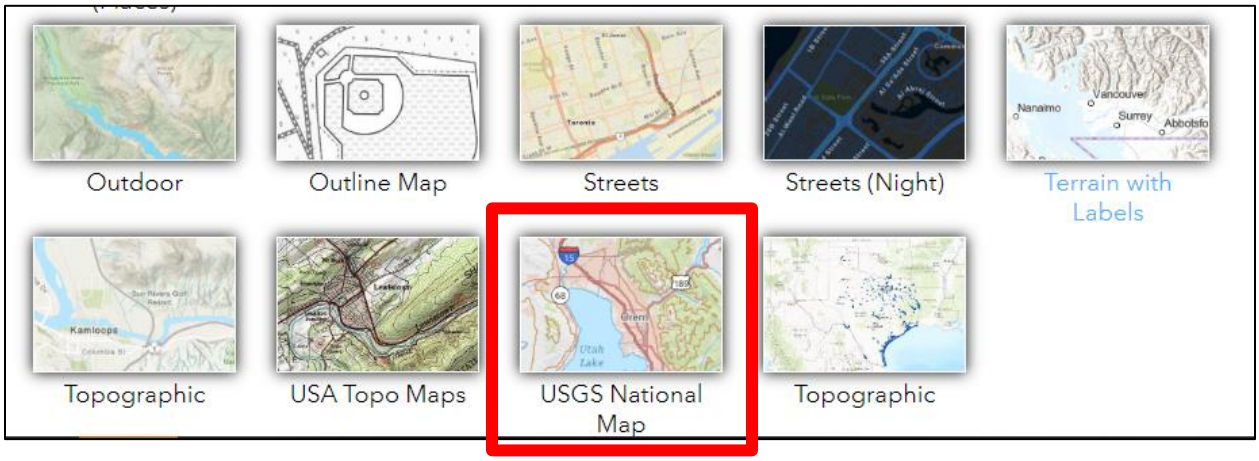


It will look like this once open:

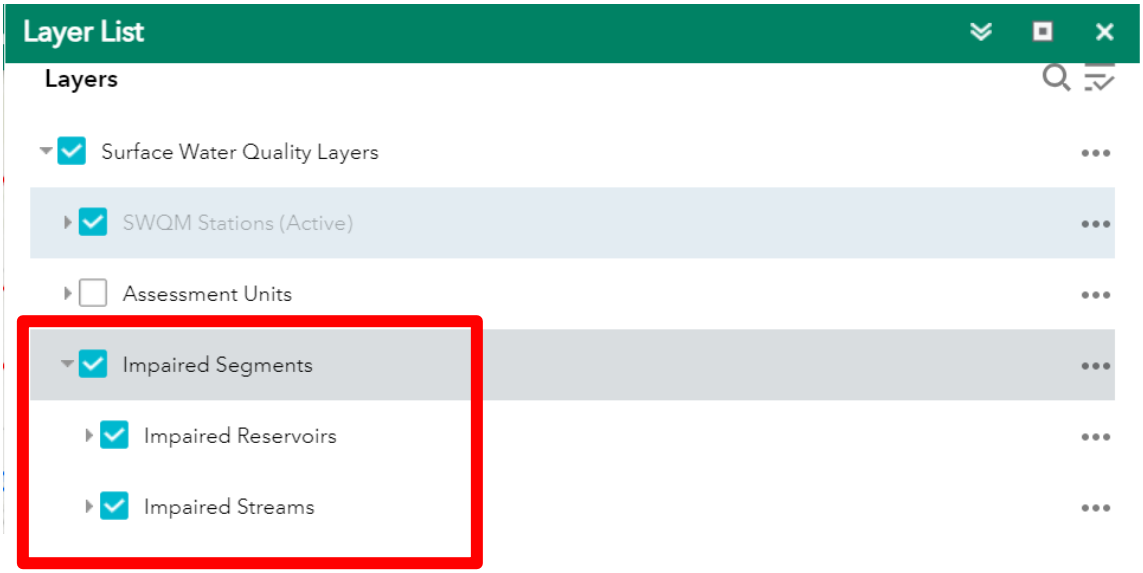


2. Navigate to the construction project site location on the map. Adjust the basemap to depict the "USGS National Map" basemap option.

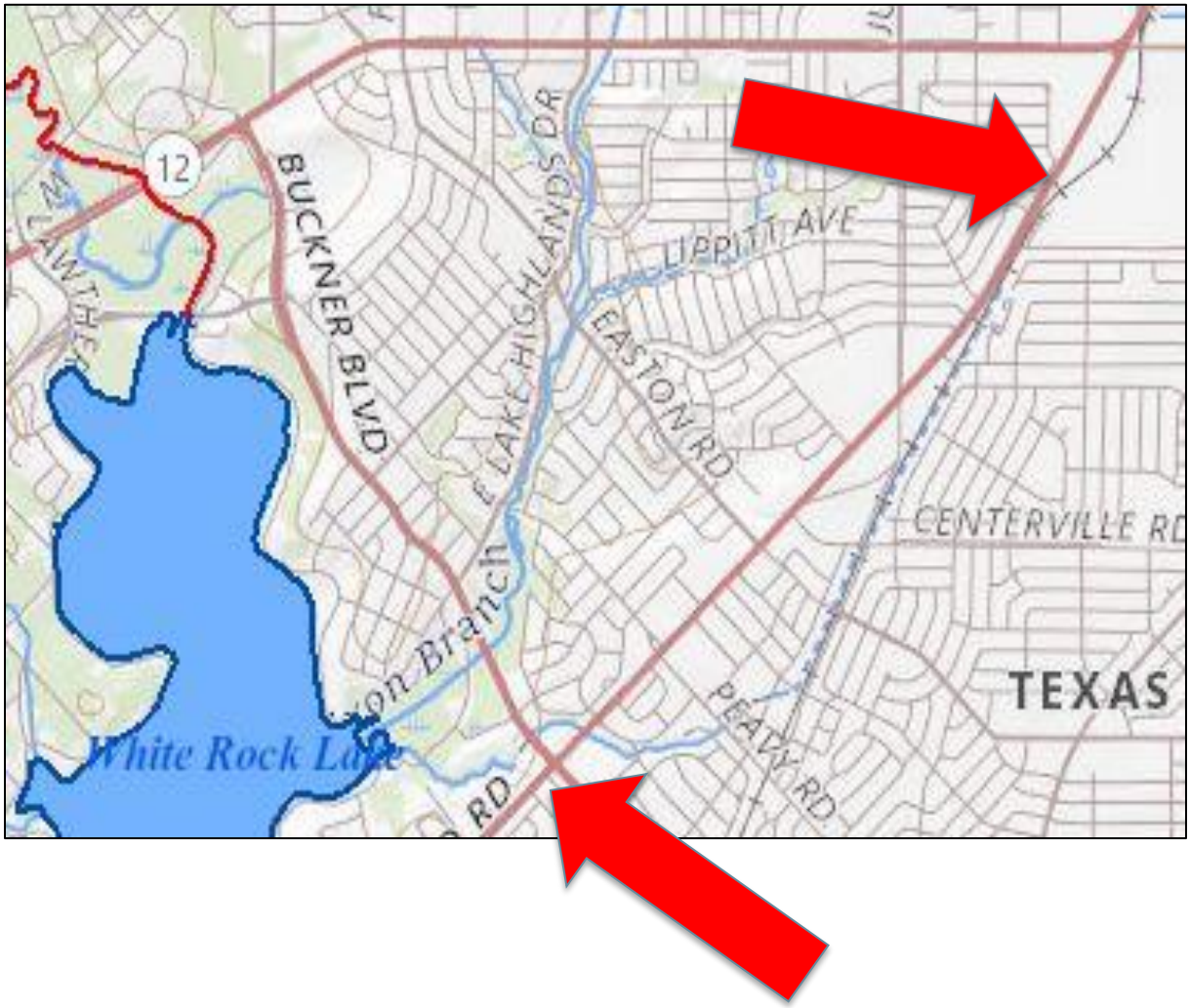




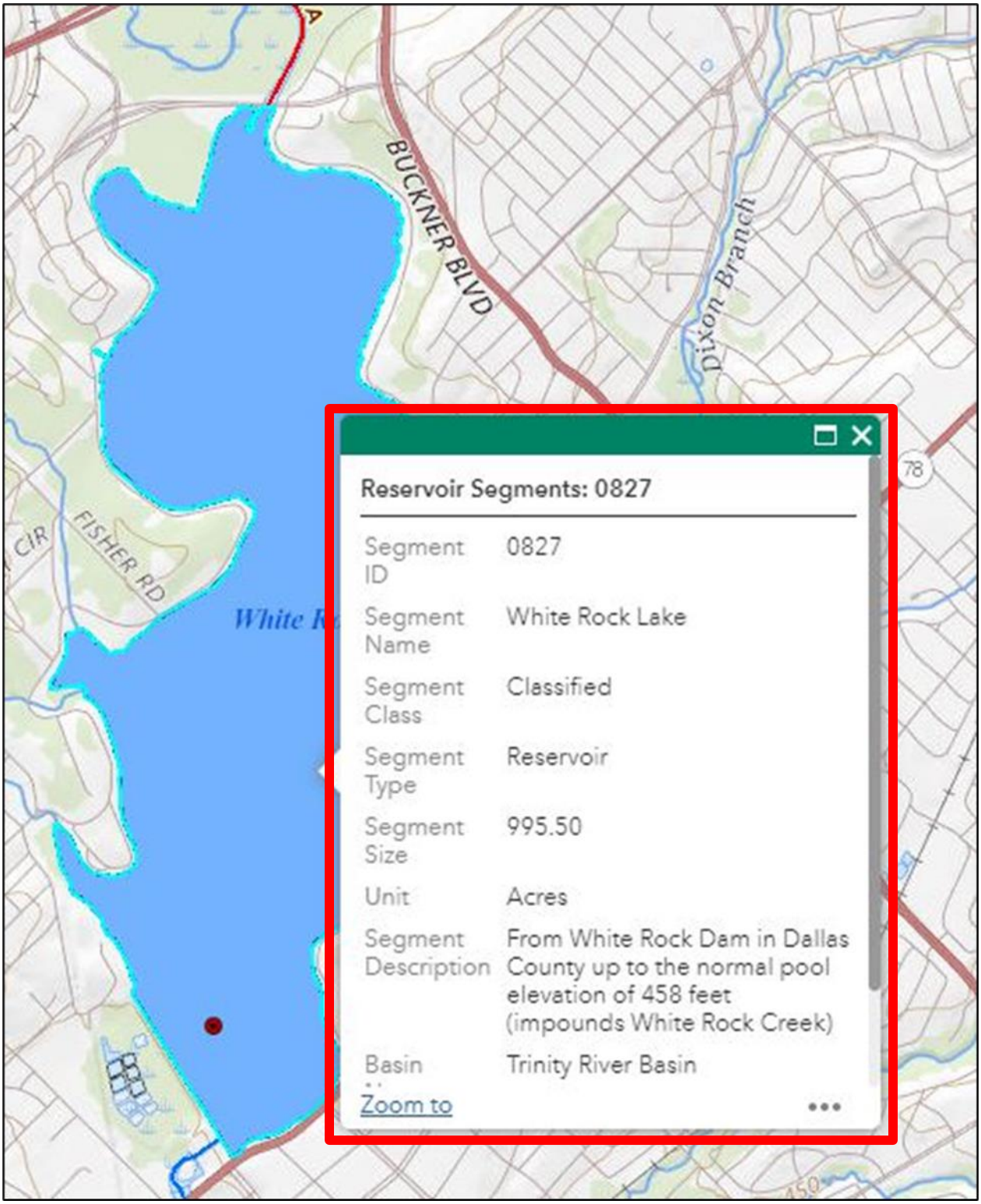
3. If not already displaying on the map, select the "Impaired Segments" layer tool.



4. Identify the flow path from the construction project site and determine the respective TCEQ classified waterbody segment stormwater discharge will flow to.



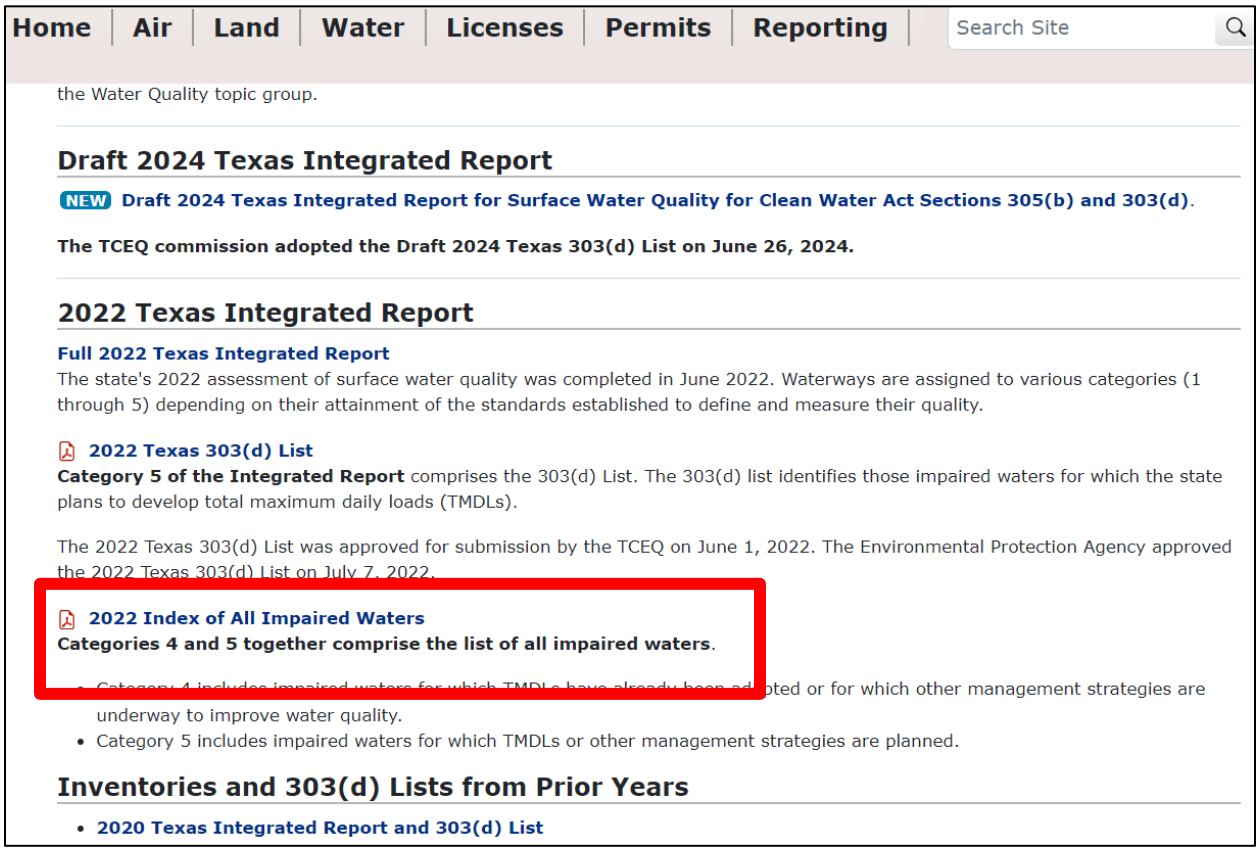
5. Click on the stream or reservoir for segment information, including the four-digit Segment ID and whether the segment is impaired.



Impaired Waters

If it is determined that there is an impaired receiving water, either classified or unclassified segment, you will need to look up the impairment to determine if the construction project will impact it.

1. Navigate to the "Texas Integrated Report of Surface Water Quality". Click on the approved Texas Integrated Report "Index of All Impaired Waters". Note this report is updated every two years – so even if you are already familiar with a segment, you need to review it in case information has changed.



2. Search for the TCEQ classified waterbody segment identified in your analysis from using the TCEQ Surface Water Quality Viewer.

0823C	Clear Creek	0823C_01	Bacteria in water (Recreation Use)
0824	Elm Fork Trinity River Above Ray Roberts Lake	0824_03	Bacteria in water (Recreation Use)
0826	Grapevine Lake	0826_07	pH
0827A	White Rock Creek above White Rock Lake	0827A_01	Bacteria in water (Recreation Use)
0828A	Village Creek	0828A_01	Bacteria in water (Recreation Use)
		0829_01	Dioxin in edible tissue
			PCBs in edible tissue

3. Once the TCEQ classified waterbody segment is identified, determine the Pollutant of Concern (POC), or impairment, and whether there is a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and/or Implementation Plan (I-Plan)

	0826_07	pH	5c	Y
	0827A_01	Bacteria in water (Recreation Use)	5c	N
	0828A_01	Bacteria in water (Recreation Use)	5c	N
		Dioxin in edible tissue	5c	N

4. For TMDL/I-Plan determination, review the "Explanation of Column Headings" on the first page of the Texas Integrated Report and identify the categories representing the TCEQ classified waterbody segment.

Category: *One of seven subcategories assigned to each impaired parameter to provide information about water quality status and management activities on that water body. The categories are defined below:*

Category 4: Available data and/or information indicate that at least one designated use is not being supported or is threatened, but a TMDL is not needed.

- **Category 4a:** A state-developed TMDL has been approved by EPA or a TMDL has been established by EPA for any water-pollutant combination.
- **Category 4b:** Other required control measures are expected to result in the attainment of an applicable water quality standard in a reasonable period of time.
- **Category 4c:** The impairment or threat is not caused by a pollutant.

Category 5: Available data and/or information indicate that at least one designated use is not being supported or is threatened, and a TMDL is needed.

- **Category 5a:** A TMDL is underway, scheduled, or will be scheduled.
- **Category 5b:** A review of the standards for the water body will be conducted before a management strategy is selected.
- **Category 5c:** Additional data and information will be collected or evaluated before a management strategy is selected.
- **Category 5n:** Water body does not meet its applicable Chl a criterion, but additional study is needed to verify whether exceedance is associated with causal nutrient parameters or impacts to response variables.

Carry Forward: *Some previously listed impairments did not have adequate data to re-assess in 2022 and were carried forward from 2020 and remain impaired.*

2022 Index of All Impaired Waters

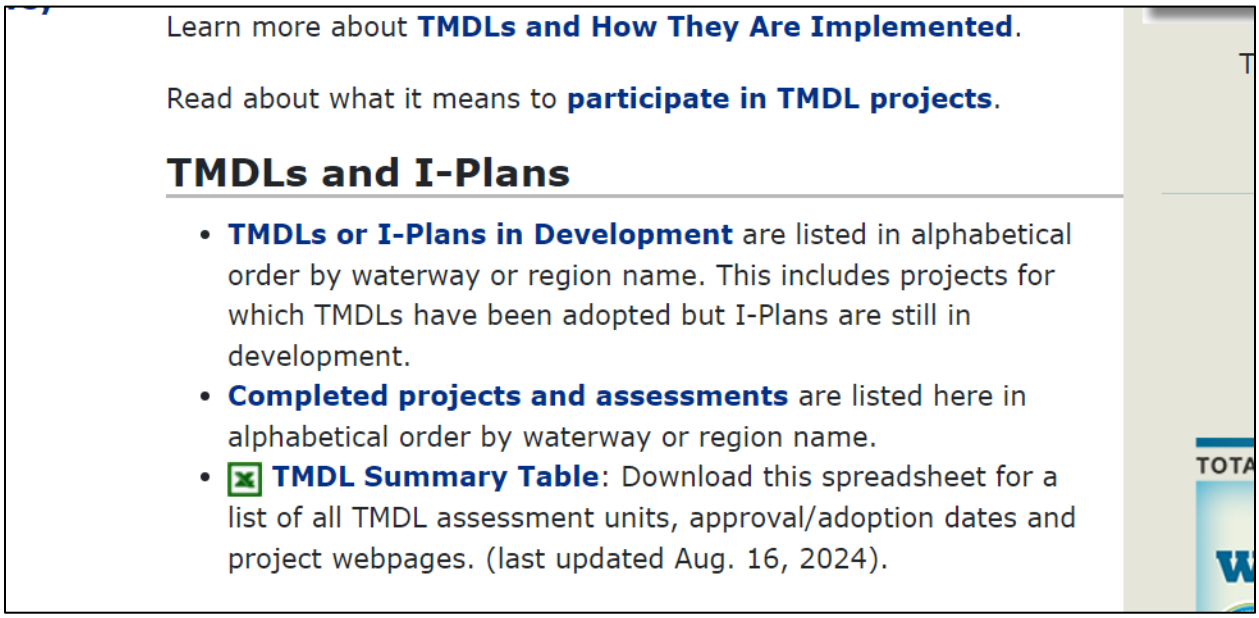
Categories 4 and 5 together comprise the list of all impaired waters.

- Category 4 includes impaired waters for which TMDLs have already been adopted or for which other management strategies are underway to improve water quality.
- Category 5 includes impaired waters for which TMDLs or other management strategies are planned.

TMDL/I-Plan Determination

If it is determined that there is a TMDL/I-Plan associated with the receiving water, you will need to look up that information to see if the project could potentially impact the TMDL/I-Plan or if additional water quality best management practices are required on the project. Very few projects will have a TMDL/I-Plan, and even fewer will have required actions or impacts.

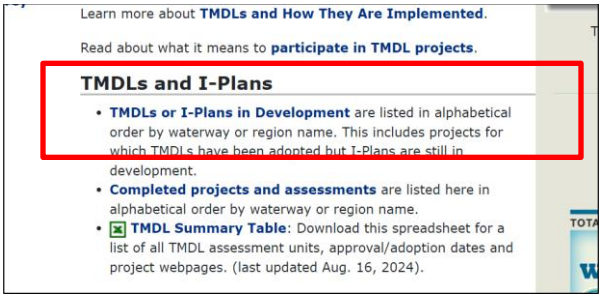
1. Navigate to the Project of the TMDL Program page to search for TMDLs and I-Plans that might be associated with your project. You can look though "TMDLs or I-Plans in Development", or, utilize the "TMDL Summary Table" for a quicker search.



It appears that example Segment 0827 from the example does not currently have a TMDL associated with it.

61	0822A_02	Cottonwood Branch	bacteria	Recreation	AU	9/21/2011	5/30/2012	11-Dec-13	Complete
62	0822B_01	Grapevine Creek	bacteria	Recreation	AU	9/21/2011	5/30/2012	11-Dec-13	Complete
63	0829_01	Clear Fork Trinity River Below Benbrook Lake	chlordane in tissue	Fish	Segment	11/17/2000	5/24/2001	13-Jul-01	Complete
64	0829A_01	Lake Como	chlordane in tissue	Fish	Segment	11/17/2000	5/24/2001	13-Jul-01	Complete
65	0829A_01	Lake Como	DDE in tissue	Fish	Segment	11/17/2000	5/24/2001	13-Jul-01	Complete
66	0829A_01	Lake Como	dieldrin in tissue	Fish	Segment	11/17/2000	5/24/2001	13-Jul-01	Complete

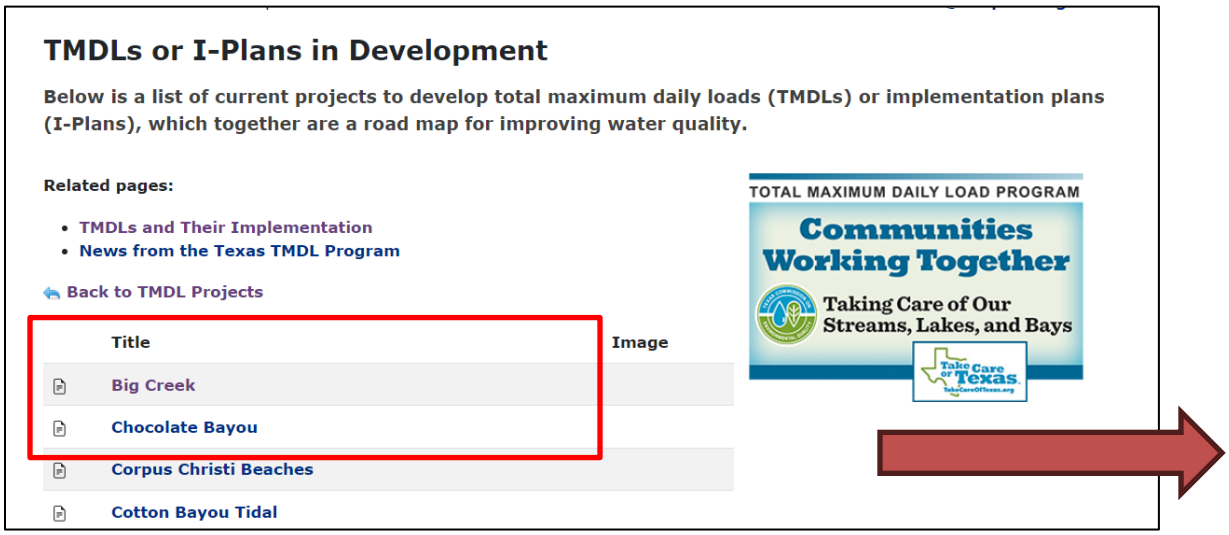
2. If a TMDL or I-Plan is found associated with the received water, you can navigate to its page to find out additional information needed to assess project impacts or actions. Big Creek is an example.


Learn more about **TMDLs and How They Are Implemented**.

Read about what it means to **participate in TMDL projects**.

TMDLs and I-Plans

- **TMDLs or I-Plans in Development** are listed in alphabetical order by waterway or region name. This includes projects for which TMDLs have been adopted but I-Plans are still in development.
- **Completed projects and assessments** are listed here in alphabetical order by waterway or region name.
- **TMDL Summary Table**: Download this spreadsheet for a list of all TMDL assessment units, approval/adoption dates and project webpages. (last updated Aug. 16, 2024).


TMDLs or I-Plans in Development

Below is a list of current projects to develop total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) or implementation plans (I-Plans), which together are a road map for improving water quality.

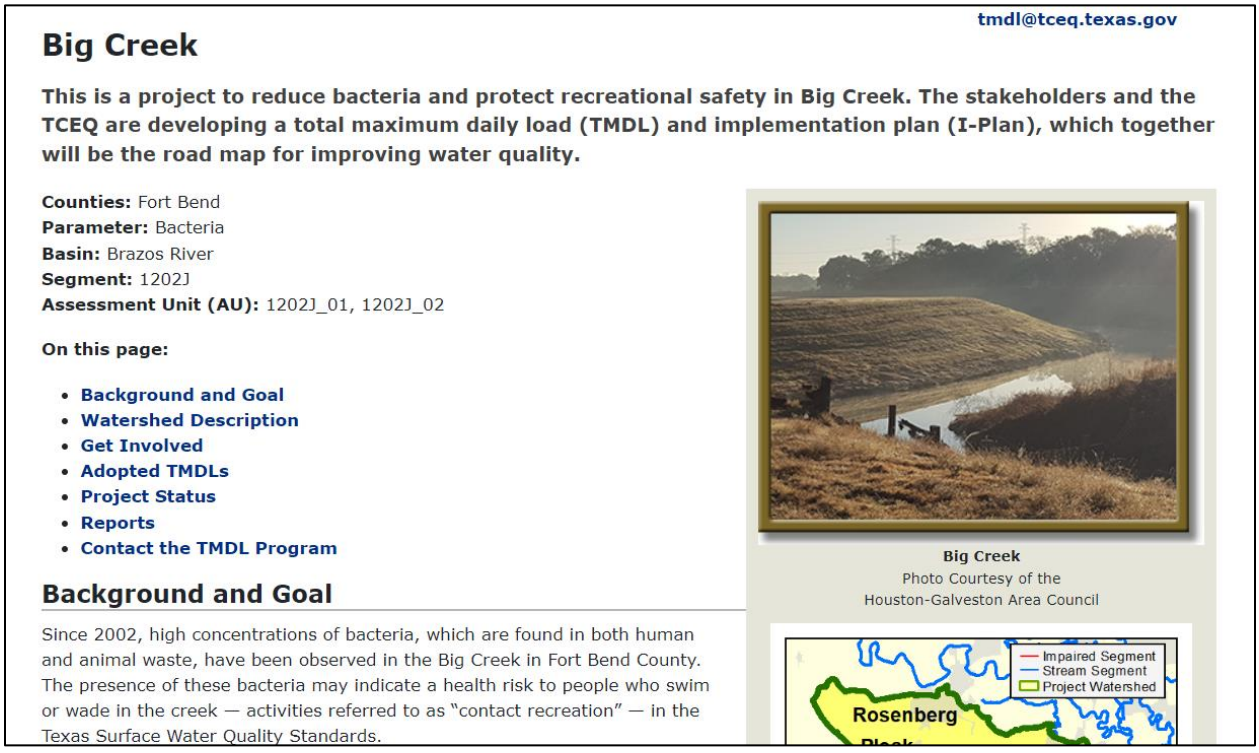
Related pages:

- **TMDLs and Their Implementation**
- **News from the Texas TMDL Program**

Back to TMDL Projects

	Title	Image
	Big Creek	
	Chocolate Bayou	
	Corpus Christi Beaches	
	Cotton Bayou Tidal	

TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD PROGRAM
Communities Working Together
Taking Care of Our Streams, Lakes, and Bays
Take Care of Texas


tmdl@tceq.texas.gov

Big Creek

This is a project to reduce bacteria and protect recreational safety in Big Creek. The stakeholders and the TCEQ are developing a total maximum daily load (TMDL) and implementation plan (I-Plan), which together will be the road map for improving water quality.

Counties: Fort Bend
Parameter: Bacteria
Basin: Brazos River
Segment: 1202J
Assessment Unit (AU): 1202J_01, 1202J_02

On this page:

- **Background and Goal**
- **Watershed Description**
- **Get Involved**
- **Adopted TMDLs**
- **Project Status**
- **Reports**
- **Contact the TMDL Program**

Big Creek
Photo Courtesy of the
Houston-Galveston Area Council

Background and Goal

Since 2002, high concentrations of bacteria, which are found in both human and animal waste, have been observed in the Big Creek in Fort Bend County. The presence of these bacteria may indicate a health risk to people who swim or wade in the creek — activities referred to as "contact recreation" — in the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards.