

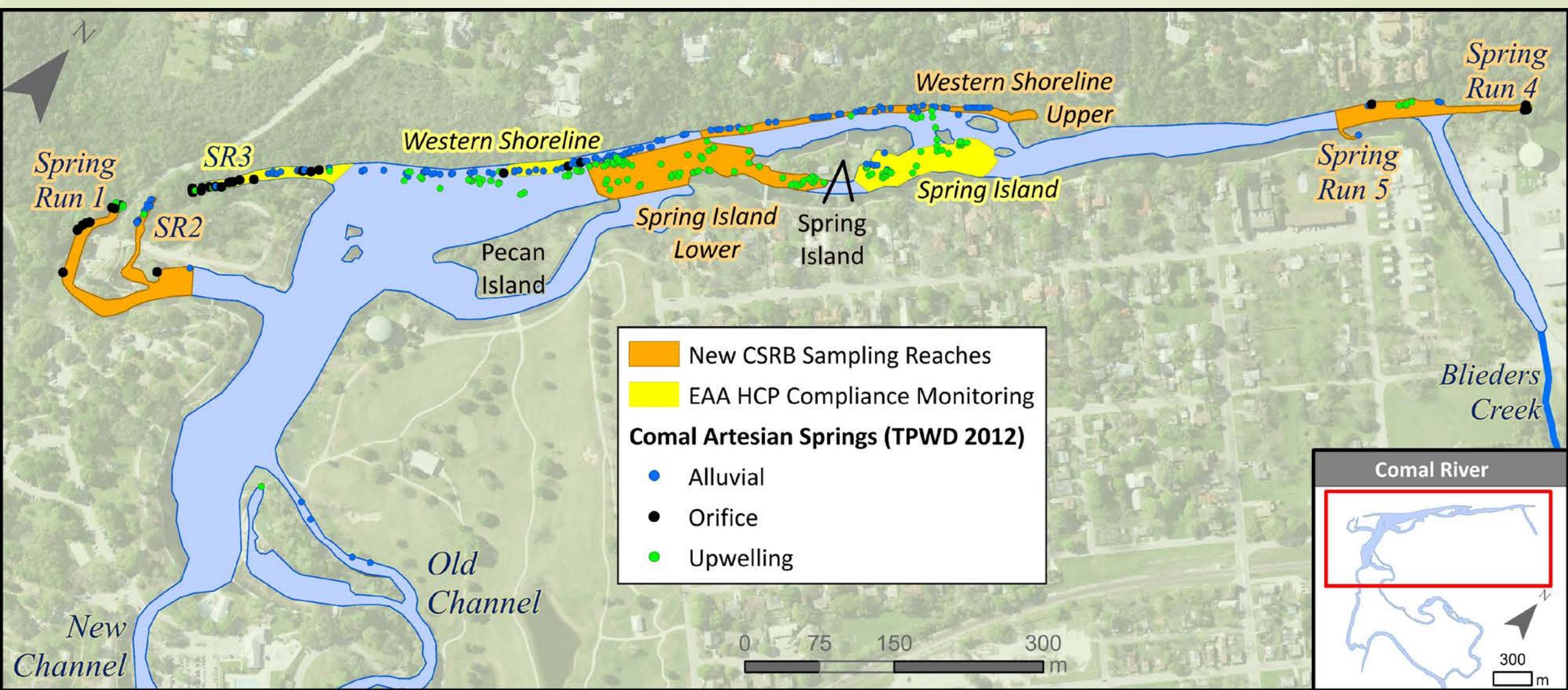


**COMAL SPRINGS RIFFLE BEETLE  
WORK GROUP**

# BACKGROUND

- A CSRB distribution and abundance study was suggested as part of the 2018-2019 Applied Research schedule.
- EAHCP staff met with TPWD staff and agreed additional monitoring through the Biomonitoring program would be the most practical approach.
- At the November 2017 Science Committee meeting EAHCP staff suggested some potential locales to conduct additional sampling.





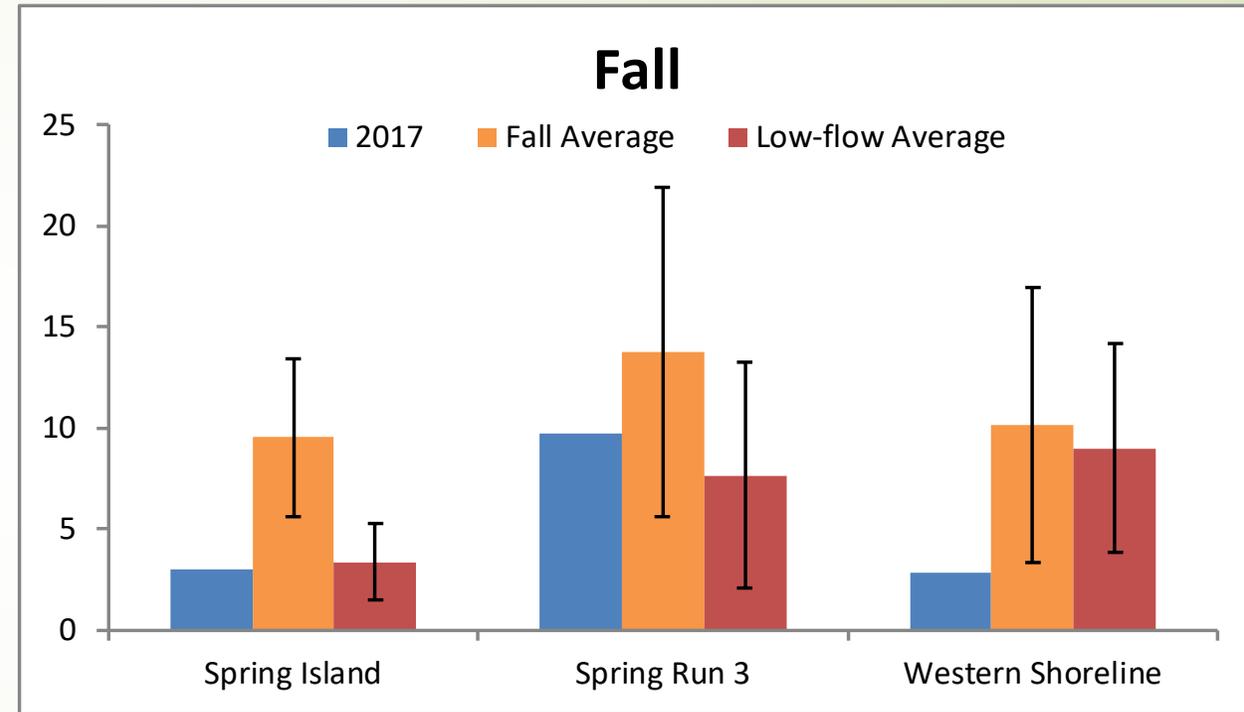
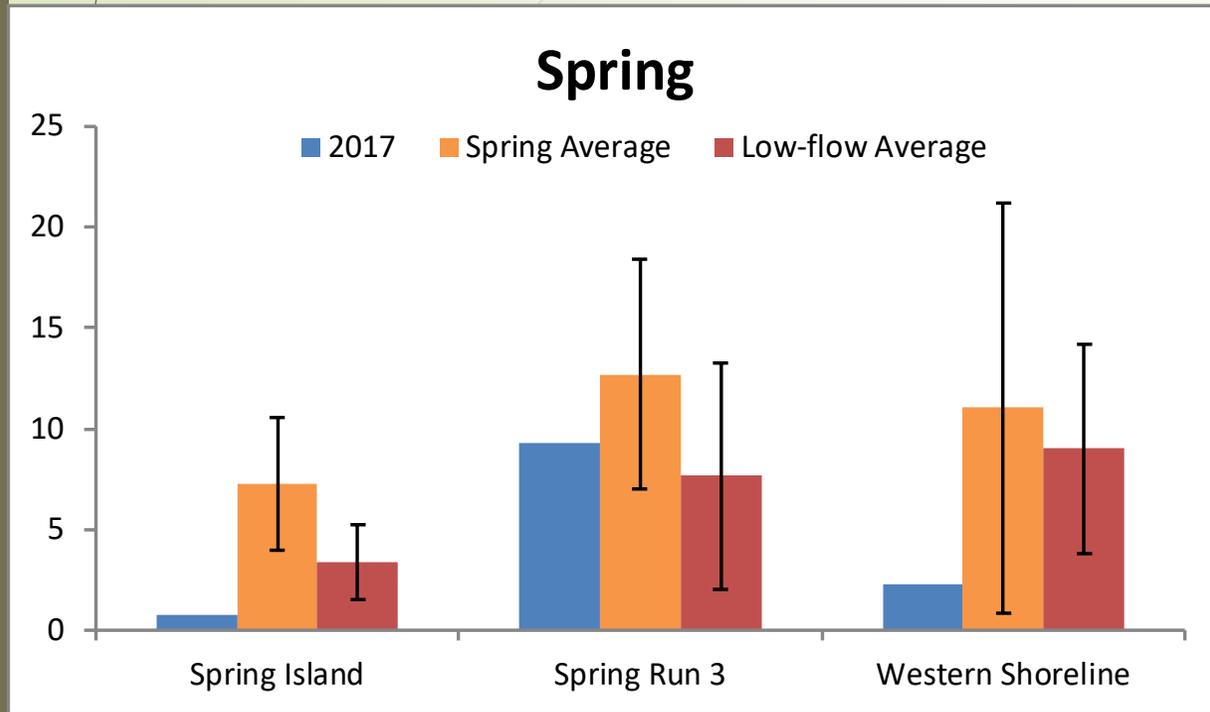
Long-term biological monitoring and proposed sampling reaches for the Comal Springs riffle beetle. Also shown are spring point features from Norris and Gibson (unpublished) 2012 mapping effort.



# CSRB WORK GROUP

- After developing a draft revised sampling plan, EAHCP staff felt there were a number of areas that needed attention:
  - How can the existing data inform changes?
    - 1200 cotton lures have been set as part of the Biomonitoring program since 2004.
    - Approximately 150 cotton lures were used last year as part of Refugia collections.
  - What are the stated goals driving additional sampling?
  - How should sampling efforts and data streams between Biomonitoring and Refugia efforts be coordinated?
  - Are the population LTBGs appropriate? How should habitat LTBGs be quantified?
  - What components to the biomonitoring program should be dropped to incorporate the financial burden of additional sampling?
  - Is the cotton lure methodology appropriate?
  - How should repeated sampling and spring identification be handled?
  - Are we disturbing the system too much?

# CSRB Work Group



Mean densities of adult Comal Springs riffle beetles sampled during the Spring and Fall seasons of 2017 at Spring Island, Spring Run 3, and Western Shoreline of the Comal Spring system. Long-term (2004-2017) mean densities are given to the right of the 2017 means. Error bars represent the standard deviation of the mean.



# CSRIB WORK GROUP – PROPOSED NEXT STEPS

- ▶ February 2018

- ▶ Develop clear goals and committee charge with pertinent Science Committee members and Stakeholders.
- ▶ Identify and communicate with potential CSRIB WG members

- ▶ Meeting 1

- ▶ Discuss goals of workgroup, examine current methodology, examine existing data, and formalize data requests

- ▶ Meeting 2

- ▶ Discuss data requests, make any additional data requests, discuss potential changes to Refugia collections/ Biomonitoring program and other workgroup goals

- ▶ Meeting 3

- ▶ Discuss data requests, formalize changes to Refugia collection/ monitoring programs, present and finalize SOPs

# QUESTIONS?

