

Restoration Activities for Clarification

Provision M requires the suspension of activities such as habitat restoration and riparian restoration that may result in disturbance of the (a) substrate, (b) water quality, (c) plants, and (d) animals or invertebrates when the springs flows decline to 130 cfs (in the Comal system) and 120 cfs (in the San Marcos system).

The Permittees are seeking your input to those habitat restoration and riparian restoration activities listed below, that the Permittees desire to implement at all flows, based on the rationale that these activities have specific positive benefits when implemented and negative impacts if not implemented to the Covered Species and their habitats at all flows. Specifically, the Permittees are seeking your input on the following questions:

- What is the biological rationale for the benefits when implemented, and negative impacts when ceased, to the Covered Species and their habitats by these activities? This biological rationale will be used to demonstrate to USFWS the need to continue these activities at all flows and ultimately will be incorporated as language in the clarification to the Incidental Take Permit.
- What “safety” precautions (i.e. additional best management practices) should the City of San Marcos/Texas State University and the City of New Braunfels employ when they implement these activities at lower flows?

Comal

Regardless of flow, the following activities may be implemented:

- 5.2.1 Flow-Split Management in the Old and New Channel
- 5.2.2 Native Aquatic Vegetation Restoration and Maintenance – only gardening and maintenance of previously restored areas may continue.
- 5.2.3 Management of Public Recreational Use of Comal Springs and River Systems
- 5.2.4 Decaying Vegetation Removal and Dissolved Oxygen Management
- 5.2.5 Control of Harmful Non-Native Animal Species
- 5.2.6 Monitoring and Reduction of Gill Parasites
- 5.2.7 Prohibition of Hazardous Material Transport Across the Comal River and Its Tributaries
- 5.2.9 Reduction of Non-Native Species Introduction and Live Bait Prohibition
- 5.2.10 Litter Collection and Floating Vegetation Management
- 5.2.11 Management of Golf Course Diversions and Operations
- 5.6.1 State Scientific Areas
- 5.7.2 Water Quality Monitoring
- 5.7.5 Management of Household Hazardous Wastes

San Marcos

Regardless of flow, the following activities may be implemented:

- 5.3.1 Texas Wild-Rice Enhancement and Restoration - only gardening and maintenance of previously restored areas may continue.

- 5.3.2 Management of Recreation in Key Areas
- 5.3.3 Management of Aquatic Vegetation and Litter Below Sewell Park
- 5.3.4 Prohibition of Hazardous Materials Transport Across the San Marcos River and Its Tributaries
- 5.3.5 Reduction of Non-Native Species Introduction
- 5.3.8 Control of Non-Native Plant Species - only gardening and maintenance of previously restored areas may continue.
- 5.4.1 Texas Wild-Rice Enhancement and Restoration - only gardening and maintenance of previously restored areas may continue.
- 5.4.2 Management of Recreation in Key Areas
- 5.4.3 Management of Vegetation - only gardening and maintenance of previously restored areas may continue.
- 5.4.5 Diversion of Surface Water
- 5.4.8 Research Programs in Spring Lake
- 5.4.9 Management of Golf Course and Grounds
- 5.4.11 Reduction of Non-Native Species Introduction
- 5.4.12 Control of Non-Native Plant Species - only gardening and maintenance of previously restored areas may continue.
- 5.4.13 Control of Non-Native Plant Species - only gardening and maintenance of previously restored areas may continue.
- 5.6.1 State Scientific Areas
- 5.7.2 Water Quality Monitoring
- 5.7.3 Septic System Registration and Permitting Program
- 5.7.4 Minimizing Impacts of Contaminated Runoff
- 5.7.5 Management of Household Hazardous Wastes