

INCIDENT REPORT – SEDIMENT DISCHARGE, BMP FAILURE, AND WATER QUALITY IMPAIRMENT

Location: Cate’s Creek, Helotes Creek, and Grey Forest Swimming Hole and Boating and Fishing Lake **Date of Incident:** Following rainfall over the weekend of June 13–15, 2026 **Reporting Party:** Randy Neumann, Bexar County resident **Affected Area:** Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone, upstream of Grey Forest, Texas

Summary of Incident

Following rainfall over the weekend, **Cate’s Creek and Helotes Creek experienced significant flooding accompanied by visible sediment discharge** originating from active construction sites on the Edwards and Guajolote properties. Multiple residents observed that:

- The creeks turned a **pale, milky, muddy color** inconsistent with natural stormwater turbidity.
- The **Grey Forest swimming hole developed an unusual odor** that long-time residents report they have never encountered before.
- **Best Management Practices (BMPs) appear to have failed** on the upstream construction sites.
- At least one of the Bexar County clearing/stormwater permits issued to Lennar reportedly **waived BMP requirements**, raising concerns about compliance with stormwater regulations and the Clean Water Act.

These conditions strongly suggest **sediment-laden stormwater runoff** and potential **pollutant discharge** into waters of the state and waters of the United States.

Observed Impacts

- **Discoloration** of Cate’s Creek and Helotes Creek to a pale muddy color.
- **Odor** at the Grey Forest swimming hole not previously documented.
- **Flooding** that carried visible silt downstream.
- **Potential impairment** of a primary contact recreation waterbody.
- **Downstream community concern** regarding water quality, aquatic habitat, and public health

Regulatory Concerns

This incident raises the following issues requiring investigation:

1. **Failure of required stormwater BMPs** on active construction sites.
2. **Possible unauthorized discharge** of sediment and other pollutants into state waters.
3. **Potential violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 402** (stormwater construction general permit).
4. **Potential violation of Edwards Aquifer protection standards** for the Contributing Zone.
5. **Public health concerns** related to recreational water use in Grey Forest.
6. **County-issued BMP waivers** that may have contributed to the impairment.
7. **Of special concern: the springs which feed the swimming hole in Grey Forest are running muddy water. Longtime residents can never recall this happening before. The springs have ALWAYS run clear. This raises obvious concerns about well water impacts in the area.**

Requested Actions

I respectfully request:

1. **Immediate site inspection** of the Edwards and Guajolote construction areas.
2. **Sampling and documentation** of water quality conditions in Cate's Creek, Helotes Creek, and the Grey Forest swimming hole.
3. **Verification of BMP installation, adequacy, and compliance** with state and federal stormwater requirements.
4. **Review of Bexar County's BMP waiver** and its role in the observed impairment.
5. **Enforcement action** if violations are confirmed, including corrective measures to prevent further discharges.

Attachments / Evidence (available upon request)

- Photographs of creek discoloration
- Resident statements regarding odor and water quality changes
- Maps of upstream construction sites
- Permit information and BMP waiver documentation

Contact Information

Name: Randy Neumann, Scenic Loop-Helotes Creek Alliance **Location:** Bexar County, Texas
Email: uhit@aol.com / **Phone:** (210) 867-2826 **Availability:** Anytime for follow-up or site visit coordination

Click below for pictures and links:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/qg3eet9wy09nik0rq7gxs/Incident-Report-Pics-Docs.zip?rlkey=6x3lqz3w1crdj0g2855yia2a&dl=0>