

# HYDROLOGIC DATABASES FOR FEDERALLY-LISTED T&E SPECIES

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## **Biographical Sketch of Presenter**

Allen White is employed as a contaminants specialist in the Austin field office of the US Fish & Wildlife Service and is involved with contaminant issues in central Texas that affect Service trust resources of national wildlife refuges and hatcheries, migratory birds, and Federally-listed species. The presenter has emphasized translation of contaminant information involving listed species into databases or publications that can be used by resource agencies and the public.

## **Abstract**

Protection of species that have been listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as threatened or endangered (i.e., T&E species) can be enhanced by providing detailed information on water systems necessary for T&E species survival to state and Federal regulatory agencies that are responsible for statewide water management programs. In Texas, a hydrologic database referencing aquatic and aquatically-dependent listed species with respect to significant habitat waterbodies has been set up to coordinate necessary regulatory actions concerning both surface waters and groundwaters of the state. The database is formatted in a QuattroPro software program and references listed species and Federally-designated critical habitat to specific habitat waterbodies, receiving waters, and individual Texas counties. Information in the database can be used in Clean Water Act activities such as NPDES permit writing, Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) actions, and triennial reviews of state water quality standards. Benefits associated with database usage include greater interagency coordination and early regulatory protection for waterbodies serving as habitat for candidate T&E species or species that have been proposed for listing.