Dry Comal Creek and Comal River Watershed Protection Plan Implementation Update

GBRA Clean Rivers Program
Steering Committee Meeting – FY25

April 23, 2025

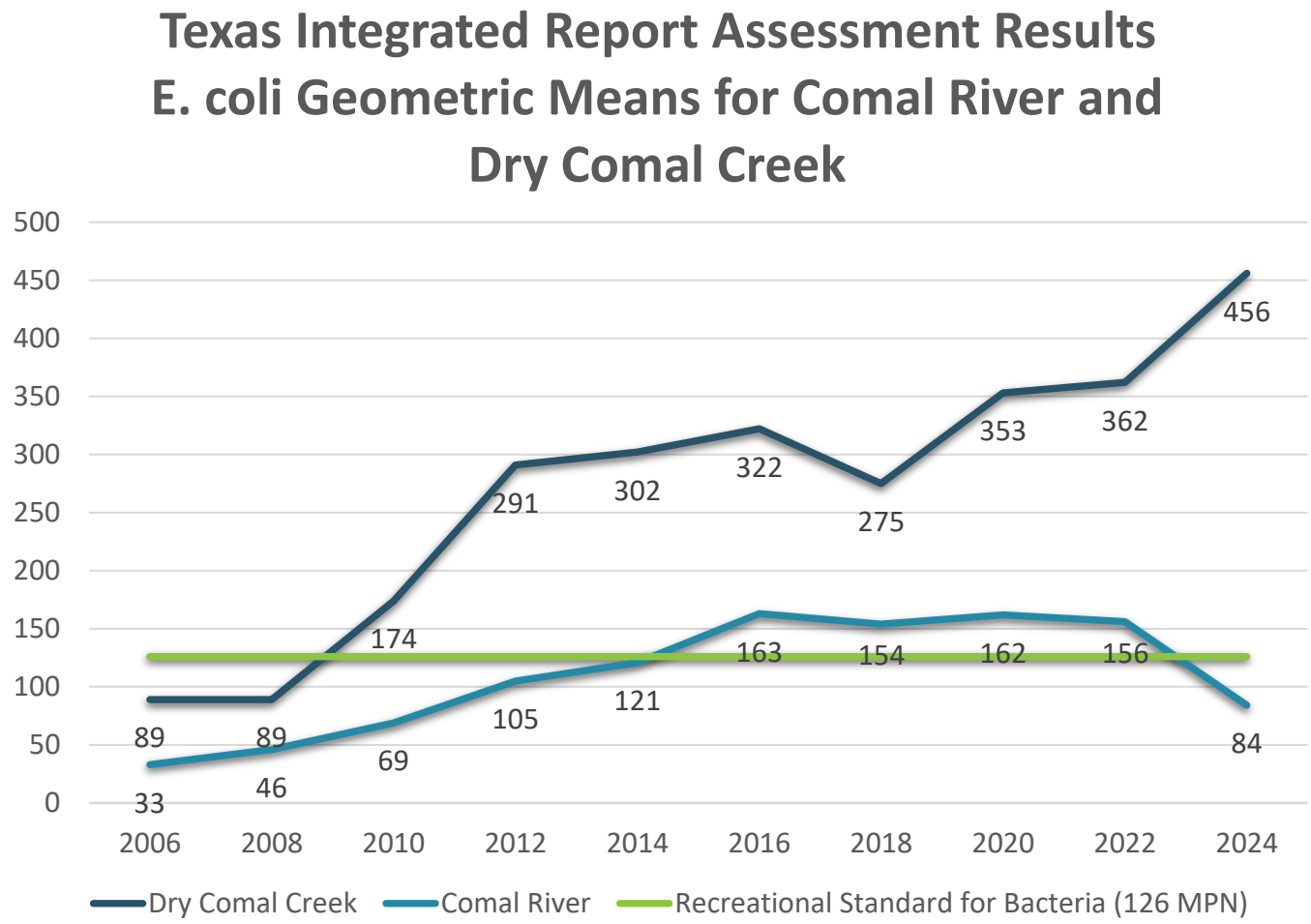
City of New Braunfels

Water Quality Concerns

- **Dry Comal Creek**: initially placed on the 303(d) list for bacteria in 2010.
- **Comal River**: initially placed on the 303(d) list for bacteria in 2016.

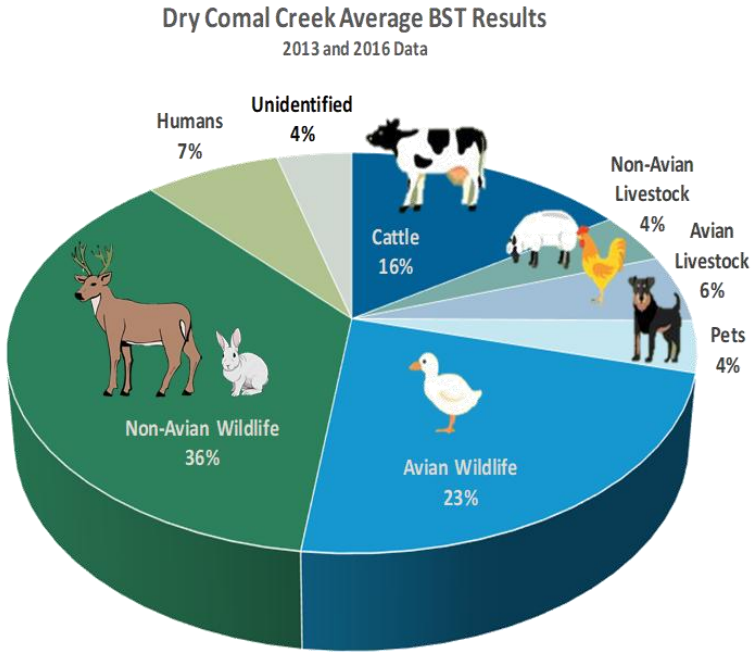
Note: Each data point represents the GeoMean of 7 years of monthly sampling data.

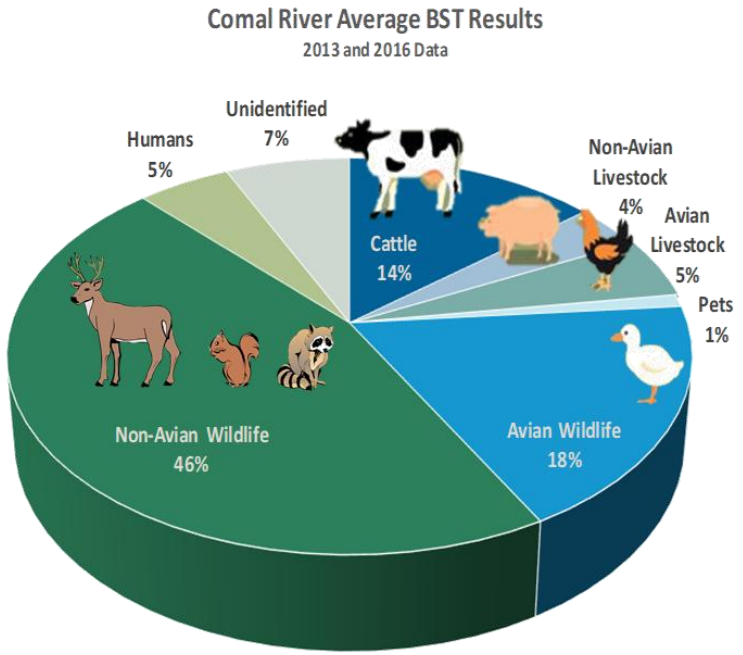
- Ex. - the 2024 assessment data points include 82 samples collected 2015-2022.



Water Quality Concerns

- Bacteria Source Tracking (BST) analysis was conducted in 2013 & 2016 by Texas A&M lab to identify sources of bacteria in creek/ river
- Approx. 60% of the bacteria found in Comal River & Dry Comal Creek from wildlife
- The Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) for the Dry Comal Creek and Comal River includes wildlife management measures to address bacteria loading.





Previous Efforts

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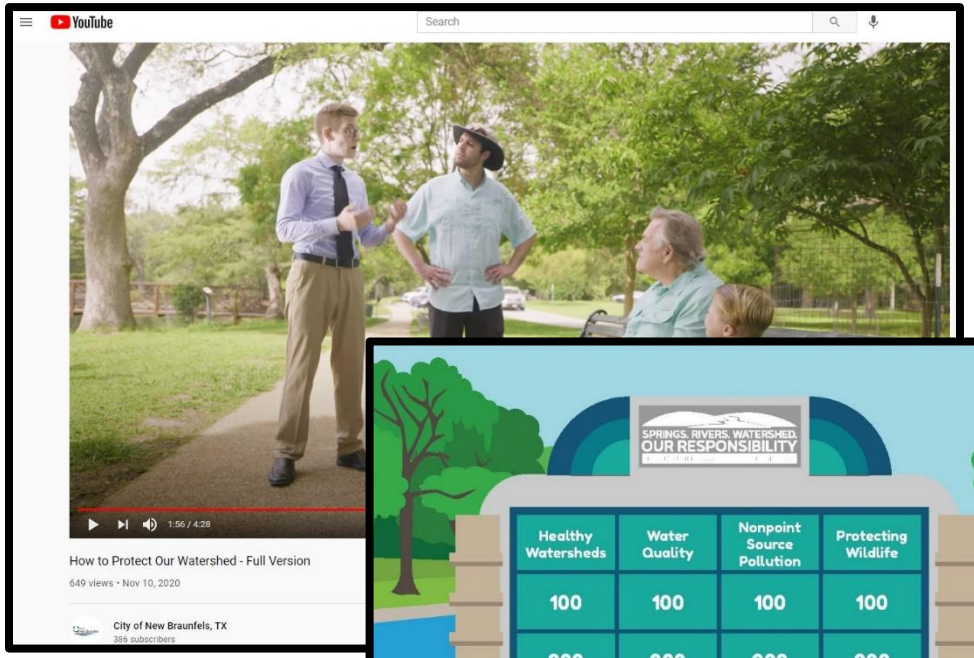

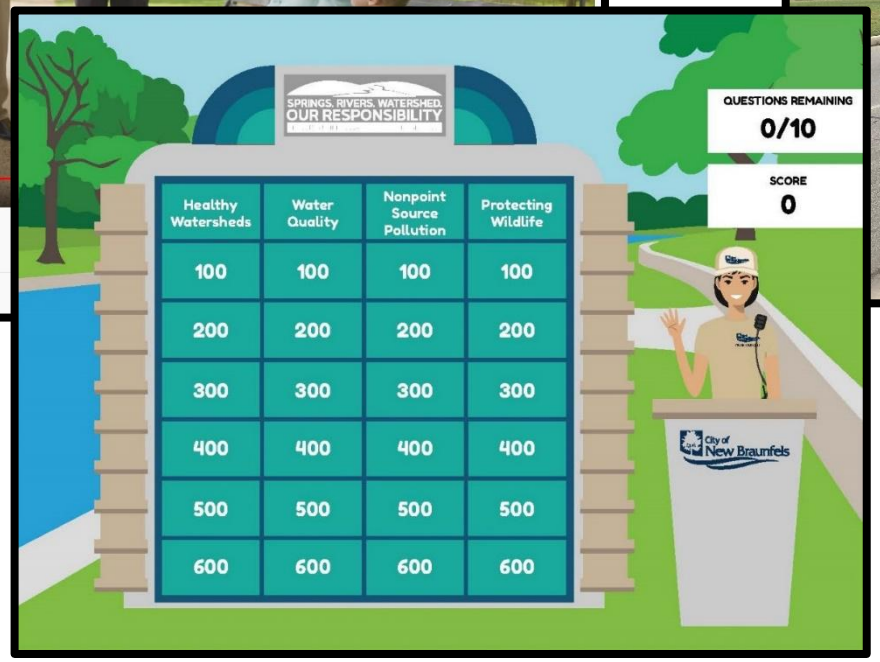

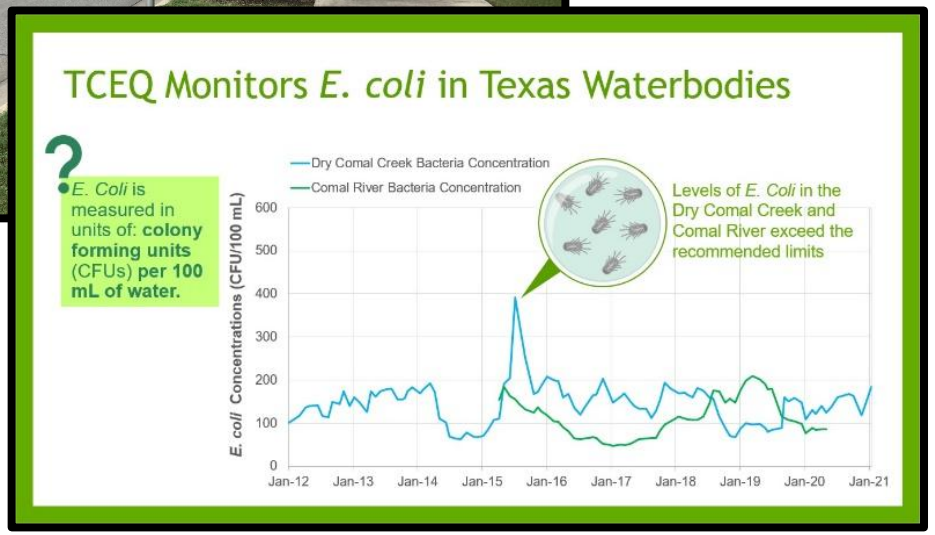

WPP Advertising Campaign

- Marketing campaign included:
  - Sponsored Advertisements on Facebook
  - Google Ads – Sponsored Links
  - WPP Video
    - YouTube
    - Local Movie Theaters
  - Printed Advertisements
    - Herald-Zeitung
    - Community Impact
- Ads focused on ‘Do Not Feed Wildlife’ ordinance education and reasoning behind it.

BMPs Addressing Stormwater

Stormwater Structural BMP

- Pilot study of in-pipe filtration system
- Upstream and downstream data collected will be used to determine effectiveness of the filtration system
- Fabco Industries High Flow Helix Stormwater Filter System
  - For additional product information and specifications, visit:

    Fabco-Industries.com

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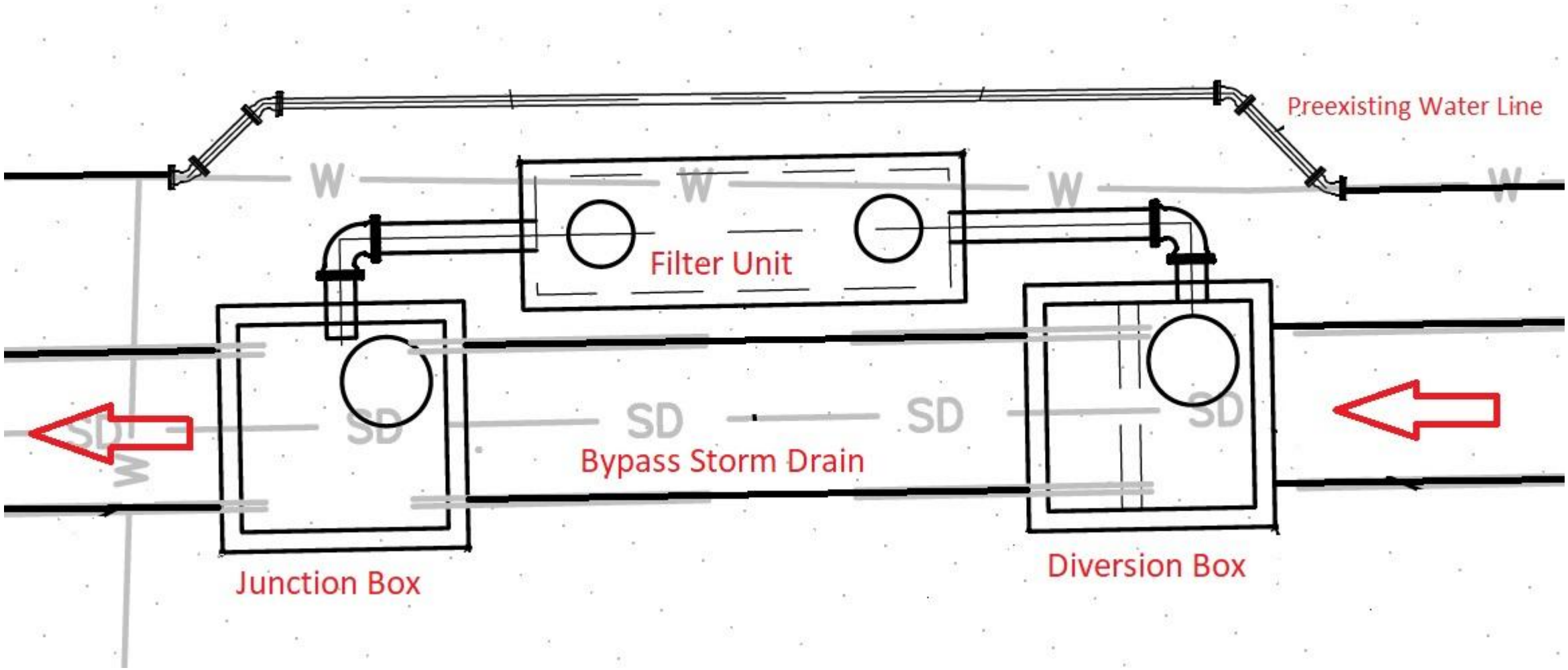

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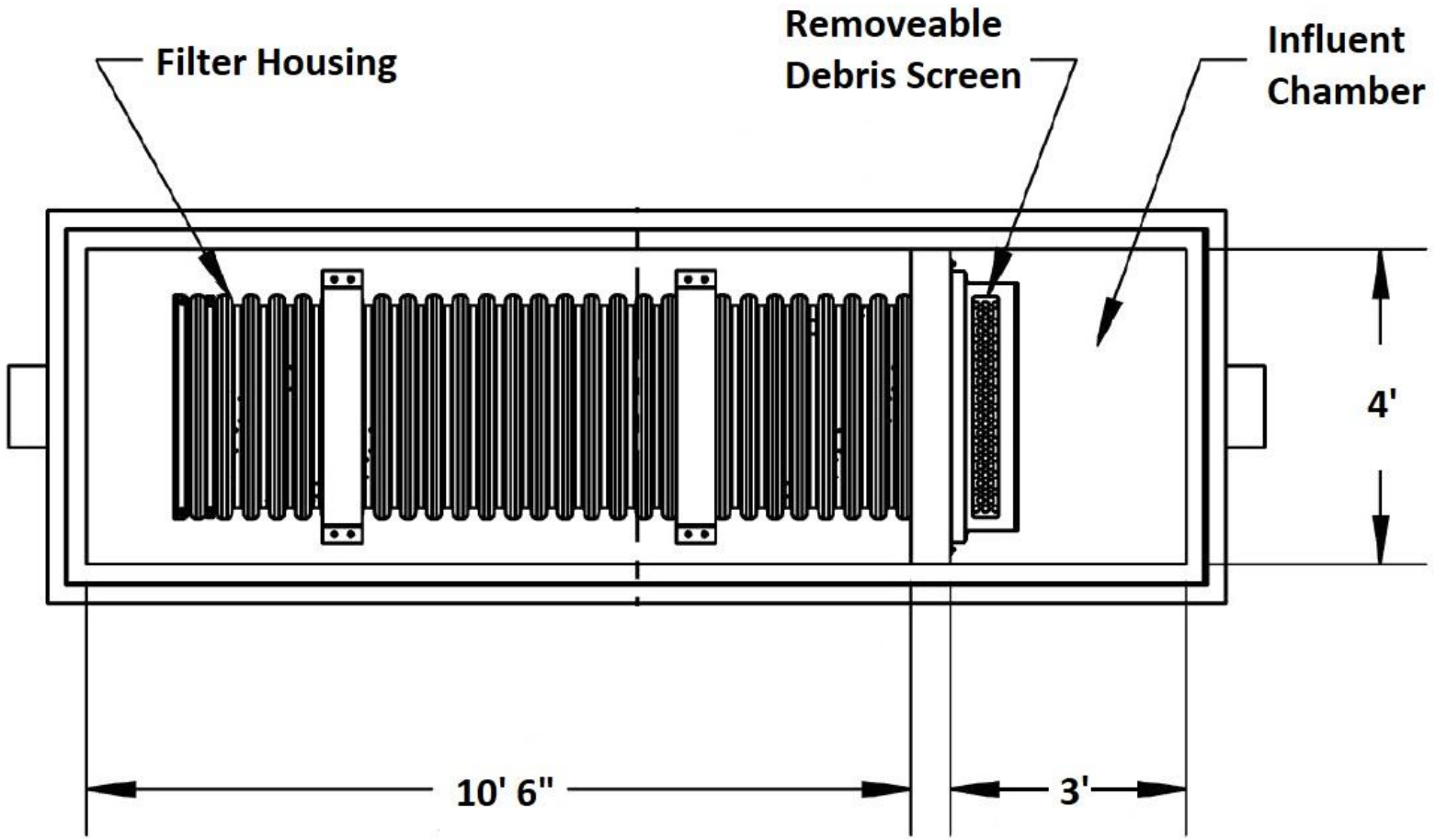

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- Next Steps
  - Begin stormwater monitoring program to determine effectiveness of the filtration system
    - Minimum of 6 rain events where there has been at least 0.5” of rain over 2 hours
    - Will perform the same monitoring protocol for 2 existing biofiltration systems in Landa Park during the same rain events

Questions?

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