



Adapted from Texas Map. Gulf Publishing, 1998.

**Figure 14. Map Location of Little Cypress Creek/Bayou**



**Figure 15. Little Cypress Bayou south of CR 3588**

### **Little Cypress Creek/Bayou**

Little Cypress Bayou begins as Little Cypress Creek in western Camp County and flows eastward 63 miles where it joins Big Cypress Bayou in Marion/Harrison County. Little Cypress Creek becomes Little Cypress Bayou north of Longview near the Gregg/Harrison County Line. The majority of the watershed is within the piney-woods region of Texas, although the upper watershed is contained within the Post Oak-Savannah region. The USFWS (1985) has identified a narrow area of 5,452 acres of priority bottomland hardwood forest along Little Cypress Bayou in Marion and Harrison Counties. The Colonial Waterbird Census indicates the historic presence of little blue heron, great egret, great blue heron, anhinga and cattle egret rookeries in this area (Bauer et al., 1991). The area has medium to high value to species such as white-tail deer, furbearers, squirrels, turkeys, raptors, waterfowl, colonial waterbirds, and other migratory birds (USFWS, 1985). The creek has several major tributaries and sloughs and high water quality that helps support a diverse sportfish population, as well as several threatened species. Species collected in a 1984 survey include spotted gar, grass pickerel, chain pickerel, spotted sucker, yellow bullhead, flathead catfish, pirate perch, largemouth bass, black crappie, freshwater drum, and several sunfish species (Bauer et al., 1991). The candidate segment is from the confluence with Big Cypress Bayou in Harrison County to a point 0.6 miles upstream of FM 2088 in Wood County (TNRCC stream segment 0409).

- (1) Biological Function- priority bottomland hardwood forest displays significant overall habitat value (USFWS, 1985).
- (2) Hydrologic Function- bottomland hardwood forest provides valuable hydrologic function relating to water quality.
- (3) Riparian Conservation Area- none identified.
- (4) High Water Quality/Exceptional Aquatic Life/High Aesthetic Value- designated as a South Central Plains Ecoregion Stream by the TPWD River Studies Program due to diversity of benthic macroinvertebrates (Bayer et al., 1992).
- (5) Threatened or Endangered Species/Unique Communities- significant due to presence of state threatened bluehead shiner, creek chubsucker, and blackside darter (Bauer et al., 1991).