



## Regional Watershed Coordination Steering Committee

Texas State Soil and Water  
Conservation Board

Colorado County Agriculture Building  
Columbus, Texas  
Thursday, December 6, 2007



## Today's Agenda Items

- Welcome and Introductions
- Houston Area Contact Recreation Use Attainability Analysis
- Selecting a Watershed for WPP Development
- Path Forward
- Adjournment

December 6, 2007

2



## Houston Area Contact Recreation Use Attainability Analysis

December 6, 2007

3



## Selecting a Watershed for WPP Development

December 6, 2007

4



## Overview of Selection Process

### ➤ Set of Criteria

- Impairment
- Planning Status
- LULC
- Implementation Status
- Size
- Ag NPS Potential
- Threat or LULC Change or Census Change
- Member Priority
- Coastal Zone
- Stakeholder Buy-In

December 6, 2007

5



## Overview of Selection Process

- WCSC members submitted 3 priority watersheds in their respective jurisdiction
- Significant agricultural land use component
- Assess Potential for Stakeholder Buy-in
- Watershed will be chosen from Top 5 of the assessment through discussion with WCSC
- Select watershed based on consensus of WCSC

December 6, 2007

6



## The Top 5 Watersheds

1. Geronimo Creek
2. Mustang Creek
3. Double Bayou
4. Chocolate Bayou
5. Skull Creek

December 6, 2007

7



## Map of Top 5



December 6, 2007

8



## Chart of Top 5 vs. Criteria Scores

Waterbody	Total Score
Geronimo Creek	733.47
Mustang Creek	701.11
Double Bayou	698.85
Chocolate Bayou	694.00
Skull Creek	659.44

December 6, 2007

9



## Discussion on the Top 5 Watersheds

- What are the pros and cons for each candidate watershed?
- Probability for success (de-listing)?
- What are other important factors for a WPP besides impairments and/or concerns?

December 6, 2007

10



## Path Forward on Selected Watershed

- December 2007 – WCSC identifies priority watershed for WPP development
- January 2008 – work with regional entities to develop proposed scope of work
- February-August 2008 – Regional Watershed Coordinator collects background information and data on selected watershed
- September 2008 – if scope of work selected for funding, begin WPP development process with local stakeholders

December 6, 2007

11



## CWA §319(h) NPS Grant

- TSSWCB Request-for-Proposals (RFP) for FY2008 Clean Water Act §319(h) NPS Grant projects will be published in the *Texas Register* tomorrow, December 7, 2007
- Priority Project Activities to be Funded
  - Implement WPPs and TMDL I-Plans
  - WPP Development Initiatives
    - Including watershed identified by this WCSC
  - Support use of Farm Bill Programs through Cooperative Conservation
  - Clarification of Category 5c bacteria impairments through SWQM

December 6, 2007

12



## Current Grant Opportunities

- EPA Environmental Education Grant
  - <http://www.epa.gov/enviroed/grants.html>
- TWDB Flood Protection Planning
  - <http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/publications/requestforproposals/FY08FloodProtection.asp>
- TWDB Regional Wastewater Facility Planning
  - [http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/publications/requestforproposals/FY08\\_regional.asp](http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/publications/requestforproposals/FY08_regional.asp)
- USFWS NAWCA Grants
  - <http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/index.shtml>
- NFWF Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants
  - [http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Browse\\_All\\_Programs&Template=/TaggedPage/TaggedPageDisplay.cfm&TPLID=30&ContentID=7593](http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Browse_All_Programs&Template=/TaggedPage/TaggedPageDisplay.cfm&TPLID=30&ContentID=7593)

December 6, 2007

13



## Update on Programs Supporting Watershed Protection Planning

- Texas Watershed Steward Program
  - <http://tws.tamu.edu/>
  - December 4, Kyle (Plum Creek) *recap*
  - January 24, Wellington (Buck Creek)
  - Need to identify additional locations/dates
- Texas Watershed Planning Short Course
  - <http://watershedplanning.tamu.edu/>
  - June 2008, Winter 2008, and Spring 2009 in Bandera
- Watershed Coordinator Roundtable
  - First roundtable held August 20 in Temple
  - Need for another in early 2008?

December 6, 2007

14



## State Guidance on WPPs and TMDLs

- TSSWCB/TCEQ staff updating 1999 TMDL Program guidance and incorporating Bacteria TMDL Task Force recommendations adopted by Board and Commission
- TSSWCB/TCEQ staff developing WPP Program guidance

December 6, 2007

15



## Path Forward

- Begin work on next WCSC-prioritized watershed
- Newsletter
  - Articles, Announcements, and/or Comments
- Next WCSC meeting March 6, 2008
- Other Announcements

December 6, 2007

16



## Expressing Daily Loads in TMDLs – EPA Webcast

- Today, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
- Introduce EPA's recently released draft document, *Options for Expressing Daily Loads in TMDLs*
- Designed to provide information to TMDL practitioners regarding options for developing appropriate daily load expressions during the TMDL process
- Address the calculation of daily loads for TMDLs that use allocation time frames that are greater than daily (e.g., annual, seasonal)
- The session will
  - Review the process for developing daily load expressions
  - Provide examples and highlight the implementation benefits of identifying daily loads
  - Address impacts of the daily loads requirement to the NPDES community
  - Provide the opportunity to pose questions to EPA staff and program experts

December 6, 2007

17



Adjourn

Thanks!

December 6, 2007

18



Brian Koch  
Regional Watershed Coordinator

Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board

Wharton Regional Office  
1120 Hodges Ln  
Wharton, TX 77488

979-532-9496 v  
979-532-8765 f

[bkoch@tsswcb.state.tx.us](mailto:bkoch@tsswcb.state.tx.us)  
<http://www.tsswcb.state.tx.us/>  
<http://www.tsswcb.state.tx.us/cwp>

Authorization for use or reproduction of any original material contained in this presentation is freely granted. TSSWCB would appreciate acknowledgement.

December 6, 2007

19