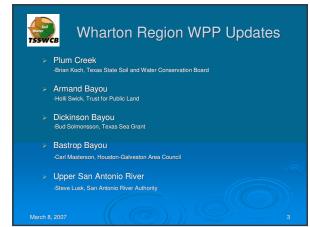


Watershed Coordination Steering Committee Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board Colorado County Agriculture Building Columbus, Texas Thursday, March 8, 2007







# **Plum Creek Watershed** Partnership Update

- Workgroup meetings November and January -discussions on potential BMPs for WPP implementation discussion on refinement of the LDC and SELECT modeling -GBRAs outreach to 760 Fourth Grade Students in the Watershed, through a water quality testing campaign
- > Steering Committee Meeting in December -initial LDC and SELECT results for *E. coli*; 59% reduction at Uhland, 12% at Lockhart, and 59% at Luling (no impairment on 2004 303d list below Lockhart) -Stakeholders commented to review this data, results to be presented at next Steering Committee Meeting this evening
- First Draft of WPP out to Stakeholders in February -initial review, comments addressed at March Steering Committee Meeting
- > Upcoming Steering Committee Meeting -stakeholder comments on first draft of the WPP -address stakeholder concerns/comments on modeling from December meeting
- First Draft of complete WPP Document August 2007



# Criteria Review for WPP Selection

- > The following are parameters that we used in the selection of Plum Creek as a pilot watershed for WPP development
- > What if any changes, adjustments, or edits would any of you as a WCSC member like to suggest to improve and/or refine of this selection process of Watershed for WPP development



# Criteria Review for WPP Selection

#### Impairment

- Utilize draft 2004 303(d) and 305(b) list and Secondary concerns list Assess points per assigned category (e.g. 4a, 4b, 4c, etc...)
   Split 4a and 5a between those with TMDLs underway and those without

- High points for 5a w/o, 4a w/o IP, secondary concern, threat/trend
  Medium points for 5b, 5c, 1, 2, 3, 5a w/, 4a w/
- Review data for trends

- If multiple segments and listings within watershed, use category with highest point value
- Change title from "Impairment" (negative) to "Waterbody 305(b) Status" (more positive)

# Criteria Review for WPP Selection TSSWCB Planning Status Planned TMDL or WPP > LULC • 2001 LULC is available Use only cropland or all three agriculture (cropland, rangeland, forestland) Compare agriculture to developed versus just % agriculture Use agriculture statistics from NASS survey Number of permitted dischargers (high # = low WPP potential) > Implementation Status To evaluate the potential for implementation of BMPs in watershed Use TSSWCB Water Quality Management Plan acreage compared to agriculture acreage from LULC above HUC-12 is now available for most of the region except for some coastal basins

# Criteria Review for WPP Selection

## TSSWCB Size

- Watershed size for realistic management
- High WPP potential for watersheds within target range
  100 to 1,000 mi2
  Also 1 million acres (about 1,600 mi2) suggested as

maximum > Ag NPS Potential

- Limitation because best resolution is HUC-8 in some coastal basins, HUC-12 is available for most of the region
- Basins, FIGC121s available for filos of the region Evaluated and ranked watershed potential from 1997 USDA NRCS nation-wide study Study examined parameters such as climate, soil characteristics, pesticides and nitrogen loadings from ag sources

# TSSWCB

# Criteria Review for WPP Selection

### > Threat or LULC Change

- · Best would be 2001 NLCD, which is available
- Next option use US Census Bureau population data
- 1990-2000 change in county with most area in watershed
- Use projections as well as historic change
- Use density versus population change
- · Eliminate irregularities by using block-level data instead of county (COGs should be able to help with this)
- Member Priority
- WCSC Member entity
  - · Select top three watersheds within jurisdiction for WPP



### Coastal Zone

- Simply Yes or No
- Any part of the watershed in delineated Coastal Zone
- Stakeholder Buy-in
  - Stakenolder Buy-in
    Of these ten "simple" parameters, this one turned into most complex
    Combination of points in four different sub-categories: citizen interest, local government, WCSC member support, and local SWCD interest
    First three (citizen, local government, and WCSC) will be self-ranked by WCSC member entity
    SWCD will be assessed by TSSWCB Field Representatives
    To tie to Texas Watershed Steward, should also include evaluation of TCE County Faculty in each watershed



# Criteria Review for WPP Selection

- > Criteria for previous selected watershed sent out
- All comments in by April 30, 2007, to ensure all will be addressed by June WCSC meeting
- > After June WCSC refine criteria spreadsheet
- September WCSC ask entities for priority watersheds to be prioritized through the spreadsheet
- > December WCSC select watershed for WPP development; dependent on TSSWCB FY08 319 **RFP** dollars



## Path Forward

- Take comments on refinement of priority assessment for selection of next watershed for WPP development
- > Newsletter
- -Articles, Announcements, and/or Comments
- > Next WCSC meeting June 7, 2007
- > Other Announcements

