



# Watershed Coordination Steering Committee


Texas State Soil and Water  
Conservation Board

March 10, 2005  
Colorado County Agriculture Building  
Columbus, TX



# Today's Agenda


1. Overview of the TSSWCB
2. Overview of Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs)
3. Overview of Watershed Protection Plans (WPPs)
4. Overview of this Watershed Coordination Project
5. Discussion of Steering Committee Purpose, Goals and Outcomes



## Agenda Item 1

### Overview of the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board


March 10, 2005 3



## Agency Origin

- Created in 1939 by the Texas Legislature to organize the State into local SWCDs and to serve as the state level administrative agency for those local SWCDs
- In 1975, Governor Briscoe designated TSSWCB as lead agency to assume the planning and management responsibility for control of agricultural and silvicultural nonpoint source pollution as required by the federal Water Pollution Control Act


March 10, 2005 4





## Agency Vision

It is the mission of the TSSWCB, working in conjunction with local SWCDs, to encourage the wise and productive use of natural resources. It is our goal to ensure the availability of those resources for future generations so that all Texans' present and future needs can be met in a manner that promotes a clean, healthy environment and strong economic growth.


March 10, 2005 5



## Key Agency Publications


March 10, 2005 6



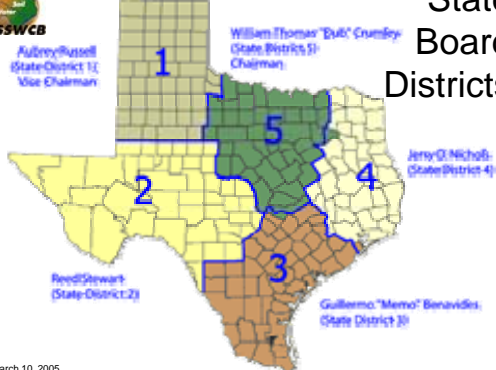
## Agency Leadership

- Board composed of 7 members
  - Five members elected by landowners, one from each of the 5 state districts
    - Original Board structure since 1939
    - The 5 districts are evenly distributed with 50 or 51 counties each
  - Two members appointed by the Governor
    - Added by the 78<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature in 2003
    - These two positions currently remain unfilled


March 10, 2005 7



## State Board Districts




March 10, 2005 8



## FAQs

- The TSSWCB has no regulatory functions; all of the agency's programs and services are voluntary in nature.
- 2004-2005 biennial appropriations \$39M
  - 48% state General Revenue Fund
  - 22% federal grants
  - 30% interagency contracts
- Only 59 employees statewide

March 10, 2005 9

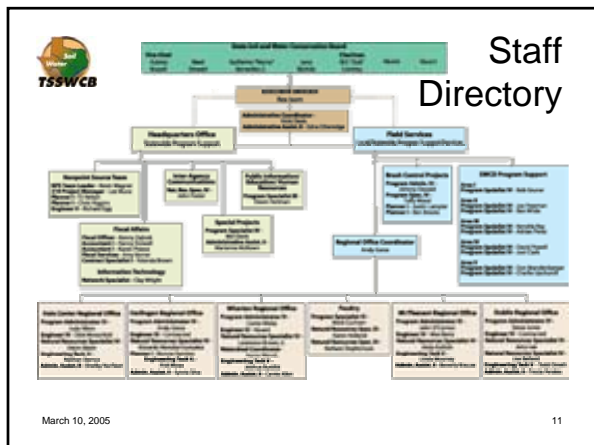



## Organizational Structure

- Headquarters
  - Temple (18)
- Regional Offices
  - Hale Center (5)
  - Harlingen (5)
  - Wharton (5)
  - Dublin (5)
  - Mt. Pleasant (5)
- Poultry Office
  - Nacogdoches (3)
- Brush Control
  - San Angelo (4)
- Field Representatives
  - statewide (9)

70% of staff are in the field working directly with producers and SWCDs


March 10, 2005 10

## Agency Program Areas

1. Soil and Water Conservation Assistance
  - Technical Assistance Grants
  - Matching Funds
  - Field Representatives
2. Water Supply Enhancement
  - Water Conservation Planning
  - Water Conservation Grants
  - Brush Control Program
3. Nonpoint Source Pollution Abatement
  - Water Quality Management Plan Program
  - Poultry Initiative
  - TMDL Program
  - CWA §319(h) Grants
  - Coastal Zone Management


March 10, 2005 12



## Program Area 1

### Soil and Water Conservation Assistance

March 10, 2005 13




The soil conservation district is the workshop through which those who love the land pool their efforts and information in making land more stable and productive and our country more prosperous and a better land in which to live.

The fact that landowners themselves have the responsibility for voting in a district, formulating its program, administering its business and entering into cooperative agreements with their fellow landowners, makes soil conservation districts a democracy in action.

V.C. Marshall  
Father of the Texas SWCD Program


March 10, 2005 14



## SWCD Structure

- 217 SWCDs, each an independent political subdivision of state government
- Established through local option elections of agricultural landowners
- Each SWCD is governed by 5 district directors elected by agricultural landowners
- Generally reflect county boundaries, but may follow river basin or watershed boundaries
- No taxing authority; therefore rely on locally generated funds and federal, state, and county assistance
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides most of the federal assistance to Districts
- Develop a Plan of Work based on an inventory of soil and water resources, problems and solutions


March 10, 2005 15



## SWCD Activities

- Operation and maintenance of flood control structures
- Sponsoring pesticide workshops
- Producer field days
- Land and range judging contests
- Scholarships
- Poster, essay and public speaking contests for students
- Youth fairs and field days
- Teacher workshops
- Funding construction of outdoor classrooms
- Promotion of NRCS programs
- Conservation Planning Assistance


March 10, 2005 16



## Board Support to Districts

- Conservation Assistance Funds
  - 1:1 matching funds program
  - District monies must come from local sources
  - FY 04 appropriation \$916,364
- Technical Assistance Funds
  - Funding for district technical employees
  - FY 04 appropriation \$1,036,241
- Director Mileage and Per Diem
  - FY 05 appropriation \$325,000


March 10, 2005 17




## Board Support to Districts

- Public Information and Education
  - Conservation Education Video Library (>180 titles)
  - NPS Pollution and Groundwater flow models
- 10 Field Representatives
  - Attend monthly meetings of each district in their section
  - Provide advice and consultation on relevant state and federal conservation laws
  - Furnish assistance in complying with Open Meetings and Records Acts, audits and financial reporting, wage and hour laws
  - Provide program coordination with neighboring districts


March 10, 2005 18



## SWCDs & Field Reps




March 10, 2005 19



## Program Area 2

### Water Supply Enhancement


March 10, 2005 20



## Water Quantity Programs

- Water Conservation Planning
  - Aggressive role in Water Conservation Implementation Task Force established by SB 1094 of 78<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature in 2003
  - *Water Conservation BMP Guide* (Nov 2004)
- Water Conservation Grants
  - Historically known as Subchapter H funding
  - SB 1053 of the 78<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature transferred the bond to accounts administered by TWDB
  - TSSWCB applies on behalf of SWCDs yearly
  - FY 04 grant \$115,000
- Brush Control Program (San Angelo)


March 10, 2005 21



## Brush Control Program

- Created in 1985, not funded until 1999
- Comprehensive strategy for managing brush through selective control in areas where brush is contributing to a substantial water conservation problem and designates areas of critical need in which to implement the program
- Includes cost-share component


March 10, 2005 22




## Brush Control Activities

- Brush Controlled on 582,642 Acres during FY00 – FY04
- 10 Mesquite/Juniper Projects
- 2 Salt Cedar Projects
- FY04 \$3,114,794 General Revenue
- FY05 \$ 607,805 General Revenue


March 10, 2005 23



## Brush Control Program Area




March 10, 2005 24



## Program Area 3

### Nonpoint Source Pollution Abatement

March 10, 2005 25




## Legislative Mandate

Codified in Agriculture Code §201.026

TSSWCB is the lead agency in Texas responsible for planning, implementing and managing programs and practices for abating agricultural and silvicultural nonpoint source pollution


March 10, 2005 26



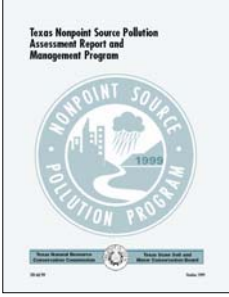

## Shared Water Quality Responsibility with TCEQ

<p><b>TSSWCB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agricultural NPS</li> <li>• Silvicultural NPS</li> </ul>	<p><b>TCEQ</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Urban NPS</li> <li>• PS Discharge</li> </ul>
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March 10, 2005 27



## Shared NPS Responsibility with TCEQ


March 10, 2005 28



## Agricultural or Silvicultural?

<p><b>Agriculture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Crop Production</li> <li>- Aquaculture</li> <li>- Floriculture</li> <li>- Horticulture</li> <li>- Livestock or Poultry Production</li> <li>- Pasture and Hayland Management</li> <li>- Wildlife Management</li> <li>- Rangeland Management</li> <li>- Viticulture</li> </ul>	<p><b>Silviculture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Natural or planted afforestation</li> <li>- Controlling, suppressing or culling unwanted woody or herbaceous vegetation in a forested area</li> <li>- Constructing and maintaining roads and fire lanes</li> <li>- Operating facilities for harvesting, handling and removing timber products from growing sites</li> <li>- Establishing and maintaining strips or belts of trees for wildlife habitat</li> <li>- Propagation and culture of tree seedlings, tree saplings and Christmas trees</li> <li>- Establishing and maintaining windbreaks and riparian buffers</li> <li>- Establishing, nurturing, protecting and enhancing the desired tree growth for human and wildlife benefit</li> </ul>
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March 10, 2005 29



## NPS Pollution Abatement Programs

- WQMPs (5 Regional Offices)
- Poultry Initiative (Nacogdoches)
- TMDL Program
- CWA §319(h) Grants (Temple)
- Coastal Zone Management


March 10, 2005 30



## Water Quality Management Plans

- Provides agricultural and silvicultural producers the opportunity to comply with state water quality laws through traditional, voluntary, incentive based programs
- Purpose of a WQMP is to achieve a level of pollution prevention or abatement determined by TSSWCB, in consultation with local SWCD, to be consistent with state water quality standards
- *More about this program later in the presentation*


March 10, 2005 31



## Poultry Initiative

- 77<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, in 2001, passed SB 1339 requiring all poultry facilities in Texas to operate in accordance with a WQMP certified by the TSSWCB
- Provides a staggered schedule of deadlines by which each producer, depending on their initial date of operation, must have requested the development of a WQMP from their local SWCD
- Currently 88% of all identified poultry facilities in Texas operate under a certified WQMP
- There is an ongoing challenge of identifying new poultry farms being constructed and put into production and locating other poultry farms not yet identified
- Administered by Poultry Office (Nacogdoches)


March 10, 2005 32



## New CAFO Rule Affecting Poultry Operations

- Changes by US EPA to federal CAFO regulations has resulted in TCEQ adopting a rule change requiring certain dry-litter poultry operations to operate under a water quality permit effective in 2006
- Prior to this change, dry-litter poultry operations were not required to have a permit only a WQMP
- Between 200-500 poultry operations will require permits
- The rule recognizes that a poultry operator's existing WQMP meets the majority of the technical requirements required by a permit
- TSSWCB developing guidance document *Converting Water Quality Management Plans into Pollution Prevention Plans on Dry Litter Poultry Operations Requesting General Permit Coverage*


March 10, 2005 33



## TMDL Program

- Shared responsibility with TCEQ
- Draft 2004 303(d) List
  - 399 impairments
  - 197 bacteria (49%)
  - 104 low DO (26%)
- 24 TMDLs in development on water bodies impaired, at least in part, by agriculture
- 5 TMDLs being implemented on water bodies impaired, at least in part, by agriculture


March 10, 2005 34



## CWA §319 Grants

- TSSWCB receives ½ of the US EPA CWA §319(h) grant provided to Texas
- FY05 Texas allocation \$9.5M
- 11 proposals selected by TSSWCB for FY05 funding
- Currently manage 64 projects statewide


March 10, 2005 35



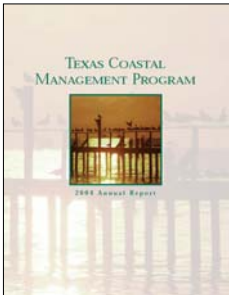
## Coastal Zone Management

- TSSWCB assists in the implementation of the Texas Coastal Management Program administered by GLO
- TSSWCB is a member of Coastal Coordination Council
- Texas SWCDs in the coastal zone have received approximately \$200K per year for the last three years through NOAA's CZMA §6217 grant program
- Districts use these funds to supplement their annual SB 503 WQMP cost-share allocation
- Funding will be phased out as NOAA shifts priorities

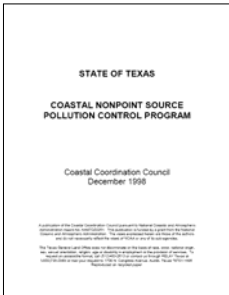
March 10, 2005 36



## Coastal Management Program Documents




TEXAS COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
2004 Annual Report



STATE OF TEXAS  
COASTAL NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM  
Coastal Coordination Council  
December 1998

March 10, 2005 37






## Agenda Item 2

### Overview of Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs)


March 10, 2005 38



## WQMP Purpose

- Provides agricultural and silvicultural producers the opportunity to comply with state water quality laws through traditional, voluntary, incentive-based programs
- Purpose of a WQMP is to achieve a level of pollution prevention or abatement determined by TSSWCB, in consultation with local SWCD, that is consistent with state water quality standards


March 10, 2005 39



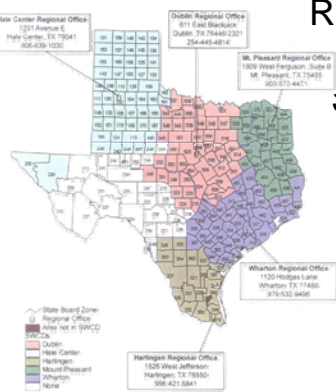
## WQMP FAQs

- Created by SB 503 of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Texas Legislature in 1993
- Amended Texas Water Code §26.121 to grant certified TSSWCB WQMPs the same legal status as TCEQ point source permits
- No charge to the producer for development of a WQMP (implementation costs may exist)
- Administered through 5 Regional Offices


March 10, 2005 40




## Regional Office Service Areas



March 10, 2005 41



## WQMP Reference Guide



- Codified in Texas Agriculture Code Chapter 201 with published rules in Texas Administrative Code Chapter 523
- Technical assistance
- Cost-share assistance
- Site-specific plan for conservation land improvement measures

March 10, 2005 42




## District-Cooperator Agreement




- Producer signs a District Cooperator Agreement


March 10, 2005 43




## Request for WQMP Assistance




- Producers request planning assistance for a WQMP through local SWCD
- Plan development occurs
  - SWCD
  - NRCS
  - TSSWCB




March 10, 2005
44




## WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN



March 10, 2005
45




## Conservation Plan Map




- Conservation Plan Map with planned land units

March 10, 2005
46




## Soils Map




- Soils map with soil type delineation
- Also includes soil type descriptions

March 10, 2005
47




## WQMP CPO





- Practices needed and implementation schedule
- Practices meet standards defined in NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) and the resource quality criteria for water quality
  - Represents best available technology tailored to and adopted by each SWCD
- WQMP must cover the entire operating unit
- WQMP must include essential practices applicable to planned land use

March 10, 2005
48



## NRCS Practice Standards





March 10, 2005
49

**TSSWCB** **NRCS Practice Standards**

March 10, 2005 50

**TSSWCB** **Engineering Designs**

- Engineering Designs for projects such as Grade Stabilization Structures

March 10, 2005 51

**TSSWCB** **Certification**

- Producer approval
- NRCS approval
- SWCD approval
- TSSWCB Regional Office review
- TSSWCB certification

March 10, 2005 52

**TSSWCB** **Cost Share Application**

- Cost Share (SB 503)
- Each priority SWCD receives an appropriation through TSSWCB
- TSSWCB limits cost share rate to 75% and maximum amount to \$10,000 per WQMP
- SWCD may have more restrictive rates and amounts

March 10, 2005 53

**TSSWCB** **SB 503 Priority Cost Share Areas**


March 10, 2005 54

**TSSWCB** **Approved Practices**

- Practices for cost share must be TSSWCB approved
- Practices for cost share must be SWCD approved
- SWCD list may be more restrictive than TSSWCB list

March 10, 2005 55






## Agenda Item 3

### Overview of Watershed Protection Plans (WPPs)


March 10, 2005 62



## WPP FAQs

- EPA Guidance for FY 2004 and beyond
- Published in Federal Register Oct 23, 2003
- Address the 9 elements
- Geographic area of sufficient size such that implementation will address all sources and causes of impairments and threats to waterbody
- Driven by local stakeholders


March 10, 2005 63



## EPA Nine Elements

- a. Identification of the causes that will need to be controlled to achieve the load reductions (b)
- b. Estimate of the load reductions expected for the management measures (c)
- c. Description of management measures that will need to be implemented to achieve the load reductions (b)


March 10, 2005 64



## EPA Nine Elements

- d. Estimate of technical and financial assistance needed to implement this plan
- e. Information/education component that will be used to enhance public understanding of this plan
- f. Schedule for implementing management measures (c)


March 10, 2005 65




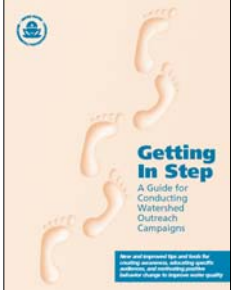
## EPA Nine Elements

- g. Description of interim, measurable milestones for determining whether management measures (c) are being implemented
- h. Set of criteria that can be used to determine whether load reductions (b) are being achieved
- i. Monitoring component to evaluate effectiveness of implementation measured against the criteria (h) established


March 10, 2005 66



## EPA Guidance


March 10, 2005 67



## Agenda Item 4

### Overview of Watershed Coordination Project


March 10, 2005 68




## Impetus

- Many of the federal funding sources we currently utilize have recently begun to require a more vigorous planning strategy before the funding can be used
- US EPA now requires that a “watershed plan” be developed prior to using CWA §319(h) funding
- TSSWCB has taken a lead on this effort
- These watershed plans will allow TSSWCB to assist farmers and ranchers in continuing to address the most pressing NPS concerns in Texas

March 10, 2005 69




## Precedent



- CWA §319(h) FY03 project
- Establishment of a Watershed Coordinator for the North Bosque River Watershed
- Brazos River Authority provides overall coordination of this project


March 10, 2005 70



## Regional Watershed Coordinator

- 100% federally funded CWA §319(h) FY04 grant
- 3 year pilot project
- The objective of this pilot project is to facilitate and demonstrate the benefits of a Regional Watershed Coordinator.
- If TSSWCB and watershed stakeholders deem the pilot project successful subsequent projects will be started in other TSSWCB Regions.


March 10, 2005 71



## Project Purpose

- A Regional Watershed Coordinator will be employed in the Wharton Field Office to assist local stakeholder groups in developing and implementing watershed plans.
- This watershed coordinator will organize a regional watershed steering committee consisting of various local, state and federal entities.
- The purpose for having a watershed coordinator is to promote watershed planning, provide guidance and technical expertise to local stakeholders when developing watershed plans, and assist local stakeholder groups with finding funding sources to implement the watershed plans once they are developed.


March 10, 2005 72



## Task 1

1. Employ a Regional Watershed Coordinator position in the Wharton Regional Office. The Coordinator will attend the national watershed training.


March 10, 2005 73



## Progress Task 1

- Aaron Wendt
  - B.S., Renewable Natural Resources Management, TAMU
  - TAES, TTU, TPWD
  - TSSWCB Nov. 1, 2004
- *Healthy Watersheds: Community-based Partnerships*
  - EPA course at OPM facility
  - November 2004
  - 2 weeks
  - Aurora, CO

March 10, 2005 74




## Task 2

2. Develop a Regional Watershed Steering Committee - Identify, establish contact with, and coordinate with local, state, federal, private entities, and other stakeholder groups necessary to establish successful watershed coordination. Establish regular regional watershed steering committee meetings.

**Deliverables**

1. List of all participating members of the watershed steering committee.
2. Minutes from watershed steering committee meetings.

March 10, 2005 75



## Progress Task 2

- Identified and invited appropriate entities to serve on Steering Committee
- First meeting March 10, 2005

March 10, 2005 76




## Invited Membership

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brazos Valley Council of Governments</li> <li>• Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission</li> <li>• Houston-Galveston Area Council</li> <li>• South East Texas Regional Planning Commission</li> <li>• Texas Cooperative Extension</li> <li>• Texas Water Resources Institute</li> <li>• Texas Commission on Environmental Quality</li> <li>• Texas Department of Agriculture</li> <li>• Texas General Land Office</li> <li>• Texas Water Development Board</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brazos River Authority</li> <li>• Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority</li> <li>• Lavaca-Navidad River Authority</li> <li>• Lower Colorado River Authority</li> <li>• Lower Neches Valley Authority</li> <li>• Nueces River Authority</li> <li>• Sabine River Authority</li> <li>• San Antonio River Authority</li> <li>• San Jacinto River Authority *</li> <li>• Trinity River Authority</li> <li>• Galveston Bay Estuary Program</li> </ul>
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\* Declined

March 10, 2005 77




## Task 3

3. Prioritize Watersheds in the Wharton Region. The Regional Watershed Steering Committee will identify watersheds in the Region and prioritize the watersheds in the Region based on a developed set of criteria that will include the 303(d) List and 305(b) Report.

**Deliverables**

1. List of criteria used to prioritize the watersheds.
2. List of all major watersheds in the region and their priority ranking.


March 10, 2005 78



## Progress Task 3

- Identified major USGS HUC-8 watersheds in WRO service area
- Identifying subwatersheds based on delineations of CRP partners
- Developed preliminary set of criteria
- Acquiring data necessary for priority evaluation

March 10, 2005 79



## Task 4


4. Develop and Implement a Detailed Three-Year Plan of Action Outlining Regional Coordinator Activities.

1. The Regional Coordinator and the Regional Watershed Steering Committee will identify specific milestones and deliverables based on identified priorities.
2. The plan will be implemented once it is finalized and approved by TSSWCB project management staff.

Deliverables

1. A detailed three-year workplan.
2. Report on progress to TSSWCB project management staff and the Wharton Regional Manager.


March 10, 2005 80



## Progress Task 4

- None

March 10, 2005 81




## Task 5

5. Develop a Regional Watershed Coordination Website. Development of the website shall begin immediately. The Regional Watershed Coordinator will work with the Regional Watershed Steering Committee to develop the designs for a one-stop source for all watershed coordination. The TSSWCB project management will have final approval of this site.

Deliverables

1. Website.


March 10, 2005 82



## Progress Task 5

- Software acquired
- Conceptual design phase
  - TSSWCB
    - <http://www.tsswcb.state.tx.us/programs.html>
  - US EPA Surf Your Watershed
    - <http://www.epa.gov/surf/>
  - Brazos River Authority-TSSWCB North Bosque Watershed Coordination
    - <http://www.brazos.org/NorthBosque/NorthBosqueHomepage.asp>
  - CSREES Southern Regional Water Quality Program
    - <http://srwqis.tamu.edu/states/texas/>
  - Texas Water Resources Education
    - <http://texaswater.tamu.edu/>

March 10, 2005 83




## Task 6

6. Identify Funding Sources and Assist Stakeholders in Applying for Funding Sources to Ensure Successful Watershed Coordination in the Wharton Region. The Regional Watershed Coordinator will facilitate and coordinate partnerships of stakeholders required for grant and funding opportunities.

Deliverables

1. List of possible funding sources. Funding sources will be made available on the Watershed Coordination Website.
2. List of funding sources applied for and the status grants.

March 10, 2005 84




## Progress Task 6

- Familiarization with TSSWCB CWA §319(h) grant program
- Directory of Watershed Resources, Environmental Finance Center Network, US EPA
  - <http://ssrc.boisestate.edu/>

March 10, 2005 85





## Task 7


7. Work with Watershed Groups to Identify and Track Ongoing Projects Pertaining to the Reduction of Point and Nonpoint Source Pollution and Establishment of Contact with all Relevant Parties.

1. Establish contact with all state, federal, local, and private entities currently engaged in activities related to point and nonpoint source pollution prevention in the watershed.
2. Obtain reference materials detailing the current activities and create records for future use in project related activities and publications.

Deliverables

1. List of project managers or responsible parties related to ongoing pollution abatement activities.


March 10, 2005 86



## Progress Task 7

- Participation in programs/activities leading to an understanding of ongoing projects
  - Clean Rivers Program
  - TMDL projects (TCEQ)
  - Galveston Bay Estuary Program
  - Instream Flow Program (TWDB)
  - TAMU Water Week (TWRI)
  - TIAER-TSSWCB Water Quality BMP Manual

March 10, 2005 87




## Task 8

8. Identification and Tracking of all Applicable Rules and Regulations Impacting Current Activities Contributing Point and Nonpoint Source Pollution.

Deliverables

1. List of applicable rules and regulations impacting current activities contributing point and nonpoint source pollution.
2. Update list for any new rules and regulations under development when applicable.


March 10, 2005 88



## Progress Task 8

- Reviewing applicable rules and regulations
  - TSSWCB WQMP
  - TCEQ Water Quality Standards, TMDL, CAFO
  - TDA Pesticides
  - Sections of Texas Water Code, Agriculture Code, Natural Resources Code, Administrative Code
  - EPA CWA
  - NRCS Farm Bill

March 10, 2005 89



## Task 9


9. Assist Watershed Groups and Stakeholders to Identify and Track Existing Water Quality Data and Monitoring Efforts.

1. Assist in establishing contact with all entities currently engaged in water quality monitoring activities in the watershed.
2. Assist watershed and stakeholder groups in obtaining and tracking existing water quality data and monitoring efforts.

Deliverables

1. Report progress to TSSWCB Project Management and the Regional Watershed Steering Committee.


March 10, 2005 90



## Progress Task 9

- Participation in programs/activities leading to an understanding of monitoring efforts
  - Clean Rivers Program
  - TMDL projects (TCEQ)
  - Galveston Bay Estuary Program
  - Texas Watch (TSU)

March 10, 2005 91




## Task 10

10. Facilitation of the Use of New and Emerging Technologies Beneficial in Reducing Point and Nonpoint Source Pollution - Identify new and emerging technologies that have the potential to reduce point and nonpoint pollution in the watershed; Coordinate the evaluation of such technologies; and Facilitate the implementation of these technologies.

**Deliverables**

1. List of all identified new or emerging technologies; update list as additional technologies are identified and provide updates of list within quarterly reports required under 12.1.


March 10, 2005 92



## Progress Task 10

- Participation in programs/activities leading to an understanding of emerging technologies
  - TAMU Water Week (TWRI)
  - EPA BST Workshop

March 10, 2005 93



## Task 11


11. Assessment of the Implementation Status of Existing Management Measures and Facilitation of Increased Participation.

1. Identify existing management measures (required or voluntary).
2. Assess level of participation in existing management measures.
3. Facilitate increased participation in existing management measures.
4. Assist watershed stakeholder groups to develop a watershed strategy using existing information and data, as well as, information and data collected through this project. The "Supplemental Guidelines for the Award of Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grants to States and Territories in FY 2003" sets criterion for a similar watershed approach.

**Deliverables**

1. List of existing management measures/programs.
2. Report on the level of participation with the watershed and identify within the website and the quarterly reports.
3. Watershed Strategy that are developed.


March 10, 2005 94



## Progress Task 11

- Gaining an understanding of TSSWCB WQMP
- Reviewing TSSWCB WRO WQMP data
- Reviewing TCEQ & NRCS programs
- Familiarization with EPA CWA § 319 Guidance

March 10, 2005 95



## Task 12


12. Reporting to Project Management and Stakeholders.

1. Prepare and submit quarterly reports on project activities and progress to TSSWCB project management.
2. Issue monthly emails, in newsletter-style format, to all stakeholders. These monthly emails should include information pertaining to any relevant meetings, demonstrations, or events related to pollution abatement in the watershed. Information regarding new or emerging technologies and efforts being made to evaluate and/or implement them within the watershed.

**Deliverables**

1. Quarterly reports.
2. Monthly E-mails.


March 10, 2005 96



## Progress Task 12

- Software acquired
- Brazos River Authority-TSSWCB North Bosque Watershed Coordination
  - <http://www.brazos.org/NorthBosque/Newsletters.asp>


March 10, 2005 97



## Agenda Item 5

### Discussion of Steering Committee Purpose, Goals and Outcomes


March 10, 2005 98



## Discussion Item

- What is the TSSWCB accomplishing with this project?
- What is the TSSWCB accomplishing with this Steering Committee?
- What is this Steering Committee accomplishing?

March 10, 2005 99




## Discussion Item

Task 4  
Develop and Implement a Detailed Three-Year Plan of Action Outlining Regional Coordinator Activities.

1. The Regional Coordinator and the Regional Watershed Steering Committee will identify specific milestones and deliverables based on identified priorities.

- Prioritize tasks
- Milestones and month to complete
  - Priority ranking of watersheds (T3)
  - Plan of action (T4)
  - Website online (T5)
  - WPP (T11)
  - Newsletter (T12)
  - WCSC (T2)

March 10, 2005 100




## Discussion Item


Task 3  
 Prioritize Watersheds in the Wharton Region. The Regional Watershed Steering Committee will identify watersheds in the Region and prioritize the watersheds in the Region based on a developed set of criteria that will include the 303(d) List and 305(b) Report.

- Geographic Scope
  - WRO service area (40 SWCDs in 47 Counties)
  - HUC-8 (51 Watersheds)
  - CRP sub-basin delineations (10 partners)
  - Classified river segments (162)


March 10, 2005 101



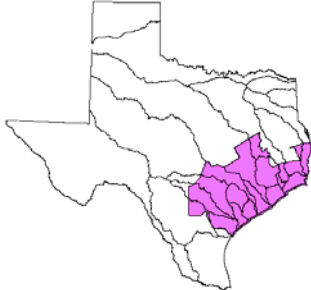
## Counties in WRO




March 10, 2005 102



## River Basins in WRO



March 10, 2005 103




## Discussion Item

**Task 3**  
Prioritize Watersheds in the Wharton Region. The Regional Watershed Steering Committee will identify watersheds in the Region and prioritize the watersheds in the Region based on a developed set of criteria that will include the 303(d) List and 305(b) Report.

- Criteria
  - 303(d) and 305(b) (approved 2002 or draft 2004?)
  - Coastal zone (10 SWCDs)
  - SB 503 and WQMP
  - LULC
  - Level of citizen activism
  - CRP priorities
  - Current WPP projects
  - NRCS (EQIP, CSP)
- GIS

March 10, 2005 104



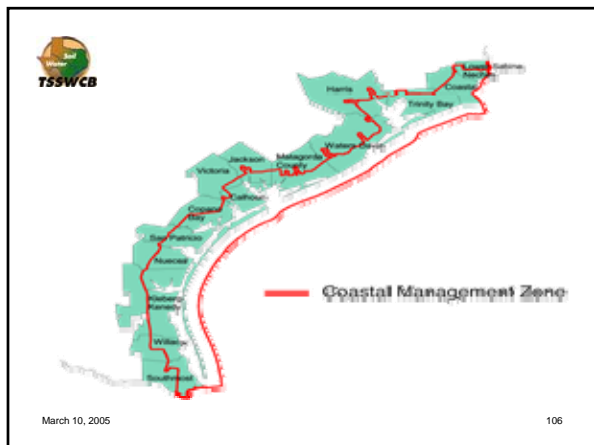

## 303(d) and 305(b)

**Active TMDL Projects**

- Peach Creek (B)
- Atascosa River (B)
- Upper Oyster Creek (B, DO)
- Elm & Sandies Creeks (B, DO)
- Adams & Cow Bayous (B, DO, pH)
- Dickinson Bayou (DO)
- San Antonio River (B)

- 241 impairments on
  - 75 classified segments
  - 104 unclassified segments
- 87 classified segments with no impairments

March 10, 2005 105

## WRO WQMP Status

SWCD	#	SB 503	CZM	# of WQMPs	Acres	# of AFOs
Victoria County	301			0	0	0
Calhoun County	302			0	1,314	8
Comal-Goatlands	306			5	1,495	5
Atascosa County	307			0	0	0
Neches County	316	Y	Y	103	77,743	0
Coastal Plains	317	Y	Y	103	23,867	0
Watersheds	318	Y	Y	116	36,008	0
Coopano Bay	323	Y	Y	47	36,294	0
Colorado	330	Y		36	8,780	0
Lavaca	334	Y		118	8,000	0
Jackson	336	Y	Y	66	39,933	0
Goatlands County	338			171	42,759	184
Small Counties	339			8	867	7
Bastrop County	340			0	0	0
Lavaca	341			5	1,760	0
Wharton County	342	Y		311	89,821	0
Karnes County	343			2	0	0
Bay	344			0	0	0
Calhoun	345	Y	Y	182	46,454	0


  

TOTALS					
SB 503	CZM	# of WQMPs	Acres	# of AFOs	
17	10	1,768	693,719	276	

SWCD	#	SB 503	CZM	# of WQMPs	Acres	# of AFOs
Victoria	301	Y	Y	36	45,116	0
Calhoun County	302	Y		10	20,543	0
Washington	308			10	2,691	1
Blanco County	351			0	0	0
Goatlands County	352			0	0	0
Bastrop County	353			8	1,404	7
Lee County	354			3	656	3
Redfish Creek	428			29	9,817	29
Colorado	434	Y	Y	67	49,834	0
Harris Bay	435	Y	Y	34	5,598	0
Lower Trinity	436	Y	Y	34	5,598	0
Lower Neches	437	Y	Y	0	0	0
Nevasota	440	Y	Y	11	3,292	4
Palmer-Hemlock	441	Y	Y	0	0	0
Harris County	442	Y	Y	37	5,430	6
Lower Sabine-Neches	446	Y	Y	24	8,123	0
Brewster County	450			5	270	5
Robertson County	451			23	3,880	22
Montgomery County	452			0	0	0
Walker County	453			1	73	1

March 10, 2005 107




## Discussion Item

**Task 9**  
 Assist Watershed Groups and Stakeholders to Identify and Track Existing Water Quality Data and Monitoring Efforts.

1. Assist in establishing contact with all entities currently engaged in water quality monitoring activities in the watershed.
2. Assist watershed and stakeholder groups in obtaining and tracking existing water quality data and monitoring efforts.

- Monitoring activities
  - CRP
  - TCEQ
  - TMDL
  - USGS
  - Texas Watch

March 10, 2005 108



## Discussion Item

**Task 7**  
 Work with Watershed Groups to Identify and Track Ongoing Projects Pertaining to the Reduction of Point and Nonpoint Source Pollution and Establishment of Contact with all Relevant Parties.

1. Establish contact with all state, federal, local, and private entities currently engaged in activities related to point and nonpoint source pollution prevention in the watershed.
2. Obtain reference materials detailing the current activities and create records for future use in project related activities and publications.

- List of known projects from CRP

March 10, 2005 109

**North Central Texas Water Quality Project (TWRI)**

March 10, 2005 110

**Texas Agricultural and Natural Resources Summit Initiative (TAMU and TTU)**

March 10, 2005 111

**Discussion Item**

Task 11  
Assessment of the Implementation Status of Existing Management Measures and Facilitation of Increased Participation.

1. Identify existing management measures (required or voluntary).
2. Assess level of participation in existing management measures.
3. Facilitate increased participation in existing management measures.

- List of known participation levels from CRP

March 10, 2005 112

**Discussion Item**

Task 6  
Identify Funding Sources and Assist Stakeholders in Applying for Funding Sources to Ensure Successful Watershed Coordination in the Wharton Region. The Regional Watershed Coordinator will facilitate and coordinate partnerships of stakeholders required for grant and funding opportunities.

- List of utilized funding sources by CRP

March 10, 2005 113

**Discussion Item**

Task 11  
 Assessment of the Implementation Status of Existing Management Measures and Facilitation of Increased Participation.

4. Assist watershed stakeholder groups to develop a watershed strategy using existing information and data, as well as information and data collected through this project. The "Supplemental Guidelines for the Award of Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grants to States and Territories in FY 2003" sets criterion for a similar watershed approach.

- Any known WPP projects


March 10, 2005 114

**Discussion Item**

Task 5  
Develop a Regional Watershed Coordination Website. Development of the website shall begin immediately. The Regional Watershed Coordinator will work with the Regional Watershed Steering Committee to develop the designs for a one-stop source for all watershed coordination. The TSSWCB project management will have final approval of this site.

- Website
  - Concept
  - Sitemap
  - Tasks accomplished online
    - 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
  - Timeframe


March 10, 2005 115



## Good Websites

- TSSWCB
  - <http://www.tsswcb.state.tx.us/programs.html>
- US EPA Surf Your Watershed
  - <http://www.epa.gov/surf/>
- Brazos River Authority-TSSWCB North Bosque Watershed Coordination
  - <http://www.brazos.org/NorthBosque/NorthBosqueHomepage.asp>
- CSREES Southern Regional Water Quality Program
  - <http://srwqis.tamu.edu/states/texas/>
- Texas Water Resources Education
  - <http://texaswater.tamu.edu/>

March 10, 2005 116





## Discussion Item

Task 12  
Reporting to Project Management and Stakeholders.

2. Issue monthly emails, in newsletter-style format, to all stakeholders.  
These monthly emails should include information pertaining to any relevant meetings, demonstrations, or events related to pollution abatement in the watershed. Information regarding new or emerging technologies and efforts being made to evaluate and/or implement them within the watershed.


- First issue
- Content/article submissions

March 10, 2005 117

## North Bosque River Watershed Coordination Newsletter

March 10, 2005 118




## Discussion Item

Task 2

Develop a Regional Watershed Steering Committee - Identify, establish contact with, and coordinate with local, state, federal, private entities, and other stakeholder groups necessary to establish successful watershed coordination. Establish regular regional watershed steering committee meetings.

- Steering committee membership
  - Federal (NRCS, EPA)
  - NGOs
  - Citizen representative
- Steering committee regular meetings
  - Quarterly (10 meetings based on project timeframe)
- Location
  - Set or rotating

March 10, 2005 119



## Items Not Discussed

- Task 1
- Task 8
- Task 10

March 10, 2005 120



## Anything Else?

March 10, 2005 121



# WRO WQMP Status

SWCD	#	SB 503	CZM	# of WQMPs	Acres	# of AFOs
Wilson County	301			0	0	0
Caldwell-Travis	304			8	1,314	8
Comal-Guadalupe	306			5	1,496	5
Atascosa County	307			0	0	0
Matagorda County	316	Y	Y	153	77,743	0
Coastal Plains	317	Y		103	23,857	0
Waters Davis	318	Y	Y	115	36,688	0
Copano Bay	329	Y	Y	47	35,294	0
Alamo	330			0	0	0
Colorado	333	Y		36	9,780	1
Lavaca	334	Y		115	9,090	9
Jackson	336	Y	Y	65	30,933	0
Gonzales County	338			171	42,755	164
Dewitt County	339			8	657	7
Bastrop County	340			0	0	0
Fayette	341			5	1,760	5
Wharton County	342	Y		311	89,621	0
Karnes County	343			2	0	0
Bee	344			0	0	0
Calhoun	345	Y	Y	182	40,454	0

SWCD	#	SB 503	CZM	# of WQMPs	Acres	# of AFOs
Victoria	346	Y	Y	36	45,116	0
Austin County	347	Y		10	120,543	0
Washington	348			10	2,661	1
Hays County	351			0	0	0
Goliad County	352			0	0	0
Burleson County	358			8	1,404	7
Lee County	359			3	666	3
Bedias Creek	428			29	9,817	29
Coastal	432	Y	Y	70	45,083	0
Trinity Bay	434	Y	Y	78	39,728	0
Lower Trinity	435	Y		34	5,598	0
Lower Neches	437			0	0	0
Navasota	440	Y		11	3,292	4
Jasper-Newton	441			0	0	0
Harris County	442	Y	Y	37	5,430	6
Lower Sabine-Neches	446	Y	Y	24	8,123	0
Brazos County	450			5	759	4
Robertson County	451			23	3,980	22
Montgomery County	452			0	0	0
Walker County	453			1	73	1

TOTALS				
SB 503	CZM	# of WQMPs	Acres	# of AFOs
17	10	1,705	693,715	276



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