



Watershed Coordinator Steering Committee

Texas State Soil and Water
Conservation Board

Colorado County Agricultural Building
Columbus, Texas
Thursday December 15, 2005

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Today's Agenda Items

- Welcome and Introductions
- Overview of Selection Process
- Selection of a Watershed
- Plan of Attack on Selected Watershed
- Path Forward
- Adjournment

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Overview of Selection Process

- Priority Criteria Worksheet filled out by WCSC Starting November 3
- Criteria used as weighting for prioritization of watersheds
- Steering Committee Members submitted their top 3 priority waterbodies
- Waterbodies were submitted by Priority Worksheet to be ranked
- The top 5 waterbodies from the WRO were then submitted to the Steering Committee for discussion and selection of the first WPP
- Use the 9 Elements of Watershed Planning in the process

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The nine elements fundamental to Watershed Protection Plans are:

- Identification of the causes that will need to be controlled to achieve the load reductions described in (b)
- Estimate of the load reductions expected for the management measures described in (c)
- Description of management measures that will need to be implemented to achieve the load reductions described in (b)
- Estimate of technical and financial assistance needed to implement this plan
- Information/education component that will be used to enhance public understanding of this plan
- Schedule for implementing management measures described in (c)
- Description of interim, measurable milestones for determining whether management measures described in (c) are being implemented
- Set of criteria that can be used to determine whether load reductions described in (b) are being achieved
- Water quality monitoring component to evaluate effectiveness of implementation measured against the established criteria described in (h)

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Unveiling of Selected Watershed

- Priority Criteria ranked the 303d listed waterbodies in the WRO.
- The top five watersheds
- Discuss the five among the WCSC pointing out and weighing the pros and cons for each one, and number 1 not necessarily being the selected watershed
- Select the watershed based on consensus of the WCSC

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Plan of Attack on Selected Watershed

- Research Watershed (WQ Data/maps/LULC/etc.)
- Talk to local agencies/TCEQ/DOH/RA
- Start work on forming local stakeholder group
 - identify "major players" i.e. key landowner, city council, mayor, newspaper editor, etc...
- Start awareness campaign through media on general water quality issues
- Plan initial meetings located in different cities within the watershed to build stakeholder base
- Start the planning process

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Timeline

- Month 0 (December) – Selecting Watershed
Start Research and Background of Watershed
- Month 1 & 2 (January & February) – Start building partnership, engage technical advisory group: TCEQ, CRP, TPWD, GLO, RA, collecting hard data on site.
Identify local Stakeholders
- Month 2 (February) – Media Blitz on General WQ issues
Identify local Stakeholders
- Month 3 (March) – Continue Media Blitz on General WQ and start Advertising Series of Public Meetings /
- Month 4 (April) Seek Commitment to Partnership / Discuss work groups
- Month 5 (May) – First Partnership Meeting
- Month 6 (June) – 2nd Partnership Meeting / Identify Chair

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Timeline

- Month 7 (July) – Task Groups Meeting
- Month 8 (August) – Task Groups
- Month 9 (September) – Partnership Meeting
- Month 10 (October) – Task Groups
- Month 11 (November) – Task Groups
- Month 12 (December) – Partnership Meeting
- Month 13 (January) – Task Groups

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Timeline

Month 14 (February) – Task Groups

Month 15 (March) – Partnership review and endorse Plan /
Partnership transforms to Watershed Action Committee

Series of Public Meetings about Outcome of the plan

Month 15 (March) – Regional Steering Committee review
and endorse Plan

Month 15 (March) – Equals Month Zero in Planning for the
next Priority Watershed

Month 17 (June) – TSSWCB/ TCEQ review and endorse
Plan

Month 18 (July) – EPA review and endorse Plan

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Structure

Texas Creek Watershed Partnership

Any person or entity that has a stake in
the watershed.

Local Steering Committee

Public

Work Groups

TSSWCB and TCE Partnership to facilitate
Education and WPP

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Work Groups

- Agricultural Issues
- Wastewater Infrastructure
- Habitat Restoration
- Monitoring
- Outreach and Education
- Smart Growth Urban NPS Residential NPS
- Flooding/Stormwater Management

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Website

- Grant Sources - EPA Finance Center NMSU
- CRP Partners
- TMDL Page
- Southern Region WQ
- TSSWCB
- Texas Map all WPPs link to individual websites

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Path Forward

- Monthly Newsletter- First one in January 2006, WCSC members could be “Guest Columnists” each month by submitting articles on general water quality issues and/or interest pertaining to the expertise of the steering committee member
- Regional Steering Committee – Technical Advisory role and assistance to local watershed committees around the region.
 - Draw on Expertise and Experience
 - Use of Priority Watershed Listing for use in implementing your own WPPs with support from the WRO Coordinator
 - Potential of receiving 319 funding from TSSWCB
- Next Meeting – March 9, 2006, current Watershed Coordinators from Wharton Region to discuss current Planning progress.
- June Meeting – Will be located in the selected Watershed and date may change from tentative schedule of June 8.

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Adjourn

- Thanks! Any Questions

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