

Texas Watershed Planning Training Project
CWA 319(h) NPS Grant Program
TCEQ Contract No. 582-11-12866

Quarter no. 5 From 6/1/12 Through 8/31/12

I. Abstract

Work this quarter primarily focused on developing and updating webpages, opening registration, and advertising for the first round of additional trainings to be offered: Fundamentals of Developing a Water Quality Monitoring Plan; Watershed Modeling using LDC/SELECT, and Introduction to Modeling. In addition, the planning team finalized the agenda for the September 24-28, 2012 Texas Watershed Planning Short Course and registration was opened. The July Roundtable was also hosted this quarter in College Station with 64 attendees.

II. Overall Progress and Results by Objective and Task

OBJECTIVE 1: PROJECT COORDINATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Task 1.1: Project Oversight – TWRI will provide technical and fiscal oversight of the staff and/or subgrantee(s)/subcontractor(s) to ensure Tasks and Deliverables are acceptable and completed as schedule and within budget. With the TCEQ Project Manager authorization, TWRI may secure the services of subgrantee(s)/subcontractor(s) as necessary for technical support, repairs and training. Project oversight status will be provided to TCEQ with the Quarter Progress Reports (QPRs).

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI continually monitors project status and budget to ensure tasks and deliverables are acceptable and completed as schedule and within budget.

54% Complete

Task 1.2: QPRs – Progress will be reported to TCEQ by the 15th of the month following each state fiscal quarter for incorporation into the Grant Reporting and Tracking System (GRTS). The Reports are to include the following: status of deliverables for each task; narrative description in Progress Report format.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI submitted Year 1, Quarter 5 Progress Report on September 14, 2012.

54% Complete

Task 1.3: Reimbursement Forms – Reimbursement forms will be submitted to TCEQ by the last day of the month following each state fiscal quarter. For the last reporting period of the project, Reimbursement Forms are required on a monthly basis.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The total federal funds expended as of 9/3/2012 were \$44,068.

22% Complete

Task 1.4: Contract Communication – TWRI will participate in a post-award orientation meeting with TCEQ within 30 days of contract execution. TWRI will maintain regular telephone and/or email communication with the TCEQ Project Manager regarding the status and progress of the project in regard to any matters that require attention between QPRs. This will include a call or meeting each January, April, July, and October. Minutes recording the important items discussed and decisions made during each call will be attached to each QPR. Matters that must be communicated to the TCEQ Project Manager in the interim between QPRs include:

- *Requests for prior approval of activities or expenditures for which the contract requires advance approval or that are not specifically included in the scope of work*
- *Notification in advance when TWRI has scheduled public meetings or events, or other major task activities under this contract*

Information regarding events or circumstances that may require changes to the budget, scope of work, or schedule of deliverables; these events or circumstances must be reported within 48 hours of discovery.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No activity to report this quarter.

54% Complete

Task 1.5: Annual Report Article – TWRI will provide an article for the Nonpoint Source (NPS) Annual Report upon request by TCEQ. This report is produced annually in accordance with Section 319(h) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), and it is used to report Texas' progress toward meeting the CWA 319 goals and objectives and toward implementing its strategies as defined in the Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program. The article will include a brief summary of the project and describe the activities of the past fiscal year.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The Texas Watershed Planning Training article for the NPS Annual Report was sent to TCEQ in Quarter 5 (July 19, 2012).

67% Complete

OBJECTIVE 2: MAINTAIN WEB-BASED WATERSHED PLANNING RESOURCES FOR TEXAS WATERSHED COORDINATORS

Task 2.1: Watershed Training Webpage – TWRI will host and maintain an Internet website for information sharing and use by watershed coordinators (<http://watershedplanning.tamu.edu>).

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The Year 1, Quarter 4 Progress Report was posted on the watershed training webpage in the “Projects” section
- b. The “Training” section was updated on the Watershed Planning website; information included:
 - Fundamentals of Developing a Water Quality Monitoring Plan – agenda and registration opened
 - Watershed Modeling using LDC and SELECT – agenda and registration opened
 - Introduction to Modeling training – agenda and registration opened
- c. There were 363 unique visitors to the webpage during this quarter.

54% Complete

Task 2.2: Maintain Directory of Watershed Resources – TWRI will coordinate with the EFC at Boise State University to maintain the Directory of Watershed Resources with data for Texas-specific funding programs. The Directory of Watershed Resources is an on-line, searchable database for watershed restoration funding. The database includes information on federal, state, private, and other funding sources and assistance. This will allow Texas users to query information in a variety of ways including agency sponsor, keyword, or by a detailed search.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI began working with the Environmental Finance Center this quarter to update the directory.

54% Complete

Task 2.3: Report on the Maintenance of Web-based Watershed Planning Resources for Texas Watershed Coordinators – TWRI will submit a report detailing activities conducted under Task 2 during the current contract.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No activity to report this quarter.

0% Complete

OBJECTIVE 3: CONDUCT WATERSHED PLANNING SHORT COURSE

Task 3.1: Organize and Deliver 3 WPSC Events – TWRI will continue to coordinate and offer WPSC annually. To accomplish this, TWRI with assistance from the Project Team, will identify key speakers for the course, make arrangements for facilities, advertise the WPSC, conduct

registration, and facilitate the delivery of three (3) Texas WPSCs to a total of 80-120 water resource professionals in Texas and the surrounding region. Certificates will be provided to participants upon completion of the course. A registration fee of \$375 will be charged to WPSC participants. One WPSC Scholarship will be offered per year to assist those who lack funds to attend the WPSC. TWRI will work closely with TCEQ and the Project Team to assess the need for and timing of these short courses to best meets the needs of the state. As needed, travel for speakers will be paid for through project funds.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The September 24-28 Texas Watershed Planning Short Course agenda was finalized and speakers were contacted in regards to travel arrangements and updating presentations and materials for the manual.
- b. Next quarter will focus on Short Course manual development and final preparations.
- c. Registration was opened and currently 17 are registered.

33% Complete

Task 3.2: Administer Questionnaires and Evaluations – TWRI will oversee the administration of questionnaires and evaluations to gauge the knowledge gained and how effective the course was for each course participant. Questionnaires will be administered at the beginning and end of selected short courses to demonstrate the course’s effectiveness and to identify areas needing adjustment. Evaluations will be completed at the end of each short course to receive comments and participant input and also determine watersheds represented and new WPPs initiated by participants at the short course.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- b. Questionnaires and evaluations have been updated will be distributed at the Short Course.

33% Complete

Task 3.3: Report on Watershed Planning Short Course Task – TWRI will provide a report detailing the WPSC held and associated activities conducted under Task 3.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No activity to report this quarter.

0% Complete

OBJECTIVE 4: PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

Task 4.1: Organize and Deliver “Introduction to Modeling” Training – A two-day course will be developed by TWRI and Texas A&M University System personnel in years 1-2 and delivered in subsequent years of the project to provide watershed coordinators with an introduction to watershed modeling. Development is year 1 and 2. Delivery is year 2 and 3. Topics of the course will include (1) purposes and limitations of different models, (2) timelines, (3) data needs (watershed characterization, water quality information), (4) cost estimates, (5) literature values

vs. monitoring, (6) Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs), (7) request for bids, (8) presenting models to stakeholders, and (9) contractor interaction with stakeholder groups. The course registration fee is to be determined.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Additional edits were made to the agenda this quarter and two speakers will be contacted to finalize the agenda.
- b. Registration was opened for the first training on January 23-24. Currently, we have not received any registrations.

10% Complete

Task 4.2: Organize and Deliver Training on Watershed modeling using LDC and SELECT – LDCs provide a graphical representation of stream flow and pollutant loading whereby real data can be compared to a stream’s maximum allowable load to indicate reductions needed and help identify the type of pollutant load (i.e. point source vs. NPS). SELECT provides a spatially explicit analysis of land use/land cover, animals/humans in watersheds, and other parameters to assess/determine potential sources of bacteria. The models are being used for Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and WPP development. A two-day course will be developed and delivered in subsequent years of the project. A \$100 registration fee will be charged for these two-day courses.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI program coordinator began advertising for this training and there are currently 6 registrants.
- b. Work next quarter will be to finalize the workshop materials.

20% Complete

Task 4.3: Organize and Deliver Training on Stakeholder Facilitation – Stakeholder facilitation continues to be identified by watershed coordinators as a training need in Texas. To provide this, TWRI will deliver 2 day-long trainings on stakeholder facilitation. A \$30 registration fee will be charged for the stakeholder facilitation programs.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. This task is complete:
 - The first Stakeholder Facilitation training was held July 26, 2011 in Austin in conjunction with the January 2011 Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtable.
 - The second Stakeholder Facilitation Training was held January 24, 2012 in Waco in conjunction with the January 2012 Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtable.

100% Complete

Task 4.4: Organize and Deliver Training on Water Quality Monitoring – Training will be developed by TWRI and others and will cover monitoring for (1) watershed characterization and (2) evaluation of water quality improvements and BMP effectiveness from implementation activities. Topics of the training will include: data quality objectives; identifying available data; determining data gaps and needs; monitoring plan development to meet data quality objectives

and support modeling; selecting monitoring types, locations, equipment and laboratory analysis; obtaining stakeholder input; developing QAPPs for monitoring and acquiring data; and a workshop portion for collaboratively creating monitoring plans. The course(s) will be developed in years 1-2, and a minimum of one course per year will be delivered in subsequent years.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Registration was opened for the Fundamentals of Developing a Water Quality Monitoring Plan workshop and currently 13 are registered.
- b. Next quarter will focus on compiling course materials and developing a workshop manual.

30% Complete

Task 4.5: Administer Questionnaires and Evaluations –TWRI will oversee the administration of questionnaires and evaluations to gauge the knowledge gained and how effective the course was for each course participant. Questionnaires will be administered at the beginning and end of each course to demonstrate the course’s effectiveness and to identify areas needing adjustment.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI administered questionnaires and evaluations to Stakeholder Facilitation Training participants for each training (July 2011 and January 2012).
- b. TWRI Program Coordinator will develop evaluations for additional trainings to be offered.

25% Complete

Task 4.6: Report on Professional Development Trainings Provided –TWRI will submit a report detailing professional development trainings provided and associated activities conducted under Task 4.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No activity to report this quarter.

0% Complete

OBJECTIVE 5: ORGANIZE AND FACILITATE TEXAS WATERSHED COORDINATOR ROUNDTABLES

Task 5.1: Facilitate Watershed Coordinator Roundtables – TWRI will coordinate with TCEQ, TSSWCB and EPA to organize and facilitate a total of six (6) semi-annual Watershed Coordinator Roundtables. These face-to-face Roundtables will build upon the fundamental knowledge conveyed through the WPSC and establish a continuing dialogue between watershed coordinators in order to facilitate interactive solutions to common issues being faced by watershed coordinators statewide. Periodically, TWRI, in conjunction with TCEQ and the Project Team will review the continued need for semi-annual Roundtables as well as their specific timing.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. A Roundtable was held on July 26, 2012 with 64 participants in attendance.
- b. Presentations, videos and a participant list can be found on the Watershed Planning website: <http://watershedplanning.tamu.edu/developing/roundtable/july-26-2012/>
- c. Next quarter will focus on preparations for the January 2013 Roundtable to be held in conjunction with an Introduction to Modeling training (both in Temple).

60% Complete

Task 5.2: Administer Evaluations – TWRI will oversee the administration of evaluations to gauge the knowledge gained and how effective the Roundtable was for each participant. Evaluations will be administered at the end of each Roundtable to determine future topics of discussion.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Evaluations were distributed at the July Roundtable. Results were emailed to TCEQ project manager and can be viewed in Appendix A.

60% Complete

Task 5.3: Report on the Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtables – TWRI will submit a report detailing Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtable meetings provided and associated activities conducted under Task 5.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No activity to report this quarter.

0% Complete

OBJECTIVE 6: SUBMIT FINAL REPORT

Task 6.1: Draft Report

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No activity to report this quarter.

0% Complete

Task 6.2: Final Report

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No activity to report this quarter.

0% Complete

III. Related Issues/Current Problems and Favorable or Unusual Developments

- N/A

IV. Projected Work for Next Quarter

- Conduct the Texas Watershed Planning Short Course on September 24-28, 2012
- Conduct the workshop: Fundamentals of Developing a Water Quality Monitoring Plan on October 3-4, 2012.
- Conduct the workshop: Watershed Modeling using LDC and SELECT on November 6-7, 2012
- TWRI will prepare and submit Year 1, Quarter 6 Progress Report

Appendix A

Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtable • July 26, 2012 • Evaluation Results

<i>*(16) evaluations received (64 participants)</i>	<i>Poor</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Notes</i>
<i>What was your overall satisfaction with the Roundtable?</i>		2	8	6	
<i>Will the information presented in the Roundtable help you?</i>		2	10	4	
<i>What topic(s) is (are) most valuable to you:</i>					
3	TPWD Freshwater Conservation, Texas Well Owner, LID				
2	Freshwater Conservation Initiatives				
2	SEP, LID				
	319 Review; LID				
	MS4 - how to fund? (especially in tough economy) - stormwater quality municipal inspections				
	Texas Well Owner Network				
	Watershed Protection Planning				
	Well head protection and stream team				
	Enjoyed all -- LID and TWON				
	Continuing 319 program and SEP project				
2	No Answer				

<i>What topic(s) should have been addressed (or addressed more thoroughly)?</i>	
2	More on 319
	Municipal examples of stormwater quality programs - how managed, costs, cross divisions of government or one department
	SEPs
	Preventative WPP
	Future of WPPs & TMDLs & 319
10	No Answer
<i>Please list any recommendations or suggestions for the next Roundtable:</i>	
	One speaker needed more info, could not answer questions - should have brought more resources
	Ag BMPs. LID, BMPs, success stories
	More on watershed protection
	319 funding and I-plans
	Success stories
	How can we get TCEQ Source Water Protection team involved? SWP Project may benefit regulated MS4s as well as everyone in watershed.
	Funding TMDL I-plans with 319, key implementation projects that have made an impact, matching 319 grants
	Prefer tables as opposed to stadium seating
	Slides were not visible, full screen was not functional for the size of the room.
7	No Answer

<i>Additional Comments</i>	
	Best one yet. Well run!
	TCEQ speaker Lauren Bilbe provided information on subject/department she was not associated with. Several questions left unanswered
	Thank you so very much! This is a great group. Glad I saw info in TWRI newsletter. Also, lunch was very good and convenient.
	Good job
	The food was good today - much better than usual
	Good topics overall good meeting
	Good workshop
	Like College Station