

Delivery of a Watershed Coordinator Development Program
Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
Clean Water Act §319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program
FY 2013 Workplan 13-04

Quarter no. 3 From 4/01/15 Through 6/30/15

I. Abstract

This quarter has focused on scheduling trainings, conducting the planning, advertising coordinating speakers and registration for Watershed Planning Short Course, the August Watershed Coordinators Roundtable, Introduction to Modeling and the Fundamentals of Developing a Water Quality Monitoring Plan. Work on updating the website <http://watershedplanning.tamu.edu/> has also continued to occur. Information continues to be posted on the website and through the watershed coordinators listserv. Initial planning has occurred by TWRI to schedule future trainings including the Watershed Planning Short Course which has been reworked to focus on the basics for 9 element of a watershed based plan. Registration has been set up and a save the date for the Watershed Planning Short Course scheduled for October 2015. The registration has also been set up for the August Watershed Coordinators Roundtable, Introduction to Modeling and the Fundamentals of Developing a Water Quality Monitoring Plan Courses.

II. Overall Progress and Results by Objective and Task

TASK 1: PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

To effectively administer, coordinate and monitor all work performed under this project including technical and financial supervision and preparation of status reports. To maintain web-based watershed planning resources for Texas watershed coordinators.

Task 1.1: Project Administration –TWRI/IRNR will prepare electronic quarterly progress reports (QPRs) for submission to TSSWCB. QPRs shall document all activities performed within a quarter and shall be submitted by the 15th of January, April, July and October. QPRs shall be distributed to all project partners.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The QPR for this last quarter was submitted by 4/13/15.

58% Complete

Task 1.2: TWRI/IRNR will perform accounting functions for project funds and along with SRS will submit appropriate Reimbursement Forms to TSSWCB at least quarterly.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The contract was signed and the project period began 10/1/13 through 9/30/16.
- b. TWRI/IRNR and SRS will submit the reimbursement forms at the end of this quarter.
- c. FSRs show that

58% Complete

Task 1.3: TWRI will host and maintain an Internet website for information sharing and use by watershed coordinators (<http://watershedplanning.tamu.edu/>). Information presented through the website will include:

- Project reports
- Short course, workshop, and roundtable agendas and participant lists
- Roundtable presentations generated, and roundtable agendas and summaries
- Schedule of upcoming programs
- Resources for Watershed Planning and Implementation
- Links to other training opportunities
- Links to EPA tools for Watershed Planning

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The Texas Watershed Planning Website can be found at <http://watershedplanning.tamu.edu/>
- b. TWRI has been reviewing and updating links to reports and resources as well as materials on the website.
- c. The Watershed Coordinators Roundtable has been updated with materials on the website.
- d. The trainings have been advertised on the website and through the Watershed Planning listserv.
- e. Press Releases have been developed for the trainings.
- f. The website includes the past QPRs, reports, and training materials
- g. The website includes links to other training opportunities
- h. The website over this quarter had 360 visits with 289 unique visitors and 650 Pageviews.

58% Complete

Task 1.4: TWRI will host coordination meetings or conference calls, at least quarterly, with Project Partners to discuss project activities, project schedule, communication needs, deliverables, and other requirements. TWRI will develop lists of action items needed following each project coordination meeting and distribute to project personnel.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI scheduled a Coordination meeting/conference call with project partners on May 11, 2015 where the project schedule, deliverables, and other requirements were discussed. TWRI talked by phone with TSSWCB, TCEQ, and EPA about the timing, training schedule and short course updated agenda by phone each individually before the conference call.
- b. The Watershed Coordinators Roundtable Agenda was also discussed and scheduled with the group during the conference call to occur on August 12, 2015 in San Marcos.
- c. The schedule of upcoming trainings, location, and advertising was also discussed with the committee and developed.

50% Complete

Task 1.5: TWRI will develop a final report that summarizes activities completed, conclusions reached during the project, and the extent to which project goals and measures of success have been achieved.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Nothing to report this quarter.

0% Complete

TASK 2: Professional Training, Roundtable, and Watershed Planning Short Course Coordination

Provide training, coordination, and professional development for watershed planners and coordinators throughout Texas and across the nation to ensure consistent, high quality WPPs are developed, implemented, and water quality improvements are achieved and sustained.

Subtask 2.1 TWRI will coordinate with Texas A&M University faculty, Tetra Tech staff, and others to provide professional development and training for water resource professionals and watershed coordinators in Texas. Over the project duration, a minimum of ten professional training programs are planned on watershed modeling, stakeholder facilitation, watershed outreach, and other tools for watershed plan development and implementation (i.e. 3-4 trainings/year). It is expected that each course will provide training for at least 15-20 water resource professionals for a total of 150-200 participants. As possible, these will be held in conjunction with the Watershed Coordinator Roundtables described below. A minimum of 1 of each of the following training programs will be delivered:

- *Introduction to Modeling – 1 event*
- *Watershed modeling using LDC (Load Duration Curves) and SELECT (Spatially Explicit Load Enrichment Calculation Tool) – 1 event*
- *Stakeholder facilitation – 2 events*
- *Watershed outreach using “Getting in Step” – 1 event*
- *Practical Environmental Statistics – 1 event*
- *Fundamentals of Developing a Water Quality Monitoring Plan – 2 events*
- *Social Marketing Training – 2 events*

As funding allows, TWRI will work closely with TSSWCB and the Project Team, to ensure that the most appropriate and needed trainings are offered for a second time that best meet the needs of the State and the watershed coordinators. Additional trainings will be considered based on a Project Team and Coordinator recommendations.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI has developed an initial draft schedule of trainings and roundtables. See Attached.
- b. TWRI has scheduled, advertised, and opened up registrations for the Introduction to Modeling Course in Austin on July 8, 2015.
- c. TWRI has scheduled, advertised and opened up the RSVP system for the August 12 Watershed Coordinators Roundtable Event in San Marcos at the San Marcos Activity Center.
- d. TWRI has scheduled, advertised, and opened up registrations for the Fundamentals of Developing a Water Quality Monitoring Plan course on August 6-7, 2015.
- e. TWRI has scheduled, advertised, and opened up registrations for the Watershed Planning Short Course in October 2015.

65% Complete

Subtask 2.2 TWRI will continue to coordinate with the TSSWCB, TCEQ, 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 the Project Team will review the continued need for semi-annual Roundtables as well as their specific timing. As such, these Roundtables are tentatively planned to be held in January and July at various locations around the state.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI has scheduled, advertised and opened up the RSVP system for the August 12, 2015 Watershed Coordinators Roundtable Event in San Marcos at the San Marcos Activity Center.
- b. Multiple conference calls were set up in April and May to discuss the updated agenda for the Watershed Planning Short Course and Roundtable to get feedback and answer any questions.
- c. The Planning Team decided that the Roundtable date should be pushed back to August from July due to availability.

50% Complete

Subtask 2.3 TWRI will continue to coordinate and offer Watershed Planning Short Courses (WPSC). 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 a minimum of one Texas WPSC to water resource professionals in Texas, as well as other states. The WPSC agenda and speakers will be modified to better meet the needs of watershed coordinators based on the past course evaluation results (See Subtask 2.4).

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI has contacted the Mayan Ranch and scheduled the Watershed Planning Short Course for the week of October 19-23, 2015. Key instructors, the Agencies, and planning committee were all contacted to determine this date.
- b. TWRI discussed some potential changes to the Short Course Agenda and presentations at the April and May calls and Planning Team Conference call/Meeting on May 11, 2015.
- c. Work will continue on several agenda options by TWRI and the planning committee.
- d. Save the Date advertising as well as Registration has been opened for the Short Course.

35% Complete

Subtask 2.4 TWRI will oversee the administration of evaluations to gauge the knowledge gained, how effective the program was for each participant, and get input on future programs.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Evaluations have been drafted for the Watershed Coordinators Roundtable in August 2015.

40% Complete

Expected Work for the Next Quarter:

- TWRI will continue to work with TSSWCB and the planning team to schedule trainings and roundtables.
- TWRI will work to coordinate and conduct the next watershed coordinators roundtable in August 2015.
- TWRI will work to schedule and coordinate the appropriate trainings for 2015 including the Intro to Modeling on July 8, 2015 and Fundamentals of Developing a Water Quality Monitoring Plan August 6-7, 2015.
- TWRI will continue to update the website with relevant materials, trainings, and links.
- TWRI will work with Planning Team to finalize the agenda for the Watershed Planning Short Course scheduled for October 19-22, 2015.
- TWRI will advertise upcoming scheduled trainings and conduct registration for them all.

Tentative Schedule of Trainings

Workshop	Instructor	Workshop Date	Days	Location	Notes
Short Course	multiple	October 19-23 2015			2015
Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtable	n/a	3/17/2014	1	Temple	Complete
Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtable	n/a	7/31/2014	1	Waco	Complete
Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtable	n/a	1/22/2015	1	San Antonio	Complete
Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtable	n/a	8/12/2015	1	San Marcos	Scheduled
Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtable	n/a	Jan-16			
Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtable	n/a	Jul-16			
Intro Modeling Training	Srini	7/8/2015	1	Austin	
LDC/SELECT Model Training	Karthi	2/27/2014	2		Complete
Getting in Step Training	MacPherson	9/29/2014	1	Austin	Complete
Stakeholder Facilitation	MacPherson	9/30/2014	1	Austin	Complete

Stakeholder Facilitation		2016			
Social Marketing Training	Hays	6/18/2014	2	College Station	Complete
Social Marketing Training	Hays	10/28/2014	2	Houston	Complete
Applied Environmental Statistics	Practical Stats	8/25/2014	5	College Station	Complete
Fundamentals of WQ Monitoring	Hauck	8/6-7/2015	2	Temple	Scheduled
Fundamentals of WQ Monitoring	Hauck	2016	2		
Kickoff Meeting w/ TSSWCB	n/a	1/21/2014		College Station	Complete
Quarterly Coord. Meeting w/ TSSWCB, TCEQ & EPA	n/a	2/19/2014		Conference Call	Complete
Quarterly Coord. Meeting w/ TSSWCB, TCEQ & EPA	n/a	5/20/2014		Conference Call	Complete
Quarterly Coord. Meeting w/ TSSWCB, TCEQ & EPA	n/a	9/3/2014		Conference Call	Complete
Quarterly Coord. Meeting w/ TSSWCB, TCEQ & EPA	n/a	11/13/2014		Conference Call	Complete
Quarterly Coord. Meeting w/ TSSWCB, TCEQ & EPA	n/a	02/24/15		Conference Call	Postponed/Complete
Quarterly Coord. Meeting w/ TSSWCB, TCEQ & EPA	n/a	5/11/2015		Conference Call	Complete
Quarterly Coord. Meeting w/ TSSWCB, TCEQ & EPA	n/a	Aug-15			

Quarterly Coord. Meeting w/ TSSWCB, TCEQ & EPA	n/a	Nov-15			
Quarterly Coord. Meeting w/ TSSWCB, TCEQ & EPA	n/a	Feb-16			
Quarterly Coord. Meeting w/ TSSWCB, TCEQ & EPA	n/a	May-16			
Quarterly Coord. Meeting w/ TSSWCB, TCEQ & EPA	n/a	Aug-16			

