



**Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Program
FY 2006 Project 06-12 Grant Application**



NONPOINT SOURCE SUMMARY PAGE for the CWA, Section 319(h) Agricultural/Silvicultural Nonpoint Source Program					
Title of Project:	Leon River Watershed Protection Plan Project				
Project Goals/Objectives:	(1) To use a locally-driven, stakeholder process to develop a Watershed Protection Plan for the Leon River Watershed above Lake Belton; (2) To enhance data collection efforts to support and facilitate implementation activities; (3) To provide the TSSWCB and the TCEQ with recommendations on implementation strategies that can be incorporated into the TMDL Implementation Plan; and (4) To provide an overall assessment of the Leon River Watershed above Lake Belton				
Project Tasks:	(1) Project Management; (2) Public Participation and Coordination; (3) Data Collection and Assessment; (4) Development of a Watershed Protection Plan;				
Measures of Success:	The development of a Watershed Protection Plan that (a) meets the 9 Key Elements as set forth by USEPA for watershed based plans; (b) facilitates load reductions in bacteria identified by the Leon River TMDL; and (c) addresses other water quality concern in the Leon River watershed above Lake Belton.				
Project Type:	Statewide (); Watershed Implementation/Education(); Watershed Planning/Assessment (X); Watershed Protection (X)				
Status of Water Body: 2002 Water Quality Inventory and 303(d) List	Segment ID: 1221- Leon River Below Proctor Lake 1222-Proctor Lake 1222A-Duncan Creek	Parameter: Bacteria Dissolved Depressed Oxygen Bacteria	Category: 5c 5c 5c		
Project Location:	Leon River Watershed in Comanche, Hamilton, Erath, Coryell, and Eastland Counties				
Key Project Activities:	Hire Staff (); Monitoring (X); Regulatory Assistance (); Technical Assistance (); Education (X); Implementation (); Demonstration (); Other (X)				
NPS Management Program Elements:	(1) Focus NPS abatement efforts in watersheds identified as impacted by NPS pollution; (2) Support the implementation of state, regional, and local programs to prevent/abate NPS pollution thru assessment, implementation and education ; (3) Develop partnerships and relationships to facilitate a cooperative approach; (4) Increase public awareness of NPS issues; (5) Enhance public participation.				
Project Costs:	Federal:	\$440,525	Non-Federal Match:	\$293,683	Total: \$734,208
Project Management:	Brazos River Authority				
Project Period:	September 1, 2006 – August 31, 2009				

Part I – Applicant Information

Applicant							
Project Lead		Jay Bragg					
Title		Regional Environmental Planner					
Organization		Brazos River Authority					
E-mail Address		jbragg@brazos.com					
Street Address		4600 Cobbs Drive					
City	Waco	County	McLennan	State	TX	Zip Code	76714-7555
Telephone Number	(254) 761-3135			Fax Number	(254) 761-3205		

Project Partners

Names	Roles & Responsibilities
City of Comanche, City of Dublin, City of Gatesville, City of Hamilton, Dairy Farmers of America, Texas Cattle Feeders, City of Gustine, Texas Southwest Cattle Raisers, Texas Farm Bureau, Comanche County, Erath County, Hamilton County, Bell County	Local Stakeholder Groups
Texas Cooperative Extension, TCEQ, TSSWCB, TPWD	Technical Advisory Group
Consultant - TBD	

Part II – Project Information

Project Type

Surface Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Groundwater	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Does the project implement recommendations made in a completed Watershed Protection Plan or approved TMDL Report or Implementation Plan?				Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, identify the document.							
If yes, identify the agency/group that developed and/or approved the document.						Year Developed	<input type="checkbox"/>

Watershed Information

Watershed Name(s)	Hydrologic Unit Code (8 Digit)	Segment ID	305 (b) Category	Size (Acres)
Segment 1221 - Leon River Watershed	12070201	1221	5a	856,994 ac
Segment 1222 – Lake Proctor Watershed	12070201	1222	5c	817,179 ac
Segment 1223 – Leon River below Leon Reservoir	12070201	1223	2	
Segment 1224 – Leon Reservoir	12070201	1224	2	

Project Narrative

Problem/Need Statement

The Leon River watershed encompasses approximately 2600 square miles in Bell, Hamilton, Coryell, Comanche, and Eastland Counties. In 1998, the entire Leon River was placed on the *State of Texas Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List* for having bacteria levels that “sometimes exceed water quality standards”. In 2000, the entire Leon River below Lake Proctor was placed on the 303(d) List for bacteria levels “Not Supporting Contact Recreation Use”. The 2002 303(d) List identified only the “Portion of segment north of Gustine” and the “Portion of segment west of US Hwy 281” as having bacteria impairment. In September 2002, the TCEQ initiated their TMDL Modeling Study of the Leon River. A draft TMDL Modeling Report has been issued that suggests that bacteria loadings into the Leon River should be reduced by approximately 20% (2.51 E15 organisms/yr).

The local stakeholders have expressed interest in taking an active role in developing management strategies to reduce bacteria loadings. At a TMDL Stakeholder Committee meeting in Hamilton on January 12th, the Brazos River Authority was asked by the Stakeholder Group to take the lead in facilitating this approach.

While the primary water quality impairment and focus of the Watershed Protect Plan will be on Segment 1221 – Leon River Below Lake Proctor (and its tributaries), all areas of the Leon River watershed above Lake Belton will be addressed through this process.

Project Narrative

General Project Description

The Authority will organize a Stakeholder Group consisting of but not limited to representatives from Cities, County Commissioner’s Courts, Ag Producers’ Group, wildlife interests, Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the dairy industry. A Technical Advisory Group will also be formed to help provide expertise to the Stakeholder Group. This TAG will consist of representatives from State, Federal, and Local agencies, universities, and other entities as needed. This TAG will meet quarterly with the Stakeholder Group or as needed. The Stakeholder Group and Technical Advisory group will provide the foundation for this planning effort. The groups will meet quarterly or as needed to ensure that information is disseminated amongst the group and that all interests are considered. The Regional Environmental Planner will contribute approximately 80% of his time towards this task.

The Authority will continue to operate routine water quality monitoring sites throughout the basin under the Clean River Program to provide long-term water quality data for this report. These monitoring activities will provide in-kind contributions toward the grant project. The more technical aspects of Tasks 3 (Data Collection and Assessment), and Task 4 (Development of a Watershed Protection Plan) will be contracted to an outside consultant. If this project is selected for funding, the Authority will issue a Request for Proposals to select this contractor.

The Data Collection task will include water quality monitoring conducted by the Authority, as well as, any other special studies that may be conducted by the “Selected Contractor”. <This task will be more complete upon the selection of a contractor.>

The local stakeholders have expressed some concerns with the water quality model. The Water Quality Model Enhancement task will use the TMDL Model inputs from local stakeholders and the most available water quality monitoring data to refine the model to better determine the most appropriate load reduction strategies. <This task will be more complete upon the selection of a contractor.>

The development of Watershed Protection Plan will allow local stakeholders to have much more ownership of identified load reduction strategies that will ultimately result in improved water quality throughout the Leon River Basin. The strategies identified in the Watershed Protection Plan will provide the TCEQ with list of recommended strategies that could potentially be incorporated into the TMDL Implementation Plan.

Water Quality Impairment

Describe all known causes (pollutants of concern) of water quality impairments from any of the following sources: 2002 Water Quality Inventory and 303(d) List, 2002 Summary of Waterbodies with Water Quality Concerns (Secondary Concerns List) or Other Documented Sources (ex. Clean Rivers Program Basin Summary or Basin Highlights Reports).

2002 303(d) List

1221 - Leon River below Lake Proctor

Portion of Segment above Gustine – bacteria
Portion of Segment west of Hwy 281 - bacteria

1222 - Proctor Lake

Rush-Copperas Arm of Lake – depressed dissolved oxygen
Sabana Arm of Lake - depressed dissolved oxygen

1222A - Duncan Creek

Entire creek - bacteria

Project Goals

To use a locally-driven, stakeholder process to develop a Watershed Protection Plan for the Leon River Watershed above Lake Belton;

To collect additional data that facilitates implementation of the Leon River Bacteria TMDL as well as focus implementation efforts

To provide the TCEQ with recommendations on implementation strategies that can be incorporated into the TMDL Implementation Plan

To provide an overall assessment of the Leon River Watershed above Lake Belton.

To reduce bacteria loadings into the Leon River so as to meet TMDL reduction goals.

Tasks, Objectives and Schedules (Replicate or modify table as needed)						
Task 1:	Project Management:					
Costs:	Federal:	\$20,000	State:	\$106,204	Total:	\$126,204
Objective:	To provide project management that will ensure coordination and communication among Project Team members, maintain project deadlines and ensure that the most cost efficient execution of the project.					
Subtask 1.1:	Project Team Coordination – the Authority will provide technical and administrative staff necessary to coordinate and monitor all tasks done under this grant. The Authority will also ensure effective coordination and communication between members of the protect team including the contractor, TAG, and Stakeholder Committees.					
	Start Date:	Sept. 2006		Completion Date:	Aug 2009	
Subtask 1.2:	Financial Management – the Authority and the contractor will collaborate to track project costs on a quarterly basis.					
	Start Date:	Sept 2006		Completion Date:	Aug 2009	
Subtask 1.3:	Tracking Project Schedule – the Authority will prepare and submit an annual update that tracks proposed timelines for each project task.					
	Start Date:	Sept 2006		Completion Date:	Aug 2009	
Subtask 1.4:	Progress Reports and Deliverable Submittal – The Authority and the contractor will collaborate to prepare and submit progress reports on a quarterly basis that summarizes accomplishments to date					
	Start Date:			Completion Date:		
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect Team List • Quarterly Reports • Financial Reports 					

Tasks, Objectives and Schedules (Replicate or modify table as needed)						
Task 2:	Public Participation and Coordination					
Costs:	Federal:	\$0	State:	\$117,204	Total:	\$117,204
Objective:	Foster support from local stakeholders in the Leon River Watershed and help coordinate and focus other implementation initiatives					
Subtask 2.1:	Stakeholder Group - The Authority will cooperate with local groups to organization a Watershed Protection Plan – Stakeholder Group. This Stakeholder Group will meet on a quarterly basis.					
	Start Date:	Sept 2006		Completion Date:	Aug 2009	
Subtask 2.2:	Technical Advisory Group - The Authority will work with the WPP - Stakeholder Group and TMDL Stakeholder Committee to organize a Technical Advisory Group that will provide the Stakeholder group with technical expertise. This TAG will meet quarterly or as needed.					
	Start Date:	Sept 2006		Completion Date:	Aug 2009	
Subtask 2.3:	Stakeholder Meetings - The Authority will facilitate Stakeholder Meetings quarterly (or as needed) at appropriate locations in the watershed.					
	Start Date:	Sept 2006		Completion Date:	Aug 2009	
Subtask 2.4:	Information Dissemination: Website, Press Releases, technical reports – The Authority will maintain a Leon River Watershed Protection Plan website. Any press releases or technical reports generated through this project will be approved by the Authority staff and the TSSWCB prior to being released.					
	Start Date:	Sept 2006		Completion Date:	Aug 2009	

Subtask 2.5	Collaborate with local, state, and federal governmental entities as well as other organizations to coordinate watershed planning and implementation activities					
	Start Date:	Sept 2006		Completion Date:	Aug 2009	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of Stakeholders • Schedule of Stakeholder Committee Meetings • Other Reports or Documents 					

Tasks, Objectives and Schedules (Replicate or modify table as needed)						
Task 3:	Data Collection and Assessment					
Costs:	Federal:	\$300,000	State:	\$70,275	Total:	\$370,275
Objective:	To Improve the understanding of water quality concerns in the Leon River Watershed.					
Subtask 3.1:	The Authority will continue to collect routine monitoring in the Leon River Basin through the Clean Rivers Program and may conduct other special studies as needed.					
	Start Date:	On-going		Completion Date:	On-going	
Subtask 3.2:	Collect and compile any and all pertinent information that may impact water quality, specifically bacteria, for the Leon River Watershed. (This data may include but is not limited to special water quality monitoring as well as gathering information regarding: septic systems, more accurate wildlife and livestock censuses, wastewater plants and collection systems, runoff from dairy waste application fields...etc) <This task will be more complete upon the selection of a contractor.>					
	Start Date:	Sept 2006		Completion Date:	Aug 2009	
Subtask 3.3:	Utilize information gathered in Subtask 3.2 as inputs in the TCEQ's TMDL model to help better focus implementation activities. This Subtask will assist the Stakeholder Group in evaluating and selecting implementation strategies. <This task will be more complete upon the selection of a contractor.>					
	Start Date:	Sept 2006		Completion Date:	Aug 2009	
Deliverables	Clean Rivers Program Monitoring Report QAPP from the Authority contractor A compilation of any data collected through this project Model output Summary					

Tasks, Objectives and Schedules (Replicate or modify table as needed)						
Task 4:	Development of a Watershed Protection Plan					
Costs:	Federal:	120,525	State:	0	Total:	120,525
Objective:	Restore and maintain the contact recreation use and promote incentives that will maintain the support of aquatic life use in the Leon River Watershed					
Subtask 4.1:	Through input for local stakeholders, data collection and modeling enhancements, develop a Watershed Protection Plan that meets EPA's Nine Key Elements of a Watershed-based Plan".					
	Start Date:	Sept 2006		Completion Date:	Aug 2009	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watershed Protection Plan Outline • Draft Watershed Protection Plan • Final Watershed Protection Plan 					

Measures of Success

The development of a Watershed Protection Plan that (a) meets the 9 Key Elements as set forth by USEPA for watershed based plans; (b) facilitates load reductions in bacteria identified by the Leon River TMDL; and (c) addresses other water quality concern in the Leon River watershed above Lake Belton.

2005 Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program Document Reference**Goals &/or Milestone(s)**

- (1) Focus NPS abatement efforts in watersheds identified as impacted by NPS pollution;
- (2) Support the implementation of state, regional, and local programs to prevent/abate NPS pollution thru assessment, implementation and education
- (3) Develop partnerships and relationships to facilitate a cooperative approach
- (4) Increase public awareness of NPS issues
- (5) Enhance public participation

Part III – Financial Information

Budget Summary			
Federal 319(h)	\$ 440,525	% of total project	60%
Non-Federal Match	\$ 293,683	% of total project (at least 40%)	40%
Total \$ Cost	\$ 734,208	Total project %	100%
Category	Federal	Non-Federal Match	Total
Personnel	82,080	54,720	136,800
Fringe Benefits	45,965	30,643	76,608
Subtotal Personnel & Fringe	<u>128,045</u>	<u>85,363</u>	<u>213,408</u>
Travel	1,800	1,200	3,000
Equipment	0	0	0
Supplies	0	0	0
Contractual	302,472	138,053	440,525
Construction	0	0	0
Other	0	63,595	63,595
Total Direct Costs	432,317	288,211	720,528
Indirect Costs (15%)	8,208	5,472	13,680
Total Project Costs	440,525	293,683	734,208

The §319(h) Nonpoint Source Program has a 60/40% match requirement. Your entity will be reimbursed 60% from federal funds and must contribute a minimum of 40% of the costs to conduct your project. The 40% match must be from non-federal sources and should be described in your budget detail. Indirect costs are limited to 15%. The project budget generally covers a three year period.

Budget Justification		
Category	Total Amount	Justification
Personnel & Fringe Benefits	\$213,408	Authority staff and fringe benefits Watershed Specialist and Regional Environmental Planner
Travel	\$3,000	For travel to local meetings and other project activities
Equipment	\$	N/A
Supplies	\$	N/A
Contractual	\$440,525	Consultant Contractor
Construction	\$0	
Other	\$63,595	Brazos River Authority, Routine Water Quality Monitoring
Indirect	\$13,680	10% of Personnel

