Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
Clean Water Act §319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program
FY 2010 Project Workplan 10-03

SUMMARY PAGE						
Title of Project	Technical Assistance Supporting USDA-NRCS EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas					
Project Goals	• To foster coordinated technical assistance between TSSWCB, SWCDs and NRCS • To promote availability of technical and financial assistance to livestock producers • To provide technical assistance to livestock producers for development of WQMPs • To assist livestock producers in utilizing EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas • To conduct status reviews on WQMPs to track implementation success					
Project Tasks	1) Project Administration and Coordination 2) Promotion of TSSWCB WQMP Program and NRCS EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas 3) Development of WQMPs, Implementation of BMPs, and acquisition of EQIP funding 4) Tracking Implementation Success					
Measures of Success	• WQMP Program and EQIP and availability of technical assistance are promoted • Needed technical assistance is provided to livestock producers for development of WQMPs • Minimum of 100 WQMPs certified on grazing livestock operations • Increased utilization of available EQIP cost-share funds • Reduction in bacteria loads from NPS pollution from livestock operations					
Project Type	Implementation (X); Education ( ); Planning ( ); Assessment ( ); Groundwater ( )					
Status of Waterbody on *2008 Texas Water Quality Inventory and 303(d) List*	Segment ID	Parameter			Category	
	1803A	dissolved oxygen			5a	
	1803B	bacteria; dissolved oxygen			5a; 5a	
	1803C	bacteria; dissolved oxygen			5a; 5c	
	1901	bacteria			5a	
	2107	bacteria; dissolved oxygen; fish community			5a; 5b; 5b	
Project Location (Statewide or Watershed and County)	• Atascosa River (2107) Watershed in Atascosa, Bexar, Frio, Karnes, Live Oak, McMullen, Medina and Wilson Counties • Elm and Sandies Creeks (1803A, 1803B) Watershed in Gonzales, DeWitt, Karnes, Wilson and Guadalupe Counties • Peach Creek (1803C) Watershed in Gonzales, Bastrop, Fayette and Caldwell Counties • Lower San Antonio River (1901) Watershed in Karnes, Goliad, Refugio, DeWitt, Wilson, Victoria, and Guadalupe Counties					
Key Project Activities	Hire Staff (X); Surface Water Quality Monitoring ( ); Technical Assistance (X); Education ( ); Implementation (X); BMP Effectiveness Monitoring ( ); Demonstration ( ); Planning ( ); Modeling ( ); Bacterial Source Tracking ( ); Other ( )					
Texas NPS Management Program Elements	• Element 1 – Long Term Goal – Objectives 1, 2, and 3 • Element 1 – Short Term Goals – 2A, 2B, 3B, 3D, and 3F • Elements 2, 3, and 4					
Project Costs	Federal	$450,075	Non-Federal	$0	Total	$450,075
Project Management	• Atascosa County Soil and Water Conservation District #307 • Gonzales County Soil and Water Conservation District #338 • Karnes County Soil and Water Conservation District #343					
Project Period	November 1, 2010 – October 31, 2013					

Part I – Applicant Information

Applicant							
Project Lead	Michael Korus						
Title	Chairman						
Organization	Atascosa County Soil and Water Conservation District #307						
E-mail Address	atascosacountyswcd@tx.nacdnet.org						
Street Address	107 Wyoming Blvd						
City	Pleasanton	County	Atascosa	State	TX	Zip Code	78064
Telephone Number	830-569-2232			Fax Number	830-569-6275		

Applicant							
Project Lead	Phil Breitschopf						
Title	Chairman						
Organization	Gonzales County Soil and Water Conservation District #338						
E-mail Address	gonzalescountyswcd@tx.nacdnet.org						
Street Address	920 St. Joseph St, Rm 142						
City	Gonzales	County	Gonzales	State	TX	Zip Code	78629
Telephone Number	830-672-8371			Fax Number	830-672-5654		

Applicant							
Project Lead	Walter Busby						
Title	Chairman						
Organization	Karnes County Soil and Water Conservation District #343						
E-mail Address	karnescountyswcd@tx.nacdnet.org						
Street Address	491 N Sunset Strip, Ste 103						
City	Kenedy	County	Karnes	State	TX	Zip Code	78119
Telephone Number	830-583-3224			Fax Number	830-583-9497		

Project Partners	
Names	Roles & Responsibilities
Atascosa County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD 307) Gonzales County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD 338) Karnes County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD 343)	Each supervise one of three Technicians. Develop, implement and maintain WQMPs. Track implementation of BMPs. Responsible for all project deliverables.
Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB)	Provide state oversight and management of all project activities and ensure coordination of activities with related projects. Work with and assist SWCDs in the development, implementation, and maintenance of WQMPs. Responsible for technical review and certification of WQMPs.
United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)	Provide financial assistance through EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas. Support Technicians in the development, implementation, and maintenance of WQMPs. Provide training as necessary to the Technicians.

Part II – Project Information

Project Type							
Surface Water	X	Groundwater					
Does the project implement recommendations made in a completed WPP or an adopted TMDL or approved I-Plan?				Yes	X	No	
If yes, identify the document.	One Total Maximum Daily Load for Bacteria in the Lower San Antonio River (For Segment 1901)						
If yes, identify the agency/group that developed and/or approved the document.	TCEQ		Year Developed	2008			

Watershed Information

Watershed Name(s)	Hydrologic Unit Code (8 Digit)	Segment ID	305(b) Category	Size (Acres)
Elm and Sandies Creeks Watershed	12100202	1803A; 1803B	5a; 5a	455,283
Peach Creek Watershed	12100202	1803C	5a	308,962
Lower San Antonio River Watershed	12100303	1901	5a	812,670
Atascosa River Watershed	12110110	2107	5a	892,503

Water Quality Impairment

Describe all known causes (pollutants of concern) of water quality impairments or concerns from any of the following sources: 2008 Texas Water Quality Inventory and 303(d) List, Clean Rivers Program Basin Summary/Highlights Reports or other documented sources.

Segment 1803A: Elm Creek

Area		Impairment/Concern	Category	Year 1st Listed
1803A_01	Entire waterbody	dissolved oxygen	5a	1999

TCEQ Presumed Sources: NPS unknown nonpoint source; PS unknown point source

Segment 1803B: Sandies Creek

Area		Impairment/Concern	Category	Year 1st Listed
1803B_01	From confluence with Guadalupe River to confluence with Elm Ck	dissolved oxygen	5a	1999
		bacteria	5a	2002
1803B_02	From the confluence with Elm Creek to upper end of waterbody	dissolved oxygen	5a	1999

TCEQ Presumed Sources: UNK source unknown

Segment 1803C: Peach Creek

Area		Impairment/Concern	Category	Year 1st Listed
1803C_01	Lower 25 miles of waterbody	bacteria	5a	2002
		dissolved oxygen	CS	-
1803C_03	From approx. 1.2 mi. downstream of FM 1680 in Gonzales Co. to confluence with Elm Cr. In Fayette Co.	bacteria	5a	2002
		dissolved oxygen	5c	2006

TCEQ Presumed Sources: UNK source unknown

Segment 1901: Lower San Antonio River

Area		Impairment/Concern	Category	Year 1st Listed
1901_01	25 miles downstream of the confluence with Manahuilla Creek	bacteria	5a	2000
		total phosphorus	CS	-
		nitrate	CS	-
1901_02	25 miles upstream of Manahuilla Creek	bacteria	5a	2000
		total phosphorus	CS	-
		orthophosphorus	CS	-
		nitrate	CS	-
1901_03	From 25 miles upstream of Manahuilla Cr to 9 mi downstream of Escondido Cr	bacteria	5a	2000
		nitrate	CS	-
		orthophosphorus	CS	-
		total phosphorus	CS	-
1901_04	9 miles downstream of Escondido Creek	bacteria	5a	2000
		nitrate	CS	-
		orthophosphorus	CS	-
		total phosphorus	CS	-
1901_05	From upstream end of segment to Escondido Creek	bacteria	5a	2000
		nitrate	CS	-
		orthophosphorus	CS	-
		fish community	CN	-
		total phosphorus	CS	-
1901_06	Lower 31 miles of segment	nitrate	CS	-
		orthophosphorus	CS	-
		total phosphorus	CS	-

TCEQ Presumed Sources: UNK source unknown; PS unknown point source

Segment 2107: Atascosa River

Area		Impairment/Concern	Category	Year 1st Listed
2107_01	Lower 25 miles of segment	bacteria	5a	1996
		chlorophyll-a	CS	-
2107_02	25 miles surrounding FM 541	bacteria	5a	1996
		dissolved oxygen	5b	1996
		fish community	5b	2006
		orthophosphorus	CS	-
2107_03	25 miles surrounding State Highway 97	dissolved oxygen	5b	1996
		fish community	5b	2006
		chlorophyll-a	CS	-
		habitat	CS	-

TCEQ Presumed Sources: UNK source unknown; NPS unknown nonpoint source; PS unknown point source; PS municipal point source discharges

Project Narrative

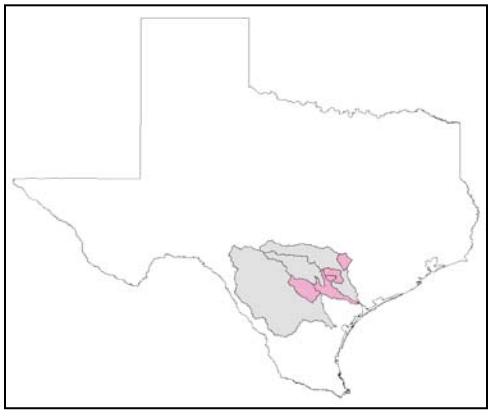
Problem/Need Statement

Cooperative conservation is a voluntary and incentive-based concept where people associate together voluntarily to pursue common conservation goals. It describes the efforts of landowners, communities, conservation groups, industry, and governmental agencies who join together to conserve our environment. Through cooperative conservation, citizens from every walk of life enhance, restore, and protect land, water, air, and wildlife resources on public and private lands. Cooperative conservation is rooted in local action and reliant on local, experiential knowledge as well as science, using the innovation and creativity of citizens as the engine that drives problem solving.

In August 2004, President George W. Bush signed Executive Order 13352 entitled *Facilitation of Cooperative Conservation* which directs federal agencies that oversee environmental and natural resource policies and programs, including EPA and USDA, to promote cooperative conservation in full partnership with states, local governments, private for-profit and nonprofit institutions, other nongovernmental entities and individuals. In order to institutionalize and sustain interagency momentum developed under the Executive Order, several federal agencies, including EPA and USDA, signed a Memorandum of Understanding in January 2009 to enhance on-the-ground conservation results and progress.

Texas has a well-established history of Cooperative Conservation. Texas' farmers and ranchers, along with SWCDs, TSSWCB, NRCS and EPA, have been collaborating to protect the natural resources of the Lone Star State for decades. Farmers and ranchers routinely implement BMPs on their lands utilizing the technical and financial assistance programs of SWCDs, who receive state and federal funds from TSSWCB, EPA and NRCS. Because of this, the State of Texas has been able to demonstrate successes in the improvement of water quality conditions through on-the-ground conservation results and progress.

The TSSWCB Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) Program affords agricultural producers an opportunity to comply with state water quality laws through traditional voluntary incentive-based programs. A WQMP is a site-specific plan developed through and approved by SWCDs which includes appropriate land treatment practices, production practices, management measures, and technologies that prevent and abate agricultural and silvicultural NPS pollution. The BMPs prescribed in a WQMP are defined in the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide. SWCDs provide for technical assistance to producers seeking to develop a WQMP. TSSWCB and NRCS have various cost-share programs which provide financial assistance to aid producers in implementing a WQMP.



Nearly half of the impairments on the *2008 Texas 303(d) List* are due to excessive bacteria over the criteria established to protect contact recreation use and/or oyster waters use. Many of these waterbodies are clustered in south central Texas, including Atascosa River, Elm and Sandies Creeks, Peach Creek, and Lower San Antonio River. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is currently facilitating the development of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for these bacteria-impaired waters. *One TMDL for Bacteria in the Lower San Antonio River (For Segment 1901)* was adopted by TCEQ on August 20, 2008 and approved by EPA on October 20, 2008; an I-Plan is in development. TMDLs for Elm and Sandies Creeks and Peach Creek are on hold until TCEQ takes action on the proposed revisions to the water quality standards. TMDL for Atascosa River is on hold until TCEQ completes a recreational use attainability analysis (UAA).

Reauthorized in the 2008 federal Farm Bill, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary conservation program that promotes production agriculture and environmental quality as compatible goals. EQIP is administered by NRCS. Through EQIP, farmers and ranchers receive financial assistance to implement structural and management conservation practices on their land. EQIP is available to producers through 1) resource concern priorities established by Local Work Groups at the county level, and/or 2) Statewide Resource Concerns established by the State Technical Advisory Committee.

In 2005 TSSWCB and TCEQ worked with NRCS to establish an EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas. This EQIP Statewide Resource Concern is directed toward protection of streams impacted by bacterial contamination from livestock. Good grazing management and alternative water sources are promoted in the Elm and Sandies Creeks, Peach Creek, Lower San Antonio River, and Atascosa River watersheds. EQIP financial assistance is available for BMPs such as cross fencing, water wells, riparian buffers, watering facilities and prescribed grazing. Applications are ranked for funding with those livestock operations located in close proximity to impacted streams obtaining a higher rank. For more information see http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/EQIP/10/stconcrns10/so_central_tx.html.

This EQIP Statewide Resource Concern leverages other federal and state programs that contribute to water quality improvements within these watersheds. In 2005 TSSWCB initiated an EPA CWA §319(h) grant project (05-08), entitled "Peach Creek Water Quality Improvement Project", that provided technical and financial assistance for development and implementation of WQMPs on livestock operations contiguous with Peach Creek. The following year TSSWCB established an EPA CWA §319(h) grant project (06-13), entitled "Technical Assistance Supporting Cooperative Conservation in South Central Texas", to provide technical assistance to livestock producers for the development of WQMPs and implementation of BMPs by utilizing financial assistance through the EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas. Since the EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas was established in FY2006, local SWCDs, TSSWCB, and NRCS have worked together to obligate over $2.5 million through a total of 140 EQIP contracts and 83 WQMPs. Additionally, TSSWCB has also allocated state funds, via the Gonzales County SWCD, to poultry operations in Peach Creek, Elm and Sandies Creeks, and other nearby watersheds for development and implementation of WQMPs. Continued technical assistance is needed to promote the EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas and to assist landowners in the development and implementation of WQMPs.

Project Narrative

General Project Description

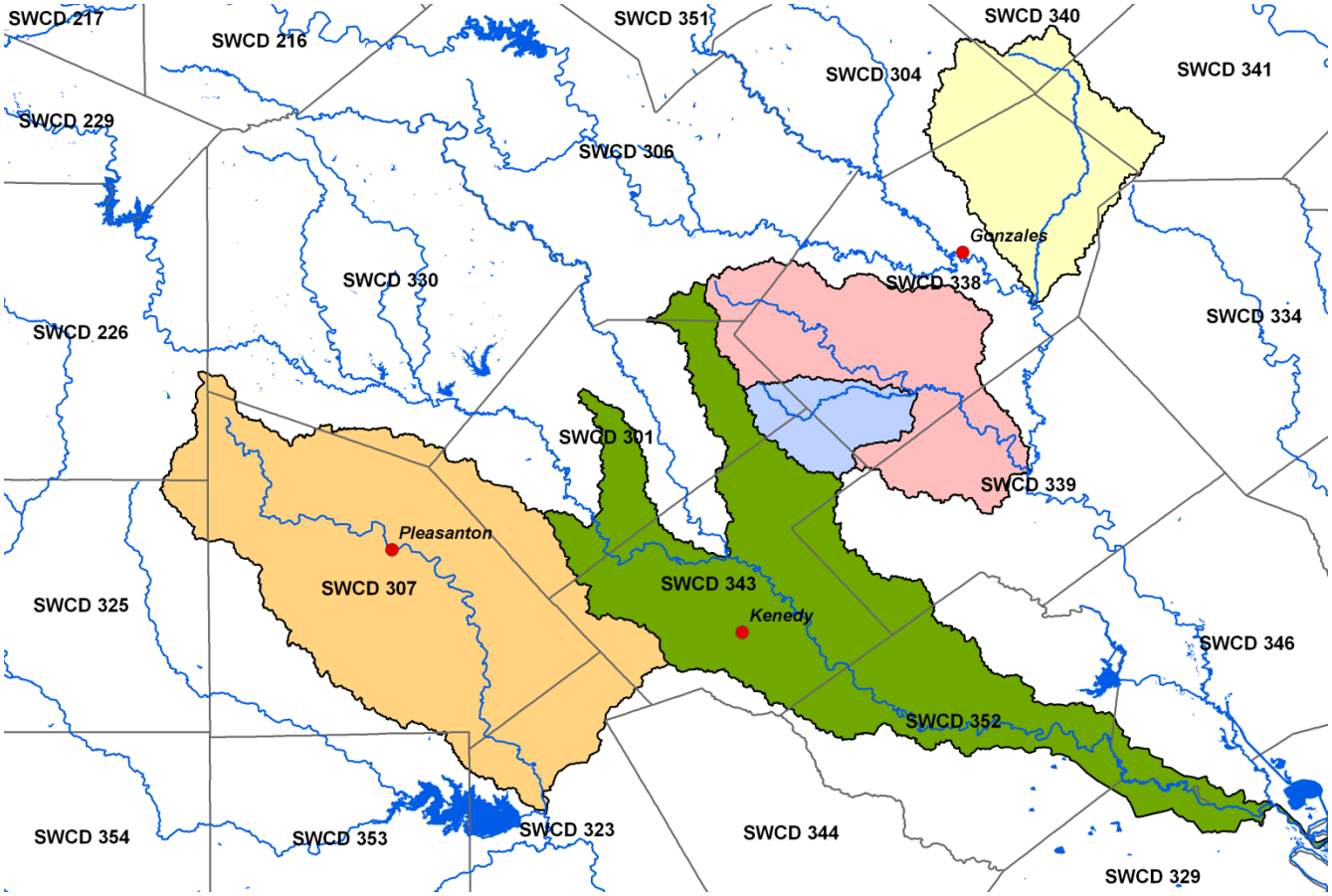
This project will support three SWCD Technicians who will provide technical assistance to livestock operators in developing and implementing WQMPs in the Atascosa River, Elm and Sandies Creeks, Peach Creek and Lower San Antonio River watersheds. These Technicians will assist ranchers in acquiring EQIP financial assistance for the implementation of BMPs through the Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas. This project will improve and enhance the abilities of local SWCDs to assist area landowners in preventing and abating agricultural NPS pollution.

Technicians will be placed in three lead SWCDs and will work in the targeted watersheds across 13 adjacent SWCDs through cooperative agreements. The three Technicians will work under direction of the lead SWCDs, with assistance from the TSSWCB Wharton Regional Office and NRCS, as needed.

Lead SWCDs – Atascosa County SWCD #307, Gonzales County SWCD #338, Karnes County SWCD #343

Cooperating SWCDs – Medina Valley SWCD #226, Wilson County SWCD #301, Caldwell-Travis SWCD #304, Comal-Guadalupe SWCD #306, Live Oak SWCD #323, Frio SWCD #325, Copano Bay SWCD #329, Alamo SWCD #330, Bastrop County SWCD #340, Fayette SWCD #341, Victoria SWCD #346, Goliad County SWCD #352, McMullen County SWCD #353

The three Technicians will be stationed in Gonzales (Peach Creek; Elm and Sandies Creeks), Kenedy (Lower San Antonio River), and Pleasanton (Atascosa River).



Allocation of the EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas monies is designated for the Atascosa River, Elm and Sandies Creeks, Peach Creek, and Lower San Antonio River watersheds, collectively. Since funding is not divided among the individual watersheds, more WQMP development work may exist in one watershed versus another based on ranking results. As such, the three Technicians will be based in three different SWCDs and will primarily work in a single watershed, yet they may work with producers in other priority watersheds depending on WQMP development workload.

The Technicians will promote WQMP development and EQIP availability, and encourage participation from livestock producers. The Technicians will work with TSSWCB, NRCS and Texas AgriLife Extension Service to educate ranchers about water quality issues and how WQMPs and BMPs address bacterial contamination from livestock. The Technicians will work with commodity organizations, such as Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA), Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas (ICA), and Texas Farm Bureau (TFB), to educate their members on this opportunity to enhance the value of their operation and achieve water quality goals for the watershed at the same time. The Technicians will participate in the stakeholder process for TMDL development, facilitated by TCEQ, for their respective watersheds in order to summarize activities and achievements made throughout the course of this project.

The Technicians, with assistance from NRCS and TSSWCB regional offices, will assist landowners in the development of WQMPs and Prescribed Grazing Plans. WQMPs are developed according to the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide. Upon certification of the WQMP by TSSWCB, the Technicians will work with the landowner to implement the BMPs prescribed in the WQMP.

The Technicians, with assistance from NRCS, will assist landowners in applying for and obtaining cost-share funds through the EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas to aid in implementation of BMPs prescribed in WQMPs. The Technicians will conduct status reviews on all WQMPs developed and certified through the course of this project to ensure that the landowners implement BMPs as specified and agreed to in the WQMP implementation schedule. The Technicians will track utilization of obligated cost-share funds from the EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas and assist landowners in utilizing obligated cost-share funds on schedule.

Coordinated technical assistance from local SWCDs, TSSWCB and NRCS will provide livestock producers an opportunity to comply with state water quality laws through a traditional voluntary incentive based program. Cooperative Conservation demonstrated through this project will contribute to the restoration of water quality to support contact recreation in the Atascosa River, Elm and Sandies Creeks, Peach Creek, and Lower San Antonio River watersheds.

Tasks, Objectives and Schedules						
Task 1	Project Administration and Coordination					
Costs	Federal	$45,075	Non-Federal	$0	Total	$45,075
Objective	To effectively administer, coordinate and monitor all work performed under this project including technical and financial supervision and preparation of status reports.					
Subtask 1.1	SWCD 307, SWCD 338, and SWCD 343 will each hire one full-time Technician to implement the project tasks, goals and objectives. The 3 Technicians shall each successfully complete (or have already completed) the NRCS Conservation Planning Course. SWCD 307, SWCD 338, and SWCD 343 will each hire one part-time Bookkeeper to assist with project accounting functions. The SWCD 307 Technician will be stationed in Pleasanton and work in the Atascosa River watershed. The SWCD 338 Technician will be stationed in Gonzales and work in the Peach Creek and Elm and Sandies Creeks watersheds. The SWCD 343 Technician will be stationed in Kenedy and work in the Lower San Antonio River watershed.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 3		
Subtask 1.2	The 3 Technicians and 3 Bookkeepers will each collaborate to perform accounting functions for project funds allocated to their respective SWCD and will submit appropriate Reimbursement Forms to TSSWCB at least monthly.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Subtask 1.3	The 3 Technicians will each 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. To ease the development of the Final Report (Subtask 1.6), quarterly updates to a template Final Report shall be submitted along with QPRs. QPRs shall be distributed to all project partners.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Subtask 1.4	The 3 Technicians will each work to establish cooperative agreements between their lead SWCD and the adjacent SWCDs for their respective watershed(s). Cooperating SWCDs include SWCD 226, SWCD 301, SWCD 304, SWCD 306, SWCD 323, SWCD 325, SWCD 329, SWCD 330, SWCD 340, SWCD 341, SWCD 346, SWCD 352, and SWCD 353.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 3		
Subtask 1.5	The 3 Technicians will each meet monthly with their respective lead SWCD and as needed with their cooperating SWCDs in order to discuss project and District activities and summarize achievements made throughout the course of this project.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Subtask 1.6	The 3 Technicians will collaborate to host coordination meetings or conference calls, at least quarterly, with project partners to discuss project activities, project schedule, communication needs, deliverables, and other requirements. The 3 Technicians will each develop lists of action items needed following each project coordination meeting and distribute to project personnel.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Subtask 1.7	The 3 Technicians will each complete and submit a Final Report to TSSWCB at the culmination of the project. At a minimum the Final Report shall describe the success of the project including WQMPs developed, BMPs implemented, and EQIP monies obligated and utilized. These Final Reports will be provided in electronic and hard copy formats. The TSSWCB will provide a template Final Report.					
	Start Date	Month 34	Completion Date	Month 36		
Deliverables	• QPRs in electronic format, along with quarterly updates to template Final Report • Lists of action items from project coordination meetings • Reimbursement Forms and necessary documentation in hard copy format • Final Report in electronic and hard copy formats					

Tasks, Objectives and Schedules						
Task 2	Promotion of TSSWCB WQMP Program and NRCS EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas					
Costs	Federal	$90,015	Non-Federal	$0	Total	$90,015
Objective	To promote the WQMP Program and the availability of technical and financial (EQIP) assistance. To encourage participation in the WQMP Program by livestock producers in the targeted watersheds.					
Subtask 2.1	The 3 Technicians will each compile (Months 1-3) and maintain (Months 4-36) a contact list of landowners (grazing livestock operations) in their respective watershed(s) to periodically distribute notifications announcing the availability of technical and financial assistance for developing and implementing WQMPs.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Subtask 2.2	The 3 Technicians will each develop and distribute flyers, brochures, letters, news releases and other appropriate promotional publications to encourage participation from agricultural producers (grazing livestock operations) in the TSSWCB WQMP Program and the NRCS EQIP. The TSSWCB must approve all announcements, letters, and publications prior to distribution.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Subtask 2.3	The 3 Technicians will work with TSSWCB, NRCS and Texas AgriLife Extension Service to educate ranchers about water quality issues and how WQMPs and BMPs address bacterial pollutant loadings from livestock. The 3 Technicians will support, promote, and participate in, as appropriate, any field days, demonstrations, site tours, or education events sponsored by NRCS and/or AgriLife Extension for their respective watersheds.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Subtask 2.4	The 3 Technicians will work with commodity organizations, such as Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA), Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas (ICA), and Texas Farm Bureau (TFB), to educate their members on this opportunity to enhance the value of their operation and achieve water quality goals for the watersheds at the same time.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Subtask 2.5	The 3 Technicians will participate in the stakeholder process for TMDL (and/or UAA) development, facilitated by TCEQ, for their respective watershed(s) in order to efficiently and effectively achieve project goals and to summarize activities and achievements made throughout the course of this project. The 3 Technicians will attend and participate in other public meetings as appropriate in order to communicate project goals, activities and accomplishments to affected parties. Such meetings may include, but are not limited to, county commissioners courts, local groundwater conservation districts (GCDs), Clean Rivers Program Basin Steering Committee meetings, and other appropriate meetings of critical watershed stakeholder groups.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Deliverables	• Promotional and educational publications, as developed and distributed • List of landowners, classified by watershed, eligible for participation in the WQMP Program and EQIP, updated as needed • List of meetings attended and dates with brief summary of topics discussed and action needed					

Tasks, Objectives and Schedules						
Task 3	Development of WQMPs, Implementation of BMPs, and acquisition of EQIP funding					
Costs	Federal	$225,037	Non-Federal	$0	Total	$225,037
Objective	To provide technical assistance to livestock producers for the development and implementation of WQMPs and acquisition of EQIP financial assistance to support the installation of BMPs designed to achieve agricultural NPS pollutant load reductions.					
Subtask 3.1	The 3 Technicians, with assistance from NRCS and TSSWCB, will assist landowners (grazing livestock operations) in the development of WQMPs and associated Prescribed Grazing Plans. It is the goal of this project that at least 25 WQMPs be developed on grazing livestock operations in each of the 4 watersheds.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Subtask 3.2	The 3 Technicians, with assistance from NRCS, will assist landowners (grazing livestock operations) in the watersheds in applying for and obtaining financial assistance through the NRCS-administered EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas to aid in implementation of BMPs prescribed in WQMPs.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Subtask 3.3	The 3 Technicians, with assistance from TSSWCB, will assist landowners (grazing livestock operations) in the watersheds in applying for and obtaining cost-share assistance through the TSSWCB WQMP Program in those SWCDs which receive an allocation from TSSWCB (state general revenue; also known as 503 cost-share).					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Subtask 3.4	The 3 Technicians, with assistance from NRCS and TSSWCB, will assist landowners (grazing livestock operations) in the implementation and maintenance of BMPs prescribed in WQMPs.					
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 36		
Deliverables	• Summary sheets on certified WQMPs submitted with QPRs • Summary of EQIP funds applied for and obligated per watershed and BMP					

Tasks, Objectives and Schedules						
Task 4	Tracking Implementation Success					
Costs	Federal	$89,948	Non-Federal	$0	Total	$89,948
Objective	To track implementation of WQMPs and utilization of EQIP funds for BMP implementation to achieve water quality improvement.					
Subtask 4.1	The 3 Technicians will annually conduct status reviews on all WQMPs developed and certified through the course of this project to ensure that the landowners implement BMPs as specified and agreed to in the WQMP implementation schedule. The 3 Technicians will document any follow-up technical assistance needed or necessary modifications to the WQMP implementation schedule.					
	Start Date	Month 1		Completion Date	Month 36	
Subtask 4.2	The 3 Technicians will conduct status reviews on existing WQMPs (grazing livestock operations) (certified prior to this project) in the watershed (20% each year) to ensure that the landowners implement BMPs as specified and agreed to in the WQMP implementation schedule. The 3 Technicians will document any follow-up technical assistance needed or necessary modifications to the WQMP implementation schedule.					
	Start Date	Month 1		Completion Date	Month 36	
Subtask 4.3	The 3 Technicians will track utilization of obligated financial assistance funds from the EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas. The 3 Technicians, with assistance from NRCS, will assist landowners in utilizing obligated EQIP funds on schedule.					
	Start Date	Month 1		Completion Date	Month 36	
Subtask 4.4	The 3 Technicians will track utilization of obligated financial assistance funds from the TSSWCB WQMP Program (state general revenue; also known as 503 cost-share) to landowners (grazing livestock operations) in the watersheds in those SWCDs which receive an allocation from TSSWCB. The 3 Technicians, with assistance from TSSWCB, will assist these landowners in utilizing obligated WQMP Program funds on schedule.					
	Start Date	Month 1		Completion Date	Month 36	
Subtask 4.5	The 3 Technicians will create a spreadsheet and map for their respective watersheds describing and showing the location of all WQMPs developed and BMPs implemented through the project. This map will not reveal the identity or exact location of any producer.					
	Start Date	Month 1		Completion Date	Month 36	
Deliverables	• Status reviews for WQMPs developed through this project and for WQMPs certified prior to this project submitted with QPRs • Map of watershed(s) and spreadsheet showing and describing WQMPs developed and BMPs implemented with a quantifiable breakdown for each BMP submitted with QPRs; map will not reveal the identity of any landowner					

Project Goals (Expand from Summary Page)

- To foster coordinated technical assistance activities between the TSSWCB, local SWCDs and the NRCS
- To promote the availability of technical and financial assistance to livestock producers
- To provide technical assistance to livestock producers for the development of WQMPs and implementation of BMPs to achieve pollutant (bacteria) load reductions
- To assist livestock producers in utilizing financial assistance through the EQIP Statewide Resource Concern for Water Quality in South Central Texas
- To conduct status reviews on WQMPs in order to track implementation success to achieve water quality improvement

Measures of Success (Expand from Summary Page)

- Landowners in the 4 watersheds eligible for participation in the WQMP Program and EQIP Statewide Resource Concern are identified
- WQMP Program and EQIP and availability of technical and financial assistance is promoted in the 4 watersheds through the distribution of appropriate materials
- Needed technical assistance is provided to livestock producers in the 4 watersheds for the development and implementation of WQMPs and BMPs
- Minimum of 25 new WQMPs certified on grazing livestock operations in each of the 4 watersheds
- Increased utilization of available and obligated EQIP cost-share funds
- Status Reviews are annually conducted on all WQMPs developed through this project
- Status Reviews are conducted on existing WQMPs (minimum of 20%) certified prior to this project in the 4 watersheds
- Reduction in bacteria loads from NPS pollution from livestock operations

***2005 Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program* Reference (Expand from Summary Page)**
Goals &/or Milestone(s)
Element One – Explicit short- and long-term goals, objectives and strategies that protect surface … water.
Long Term Goal – To protect and restore water quality from NPS pollution through assessment, implementation, and education. • Objective 1 – Focus NPS abatement efforts, implementation strategies, and available resources in watersheds identified as impacted by NPS pollution. • Objective 2 – Support the implementation of state, regional and local programs to prevent NPS pollution through …implementation. • Objective 3 – Support the implementation of state, regional, and local programs to reduce NPS pollution, such as the implementation of strategies defined in state-approved TMDL Implementation Plans…
Short Term Goal Two – Implementation – Coordinate the NPS Program to support the implementation of TMDL I-Plans …and other state, regional, and local plans/programs to reduce NPS pollution …[by] target[ing] implementation activities to the areas identified as impacted… • Objective A – Work with regional and local entities to determine priority areas and develop and implement strategies to address NPS pollution in those areas. • Objective B – Develop and implement BMPs to address constituents of concern or waterbodies not meeting water quality standards in watersheds indentified as impacted by NPS pollution.
Short Term Goal Three – Education – Conduct education …activities to help increase awareness of NPS pollution and prevent activities contributing to the degradation of waterbodies …by NPS pollution. • Objective B – Administer programs to educate citizens about water quality and their potential role in causing NPS pollution. • Objective D – Conduct outreach through CRP, [AgriLife] Extension, SWCDs, and others to facilitate broader participation and partnerships [that] enable stakeholders …to participate in decision-making and provide a more complete understanding of water quality issues and how they relate to each citizen. • Objective F – Implement public outreach and education to …restore water quality in waterbodies impacted by NPS pollution.
Element Two – Working partnerships and linkages to appropriate state, interstate, …regional and local entities, private sector groups, and federal agencies.
Element Three – Balanced approach that emphasizes both statewide NPS programs and on-the-ground management of individual watersheds.
Element Four – Abatement of water quality impairments from NPS pollution and prevention of significant threats to water quality from present and future NPS activities.

Part III – Financial Information

Budget Summary			
Federal	$ 450,075	% of total project	100%
Non-Federal	$ 0	% of total project (≥ 40%)	0%
Total	$ 450,075	Total	100%

Category	Federal	Non-Federal	Total
Personnel	$ 324,784	$ 0	$ 324,784
Fringe Benefits	$ 91,537	$ 0	$ 91,537
Travel	$ 9,000	$ 0	$ 9,000
Equipment	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
Supplies	$ 6,754	$ 0	$ 6,754
Contractual	$ 12,000	$ 0	$ 12,000
Construction	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
Other	$ 6,000	$ 0	$ 6,000
Total Direct Costs	$ 450,075	$ 0	$ 450,075
Indirect Costs (≤ 15%)	$ 0	$ 0	$ 0
Total Project Costs	$ 450,075	$ 0	$ 450,075

The TSSWCB CWA §319(h) NPS Grant Program has a 60/40% match requirement. The cooperating entity will be reimbursed 60% from federal funds and must contribute a minimum of 40% of the total costs to conduct the project. The 40% match must be from non-federal sources and should be described in the budget justification. Reimbursable indirect costs are limited to no more than 15% of total federal direct costs. The project budget generally covers a three year period.

Budget Justification (Federal)		
Category	Total Amount	Justification
Personnel	$ 324,784	3 full-time Technicians @ $35,650/yr for 3 years including a 2% raise in yrs 2 &3 (SWCD 338 is only 30 months) 3 part-time Bookkeepers @ $15/hr for 10 hrs/month for 3 years (SWCD 338 is only 30 months)
Fringe Benefits	$ 91,537	Fringe Benefits
Travel	$ 9,000	12,000 miles @ .50/mile (SWCD 307 and 343 Technicians @ 2,000 miles/yr) $1,000/ Technician for per diem and hotel expenses
Equipment	$ 0	N/A
Supplies	$ 6,754	Office Supplies for 3 Lead SWCDs @ $50/month ($5,400); Computer ($1,354)
Contractual	$ 12,000	Audit for 3 Lead SWCDs @ $4,000
Construction	$ 0	N/A
Other	$ 6,000	SWCD vehicle maintenance and fuel (SWCD 338)
Indirect	$ 0	N/A

Budget Justification (Non-Federal)		
Category	Total Amount	Justification
Personnel	$ 0	N/A
Fringe Benefits	$ 0	N/A
Travel	$ 0	N/A
Equipment	$ 0	N/A
Supplies	$ 0	N/A
Contractual	$ 0	N/A
Construction	$ 0	N/A
Other	$ 0	N/A
Indirect	$ 0	N/A