



**Implementation Support Project in the in Richland-Chambers Reservoir Watershed within  
the Navarro Soil and Water Conservation District**

**Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board  
FY03 CWA Section 319(h)  
TSSWCB Project #03-12**

**NONPOINT SOURCE SUMMARY PAGE**

- 1. TITLE OF PROJECT:** Implementation Support Project in the in Richland-Chambers Reservoir Watershed within the Navarro Soil and Water Conservation District
- 2. PROJECT GOALS/OBJECTIVES:** This project will provide corn and sorghum producers in the Richland Chambers Reservoir watershed with an opportunity to participate in water quality educational activities, technical assistance, and financial assistance to implement BMPs to reduce the runoff of atrazine.
- 3. PROJECT TASKS:** (1) To provide producers with water quality educational opportunities which pertain to the reduction of runoff from atrazine. (2) To provide corn and sorghum producers with technical and financial assistance to aid in the development and implementation of WQMPs to reduce the runoff of atrazine. (3) To compile information on the number, types, and locations of BMPs implemented. (4) Inventory land use practices.
- 4. MEASURES OF SUCCESS:** (1) Implementation of 30 WQMPs; (2) Provide 2 education programs describing methods to reduce atrazine runoff; (3) Reduction in percentage of samples exceeding §303(d) list screening criteria (1.5 ug/L) to less than 10%; (4) Removal of lake from §303(d) list.
- 5. PROJECT TYPE:** Statewide ( ) Watershed (X) Demonstration ( )
- 6. WATERBODY TYPE:** River ( ) Lake (X) Wetland ( ) Ground Water ( ) Other ( )
- 7. PROJECT LOCATION:** Basin: (X) Richland Chambers Reservoir Watershed (segment #0836)
- 8. NPS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM REFERENCE:** State of Texas Agricultural/Silvicultural Nonpoint Source Management Program – Approved February 15, 2000
- 9. NPS ASSESSMENT REPORT STATUS:** Impaired ( ) Impacted ( ) Threatened (X)
- 10. KEY PROJECT ACTIVITIES:** Hire Staff (X) Monitoring ( ) Regulatory Assistance ( ) Technical Assistance (X) Education (X) BMP Implementation (X) Demonstration Project ( ) Other ( )
- 11. NPS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ELEMENTS:** Milestones from the “1999 Texas Nonpoint Source Pollution Assessment Report and Management Program”, which will be implemented include: (1) providing financial assistance to Soil and Waters Conservation Districts for the implementation of Water Quality Management Plans to reduce NPS pollution; (2) Coordinating with Federal, State, and Local Programs; (3) Committing to technology transfer, technical support, administrative support and cooperation between agencies and programs for the prevention of NPS pollution.
- 12. PROJECT COSTS:** Federal: (\$430,279); Local Match: (\$109,000); Total Project: (\$539,279).
- 13. PROJECT MANAGEMENT:** Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
- 14. PROJECT PERIOD:** Three years from start date.

## **North Central Texas Atrazine Remediation Project**

FY03 CWA Section 319(h)

### **Problem Need/Statement**

Richland Chambers Reservoir was listed on the 1999 State of Texas 303(d) List as threatened for atrazine. In November 2000 the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) initiated a CWA Section 319(h) project with the Navarro Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to provide technical and financial assistance for the purpose of developing and implementing WQMPs to reduce atrazine runoff into the Richland Chambers Reservoir. This project entitled, "North Central Texas Atrazine Remediation Project (TSSWCB Project 00-5)" made cost-share funds available to twenty-five corn and sorghum producers and provided a full-time technician to administer the program and conduct educational activities.

At this time, the Navarro SWCD has more requests for financial assistance on high priority management practices than it can fund through TSSWCB Project 00-5. It is estimated that thirty additional producers could benefit from financial assistance.

### **General Project Description**

The purpose of this project is to continue the efforts of the TSSWCB and Navarro SWCD to reduce atrazine loadings into the Richland Chambers Reservoir.

Following are actions that will be undertaken by this project to reduce atrazine runoff to these lakes:

- Provide technical assistance to corn and sorghum producers on appropriate BMPs to reduce atrazine runoff.
- Provide educational events describing methods for reducing atrazine (pesticide/herbicide) runoff.
- Provide financial assistance to corn and sorghum producers that implement BMPs to reduce atrazine runoff.

Best management practices (BMPs) to reduce the runoff of atrazine will be implemented through the development of Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs). The objective of WQMP implementation is to achieve a level of pollution prevention or abatement determined to be consistent with State water quality standards. Highest priorities will be given to the implementation of cost effective pollution abatement practices. TSSWCB and SWCDs will determine which landowners receive technical assistance for the development and implementation of WQMPs. Potential BMPs, which may be included, but not limited to, in the WQMPs, are:

- Buffer strips
- Integrated pest management (e.g., sprayer calibration, incorporation banding, follow label)

- Terraces and grassed waterways
- Conservation tillage
- Contour farming with strip cropping or buffer strips
- Conversion of cropland to grassland

### **Tasks, Objectives, Schedules, and Estimated Costs**

#### **Task 1: Program Coordination and Management**

**Costs:** \$0 (Federal); \$9,000 (State); \$9,000 (Total)

**Objective:** Organize an integrated team among the multiple agencies and groups involved with the project to efficiently and effectively achieve project goals.

**Subtask 1.1:** Conduct semi-annual meetings with project participants to discuss technical assistance activities, project schedule, lines of responsibility, communication needs, and other required tasks. (Month 1 through month 36)

**Subtask 1.2:** Prepare quarterly and final reports. All progress reports will also be provided to the coordinating committee and project cooperators and participants. (Month 1 to Month 36)

#### **Deliverables**

- Quarterly and final reports documenting project status.
- Semi-annual reports will be developed by the TSSWCB project manager to be submitted to EPA.

#### **Task 2: Water Quality Education and Demonstration of Best Management Practices to Reduce Atrazine**

**Costs:** \$5,000 (Federal), \$0 (State), \$5,000 (Total)

**Objective:** To promote the implementation of cost effective BMPs that reduce atrazine runoff by informing and educating corn and sorghum producers about appropriate BMPs; to demonstrate these techniques on local farms within the Navarro SWCD. Demonstrations will be fully publicized, including on-site signs as appropriate.

**Subtask 2.1:** Cooperate with the NRCS, TCE, and Texas Department of Agriculture to provide 2 educational/training events describing methods for reducing atrazine (pesticide/herbicide) runoff. (Month 1 through month 36)

**Subtask 2.2:** Select appropriate agricultural BMPs practices for reducing atrazine runoff and implement at least one demonstration each year of the project in each watershed with assistance from the NRCS, county extension agent, local SWCD, and TAEX. (Month 1 through month 36)

**Deliverables:**

- Training and workshop schedules, agendas, and participants.
- Status update of progress will be included in quarterly progress reports.
- All educational materials distributed.
- Report describing all relative educational activities performed within the watershed.

**Task 3:** Development and Implementation of WQMPs and Provide Technical Assistance

**Costs:** \$425,279 (Federal), \$100,000 (State), \$525,279 (Total)

**Objective:** To encourage agricultural landowners to comply with state water quality laws through a traditional voluntary based incentive program and assistance to producers in developing and implementing WQMPs.

**Subtask 3.1:** The Navarro SWCD will hire a technician to provide technical assistance to corn and sorghum producers in the Richland-Chambers Creek watershed and develop WQMPs (Month 1 to month 36)

**Subtask 3.2:** The SWCDs, with assistance from NRCS and TCE will send out notifications announcing the availability of assistance for implementing WQMPs/BMPs, prioritize the WQMP applications and rank landowners based on greatest need of BMP implementation. (Month 1 to Month 36)

**Subtask 3.3:** The SWCD technicians and NRCS will provide landowners information on appropriate BMPs and will work with TSSWCB Regional Office in developing and implementing WQMPs. (Month 1 to Month 36)

**Subtask 3.4:** The Navarro SWCD technician will develop approximately 30 WQMPs. The SWCD technician will complete all WQMPs with assistance from the NRCS as needed. (Month 1 to Month 36)

**Subtask 3.5:** TSSWCB will provide technical review and certification of WQMPs. During this process, TSSWCB will ensure that all WQMPs are consistent with state water quality standards and certify those that meet that criterion. (Month 1 to Month 36)

**Subtask 3.6:** The TSSWCB, with assistance from each SWCD, will ensure that the landowners implement the WQMPs as specified and agreed to in the WQMP implementation schedule. The SWCD technician will conduct annual status reviews on all WQMPs developed to ensure the implementation schedule is followed and funds are used. (Month 1 to Month 36)

**Deliverables:**

- 30 WQMPs developed and implemented within the Navarro SWCD

- The SWCD Planners will submit records of BMPs implemented to date by each producer.
- A report documenting the total number of producers assisted.

**Coordination, Roles and Responsibilities:**

Participating Agencies and Organizations along with their roles in this project include:

- Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board: Lead agency responsible for technical review and certification of WQMPs. Provide assistance to the local SWCD in the implementation and development of WQMPs. Also assist the local SWCD in inventorying current BMPs and land use practices and the implementation of WQMPs.
- Navarro Soil and Water Conservation District: Oversee technician during the development and implementation of WQMPs/BMPs, tracking of BMP implementation using maps and spreadsheets.
- Natural Resources Conservation Service: Work with and assist local SWCD and TSSWCB in development and implementation of WQMPs.
- Texas Department of Agriculture: License applicators. Ensure compliance with label. Assist with education on proper application of atrazine.

**Measures of Success:**

- Implementation of approximately 30 WQMPs in the Navarro SWCD
- Conduct 2 education programs for local corn and sorghum producers.
- Reduce detections of atrazine concentrations in Richland Chambers Reservoir to levels which remain below the established target level (1.5 ug/L) in >90% of the samples.
- Removal Richland Chambers Reservoir from the State of Texas 303(d) List.

**Project Manager**

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**Project Lead**

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### Three Year Budget

	Federal	Non-Federal Match	Total
<b>1. Personnel</b>			
One Technician @ \$28,000/yr	84,000	0	84,000
One Bookkeeper @ \$10/hr	8,640	0	8,640
District Director Time @ \$25/hr	<u>0</u>	<u>9,000</u>	<u>9,000</u>
Subtotal Personnel	92,640	9,000	101,640
<b>2. Fringe Benefits</b>			
Benefits for Technican @ 28%	23,520	0	23,520
Benefits for Boookkeeper @ 11.8%	<u>2,419</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,419</u>
Subtotal Fringe	25,939	0	25,939
<b>3. Travel</b>			
	0	0	0
<b>4. Equipment</b>			
	0	0	0
<b>5. Supplies</b>			
General Office Supplies	<u>2,500</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,500</u>
Subtotal Supplies	2,500	0	2,500
<b>6. Contractual</b>			
Financial Audit	<u>2,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Subtotal Contractual	2,000	0	2,000
<b>7. Construction</b>			
	300,000	100,000	400,000
<b>8. Other</b>			
Truck gas, maintenance, etc.	<u>7,200</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,200</u>
Subtotal Other	7,200	0	7,200
<b>9. Total Direct Costs</b>			
	430,279	109,000	539,279
<b>10. Indirect Costs</b>			
	0	0	0
<b>11. Total Project Costs</b>			
	430,279	109,000	539,279