Fiscal Year 2014

Austin County

Soil and Water Conservation District #347

Water Quality Management Plan Program

Survey

I. District Cost-Share Rate for FY2014

Use this section to notify the TSSWCB of the cost-share rate that will be used for the Program during the 2014 Fiscal Year (Sept. 1, 2013 – Aug. 31, 2014). The Texas Legislature has enacted state law capping the rate at 75%. Please choose one rate for the entire fiscal year.

☐ 50% ☐ 55% ☐ 60% ☐ 65% ☐ 70% ☐ 75%

☐ Other – Please specify a percentage below 75%: _____.

II. Maximum Amount of Cost-Share per Operating Unit for FY2014

Use this section to notify the TSSWCB of the maximum amount of cost-share that can be applied to a single cost-share application for an operating unit during the 2014 Fiscal Year (Sept. 1, 2013 – Aug. 31, 2014). The State Board has adopted rule requiring that the amount be no more than $15,000 (December 23, 2008), and has adopted policy that the amount be no less than $5,000 (July 21, 2005). Please choose a maximum amount for the entire fiscal year.

☐ $15,000

☐ Other – Please specify an amount below $15,000: _____.

III. Practices Eligible for Cost-Incentive Funding for FY2014

Use this section to notify the TSSWCB of the practices that are eligible for cost-share funding through the Austin County Soil and Water Conservation District for the 2014 Fiscal Year (Sept. 1, 2013 – Aug. 31, 2014). The State Board has adopted a statewide list of practices that are all eligible (below). The district may choose to use this entire list by selecting the first option below, or to select a subset of the statewide list. **Note: Average cost of each practice will be requested by the Wharton Regional Office prior to the start of the fiscal year.**

Practice Code	Practice Name and Unit	Select Each Eligible Practice
	ENTIRE STATE COST-SHARE LIST [Check this for the entire list]	☐
313	Waste Storage Facility (no.) **(See note 10 & 11)**	☐
314	Brush Management (acre)	☐
316	Animal Mortality Facility (no.) **(See note 8)**	☐
317	Composting Facility (no.)	☐
324	Deep Tillage (acre) **(See note 15)**	☐
327	Conservation Cover (acre)	☐
332	Contour Buffer Strips (acre)	☐
342	Critical Area Planting (acre)	☐
350	Sediment Basin (no.) **(See note 11)**	☐
351	Well Decommissioning (no.) **(See note 7)**	☐
359	Waste Treatment Lagoon (no.)	☐
360	Closure of Waste Impoundments (no.) **(See note 13)**	☐
362	Diversion (ft.)	☐
378	Pond (no.) **(See note 4)**	☐
382	Fence (ft.) **(See note 1)**	☐
386	Field Border (ft.)	☐
390	Riparian Herbaceous Cover (acre) **(See note 14)**	☐
391	Riparian Forest Buffer (acre) **(See note 12)**	☐
393	Filter Strip (acre)	☐
410	Grade Stabilization Structure (no.)	☐
412	Grassed Waterway (acre)	☐
430	Irrigation Pipeline (ft.)	☐
	IRRIGATION SYSTEM (no. and acre) [441-443]	☐
441	Microirrigation (all needed components)	☐
442	Sprinkler-low pressure-new installations	☐
442	Sprinkler – Conversion to low pressure	☐
442	Sprinkler – Chemigation equipment	☐
443	Surface – Shallow flood, rice (all needed components)	☐
443	Surface – Surge valves	☐
447	Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery (no.)	☐
462	Precision Land Forming (acre)	☐
464	Irrigation Land Leveling (acre)	☐
512	Forage and Biomass Planting (acre) **(See note 3)**	☐
516	Pipeline (ft.)	☐
521	Pond Sealing or Lining (no.)	☐

533	Pumping Plant (no.)	☐
550	Range Planting (acre) **(See note 5)**	☐
552	Irrigation Regulating Reservoir (no.)	☐
558	Roof Runoff Structure (no.) **(See note 16)**	☐
560	Access Roads (hard surface lanes) (ft.) **(See note 11)**	☐
587	Structure For Water Control (No.) **(See note 2)**	☐
600	Terrace (ft.)	☐
606	Subsurface Drain (ft.)	☐
612	Tree/Shrub Establishment (acre) **(See note 12)**	☐
614	Watering Facility (no.)	☐
632	Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility (no.)	☐
634	Manure Transfer (no.) **(See note 9 & 11)**	☐
635	Vegetated Treatment Area (acre)	☐
638	Water and Sediment Control Basin (no.)	☐
642	Water Well (no.) **(See note 6)**	☐
642	Well Head Protection (no.)	☐

GUIDANCE NOTES	
NOTE 1	Cost sharing of fences for management will be limited only to that needed to install a sound management system for the unit. Property line fences are not eligible for cost share. Cost share will not be allowed for fences between cropland and grassland. Fences installed to protect stream health will be eligible for cost sharing.
NOTE 2	Applicable only for flow meters and chemigation valves.
NOTE 3	No cost-share assistance will be provided for the conversion of rangeland to pastureland when rangeland is in a high-fair or better condition. Fair condition rangeland in a downward trend or with excessive erosion would be allowed.
NOTE 4	Ponds are eligible for cost-share only when required for sound grazing management.
NOTE 5	Cost sharing will not be provided for range seeding where 15 percent desirable grasses are present. Desirable grasses are defined as decreasers and good quality increasers. These climax dominant grasses are listed in the technical range site description.
NOTE 6	Wells are eligible for cost-share only when required to provide livestock water for sound grazing management.
NOTE 7	Well plugging must meet requirements of Water Well Drillers Rules Sections 338.48-338.50 and 338.72.
NOTE 8	Cost-share is limited to poultry incinerators and freezers. Compressor alone may be cost-shared if existing freezer box is in working condition. Applicant must obtain from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality authorization to operate the incinerator prior to payment of cost-share. Incinerators must be placed on concrete slabs.
NOTE 9	Eligible components: Waste transfer pipelines, pumps, sprinklers (including traveling sprinklers) and agitators.
NOTE 10	Eligible components: Dry stack manure storage structures and waste storage ponds (including liners, liner

	certification, and inlet protection).
NOTE 11	Eligible only when addressing waste management of animal feeding operations.
NOTE 12	Riparian forest buffer and tree/shrub establishment are only eligible for mechanical altered areas and critically eroding areas when trees are the best cover to protect these areas from erosion, reduce runoff, and protect water quality.
NOTE 13	Waste impoundments constructed with Water Quality Management Program cost-share funds are not eligible to be cost-shared for closure unless they have been in place longer than their minimum life span. Waste impoundments constructed under other cost-share programs – ACP, LTA, EQIP, etc. – are not eligible to be cost-shared for closure unless they have been in place longer than their minimum life span or permission to close the structure is granted by the cost sharing entity.
NOTE 14	Riparian Herbaceous Buffer is only eligible for mechanical altered areas and critically eroding areas.
NOTE 15	Only applicable for waste application fields.
NOTE 16	Limited to gutters associated with waste management of animal feeding operations.

IV. Local Input and Characterization of Area 3 Water Quality Priorities

Use this section to notify the TSSWCB of any information the Austin County Soil and Water Conservation District would like to convey regarding these identified priorities. The District is being asked to provide input on each priority known to exist within Area 3. There is a column below where the district can make recommendations on whether or not to limit the type of agricultural operation that should qualify for each specific priority. This recommendation may be implemented on a district-by-district case, or an across-the-board case, depending on how the State Board chooses to approve the ranking process at the July 2013 Meeting. There is also a column where the district can provide any other information about each priority.

Priority Description					District Input and Comments	
Proposed Cost-Share Priority	**State Area**	**Priority Type**	**WQ Parameters of Concern**	**Existing Activity**	**Select the Most Important Operation Types for Each Priority Area:**	**Additional SWCD Comments on this Cost-Share Priority**
Arroyo Colorado	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	WPP	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Atascosa River	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	RUAA	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	

Bastrop Bayou	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Buffalo & Whiteoak Bayous	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Clear Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Copano Bay, Mission & Aransas Rivers	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	

Cypress Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	WPP	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Dickinson Bayou	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	TMDL & WPP	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Elm & Sandies Creeks	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	RUAA	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Geronimo Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	

Highland Bayou	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	WPP	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Leona River	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Lower Nueces River	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Healthy Watershed Initiative	WPP	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Lower San Antonio River	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	

Onion & Barton Creeks	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Impaired Macrobenthic Community	TMDL	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Oso Bay & Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Peach Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Plum Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	

San Bernard River	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Upper Cibolo Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Upper Oyster Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	TMDL	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Carrizo	3	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	

Edwards	3	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Gulf Coast	3	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Trinity	3	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Allen's Creek	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	

Colorado River Tidal	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Davidson Creek	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
East Yegua Creek	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Skull Creek	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	

Somerville Lake	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Depressed Dissolved Oxygen, pH	None Known	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Tres Palacios Creek Tidal	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Matagorda County SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Waters Davis SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	

Southmost SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
San Patricio SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Copano Bay SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Jackson SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	

Calhoun SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Victoria SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Willacy SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	
Kleberg-Kenedy SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	

Nueces SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan	☐ No Preference ☐ Poultry Operations ☐ Non-Poultry AFOs ☐ Grazing Operations ☐ Cultivated Operations ☐ Nutrients Applied ☐ Irrigated Lands	

V. Submittal of Additional Local Concerns

Use this section to notify the TSSWCB of any other serious natural resource concerns that exist within the Austin County Soil and Water Conservation District. The statutory requirements for cost-share funds are that they must be used to cost-share soil and water land improvement measures that address water quality, soil erosion, or water conservation.

Submission of local priorities does not mean a special priority or direct allocation of funds will be approved. However, each submittal will be reviewed by the TSSWCB's Statewide Resource Management Department for consideration of an external federal or state funded grant through the agency's Nonpoint Source Grant Program.

Approval for a grant will depend on the severity of the natural resource concern, the presence or lack of other financial resources to address the concern, the anticipated cost of the project, local contribution of technical assistance, and its compatibility with the short and long term goals of the Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program and any applicable state or federal guidelines. Consideration is ultimately dependent upon the availability of funds, therefore external grants may not available during every program year. The TSSWCB staff will seriously consider all submittals and will directly contact the district for additional information upon receipt.

1. Please describe the natural resource concern:	

2. What conservation strategy (strategies) are needed to remedy the concern?	
3. What is the geographic scope of the land area where the remedy is needed? Examples would be watersheds, aquifer recharge zones, district boundaries, etc. Provide estimated total land area in acres.	
4. Approximately how many separately owned land tracks are involved in this area?	
5. How long is it estimated this project will take to complete?	

6. Have landowners expressed an interest in participating in a project?	
7. Is there technical assistance available to develop water quality management plans aside from that provided by employees of the TSSWCB?	
8. What is the estimated total amount of cost-share required?	
9. Who is the person the TSSWCB should contact regarding this submittal? Provide phone number and email address if available.	

VI. Submittal of Non-Geographic Priorities

Use this section to notify the TSSWCB of additional priorities for the Fiscal Year 2014 Water Quality Management Plan Program for the Area 3 cost-share allocation that are not based on watersheds, aquifer recharge zones, or political boundaries. These would be any specific types of agricultural operations that the Austin County Soil and Water Conservation District believes should be considered priorities regardless of where it they are geographically located within Area 3. *An example of this type of priority would be "Poultry Operations;" listing this would indicate the district would like to see all poultry operations be considered regardless of their location within Area 3.*

Please describe the specific type of agricultural operation:	
What limitations should be imposed on this potential priority?	
Use this space to convey any additional important information:	

VII. CERTIFICATION

I, the authorized representative of the Austin County Soil and Water Conservation District, certify that the information contained within this survey was approved by majority vote of the District during an official meeting as posted on the official meeting agenda.

_____

Name, Title

_____

Date

Once the survey has been completed and certified by an authorized representative of the District, please submit the certified survey to the TSSWCB by 8:00 AM July 1, 2013 in one of the following ways:

Mail the original signed copy to:

TSSWCB
ATTN: LEE MUNZ
P.O. Box 658
Temple, TX 76503

Email an electronic (scanned with visible signatures) to:

lmunz@tsswcb.texas.gov