



TEXAS STATE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION BOARD

Program News and Activities

AUGUST 2013

The TSSWCB produces this monthly update of the agency's activities as an informational service to local Soil and Water Conservation District Directors. I hope you find this information helpful, and if you have any questions about specific programs or projects please don't hesitate to call your local field representative or our state headquarters.

REX ISOM
Executive Director

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UPCOMING STATE BOARD WORK SESSION AND MEETING

The State Board has scheduled a Work Session on **Wednesday September 18, 2013** and a formal State Board Meeting on **Thursday, September 19, 2013 in Temple**. More information is available at <http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/boardmeetings>, or by contacting Karen Preece at (254) 773-2250, ext. 245 or kpreece@tsswcb.texas.gov.

BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING

- The deadline for submitting the following items is August 31st:
 - Financial Statement/Audit Notifications
 - Regular and Supplemental Matching Fund Claims
 - Online Technical Assistance Performance Reports. FY2014 Technical Assistance payments can't be paid until this report is submitted.
- September 30th is the deadline for submitting FY2013
 - 4th Quarter Mileage/Per Diem claims and return of unused advanced funds. Advance payments for FY2014 will not be paid if unused advance funds from FY2013 are not returned by the deadline.
 - Regular and Supplemental Technical Assistance claims

- November 1st Supplemental Technical Assistance, Matching Fund, and Mileage/Per Diem claims will be paid.

For more budget and accounting information, contact Kenny Zajicek at (254) 773-2250 ext. 236 or kzajicek@tsswcb.texas.gov

HUMAN RESOURCES

TSSWCB currently has 1 position available at this time.

- Natural Resources Specialist III – Nacogdoches

For additional information or to download an application, visit <https://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/employment>.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

The TSSWCB Special Projects department provides coordination for the Annual State Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Directors, facilitates open government functions required by the Texas Administrative Procedures Act, and directs the completion of other mandatory agency responsibilities such as publishing the agency’s Semi-Annual Report and coordinating rule-making functions.

Annual State Meeting of SWCD Directors
Mark your calendars for October 28 – 30, 2013 and plan on attending the 73rd Annual State Meeting held in Fort Worth.

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

Wildlife Alliance for Youth (WAY) Contests

WAY Contest dates for the 2014 academic year were established July 31, at the annual meeting of the Wildlife Alliance for Youth Steering Committee. The committee met in Corpus Christi during the annual Ag Science teacher’s professional development conference

Established dates for the contests are:

- November 4, 2013-----Region 4
- April 8, 2014-----Region 1
- April 15, 2014-----Region 2
- April 16, 2014-----Region 5
- April 17, 2014-----Region 3
- May 13, 2014-----State Contest

More information will be provided when contest locations have been selected and finalized,

Area Association Meetings:

- August 21, 2013 – South Plains Association of SWCDs (Lubbock)
- August 20, 2013 – Panhandle Association of SWCDs (Dumas)
- August 27, 2013 – West Texas Association of SWCDs (Sweetwater)
- September 25, 2013- South Texas Association of SWCDs (Falfurrias)
- September 30, 2013 – Northeast Texas Association of SWCDs (Mt. Pleasant)

Conservation News

Conservation News is a collection of readily available current news and information regarding natural resource issues. TSSWCB periodically distributes Conservation News via email to those interested. To subscribe, send an email to conservation-news-subscribe@tsswcb.texas.gov. Conservation News is also available at <http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/news>.

Conservation Video Library

There are over 200 conservation-related videos available; the 2011 catalog can be downloaded at <http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/infoed/videolibrary>. No rental fees are assessed to those wishing to borrow videos from the library.

Ordering a Video

Select a video from the Conservation Video Catalog, then contact Loren Warrick at lwarrick@tsswcb.texas.gov to check it out. The Association of Texas SWCDs will pay the first transit postage costs to mail the video(s) to the requester. Postage for returning the video(s) will be the responsibility of the borrower. All videos must be insured upon return.

WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRAM

With the passage of Senate Bill 503 in 1993, the Texas Legislature directed the TSSWCB to implement water quality management plans (WQMPs) to abate agricultural and silvicultural nonpoint source pollution. A WQMP is a site-specific plan developed through and approved by SWCDs. The agency has been implementing WQMPs on private lands since late 1993.

All agriculture and silviculture producers in the state are eligible to have a water quality management plan developed. The TSSWCB identifies areas of the state where water quality is being negatively impacted by agricultural and silvicultural nonpoint source pollution and allocates funding to those priority areas to serve as financial incentives to increase participation in the program. SWCDs with lakes, rivers or stream

segments listed on the 303(d) list as impaired due to agriculture are eligible to be included as priority areas. All animal feeding operations are considered to be high priority and are eligible to receive financial incentives to install needed practices in their WQMP through their priority area or statewide assistance program.

In FY2013, 254,026 acres have been certified through the WQMP Program. There have also been 223 applications approved for financial incentives to assist producers with the implementation of agricultural nonpoint source pollution abatement practices. More information about the WQMP Program is available at <http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/wqmp>.

TEXAS NONPOINT SOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The federal Clean Water Act (CWA) requires states to develop a program to protect the quality of water resources from the adverse effects of nonpoint source (NPS) water pollution. The *Texas NPS Management Program* is the State's comprehensive strategy for addressing NPS pollution. The program publication is updated every five years. The most recent revision was submitted by the Governor in June 2012 and thusly approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The *Texas NPS Management Program* is jointly administered by the TSSWCB and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

Implementation of the *Texas NPS Management Program* involves partnerships among many organizations. With the extent and variety of NPS issues across Texas, cooperation across political boundaries is essential. SWCDs are vital partners in working with landowners to implement best management practices (BMPs) that prevent and abate agricultural and silvicultural NPS water pollution.

More information on the *Texas NPS Management Program* is available at <http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/managementprogram>.

Nonpoint Source Grant Program

FY2008 – FY2012 CWA §319(h) Grant Status

There are currently 42 on-going §319(h) grant-funded projects addressing a wide array of agricultural and silvicultural NPS issues. Unliquidated federal funds for these 42 on-going projects total approximately \$11.2 million and are primarily being used to implement BMPs to abate NPS pollution from animal feeding operations, grazing livestock operations and row crop operations; provide technical assistance through SWCDs for the development of WQMPs; provide financial incentives for implementing certain BMPs prescribed in WQMPs; support various targeted educational programs; develop and implement Watershed Protection Plans (WPP); and implement the NPS portion of Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Plans (I-Plan).

FY2012 – FY2013 State Grant Status

There are currently 12 on-going projects addressing an array of agricultural and silvicultural NPS issues. Unliquidated state funds for these 12 on-going projects total approximately \$2 million and are primarily being used to implement agricultural NPS components of TMDL I-Plans; conduct Recreational Use Attainability Analyses (RUAA); support increased analytical infrastructure at public bacterial source tracking (BST) laboratories; demonstrate innovative BMPs on animal feeding operations and grazing lands; and collect and analyze water quality data for watersheds with impaired waterbodies.

Coastal NPS Pollution Control Program

The Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) was created to coordinate state, local and federal programs for the management of Texas coastal resources. The CMP improves the management of the State's coastal resources to ensure long-term ecological and economic productivity of the coast. The CMP brings in federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) funds to Texas to implement projects and program activities for a wide variety of purposes. The Texas General Land Office (GLO) and the Land Commissioner are responsible for coordinating activities associated with the CMP. The Coastal Coordination Advisory Committee (CCAC), established by the Texas Legislature, advises the

Land Commissioner on matters related to implementation of the CMP; the TSSWCB is a statutorily-authorized member of the CCAC.

The GLO is charged with adopting uniform goals and policies to guide decision-making by all entities regulating or managing natural resource use within the Texas coastal area. The GLO reviews significant actions taken or authorized by state agencies and subdivisions of state government that may adversely affect coastal natural resources to determine consistency with CMP goals and policies. In addition, the GLO oversees the CMP Grants Program and the Small Business and Individual Permitting Assistance Program.

The federal Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments (CZARA) §6217 requires each State with an approved CMP to develop a federally approvable program to control coastal NPS pollution. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the EPA jointly administer §6217 at the federal level. In Texas, the TSSWCB and the TCEQ hold primary responsibility for the development and implementation of the Texas Coastal NPS Pollution Control Program.

More information on the CMP is available at <http://www.glo.texas.gov/what-we-do/caring-for-the-coast/grants-funding/cmp/index.html>.

Coastal Coordination Advisory Committee

The CCAC was created during sunset legislation (SB656) in the 82nd legislature. SB656, which was enacted in 2011, abolished the Coastal Coordination Council and transferred its functions to the Land Commissioner and the GLO. The legislation established the CCAC to advise the Land Commissioner on matters related to the CMP. The CCAC includes a representative of the TSSWCB designated by the Chairman of the State Board.

The general structure of the coastal program consists of workgroups from the agencies and governor appointees which focus on specific projects. The main function of the CCAC is to provide consistency review of federal projects and actions and to provide support to the workgroups.

More information is available for a limited time at <http://www.glo.texas.gov/GLO/boards-and-commissions/coastal-coordination-council/index.html>.

CMP Grant Program

Through the CMP, GLO awards approximately \$1.8 million of the federal §306/§306A coastal management grant funds received from NOAA to local governments and other entities along the coast for planning and implementation of projects that address environmental problems affecting the coastal area and that promote sustainable economic development.

§306 Grants

Grant Cycle 19 closed at the end of June 2013. A list of grants will be posted soon.

More information on the CMP grant program can be found at <http://www.glo.texas.gov/what-we-do/caring-for-the-coast/grants-funding/cmp/index.html>.

Coastal Planning

The coastal program is dedicating §309 funds to the creation of a long-term plan utilizing coastal and marine spatial planning. The first year of this five-year initiative was to create a report to provide a "snapshot" into the current priorities of the Texas coast. A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of coastal experts was formed to review and evaluate the project list and the issues of concern for the four coastal regions. TSSWCB is participating in this planning effort as a member of the TAC. TAC regional meetings were held to identify the critical areas and needs of the Texas coast. The information collected at the TAC meetings was used to develop a "snapshot" report to inform the 83rd Texas Legislature of the coastal priorities for each of the four regions, and to serve as a baseline for the long-term planning process. A brochure was also developed, *The Texas Coast: Shoring up our Future*, and can be found here: <http://www.glo.texas.gov/shoring-up-texas/shoring-up-our-future-brochure.pdf>.

Year two of this effort will continue with the creation of a broader planning effort. This long-term plan will better enable an integrated, adaptive management approach to plan for and balance competing natural and human uses along

our coast. Meetings were scheduled with local elected officials in July and August in the various regions along the Texas coast, specifically Galveston, Beaumont, Port Lavaca, Corpus Christi and Port Isabel.

On July 29 and 31, 2013, TSSWCB SRM staff [Brian Koch] attended meetings in Port Lavaca and Beaumont for the Texas General Land Office Coastal Program Coastal Regional TAC. These meetings provided information on Texas coastal resources and amenities. Discussion was focused on how to market these resources statewide and to market Texas as a coastal state. The biggest concern is the lack of understanding of how activities in the state, away from the coast, have an impact on the coast. These meetings also took place in Port Isabel, Corpus Christi, and Galveston.

Water Quality Coordination Activities

Galveston Bay Estuary Program

Galveston Bay is an estuary of national importance and, through the federal CWA §320, is included in the National Estuary Program administered by the EPA. The Galveston Bay Council (GBC) is the stakeholder advisory group that coordinates the implementation of the *Galveston Bay Plan*, which is a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan developed under the auspices of the National Estuary Program. The TSSWCB is a named member of the Galveston Bay Council.

On July 18, 2013, TSSWCB SRM staff [Brian Koch] attended a Galveston Bay Council Water and Sediment Quality meeting in Webster. This meeting featured updates on TMDLs, WPPs, I-plans and other implementation projects that focus on improving water and sediment quality in the bay.

More information is available at <http://www.gbep.state.tx.us/>. The implementation of the *Galveston Bay Plan* affects agricultural and silvicultural operations in watersheds that drain to the Galveston Bay complex in Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, Harris and Liberty Counties.

Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtable

On July 30, 2013, TSSWCB SRM staff [Jana Lloyd, Brian Koch] participated in the latest Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtable workshop, entitled "Urban BMPs and Low Impact Development", in Dallas. Nearly 70 people attended representing many of the on-going watershed planning efforts across the state. Topics discussed included low impact development (LID) design, construction and performance and stormwater rule making, along with a tour of installed LID practices.

Water Quality Planning and Implementation

STATE DISTRICT I

E.V. Spence Reservoir*

Impairment: Salinity
Mechanism: TMDL, I-Plan
Lead: TCEQ

On July 31, 2013, TSSWCB SRM staff [Jana Lloyd] attended an Implementation Evaluation meeting for the Colorado River below E.V Spence Reservoir TMDL. Discussion centered on updating and revising the I-Plan, finalizing the watershed coordination committee, setting ground rules and forming workgroups.

More information is available at <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/04-spence.html>. This TMDL and I-Plan affect agricultural operations in the E.V. Spence Reservoir watershed in Borden, Coke, Howard, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, and Sterling Counties.

Other State District I Projects

Project: "Recreational Use Attainability Analysis for Five Creeks in the Canadian River and Red River Basins", Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research at Tarleton State University; State \$683,683*

On July 22, 2013 TSSWCB SRM staff [Wesley Gibson, Mitch Conine] participated in a public meeting in Wheeler to discuss an ongoing RUAA on Sweetwater Creek and the findings of the first

field survey. The second field survey is scheduled for July 29-August 3, 2013. More information on this RUAA is available at <http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/en/managementprogram/ruaasweetwater>.

On July 23, 2013 TSSWCB SRM staff [Wesley Gibson, Mitch Conine] participated in a public meeting in Borger to discuss an ongoing RUAA on Dixon Creek and the findings of the first field survey. The second field survey is scheduled for July 29-August 3, 2013. More information on this RUAA is available at <http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/en/managementprogram/ruaadixon>.

STATE DISTRICT II

South and North Llano Rivers

Impairment: None
Mechanism: WPP
Lead: TSSWCB
Project: "Development of the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan", Texas Water Resources Institute; Federal \$666,167/ External \$447,239

On August 1, 2013, TSSWCB SRM staff [Jana Lloyd], Field staff [Kendria Ray] and Area 2 State Board Member [Marty Graham] attended the Upper Llano River Watershed Protection Plan Coordination Committee meeting in Junction. The meeting focused on a Committee discussion on how to proceed with the identified watershed issues and how to incorporate those issues in the watershed protection plan. Other topics discussed included quarterly water quality sampling results and forming a strategy for writing the watershed protection plan.

More information is available at <http://southllano.org/>. This project has the potential to affect farming and livestock operations in the South Llano River watershed in Edwards, Kerr, Kimble, Menard, Real and Sutton Counties.

STATE DISTRICT III

Plum Creek

Impairment: Bacteria
Concerns: Nutrients

Mechanism: WPP
Lead: TSSWCB
Project: "Coordinating Implementation of the Plum Creek Watershed Protection Plan", Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority; Federal \$216,000/ External \$144,000
Project: "Surface Water Quality Monitoring and Additional Data Collection Activities to Support the Implementation of the Plum Creek Watershed Protection Plan", Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority; Federal \$485,545/ External \$257,165
Project: "Implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices in Support of the Plum Creek Watershed Protection Plan", Caldwell-Travis SWCD #304; Federal \$49,360

On August 8, 2013, TSSWCB SRM staff [Jana Lloyd] attended the Plum Creek Watershed Partnership Steering Committee meeting in Lockhart. The Watershed Coordinator gave updates on community clean up events, feral hog projects, and upcoming workshops. Introduction of a new District technician to write water quality management plans and a documentary showing of "Exploring a New Water Ethic for the New West," concluded the meeting.

More information is available at <http://plumcreek.tamu.edu/>. This WPP affects livestock and farming operations in the Plum Creek watershed in Caldwell and Hays Counties.

STATE DISTRICT IV

Attoyac Bayou

Impairment: Bacteria
Concern: Nutrients
Mechanism: WPP
Lead: TSSWCB
Project: "Development of a Watershed Protection Plan for Attoyac Bayou", Texas Water Resources Institute; Federal \$617,829/ External \$414,621

On August 1, 2013, TSSWCB SRM staff [Mitch Conine, Wesley Gibson], State Board member

[Jerry Nichols], attended an Attoyac Bayou steering committee meeting in Nacogdoches. Project staff discussed with the committee the components of the WPP and what the committee would like to see in the WPP. TWRI is currently drafting text from the committee's suggestions for the next steering committee meeting.

More information is available at <http://attoyac.tamu.edu/>. This WPP affects livestock, farming, and silvicultural operations in the Attoyac Bayou watershed in Nacogdoches, Rusk, San Augustine, and Shelby Counties.

Cedar Bayou

Impairment: Bacteria
Concerns: Macroinvertebrate Community, Dissolved Oxygen, Nutrients
Mechanism: WPP
Lead: TSSWCB
Project: "Development, of a Watershed Protection Plan for Cedar Bayou", Houston-Galveston Area Council; Federal \$804,000/ External \$353,876

On August 15, 2013, TSSWCB SRM staff [Ashley Wendt, Brian Koch] attended a Cedar Bayou Watershed Partnership Steering Committee Meeting in Baytown. Introductions and partnership business, including partner organization announcements and a review of the Growing Green meeting in April, began the meeting, although discussion of the modeling approach, including assumptions, was the basis for this meeting. All models were discussed including: Load Duration Curves (LDCs), Spatially Explicit Load Enrichment Calculation Tool (SELECT), Soil and Water Assessment Tool (SWAT), Tidal-Prism model, and CADDIS, a biological assessment tool. Draft chapters of the WPP will be presented to stakeholders in the upcoming meetings this Fall.

More information is available at <http://www.cedarbayouwatershed.com>. This WPP affects farming and livestock operations in the Cedar Bayou watershed in Harris, Liberty, and Chambers Counties.

Double Bayou

Impairment: Bacteria, Dissolved Oxygen
Mechanism: WPP

Lead: TSSWCB
Project: "Development of a Watershed Protection Plan for Double Bayou", Houston Advanced Research Center; Federal \$1,023,614/ External \$388,149

On July 18, 2013, TSSWCB SRM staff [Brian Koch, TJ Helton] attended a Double Bayou Partnership meeting in Double Bayou. This meeting featured presentations with information on the Double Bayou watershed, including water quality data, land use, and watershed planning. Also, information was provided on building a stakeholder group to help develop the WPP.

More information is available at <http://www.doublebayou.org>. This WPP has the potential to affect agricultural operations in the Double Bayou watershed in Chambers and Liberty Counties.

STATE DISTRICT V

Other State District V Projects

Project: "Recreational Use Attainability Analysis for Five Creeks in the Canadian River and Red River Basins", Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research at Tarleton State University; State \$683,683*

On July 10, 2013 TSSWCB SRM staff [Wesley Gibson, Mitch Conine] and Chairman of the Board and Area 5 State Board Member [Barry Mahler] participated in a public meeting in Iowa Park to discuss an ongoing RUAA on Buffalo Creek and inform local stakeholders on the findings of the first field survey. The second field survey is scheduled for July 18-21, 2013. More information on this RUAA is available at <http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/en/managementprogram/ruaabuffalo>.

On July 11, 2013 TSSWCB SRM staff [Wesley Gibson, Mitch Conine] and Area 1 field rep [Jack Foote] participated in a public meeting in Vernon to discuss an ongoing RUAA on Paradise Creek and inform local stakeholders on the findings of the first field survey. The second field survey is scheduled for July 18-21, 2013. More information on this RUAA is available at <http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/en/managementprogram/ruaaparadise>.

Upcoming Public Meetings

- August 28, 2013 – Colorado River below E.V. Spence Reservoir TMDL/I-plan Meeting (Bronte)
- September 5, 2013 - Regional Watershed Coordination Steering Committee Meeting (Wharton)
- September 10, 2013 – Lower Nueces Watershed Partnership Meeting (Corpus Christi)
- September 10, 2013 – San Marcos WPP Ag Workgroup Meeting (San Marcos)
- September 10, 2013 – Geronimo and Alligators Creek Watershed Partnership Meeting (Seguin)
- September 12, 2013 – Leon River Riparian Education Workshop (Moody)
- September 12, 2013 – Lampasas River Watershed Partnership Steering Committee Meeting (Lampasas)
- September 12, 2013 – Cypress Creek Texas Well Owner Network Training (Wimberley)
- September 16, 2013 – San Bernard Texas Well Owner Network Screening (Wharton)
- September 17, 2013 – Double Bayou Watershed Partnership Meeting (Double Bayou)
- September 17, 2013 – Geronimo and Alligators Creeks Riparian Education Workshop (Seguin)
- September 17, 2013 – Lampasas River On-Site Septic Facility Workshop (Lampasas)
- September 18, 2013 – Armand Bayou I-plan Meeting (Clear Lake)
- September 18, 2013 – Lone Star Healthy Streams Workshop (Lampasas)
- September 19, 2013 – Nolan Creek Texas Watershed Steward Training (Killeen)
- September 23, 2013 – 75th Anniversary Open House and Historical Designation Ceremony for Riesel Watershed (Riesel)
- September 26, 2013 – Lampasas River Riparian Education Workshop (Briggs)
- October 2, 2013 – Trinity River Education Summit (Athens)
- October 2, 2013 – Upper West Fork Trinity Texas Well Owner Network Training (Weatherford)

WATER SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

The 81st Legislature continued funding for the Water Supply Enhancement Program by providing \$2,135,413 in General Revenue Funds in FY2013. Staff has begun implementing HB 1808 and the Sunset Commission's recommendations.

Staff Activities

- Collaborated with United States Geological Survey [USGS] and Texas Tech University on the development of feasibility study policies. Attended Region L Water Planning meeting.
- Began developing implementation of the status review process.
- Consulted with USGS regarding funding for the Honey Creek and the Lake Allen Henry projects.
- Assisted Texas Tech University in the development of the Upper Llano feasibility study.

FLOOD CONTROL DAM PROGRAMS

Nearly 2,000 floodwater retarding structures, or dams, have been built over the last 60 years within the State of Texas. The primary purpose of the structures is to protect lives and property by reducing the floodwaters, and thereby releasing flows at a safer rate. These are earthen dams that exist on private property, and were designed and constructed by the United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS). They were built with the understanding that the private property owner would provide the land, the federal government would provide the technical design expertise and the funding to construct them, and then units of local government would be responsible for maintaining them into the future.

Local sponsors of the dams were required before

a federal project was begun. Local sponsors signed a watershed agreement which outlined the duties and responsibilities of the federal and local sponsors. In general, local sponsors are required to obtain and enforce easements, conduct operation and maintenance (O&M) inspections, maintain the structures, and implement land treatment measures in the watershed. SWCDs are one of the local sponsors in all watershed projects. Other local sponsors include counties, cities, and Water Control and Improvement Districts (WCIDs).

Due to the passage of time and difficulty in raising adequate funds locally, many sponsors approached the Texas Legislature with their concerns over amount of needed O&M and repairs. In recognition that these dams will continue to serve as a critical protection for our state's infrastructure, private property, and lives, the Legislature appropriated \$15 million dollars to the TSSWCB for grants to local SWCDs during the 2010-2011 biennium for O&M and structural repairs.

In response to this appropriation, TSSWCB assembled a representative stakeholder group and began the process of developing programs to deliver the funds to the sponsors of flood control dams during the Summer of 2009. It was determined that the most efficient and effective way to proceed was to develop two separate grant programs, one to address O&M, and the other to address structural repairs, due to their difference in complexity.

O&M Grant Program Update

In FY2013, \$2,050,997 was allocated to 69 SWCDs and co-sponsors to conduct O&M activities on flood control dams.

Structural Repair Grant Program Update

In FY2012, \$1,364,836 in program funds was obligated to conduct structural repairs on two flood control dams. To date, all needed repairs have been completed on one of the two flood control dams and the remaining dam is under construction.

For more information on these programs, please visit the TSSWCB's website at:

<http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/en/floodcontrol>

Monthly Program News and Activities is published by the TSSWCB for use by Texas SWCD Directors. If you have any questions regarding its contents, or have information you would like to see in a future issue, please call (254) 773-2250.



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Established in 1939, the TSSWCB administers Texas' soil and water conservation law and delivers coordinated natural resource conservation programs to agricultural producers through the State's 216 individual SWCDs. The agency is governed by a seven-member State Board composed of two Governor appointees and five individuals elected from across Texas by 1,080 Directors of local SWCDs. The TSSWCB is the lead state agency for planning, implementing, and managing programs for preventing and abating agricultural and silvicultural (forestry) nonpoint sources of water pollution; administers a water supply enhancement program through the targeted control of brush species in areas in need of water conservation; provides operation, maintenance, and structural repair grant funds to local government sponsors of the State's network of 2,000 flood control dams; and facilitates the Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee.

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