

## **NONPOINT SOURCE SUMMARY PAGE**

**FY 03 CWA 319(h)**

**TSSWCB Project #03-9**

**7/1/03 to 3/31/05**

1. **TITLE OF PROJECT:** Supplemental Funding for the Little River Atrazine Remediation Project
2. **PROJECT GOALS/OBJECTIVES:** This project will continue to provide corn and sorghum producers in the Little River watershed with an opportunity to participate in water quality educational activities, technical assistance, and financial assistance for the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs), in order to reduce the runoff of atrazine. This project is supplemental financial assistance funding to expand upon the efforts of the Central Texas SWCD.
3. **PROJECT TASKS:** (1) Continue to expand upon program management and coordination among all parties involved (2) To continue to provide corn and sorghum producers with technical and financial assistance to aid in the development and implementation of Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs)/Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce the runoff of atrazine. (3) To compile information on the number, types, and locations of BMPs implemented.
4. **MEASURES OF SUCCESS:** (1) Implementation of 20 additional WQMPs. (2) Continue 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 20%.
5. **PROJECT TYPE:** Statewide ( ) Watershed (X) Demonstration ( )
6. **WATERBODY TYPE:** River (X) Lake ( ) Wetland ( ) Ground Water ( ) Other ( )
7. **PROJECT LOCATION:** Little River Segment 1213
8. **NPS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM REFERENCE:** State of Texas Agricultural/Silvicultural Nonpoint Source Management Program – Approved February 25, 2000.
9. **NPS ASSESSMENT REPORT STATUS:** Impaired ( ) Impacted ( ) Threatened (X)
10. **KEY PROJECT ACTIVITIES:** Hire Staff ( ) Monitoring ( ) Technical Assistance (X) Education (X) BMP Implementation (X) Demonstration Project ( ) Other ( )
11. **NPS Management Program Elements:** Implementing Milestones from the 1999 Texas Nonpoint Source Pollution Assessment Report and Management Program: 1) Provide technical and financial assistance to Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) for the implementation of Water Quality Management Plans in order to reduce NPS pollution. 2) Coordination with Federal, State, and Local Programs; 3) TSSWCB is committed to technology transfer, technical support, administrative support and cooperation between agencies and programs for the prevention of NPS pollution.
12. **PROJECT COSTS:** Federal \$424,080; Local Match: \$116,667; Total Project: \$540,747
13. **PROJECT MANAGEMENT:** Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
14. **PROJECT PERIOD:** Contract signing date to 3/31/06.

## Supplemental Funding for the Little River Atrazine Remediation Project

FY03 CWA Section 319(h)

### WORKPLAN

#### Problem Need/Statement

Little River was listed on the 2000 State of Texas 303(d) List as threatened for atrazine. In 2002 it was removed from the 303d List due in part to conservation efforts. In September 2002 the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) initiated a CWA Section 319(h) project with the Central Texas and Little River-San Gabriel Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) to provide technical and financial assistance for the purpose of developing and implementing WQMPs to reduce atrazine runoff into the Richland Chambers Reservoir. These projects entitled, "Central Texas Atrazine Remediation Project (TSSWCB Projects 02-5 and 02-6)" made cost-share funds available to forty-one corn and sorghum producers and provided a full-time technician to administer the program and conduct educational activities.

At this time, the two SWCDs have more requests for financial assistance on high priority management practices than it can fund through TSSWCB Projects 02-5 and 02-6. It is estimated that thirty-five additional producers are in need of assistance.

#### General Project Description

WQMPs insure farming or ranching operations are carried out in a manner consistent with state water quality goals. All approved WQMPs have the same legal status as the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ's) point source pollution permits. The TSSWCB will review all of the WQMPs to make certain they are consistent with the state water quality standards and certify those that meet the necessary criteria. The objective of WQMP implementation is to achieve a level of pollution prevention or abatement determined to be consistent with State water quality standards.

BMPs to reduce the runoff of atrazine are implemented through the development of WQMPs. Highest priorities are given to the implementation of cost effective pollution abatement practices. TSSWCB, Central Texas SWCD, and Little River/San Gabriel SWCD will determine which landowners receive technical assistance for the development and implementation of WQMPs. Examples of potential BMPs may include, but not limited to:

- Buffer strips
- Integrated pest management (e.g., sprayer calibration, incorporation, banding, split application, follow label)
- Terraces and grassed waterways
- Conservation tillage
- Contour farming with strip cropping or buffer strips
- Conversion of cropland to grassland

The following are actions that will be undertaken by this project to reduce the potential for atrazine runoff into these waterbodies:

- Provide technical assistance to corn and sorghum producers concerning the implementation of appropriate BMPs to aid in the reduction of atrazine runoff.

- Continue educational events describing methods for the reduction of atrazine runoff.
- Provide financial assistance to corn and sorghum producers for the implementation of BMPs in order to aid in the reduction of atrazine runoff.

The TCEQ will continue to evaluate atrazine levels within each waterbody through the on-going State monitoring regime.

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

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

**Costs:** Federal \$ 74,080; Match \$ 0; Total \$ 74,080

**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:** continue to attend monthly SWCD board meetings to discuss technical assistance activities, project schedule, lines of responsibility, communication needs, and other required tasks with project participants. (Month 1 through month 24)

**Subtask 1.2:** Prepare quarterly and final reports. The final Report will be submitted to the TSSWCB, via CD, at the culmination of the project. The report will include information from the FY02-5 project. The TSSWCB project manager will set dates for the reports. (Month 1 to Month 24)

**Subtask 1.3:** The technician will attend the Texas Watershed Protection Committee meetings to offer input on efforts in controlling atrazine runoff in the Little River Watershed. (Month 1 to Month 24)

**Subtask 1.4:** The technician will attend quarterly meeting with the TSSWCB project manager to review project status, deliverables, etc. (Month 1 to Month 24)

**Subtask 1.5:** The technician will keep producers informed of EPA's ongoing atrazine re-registration process and the consequences this re-registration may have on the use of atrazine in the watershed.

#### **Deliverables**

- Quarterly and final reports documenting project status. This final report will include information from the FY02-5 and 02-6 projects.
- Semi-annual reports will be developed by the TSSWCB project manager to be submitted to EPA.

#### **Task 2: Development and Implementation of WQMPs**

**Costs:** Federal \$ 350,000; Match \$ 116,667; Total \$ 466,667

**Objective:** 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 2.1:** The Central Texas SWCD, will hire a technician to provide technical assistance to corn and sorghum producers and develop WQMPs (Month 1 to month 24)

**Subtask 2.2:** The Central Texas SWCD, with assistance from NRCS, 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 24)

**Subtask 2.3:** The SWCD technician will provide landowners information on appropriate BMPs and will work with the TSSWCB Regional Office in developing and implementing WQMPs. (Month 1 to Month 24)

**Subtask 2.4:** The Central Texas SWCD technician will develop approximately 20 WQMPs. The SWCD technician will complete all WQMPs with assistance from the NRCS, and the TSSWCB Regional Office as needed. (Month 1 to Month 24)

**Subtask 2.5:** TSSWCB will provide technical review and certification of WQMPs. During this process, TSSWCB will certify all WQMPs and ensure that they are consistent with state water quality standards (Month 1 to Month 24)

**Subtask 2.6:** The SWCD technicians will conduct annual status reviews on all WQMPs developed to ensure that the implementation schedule is followed and funds are properly administered. (Month 1 to Month 24)

#### **Deliverables:**

- 20 WQMPs developed and implemented within the Central Texas SWCD.
- The SWCD Technician will submit records of BMPs implemented to date by each producer.
- Annual status reviews will be submitted to the TSSWCB

**Task 3:** To compile information on the number, types, and locations of BMPs implemented.

**Objective:** To continue to compile information regarding to the location, types, and amount of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be assembled into the FY02-5 final report.

**Subtask 3.1:** Continue to compile data as it relates to the location, types, and amount of Best Management Practices (BMPs). (Month 1 to Month 24)

#### **Coordination, Roles and Responsibilities:**

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

- Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board: Project management. 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.
- Central Texas Soil and Water Conservation District: Oversee technician during the development and implementation of WQMPs/BMPs. Track BMP implementation using maps

and spreadsheets. Responsible for the development of the final report at the culmination of the project.

- Little River-San Gabriel Soil and Water Conservation District: Oversee technician during the development and implementation of WQMPs/BMPs. Track BMP implementation using maps and spreadsheets. Responsible for the development of the final report at the culmination of the project.
- Natural Resources Conservation Service: Work with and assist local SWCD and TSSWCB in development and implementation of WQMPs. Provide training for the technician.

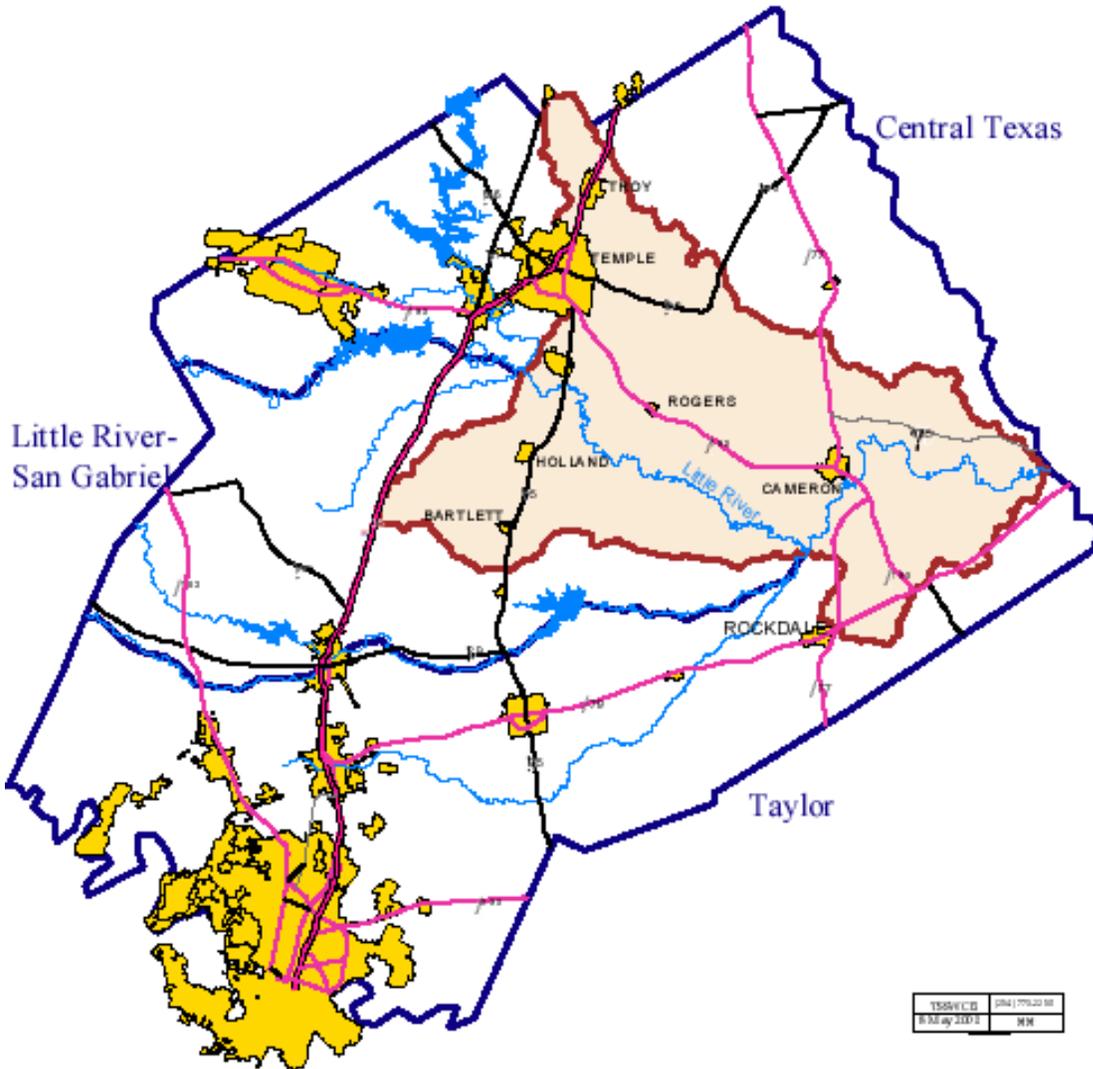
**Measures of Success:**

- Implementation of 20 WQMPs in the Central Texas SWCD
- Continue educational programs for local corn and sorghum producers during the course of the project.
- Reduce detections of atrazine concentrations in segment 1213 to levels which remain below the established target level

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# Little River Watershed



**BUDGET**

**“Supplemental Funding for the Little River Atrazine Remediation Project**

Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board

<u>Object Class Category</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Non-Federal</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
<b>1. Personnel</b>			
2 Technicians 1 year	\$56,000	\$0	\$56,000
Merit Increase (@\$100/Month)	\$2,400		\$2,400
<b>2. Fringe Benefits</b>			
Fringe @ 28%	<u>\$15,680</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$15,680</u>
Subtotal Personnel and Fringe	\$74,080	\$0	\$74,080
<b>3. Travel</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>4. Equipment</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>5. Supplies</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>6. Contractual</b>			
Central Texas SWCD	\$200,000	66,667	266,667
Little River-San Gabriel SWCD	\$150,000	\$50,000	\$200,000
<b>7. Construction</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>8. Other</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>9. Total Direct Costs</b>	\$	\$	\$
<b>10. Indirect Costs</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>11. Total Project Costs</b>	\$424,080	\$116,667	\$540,747