FISCAL YEAR 2014
WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRAM
INFORMATION PACKET

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NEW PROGRAM GOALS & OBJECTIVES

As required by the enactment of the agency's sunset legislation, House Bill 1808 (Cook, 82nd Regular Session, 2011), the TSSWCB has:

- developed goals for the cost-share function of the Program, including desired program results and descriptions of program beneficiaries;
- established statewide evaluation criteria to document compliance with cost-share conditions;
- determined a process to monitor compliance with the evaluation criteria that involves gathering, maintaining, and analyzing comprehensive data on cost-share activities;
- determined a process to analyze the extent to which cost-share achieves the goals; and to publish the analysis.

Goal 1 – Implement water quality management plans to abate agricultural and/or silvicultural nonpoint source pollutant contributions to impaired or threatened waters as prioritized by a regional stakeholder group in each state district.

Goal 2 – Identify best management practices that result in greatest load reductions for nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment; prioritize more effective practices for better financial incentives.

Goal 3 – Eliminate water quality management plans that are no longer being followed by program participants from the list of active plans.

Additionally, the TSSWCB has initiated a stakeholder process, as recommended by the Sunset Advisory Commission, to assist in setting goals for the Program. This was carried out through the use of the SWCD Survey that was completed in June of this year. Input from the survey was considered when developing a recommendation for the State Board to consider at the July 2013 meeting where they approved Fiscal Year 2014 cost-share incentive priorities, allocations, and an application ranking procedure.

ALLOCATIONS

In accordance with the amended rules adopted in May 2013, the State Board may allocate cost-share incentive funds to priority areas, rather than directly to soil and water conservation districts. For the new fiscal year, the State Board allocated all of the cost-share funding equally to each one of the five State Districts (Areas 1-5). Each area was allocated $350,500 for use on agricultural or silvicultural nonpoint source operations within an Area. The rules still require that no cost-share amount may exceed $15,000 for an operating unit.

ELIGIBILITY

As this program is exclusively for nonpoint source pollution abatement, all agricultural or silvicultural operations *not defined* as concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) are eligible to request a WQMP and/or cost-share incentive funding to encourage participation and full implementation of the WQMP. CAFOs, *permitted operations*, are considered point sources and are *not* eligible. Certain dry-litter poultry operations may be defined as CAFOs but use a WQMP for authorization to operate and are eligible.

CRITERIA AND RANKING

As before, all requests for WQMP planning assistance will be honored. However, not all requests for cost-share incentive dollars may result in funding due to limited appropriations. Requests for cost-share will be ranked according to a set of State Board-approved criteria and points to determine if an application for cost-share is needed. The request for planning assistance form asks the producer to indicate if a WQMP is desired regardless of whether cost-share funding is ultimately approved. If the producer does not desire the WQMP without cost-share funding, the WQMP may not be developed until such time funding is approved.

The State Board-criteria consists of specific geographic priority areas (watersheds, aquifer recharge zones, and certain district boundaries) as well as farming and ranching activities that may contribute varying amounts of agricultural and silvicultural nonpoint source pollution. The State Board has adopted a list of specific geographic priority areas for each Area (1-5). Specific priority areas for each Area are listed in attached Table 1. The types of geographic priority areas approved by the State Board include:

1. Nonpoint Source (NPS) Priority Area Watersheds where a Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) or Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) exists or is in development
   OR - NPS Priority Area Watersheds with a Recreation al Use Attainability Analysis (RUAA, but no WPP or TMDL is present)
2. NPS Priority Area Major Aquifer Recharge Zones (Ogallala & Seymour Aquifers)
3. NPS Priority Area Coastal Zone Soil and Water Conservation Districts
4. Impaired Watersheds with agricultural sources cited on Texas 303(d) List by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality but no TMDL or WPP exists or is in development
5. Major Aquifers with Nitrate Concerns

The State Board also approved a set of activity-related criteria that include:

1. Animal feeding operation (AFO – *not CAFO*) is present
2. Unconfined livestock will graze 25% or more of the operating unit
3. Cultivation will occur on 25% or more of the operating unit
4. Nutrients will be applied to 25% or more of the operating unit
5. Animal waste will be utilized for nutrients on 25% or more of the operating unit
6. Irrigation will occur on 25% or more of the operating unit

The point values associated with each type of criteria are provided in attached Table 2. **All operations within any Texas SWCD are eligible to request a WQMP and cost-share funding.** However, requestors within the designated priority areas are set up to receive greater weight in the ranking process. The TSSWCB recommends that all requests that meet an SWCD's local priorities for conservation planning, regardless of whether they are located within a priority area or not, should be submitted for consideration. There is a possibility that the State Board may give greater weight in the future to operations that applied but did not receive funding in a previous year, and the information may be used to document the presence of additional needs for the Program.

PROCEDURES, FORMS, SCHEDULE, & CONTRACTING

The Program procedures for the new fiscal year require the successful completion of a Request for Water Quality Management Planning Assistance (RFPA), Form TSSWCB FY14-001. *A certified WQMP remains a requirement for any applicant prior to approval for cost-share funds.*

If cost-share incentive funds are desired, the producer must also complete a Request for Cost-Share Incentive Funding (RFCS), Form TSSWCB FY14-002. If a WQMP already exists, then only Form 002 must be completed. Once both request forms are approved by the local SWCD and submitted to the appropriate TSSWCB Regional Office, the RFCS Form 002 will be ranked according to the approved criteria.

SWCD approval of the RFPA Form 001, if a WQMP does not already exist, is required before the RFCS Form 002 will be ranked. **As always, the SWCD has the discretion whether or not to approve either form and advance them through the process.**

The State Board approved the ranking criteria and point values of the priority areas with a process for carrying out the ranking. RFCS forms will be ranked one week after the first month of the new fiscal year, and remaining funds will be obligated in the same manner month after month until such time all funds are obligated. When two or more RFCS forms are tied in point value, the date on which the applicant delivered the signed RFCS form to the SWCD office for consideration at the next SWCD meeting will be used to break the tie. **SWCDs will need to document these dates and times so that the TSSWCB Regional Offices will have the necessary information; there is a space on the form to do this.** RFCS forms submitted to the regional office more than one week after the end of the month will be skipped until the next ranking cycle one month later.

All RFCS forms must be approved by the SWCD by March 31, 2014; this is when the monthly ranking cycle will end for the fiscal year. On April 7, 2014, the final ranking (if needed) will take place so that Applications for Cost-Share Funds (ACSF) may be completed, approved by the SWCD and the TSSWCB, prior to May 31, 2014. Any unobligated funds from the fiscal year, including funds released after May 31, 2014 that were initially obligated, will remain unobligated and be forwarded into the next fiscal year's cost-share program allocation beginning September 1, 2014. This will not result in any loss of funds for the Program.

In this Program, the ACFS, once approved by all parties, becomes a legally binding contract that obligates funds to an applicant. All ACSF that are approved and obligate funds must have an end date of either (1) August 31, 2014 or (2) August 31, 2016. The latter is the absolute last day that the TSSWCB will pay toward a ACSF. The earlier date is an option to provide flexibility to SWCDs that want to require an earlier date in order to provide the applicant an incentive to proceed with the implementation of the cost-shared work sooner than later. **Regardless, signed and approved Performance Certifications (PC), with all required documentation, must be submitted to the TSSWCB 30-days prior to the contract end date, whichever date it is.** This means for a contract ending on August 31, 2016, all PCs for payment must be received by the TSSWCB on August 1, 2016.

For each SWCD with at least one approved ACSF, the TSSWCB will send a grant notification when all program year funds have been obligated. The grant notification should be signed and returned to the TSSWCB according to the included instructions. This will serve as an obligating document that will represent a contract between the TSSWCB and the SWCD. Because this document will be in place, if any funds are released prior to May 1, 2015, the SWCD will have the option to re-obligate the funds to another eligible applicant. Re-obligating funds by this date will offer the new applicant plenty of time to implement the practices. For the upcoming fiscal year, the State Board has not chosen to require that the funding be directed to another, or the next highest ranking, applicant, therefore any agricultural or silvicultural nonpoint source operating unit is eligible. Funds from the upcoming fiscal year, that are obligated as of May 1, 2015 through a ACSF, will be available for use by that applicant only and will not be re-obligated to another applicant after that date.

DETERMINING IF AN OPERATING UNIT QUALIFIES FOR A PRIORITY AREA

The TSSWCB has defined the boundaries of each priority area approved by the State Board. Each TSSWCB RO has been provided a geographic information system with all the data necessary to determine if a set of coordinates falls within the boundaries of a priority area. If you require assistance in determining whether an operating unit qualifies for a priority area, please contact the appropriate RO. Maps have been provided in this information packet that should be sufficient for making all determinations except for those that may be located very close to a boundary line. However, the TSSWCB will be releasing much more detailed maps and making them available for viewing on the agency website in the coming days. Additionally, for the FY2014 program, if any part of an operating unit falls within the boundaries of a priority area, the operating unit will be considered qualified for the priority areas point values for ranking purposes.

THE IMPORTANCE OF SUBMITTING APPROVED FORMS TO THE TSSWCB REGIONAL OFFICE

Beginning September 1, 2014, it will become very important to forward copies of all program forms to the appropriate TSSWCB RO immediately following their approval by the SWCD. This is important because the new ranking process is dependent on timing, and because

the RO will be identifying and notifying SWCDs and applicants when they "rank-out" for cost-share funding. This would include RFPA, RFCS, ACSF, and PC forms. If a TSSWCB RO employee is not present at the SWCD meeting, please fax or email a copy of the approved form to the appropriate RO. However, original PCs must be submitted to the RO for payment processing to proceed.

SWCD BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

SWCD boards will need to formally approve RFPA and RCSF. Once approved, the WQMP will need to be developed and approved by the producer, the NRCS (or Level II Planner), the SWCD, and then certified by the TSSWCB. Once the WQMP is certified, a ACSF may be completed by the applicant and approved by the SWCD. Once work is installed, the SWCD will need to approve PCs to initiate payment to the producer. All of these approvals require formal action by the SWCD in a posted meeting. Each SWCD may choose to approve these items individually, or through a multiple item vote, whichever is desired by the SWCD. However, please ensure the meeting minutes reflect each item addressed if a single vote is used to approve multiple items.

Because SWCDs routinely meet only once per month, and this new program will be initiated on September 1, 2013, it is important that SWCDs be aware of that start date with enough lead time to include an item on the meeting agenda for approving received RFPA and RFCS. For SWCDs that meet early in the month, and do not wish to meet later in the month to approve additional RFCS that may be received by the SWCD, please contact your TSSWCB Field Representative or RO for options.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE EVENTUAL WQMP DOES NOT REFLECT WHAT WAS NOTED ON THE REQUEST FOR COST-SHARE INCENTIVE FUNDING FORM?

When a producer approves a WQMP that does not include some of the activity-based criteria that was indicated as "to be planned" on the RFCS form, the point value of the RFCS will be revised to reflect the WQMP. This may result in the producer losing the cost-share funds. The RO will contact the SWCD if this occurs.

PROGRAM RULES

The newly amended rules for the Program, found in the Texas Administrative Code, Title 31, Chapter 523, may be viewed online at:

https://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/en/wqmp

TSSWCB CONTACTS

http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/en/contact

FISCAL YEAR 2014 PROGRAM – IMPORTANT DATES

Program Period
September 1, 2013 through August 31, 2016

Initial Obligation Period
September 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014

Last Date for SWCDs to Approve RFCS
March 31, 2014

Last Date for SWCDs to Submit Approved RFCS to TSSWCB RO
April 7, 2014

Last Date Cost-Share Applications will be Approved by TSSWCB
Any Un-Obligated Funds will be Transferred to Fiscal Year 2015 Program Allocations
May 31, 2014

Last Date for Re-Obligation of Funds within a SWCD
April 30, 2015

Last Date to Submit Performance Certifications
August 1, 2016

All Program Year 2014 Applications/Contracts End
August 31, 2016

EXAMPLE STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS FOR A SINGLE REQUEST

1. An applicant completes a Request for Planning Assistance (RFPA) (Form TSSWCB FY14-001) for a WQMP and submits it to the SWCD for approval, unless one already exists.

2. Simultaneously, when cost-share is desired, a Request for Cost-Share Incentive Funding (RFCS) (TSSWCB FY14-002) is completed and submitted to the SWCD for approval as well.

3. If approved by the SWCD, both requests are submitted to the appropriate TSSWCB Regional Office (RO).

4. The RO evaluates the RFCS to determine how many points it will be assigned.

5. On October 7, 2013, the RO will rank each RFCS received between September 1, 2013 and September 30, 2013 in order of most points to least points. The maximum amount of cost-share that may be paid to each RFCS is reserved.

6. If cost-share funds are reserved for a RFCS, then the RO will notify the SWCD that technical assistance is required for the development of a WQMP.

7. The SWCD arranges for technical assistance for the development of the WQMP.

8. The WQMP is developed and submitted to the producer, the NRCS (or Level II Planner), and the SWCD for approval.

9. The TSSWCB certifies the WQMP.

10. An Application for Cost-Share Funds (ACSF), Form TSSWCB FY14-003, is completed and submitted to the SWCD for approval.

11. The SWCD approves the ACSF.

12. The approved ACSF is submitted to the RO for review.

13. The RO identifies the maximum amount of cost-share funds that might be paid to the applicant based on the information on the application. If this amount is less than the amount initially reserved for the applicant, then the difference is returned to the Area Allocation and will be applied to the next highest ranking RFCS.

14. The applicant begins to implement the practices for which cost-share was requested.

15. The installation of the practices on the ACSF are reviewed to determine whether installation was in accordance with all requirements.

16. If the installation meets requirements, the practice (or practices) is certified by way of a Performance Certification (PC) document being approved by the SWCD.

17. The PC is submitted to the RO for review.

18. The RO submits the performance certification to Headquarters (HQ).

19. HQ issues payment.

TABLE 1

Water Quality Management Plan Program
Fiscal Year 2014

APPROVED PRIORITY AREAS

Cost-Share Priority Area	Area	Priority Area Type	Parameters of Concern	Existing Activity
Buck Creek	1	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP
Dixon Creek	1	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA
E.V. Spence Reservoir	1	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Salinity	TMDL
Paradise Creek	1	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA
Sweetwater Creek	1	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA
Ogallala	1	TSSWCB Priority Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Seymour	1	TSSWCB Priority Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Lower Prairie Dog Town Fork Red River	1	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
McClellan Creek	1	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
North Fork Double Mtn Fork Brazos River	1	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Rock Creek	1	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Salt Fork Red River	1	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
South Groesbeck Creek	1	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Wolf Creek Lipscomb County	1	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Atascosa River	2	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	RUAA
Brady Creek	2	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	WPP
Concho River	2	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen, Impaired Macrobenthic Community	WPP
E.V. Spence Reservoir	2	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Salinity	TMDL
Leona River	2	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA
Onion & Barton Creeks	2	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Impaired Macrobenthic Community	TMDL
Paso Del Norte	2	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP
Pecos River	2	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	WPP
South & North Llano Rivers	2	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Healthy Watershed Initiative	WPP
Upper Cibolo Creek	2	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Upper Guadalupe River	2	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Ogallala	2	TSSWCB Priority Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Seymour	2	TSSWCB Priority Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Carrizo	2	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Edwards	2	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA

Edwards-Trinity	2	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Hueco Bolson	2	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Pecos Valley	2	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Trinity	2	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Rio Grande Above Amistad	2	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Chloride, Sulfate, Total Dissolved Soilds	None Known
Rio Grande Below Riverside Diversion Dam	2	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Chloride, Total Dissolved Solids	None Known
San Saba River	2	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Arroyo Colorado	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	WPP
Atascosa River	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	RUAA
Bastrop Bayou	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP
Buffalo & Whiteoak Bayous	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Clear Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Copano Bay, Mission & Aransas Rivers	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Cypress Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	WPP
Dickinson Bayou	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	TMDL & WPP
Elm & Sandies Creeks	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	RUAA
Geronimo Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP
Highland Bayou	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	WPP
Leona River	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA
Lower Nueces River	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Healthy Watershed Initiative	WPP
Lower San Antonio River	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Onion & Barton Creeks	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Impaired Macrobenthic Community	TMDL
Oso Bay & Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Peach Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA
Plum Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP
San Bernard River	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP
Upper Cibolo Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Upper Oyster Creek	3	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	TMDL
Matagorda County SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Waters Davis SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Southmost SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
San Patricio SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Copano Bay SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Jackson SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Calhoun SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan

Victoria SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Willacy SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Kleberg-Kenedy SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Nueces SWCD	3	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Carrizo	3	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Edwards	3	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Gulf Coast	3	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Trinity	3	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Allen's Creek	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Colorado River Tidal	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Davidson Creek	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known
East Yegua Creek	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Skull Creek	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known
Somerville Lake	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Depressed Dissolved Oxygen, pH	None Known
Tres Palacios Creek Tidal	3	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known
Adams & Cow Bayous	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen, pH	TMDL
Attoyac Bayou	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP
Big Cypress Creek	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA
Buffalo & Whiteoak Bayous	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Caddo Lake	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen, pH	WPP
Carters & Burton Creeks	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Cedar Bayou	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP
Cedar Creek Reservoir	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	pH	WPP
Clear Creek	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Double Bayou	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	WPP
Lake Houston	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Lake O' the Pines	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	TMDL
Little Brazos River Tributaries	4	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA
Coastal SWCD	4	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Trinity Bay SWCD	4	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Harris County SWCD	4	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Lower Sabine-Neches SWCD	4	Statutorily Required Priority	All NPS Parameters	NPS Coastal Management Plan
Carrizo	4	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Gulf Coast	4	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Big Sandy Creek	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known

Elm Creek	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Harris Creek	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known
Little Pine Island Bayou	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known
Mud Creek	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Neches River Above Lake Palestine	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen, pH, Excessive Zinc	None Known
Running Creek	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Sandy Creek in Jasper County	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Smith Creek	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Thompsons Creek	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known
Turkey Creek	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Wards Creek	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known
White Oak Creek 01	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known
White Oak Creek 04	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known
Wolf Creek Tyler County	4	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
All Poultry Operations	4	NA	NA	NA
Aquilla Reservoir	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Restored Watershed (Former Atrazine Impairment)	TMDL
Buffalo Creek	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA
Cedar Creek Reservoir	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	pH	WPP
Eagle Mountain Reservoir	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP
Gilleland Creek	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	TMDL
Granger Lake	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP
Hickory Creek	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Healthy Watershed Initiative	WPP
Lake Granbury	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	WPP
Lampasas River	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	WPP
Leon River	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	WPP
Little Brazos River Tributaries	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA
Mid Pecan Bayou	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA
North Bosque River	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Nutrients, Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	TMDL
Paradise Creek	5	TSSWCB Priority Watershed	Excessive Bacteria	RUAA
Seymour	5	TSSWCB Priority Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Carrizo	5	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Edwards	5	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Trinity	5	Major Aquifer	Nitrate Concerns	NA
Beaver Creek	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Big Creek	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known

Bois D' Arc Creek	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Choctaw Creek	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Cowhouse Creek	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Deer Creek	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Duncan Creek	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
East Yegua Creek	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Leon River Below Leon Reservoir	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	None Known
Little River 01	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Little River 04	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Little Wichita River	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Depressed Dissolved Oxygen, Excessive Sulfate, Total Dissolved Soilds	None Known
Neches River Above Lake Palestine	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen, pH, Excessive Zinc	None Known
San Gabriel River	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria, Excessive Chloride, Excessive Sulfate	None Known
San Saba River	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Wichita River 02 Below Diversion Lake Dam	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known
Wichita River 05 Below Diversion Lake Dam	5	Impaired with Agricultural Sources	Excessive Bacteria	None Known

TABLE 2

Water Quality Management Plan Program
Fiscal Year 2014
Approved Criteria and Point Values for Ranking
Requests for Cost-Share Incentive Funding

1	**NPS Priority Area Watershed where a WPP or TMDL exists or is in development**	**10**
	NPS Priority Area Watershed with an RUAA (but no WPP or TMDL)	**8**
2	**NPS Priority Area Major Aquifer *(Ogallala & Seymour)***	**10**
3	**NPS Priority Area Coastal Zone District**	**10**
4	**Impaired Watershed with agricultural sources cited on Texas 303(d) List but no TMDL or WPP exists or is in development**	**7**
5	**Major Aquifer with Nitrate Concerns**	**6**
6	**Confined animal feeding operation is present**	**10**
7	**Unconfined livestock will graze 25% or more of the operating unit**	**3**
8	**Cultivation will occur on 25% or more of the operating unit**	**3**
9	**Nutrients will be applied to 25% or more of the operating unit**	**3**
10	**Animal waste will be utilized for nutrients on 25% or more of the operating unit**	**1**
11	**Irrigation will occur on 25% or more of the operating unit**	**3**

1. NPS Priority Areas are watersheds or aquifers that have been included on the TSSWCB's approved Nonpoint Source Priority Area List. If a Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) or a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has been approved or is in development for a watershed, this criterion would be worth 10 points to an applicant. If only a Recreational Use Attainability Analysis (RUAA) has been developed or is in development, this criterion would be worth 8 points to any applicant within the watershed. This criterion is worth only 10 or 8 points; the points may not be combined.

2. NPS Priority Area Major Aquifers include the Ogallala and Seymour Aquifers. These aquifers' recharge zones represent a priority area boundary within which an applicant, if located there, would receive 10 points.

3. NPS Priority Area Coastal Zone Districts are those that are contiguous to the Gulf of Mexico and include Matagorda County SWCD, Waters Davis SWCD, Southmost SWCD, San Patricio SWCD, Copano Bay SWCD, Jackson SWCD, Calhoun SWCD, Victoria SWCD, Willacy SWCD, Kleberg-Kenedy SWCD, and Nueces SWCD. Applicants within these districts' political boundaries would receive 10 points.

4. An impaired watershed with agricultural sources cited on Texas 303(d) List but no TMDL or WPP exists or is in development is self explanatory. Applicants within these watersheds would receive 7 points.

5. Major aquifers are those listed as such in *Appendix D, Groundwater Constituents of Concern Report*, in the *2012 Texas Nonpoint Source Management Program*. This criterion includes major aquifers reported in *Appendix D* as having nitrate concerns, and include Carrizo-Wilcox, Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone), Edwards Trininty (Plateau), Gulf Coast, Hueco-Mesilla Bolson, Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers. Applicants within the recharge zone of these aquifers would receive 6 points. The Ogallala and Seymour Aquifers are also major aquifers with nitrate concerns, however, they are included on the TSSWCB's approved Nonpoint Source Priority Area List.

6. Confined animal feeding operations include those not requiring a permit from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). These include all small AFOs and certain dry-litter poultry operations defined as Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that utilize a water quality management plan to meet TCEQ requirements for authorization to operate. Agricultural operations meeting this criterion would receive 10 points.

7. Agricultural operations that plan to have unconfined livestock grazing at least 25% or more of the operating unit would receive 3 points under this criterion.

8. Agricultural operations that plan to cultivate at least 25% or more of the operating unit would receive 3 points under this criterion.

9. Agricultural operations that plan to apply nutrients to at least 25% or more of the operating unit would receive 3 points under this criterion.

10. Agricultural operations that plan to utilize animal waste for nutrients under Criterion No. 9 would receive an additional 1 point under this criterion if it occurs on 25% or more of the operation.

11. Agricultural operations that plan to irrigate crops on at least 25% or more of the operating unit would receive 3 points under this criterion.

ACRONYMS

TSSWCB	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
WQMP	Water quality management plan
SWCD	Soil and water conservation district
CAFO	Concentrated animal feeding operation
NPS	Nonpoint Source
WPP	Watershed protection plan
TMDL	Total maximum daily load
RUAA	Recreational use attainability analysis
AFO	Animal feeding operation
RFPA	Request for Planning Assistance
RFCS	Request for Cost-Share Incentive Funds
RO	Regional Office
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
ACSF	Application for Cost-Share Funds
PC	Performance Certification
HQ	Headquarters
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality