NONPOINT SOURCE SUMMARY PAGE

FY 02 CWA 319(h)

1. **TITLE OF PROJECT**: The Little River Atrazine Remediation Project (Little River/San Gabriel SWCD)

2. PROJECT GOALS/OBJECTIVES: This project will 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. The main goal of this project is to maintain the drinking water quality of these waterbodies and allow them to be removed from the State of Texas §303(d) List.

3. PROJECT TASKS: (1) To provide producers with water quality educational opportunities which pertain to the reduction of runoff from atrazine. (2) To provide corn and sorghum producers with technical and financial assistance to aid in the development and implementation of Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs) 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 15 WQMPs. (2) Provide 2 education programs describing methods to reduce atrazine runoff. (3) Reduction in percentage of samples exceeding §303(d) list screening criteria (1.5 *u*g/L) to less than 10%. (4) Removal of lakes from §303(d) list.

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 15, 2000.

9. NPS ASSESSMENT REPORT STATUS: Impaired ( ) Impacted ( ) Threatened (X)

10. KEY PROJECT ACTIVITIES: Hire Staff (X) 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:

- Provide financial assistance to Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) for the implementation of Water Quality Management Plans in order to reduce NPS pollution.
- Coordination with Federal, State, and Local Programs
- 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: ($328,482) Local Match: ($54,500) Total Project: ($382,982)

13. PROJECT MANAGEMENT: Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board

14. PROJECT PERIOD: Three years from start date.

Little River Atrazine Remediation Project

FY02 CWA Section 319(h)

WORKPLAN

Problem Need/Statement

Little River (Segment 1213) is considered to be threatened by atrazine, according to the draft version of the 2000 State of Texas §303(d) List. To remove this threat, the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) will work cooperatively with the Central Texas, and Little River-San Gabriel SWCDs, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Texa Agricultural Extension Service (TAEX), Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), and Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (TAES) to provide water quality education, , technical assistance, and financial assistance for BMP implementation, to corn and sorghum producers in order to reduce the potential for runoff of atrazine.

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 Natural Resource Conservation Commission's (TNRCC'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, Little River/San Gabriel SWCD, and Central Texas SWCD will determine which landowners receive technical assistance for the development and implementation of WQMPs. Examples of potential BMPs that may be included in WQMPs are:

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

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

- Provide technical assistance to corn and sorghum producers concerning the implementation of appropriate BMPs to aid in the reduction of atrazine runoff.
- Provide two 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 TNRCC will continue to evaluate atrazine levels within each waterbody through the on-going State monitoring regime.