

Water Quality Management Plan Program

PROGRAM GOALS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Goal – 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.

Evaluation Criteria–

- Texas 303(d) list of impaired and threatened waters (Texas Integrated Report)
- TSSWCB staff evaluation of agricultural and silvicultural contributions to Texas 303(d) List
- Stakeholder group priority recommendations
- State Board established priorities
- Texas Best Management Practice Evaluation Tool (T-BET) modeling results on each water quality management plan

Compliance Monitoring – Agency staff will provide information regarding impaired and threatened waters to each stakeholder group. Stakeholder groups will be required to make recommendations that are consistent with the guidelines provided by the agency. Ultimately, the State Board will approve each set of priorities for each state district which serves as compliance monitoring. Additionally, T-BET will be performed on each water quality management plan; this provides an estimate of the load reductions of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment that would be realized after implementation.

Analysis – After each fiscal year the agency will evaluate the progress of the priorities within each state district by reviewing participation records and available water quality monitoring data. Additionally, the T-BET load reduction estimates will be reviewed to verify that the BMPs being cost-shared are impacting the pollutant of concern in impaired or threatened watersheds. After analysis, modification to priorities and incentives may occur to compensate. Ultimate success is de-listing of an impaired or threatened waterbody.

Publishing – The WQMP program priorities are updated biennially and approved by the State Board. The approved priority areas are published on the agency website. Success stories are reported annually in the Annual Report on Managing NPS Water Pollution in Texas.

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

Evaluation Criteria – T-BET modeling results.

Compliance Monitoring – NA to this goal.

Analysis – T-BET results will be analyzed to identify the most effective BMPs for the abatement of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment in each area of the state. Incentives may be modified in order to encourage the most effective BMPs.

Publishing – The approved practice list of BMPs is updated annually and approved by the State Board. The approved practice list is published on the agency website.