

Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
Clean Water Act §319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program
FY 2015 Workplan 15-09
Coordinating Implementation of the Lower Nueces River Watershed Protection Plan

Quarterly Report Number 4
Covering work accomplishments and documentation for
October 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016

TASK 1: Project Administration

Subtask 1.1 NRA will prepare electronic quarterly progress reports (QPRs) for submission to the TSSWCB. QPRs shall document all activities performed within a quarter and shall be submitted by the 15th of January, April, July, and October. QPRs shall be distributed to all project partners and posted on the website.

- January 5, 2017: NRA completed and submitted QPR Number 4.

4 of 8 reports completed: 50% Complete

Subtask 1.2 NRA will perform accounting functions for project funds and will submit appropriate Reimbursement Forms to TSSWCB at least quarterly.

- October 10, 2016: NRA provided a MBE/WBE form for contract 15-09.
- October 13, 2016: NRA provided a MBE/WBE form for contract 12-05.
- November 7, 2016: NRA completed and submitted a Reimbursement Form for activities conducted in October 2016.
Submitted corrected/revised reimbursement on November 29, 2016.
- December 2, 2016: NRA submitted a work plan and budget revision for TSSWCB consideration.
- December 6, 2016: NRA completed and submitted a Reimbursement Form for activities conducted in November 2016.
- December 28, 2016: NRA received work plan and budget revision comments from TSSWCB.
- January 5, 2017: NRA completed and submitted a Reimbursement Form for activities conducted in December 2016.

10 of 20 reports completed: 50% Complete

Subtask 1.3 NRA will host coordination meetings or conference calls, at least quarterly, with Project Partners to discuss project activities, project schedule, communication needs, deliverables, and other requirements. NRA will develop lists of action items needed following each project coordination meeting and distribute to project personnel.

- November 14, 2016: NRA held conference call with TSSWCB to discuss project activities.
- November 16, 2016: NRA submitted conference call summary and action list to TSSWCB.

4 of 8 meetings completed: 50% Complete

Subtask 1.4 NRA will develop a final report

- No activity this quarter

0% Complete

TASK 2: Quality Assurance

Subtask 2.1 NRA will develop a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for activities in Tasks 5 consistent with the most recent versions of *EPA Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans (QA/R-5)* and the *TSSWCB Environmental Data Quality Management Plan*.

- No activity this quarter.

100% Complete

Subtask 2.2 NRA will implement the approved QAPP. NRA will submit revisions and necessary amendments to the QAPP as needed.

- No activity this quarter.

0% Complete

TASK 3: Support and Facilitation of WPP Implementation

Subtask 3.1 NRA will serve as the Watershed Coordinator to engage and facilitate the Nueces River Watershed Partnership (NRWP) and entities identified in the Lower Nueces River Watershed Protection Plan (WPP). NRA will serve as the primary conduit for interaction with landowners, citizens, and entities to facilitate the implementation of the WPP. NRA shall successfully complete (or have already completed) the Texas Watershed Planning Short Course. NRA shall participate in Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtables.

- October 5, 2016: NRA mailed out notification and forms, targeting landowners in the watershed, for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Coastal Bend Soil Testing Campaign. Ten samples from the watershed were received.
- November 3, 2016: NRA met with Anchor QEA to discuss the Lower Nueces WPP and potential implementation opportunities.

50% Complete

Subtask 3.2 NRA will assist governmental and non-governmental organizations in the Lower Nueces River watershed in identification and acquisition of resources (financial and technical) to assist with WPP implementation. NRA will actively seek and pursue funding opportunities and work with partners to develop grant proposals. NRA will work with state and federal agencies, as appropriate, to bring technical and financial resources to the watershed.

- December 8, 2016: NRA signed a contract with the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries (CBBEP) to implement the pet waste stations management measure.
- December 15, 2016: NRA received notice from TCEQ that the FY 2017 – *On-site Sewage Facility Conversion* proposal has been selected for funding consideration.
- October - :
December, 2016 NRA is working with TCEQ to finalize the FY 2016 - *Lower Nueces River Watershed WPP Implementation – On-Site Sewage Facilities (OSSF) Assistance* workplan and contract.

50% Complete

Subtask 3.3 NRA will 1) evaluate and track progress toward achieving milestones established in the WPP; and 2) assess water quality data collected through the Clean Rivers Program (CRP) and other data collection efforts in relation to achieving load reductions.

- November 16, 2016: NRA updated and posted water quality graphs with October 18, 2016 and October 26, 2016 sampling results.
<http://www.nuecesriverpartnership.org/graph.php>.

50% Complete

Subtask 3.4 NRA will facilitate public participation and stakeholder involvement in the watershed planning process, specifically by hosting meetings of the NRWP Steering Committee (quarterly) and Work Groups (as needed) to provide regular updates on progress to implement the WPP and seek input and recommendations on needed activities. NRA will coordinate meetings, secure meeting locations, prepare and disseminate meeting notices and agendas. Meeting summaries will be prepared and posted to the project website.

- October 14, 2016: NRA emailed Save the Date notice for the November 9, 2016 Nueces River Watershed Partnership Meeting. NRA submitted draft agenda, meeting invitation, and press release for the November 9, 2016 meeting to TSSWCB for review.
- October 21, 2016: NRA submitted revised press release for the November 9, 2016 Partnership Meeting to TSSWCB for review.
- October 25, 2016: NRA submitted revised agenda and handouts for the November 9, 2016 Partnership Meeting to TSSWCB for review.
- October 26, 2016: NRA submitted press release for the November 9, 2016 Partnership Meeting to the Corpus Christi Caller-Times for publishing in the October 30, 2016 edition.
- October 28, 2016: NRA mailed and emailed November 9, 2016 Partnership Meeting invitation and agenda to distribution lists.
- November 7, 2016: NRA emailed November 9, 2016 Partnership Meeting reminder.
- November 9, 2016: Nueces River Watershed Partnership Meeting
- November 11, 2016: NRA submitted November 9, 2016 Partnership Meeting summary to TSSWCB for review.
- November - December, 2016: NRA is working with the Steering Committee to prioritize the WPP management measures.

3 of 7 meetings completed: 42.9% Complete

Subtask 3.5 NRA will maintain a database of watershed stakeholders and affected parties for use in engaging the public in the watershed planning process.

- NRA has developed the database and will update as needed.

95% Complete

Subtask 3.6 NRA will attend and participate in other public meetings as appropriate in order to communicate project goals, activities and accomplishments to affected parties. Such meetings may include, but are not limited to, city councils, county commissioners' courts, Clean Rivers Program (CRP) Basin Steering Committee and Coordinated Monitoring, Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), groundwater conservation districts, and other appropriate meetings of critical watershed stakeholder groups.

- No activity this quarter.

50% Complete

TASK 4: Outreach, Education and Community Support

Subtask 4.1 NRA will coordinate and conduct water resources and related environmental outreach/education efforts across the watershed, as identified in the Lower Nueces River WPP. NRA will work with collaborating entities to organize one On-Site Sewage Facility (OSSF) maintenance workshop per year for homeowners.

NRA will look into the feasibility of conducting the following water resources and related environmental outreach/education events: local community clean-ups, Texas Watershed Steward Program, Riparian Management workshops, rainwater harvesting workshops, Texas Well Owner Network trainings, well screening events, Texas Stream Team volunteer monitoring trainings, and Lone Star Healthy Stream (grazing cattle component). NRA will work with the entities that administer/fund these programs and try to direct delivery of these programs to the Lower Nueces River depending on priorities of those entities and programs.

NRA will make presentations on the NRWP, WPP and general nonpoint source pollution information to local schools and community organizations.

NRA will support, promote, and participate in, as appropriate, any field days, demonstrations, site tours, or educational events sponsored by Texas AgriLife Extension, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and/or SWCDs for the Lower Nueces River watershed.

- October 29, 2016: Texas AgriLife Extension conducted OSSF workshop.
- November 16, 2016: NRA updated Lower Nueces River Watershed and WPP information for NRA's brochure.
- December 5, 2016: NRA included information on the WPP implementation for the CRP quarterly email update.

50% Complete

Subtask 4.2 NRA will continue to host and maintain the NRWP website (<http://www.nuecesriverpartnership.org>) to serve as a public clearinghouse for all project- and watershed-related information. All presentations, documents and results will be posted to this website. The website will serve as a means to disseminate information to stakeholders and the general public.

- October 13, 2016: NRA posted October 29, 2016 OSSF workshop announcement on the website
NRA posted November 9, 2016 Partnership Meeting announcement on the website
- October 26, 2016: NRA posted August 31, 2016 Partnership Meeting summary on the website
NRA posted July – September 2016 Quarterly Progress Report on the website
NRA posted November 9, 2016 Partnership Meeting press release on the website
- October 28, 2016: NRA posted November 9, 2016 Partnership Meeting invitation and agenda on the website
- November 10, 2016: NRA posted February 15, 2017 Partnership Steering Committee Business Meeting announcement on the website
- December 7, 2016: NRA posted November 9, 2016 Partnership Meeting summary on the website

50% Complete

Subtask 4.3 NRA will facilitate communication with stakeholders in order to engage the public and affected entities in the watershed planning process. NRA will utilize all appropriate communication mechanisms including direct mail, e-mail, the project website, and print media. NRA will develop and disseminate general project informational materials, including, but not limited to: flyers, brochures, letters, factsheets, news releases, and other appropriate promotional publications. NRA will include information about the project in CRP publications. NRA will utilize the listserv, lowernuecesreiverwatershed@listserve.tamucc.edu, to facilitate direct discussion between stakeholders. NRA will develop, publish, and distribute 4 semi-annual newsletters that highlight Lower Nueces River watershed activities; the newsletter shall be distributed as most appropriate to individual landowners and entities in the watershed. NRA will solicit content matter for educational materials from Project Partners as appropriate. TSSWCB must approve all project-related content in any informational materials and promotional publications prior to distribution.

- No activity this quarter.

50% Complete

TASK 5: Hyacinth Management Plan Revision

Subtask 5.1 NRA will conduct an aerial reconnaissance to determine the upper extent, and possible source, of the water hyacinth.

- No activity this quarter.

10% Complete

Subtask 5.2 NRA will update the Hyacinth Management Plan with the information obtained in Subtask 5.1.

- No activity this quarter.

0% Complete

Activities Planned for January - March 2017 Quarter

Subtask 1.1

- Complete and submit QPR Number 5

Subtask 1.2

- Complete and submit reimbursement requests for January through March
- Complete workplan and budget revision

Subtask 1.3

- Host coordination meeting/conference call with TSSWCB

Subtask 3.1

- Attend Watershed Coordinator Roundtable in Dallas on February 1, 2017

Subtask 3.2

- Complete report on the research of the creation of MUDs for the Wastewater and Urban Management Measure
- Begin implementation for the Pet Waste Collection Stations funded by CBBEP
- Begin implementation of the TCEQ FY 2016 OSSF contract

Subtask 3.3

- Update and post water quality graphs with CRP 6th quarter sampling results

Subtask 3.4

- Hold 4th Stakeholder meeting on February 15, 2017

Subtask 3.5

- Update stakeholder database as needed

Subtask 4.1

- Beginning planning for 2nd OSSF workshop
- Report on related CRP and other programs education and outreach activities

Subtask 4.2

- Complete redesign of the website
- Update website when needed

Subtask 4.3

- Complete and distribute 2nd newsletter

Subtask 5.1

- Schedule aerial reconnaissance