

Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
State Nonpoint Source Grant Program
FY 2018 Workplan 18-53
Coordinating Implementation of the Lower Nueces River Watershed Protection Plan

Quarterly Report Number 6
Covering work accomplishments and documentation for
September 1, 2019 – November 30, 2019

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 1st of March, June, September, and December. QPRs shall be distributed to all project partners.

- September 17, 2019: NRA posted QPR Number 5 <http://www.nuecesriverpartnership.org/pubs.php>.
- November 26, 2019: NRA completed and submitted QPR Number 6.

6 of 8 reports completed: 75% Complete

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

- September 11, 2019: NRA completed and submitted a Reimbursement Form for activities conducted in August 2019.
- October 8, 2019: NRA completed and submitted a Reimbursement Form for activities conducted in September 2019.
- November 5, 2019: NRA completed and submitted a Reimbursement Form for activities conducted in October 2019.

16 of 22 reports completed: 72.7% 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.

- October 14, 2019: NRA submitted talking points to TSSWCB
- October 15, 2019: NRA and TSSWCB held the quarterly conference to discuss project activities. NRA submitted the meeting summary to TSSWCB.

6 of 8 meetings completed: 75% Complete

TASK 2: Support and Facilitation of WPP Implementation

Subtask 2.1 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.

- September 26, 2019: Fielded phone call from a homeowner along the river about cleanups below the Saltwater barrier dam.
- October 7, 2019: Fielded phone call from San Antonio about large debris removal in the river.
- November 20, 2019: Fielded phone call from homeowner along the river about a boat that floated down the river and lodged on his property.

Ongoing: 19 of 24 months (79.2%) Complete

Subtask 2.2 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.

- September 26, 2019: NRA held the second stakeholder meeting for the OSSF Conversion Feasibility Study.
- October 2019: NRA and TCEQ finalized the workplan and budget for the FY 2020 OSSF Assistance Program.
- October 2, 2019: NRA attended the FY 2020 OSSF Assistance Program Post Award meeting with TCEQ in Austin.
- October - November 2019: NRA worked with the Nueces County Inland Parks Department to plan a trash collection event in the watershed for December 7 – 8, 2019.

Ongoing: 19 of 24 months (79.2%) Complete

Subtask 2.3 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 8, 2019: NRA updated the OSSF repair and replacements table: <http://www.nuecesriverpartnership.org/implementation.php>.
- November 11, 2019: NRA updated the home page with an announcement for the trash collection event on December 8 – 9, 2019 <http://www.nuecesriverpartnership.org/>.

Ongoing: 19 of 24 months (79.2%) Complete

Subtask 2.4 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.

- November 13, 2019: NRA distributed a Program Update in lieu of a Stakeholder meeting.
- November 21, 2019: NRA posted the Program Update on the webpage:
<http://www.nuecesriverpartnership.org/meet.php>

3 of 4 meetings completed: 75% Complete

Subtask 2.5 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 it as needed.

99% Complete

Subtask 2.6 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, 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.

Ongoing: 19 of 24 months (79.2%) Complete

TASK 3: Outreach, Education, and Community Support

Subtask 3.1 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 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 8, 2019: NRA participated in the Texas Watershed Stewards Workshop for the Lower Nueces River Watershed.
- November 19, 2019: NRA participated in the Texas AgriLife Extension Urban Stream Restoration training in Corpus Christi – provided summary and update of the Lower Nueces River WPP.

Ongoing: 19 of 24 months (79.2%) Complete

Subtask 3.2 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.

- November 8, 2019, NRA updated the OSSF repair and replacements table and OSSF Conversion Study information: <http://www.nuecesriverpartnership.org/implementation.php>.

Ongoing: 19 of 24 months (79.2%) Complete

Subtask 3.3 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, lowernuecesriverwatershed@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 work this quarter.

3 of 4 Newsletters completed: 75% Complete

Activities Planned for December 2019 – February 2020 Quarter

Subtask 1.1

- Complete and submit QPR Number 7

Subtask 1.2

- Complete and submit reimbursement requests for November through January

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Subtask 1.3

- Host coordination meeting/conference call with TSSWCB

Subtask 2.2

- Work with the Nueces County Inland Parks Department for a trash collection event scheduled for December 7 – 8, 2019
- Promote a second trash collection event scheduled for April 18 – 19, 2020.

Subtask 2.3

- Update and post water quality graphs with CRP FY 19 Q4 and CRP FY 20 Q1 sampling results

Subtask 2.4

- Schedule final Steering Committee meeting for April 2020

Subtask 2.5

- Update stakeholder database as needed

Subtask 3.1

- Continue planning for educational workshops

Subtask 3.2

- Update website when needed

Subtask 3.3

- Newsletter #4 planned for January 2020