

**Development of a Watershed Protection Plan
for Geronimo Creek**

Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
FY09-11 CWA Section 319(h)
Project No. 08-06

Quarterly Report Number 15

Covering work accomplished October through December, 2012

January 12, 2013

I. Abstract

Administrative tasks, meetings and planning activities were performed during the reporting period.

II. Overall Progress and Results by Task

TASK 1: Project Administration and Coordination

Subtask 1.1: The GBRA will prepare electronic quarterly progress reports for submission to TSSWCB. Progress reports shall document all activities performed within a quarter and shall be submitted by the 15th of January, April, July and October. All progress reports will be posted to the project website and provided to all project partners.

- GBRA prepared the progress report for April through June 2012 and submitted the report on July 9, 2012.

99% complete – On-going

Subtask 1.2: GBRA will perform accounting functions for project funds and will submit appropriate reimbursement forms to TSSWCB at least quarterly.

- GBRA submitted the invoice for April through June 2012 on July 30, 2012.

96% complete – On-going

Subtask 1.3: GBRA will host coordination meetings or conference calls with TSSWCB and any subcontractors as appropriate, at least quarterly to discuss project activities, project schedule, communication needs, deliverables, and other requirements.

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100% complete – On-going

TASK 2. Quality Assurance

Subtask 2.1: GBRA will develop a quality assurance project plan (QAPP) for activities in tasks 3 and 4, consistent with *EPA Requirements for Quality Assurance Project Plans (QA/R-5)* (May 2006) and the *TSSWCB Environmental Data and Quality Management Plan* (August 2007).

Consistency with Title 30, Chapter 25 of the Texas Administrative Code, Environmental Testing Laboratory Accreditation and Certification, which describes Texas' approach to implementing the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference standards, shall be required.

All monitoring procedures and methods prescribed in the QAPP shall be consistent with the guidelines detailed in the TCEQ *Surface Water Quality Monitoring Procedures, Volume 1: Physical and Chemical Monitoring Methods for Water, Sediment, and Tissue* (RG-415) December 2003) and *Volume 2: Methods for Collecting and Analyzing Biological Community and Habitat Data* (RG-416) (August 2005).

- No work was performed under this task in this quarter.

100% completed

Subtask 2.2: GBRA will submit revisions and necessary amendments to the QAPP as needed.

- No work was performed under this task in this quarter.

100% completed

TASK 3. Water Quality Monitoring

Subtask 3.1: Technical consultant will compile historical and baseline data on the Geronimo Creek watershed, including water quality data, land use, topography, soil types and vegetation.

- No work was performed under this task in this quarter.

100% completed

Subtask 3.2: GBRA, with consultation with the technical consultant, will produce a twelve-month water quality monitoring plan based on information identified in Subtask 3.1, including monthly routine and targeted monitoring of the stream and tributaries, quarterly monitoring of the springs (up to four locations), and the

quarterly monitoring of wells (up to four locations) that are in close proximity to be contributing to the stream flow through springs.

- No work was performed under this task in this quarter.

100% completed

Subtask 3.3: GBRA will conduct water quality monitoring of the watershed as described in the plan developed in Subtask 3.2 and under the QAPP developed in Subtask 2.1.

- No work was performed under this task in this quarter.

100% completed

TASK 4. Water Quality Modeling and Data Analysis

Subtask 4.1: The Technical Consultant will perform services that include the selection of a model(s) that facilitate development of the watershed protection plan; produce geographical information including digitizing of land use data to the sub-watershed level; data analysis to rank sources of the impairments; estimation of the fate and transport of bacteria, nutrients and other constituents; and production tools that can be used to evaluate the effectiveness of best management practices.

- No work was performed under this task in this quarter.

100% completed

Subtask 4.2: The Technical Consultant will perform all necessary phases of modeling that facilitate development of the watershed protection plan as described in Task 5.

- A report summarizing how SELECT, SWAT, and Load Duration Curves were utilized in the development of the Geronimo and Alligator Creeks WPP was completed and is included as an attachment.

100% completed

TASK 5. Watershed Partnership and Plan Development

Subtask 5.1: GBRA will subcontract with the Texas AgriLife Extension Service (Extension) to facilitate the development of the Geronimo Creek Watershed

Partnership Steering Committee and associated subcommittees for the purpose of plan development, including Texas Watershed Steward training for stakeholders.

- July 13, 2012 – Extension held a conference call with the City of Seguin to discuss the CWA 319(h) grant proposal to the TCEQ. This resulted in the City of Seguin submitting a grant proposal on July 31 to TCEQ to provide assistance to homeowners in Oak Village North.
- At the August 7th, 2012 Partnership meeting, the final draft WPP was presented to the Steering Committee. Meeting preparation consisted of Extension coordinating with GBRA to secure the meeting location. Meeting notification consisted of emails, phone calls, direct mail, electronic community calendar updates and project webpage updates, and press releases. Discussion followed and resulted in the Steering Committee giving their approval of the final draft and signing the plan before submission to TSSWCB, and eventually the EPA.
- Extension attended a one-day training course titled *Conservation, Science, Social Media: How scientists, organizations, and agencies can benefit from social networks*. The training presented the various social media resources and how they work. Also presented were actual scientific projects that utilized social media and the impact.
- To advertise the August 7th Partnership meeting, Extension utilized the project website, electronic community calendars, email, phone calls, direct mail, and press releases.
- Extension and GBRA submitted the final draft WPP to TSSWCB after the August Partnership meeting. TSSWCB submitted the final draft to EPA, and it was accepted by EPA September 13th, 2012.
- GBRA hosted a Partnership meeting November 13th, and Extension assisted. Meeting notification consisted of emails, phone calls, direct mail, electronic community calendar updates and project webpage updates, and press releases. Extension presented a status report on the newly EPA accepted WPP and how the project was transitioning from plan development into implementation. Jared Timmons (Extension) presented how he will be working to assist stakeholders with feral hog control in the watershed.

100% completed –

Subtask 5.2: Extension, in collaboration with GBRA, will develop the Geronimo Creek Watershed Protection Plan.

- At the August 7th, 2012 Partnership meeting, the final draft WPP was presented to the Steering Committee. Discussion followed and resulted in the Steering Committee giving their approval of the final draft and signing the plan before submission to TSSWCB, and eventually the EPA.
- The final draft WPP was accepted by EPA September 13, 2012. Work performed on the final plan this quarter consisted of soliciting bids for printed

copies to be produced for distribution to the public.

100% completed –

III. Related Issues/Current Problems and Favorable or Unusual Developments

- EPA accepted the WPP. Focus will now shift from WPP development to implementation, distribution, and involvement and education of the public regarding the WPP.

IV. Projected Work for Next Quarter

The following will be accomplished during the coming quarter:

- a. Schedule and conduct a Partnership meeting. Tentatively scheduled for the first week of March.
- b. Complete scheduling and planning details for the first ever Geronimo and Alligator Creeks Cleanup Day (planned for April 6).
- c. Tracking and assisting with implementation of the various management measures.
- d. Meet with potential grant participants (City of New Braunfels, Comal-Guadalupe County SWCD, City of Seguin, Seguin Outdoor Learning Center) to discuss grant proposal to TSSWCB NPS.
- e. Prepare a grant proposal for 2013 TSSWCB NPS Program.