

Watershed Assistance to Improve Water Quality in North Central Texas

Texas Water Resources Institute
FY 03 Federal Appropriated Funds
Project # 03-60768

Quarter no. 3 From 4/8/04 Through 7/7/04

Progress in Meeting Project Milestones and Output Commitments

Task, Deliverables, and Schedules

The Texas Water Resources Institute (TWRI) along with the Texas A&M University Spatial Sciences Laboratory (SSL), Blackland Agricultural Research and Extension Center (BAREC) and Texas Cooperative Extension (TCE) has been diligently working to complete project deliverables. Project efforts during the third quarter focused on modeling activities and education. The SSL and BAREC have collaborated on efforts to interact SWAT and QUAL2E models to predict loadings within Cedar Creek Reservoir. SWAT and QUAL2E have successfully been integrated. TCE has been working to develop generalized and watershed-specific bulletins relating to water quality for the project area. TWRI continues to update its Web site containing water quality information, specifically related to project efforts, for scientists and the general public.

In looking forward to the next quarter, with SWAT modeling activities completed for Cedar Creek reservoir and watershed, work can begin on looking at and developing BMP scenarios to correct sediment and nutrient loadings. The economics team will begin measuring the cost effectiveness of different BMP scenarios in order to ascertain the most cost efficient measures. TCE specialists will conduct Extension trainings for agents and stakeholder groups and finalize Cedar Creek publications.

The status of tasks, milestones and deliverables will be defined using the following terms:

Pending	Work has not started on the deliverable
Initiated	Work has started
Completed	The objectives were achieved and deliverables are finished
Deferred	Work has started, but further action is delayed pending other information, the completion of another objective, staff restraints, etc.
Ongoing	Work will continue throughout the term of the contract

Task 1 SWAT Modeling

Date	Status	Deliverables
1/1/04	Initiated	1. Complete model calibration and validation for Cedar Creek Reservoir
1/1/05	Pending	2. Finish calibration and validation for Eagle Mountain Reservoir
9/1/05	Pending	3. Collect GIS data on wastewater treatment plant discharge required for SWAT modeling of Eagle Mountain and Bridgeport Watersheds

Comments:

- The Spatial Sciences Lab in cooperation with Blackland Agricultural Research and Extension Center has completed the calibration and validation of the SWAT model for Cedar Creek Reservoir. This deliverable is 100 percent complete.

Task 2 Economic Analysis

Date	Status	Deliverables
9/1/04	Pending	1. Begin developing input data for economic analysis of alternative BMPs for Cedar Creek Reservoir and Watershed
4/1/05	Pending	2. Conduct economic analyses of alternative BMPs for Cedar Creek Reservoir Watershed
10/1/05	Pending	3. Begin developing input data for economic analyses of Eagle Mountain Watershed

Comments:

- Economic analysis can not begin until modeling efforts are complete. Preliminary work has begun to identify BMPs to be input into the SWAT model to look at reducing nutrient and sediment loadings in the Watershed.

Task 3 Extension Education

Date	Status	Deliverables
4/1/04	Initiated	1. Develop generalized watershed management program bulletin
7/1/04	Initiated	2. Conduct two-day watershed management training program for County Extension Agents and other selected resource personnel
10/1/05	Pending	3. Recruit Cedar Creek stakeholder committee
1/1/05	Initiated	4. Develop Cedar Creek Watershed characteristics fact sheet
1/1/05	Completed	5. Construct demonstration trailer
4/1/05	Completed	6. Hold Cedar Creek public meeting on watershed characteristics and pollution problems
4/1/05	Pending	7. Recruit Eagle Mountain stakeholder committee
4/1/05	Pending	8. Conduct two-day training program on stream erosion for County Extension Agents and other resource personnel
4/1/05	Pending	9. Hold two Cedar Creek stakeholder committee meetings
7/1/05	Initiated	10. Develop Eagle Mountain Watershed characteristics fact sheet
7/1/05	Pending	11. Conduct two Cedar Creek Extension education meetings on urban storm water quality, agricultural nonpoint source pollution prevention and wastewater
7/1/05	Pending	12. Develop general fact sheets on 1) Wastewater management options around lakes, 2) Urban storm water management, and 3) Lawn management
10/1/05	Pending	13. Hold Eagle Mountain stakeholder committee meetings
10/1/05	Pending	14. Hold Eagle Mountain public meeting on watershed characteristics and pollution problems

Comments:

- The generalized fact sheet on watershed management is 90 percent complete and is currently in the design and layout phase within the department of Agricultural Communications. Expected submission for review and publication is July 15, 2004.
- Progress has been made to plan a two-day watershed management training. This meeting has been delayed to await the completion of modeling activities and the onset of running BMPs. The Cedar Creek and Eagle Mountain training meeting has been scheduled for September 16-17, 2004, for Henderson, Kaufman, Rockwall, Van Zandt, Tarrant, Parker, Wise, Montaque, and Clay counties.
- Cedar Creek Watershed fact sheet development is in the intermediate stage and is 50 percent complete.
- Stream demonstration trailer is 100 percent complete. Educational materials for the trailer are under development. The demonstration trailer has been used at eight events with over 200 participants.

Task 4 Administration

Date	Status	Deliverables
1/7/04	Completed	1. Quarterly Progress Reports
4/7/04	Completed	Quarterly Progress Report
7/7/04	Completed	
10/7/04	Ongoing	
1/7/05	Ongoing	
4/7/05	Ongoing	
7/7/05	Ongoing	
10/7/05	Ongoing	2. Final Report

Comments:

- TWRI continually updates the Web site created specifically for the North Central Texas Water Quality Project. The Web site can be accessed at the following address: <http://nctx-water.tamu.edu>.
- On May 6, 2004, researchers met to discuss modeling activities as they relate to the integration of WASP into the SWAT/QUAL2E model.
- On June 14, 2004, project participants met at the Blackland Agricultural Research and Extension Center to present the status of deliverables and discuss objectives for the upcoming quarter.

Problems or Obstacles Encountered and Remedial Actions Taken

The research team has had difficulty in adapting the SWAT and QUAL2E models. The challenge has been in establishing compatible parameters and coefficients for the varying models. Numerous meetings occurred both by teleconference and in person to postulate possible solutions. Great strides have been made by the modeling team to configure an accurate up-to-date model, which patterns both the watershed and stream segments simultaneously for nutrient and sediment loading. SWAT has been calibrated and validated for Cedar Creek Watershed and has been successfully linked with QUAL2E.

Work Planned for Next Reporting Period

Task 1: SWAT Modeling

Begin looking at and developing BMPs to be input into the SWAT model and begin making runs to see which of these BMPs are the most effective at reducing nutrient and sediment loadings within Cedar Creek Watershed.

Task 2: Economics

Begin collecting information and developing input data for economic analysis of alternative BMPs for Cedar Creek Reservoir and Watershed.

Task 3: Education

Finalize watershed bulletins relating to Cedar Creek Watershed. Begin process of recruiting the Cedar Creek Watershed stakeholder group. Continue to finalize plan for TCE agent training on water quality impairment issues.

Task 4: Administration

TWRI will continue working with TRWD, SSL, BAREC and TCE in moving forward with project deliverables and reporting progress on a quarterly basis. Efforts will be made to publicize the project and raise awareness of water quality issues within the study area.