

***Pecos River Watershed Protection  
Plan Implementation***

**Landowner Opportunities**

**Amy Porter**

**Upper Pecos SWCD**

**March 15, 2011**

**Pecos & Imperial, Texas**

**Ty Allen**

**Crockett SWCD**

**March 16, 2011**

**Iraan & Ozona, Texas**



# **Pecos River WPP Implementation is a Landowner Driven Process to:**

- Restore water quality**
- Supplement water quantity**
- Improve watershed health**
- Support landowners' management goals**

# **Pecos River WPP Landowner Opportunities**

**Water Quality Management Plans**

**Chemical Saltcedar Control**

**Prescribed Burn of Saltcedar**

# **Pecos River WPP Landowner Opportunities**

## **Water Quality Management Plans**

**Chemical Saltcedar Control**

**Prescribed Burn of Saltcedar**

# **Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs)**

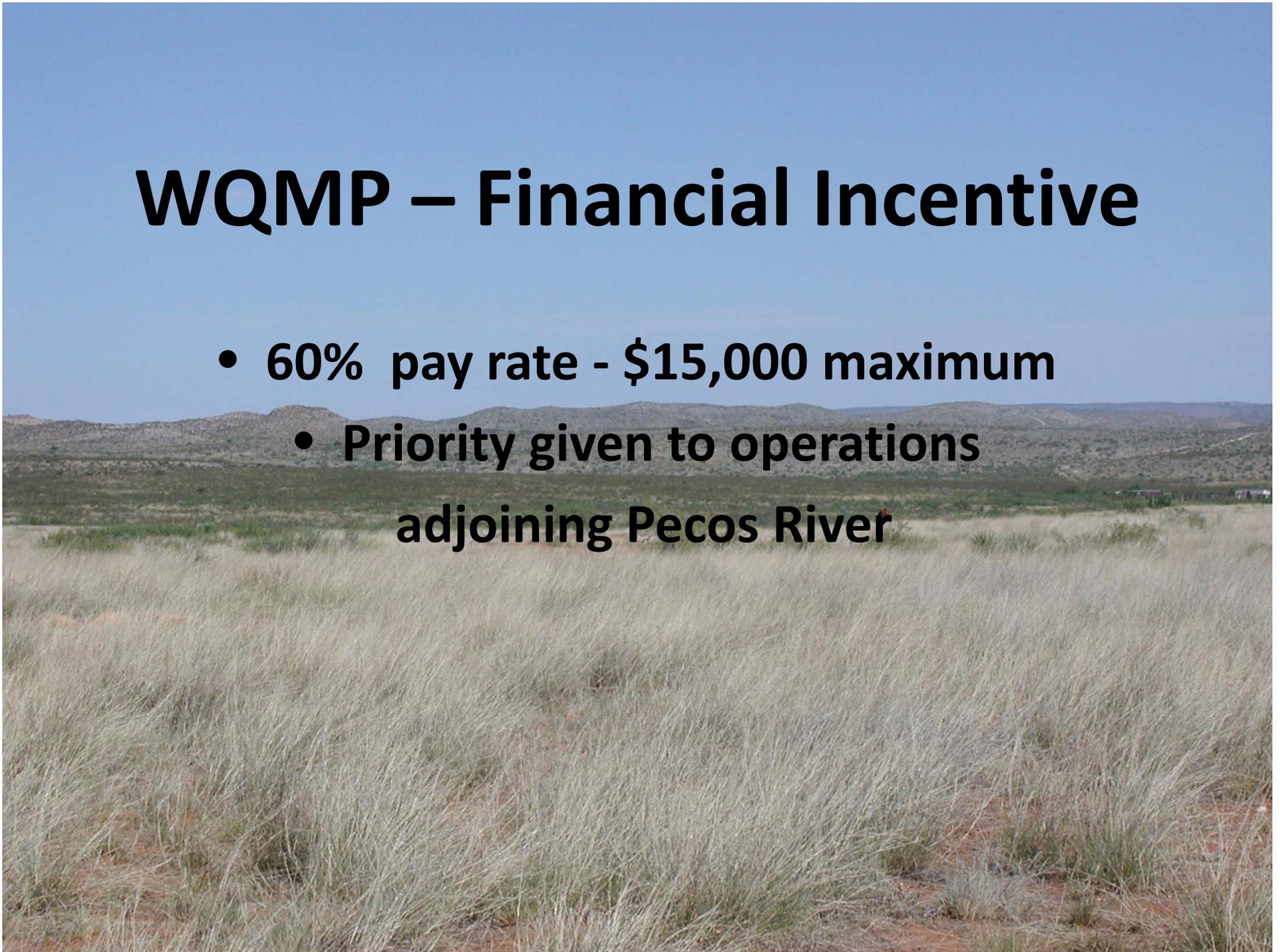
- **Landowner requested**
- **Site specific plan**
- **Landowners in Pecos River Watershed**
- **Developed through local SWCD**
- **Free Technical Assistance**
- **Pollution prevention / abatement**
- **Certified through the Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board**

# WQMP - Benefits

- **Voluntary conservation program promoting ag production & environmental quality**
- **Implements Pecos River WPP to restore Pecos River water quality**
- **Developed for your operation to assist in managing available natural resources**

# WQMP – Financial Incentive

- 60% pay rate - \$15,000 maximum
  - Priority given to operations adjoining Pecos River



# WQMP Practices Eligible for Financial Incentive from TSSWCB

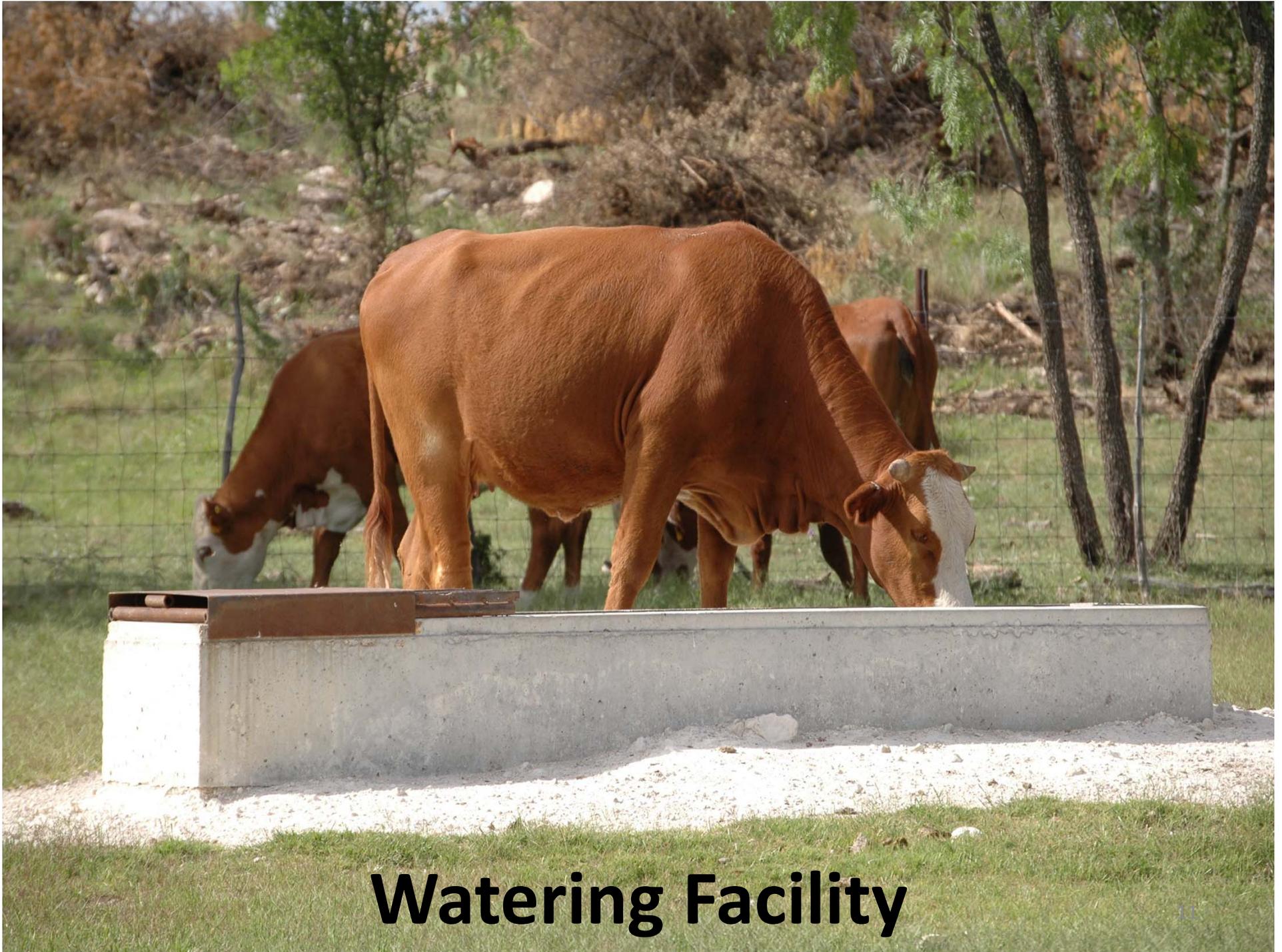
- Cross fence for Grazing Management
- Livestock Watering Facility
- Nutrient Management
- Pipeline
- Pumping Plant
- Range Planting
- Riparian Herbaceous Buffer
- Riparian Forest Buffer
- Water Well

# Watering Facility



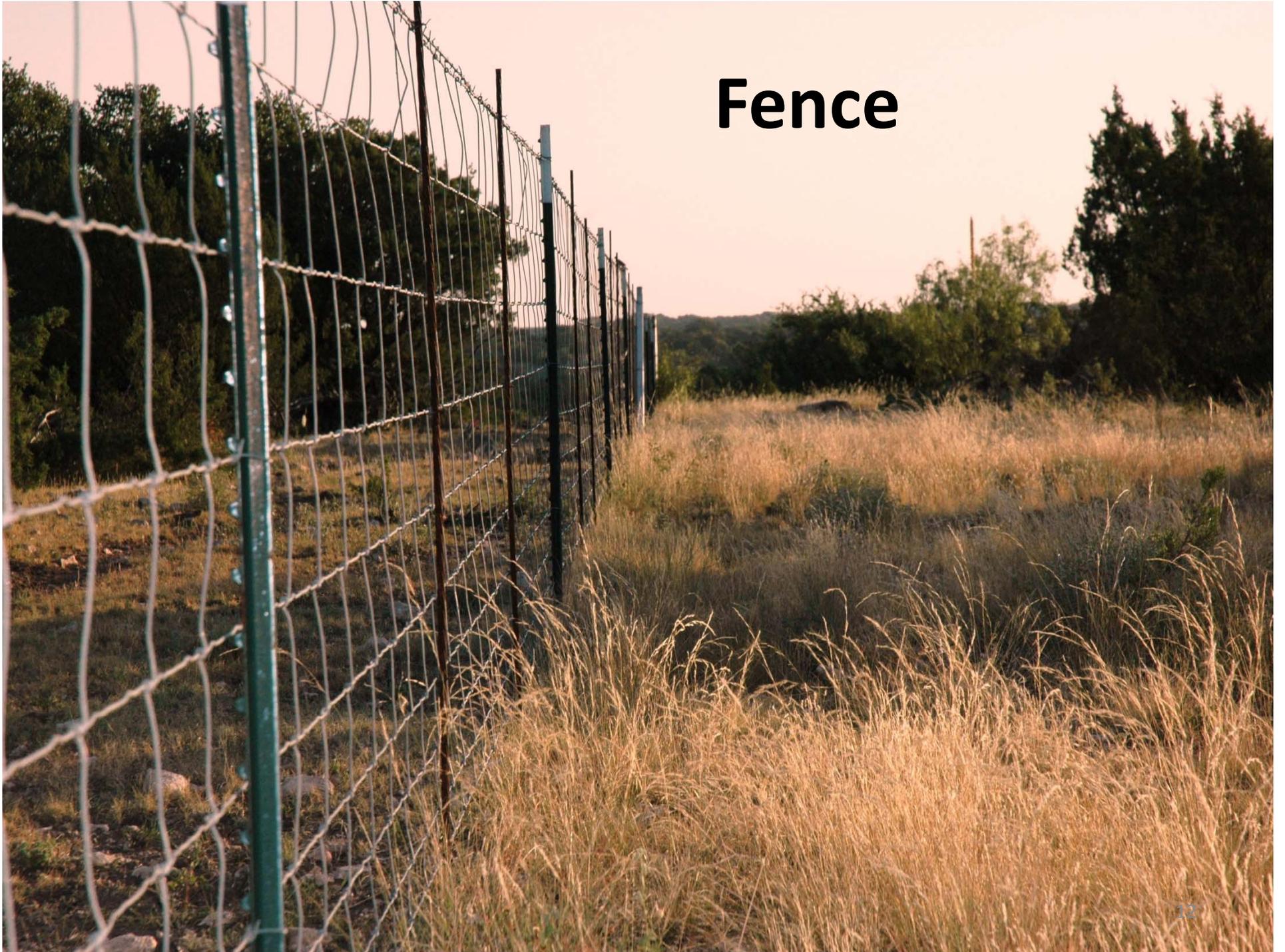
# Pumping Plant & Watering Facility





**Watering Facility**

# Fence



# Other funding mechanisms

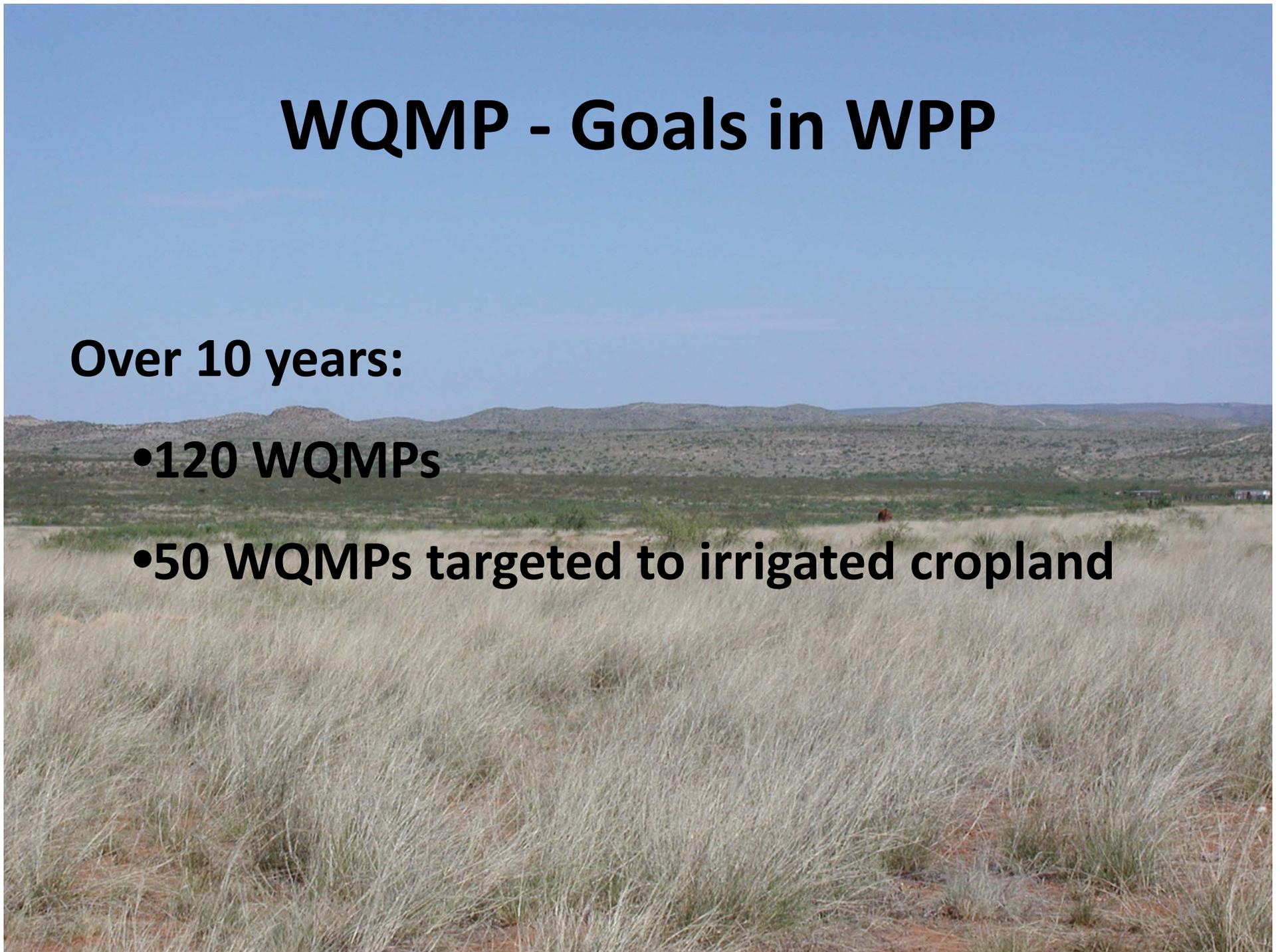
- **USDA-NRCS**
  - EQIP
  - WHIP
  - GRP
- **USDA-FSA**
  - Conservation loan
  - CRP
- **TWDB**
  - Ag water conservation loan
  - State revolving funds

# WQMP - Goals in WPP

**Over 10 years:**

- **120 WQMPs**

- **50 WQMPs targeted to irrigated cropland**



# WQMPs - Where we are now

- **Certified plans – 2**
- **Plans currently under development – 5**
- **Funding obligated - \$21,630.66**
- **Remaining funding - \$128,369.34**

**Questions?**

# **Pecos River WPP Landowner Opportunities**

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**Prescribed Burn of Saltcedar**

# Chemical Saltcedar Control

- **WPP identified 2,158 acres along the Pecos River for saltcedar treatment**
- **Current scope of work: 1,700 untreated acres along Pecos River between I-20 & Val Verde County line**
- **Available at no cost to landowner**
- **Conducted by private aerial applicator contracted by TSSWCB**
- **Spraying will be conducted in 2011**

# Chemical Saltcedar Control

- Spray agreement forms available
- Between Interstate 20 & US 67
  - contact Amy Porter
- Between US 67 & Val Verde County line
  - contact Ty Allen

# Chemical Saltcedar Control

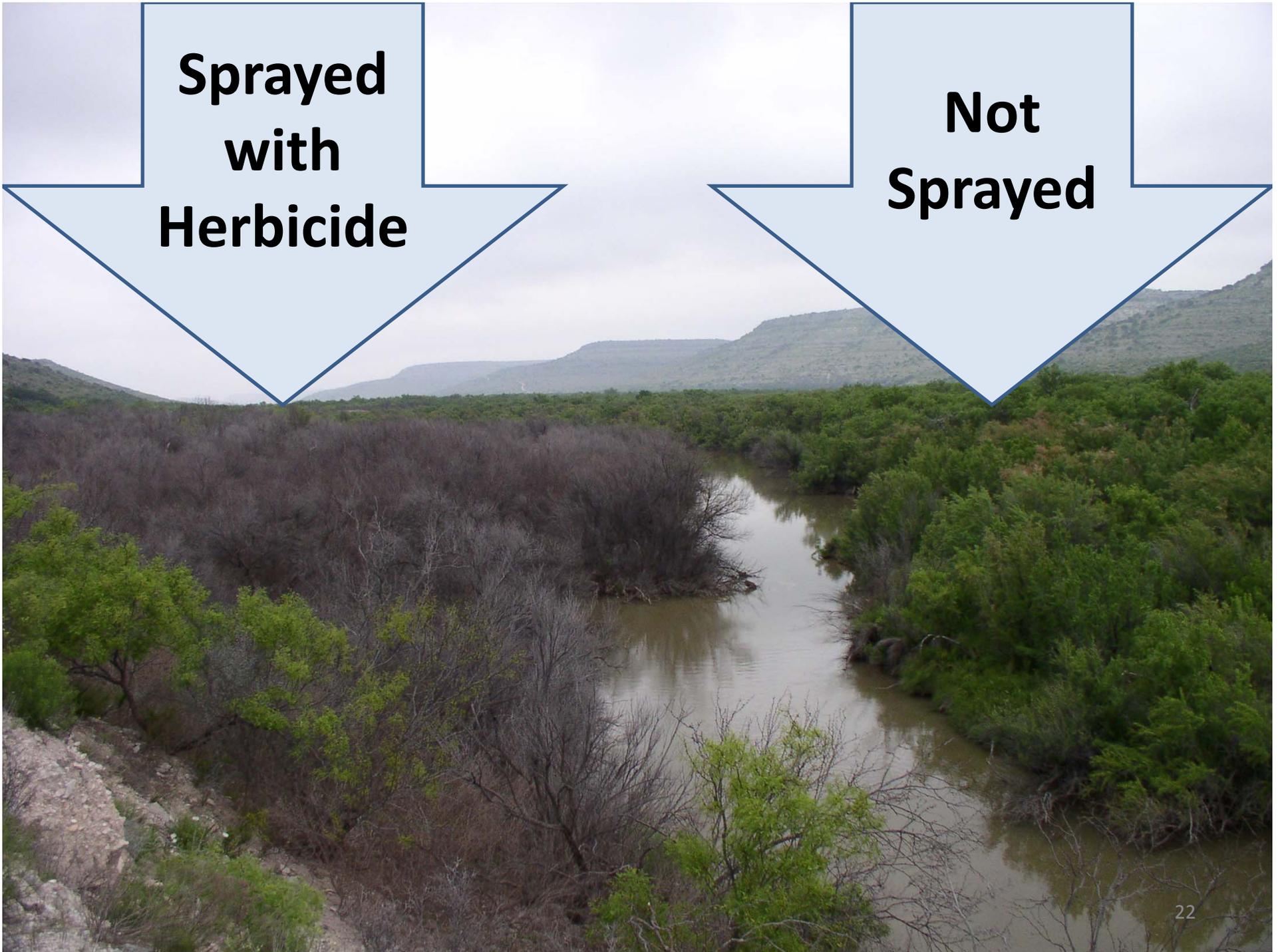
- **Who can sign up?**
  - **Anyone can - need to sign up now**
  - **Currently spraying in previously untreated main stem areas**

# Herbicide Application



**Sprayed  
with  
Herbicide**

**Not  
Sprayed**



# Saltcedar after Herbicide Application



# Saltcedar after Herbicide Application



**Questions?**

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# Prescribed Burn of Saltcedar

- Prevent standing dead debris from washing downriver causing:
  - Structural damage
  - Flooding
  - Decreased water quality
  - Blocked irrigation outtakes
- Facilitate re-growth of native vegetation

# Prescribed Burn of Saltcedar



- 3 years after herbicide application.
- Available at no cost to landowner.
- Texas Forest Service contracted to conduct burn
  - With burn agreement in place
  - When burn conditions appropriate

# Prescribed Burn of Saltcedar

- Prescribed burn agreement forms available
- Burning conducted between US 67 & Independence Creek
  - Contact Ty Allen

# Prescribed Burn of Saltcedar

- Red Bluff WPCD is developing a prescribed burn program from Red Bluff Reservoir to Hwy 18
  - Contact Red Bluff office at 432-445-2037 for more information

# Prescribed Burn



Photo by TFS

A photograph of a prescribed burn in progress. In the foreground, a firefighter wearing a yellow helmet and jacket is visible, working through a dense thicket of dry, brushy vegetation. In the background, a large, intense fire is burning, with bright orange and yellow flames rising high into the air, partially obscured by the skeletal remains of trees. The sky is a pale, hazy blue. The overall scene depicts a controlled fire used for land management purposes.

# Prescribed Burn

Photo by TFS

# After Prescribed Burn



Photo by TFS

# Re-growth After Prescribed Burn



**Questions?**



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