

**Pecos River Basin Assessment Program
FY04 CWA Section 319(h)
TSSWCB Project No. 04-11**

Quarter no. 11 From 04/01/07 Through 06/30/07

I. Abstract

The main activities to report for the project during the quarter have been completion of sub-task final reports and work on the WPP. Economic analysis is also moving along nicely and will be incorporated into the WPP as information is finalized. Final reports for sub-tasks 1.2, 1.3, and 3.3 will be finalized during the next quarter and findings will be incorporated into the WPP accordingly. Work on the WPP is currently focusing on addressing current areas of concern. We anticipate releasing a draft to stakeholders in early September for them to review before public comment meetings are held. A 6 month no-cost extension was requested and approved; the new end date for the project is February 29, 2008.

II. Overall Progress and Results by Task

TASK 1: Basin Assessment

Subtask 1.1: Aerial Photography, Delineation, and Characterization

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. This subtask is completed.

100% Complete

Subtask 1.2: Historical Water Quality, Irrigation Delivery, Rainfall, Red Bluff Lake Levels, and Groundwater Monitoring

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Work continued toward gathering and compiling groundwater data for the basin.
- b. Relevant water news items were identified and distributed to team members.

85% Complete

Subtask 1.3: Aquatic Life and Habitat Inventory

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Received results and metrics for fish and habitat analyses from TCEQ.

- b. Performed metrics on USGS fish collection and habitat data.
- c. Completed draft subtask final report and submitted for review.

95% Complete

Subtask 1.4: Identify and Characterize the Volume and Quality of Tributaries and Springs

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The subtask final report was drafted and finalized based on historical information and tributary sediment samples collected; the report has been posted on the project website in the project reports section.
- b. This subtask is completed.

100% Complete

Subtask 1.5: Identify and Characterize Saline Water Sources Entering the Pecos River

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. This subtask is completed

100% Complete

Subtask 1.6: Simulate Flow and Salinity of the Pecos River for Evaluating River Management Options

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. This subtask is completed.

100% Complete

Subtask 1.7: Economic Modeling of the Pecos River Basin and Assessment of Saltcedar Control Activities

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Historical acreage data for the irrigation districts is being collected. Data on the quantity released and the quantity billed to the respective irrigation districts has been collected.
- b. A survey was developed to measure the impact of saltcedar control on rangeland managers whose operation encompassed areas that were treated for saltcedar. This survey will be released July 2, 2007 to rangeland owners and managers. A second reminder postcard will be mailed on July 9, 2007 to individuals that had

- not returned the survey. Response rates and analysis of the survey results will be available next quarter.
- c. Work has begun on the IMPLAN model of the Pecos River basin economy. A first run was completed and adjustments are being made to accurately represent the impact of some of the higher value horticultural crops produced within the basin (pecans, melons, onions and potatoes). A descriptive analysis of the Pecos river economy will be available next quarter.

15% Complete

Task 2: Educational Programming

Subtask 2.1: Publish Written Informational Materials to Educate Private Landowners, Stakeholders, and Policy Makers about the Pecos River basin and the effects of saltcedar

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The historical document titled “A Brief History of Water Resources Challenges Facing the Pecos Basin of Texas” is in the editing process.
- b. A letter and one-page update publication were mailed to approximately 1,000 landowners and stakeholders throughout the Pecos Basin.

90% Complete

Subtask 2.2: Educational Meetings of Interested Parties for Input and Organizational Support

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Preliminary plans regarding WPP comment meetings were discussed. Tentative target dates of October 1-5 were scheduled.

50% Complete

Subtask 2.3: Develop a Website for Dissemination of Information

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Ongoing activities and updates were posted to the project website.

85% Complete

Task 3: Establish a Monitoring Program

Subtask 3.1: Develop a QAPP for Sampling Protocol

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. This task is completed.

100% Complete

Subtask 3.2: Water Quality Monitoring, including Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), Total Suspended Solids, Potential Hydrogen (pH), Dissolved Oxygen (DO), and Electrical Conductivity (EC)

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Routine water quality samples were collected as part of the Texas Clean Rivers Program.

85% Complete

Subtask 3.3: Quantity and Fate of Water Salvage as a Result of Saltcedar Control

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The subtask final report was drafted and is in the review process.

95% Complete

Task 4: Watershed Protection Plan

Subtask 4.1: Develop Annual Reports and a Final Report Summarizing Basin Assessment, Educational Programming, and Monitoring

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No activity this quarter.

75% Complete

Subtask 4.2: Produce the Final Watershed Protection Plan for Pecos River Segments 2312, 2311, and 2310

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Revisions on the first draft of the WPP were continued and are nearing completion.

35% Complete

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

A TTVN meeting was held May 25th, project participants discussed the project and what work was left to be done. June 30th was agreed upon as the date to have all project task reports finalized.

IV. Projected Work for Next Quarter

The following will be accomplished during the coming quarter:

Subtask 1.1 – No activities planned. This subtask is complete.

Subtask 1.2 – This subtask will be completed.

Subtask 1.3 – The subtask final report will be edited and finalized. This subtask will be completed.

Subtask 1.4 – No activities planned. This subtask is complete.

Subtask 1.5 – No activities planned. This subtask is complete.

Subtask 1.6 – No activities planned. This subtask is complete.

Subtask 1.7 – Further work on production budgets to include cantaloupes and onions, grain and forage sorghum and wheat. Summarization of past historical dry land and irrigated acreage trends will also be completed.

Subtask 2.1 – Printing of the historical document will be completed

Subtask 2.2 – Planning of the October WPP comment meetings will continue. An information packet will be sent to county agents in the Pecos watershed.

Subtask 2.3 – Post updates and documents to the project website.

Subtask 3.1 – No activities planned. This subtask is complete.

Subtask 3.2 – Routine water quality samples will be collected as part of monitoring activities carried out through the Texas Clean Rivers Program.

Subtask 3.3 – The subtask final report will be finalized. This subtask will be completed.

Subtask 4.1 – No activities planned.

Subtask 4.2 – Edits to the first draft of the WPP will be completed. The document will be distributed to stakeholders and other interested parties for comments.