Pecos River Watershed Protection Plan Implementation

Landowner Opportunities

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Upper Pecos SWCD

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Crockett SWCD

August 2, 2011
Pecos & Imperial, Texas

August 3, 2011
Iraan & Ozona, Texas

Pecos River WPP Implementation is a 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
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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

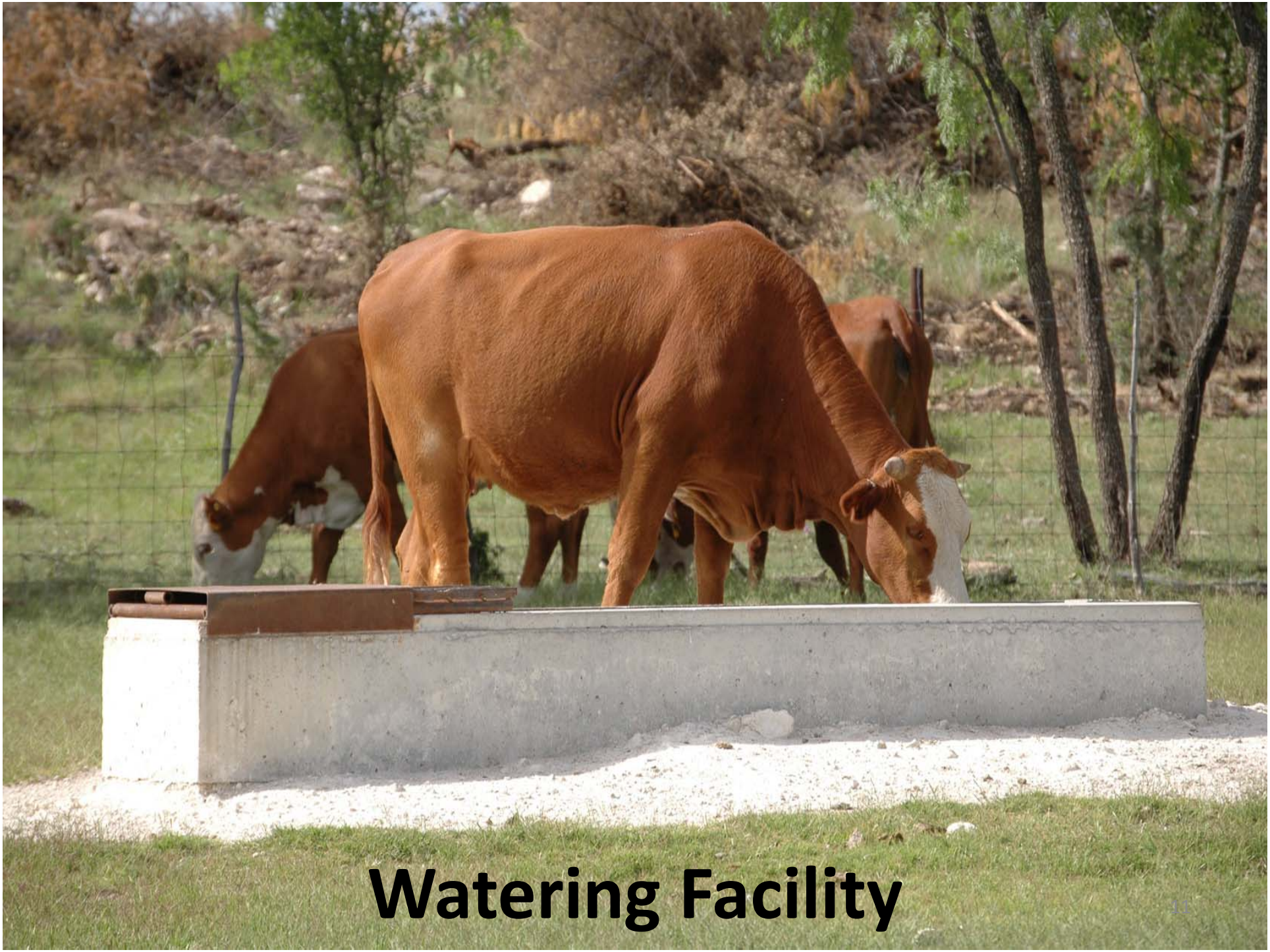
- 60% pay rate - $15,000 maximum
- Priority given to operations adjoining Pecos River

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



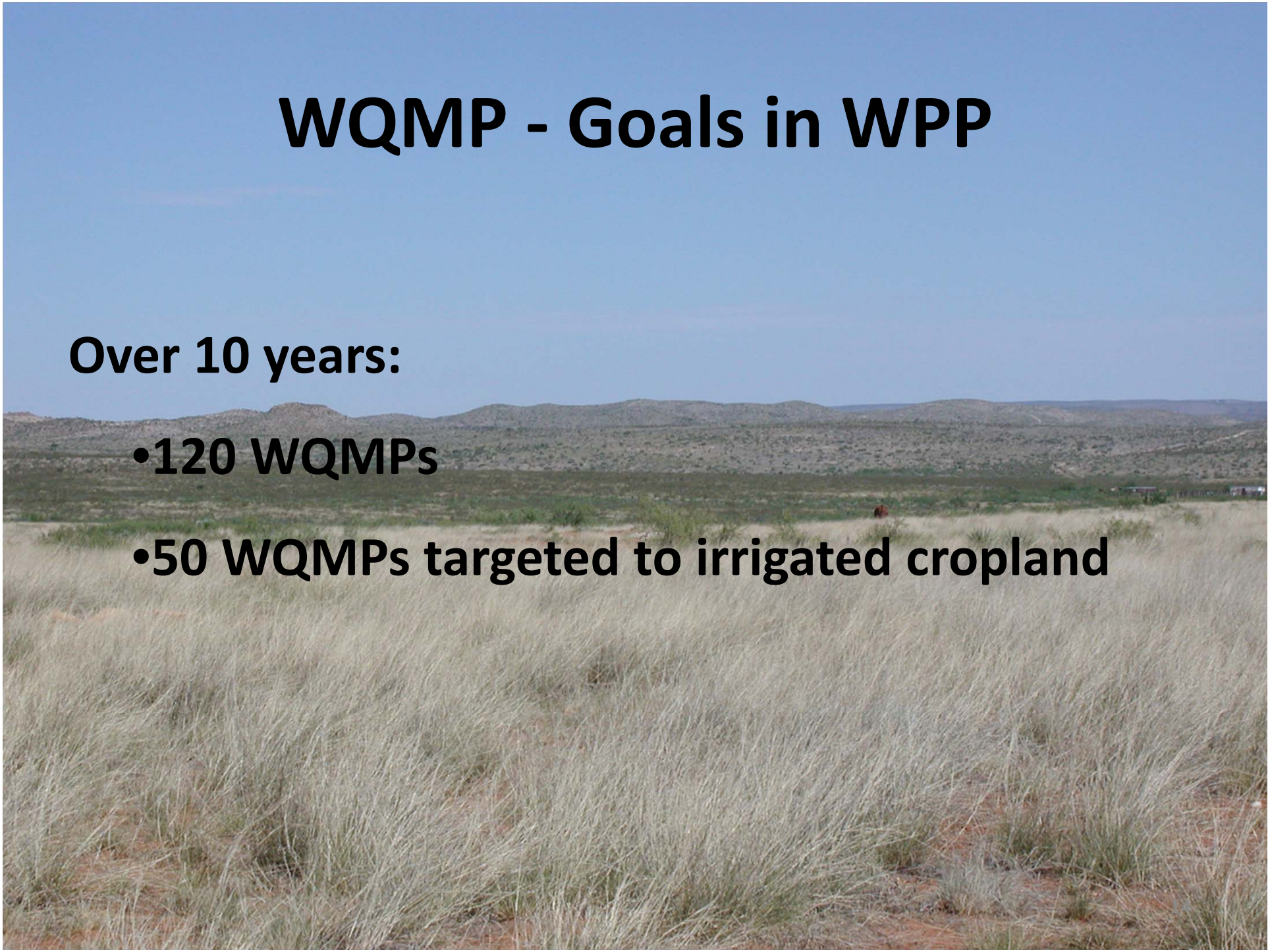
Watering Facility

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 – 5
- Plans currently under development – 6
- Funding obligated - $52,530
- Remaining funding - $247,470

Questions?

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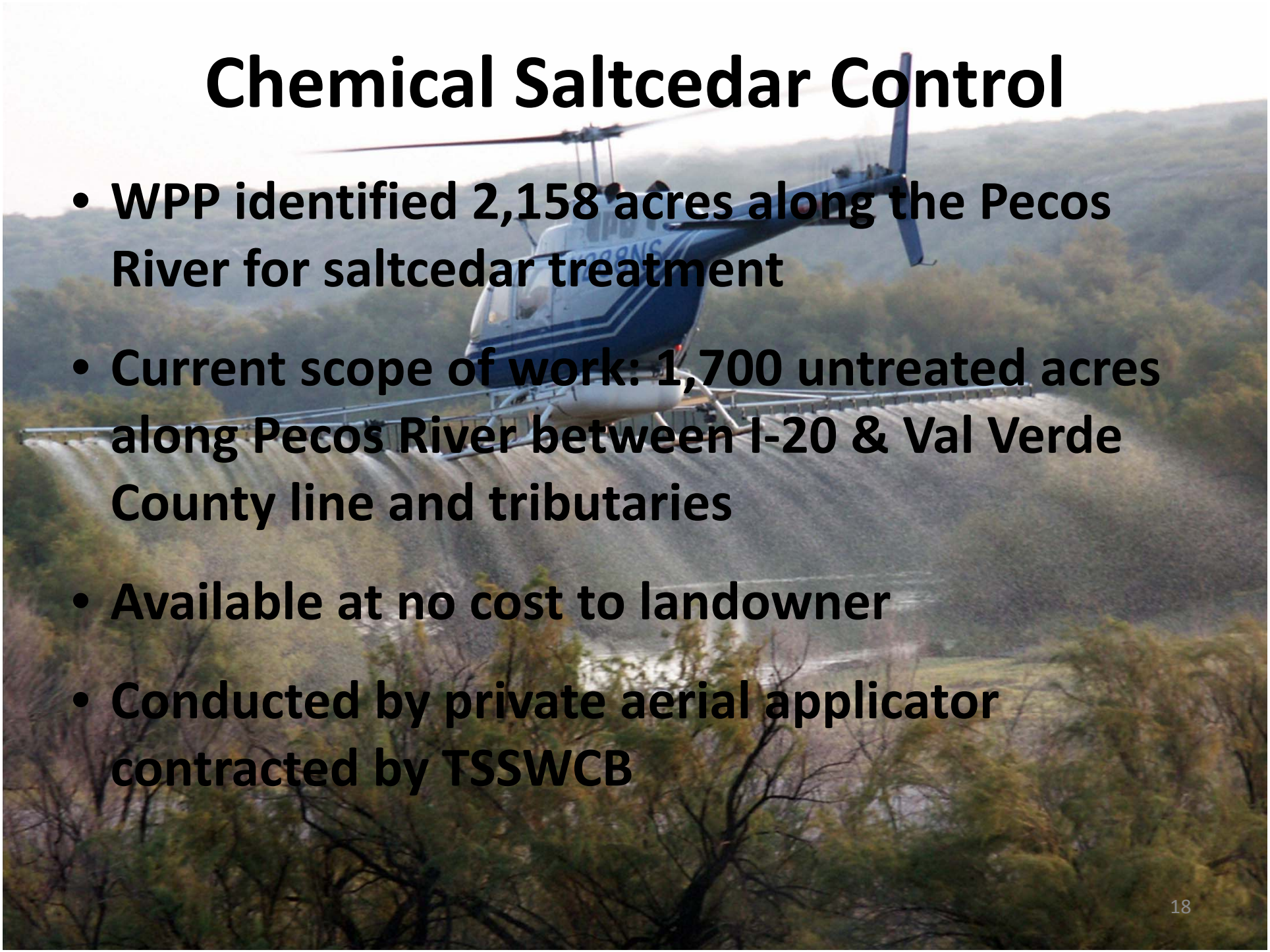
Chemical Saltcedar Control



- 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 and tributaries
- Available at no cost to landowner
- Conducted by private aerial applicator contracted by TSSWCB

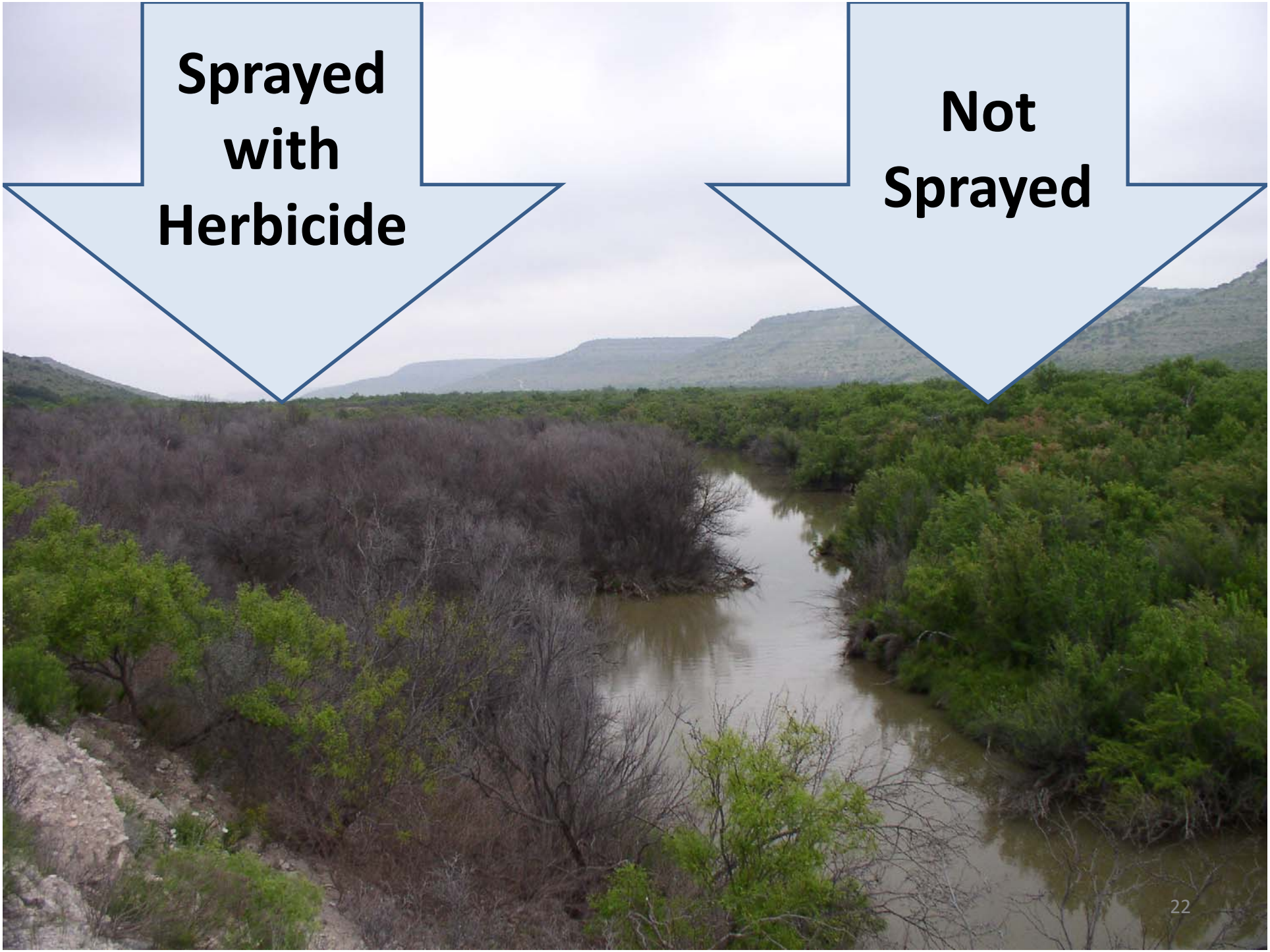
Chemical Saltcedar Control

- Spray agreement forms available
- Between TX/NM state line & US 67
  - contact Amy Porter
- Between US 67 & Val Verde County line
  - contact Ty Allen

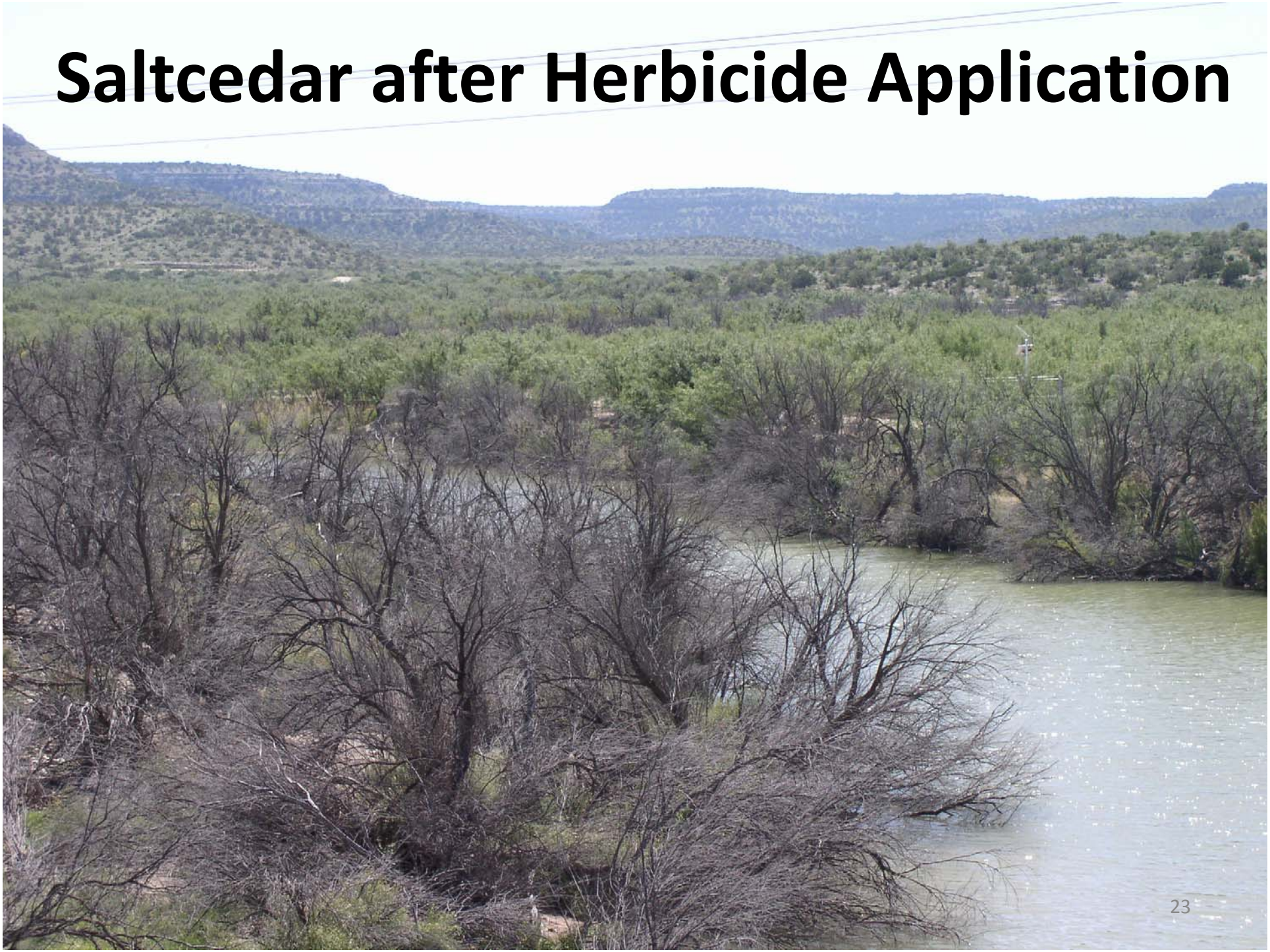
Chemical Saltcedar Control

- Who can sign up?
  - Anyone can - need to sign up now
  - Eligible areas include

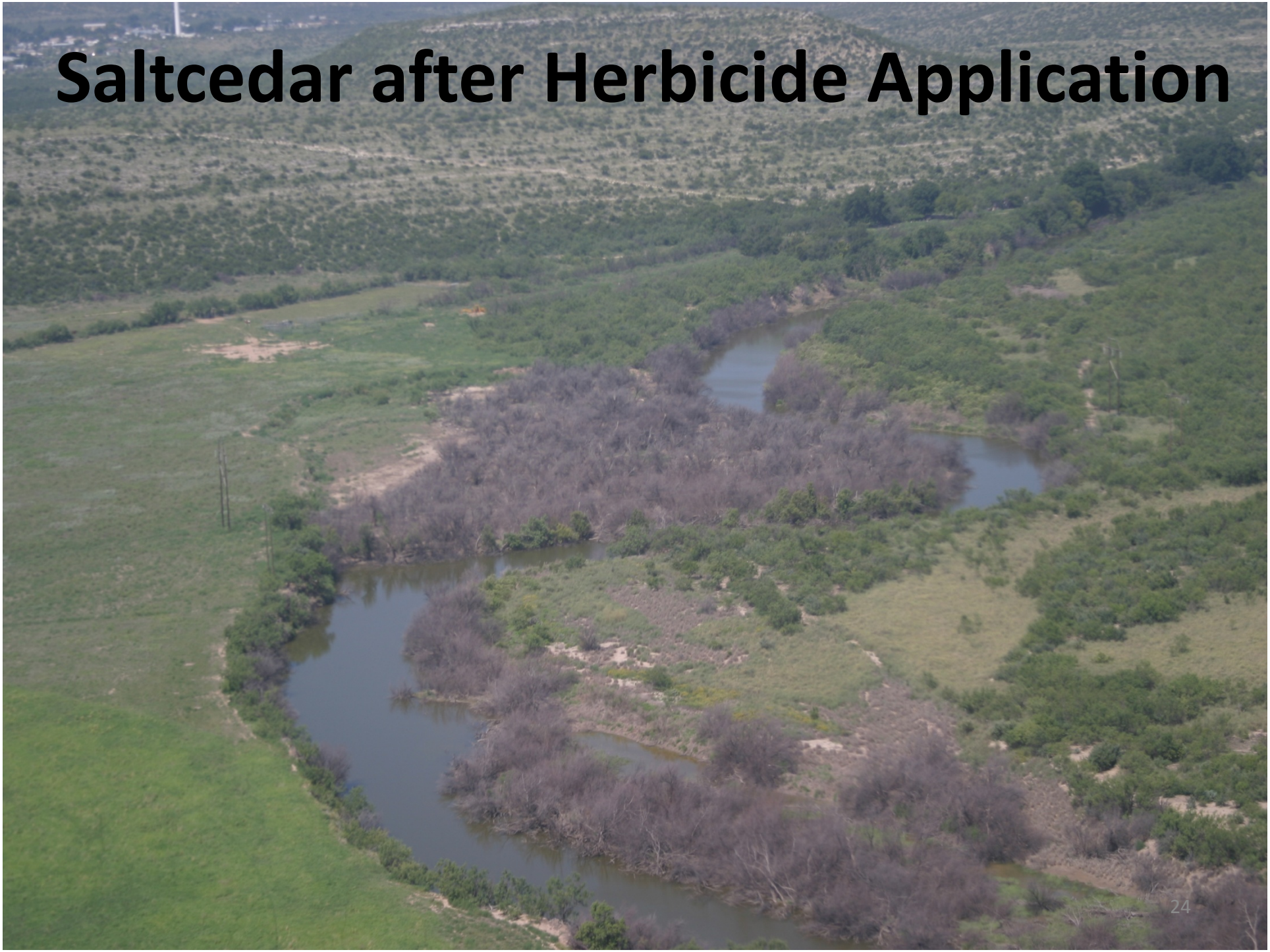
Herbicide Application


Sprayed with Herbicide
Not Sprayed

Saltcedar after Herbicide Application



Saltcedar after Herbicide Application



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Prescribed Burn of Saltcedar

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

Prescribed Burn
Photo by TFS

After Prescribed Burn

Photo by TFS

Re-growth After Prescribed Burn

Questions?

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