

**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 9

Covering work accomplished January through March, 2011

April 11, 2011

I. Abstract

Many administrative tasks, meetings and planning activities occurred during the reporting period. Partnership meetings were held in February in Seguin. Sections of the draft Watershed Protection Plan were written by Texas AgriLife Extension and sent to GBRA and TSSWCB for review and comment.

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 October 2010 through December 2010 and submitted the report on January 14, 2011.

80% 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 October through December 2010 on January 24, 2011.

65% 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.

- January 26, and February 16, 2011- Cinde Thomas Jimenez made

presentations at Navarro High School and Seguin High School, discussing water quality and the watershed protection planning efforts.

- GBRA included a status report on the Geronimo Creek partnership in the 2011 Clean River Program Basin Highlights Report. Draft text is attached. Text was submitted to TSSWCB for their review and comment.
- GBRA included a report on the Geronimo Creek WPP at the 2011 Clean Rivers Program Basin Steering Committee Meeting held on March 24, 2011.
- February 18, 2011- Discussions were held with TSSWCB, USGS and GBRA to discuss a nitrate isotope study in Plum Creek, looking at sources of nitrates in the stream and the Leona Aquifer. The Leona Aquifer is also the source of the Geronimo Creek and the results of the study would be shared with the GC WPP.
- GBRA hosted a conference call with TSSWCB and AgriLife Extension on February 22, 2011 to discuss draft WPP deliverables and upcoming Steering Committee meetings.
- GBRA hosted a conference call with TSSWCB and AgriLife Extension on March 12, 2011 to discuss LDC/SELECT portions of the draft WPP.

65% 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).

100% completed – On-going

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

- No revisions or amendments were needed in quarter.

100% completed – On-going

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 further historical data collection was conducted in this quarter.

100% completed – On-going

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.

100% completed – On-going

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.

- Data tables were updated through August 2010 and posted on the webpage.
- GBRA discussed the data with AgriLife Extension.
- GBRA submitted water quality monitoring data in text file format to the TSSWCB project manager for submittal to TCEQ SWQMIS. Data submittal included Data Summary Forms with each monthly data set.

100% completed – On-going

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~~
- Technical consultant submitted modeling information to be included in the Appendices section of the WPP.

90% completed – On-going

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.

- ~~• No work was performed under this task in this quarter~~
- Technical consultant answered a series of specific modeling questions about the SELECT analysis conducted for the development of the draft WPP, for inclusion in the draft WPP.

90% completed – On-going

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.

- Prior to the February Partnership meeting, calls were made to each member, reminding them of the meeting and to confirm their attendance.
- February 8, 2011 – Partnership meeting was held at GBRA in Seguin. Agenda, attendance sheets and copies of the presentations are attached. Presentations were made by Jared Timmons on feral hog controls, BJ Westmoreland on Water Quality Management Programs and Lee Gudgell and Cinde Thomas Jimenez on the GBRA River Network. TCEQ is funding the River Network through a CWA 319(h) grant that includes the installation of a continuous water quality monitoring module on the Geronimo Creek. Additionally, an education kiosk that is tied to the module for reporting continuous real-time water quality data as well as other educational modules will be installed in the Navarro High School library.

- 78% completed – On-going

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

- Conference calls were held to discuss contract extensions, status of report and future partnership meetings. Dates of calls were February 22, 2011, and March 21, 2011. Currently, an introductory section is posted to the project web page. The LDC/SELECT section is completing peer review. The Management Measures section will be delivered to TSSWCB along with the Appendix during the next quarter. The final two chapters, Measures of Success and Project Implementation, are currently being drafted.

70% completed – On-going

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

Stakeholders contacted GBRA to report that the City of Seguin's contractor working on the collection lines that cross Geronimo Creek was not controlling stormwater and sediment loads from their construction site near the creek. AgriLife reported the calls to the City of Seguin. Ward Ling talked to Joe Ramos, city engineer to request a site visit. The site visit was conducted by the city and ineffective storm water controls were noted. The contractor was instructed to repair silt fences and improve the storage capacity of their detention pond.

IV. Projected Work for Next Quarter

The following will be accomplished during the coming quarter:

- a. Hold the steering committee meetings in May and June.
- b. Continue to update the website with water quality data.
- c. Submit data in text file format to TSSWCB.
- d. Project materials will be developed for the Partnership Meetings in May and June including agendas, presentations, handouts, etc.
- e. Electronic invitations/reminders will go out to publicize the meetings, including radio and newspaper press releases, community calendars and personal calls to stakeholders.
- f. GBRA and Extension will develop final sections of the draft WPP to be provided for review and comment.