

**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 6**

Covering work accomplished April through June, 2010

July 15, 2010

**I. Abstract**

Many administrative tasks, meetings and planning activities occurred during the reporting period. A Partnership meeting was held in May and Work Group meetings were held in April, May and June in Seguin. A watershed tour for participants was held on the afternoon of May 11, before the Partnership meeting. Monitoring of sites is ongoing and data assessment for watershed characterization continued. Work plan was amended, effective June 23, 2010, to extend water quality monitoring to 19 months due to extended drought in the first half of the original monitoring period.

**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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 January 2010 through March 2010 and submitted the report on April 13, 2010.

60% 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 January 2010 through March 2010 on April 29, 2010.

35% 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.

- Several planning meetings and conference calls were held between April and June:
  - Calls and meetings between GBRA, TSSWCB and Texas AgriLife Extension to discuss steering committee, meeting coordination, review of agendas, powerpoints and handouts. (April 13, 2010;

40% 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.

- Drafted QAPP for amendment that extended monitoring component to 19 months.
- Signature pages sent for the amendment to the QAPP that extended monitoring component from 12 months to 19 months.

50% 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.

- TAMU Team began collecting existing and historical data on the watershed.
- TAMU Team continued collecting existing and historical data and began evaluating the historical data including the flow data, water quality data, Agricultural Statistics numbers for livestock, and numbers for wildlife.
- TAMU Team began accumulating existing GIS layers for the watershed including land use, soil types, vegetation, streams, urban areas, cities, counties, roads and topography.

75% 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.

- April through June 2010 – GBRA continued the monitoring portion of the project under the signed QAPP.
  - Requested an amendment to extend monitoring plan to 19 months.
  - June, 2010 – Debbie Magin completed process of applying for site identification numbers from TCEQ.
  - April 2010
    - All eight routine sites were monitored under wet weather conditions, including the routine site collected under the Clean Rivers Program.
    - Seven targeted sites were monitored under wet weather conditions.
  - May 2010
    - Seven routine monitoring sites were collected, including the routine site collected under the Clean Rivers Program under wet weather conditions.
    - No targeted monitoring was conducted.

- June 2010
  - All eight routine sites were monitored under dry weather conditions, including the routine site collected under the Clean Rivers Program.
  - No targeted wet weather monitoring was conducted.
- Data was reviewed for December, January and February for representativeness and quality assurance. Data will be transmitted to TSSWCB in SWQMS format after the stations are assigned permanent station location numbers. Those numbers have been assigned temporary numbers. The process was completed in the quarter; awaiting TCEQ final issuance. The data has been put into excel spreadsheets and made available on the project website and through email to the steering committee members.

60% 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.

- April – June – emails, calls made by Extension, GBRA, SSL, BAEN and TWRI to discuss and amend modeling QAPP with more detail on land use classification and Espey Consultants role in the project.
- On multiple dates in April – June - discussions between Extension, TAMU and GBRA on the modeling. Meetings were held with the modelers at TAMU to discuss the project, modeling QAPP, exchange historical data and determine what other data was still needed.

40% 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.

- Gathered and analyzed historical data to characterize the watershed.
- Multiple communications by email and phone have occurred with Extension and the modelers on the data for SELECT modeling.

- April 1 and May 3, 2010 Extension met with Modelers about the population estimates for preliminary SELECT data and presentation materials for May and June meetings.

40% 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.

- April 8, 2010 Debbie Magin gave a presentation to the Seguin Noon Lions Club and discussed the Geronimo Creek Watershed Partnership and Plan.
- April 12<sup>th</sup> 2010 held the Geronimo Work Group Meeting for Wastewater at the Navarro High School with 13 in attendance. Sign-in sheets attached
- April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 held the Geronimo Work Group Meetings for both the Agricultural Nonpoint Source and the Urban Nonpoint Source Work Groups. 19 attended the Urban NPS Work Group meeting and 18 attended the Agricultural NPS Work Group meeting. Sign-in sheets attached.
- April 7, 2010 Nikki Dictson met with Comal County Environmental Health Staff and GIS Specialist on Geronimo Creek Watershed Data in New Braunfels.
- Project information is and will continue to be updated on the website: [geronimocreek.org](http://geronimocreek.org) including meeting times and dates, press releases and any publications, and general project materials.
- April 19, 2010, updates to Geronimo Website were updated on multiple pages.
- April 26, 2010 Nikki Dictson talked with Kendra Riebschleager of Espey Consultants about SELECT by phone.
- May 3, 2010 Meeting with Kyna and Karthi about SELECT and LDCs for Geronimo Creek.
- May 6, 2010 Meeting with GBRA and New Braunfels about the flood control structure at Town Center Commercial development at Creekside. New Braunfels representative, Jim Klein, was unable to meet so GBRA and Extension toured site and prepped for watershed tour.
- May 10, 2010, held the Geronimo Work Group Meeting for Wastewater at the Navarro High School with 12 attendees. Sign-in sheets attached.
- May 11, 2010, conducted a watershed tour over the afternoon with 23 attendees from 1 -5:30 PM just prior to the Partnership Meeting. Itinerary and sign in sheet attached.
- May 11, 2010 held third steering committee meeting at the GBRA River Annex. 24 attended. Agenda and sign in sheet attached.
- May 25, 2010 GBRA and Extension (by teleconference) attended the Geronimo Creek Flood Protection Study Advisory Group Meeting in Spring Branch, from 11:00 – 1:30 PM. Debbie Magin and Nikki Dictson provided an

update to the group on the progress of the WPP project.

- June 10<sup>th</sup> 2010 held the Geronimo Work Group Meeting for Wastewater at the Navarro High School with 10 in attendance. Sign-in sheets attached
- June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 held the Geronimo Work Group Meetings for both the Agricultural Nonpoint Source and the Urban Nonpoint Source Work Groups. 12 attended the Urban NPS Work Group meeting and 15 attended the Agricultural NPS Work Group meeting. Sign-in sheets attached.
- June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010 GBRA presented an update for the Watershed Protection Plan project and attended the Geronimo Flood Control Study Public Meeting at the Navarro Public School.
- June 23, 2010 Debbie Magin attended City of Seguin Long Range Planning meeting and offered to get TCEQ to present 319 funding options at next meeting. She will invite Guadalupe County and city officials to hear presentation. Next meeting will be held on July 28, 2010.
- The Extension Team meets regularly to discuss the status and timeline of the project.
- Updated the project webpage with meeting materials from the May and June work group and Partnership meetings.

40% completed – On-going

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

- Extension and GBRA are gathering historical data and information that will be needed for the plan and to characterize the watershed.
- Extension and GBRA are drafting background materials for the WPP.
- Extension developed Chapters 1-3 of the draft WPP and routed it for peer review, prior to posting it on the project webpage for partnership review. Extension is in the process of developing the draft of chapters 4 and 5.

20% completed – On-going

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

The Quality Assurance Project Plan was amended to reflect additional information on the land use classification and update procedure and including more detail on the involvement with Espey Consultants in the SELECT modeling.

### **IV. Projected Work for Next Quarter**

The following will be accomplished during the coming quarter:

- a. Hold the fourth steering committee meeting in August.
- b. Hold the fourth set of work group meetings.

- c. Continue to monitor the routine and targeted sites.
- d. Continue to update the website with water quality data.
- e. Continue process to establish TCEQ permanent station location numbers for monitoring sites.
- f. Work will continue on watershed characterization and data gathering efforts in the Geronimo Creek Watershed.
- g. Project materials will be developed for the Partnership and Work Group Meetings in August, September, and October including agendas, presentations, handouts, etc.
- h. Invitations/Reminders will go out to publicize the meetings.
- i. Modeling and data assessment will continue over the next quarter.
- j. GBRA and Extension will develop Chapters 4 and 5 of the draft WPP to be provided for review and comment.
- k. Will meet with Geronimo Creek Flood Study oversight committee to review draft report.
- l. TCEQ will present 319 grant process to City of Seguin Long Range Planning Committee, Guadalupe County and City officials for possible funding options to cover water quality enhancements on any future water quantity projects identified in the flood study.