I. Abstract

In this quarter of the project work primarily focused on meetings with agency partners and the Planning Team, developing course and advertising materials, registration, and conducting the first workshop in Lockhart, TX on June 25, 2013. Work also continued on contacting watershed coordinators to plan future workshops across the state. Tasks also included updating webpages, gathering educational materials/presentations/evaluations, and visiting with some of the watershed coordinators about this program. TWRI has developed a website, program fact sheet, and general agenda. To advertise the new program we conducted a presentation at the Plum Creek Watershed Partnership Meeting on May 2, 2013 to give a brief program overview. Dictson presented at the Texas Wildlife Association Women of the Land Conference GLCI Grazing Riparian Management workshop in Navarro County on May 10, 2013 and advertised the program. TWRI also advertised the program and workshops at the Southwest US Stream Restoration Conference in San Antonio. Texas Forest Service wrote an article advertising the program in their newsletter. Nueces River Authority has been working on digital tools and updating the Remarkable Riparian Website.

II. Overall Progress and Results by Objective and Task

OBJECTIVE 1: PROJECT ADMINISTRATION

Administer, coordinate and monitor all work performed under this project including technical and financial supervision and preparation of status and final reports.

Task 1.1: Project Administration – TWRI/IRNR will prepare electronic quarterly progress reports (QPRs) for submission to TSSWCB. QPRs shall document all activities performed within a quarter and shall be submitted by the 15th of January, April, July and October. QPRs shall be distributed to all project partners.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:
   a. The QPR for the last quarter was submitted on 3/12/13 date.

   24% Complete

Task 1.2: TWRI/IRNR will perform accounting functions for project funds and will submit appropriate Reimbursement Forms to TSSWCB at least quarterly.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:
   a. TWRI and OSRS submitted reimbursement forms for the last quarter.
   b. TWRI has processed invoices from NRA.

   24% Complete
Task 1.3: TWRI/IRNR will host coordination meetings or conference calls, at least quarterly, with project partners to discuss project activities, project schedule, communication needs, deliverables, and other requirements. TWRI/IRNR will develop lists of action items needed following each project coordination meeting and distribute to project personnel.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

a. TWRI has conducted multiple meetings and teleconference calls with members of the Planning Team over the quarter including:
   - Calls with Dr. Georgianne Moore, ESSM Planning team member 04/15/13 and 04/26/13.
   - Conference Calls planning and coordinating Riparian Vegetation Workshop at Stream Restoration Conference in San Antonio occurred on 4/15/13 and 4/22/13.
   - Calls with Michael Haynes on coordinating Plum Creek Riparian Workshop 4/22/13.
   - Calls with Tom Arsuffi, LRFS and Melissa Parker, TPWD on 4/25/13 about the workshops and planning of workshop at joint meeting November 1, 2013.
   - Conducted a 15 minute presentation to advertise upcoming Riparian Workshop in Lockhart on June 25, 2013.
   - Conducted a 1 hour presentation at the GLCI sponsored Grazing Riparian management Workshop on May 10, in Navarro County, Texas about the nature and function of stream and riparian areas and advertised the Riparian Workshops.
   - Riparian Conference Call from 10-12 on May 16, 2013.
   - TWRI assisted with planning and coordinating the Riparian Vegetation Workshop and the Southwest Stream Restoration Conference in San Antonio on May 28-30, 2013.
   - Calls/emails with Hughes Simpson, TFS on forestry presentation, website links and CEUs contacts for forestry 4/10/13, 5/20/13, 6/19/13 and 6/21/13.
   - Emails and calls with Ward Ling on Geronimo and Alligator Creek Watershed Training 04/10/13, 4/15/13, 6/4/13 and 6/6/2013. TWRI provided slides about the upcoming workshop for Ling to present at Watershed Meeting.
   - Call with TRA and TXSER to discuss annual joint meeting with Riparian workshop on Friday in November 2013, through emails developed a save the date marketing piece 2/25/13.
   - TRA Board Business Emails multiple throughout quarter that discussed website and joint annual meeting.
   - NRA emails discussing the websites and tools occurred during the quarter.
• All of the team members have been contacted by TWRI over the quarter by emails to discuss the program, including inviting everyone to the 3/8/13 call.
• Meeting minutes were sent out to the Planning team for review.
• TFS conducted several calls with Nikki Dictson regarding the project and the Lockhart Riparian Workshop.

24% Complete

Task 1.4: TWRI/IRNR will attend and participate in meetings, as appropriate, in order to communicate project goals, activities and accomplishments to affected parties. Such meetings may include, but are not limited to, Clean Rivers Program Basin Steering Committees, Texas Watershed Planning Short Course, Texas Watershed Coordinator Roundtables, and the TSSWCB Southeast and South Central Texas Regional Watershed Coordination Steering Committee.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

a. TWRI has initiated scheduling presentations to advertise the new program including the following scheduled events during the next quarter.
   - Nikki Dictson delivered a presentation to advertise the Riparian Workshop at the Plum Creek Watershed Partnership Meeting on May 2, 2013.
   - Nikki Dictson gave a 1 hour presentation at the GLCI sponsored Grazing Riparian management Workshop on May 10, in Navarro County, Texas about the nature and function of stream and riparian areas and advertised the Riparian Workshops.
   - Nikki Dictson advertised the Riparian Workshops at the Southwest Stream Restoration Conference and Riparian Vegetation Workshops by providing the program fact sheet and save the date for joint Texas Riparian Association and Texas Society for Ecological Restoration Meeting in November 2013.

b. TWRI has developed a Workshop flier/registration form (see attached Lockhart).

24% Complete

Task 1.5: TWRI/IRNR will develop (Month 1-3), host and maintain (Months 4-36) a website to serve as a public clearinghouse for project-related information. This website will serve as a means to disseminate information to stakeholders and the general public.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

a. TWRI/IRNR has initiated the project website as a part of the Texas Riparian Website – texasriparian.org and the TWRI/IRNR trainings website will manage all of the training RSVPs/registrations.
   - The training registration site was developed, with the newly scheduled dates and has been available for folks to RSVP.
   - These websites will be coordinated and linked to RemarkableRiparian.org website that will be managed by Sky Lewey - Nueces River Authority and will have the online educational delivery as discussed in Task 3.
   - Texas Forest Service provided information and website links to TWRI for the Project website – now located under Resources.
e. TexasRiparian.org website had 1913 visitors for the quarter.
f. The TexasRiparian.org website has 79 subscribed to the website and posts.
g. TWRI set up a twitter feed on the TexasRiparian.org website.
h. TWRI set up a facebook and currently has 51 likes at https://www.facebook.com/TexasRiparianAssociation
i. Materials continue to be developed and added to the websites weekly including an entire section about the Nov. 1-2, joint TRA and Texas Society of Ecological Restoration Annual Meeting.

24% Complete

Task 1.5: TWRI/IRNR will develop a final report covering all project activities.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:
   a. No activities to report during this quarter.

0% Complete

OBJECTIVE 2: COORDINATE AND DELIVER RIPARIAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Deliver riparian education programs to targeted watersheds to promote healthy riparian areas, thus healthy watersheds, by increasing citizen awareness, understanding, and knowledge about the nature and function of riparian zones, their benefits, and BMPs for protecting them and minimize NPS pollution.

Task 2.1: TWRI/IRNR will employ an Extension Program Specialist who will serve as the Riparian Education Program Coordinator and will be responsible for the general oversight and coordination of all project activities and for promoting, coordinating, and delivering riparian education training events and web-based tools.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:
   a. An Extension Program Specialist II, Nikki Dictson has been hired to serve as the Riparian Education Program Coordinator.

100% Complete

Task 2.2: TWRI/IRNR will establish a Riparian Team to direct this synergistic project. This Riparian Team will include TWRI/IRNR, ESSM, TFS, TPWD, NRA, NRCS, TRA, and TTU-LRFS. This Riparian Team will assist with program development, marketing, and delivery. This Riparian Team will serve as the primary pool of instructors to deliver the Riparian Education Program. The Riparian Team will meet as frequently as needed, likely quarterly in year 1 and semi-annually in years 2-3.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:
   a. TWRI has established a Riparian Team of specialists that includes TWRI/IRNR, ESSM, TFS, TPWD, NRA, NRCS, TRA, and TTU-LRFS.
b. Multiple emails and calls occurred with riparian planning team members throughout the quarter.

c. Quarterly Call was held with instructors to plan and coordinate the June workshop on May 16, 2013 from 10-12 pm.

20% Complete

Task 2.3: The Extension Program Specialist will compile the amassed body of work utilized by the various entities for riparian workshops and conferences. In conjunction with the Riparian Team, the Extension Program Specialist will select the most appropriate educational materials and resources for use in identified priority watersheds. Although existing resources and guides will be used for trainings; where possible, regional information and curriculum will be developed by the Extension Program Specialist and Riparian Team. TFS will be integral for both adapting the program and delivering it in East Texas. NRA will be integral for adapting the program and delivering it in the Texas Hill Country and South Texas and providing the Riparian Team their valuable experience of program delivery in the Nueces watershed. As possible, TWRI/IRNR and the Riparian Team will work with cities to adapt the program for delivery in urban areas as well.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

a. TWRI has been compiling presentation materials from past Extension presentations, from Dr. Jabar’s workshops, NRA’s workshops, Texas Riparian Associations Workshops, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department’s Workshops. These presentations are the basis and be utilized in the new workshops as appropriate.

b. Texas Forest Service developed and submitted presentation content for the Lockhart and Junction riparian workshops.

c. Workshop agenda’s from these other partners have also been gathered to assist with coming up with the program agenda. Draft Agenda is attached.

d. Stream Assessment and Field Guides have also been gathered and are being evaluated to assist with workshop presentations.

e. TWRI contact Larry McKinney of the Harte Institute to discuss assistance from their faculty on bayou and coastal issues on 4/24/13.

20% Complete

Task 2.4: TWRI/IRNR will work in concert with TSSWCB, TCEQ, TPWD, NRCS, TFS, and other state and local organizations to select locations for the riparian education training events. This project will deliver riparian education programs to targeted watersheds across the state. Priority watersheds will be selected in collaboration with TSSWCB, and with input from TCEQ and others, and primarily represent those with approved WPPs or TMDLs and those developing or planning development of WPPs or TMDLs. Initial priority shall be given to Buck Creek, Cedar Creek Reservoir, Dickinson Bayou, Geronimo Creek, Hickory Creek, Lampasas River, Pecos River, Plum Creek, San Bernard River, and Upper Llano River. Other watersheds may be selected based on need and in response to collaborations with other groups and organizations, including river authorities, SWCDs, local citizen groups/watershed associations, etc. Watersheds will be selected consistent with the State’s implementation of the Texas NPS Management Program. Additional watersheds will be selected based on impairment status, environmental
The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

a. TWRI continues to coordinate with TSSWCB and TCEQ on the list of watersheds for workshops across the state.
b. TWRI has been contacting watershed coordinators to determine when would be most appropriate to hold a workshop in their area.
c. The list of initial watersheds has been shared with members of the riparian team.
d. Plum Creek Watershed workshop was conducted June 25, 2013.
e. Future workshops planned:
   a. Upper Llano River Watershed is planned for in October 16th,
   b. Leon River Watershed is planned for September 12, and
   c. Geronimo and Alligator Creek Watershed is planned for September 17, 2013.
f. TWRI has been contacted by Tiffany, Brazos River Authority with interests in conducting riparian workshops in their basin.
g. TWRI has been contacted by a representative of Buffalo Bayou Watershed with interest in a Riparian Workshop for stakeholders.
h. TWRI will continue to contact watershed coordinators to discuss the best future date for workshops in their watershed.

16% Complete

Task 2.5: The Extension Program Specialist will work to establish CEU credits for the riparian education program to encourage participation by landowners and water resource professionals.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

a. TWRI has sent program materials to potential CEU providers so that they can review the agenda and information and evaluate the program to the following:
   a. Texas Water Resources Institute – 1 hour
   b. Texas Floodplain Management Association – waiting for response
   c. Texas Nutrient Management Planning Specialists – Approved for 6 hrs.
   d. Texas Master Naturalists – approval required at the chapter level each time – approved for Lockhart training.
   e. Texas Master Gardeners – approval required at the chapter level each time
   f. Texas Forestry Association – approved for up to 6 hrs approved
   g. Society of American Foresters – approved for up to 4.5 hrs
   h. Texas Board of Architectural Examiners does not approve courses but said we should advertise as “Acceptable for HSW” – or good for State CE hours.
   i. TWRI will coordinate with County Extension Agents in each county for Texas Department of Agriculture – Pesticide Applicators – approved for 3 for Lockhart Training.
   j. The program may also be used for CEUs for Professional Engineers.
   k. TFS continued to participate in discussions regarding the development of a “Riparian Certification” program.

b. TWRI will continue to look into additional CEUs for the program.
25% Complete

Task 2.6: TWRI/IRNR, with assistance of the Riparian Team, will actively market riparian education trainings through news releases (AgriLife News and local media outlets), internet postings, newsletter announcements, public/conference presentations, flyers, etc., to enhance awareness and utilization. TSSWCB must review and approve all project-related content in any materials prior to distribution.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

a. TWRI advertised the workshops on the Website and Facebook account.
b. TWRI has developed the RSVP system online to track attendance at the workshops.
c. TWRI advertised the Lockhart Workshop on the TRA listserve the Texas Watershed Coordinators listserve, and emails to past participants of the workshops in Plum Creek.
d. TWRI worked with the County Extension Agent and Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator and provided them the registration form and materials to advertise.
e. TWRI developed a press release to advertise the Lockhart workshop with Michael Haynes, the county extension agent (see attached).
f. TFS published an article on the Riparian Education Project in the Forest Stewardship Briefings newsletter (June 2013).

8% Complete

Task 2.7: TWRI/IRNR, with assistance of the Riparian Team, will deliver 25, daylong riparian education training events in prioritized watersheds (Subtask 2.4) during the project period. Five programs are planned for delivery in year 1 and 10 each year during years 2 and 3. Certificates of completion will be provided to all participants in the trainings.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

a. TWRI has been in contact with the watershed coordinators on the list of watersheds.
b. Three trainings have been scheduled with dates:
   a. The Riparian workshop was conducted for Plum Creek in Lockhart on June 25, 2013.
   b. TFS attended and presented at the Lockhart Riparian Workshop.
   c. Geronimo and Alligator Creek in Seguin on Sept. 17th, 2013
   d. Upper Llano River on October 16th, 2013
c. Additional trainings are looking at future months for workshops and the watershed schedule will be continually updated. See attached scheduled.

10% Complete

Task 2.8: TWRI/IRNR in collaboration with the Riparian Team will develop a series of riparian education presentations of various lengths (15/30/45/60 min.) and provide them to a variety of audiences and venues statewide such as those listed in Subtask 1.4, but also including county and multi-county Extension programs, landowner workshops, SWCD programs, and other suitable venues. Further, key elements of the program will be incorporated into presentations
delivered by TFS, TWRI/IRNR, and others on the Riparian Team and delivered to a variety of audiences throughout the state.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

a. TWRI is working to schedule presentations about the program to a variety of audiences including:
   - Nikki Dictson conducted a 45 minute presentation at the Texas Wildlife Associations Women of the Land Conference on Saturday, April 20, 2013 at the Cedar Mountain Lodge in Scurry, TX.
   - Nikki Dictson provided an hour long presentation at the Navarro County Riparian Grazing workshop on May 10th, 2013 and advertised the upcoming workshops.
   - Nikki Dictson provided a 15-20 minute presentation at the Plum Creek Watershed Partnership Meeting on May 2, 2013 in Lockhart to advertise.
   - TWRI will advertise the Riparian Workshops at the July 30, Texas Watershed Coordinators Roundtable Meeting.

b. TWRI will continue to work on presentations of differing lengths about the program for advertising of the program.

16% Complete

Task 2.9: TWRI/IRNR will coordinate annual 2-day agency trainings on assessing proper functioning condition with the NRCS State Riparian Service Team. These programs will provide detailed training on proper functioning condition for agency personnel including TPWD, NRCS, CEAs, TSSWCB, TXDOT, TCEQ, SWCDs, GLO, TWDB, River Authorities, USFWS, and NPS personnel.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

a. TWRI discussed these professional trainings and it was well received by the planning team. Russell Castro mentioned that NRCS was in the process of reviewing and updating the materials to be able to have these in the future.

b. TWRI talked with Janice Statts of the National Riparian Service Team on PFC trainings – they are also updating the materials of their training, but they are out of the Northeast.

10% Complete

Task 2.10: TWRI/IRNR will coordinate two statewide riparian conferences in coordination with the Texas Riparian Association, professional organizations, River Authorities, or other entities annual meetings.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

a. TWRI has initiated discussions on holding riparian talks at the annual meeting of the Texas Riparian Association and Texas Society for Ecological Restoration in November 2013.
b. TWRI coordinated a Riparian Workshop for the Southwest US Stream Restoration Conference to be held in San Antonio on May 28. TWRI also co-sponsored the conference and was on the planning team for the conference and moderated a session on May 28-30, 2013.

c. TFS attended the Riparian Workshop at the Southwest Stream Restoration Conference in May in San Antonio.

10% Complete

OBJECTIVE 3: CONDUCT DEVELOP WEB-BASED RIPARIAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

To expand the reach and participation in the Riparian Education Program via web-based resources.

Task 3.1: Using non-federal funds from private foundations, the NRA will provide web-based, digital delivery of comprehensive riparian information through development of the Remarkable Riparian website. NRA will work with TWRI/IRNR and the Riparian Team to produce high quality audio-visual presentations, targeting both rural and urban audiences, for inclusion on the website. This will expand participation in riparian education programs by 1) supporting different adult learning styles and preferences, 2) providing flexible learning opportunities for interested citizens who have time and/or mobility constraints, and 3) enabling ready access to program resources statewide.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:
   a. NRA has updated materials and links on the remarkableriparian.org multiple times during the quarter.
   b. NRA is working on updating YouTube educational materials for the website.

24% Complete

Task 3.2: NRA will track usage of Remarkable Riparian website and report it with each quarterly report.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:
   a. Visitation counter installed on remarkableriparian.org: had a total of 1,313 visits recorded this quarter, including 447 visits from 183 unique visitors in April, 419 in May with 161 unique visitors, and 447 visits in June with 177 unique visitors.
   b. Attended and recorded with video and sound the presentations at the Riparian Workshop in Lockhart on June 25, 2013.

16% Complete
Task 3.3: The Nueces River Authority will also participate on Riparian Team assisting with development, marketing, and delivery of riparian landowner programs, annual conferences, and other trainings.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:
   a. Attended the Riparian Workshop at the Southwest Stream Restoration Conference and the conference in San Antonio and provided Remarkable Riparian Books to attendees.
   b. Provided Remarkable Riparian Books to the attendees at the Lockhart Workshop.
   c. NRA provided the presentation on Lane’s Balance as one of the three stops in the field at the Lockhart Workshop.
   d. NRA discussed strategies for development, marketing and delivery with TWRI during multiple calls and through correspondence during the quarter.

16% Complete

OBJECTIVE 4: EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE RIPARIAN EDUCATION TRAININGS AND WEB-BASED RESOURCES

To measure both knowledge and behavior changes of individuals participating in the program.

Task 4.1: TWRI/IRNR will conduct pre- and post-training evaluations (for both group instruction and web-based trainings) to assess increased knowledge of participants on the nature and function of riparian zones, their benefits, and BMPs for protecting them and minimize NPS pollution; to evaluate participant satisfaction with the program; and to evaluate participant’s intentions to change their behavior as a result of the program. Additionally, TWRI/IRNR will deliver a follow-up assessment via email (6-month follow-up for both watershed-based and computer-based trainings) to ascertain behavior changes actually adopted by participants.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:
   a. TFS sent TWRI a sample post forestry workshop evaluation form to measure participant understanding.
   b. TWRI has developed a set of questions based on the materials, a set of demographic questions and a survey of the program for the pre and post-surveys.
   c. TWRI conducted pre and post surveys at the Lockhart Workshop on June 25, 2013.
   d. The 6-month post survey is now being developed.

24% Complete

Task 4.2: TWRI/IRNR will analyze results obtained from the pre-/post-tests and 6-month follow-up assessment using descriptive, correlational, and analysis of variances statistical procedures. Results will be used to periodically evaluate and modify riparian education program materials and incorporated into the final report.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:
   a. Plum Creek Results will be analyzed and included in the next quarterly report.
Expected Work for the Next Quarter:

- TWRI will continue to work on preparing educational materials for upcoming workshops.
- TWRI and NRA will continue to develop the websites for the program and the online educational tools.
- TWRI will compile the results of the evaluations for the Lockhart Workshop in June.
- TWRI will continue conducting presentations for a variety of audiences as needed.
- TWRI will continue contact with watershed coordinators to continue scheduling workshops across the state.
- TWRI will schedule a Riparian Planning Team Meeting to discuss and plan upcoming workshops.

Appendix A: Lockhart Riparian Workshop Registration Form

Appendix B: Agenda’s of Meetings Advertising Riparian Workshops

Appendix C: Initial Schedule of Watersheds for the Program

Appendix D: Lockhart Riparian Workshop and Sign-in Sheets

Appendix E: Lockhart Riparian Workshop Press Release and online RSVP
Texas Riparian & Stream Ecosystem Workshop
Plum Creek Watershed

June 25
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
First Lockhart Baptist Church
315 West Prairie Lea
Lockhart, Texas 78644

Online RSVP and Agenda: naturalresourcestraining.tamu.edu/schedule

For more information and to register please contact Nikki Ditson at 979-458-5915 or n-ditson@tamu.edu.

Continuing Education Units available: Texas Department of Agriculture Pesticide Applicators License – 3 CEUs; Texas Water Resources Institute – 1 CEU; Texas Nutrient Management Planning Specialists – 6 hours; Texas Forestry Association – 6 hours; Society of American Foresters – 4.5 hours; Texas Board of Architectural Examiners “Acceptable for HSW credit”; and the program may also be used for CEUs for Professional Engineers.

The workshop will include both indoor classroom presentations and a field visit to stream sites in the afternoon. A catered Bar-B-Q lunch from Chisholm Trail is being sponsored by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Land Trust. RSVPs will be required by June 18, 2013 and please remember to select if you would like the catered lunch or if you will bring your own lunch and drink. To RSVP by mail, please complete the form below and send to 1500 Research Pkwy, Ste 110, College Station, TX 77843-2260.

First name: ______________________________ Last name: ______________________________
Email address: ____________________________ Phone: ______________________________
Org/Employer: ____________________________ Lunch Options: ___ I would like the catered lunch
___ I would like to bring my own
Appendix B: Agenda’s or Fliers of Meetings Advertising Riparian Workshops

Riparian Grazing Workshop set for May 10 in Ennis

Effective land management links common goals in livestock, wildlife, and water resources such as the Trinity River, which supplies water to 40% of Texans. Riparian areas are highly valuable and sensitive areas and care should be taken when managing these areas. But riparian areas are rarely valued or managed for such benefits, and in some cases, erosion and loss of those benefits result.

Several agencies and organizations are teaming up to host a workshop to describe the value of riparian areas to landowners, and society as a whole. Presenters will also explain how these areas can be utilized by cattle while reducing erosion and benefiting water quality. Doing so will help landowners make decisions to protect natural resources for future generations. Morning presentations will be followed by an afternoon field tour to discuss riparian management in the field.

Topics addressed at this workshop include:

- Functions and Features of Riparian Areas
- Riparian Plants
- Grazing Management of Riparian Areas
- Field Tour

Date: May 10, 2013
Time: 8 am – 3:30 pm
Location: Cowboy Church of Ennis, 429 I-45 Frontage Rd, Ennis, TX

3 Hours of TDA CEU’s (1 General, 1 Drift, 1 IPM)

Cost is $10 per person and includes a barbecue lunch. RSVP to Blake Allredge at baldredge@tamu.edu or 979.845.0916
Riparian Workshop
“Putting the 'green' into streambank stabilization”

May 28, 2013
1:30 - 5:00 p.m.

1:30-1:45 p.m.  Introduction [Gina Levesque, Oklahoma Conservation Commission]

1:45-2:20 p.m.  The Role of Riparian Vegetation [Steve Nelle, Retired NRCS Biologist]

2:20-2:55 p.m.  Challenges of Riparian Management and Restoration [Ken Mayben, NRCS Engineer]

2:55-3:10 p.m.  Break

3:10-3:55 p.m.  Incorporating Native Vegetation into Stream Restorations – techniques, materials, budgeting, monitoring, and maintenance [Sandi Formica, Watershed Conservation Resource Center]

3:55-4:30 p.m.  Managing Invasive species [Chadwick Cox, Oklahoma Invasive Plant Council]

4:30-4:50 p.m.  Panel Discussion [Facilitator: Sharla Lovern, Oklahoma State University]

4:50-5:00 p.m.  Wrap-Up [Kevin Wagner, Texas Water Resources Institute]
Plum Creek Watershed Partnership Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 2, 2013
6:30 – 8:00 PM
Lockhart State Park

Guided Nature Walk to begin at 5:45!

Agenda

5:45  Guided Nature Walk (Meet at Lockhart State Park Recreation Hall)

6:30  Meeting Overview & Introductions
       – Nick Dornak, Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator

6:35  Watershed Coordinator Update
       – Nick Dornak, Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator

6:50  Q&A with Plum Creek Watershed Project Specialists
       – B.J. Westmoreland, Caldwell-Travis Soil and Water Conservation District
       – Jared Timmons, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service-WFSC

7:00  Roundtable Discussion and Steering Committee Member Updates
       – Plum Creek Watershed Partnership Steering Committee

7:15  TWRI Riparian Workshops
       – Nikki Dictson, Texas Water Resources Institute

7:30  Texas Well Owner Network Workshops
       – Drew Gholson, Texas Well Owner Network

7:40  Plum Creek Water Quality Data
       – Travis Tidwell, Meadows Center for Water and the Environment
       – Lee Gudgel, Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority

8:00  Adjourn

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 8, 2013
Lockhart State Park
Partnership/Steering Committee Meeting
6:30 – 8:00 pm
## Appendix C: Initial Schedule of Watersheds for the Program

**Texas Riparian and Stream Ecosystem Education Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Watershed</th>
<th>Potential Month</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Watershed Coordinators</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Counties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plum Creek Watershed</td>
<td>25 Jun 13</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Nick Domak</td>
<td>TCWM</td>
<td>Caldwell, Hays, and Travis Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leon River</td>
<td>12 Sep 13</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Mike Marshall/ Dickie Clary</td>
<td>Hamilton County</td>
<td>Hamilton, Comanche and Coryell Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Llano River Watershed</td>
<td>October 16, 2013</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Tom Arsuelli</td>
<td>Texas Tech LRFs</td>
<td>Edwards, Kerr, Kimble, Menard, Real, and Sutton Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geronimo Creek Watershed</td>
<td>September 17, 2613</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Ward Ling</td>
<td>AgriLife Extension</td>
<td>Guadalupe and Comal Counties</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buck Creek Watershed</td>
<td>Spring 2014</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Lucas Gregory</td>
<td>TWRJ</td>
<td>Childress, Collingsworth and Donley Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carters Creek</td>
<td>Spring 2014</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Lucas Gregory</td>
<td>TWRJ</td>
<td>Brazos County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atsaway Creek</td>
<td>Early 2014</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Lucas Gregory</td>
<td>TWRJ</td>
<td>Rusk, Nacogdoches, San Augustine and Shelby Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pecos River Watershed</td>
<td>Early 2014</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Lucas Gregory</td>
<td>TWRJ</td>
<td>Crane, Crockett, Pecos, Reeves, Terrell, Upton, and Ward Counties</td>
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**Legend:**
- **Green**: Completed
- **Orange**: Operation Schedule
- **Pink**: Tentative Month
- **Blue**: TCWM

*To be Continued*
Appendix D: Lockhart Riparian Agenda and Sign-in Sheets

Texas Riparian & Stream Ecosystem Education

Draft Agenda

8:00 Meeting Registration
8:30 Workshop Introductions
8:35 Program Overview, Watershed Management and Water Quality
  - Nikki Dictson, Texas Water Resources Institute
9:00 Riparian and Watershed Management Principles
  - Steve Nelle, Retired USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
9:45 Stream Processes and Cowboy Hydrology
  - Ryan McGillicuddy, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
10:30 Break
10:45 Riparian Vegetation and Hindrances to Healthy Riparian Areas
  - Steve Nelle, Retired USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
11:30 Management Practices and Local Resources
  - Nikki Dictson, Texas Water Resources Institute
12:00 Lunch
12:15 Lunch time Presentation
1:15 Questions and Complete Post Survey
1:30 Trip to the River for Stream Walk (If large group split into 2 or more groups)
  - Lane's Balance Demonstration Activity
  - Agricultural Nonpoint Source Incentive Programs
  - Feral Hog Education: Jared Timmons, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
  - Photo Monitoring of stream locations: Dictson, TWRI
4:00 Wrap up and Head for Home!

http://texasriparian.org/
and https://www.facebook.com/TexasRiparianAssociation
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<td>Dave Mauk</td>
<td>Bandera County River Authority &amp; Groundwater District</td>
<td><a href="mailto:DMAuk@bergd.org">DMAuk@bergd.org</a></td>
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<td>River Land Owner</td>
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<td>37</td>
<td>Ryan McGillicuddy</td>
<td>TPWD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ryan.mcgillicuddy@pwd.state.tx.us">ryan.mcgillicuddy@pwd.state.tx.us</a></td>
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<td>Isidro Morales</td>
<td>USDA-NRCS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:isidro.morales@tx.usda.gov">isidro.morales@tx.usda.gov</a></td>
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<td>Catherine Nash</td>
<td>USDA - NRCS</td>
<td><a href="mailto:catherine.nash@tx.usda.gov">catherine.nash@tx.usda.gov</a></td>
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<td>Abigail Nebb</td>
<td>GBRA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:arnebb5@gmail.com">arnebb5@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:nelineangelo@suddenlink.net">nelineangelo@suddenlink.net</a></td>
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<td>TCEQ</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jeff.paull@tceq.texas.gov">jeff.paull@tceq.texas.gov</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:Meghan.Pawlowski@txdot.gov">Meghan.Pawlowski@txdot.gov</a></td>
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<td>TPWD</td>
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<td>Beth Ramey</td>
<td>Hays County Master Naturalist</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bramey@austin.rr.com">bramey@austin.rr.com</a></td>
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<td>Bandera County River Authority &amp; Groundwater District</td>
<td><a href="mailto:MRedman@bergd.org">MRedman@bergd.org</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:sr1225@txstate.edu">sr1225@txstate.edu</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:K.Rohrbach@bergd.org">K.Rohrbach@bergd.org</a></td>
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<td>TPWD</td>
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<td>Clide Thomas-Jimenez</td>
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<td>55</td>
<td>Jared Timmons</td>
<td>Texas AgriLife Extension Service</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jbtimmons@ag.tamu.edu">jbtimmons@ag.tamu.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>Travis Tindell</td>
<td>GBRA</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tindell06@seawave.net">tindell06@seawave.net</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:saracleu@gmail.com">saracleu@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>TPWD</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:rWolff424@gmail.com">rWolff424@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>GBRA/GBRT</td>
<td><a href="mailto:twotteler@gbra.org">twotteler@gbra.org</a></td>
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June 25, 2013
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<td>Kennedy</td>
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June 25, 2013

**Total:** 34
riparian and stream ecosystem education program
texaspriparian.org

Texas has more than 200,000 miles of streams and riparian areas—the green vegetation zones along streams, rivers and lakes—that provide great economic, social, cultural and environmental value to the state. These ecosystems play an important part in the water issues that face Texans today and in the future.

Management of watersheds, riparian areas and streams directly influences water quality and quantity, peak and base flow rates of streams and rivers, and recharge to aquifers and lakes. For example, how much rainfall runs off and how fast it runs off the land depend on the amount and type of vegetation, soil type, slope, intensity and duration of rainfall and land management. Properly functioning riparian areas are highly beneficial buffer zones that provide recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, increased water supply and improved water quality by filtering debris and pollution. A healthy watershed maintains high quality water for aquatic ecosystems, downstream users and coastal wetlands and estuaries.

Riparian and stream ecosystem degradation is common in Texas rural and municipal landscapes due to natural and human-induced disturbances. Increases in human population along with industrial, commercial and residential development place heavy demands on stream corridors. In many cases, riparian areas are purposely degraded or channelized to allow stormwater to move quickly downstream to reduce local flooding. These degraded and/or channelized riparian areas reduce the recharge of groundwater and base flow and increase the frequency of flooding. Excessive flows from poor management upstream can degrade otherwise healthy riparian zones downstream.

Many cities have found that improving creek and floodplain protection is needed to prevent unsustainable public expense to maintain drainage infrastructure. It is important to monitor the health of streams to protect, maintain and restore healthy riparian and stream ecosystems in Texas. Proper management, protection and restoration of riparian areas will decrease bacteria, nutrient and sediment loadings to water bodies; lower instream temperatures; improve dissolved oxygen levels, and stabilize banks, reducing erosion and protecting ownership boundaries and land values. Healthy riparian areas will also have fewer invasions of exotic undesirable riparian species, improved aquatic habitat and improved fish and aquatic communities.

Riparian education programs are needed to improve the management of these sensitive and vital ecosystems. Through the Texas Riparian and Stream Ecosystem
riparian and stream ecosystem education program

Education Program, partners and staff will deliver educational workshops about the nature and function of riparian zones and vegetation. The workshops will also cover local technical resources and best management practices (BMPs). Through education, landowners and other citizens can improve their management of riparian and stream ecosystems, which will reduce nonpoint source pollution (NPS) and provide tremendous ecosystem service benefits and direct economic benefits to communities.

Objectives

- Promote healthy watersheds and improve water quality through riparian and stream ecosystem education programs with a focus on priority watersheds
- Increase citizen awareness, understanding and knowledge of the nature and function of riparian zones, their benefits and BMPs to protect them and minimize NPS pollution
- Enhance interactive learning opportunities for riparian education across the state and establish a larger, more informed citizen base working to improve and protect local riparian and stream ecosystems
- Connect landowners with local technical and financial resources to improve management and promote healthy watersheds and riparian areas on their land

Collaborators

- Texas Water Resources Institute
- Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
- Texas Riparian Association
- Texas A&M Forest Service
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Nueces River Authority
- Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Ecosystem Science and Management Department
- Texas Tech University Llano River Field Station

Funding Agencies

- Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Texas Water Resources Institute
1500 Research Parkway, Suite 110
2260 TAMU
College Station, TX 77845-2118
979.845.1851 (T)
twi@tamu.edu

make every drop count

Texas Water Resources Institute
make every drop count

weaver@tamu.edu
Appendix E: Lockhart Riparian Workshop Press Release and online RSVP

By: Paul Schattenberg, 210-467-6575, paschattenberg@ag.tamu.edu

Contacts: Nikki Dictson, 979-458-5915, n-dictson@tamu.edu
Michael Haynes, 512-398-3122, michael.haynes@ag.tamu.edu

LOCKART–The Texas Riparian and Stream Ecosystem Education Program will present its first workshop in the Plum Creek watershed on June 25 in Lockhart, said Nikki Dictson, Texas Water Resources Institute project manager and program coordinator, College Station.

The first no-cost riparian and stream ecosystem management workshop will be held on June 25 at First Lockhart Baptist Church, 315 W. Prairie Lea in Lockhart. (Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service photo)

The no-cost educational program on how streams function and the role of vegetation in properly functioning stream systems will take place from 8 a.m.–4 p.m. at First Lockhart Baptist Church, 315 W. Prairie Lea.

“Riparian education programs like this lead to informed landowners and members of the public more inclined to use practices that improve the management of riparian and stream ecosystems,” Dictson said. “Proper management, protection and restoration of these vital areas directly influences water quality and quantity, plus stabilizes stream banks, and improves fish and aquatic habitats, communities and more.”

The program is managed by the Texas Water Resources Institute, part of Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Texas A&M University. It is funded through a Clean Water Act grant provided by the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Plum Creek, a 52-mile stream in Central Texas, is a focus of watershed planning efforts by stakeholders. The Plum Creek Watershed Partnership has been working to implement a watershed protection plan developed for Plum Creek in 2008.

The riparian and stream workshop is another educational event to support this effort, said Michael Haynes, AgriLife Extension agent for Caldwell County.
Dictson said the workshop will include indoor classroom presentations by representatives from AgriLife Extension, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas A&M Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service and Guadalupe-Blanco River Land Trust.

The Guadalupe-Blanco River Land Trust will sponsor a catered barbecue lunch from Chisholm Trail Bar-B-Que.

The afternoon will include a field visit to stream sites.

Participants must RSVP by June 18. To register online, go to: http://naturalresourcestraining.tamu.edu/schedule.

The workshop offers three continuing education units — two general and one integrated pest management — for Texas Department of Agriculture pesticide license holders. It offers one unit from the Texas Water Resources Institute, six hours for Texas Nutrient Management Planning specialists, six hours from the Texas Forestry Association, and 4.5 hours from the Society of American Foresters. The program is acceptable for health, safety and welfare credit from the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners and may also be used for continuing education units for professional engineers.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Dictson at 979-458-5915 or n-dictson@tamu.edu or visit texasriparian.org.

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Texas Riparian & Stream Ecosystem Workshop - Plum Creek Watershed

June 25, 2013

Agenda

Map

First Loochhart/Baptist Church
315 West Prairie Lee
Loochhart, Texas 78644 (map)

Please complete the form below to RSVP for the Texas Riparian and Stream Ecosystem Workshop June 25, 2013 at the First Loochhart Baptist Church.

A catered lunch from CrossFit Trail is being sponsored by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Land Trust. Please select if you would like the catered lunch or if you will bring your own lunch and drinks.

For more information or questions please contact Neil Odbon at 979-492-5913 or n.odbon@tamu.edu

Personal Information

First name: ____________________________

Last name: ____________________________

Email address: _________________________

Phone: ________________________________

Organization/Employer: ________________

Lunch:

[ ] I will have lunch on my own

[ ] Please reserve lunch for me

RSVP