

Texas Water Resources Institute

**Enhancing Water Quality and Dredged Material for the Port of Harlingen (Phase I)
Coastal Management Program, Cycle 14
General Land Office Agreement No. 10-046-000-3742**

Quarter no. 6 From 1/1/11 Through 3/31/11

ABSTRACT

Work this quarter consisted of the project team meeting at the Port of Harlingen on February 10, 2011 to discuss the project goals and timeline. The project site was also visited. It was determined that the Director of the Port did not get approval from the Ports Board to conduct a LIDAR survey that would have covered a large portion of the matching funds. To make up for the survey, DEM data was acquired from TNRIS that will be sufficient enough to conduct the project. Work right is focusing on slightly re-scoping the project to make up for the missing match. Also, UTB is nearing completion of the ecological assessment.

TASK REPORT

TASK 1: Project Management

Task Status: In progress 85% complete

Major Accomplishments for the reporting period include:

Subtask 1.1: Project Oversight

- TWRI arranged a project meeting at the Port of Harlingen on February 10, 2011 where project activities were discussed and the project site was visited.

Subtask 1.2: Fiscal/invoicing

- As of January 31, 2011, \$14,461.83 or 18% of the project funds have been spent.

Subtask 1.3: Regular Meetings

- A project coordination meeting was held on February 10, 2011 and one is being scheduled for next quarter.

Subtask 1.4: Quarter Progress Reports

- Quarter 6 progress report was turned in on April 8, 2011.

Subtask 1.5: Final Report

- No activities to report at this time.

Related Issues/Current Problems and Favorable of Unusual Developments:

- The Port of Harlingen has backed out of a large portion of their match; therefore, it is currently being determined how to make up for that amount.

Projected Work for Next Quarter:

- Continue project discussions and arrange a conference call during the next quarter.
- AgriLife will submit monthly invoices per the contract.

- TWRI will submit quarterly reports for the contract.

TASK 2: Conduct Ecological Assessment

Task Status:

In progress

80% complete

Major Accomplishments for the reporting period include:

Subtask 2.1: A coordination meeting with Port of Harlingen staff, Alan Plummer Associates, Inc (APAI), TWRI, and University of Texas at Brownsville (UTB) faculty (to be conducted by conference call) will be held to discuss goals and objectives of studies to be conducted.

- A coordination meeting was held on February 10, 2011 at the Port of Harlingen where it was discussed what the appropriate steps in accomplishing project goals would be.

Subtask 2.2: Ecological Assessment

- Fieldwork for the entire area has been completed. The assessment is 80% done at this time.

Subtask 2.3: Report and Map

- 80% of the map is completed, with follow-up ground truthing. The rest of the map will be completed by April 30.

Subtask 2.4: Permit Requirement Coordination

- No activities to report at this time.

Related Issues/Current Problems and Favorable or Unusual Developments:

- Access to the site will be a topic for discussion with the Port of Harlingen.

Projected Work for Next Quarter:

- Set up coordination meeting with Port of Harlingen staff, Alan Plummer Associates, Inc, TWRI, and UTB faculty for April (coordinate with TWRI quarterly visit to the Valley).
- Begin working on the Ecological Assessment

TASK 3: Alan Plummer Associates, Inc. (APAI) in cooperation with the Port of Harlingen will analyze the following data for the proposed project site as part of the technical review and analysis. APAI will be responsible for gathering data.

Task Status:

In progress

60% complete

Major Accomplishments for the reporting period include:

Subtask 3.1: A coordination meeting with Port of Harlingen Staff, APAI, and TWRI will be held to discuss goals and objectives of analysis to be conducted (via conference call).

- Coordination meeting via conference call was conducted November 3, 2010

Subtask 3.2: Survey

- LIDAR topographic data was procured for the project site. The LIDAR topographic data will be utilized for developing the conceptual layout.

Subtask 3.3: Conceptual layout of the wetland

- No activities to report at this time.
- Awaiting the ecological survey data and other data to be provided by the Port of Harlingen to enable development of conceptual layout.

Subtask 3.4: Conceptual Design Report

- No activities to report at this time.

Related Issues/Current Problems and Favorable of Unusual Developments:

- pending the revision of the scope of work, the Conceptual Design Report may contain an economic feasibility study

Projected Work for Next Quarter:

- Set up coordination meeting with Port of Harlingen staff, APAI, TWRI, and UTB faculty for April (coordinate with TWRI quarterly visit to the Valley).
- Work on report summarizing data collection efforts.