

**Texas AgriLife Research
Texas AgriLife Extension Service
Texas A&M University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Texas Water Resources Institute**

**Arroyo Colorado Watershed Protection Plan Implementation
FY 07 CWA 319(h)
TCEQ Agreement No. 582-7-77045**

Quarter no. 11 From 09/01/09 Through 11/30/09

I. Abstract

Sustaining the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Partnership has also been the key topic and activity this quarter. The Sustainability Subcommittee met numerous times this quarter. Further, discussions amongst TWRI, TAMUK, LRGVDC and TCEQ have led to the development of two options for sustaining the partnership over the next couple of years and those options are now being voted on by the Steering Committee. Program activities for WPP implementation have been running smoothly. The watershed coordinator along with the LRGV-TPDES Stormwater Task Force have been doing a fantastic job with education and outreach activities, and we continue to receive positive feedback from this outreach. The blanket permit was received and 10 signs marking the Arroyo Colorado watershed boundary have been installed and another 40 are in the works. The Habitat Workgroup had a meeting this quarter and two cities have completed their wetland projects and are open to the public. Also, we had an excellent turnout at the steering committee this quarter. It was nice to have the opinion and outlook of city personnel regarding water quality issues at the steering committee meeting.

II. Overall Progress and Results by Task

TASK 1: Project Administration

Subtask 1.1: Project Oversight –TWRI will provide technical and fiscal oversight to ensure Tasks and Deliverables are acceptable and completed as scheduled and within budget.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI has provided guidance and assistance to Watershed Coordinator in developing meeting agendas, summaries, an agency resolution, and facilitation of various meetings.
- b. TWRI requested and received a no-cost extension through 2/28/10 to ensure proper expenditure of funds and completion of deliverables. Project will likely go beyond February end date and there is potential for funds to carry through an additional 2 to 3 months.
- c. A schedule of deliverables to track project activities and contract status is included in Appendix A.

87% Complete

Subtask 1.2: Quarterly Progress Reports (QPRs) – TWRI, with the assistance of the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Coordinator (ACWC) and Arroyo Colorado Grant Writer/Water Quality Analyst (ACGC), will submit QPRs to TCEQ by the 15th of the month following each state fiscal quarter for incorporation into the Grant Reporting and Tracking System (GRTS). The Reports will include:

- *status of deliverables for each Objective and Task*
- *narrative description of activities for each task outlined in this Scope of Work in Progress Report format*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Submitted Year 3, Quarter 2 Report on September 15, 2009.

87% Complete

Subtask 1.3: Quarterly TTVN or Teleconference – To facilitate good communication between project participants, a quarterly TTVN (Trans-Texas Videoconference Network) or teleconference will be scheduled and hosted by TWRI.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI and Watershed Coordinator and Grant Writer(s) maintain regular communication on a weekly basis.
- b. TWRI met with watershed coordinator in the Arroyo Colorado watershed in October 2009 to discuss project activities.
- c. TWRI participated in workgroup and steering committee meetings either via teleconference or in person.

87% Complete

Subtask 1.4: Arroyo Colorado Website – TWRI will maintain and improve the Arroyo Colorado website.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The Web site continues to receive updates including two new projects under the project section will be added during the next quarter.
- b. A new presentation (the presentation that was given to local schools by the watershed coordinator and the stormwater task force liaison) will be posted on the website during the next quarter.
- c. Continually add and update upcoming events on homepage.

87% Complete

Subtask 1.5: Reimbursement Forms – Texas Cooperative Extension will submit reimbursement forms by the last day of the month following each state fiscal quarter

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. An invoice was submitted to TCEQ for \$28,140.96 covering all expenses from June 1, 2009 through August 31, 2009.
- b. Total invoiced expenditures to date: \$69,476.00 or 86.5% of total project budget.

86.5% Complete

Subtask 1.6: Final Report – TWRI, with assistance of the ACGC and ACWC, will provide TCEQ and EPA with a comprehensive report on the activities and success of the WPP conducted during the course of this project. An assessment of data collection and analysis efforts conducted under Task 5 of this scope of work will also be included in the final report.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No activity to report at this time.

0% Complete**TASK 2: Steering Committee and Work Group Facilitation**

Subtask 2.1: Facilitate and Coordinate Meetings – The ACWC will facilitate the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Steering Committee and Work Group meetings by working with the chairman and work group leaders. Specifically, the ACWC will be responsible for:

- *Developing agendas, arranging meeting facilities and sending E-mail notices for Quarterly Steering Committee meetings*
- *Assisting all individual work groups with facility arrangements, developing and distributing agendas, and developing meeting summaries as requested by the Work Group Leaders; Work Group meetings will be held as needed, but, at least, semi-annually*
- *Providing information requested by work group leaders prior to and following work group meetings*
- *Attending all individual work group meetings*
- *Compiling and submitting all individual work group meeting agendas and meeting summaries to the TWRI project manager (these will be attached to QPRs and submitted to the TCEQ contract manager and posted on the webpage)*
- *Coordinating efforts of the individual work groups and the Watershed Steering Committee to facilitate the integration of the different components of the Watershed Protection Plan implemented by each workgroup*
- *Updating all Steering Committee meeting participants on the progress of individual workgroups (and/or arranging for individual workgroup leaders to provide these updates) and of the overall implementation of the Watershed Protection Plan*
- *Facilitating a forum for open discussion among Steering Committee meeting participants and interested parties attending the meetings*
- *Arranging presentations by guest speakers offering useful information to Steering Committee participants*
- *Preparing and disseminating summaries of Watershed Steering Committee meetings to all participants*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Developed agenda, arranged meeting facilities and sent E-mail notices for a ACWP O&E meeting held on October 14, 2009.
- b. Developed agenda, arranged meeting facilities and sent E-mail notices for a Habitat Workgroup meeting held on October 22, 2009.

- c. Developed agenda, arranged meeting facilities and sent E-mail notices for a quarterly SC meeting held on October 22, 2009.
- d. Developed agenda, arranged meeting facilities and sent E-mail notices for a ACWP Sustainability meeting held on October 23, 2009.
- e. Developed agenda, arranged meeting facilities and sent E-mail notices for a ACWP Sustainability meeting held on November 10, 2009.
- f. Meeting summaries for SC and workgroup meetings are included in Appendix B. All summaries will be posted to the Project website.
- g. Attended all workgroup meetings, provided information requested by work group leaders and conducted follow-up activities as noted in the meeting summaries.
- h. Updated Partnership on overall implementation of the ACWPP at SC meeting on October 22, 2009.

87% Complete

Subtask 2.2: Provide Bi-Monthly Updates – The ACWC will provide e-mail updates to TWRI, TCEQ and the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Partnership on progress made in implementation of the ACWPP at least twice monthly.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Bi-monthly updates were distributed to the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Partnership members via the Arroyo Colorado listserv on September 17, 2009; October 7, October 20, and October 30, 2009; and November 15 and 30, 2009. Copies of updates are provided in Appendix C.

87% Complete

Subtask 2.3: Provide Membership Lists – The ACWC will provide TWRI updated lists of the Steering Committee and their contact information for posting on the project website.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The latest membership list has over 715 individuals (some members were replaced by new employees, list membership has remained the same).
- b. The updated work group member list still needs to be added and updated on Project Web site.

92% Complete

Subtask 2.4: Engage Stakeholders – The ACWC will encourage participation and involvement of key stakeholders in the implementation of the WPP.

The ACWC conducted the following actions during this reporting period:

- a. September 10, 2009, met with Martha Viada, City of Harlingen, Joe Hinojasa, City of Brownsville and Javier Guerrero, Storm Water Task Force, to discuss potential projects for TCEQ 319 LID Grant.
- b. September 14, 2009, met with Martha Viada, City of Harlingen, Joe Hinojasa, City of Brownsville, Omar Rios, City of San Benito and Javier Guerrero, Storm Water Task Force, to discuss potential projects for TCEQ 319 LID Grant.

- c. September 16, 2009, met with Ruben Diaz, City of Mission and Javier Guerrero, Storm Water Task Force, to discuss potential projects for TCEQ 319 LID Grant.
- d. September 17, 2009, met with Dr. Ruben Saldana, Luis Saldana, TAMU Agrilife Extension and Doug Denny and Marco Ponce, 4-H District Extension Agents, to discuss 4-H member participation in ACWPP implementation and TX Stream Team Volunteer Monitors Workshop.
- e. September 18, 2009, made phone calls to facilitate the production of AC Watershed boundary signs.
- f. September 28, 2009, met with Robert Bauer, Wilbur Ellis Fertilizer salesman and local ag producer to discuss ACWPP implementation.
- g. September 29, 2009, met with Rebecca Castillo and Jose Cordova, Harlingen-San Benito Metropolitan Planning Organization, to discuss future infrastructure and the ACWPP.
- h. October 7, 2009, gave AC presentation on WPP implementation, Hidalgo Co., Cameron Co. regional stormwater detention/wetland areas to Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group and RGR Water Authority Group.
- i. October 8, 2009, met with Connie Townsend, TWDB, about possible grant for Solar Bee.
- j. October 9, 2009, met with City of Weslaco manager, Frank Castellanos, his assistant, Elizabeth Walker and City Engineers to discuss ACWP and expansion of Estero Llano Grande World Birding Center.
- k. October 14, 2009, attended Storm Water Task Force Ordinance meeting.
- l. October 15, 2009, met with House of Representative Eddie Lucio III to discuss ACWPP. Then attended RGV Environmental Summit SC meeting.
- m. October 27, 2009, attended Lower Rio Grande Water Committee meeting in Weslaco, TX. Met with Wayne Halbert and Laura De la Garza after the meeting to discuss ACWPP implementation.
- n. October 29, 2009, met with Dr. Jude Benavides, UTB, Joe Hinojosa, City of Brownsville, Dr. Kim Jones, Abel Garza and Javier Guerrero, TAMUK, for 319 Grant meeting.
- o. November 2, 2009, met with Ken Jones, LRGVDC, to discuss ACWP sustainability.
- p. November 4, 2009, met with LRGVDC and TCEQ to discuss ARRA 3 way WWTP sampling grant.
- q. November 5-6, 2009, met with reps from Harlingen, San Benito, Pharr, Donna, Brownsville and UTB to discuss projects for 319 grant.
- r. November 10, 2009, attended Cameron County Coastal Issues Meeting held by Tony Reisinger, TX Sea Grant
- s. November 18, 2009, attended the RGR Water Authority and RGR Water Planning Group.
- t. November 19, 2009, attended LRGVDC meeting.
- u. December 3, 2009, attended TX Desal Summit.
- v. December 8, 2009, attended RGV Environmental Summit SC meeting.

87% Complete

TASK 3: Facilitate Watershed Protection Plan Implementation

Subtask 3.1: Facilitate and Coordinate Implementation of Education and Outreach Measures as Outlined in ACWPP

The ACWC conducted the following actions during this reporting period:

- a. October 2, 2009, picked up AC model from Paul Bond, repairs to model were completed.
- b. October 17, 2009, displayed model at the Pharr Out Kids Nature Day, Pharr, TX., with the Estero Llano Grande World Birding Center. Approximately 1000 people.
- c. October 20, 2009, Stuart Place Elementary, Harlingen, TX., gave AC presentation to 30, 4-5 graders and 1 teacher.
- d. October 22, 2009, Dr. Rodriguez Elementary, Harlingen, TX., gave AC presentation to 25, 4-6 graders and 1 teacher.
- e. October 22, 2009, gave AC presentation to 11-Cameron Co., school teachers at the Cameron Co. Teachers training day hosted by TDA & TFB.
- f. October 27, 2009, Hidalgo Co., District 4-H meeting, Edinburg, TX., gave AC presentation to 30, 4-H members and 35 parents.
- g. October 30, 2009, Donna North Elem., Donna, TX., gave AC presentation to 2 classes, 45, 4-5 graders and 2 teacher.
- h. November 9, 2009, Dishman Elementary, Harlingen, TX., gave AC presentation to 25, 4-5 graders and 1 teacher.
- i. November 11, 2009, Mission Veterans High School, Mission, TX., gave AC presentation to 17, juniors and seniors and 1 teacher.
- j. November 21, 2009, Organized volunteer monitors, arranged meeting facilities and sent E-mail notices for TX Stream Volunteer Training Workshop at the Rio Red Classroom, Weslaco, TX. 17 Volunteers completed the workshop.
- k. November 23, 2009, Wilson Elementary, Harlingen, TX., gave AC presentation to 25, 4-5 graders and 1 teacher.
- l. December 2, 2009, Harlingen High School, Harlingen, TX., gave AC presentation to 6 classes, consisting of 200 juniors and seniors and 5 teachers.
- m. December 7, 2009, Hidalgo ISD, Hidalgo, TX., gave AC teachers training workshop to 7 teachers and 12 junior and senior environmental science students.
- n. *An evaluation instrument has been developed and submitted to TCEQ for final review. See Appendix C.*

87% Complete

Subtask 3.2: Facilitate and Coordinate Implementation of Agricultural Pollution Control Measures as Outlined in ACWPP

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Working on locating funds for the 2010 soil testing campaign.
- b. September 27, 2009, met with Robert Bauer, local ag producer and fertilizer salesman, to discuss ACWPP and Ag BMP's.
- c. October 21, 2009, met with Don Vogel, John Deere, Barbee Nehaus salesman and rancher, to discuss ACWPP and Ag BMP's. He agreed to engage local ag producers about the ACWPP and hand out informational material to public.

- d. November 30, 2009, met with Dr. Juan Enciso, TAMUK Agrilife Research, to discuss ACWPP and his ag irrigation edge of field sampling study.

75% Complete

Subtask 3.3: Facilitate and Coordinate Implementation of Recommended Measures Described in the Habitat Component of the ACWPP

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Developed agenda, arranged meeting facilities and sent E-mail notices for a quarterly Habitat workgroup meeting to be held on October 22, 2009.
- b. December 5, 2009, met with Darla Jones and attended the City of La Feria wetland project grand opening.

87% Complete

Subtask 3.4: Facilitate and Coordinate Implementation of Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Control Measures as outlined in the ACWPP.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Continued collecting data on WWTP water reuse numbers, number of colonia's and residents hooked up to WWTP and tracking upgrades of all WWTP facilities.
- b. Cities Wetland Project update:
 - San Benito WWTP wetland project has been placed on hold until additional funds can be identified.
 - The city of San Juan wetlands project has completed.
 - The La Feria wetlands project has been completed and held a grand opening on December 5, 2009.
- c. The City of Alamo conducted a wetland feasibility study and is currently seeking funding to upgrade their wastewater treatment facility and the development of wetlands on their old lagoonal type treatment plant.

87% Complete

Subtask 3.5: Semi-annual Newsletter Publication.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Working on articles for the spring newsletter. Newsletter should be delivered during April 2010.

87% Complete

TASK 4: Resource Identification and Grant Writing

Subtask 4.1: Track Grants and Assist Partners in Grant Applications – *In coordination with TWRI, the Arroyo Colorado Grant Coordinator/Water Quality Analyst (ACGC), with assistance from the ACWC, will: 1) actively seek and pursue funding opportunities for watershed protection and restoration projects, 2) track appropriate grants that fund activities outlined in the WPP and*

assist Arroyo Partners in the grant application process and 3) link appropriate partners and projects.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. November 10, 11, December 1, and 10 met with Low-Impact Development Project Committee to finalize project plans and also worked on compiling the information from various parties involved.
- b. November 10, 2009 and December 4, 2009 met with Jaime Flores to discuss development of proposal to EPA to support Educator Workshops. There have also been many emails between TWRI and the Stormwater Taskforce who will be a collaborator for the proposed activities.
- c. Worked two proposals for the TSSWCB 319 RFP. One of the proposals (Sustainability of the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Partnership and Continued Implementation of the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Protection Plan) will provide support to the Arroyo Colorado Partnership for continued implementation of the WPP while sustainability is achieved. The second proposal (Arroyo Colorado Agricultural Water Quality Education Program) will provide education to agricultural producers about cost-share programs.
- d. There has also been an ongoing discussion between TWRI, TAMUK, and APAI about funding for a wetland maintenance training program to provided needed assistance to the new constructed wetlands in the valley.
- e. During the last Outreach and Education Workgroup meeting a discussion took place about securing funding for promotional items for the Arroyo Colorado such as hats, shirts, pins, etc.

87% Complete

Subtask 4.2: Lead proposal development to request/acquire funding for Implementation of Measures as Outlined in ACWPP. A minimum of 10 grant proposals will be developed during the project period by the ACGC, in cooperation with the ACWC, TWRI, and project partners. Upon completion, the grant proposals will be submitted by either project partners or TWRI/TCE, whichever is most appropriate. Potential proposals may include, but not limited to funding requests to:

- *Implement recommendations of the Outreach and Education Work Group.*
- *Produce an educational video.*
- *Increase wastewater and surface water infrastructure development within cities and public utility systems for colonias.*
- *Design and construct individual and/or regional enhanced biological treatment projects.*
- *Conduct feasibility studies and final engineering designs for development of individual and regional constructed wetland demonstration projects throughout the watershed.*
- *Establish individual and regional constructed wetland projects.*
- *Conduct feasibility studies for modifying the drainage channels to maintain moist soils to sustain wetland plants for treatment of nonpoint source pollution.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Submitted two proposals to TSSWCB/EPA for 319 funds:

- *Sustainability of the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Partnership and Continued Implementation of the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Protection Plan*, \$360,081. Project will provide support to the Arroyo Colorado Partnership for continued implementation of the WPP while long-term sustainability is achieved.
- *Arroyo Colorado Agricultural Water Quality Education Program*, \$330,157. Project will provide focused education on cost-share programs, BMPs and practices that protect water quality.
- b. Total number of proposals to date submitted on behalf of the implementation of the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Protection Plan include 15 full proposals and 4 pre-proposals led by TWRI and 8 proposals led by other entities (TAMUK-4 UTPA-1; LRGVDC-2 and City of McAllen-1).
- c. Proposal workplans for the submitted proposals are available upon request.

100% Complete

TASK 5: Data Gathering and Analysis to Assess Effects of Water Quality Protection Plan

The ACGC will assemble and maintain a data clearinghouse for all data collected in the Arroyo and from that data, evaluate changes in BOD, TSS, fecal bacteria, and nutrient loading to Segments 2201 and 2202 of the Arroyo Colorado. Data collection will include:

- *Pollutant removal effectiveness of enhanced treatment projects through effectiveness monitoring conducted by participating cities.*
- *Wastewater permit holders self reporting data to better characterize loading of nutrients from WWTPs to the Arroyo Colorado*
- *Data collected through the Arroyo Colorado Agricultural Nonpoint Source Assessment Project'*
- *Texas Clean Rivers Program.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. Nothing to report at this time.

35% Complete

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

None to report at this time.

IV. Projected Work for Next Quarter

Task 1

- Continue improving Web site including development of database per task 5.
- Maintain regular weekly communication with project personnel.
- A new presentation (the presentation that was given to local schools by the watershed coordinator and the stormwater task force liaison) will be posted on the website during the next quarter.
- Facilitate meetings focusing on the sustainability of the Partnership.
- Submit quarter 11 report on December 15, 2009.

Task 2

- Post meeting summaries for the workgroup and Steering committee meetings to Project website.
- Facilitate (draft agenda, gather meeting location, and announce meeting to workgroup members) an E&O workgroup meeting on January 14, 2009.
- Facilitate (draft agenda, gather meeting location, and announce meeting to workgroup members) an ag issues workgroup meeting on January 21, 2009.
- Schedule and facilitate a Steering Committee meeting for January 21, 2009. Draft and distribute agenda and meeting summaries.
- Attend work group meeting and coordinate work group efforts.
- Arrange for guest speakers at Steering Committee meeting.
- Production and distribution of bi-monthly updates.
- Continue to engage key stakeholders.
- Finalize work group member lists and update/correct on project Web site.

Task 3

- Demonstrate the physical Arroyo watershed model.
- Work with TWRI to develop appropriate news releases.
- Upon final approval from TCEQ of O&E evaluation instrument, begin distributing and collecting feedback from O&E activities.
- Develop an evaluation instrument for distribution to the Arroyo Colorado SC.
- Participate in the LRGV TPDES Storm Water Task Force Meetings.
- Continue participation in the USIBWC Citizen Forum, Region M planning, Rio Grande Regional Water Authority, and the Lower Rio Grande Water Committee meetings.
- Continue facilitation of work for the development of a regional wetland system.
- Meet with personnel regarding the development of a treatment wetland at the Port of Harlingen for the new habitat project funded by GLO.
- Meet with personnel regarding the WWTP water quality monitoring project conducted by LRGVDC.

Task 4

- Continue to submit and facilitate submission of proposal for funding of activities related to the Arroyo Colorado.
- Identify additional funding opportunities to pursue.

Task 5

- Post static graphs on Web site.
- Begin adding other databases including, but not limited to Texas Stream Team data and possibly, TPWD data.

Appendix A
Schedule of Deliverables and Status

Deliverable	Due Date	Date Submitted	Comments
TASK 1			
Quarterly Progress Reports	7/15/2007	7/16/2007	Submitted via email & posted on Site
	9/15/2007	9/14/2007	Submitted via email & posted on Site
	12/15/2007	12/13/2007	Submitted via email & posted on Site
	3/15/2008	3/13/2008	Submitted via email & posted on Site
	6/15/2008	6/17/2008	Submitted via email & posted on Site
	9/15/2008	9/16/2008	Submitted via email & posted on Site
	12/15/2008	12/15/2008	Submitted via email & posted on Site
	3/15/2009	3/30/2009	Submitted via email & posted on Site
	6/15/2009	6/30/2009	Submitted via email & posted on Site
	9/15/2009	9/15/2009	Submitted via email & posted on Site
	12/15/2009	12/15/2009	Submitted via email & posted on Site
3/15/2010			
Special release (supplement) to WPP - status of Imp.			Not in contract
Draft Final Report	2/28/2010		
Final Report	3/31/2010		
Quarterly Meetings	Jul-07	7/9/2007	in CS
	Oct-07	9/25/2007	in CS
	Jan-08	1/24/2008	in AC
	Apr-08	3/4 & 4/24	in AC
	Jul-08	8/21/2008	Meeting delayed due to Hurricane Dolly (site visit to AC in June '08)
	Oct-08	10/23/2008	
	Jan-09	--	No meeting occurred as TWRI PM was out on maternity leave
	Apr-09	4/27/2009	in AC
	Jul-09	7/27/2009	in AC (also visited watershed in August and met on 8/10/09)
	Oct-09	10/22/2009	in AC
Jan-10			
Reimbursement Forms	7/30/2007	7/16/2007	reimbursed 9/25/07
	9/30/2007	9/28/2007	
	12/30/2007	1/14/2008	Cory: unpaid as of 3/31/08, see Mary

	3/31/2008	3/24/2008	Jen: given to Mary, mistake in match sheet noted
	6/30/2008	6/26/2008	took to 7/15 meeting; given to Mary 7/15; discussed all invoices at 7/15 meeting
	9/30/2008	10/3/2008	
	12/30/2008	12/15/2008	
	3/31/2009	3/26/2009	
	6/30/2009	6/25/2009	
	9/29/2009	11/3/2009	
	12/29/2009		
	3/30/2010		
Website Updates	7/15/2007	--	Files were transferred from Sea Grant to TWRI
	9/15/2007	9/1/2007	Web site went online at http://www.arroyocolorado.org
	12/15/2007	12/15/2007	Added projects in the watershed and related information
	3/15/2008	3/15/2008	Added 'About the Watershed' section
	6/15/2008	6/15/2008	Checked; new presentation and news item added
	9/15/2008	9/15/2008	Added ecotourism luncheon presentation; txH2O story
	12/15/2008	12/15/2008	
	3/15/2009	3/15/2009	
	6/15/2009	6/15/2009	Made changes per TWRI administration change; updated activities & news releases
	9/15/2009	9/15/2009	Added two new Ag Education projects to the Website; Posted final report for completed Ag Education project.
	12/15/2009	12/15/2009	
	3/31/2010		
TASK 2			
Quarterly Steering Committee Meetings	7/24/2007	7/24/2007	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	10/25/2007	10/25/2007	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	1/24/2008	1/24/2008	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	4/24/2008	4/24/2008	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	7/24/2008	8/21/2008	(July mtg delayed due to Hurricane Dolly) Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	10/23/2008	10/23/2008	
	1/26/2009	1/26/2009	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	4/27/2009	4/27/2009	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	7/27/2009	7/27/2009	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	10/22/2009	10/22/2009	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	1/21/2010		
Bi-Annual Habitat Restoration Workgroup Meeting	7/24/2007	7/24/2007	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	1/24/2008	1/24/2008	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site

		6/12/2008	Participated in wetland tour to Vista site in Victoria, TX (no mtg notes)
	7/24/2008	8/14/2008	(July mtg delayed due to Hurricane Dolly) Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	1/26/2009	1/26/2009	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	7/27/2009	6/25/2009	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site; Add. meeting 10-22-09
	1/21/2010		
Bi-Annual Ag Workgroup Meeting	7/24/2007	7/24/2007	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	1/24/2008	1/24/2008	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	7/24/2008	8/20/2008	(July mtg delayed due to Hurricane Dolly) Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	1/26/2009	1/26/2009	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	7/27/2009	7/27/2009	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	1/21/2010		
Bi-Annual Wastewater Infrastructure Workgroup Meeting	9/20/2007	9/20/2007	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	12/17/2007	12/17/2007	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
		4/9/2008	Combined with water quality monitoring meeting
	7/24/2008	6/12/2008	Participated in wetland tour to Vista site in Victoria, TX (no mtg notes)
	1/26/2009	12/16/2008	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	7/27/2009	7/17/2009	No minutes available at time of QPR submission
	1/21/2010		
Bi-Annual Outreach & Education Workgroup Meeting	7/16/2007	7/16/2007	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	9/11/2007	9/11/2007	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site; Add. meeting 10-16-07
	1/15/2008	1/15/2008	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	4/15/2008	4/15/2008	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	7/15/2008	7/15/2008	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	10/14/2008	10/14/2008	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	1/13/2009	1/13/2009	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	4/14/2009	4/14/2009	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	7/14/2009	--	No meeting occurred
	10/13/2009	10/14/2009	Minutes submitted in QPR/posted on Web site
	1/12/2010		
Agendas & Summaries submitted with QPRs			Also posted on Web site
Update workgroup & steering committee membership list	Aug-07	9/15/2007	Provided SC opportunities to review information for posting
	Aug-08	8/21/2008	Handed out workgroup/SC list at mtngs for review. Revised listing will be posted Sept 08

Post workgroup & steering committee membership list on Website	Oct-07	10/8/2007	SC list has email contact info; workgroup lists - no contact info;
Bi-monthly email updates	bimonthly until 3/31/10		Posted on the Website (TCEQ note: not always bimonthly but saved on I drive and as paper files - 2007: June 5, 25; July 19, 31; Aug 15, 31; Sept 18; Oct 1, 12, 24; Nov 16, 30; Dec 14. 2008: Jan 2, 22; Feb 7, 27; March 12, 31; April 17; May 1,31; June 17; July 1, 18, 31; Aug 18, Sept 5; Oct 20; Nov 3, 17; Dec 2, 18, 2008: Jan 6, 21; Feb 9, 25; Mar 24; April 15; May 6, 27; June 15, 30; July 16; Aug 14, 31; Sept 17; Oct 6, 20, 30; Nov 15, 30
TASK 3			
Conduct at least one presentation per month to different targeted audiences	Ongoing (in QPR)		
	7/15/2007	7/23/2007	
	9/15/2007	9/17/2007	see QPR
	12/15/2007	12/13/2007	see QPR
	3/15/2008	3/12/2008	see QPR
	6/15/2008	6/17/2008	see QPR
	9/15/2008	9/16/2008	see QPR
	12/15/2008	12/15/2008	see QPR
	3/15/2009	3/15/2009	see QPR
	6/15/2009	--	
	9/15/2009	9/15/2009	see QPR
	12/15/2009	12/15/2009	see QPR
Meet face-to-face with at least 4 community leaders per month to deliver basic facts on the Arroyo Colorado and discuss progress in implementing the ACWPP.	Ongoing (in QPR)		
	7/15/2007	7/23/2007	
	9/15/2007	9/17/2007	see QPR
	12/15/2007	12/13/2007	see QPR
	3/15/2008	3/12/2008	see QPR
	6/15/2008	6/17/2008	see QPR
	9/15/2008	9/16/2008	see QPR
	12/15/2008	12/15/2008	see QPR
	3/15/2009	3/15/2009	see QPR
	6/15/2009	6/15/2009	see QPR
	9/15/2009	9/15/2009	see QPR
	12/15/2009	12/15/2009	see QPR
	3/15/2010		

Contingent upon approval by TXDOT, install roadway signage by the end of the two year contract	3/31/2009		sign contractor confirmed April 2008 and design and locations being decided as of 4/24/08; Ordered and installed 10 signs in November 2008. Shared design with City of McAllen and stormwater taskforce who is interested in installing signs at additional sites around the valley (4 in McAllen). Met with TxDOT to obtain permit for signs and provided letters of request in followup. Letters submitted July and August 2009. Hope to get permit soon.
Have storm drains stenciled in at least six cities and communities within the Arroyo Colorado watershed.	3/31/2009		metal plates decided as of 4/24/08. Worked with stormwater task force to place bulk order. Received markers in December 2008. Installed over 1,000 markers valley-wide in Earth Day Celebration on 4/17/09 and 4/18/09.
Implementation status of education and outreach measures, agricultural pollution control measures, habitat restoration measures, and wastewater infrastructure pollution control measures.	QPRs		
	7/15/2007		
	9/15/2007		
	12/15/2007		
	3/15/2008		
	6/15/2008	7/15/2008	TWRI is combining this with task 3 for a partnership update
	9/15/2008	8/21/2008	Provided SC with implementation schedule updates; included in QPR
	12/15/2008	10/23/2008	Provided SC with implementation schedule updates; included in QPR
	3/15/2009	--	no activity to report for this quarter
	6/15/2009	--	no activity to report for this quarter
	9/15/2009	--	no activity to report for this quarter
	12/15/2009	--	no activity to report for this quarter
	3/15/2010		
Media press releases (1 per quarter required)	7/15/2007		
	9/15/2007		
	12/15/2007		
	3/15/2008		
	6/15/2008	6/15/2008	4/14/08: <i>International museum displaying model demonstrating Arroyo Colorado Watershed</i> ; 4/20/08: <i>Children celebrate Earth Day at IMAS – McAllen Monitor</i>
	9/15/2008	9/15/2008	7/11/08: Richard Moore produced and aired video on ABC affiliate KRGV-TV-5 highlighting AC and the effort to improve it (http://www.richardmooreoutdoors.org). DeLa Garza assisted; 7/11/08: <i>Preparing for Schoolyard habitat gardens - McAllen Monitor</i> ; 7/13/08: <i>Planning Ecotourism Luncheon - McAllen Monitor</i> ; 7/16/08: <i>Arroyo Colorado Watershed Meeting Scheduled for July 24 - AgNews</i> , Media Newswire on 7/21/08; 2008: <i>Cities to Build Effluent Polishing Wetlands- TRA Newsletter (Vol 6, Issue 1)</i> ; 7/21/08: <i>Arroyo Colorado Watershed Meeting Set August 21- Texas Farm Bureau Ag Headlines</i>

	12/15/2008	12/15/2008	10/3/08: Texas AgriLife Program Saves Growers Millions while Protecting Water - AgNews, PR Newswire Policy & Public Interest on 10/3/08 and 11/2/08, Media NewsWire on 10/6/08, Extension on 10/7/08, Crop Life and HighPlains Midwest Journal on 10/10/08, Hutchison County Highlights on 10/08, Valley Morning Star on 10/11/08, Southwest FarmPress on 10/28/08, Fresh Plaza on 11/8/08, North Texas e-News on 12/06/08; 10/12/08: EcoExposure: McAllen Festival Promotes Sustainable Living Options - McAllen Monitor; 10/22/08: Meeting Slated to implement Arroyo Colorado improvement plan - AgNews, PR Newswire Policy & Public Interest on 10/22/08; 11/06/08: Soil Testing Saves Farmers Millions - PR Newswire Policy & Public Interest; 11/7/08: Texas Watershed Steward in the Arroyo Colorado - AgNews, Farm Bureau on 11/12/08; 11/7/08: Public Invited to Arroyo Watershed Workshop - PR Newswire Policy & Public Interest, AgNews on 11/7/08, Ag Headlines on 11/12/08, High Plains Journal on 11/17/08; 11/13/08: STC to hold two-day environmental conference - The Monitor; 11/18/08: Jaime Flores appointed new Arroyo Colorado Watershed Coordinator - AgNews, PR Newswire Policy & Public Interest on 11/18/08, Valley Morning Star on 11/30/08.
	3/15/2009	3/15/2009	12/01/08: New Road Signs Denote Arroyo Colorado Watershed - AgNews, PR Newswire Policy & Public Interest, Cotton Gin & Oil Mill Press; 1/22/09: Arroyo Colorado Watershed Steering Committee Meets January 26 - AgNews, Southwest Farm Press on 1/23/09, Media Newswire on 1/26/09; 02/16/09: San Benito Turns Sewer Ponds into Wetlands - McAllen Monitor;
	6/15/2009	6/15/2009	3/19/09: San Juan to construct Wetland - The Monitor; 3/27/09: Texas A&M Kingsville part of efforts that led to Stormwater management plans for Rio Grande Valley Cities - TAMUK Newsrelease; 4/9/09: Engineering College at A&M Kingsville goes to Harlingen for earth Day celebration April 18 at Centennial Park - TAMUK Newsrelease; 4/16/09: Earth Day Celebration to Educate Public - Valley Morning Star; 4/21/09: No Dumping Storm Drain Markers Highlight Earth Day - AgNews; 4/22/09: Storm Drain Markers Highlight Earth Day - The Monitor;
	9/15/2009	9/15/2009	6/17/09: How Clean is the Arroyo, Stream Team discusses Arroyo Colorado Water Quality Data - TWRI, KGBT and KVEO Video coverage; 7/23/09: Arroyo Colorado Steering Committee to discuss end of federal funding - TWRI, AgNews, My Harlingen News, Media Newswire (on 7/27/09)
	12/15/2009	12/15/2009	10/16/09: Arroyo Colorado steering committee will meet to discuss protection plan - AgNews, Media Newswire (on 10/19/09), Southwest Farm Press (10/21/09); 10/31/09: Sewer Ponds become nature wetlands in San Benito-Valley Morning Star (we did not write this, but it is still publicity for the Arroyo Colorado)
	3/15/2010		
Evaluation instrument (survey) for targeted audiences at select events	8/31/2009	12/15/2009	Finalized and submitted to TCEQ for final approval
Evaluation instrument (survey) for SC and Partnership	8/31/2009		making due date changes upon contract extension and this survey is aimed for completion by 8/31/09
Summary of evaluation instrument (survey) results	QPRs		
Semi-Annual Newsletter			previous newsletters on the website, include: 6/2005, 1/2006, 8/2006
	Oct-07	10/20/2007	Distributed to over 600 ind (596 direct + 54 hand distribution)

	Apr-08	4/1/2008	Distributed to over 700 individuals
	Oct-08	11/15/2008	Distributed to over 700 individuals
	Apr-09	6/15/2009	Distributed to over 700 individuals
	Oct-09		Not Done
	Mar-10		<i>contingent upon funding availability</i>
TASK 4			
10 Grant Proposals	QPRs		
Summary table of grant application status	7/15/2007	--	
	9/15/2007	9/15/2007	Submitted with QPR & distributed at SC meeting
	12/15/2007	12/15/2007	Submitted with QPR & distributed at SC meeting
	3/15/2008	3/15/2008	Submitted with QPR & distributed at SC meeting
	6/15/2008	6/15/2008	Submitted with QPR & distributed at SC meeting
	9/15/2008	9/15/2008	Submitted with QPR & distributed at SC meeting
	12/15/2008	12/15/2008	Submitted with QPR & distributed at SC meeting
	3/15/2009	--	No grant table distributed to SC meeting given TWRI personnel did not travel down for meeting
	6/15/2009	--	No grant table distributed to SC meeting, but upcoming grant opportunities were discussed.
	9/15/2009	9/15/2009	Submitted with QPR & distributed at SC meeting
	12/15/2009	12/15/2009	Submitted with QPR & distributed at SC meeting
	3/15/2010		
TASK 5			
Data summary report	11/30/2008	11/30/2008 Updated 7/15/08	Cory: Need to review and discuss with TWRI; Jen: Mark updated and current static graphs on the website are available for NRA, others to come
	11/30/2009		
Data clearinghouse including monitoring update	7/15/2007		
	9/15/2007		
	12/15/2007		
	3/15/2008		
	6/15/2008	7/15/2008	7 monitor sites have increase to 12; this deliverable will be modified upon contract extension
	9/15/2008	9/15/2008	Posted monitoring sites and static graphs on website to be accessible to the public
	12/15/2008	12/15/2008	no changes
	3/15/2009	3/15/2009	no changes
	6/15/2009	6/15/2009	no changes
	9/15/2009	9/15/2009	no changes
12/15/2009	12/15/2009	no changes	
3/15/2010			

Appendix B

Steering Committee and Workgroup Meeting Summaries

Arroyo Colorado Outreach and Education Workgroup Meeting

Texas AgriLife Extension Conference Room
October 14, 2009 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Josh Oyer, Tx Stream Team	Jaime Flores, TWRI
Xavier Peries, AgriLife Extension	Cecilia Wagner, TWRI
Don Hockaday, UTPanAm	Amanda Engledow, TWRI
Juan Enciso, AgriLife Extension	Ludy Saenz, LRGVDC
Kyle Ohaver, TPWD (Esterro Llano Grande)	Marcie Oviedo, LRGVDC
Javier Guerrero, TAMUK	Ruben Saldana, AgriLife Extension

Meeting Summary

Welcome and Introductions.....Jaime Flores, TWRI

Project Discussion:

Grant Workshop FeasibilityJaime Flores, TWRI

- Initial planning was sparse – lots of date changes and too rushed.
- Several workshops were already taking place, but were not related to water and dedicated to the Arroyo Colorado
- Went thru TDA Rural Economic Development group as they had experience in putting these type of workshops on and they had funding for a lunch sponsor/facilities
- Marcie, Javier and Jaime will lead group to put together the plan for a future event (possible spring event?)

New O&E Materials-319 Grant?.....Jaime Flores, TWRI

- TCEQ recently printed 1500 copies of Little Waterway with a Big Job and 1500 copies of the Arroyo WPP Executive Summary
- Jaime has all of them
- Possibility to get Arroyo WPPs printed thru TSSWCB
- Discussed possibility to get caps/t-shirts with Arroyo logo in the past. Jaime re-brought up the subject. Typical cost range \$5 to \$6 per cap and ? on shirt. We also had an Arroyo Colorado button that Jaime recently handed out at the school presentations.
 - Look at grant funds for this or sponsorship dollars to cover cost.
 - **Possibly put something small in a 319 grant**
 - **Or write a separate proposal to its own grant program. Look for a grant program to seek (private foundation or EPA Environmental Grant)**

Road Signage Permit Letter-Storm Water Task Force Javier Guerrero, TAMUK

- Installed 10 road signs last year, but one or two was removed because we did not have the correct permit for TxDOT. TxDOT and Arroyo Partnership worked together to get a blanket permit to install road signs in the Arroyo Colorado. The permit states that each individual city will follow our blanket permit and will install and maintain signs on their own accord.
- Cities involvement: at the last stormwater task force meeting (ordinance meeting), the city of Alton planned to draft a letter to use for submission to TxDOT under the Arroyo Partnership’s blanket permit. Stormwater task force currently has \$3500 for signs. This does not include all the cities as some are reviewing locations and will determine if they have funds to provide. The City of Weslaco

will make the signs so they are offering labor – total cost is ~\$100/sign with the city of Weslaco providing labor.

- Part of the deal with TxDOT is that we are able to place a sticker on the signs that provide a number to call if illegal dumping is seen

Arroyo Colorado Outreach Activities:

Classroom PresentationsJaime Flores, TWRI

- As part of the MS4 stormwater management program, one of the BMPs in the plans for the cities was to conduct classroom presentations (O&E). Stormwater taskforce is going into K-12 classrooms and providing info on water quality and various aspects. They also provide the teachers curriculum and suggest a field day component, which last year was the storm drain marking event
- First classroom presentation will be next week (in Harlingen). Kyle will be working with the group now too and going into classrooms

Esterro Llano Grande-AC Classroom Presentations Kyle Ohaver, TPWD

- Teachers and students visit the Esterro Llano Grande wetland to teach and help prepare for the state testing. Used the park to set up a workshop to teach difficult topics from the classroom. Had 8 stations at the park at first event. **Now wanting a pamphlet that the Park can provide to teachers to advertise their ability to educate in a hands-on fashion.** Park will focus on nature side of things, but obviously station would be geared toward water quality and Arroyo Colorado.
- A good tie to this would be all of the local science fairs – give the kids a good idea of what are important local issues that they could address.

Arroyo Colorado-Trash Bash CleanupJaime Flores, TWRI

- In discussion about a possible clean up, we discovered that the cities already have their own trash bash in April so we are coordinating with them.
- Working with James Matz to get a coordinated event. Even want to include Arroyo City and have boats in the water.
- Javier received contacts from one of the teachers, who is adopting a highway. Could we have a group that ‘Adopts the Arroyo’?

O&E Project Updates:

Texas Stream Team Monitor Workshop..... Josh Oyer, Texas Stream Team

- Hosting a Stream Team Monitoring training workshop on Nov 21.
- Provide training and certification on two levels: Core parameters – DO, pH, Temp, Secchi disk, field observations and Bacteria parameter where you can be certified in monitoring E. coli.
- Training will be from 8 to 5 at Citrus Center
- No cost – it is a free event funded thru TCEQ and EPA
- Would like to cap it at 26 participants
- **Event will likely fill up so don’t know if we need a news release advertising the event prior to it. Josh will let us know if he wants press before the event.**
- **Definitely want a news release promoting the event after the fact. Get Jaime or Rod to take pictures.**

Storm Water Task Force Scholarships & Teacher Stipends..... Javier Guerrero, TAMUK

- Stormwater task force providing scholarships to students for studying engineering at TAMUK. Task Force provided 3 scholarships in spring 2009 (one from Mission, two from Harlingen). Currently open to the following ISDs: Donna, Harlingen, Mission, La Feria, La Joya, San Benito, Santa Rosa, Weslaco, Alamo, Pharr, San Juan, McAllen, Palmhurst, Alton, and Palmview.

Upcoming Grants and Potential Projects

Grants Awarded & New Proposals..... Cecilia Wagner, TWRI

- Upcoming proposals: TCEQ 319 and TSSWCB 319 (both due in November); and EPA Environmental Education Grant (due in December)

BWET Grant Update Don Hockaday, UTPA

- This year, only plan to fund 2 proposals in the Gulf of Mexico for \$100K each. Want the proposal to be more hands on and more field work involved.

Other Business Jaime Flores, TWRI

- Stormwater Task force is hosting a 8 hour course, “Developing and Implementing Soil Erosion management plans in construction sites,” on Friday, Oct 23 in Laredo (20 registered).
- A second course will be developed that will target Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan that is provided by construction site managers.
- The 9th annual stormwater conference will work with “StormCon,” a national stormwater conference. The StormCon conference will be August 1–5, 2010 in San Antonio, TX.

Next Meeting Date/Adjourn..... Jaime Flores, TWRI

- January 12, 2010 from 3 to 5 pm

**Arroyo Colorado Habitat Workgroup Meeting
October 22, 2009 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Attendees:

Jaime Flores (TWRI)	Ernesto Reyes (VSWFS)
Laura De La Garza (Comite)	Miki McCurdy (San Juan EDC)
Cecilia Wagner (TWRI)	Melisa Gonzalez (City of San Juan)
Amanda Engledow (TWRI)	

Meeting Summary

Welcome

- Went around table and did introductions

Watershed Protection Plan

- Jaime conducted several classroom presentations: Tuesday 10/20 (Stewart Place Elementary); and Thursday (10/22) (Dr. Rodriguez Elementary) and Cameron County Annex building (Cameron county teachers). Classroom presentations are still needed, but not as a heavy load on Jaime as more people are helping this year.
- Laura asked to post Jaime’s presentation on the Arroyo Colorado Web site
- Teachers are looking for curriculum to supplement current one. Has to come from government approved entity. Created 5 to 6 curriculums so far.
- Outreach and Education meeting (grant workshop will be continued)
- Model on display (10/18) Pharr Out Kids Nature Day. (see bimonthly update (10/20/09) for specifics)
- Model needed repair because people have misused it, or it might have been damaged in transport. It will now have a login/logout so that people can be held liable.
- Model will be on display again at the Estero Llano Grande Spooky Science Fest, Sat 10/24.
- Cities need to submit to TxDot for a permit to go under the blanket permit to install watershed boundary signs. Hopefully by end of November there will be an additional 40 signs in place, at sites identified by TxDot.

- Ribbon cutting at wetlands in San Juan will probably happen in next 2/3 weeks. They will let us know to put in bimonthly update. Also La Feria had final walk through last week.
- Planning a “Trash Bash” in conjunction with cities and Valley Proud (James Natz); event already held annually so Arroyo Partnership will team up with it. (Laura) Eric Ellman (los cominos del rios) is willing to donate kayaks to allow a crew in the water for the trash bash. Jaime wants to get 4-H kids involved.
- Nov 21, Texas Stream Team – monitor workshop. 26 spots available. 2 types of monitoring qualifications will be taught (basic and advanced E. coli). Jaime is going to take the class. He will also talk to 4-H leaders from Cameron and Hidalgo to get 4-H kids involved and to be stream team volunteers.
- We need to try and get cities to embrace/adopt volunteer monitoring.
- Soil testing funding problems. It is currently funded by a GLO grant through CMP so GLO wants to limit funding only for samples from within the CMP zone. County extension agents and TWRI met to discuss this issue as program is typically open to all producers. Working to find additional funding for this or work with GLO for them to fund it.

Project Updates and Discussions

- 4-cities wetland
 - San Juan: All construction is complete and will be doing walk through next week. Ribbon cutting will be done tentatively mid November.
 - Spending \$50,000 on drip irrigation system and additional cost was the clay liner on 7 acres.
 - In the process of procurement of signage for education.
 - Design called for smaller trees and shrubs (5 gallon), so planted wetland does not look complete, but will once everything grows in.
 - Already talking about second phases to the project.
 - Had to omit one of the ponds due to unidentified obstacle identified when digging, so made the other 3 larger and made that area into a butterfly area.
 - Need a wetland workshop especially for maintenance (Wetland maintenance Training Program). Cities that are trying to do this need/want to know how to maintain the wetlands so that they won't be dead in a year.
 - Melissa – we need someone to put some impervious stuff at the wetlands
- Region M/4-county regional drainage study
 - Rio Grande Water Authority and Rio Grande Water Planning Group (Region M) - Regional 4 county study to identify drainage problems. Areas have already been identified that are prone to flooding; this county/city land will be put aside to divert storm/flood water. Objectives of study fit well with the goal of the WPP to identify and implement regional wetlands. Plan to work with regional drainage study personnel.
- Harlingen Aeration structures
 - Riffle Construction image from Laura
 - Originally 5 models and now identified one and have a budget worked out
 - Arroyo Partnership can provide letter of support to see this through
- Shrimp Farm
 - Shrimp farm a mute issue due to the fact that there are 2 contracts on the land however it might be possible to have some community input (real estate agent has said that he can be liaison).

Available Grants/Potential Studies

- City of Brownsville going to take lead on low impact development regional 319 grant (TCEQ)]
- Want TWRI to help facilitate/write grant

Other Business

- Low Impact Development regional Grant (TCEQ 319) (Harlingen, Brownsville, San Juan, Mission, possibly more). Brownsville would be lead (Fiscal Agent).
 - San Juan – Impervious parking lot and Boardwalk
 - Harlingen – 75 acres convert to RDF
 - Brownsville – Volleyball Complex
 - Mission – Parks (trails and rain gardens)
 - TAMUK wants to do water quality monitoring for BMP effectiveness at each site.
- New Grant (319 TSSWCB) - Target producers who don't have water quality management plans or BMPs.
 - Demos for producers so that they can see the BMP for a year and see what it can do.
 - Education/Outreach for cost-share programs to alleviate fears/misunderstandings about the programs.
- Additional discussion regarding agriculture in the Arroyo Colorado:
 - It is the cities that are responsible for the drainage ditches; if agriculture is contributing to the problem, then maybe the cities can provide assistance to the farmers.
 - Farmers might be able to give a small portion of their land to make wetlands and there is federal \$ for this and possibly tax credits.
 - Larger producers have the ability to implement more BMPs (land leveling and no till) because they have the resources, but small producers don't.
- TCEQ 319 proposal for sustainability will also likely be submitted.
- Texas Water Development Board Demonstration Grant– Solar Bee
- Coordinate visit with Loretta Mokry (APAI), Butch Palmer (Port of Harlingen) and Elizabeth Heise (UTB) for meeting to talk about the Port of Harlingen project.

Next Meeting Date/Adjourn

January 21, 2010

Arroyo Colorado Steering Committee/Partnership Meeting
October 22, 2009 4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Attendees

Jaime Flores (TWRI)
 Laura De La Garza (Comite)
 Ernesto Reyes (USFWS)
 Claudia Lozano (TQEQ)
 Joe Hinojosa (City of Brownsville)
 Rocky Freund (NRA)
 Ronnie Ramirez (TSSWCB)

Ken Jones (LRGVDC)
 Brad Cowan (Agrilife Extension)
 Amanda Engledow (TWRI)
 Enrique Perez (Agrilife Extension)
 Jude Benavides (UTB)
 Cecilia Wagner (TWRI)

Meeting Summary**Welcome and Introductions**

- Jude- introductions and thanks

Work Group Updates

- Ag Issues
 - Waiting from EPA on proposal for next 319 project for cost share funds
 - Wrapping up current 319 project. Trying to find money that is not being used and reallocate from now until December
 - BMP maps have been turned in, will be published soon, and will be put with the land use maps
 - Planning a Turf Conference for next year
 - Soil campaign coming up this fall/winter (2009/2010)

- Habitat Issues
 - Updates on 4-Cities wetlands project. La Feria, San Juan, San Benito.
 - San Juan is almost complete (ribbon cutting tentatively in mid November). La Feria had final walkthrough last week.
 - Funding coming up for San Benito wetland
 - Potential for an enhancement wetland in the city of Alamo for waste water treatment. Might be lagoons and treatment wetlands (before compliance) not polishing wetlands (after compliance).
 - Dr. Kim Jones proceeding with drainage project, however he was not present to provide an update.
 - Region M – 4-county regional drainage study
 - Rio Grande water authority and Rio Grande Water Planning Group (region M) - Regional 4 county study to identify drainage problems. The state already has a plan that states that there is a plan and that we need wetlands for this. Areas have already been identified that are prone to flooding. County/city land will be put aside to divert storm/flood water. No one else can afford to buy that amount of land to do nothing with (except the city) and the city is looking for a place to put the water.
 - Ken Jones said that whoever they select to do drainage study, he wants to encourage them to incorporate the WPP priorities including the need for a regional wetland system into the drainage study.
 - Shrimp farm a mute issue due to the fact that there are 2 contracts on the land; however it might be possible to have some community input (real estate agent has said that he can be liaison).

- Water Quality Monitoring
 - Quarterly monitoring at 4 different sites.
 - Bacterial Indicator Study, which is determining whether or not E. coli is best indicator to use: Have sampled every month since January. Have been doing grab samples and looking solely at geometric means given new standard would remove single sample criteria. Speaking of new standard, even if the maximum E. coli criteria were raised from 126 to 206 CFU/100ml, the Arroyo Colorado will still remain on 303d list as the sample numbers are outside the 206 range.
 - NRA Has been asked to conduct the RUAA on the non-tidal Arroyo; start date and status unknown at this time.

- Education and Outreach
 - Discussed the grant workshop that was scheduled for August and included representatives from GLO, TCEQ, NIFA, TSSWCB, TWDB, NOAA, NRCS, TDA. Workshop was postponed for a later date.

- The brochure, “Little waterway with a big job” was printed with additional funds from TCEQ and Jaime now has copies to distribute. Similarly, the Executive Summary of the WPP was also printed with additional funds from TCEQ.
 - Still have a need for promotional items (caps, shirts, and buttons) – will look into smaller education or other grants.
 - Watershed Boundary Signs – got blanket permit from TxDOT for partnership and each city can get permit under this one. 40 more signs are scheduled to be put in place that TxDOT helped identify locations for.
 - We now have public service announcement on channel 12 and channel 17 in schools and available to the public.
 - Plan to reach youth through providing Science Fair topics targeting the Arroyo Colorado.
 - Annual Trash Bash – Arroyo Colorado stakeholders have requested a trash clean up event and given there is a “Trash Bash” event held annually in April (11 cities and Valley Proud participate), the Arroyo Colorado will participate as well. In addition to ground cleanup, there is a plan to get into the Arroyo Colorado in kayaks, donated by Eric Ellman (los cominos del rios), to clean up trash in the waterway.
 - Texas Stream Team monitor workshop (Nov 21) – 26 spots available. 2 types of monitoring qualifications will be taught (basic and advanced E. coli). Will be talking to 4-H leaders from Cameron and Hidalgo to get 4-H kids involved and to be stream team volunteers.
 - Model on display (10/18) Pharr Out Kids Nature Day. (see bimonthly update (10/20/09) for specifics)
 - Model needed repair because people have misused it, or it might have been damaged in transport. It will now have a login/logout so that people can be held liable.
 - Will be on display at spooky science fest Sat 10/24.
 - Jaime was in several classrooms Tuesday 10/20 (Stewart Place Elementary) and today (10/22) (Dr. Rodriguez Elementary), Cameron County Annex building (Cameron county teachers) 10 teachers were there.
- Waste Water Infrastructure
 - Trying to track waste water infrastructure improvements
 - Many cities have replied about their attachment to colonias and Jaime is summarizing them.
 - Harlingen (2 mill to 4 mill gal/day), Weslaco, Pharr (more than Harlingen), and Alamo are doing reuse.
 - McAllen south plant. Brad knows land owner that might consider reuse. In past has not wanted to do it because he grew food crops but now is nonfood.

Long-term Partnership Sustainability

- Previous Options Discussed
 - Becoming our own 501(c)3. Legal standing, but it required resources and money that we didn't have. Political activity limited.
 - Going under the umbrella of an existing organization. Few resources necessary to continue at this point and have Human Resources to support Watershed Coordinator (WC). Still no legal standing. There would be an outside board in addition to the steering committee.
- Sustainability Task Group

- Have met since 2008 to discuss options and determine a plan of action
- Will meet again on 10/23

- Proposed at last meeting
 - LRGVDC could support Partnership through employing/administering WC.
 - WC funded by a variety of sources (Federal and state through TWRI, LRGVDC, and local funds through LRGV NPDES Stormwater Task Force)
 - WC would still support Partnership and implement the WPP
 - WC would also assist with measures that overlap or are directly related to the WPP (Region M Planning, Lower Rio Grande Valley Water Authority, Storm Water Task Force)
 - Partnership remain as is
 - Steering Committee and Workgroups work together to guide Partnership carried out by WC
 - LRGVDC is official government or political entity.
 - Partnership will not seek 501(c)3.
 - LRGVDC host and maintain account for the Partnership
 - LRGVDC has grant writers on staff and subcontracts web support to assist the Partnership

- Additional Proposal
 - South Texas Environmental Institute (TAMUK) (Stormwater Task Force) expressed interest in being more involved with sustainability
 - Provide funding through the LRGV TPDES Stormwater Task Force
 - Engage WC on Stormwater Task force tasks that overlap with WPP goals
 - SWTF says they can give \$10,000 to support WC
 - Discussions are ongoing to determine details

- Partnership status
 - Funded through a variety of sources through individual implementation projects
 - WC backbone of partnership

- WC status
 - Current grant funds WC through TCEQ 319(h) grant
 - Current end date of TCEQ is 2/28/10
 - Provided a NCE is allowed, WC could be sustained for 3.7 months after 2/28
 - TWRI will request an extension thru 5/31/10
 - TWRI has additional funding to carry WC through 8/15/10

- Options
 - 1 – WC becomes employee of existing entity and serves their sole purpose and watershed partnership.
 - Provide 100% of funding after TWRI funds expire.
 - Provide funding for Partnership activities.
 - Everything else stays the same

 - 2 – WC become employee of existing entity and serve multiple agencies and watershed partnership

- Existing entity and other local partners provide portion of funding after TWRI funds expire.
 - WC will provide support to multiple entities based on the level of funding provided.
 - Everything else stays the same
- 3 – TWRI or other entity to submit a 319(h) proposal to TCEQ and TSSWCB to sustain partnership for an additional 2 to 3 years. Project would focus on sustainability and implementation and include local partners.
 - Option contingent upon getting funded.
 - WC employee of TWRI or other entity
 - Project would not likely be funded until 10/1/10 (at earliest) (TSSWCB). 3/11 for TCEQ
 - Tier funding levels for WC to gain local support in 2 to 3 years
 - WC will provide support to multiple entities based on the level of funding provided.
- Where are we going from here
 - Sustainability task group will meet and continue to meet
 - Review all options and develop a more concrete plan with budget numbers
 - Unless the Steering Committee or Task Group is against it, we will definitely submit the two 319(h) proposals.

Grants Update

- Low Impact Development regional Grant (TCEQ 319) (Harlingen, Brownsville, San Juan, Mission) all would alternate. Brownsville would be the lead (Fiscal Agent). Little behind in meeting the following goals and one of those is low impact development.
 - San Juan – Impervious parking lot and Boardwalk
 - Harlingen – 75 acres convert to RDF
 - Brownsville – Volleyball Complex
 - Mission – Parks (trails and rain gardens)
 - TAMUK wants to do water quality monitoring for BMP effectiveness at each site.
 - Wants cities to adopt a different ordinance for development.
- New Grant (319 TSSWCB) – Directed approach to get producers who don't have water quality management plan or BMPs to have them.
 - Demos for producers so that they can see the BMP for a year and see what it can do.
 - Education/Outreach for cost-share program participation to alleviate fears/misunderstandings about the program
- Solar Bee
 - Hoping to submit to Texas Water Development Board Demonstration Grant
 - TCEQ going to do a demonstration with the Solar Bee this spring

Other Business

- Jude is in progress of putting together GIS data for the Arroyo. We need to share land use and BMP mapping and SWAT modeling.
-

Appendix C**Bi-Monthly Updates September 2009 through November 2009**

September 17; October 6, 20, 30; November 15, 30

September 17, 2009

Hello Arroyo Partners:

Last week, it rained in the Rio Grande Valley! There were scattered thunderstorms throughout the Valley all week and it was great to see that much rain. Could the drought be over? No of course not but it was still nice. A lot of this rain fell in our watershed. Eventually, all the rain saturated the ground, led to localized flooding, storm drains were full of trash and the reminder of a storm like Dolly was on everyone's mind. Storm water runoff and flooding will be a big issue this winter in the Rio Grande Valley if the predictions for a very wet winter are correct.

On the last update, we shared with you a written summary of our WPP implementation efforts to date. We presented that written summary to Region M Water Planning Group on September 2. We now have the opportunity to add any additional milestones or pertinent data that might have been left out of the original summary. The summary is attached and we any additions or corrections by September 25.

I have been meeting with several cities to discuss the grant cycles that are coming up, particularly the CWA Section 319 Program. We have some ideas focusing on stormwater management and low impact development, but are always interested in more projects and partners. Please contact me if there is a project you want the Partnership to consider.

Please mark your calendars for a few upcoming events including:

- Rio Reforestation XVIII on Saturday, October 10 (<http://www.friendsofsouthtexasrefuges.org/default.asp?id=297>)
- McAllen Green Living Festival on Saturday, October 17 (<http://www.mcallen.org/McAllen-Green/Green-Living>)

Speaking of events, summaries from all of the previous workgroup (Habitat Restoration and Agriculture Issues) and steering committee meetings held in June and July are now posted on the Web site at <http://www.arroyocolorado.org/Partnership.php>. As we look ahead, we have partnership meetings scheduled for October and we appreciate and welcome your attendance. The outreach and education workgroup will be meeting on October 13 and the steering committee meeting will be on Oct 22. More information about these meetings to follow in the future updates and to be posted on the Web site.

With all the rain, I could not get out to do any fishing but I was able to get some white-wing dove hunting in over the last couple of weekends. Lots of white-wings flying and the birds were healthy. I hope that we do have a wet winter throughout the state to help out the wildlife and the farmers. All of this rain also means that I will be doing a lot of grass cutting. The fishing will probably have to wait.

Looking ahead,

Jaime Flores

October 6, 2009

Hello Arroyo Partners:

We have had enough rain over the last couple of weeks in the Rio Grande Valley that the meteorologists are saying that the "Valley" is no longer in a drought. I hope they are right. It has been hard going from one extreme, Dolly, to another, drought. The Valley also experienced the first cold front of the year. It wasn't that cold but it did trigger most of the rain.

The Arroyo Colorado Watershed Partnership will be having two workgroup meetings and the quarterly steering committee meeting this month. The Outreach and Education workgroup meeting will be held on October 14, from 3

to 5 pm at the Texas Agrilife Extension Service Conference room. The Habitat workgroup meeting will be held on October 22, from 2 to 4 pm. The Steering Committee meeting will be held after the Habitat workgroup meeting from 4:30 to 7 pm. Both the habitat workgroup and steering committee meetings will be held in the Rio Red Classroom at the TAMUK Citrus Center in Weslaco, TX. I would like to thank Magic Valley Electric CO-OP for sponsoring the food and refreshments for the SC meeting. Please make an effort to attend these meetings.

I am excited to announce that the Texas Stream Team will be having a volunteer monitor training workshop on Saturday, November 14 from 8:30-4:30 pm at the Rio Red Classroom at the TAMUK Citrus Center in Weslaco, TX. Anyone that is interested in becoming an Arroyo Colorado Stream Team Monitor should attend. This is an intense and excellent workshop that covers quite a bit of ground.

Please mark your calendars for a few upcoming events including:

- Rio Reforestation XVIII on Saturday, October 10 (<http://www.friendsofsouthtexasrefuges.org/default.asp?id=297>)

- McAllen Green Living Festival on Saturday, October 17 (<http://www.mcallen.org/McAllen-Green/Green-Living>)

- Pharr Out Kids Nature Day on Main Street on Saturday, October 17.

- 4th Annual Spooky Science Fest: Creature from the Llano Grande. Saturday, October 24, from 6pm-10pm at the Estero Llano Grande World Birding Center.

I went to Kyle, TX this past Friday to pick up the Arroyo Colorado watershed model. I had taken it to Paul Bond to have the model repaired. The model looks great and is ready to start making the rounds in our watershed. Again, I would like to thank Rocky Freund and everyone at the Nueces River Authority for making the repairs possible.

The Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) recently released the FY2010 Clean Water Act Section 319(h) nonpoint source grant program request for proposals. Deadline for these proposals is Monday, November 16, 2009. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) should be releasing their similar request for proposals soon. The Stormwater Task Force is actively working on a project to be submitted to TCEQ focusing on low impact development and BMPs to reduce the amount and improve the quality of stormwater runoff. Further, the partnership is looking at submitting other proposals to help sustain implementation of the Arroyo Colorado WPP. If you have an interest or a project idea for the Clean Water Act Section 319(h) nonpoint source grant program, let us know.

Despite all the rain, I did manage to get some fishing in. We got caught in a small storm, had to sit it out and then the fishing was great. We are scouting some sites along the Mansfield jetties in anticipation of the first "real" cold front and the "Drum Run" that follows. This is a great time of year if you enjoy the outdoors. I hope to see some of you out on those rocks catching "Bull Reds" pretty soon.

Looking ahead,

Jaime Flores

October 20, 2009

Hello Arroyo Partners:

The weather over the last couple of days has been great. It is the perfect time to plant native trees, grasses and wildflowers. Not only are the native species beautiful, they also require much less water to survive in our South Texas Heat. So go out and plant a native tree, grass or flowers right now!

Over the weekend, I attended the Pharr Out Kids Nature Day and the McAllen Green Living Festival. Both events were very well attended and very informative. The Arroyo Colorado watershed model was on display at the Pharr Out Kid's Nature Day. The model was on display with The Estero Llano Grande World Birding Center exhibit. It is

great to see these types of events in the Rio Grande Valley. I want to congratulate the Cities of Pharr and McAllen for holding such great events for the community.

Here is just another reminder. The Arroyo Colorado Watershed Partnership will be having the Habitat workgroup meeting and the quarterly Steering Committee meeting this Thursday (October 22). The Habitat workgroup meeting will be held from 2 to 4 pm. The Steering Committee meeting will be held after the Habitat workgroup meeting from 4:30 to 7 pm. Both the habitat workgroup and steering committee meetings will be held in the Rio Red Classroom at the TAMUK Citrus Center in Weslaco, TX. I would like to thank Magic Valley Electric CO-OP for sponsoring the food and refreshments for the Steering Committee meeting. Please make an effort to attend these meetings.

The Texas Stream Team will be having a volunteer monitor training workshop on Saturday, November 21 from 8:30-4:30 pm at the Rio Red Classroom at the TAMUK Citrus Center in Weslaco, TX. There is a limit to the slots available for this workshop. Anyone that is interested should contact me and reserve your slot as soon as possible. I hope to hear from you soon as some of the slots have already been filled.

Please mark your calendars for the following upcoming events:

- 4th Annual Spooky Science Fest: Creature from the Llano Grande. Saturday, October 24, from 6pm-10pm at the Estero Llano Grande World Birding Center.

- Texas Butterfly Festival hosted by the Greater Mission Chamber of Commerce on October 22 through 24. Call 956.585.2727 or email: tourism@missionchamber.com for more information.

- Texas Stream Team volunteer training workshop. Saturday, November 21, from 8:30 am-4:30 pm at the Rio Red Classroom at the TAMUK Citrus Center in Weslaco, TX.

The Outreach and Education Workgroup met on last Wednesday (October 14). We had a great discussion and the minutes are attached and will be posted on the Web site soon.

I was able to make it out to the Mansfield jetties on October 11th. It was a little rough but definitely worth it. We caught 2-37" bull reds that we tagged, 1-27" red, 3 trout and 5 gafftop catfish. Someone on the boat also lost what was probably the biggest red all night. I hope he made it home, because we left him at the dock. The reds are probably more active after this last cold front that came through on Friday. I did not make it out this weekend, maybe next time. I know I've been telling a lot of fish stories so just in case you need the proof – see attached.

Looking ahead,

Jaime Flores

October 30, 2009

Hello Arroyo Partners:

The weather and season is definitely changing. There is a chill in the air and the Valley saw quite a bit of rain associated with the last cold front. I saw Richard Moore at the Rio Hondo Stripes at 5:30 am Saturday Morning. We were going fishing for Bull Reds and he said he was going to look for big bucks out in the chaparral.

Over the weekend, I attended the Estero Llano Grande Spooky Science Fest. The Arroyo Colorado Watershed model was on display and the event was very well attended. I want to congratulate the Estero Llano Grande staff and volunteers for putting on such a great event.

The Arroyo Colorado Watershed Partnership held the Habitat workgroup meeting and the quarterly Steering Committee meeting on Thursday, October 22 at the Rio Red Classroom at the TAMUK Citrus Center in Weslaco, TX. The summaries for the meetings will be sent out and posted to the website as soon as they are available. I

would like to thank Magic Valley Electric CO-OP for sponsoring the food and refreshments for the Steering Committee meeting and thank you to everyone that attended these meetings.

The Texas Stream Team will be having a volunteer monitor training workshop on Saturday, November 21 from 8:30-4:30 pm at the Rio Red Classroom at the TAMUK Citrus Center in Weslaco, TX. Anyone that is interested should contact me and reserve your slot as soon as possible. I already have 15 slots filled and the limit is 26 so email or call me to reserve your spot today.

I made it out to the Mansfield jetties and was stunned to see the effects of the red tide. You could smell the tide in the air, it was irritating our throats and there was a lot of coughing going on. And of course, there were a lot of dead fish. There were dead fish floating in the bay, along the inter-coastal and at the jetties. The next day, I went fishing at South Padre Island and saw the same thing. I saw several dead trophy flounder float by the boat. It is getting pretty bad. We did catch fish but it just wasn't the same watching the effect of the red tide.

Looking ahead,

Jaime Flores

November 15, 2009

Hello Arroyo Partners:

The weather here in the Rio Grande Valley has been great. It is perfect for all of the birder's that have flocked to the Rio Grande Valley for the annual Birding Festival. All of the deer hunter's I know have been busy getting things in order at the lease, filling feeder's, sighting in rifle's and getting ready to take down a big buck.

It is crunch time as far as grant submittal deadlines go. The ACWP submitted two proposals to TSSWCB for their CWA 319 grant program: (1) a proposal to seek sustainability of the Partnership; and (2) a proposal to fund an education program focusing on agricultural cost-share programs. We are also working with the Storm Water Task Force cities, TAMUK and UTB to submit a 319 grant to the TCEQ to implement, study and assess Low Impact Development in the Rio Grande Valley. We have a couple of others in the hopper. I will keep you posted.

I have done a handful of classroom presentations in Harlingen, Donna and Mission over the last couple of weeks. I had the opportunity to give an AC presentation to the Hidalgo Co. 4-H District meeting. The 4-H kids were great as were their parents. I want to thank them for giving me the opportunity to talk to them about the Arroyo. I also gave a presentation to 11 teachers from Los Fresnos and Brownsville at the Cameron County Teachers training day put on by Cameron Co. AgriLife Extension, Texas Department of Agriculture and Texas Farn Bureau.

I cannot emphasize enough that the Texas Stream Team will be having a volunteer monitor training workshop on Saturday, November 21 from 8:30-4:30 pm at the Rio Red Classroom at the TAMUK Citrus Center in Weslaco, TX. If you are interested, please contact me and reserve your slot as soon as possible. Slots are filling up as we speak. Reserve your spot today.

I have not made it back to the LLM for any fishing. I have been working on my butterfly gardens at the house. One had a complete make-over. It started with a little pruning and before I knew it, I had ripped everything out.

Looking ahead,

Jaime Flores

November 30, 2009

Hello Arroyo Partners:

As I am writing this bimonthly, the weather across the state is finally starting to feel like winter. This cold front will blow through and it will warm up again but it is nice, especially the steady, soaking rain/drizzle.

By mid week, we will have finalized at least 2 grants for submittal. The 319 grant to the TCEQ to implement, study and assess Low Impact Development in the Rio Grande Valley and an Environmental Education grant to educate local teachers on the Arroyo Colorado. Some of the others grants we are working on are a 319 to the TCEQ to seek sustainability of the Partnership.

I gave a classroom presentation to Wilson Elementary in Primera and have a full day planned at Harlingen High school on Dec. 2nd. I am also planning a teacher training workshop on Dec 7th., for the science teachers at Hidalgo High School. The idea is to educate the teachers on the Arroyo and let them take that knowledge to their classrooms. I hope it goes well.

The Arroyo Colorado Watershed Partnership and the Texas Stream Team hosted a volunteer monitor training workshop on Saturday, November 21 from 8:30-4:30 pm at the Rio Red Classroom at the TAMUK Citrus Center in Weslaco, TX. It was a great success. We had 17 volunteers show up. The workshop was very informative and everyone learned a lot. I want to thank the Texas Stream Team and their staff for such a well run workshop. I also need to thank Estero Llano Grande World Birding Center for allowing us to take the water samples at their beautiful park and the Storm Water Task Force for providing lunch.

I have still not made it back to the LLM for any fishing. All of my fishing buddies have abandoned me to go hunting. Most of the seeds I planted in my butterfly garden sprouted so I tore up my other butterfly garden. The turks cap and lantana had taken over and had made a tangled mess. I can't wait to see what they look like in the spring.

Looking ahead,

Jaime Flores

Appendix D

Presentation Evaluation on the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Protection Plan

1. Please indicate your level of understanding BEFORE the program and AFTER the program based on the following scale. Circle the appropriate number based on your knowledge or understanding.

	Poor 1	Fair 2	Good 3	Excellent 4	
Indicate your level of understanding of the following items:	BEFORE the program				AFTER the program
Water flows in the Lower Rio Grande Valley	1	2	3	4	1 2 3 4
Watersheds	1	2	3	4	1 2 3 4
Water pollution	1	2	3	4	1 2 3 4
Use of water within and use of the Arroyo Colorado	1	2	3	4	1 2 3 4
Water quality in the Arroyo Colorado	1	2	3	4	1 2 3 4
The Arroyo Colorado Watershed Partnership	1	2	3	4	1 2 3 4
Arroyo Colorado Watershed Protection Plan (WPP)	1	2	3	4	1 2 3 4

2. Please indicate your level of satisfaction with the following aspects of the activity. Check the appropriate box indicating your level of satisfaction.

	Not at All	Slightly	Somewhat	Mostly	Completely
Content					
Information was what you expected					
Information was accurate/easy to understand					
Information/material was relevant					
Information was helpful to you					
Quality of materials					
Instructor					
Instructor's knowledge of subject matter					
Instructor's length of presentation					
Instructor's organization/preparedness					
Instructor's response to questions					

3. Please tell us about yourself: ___ student ___ teacher ___ homeowner ___ agency ___ other(_____)

4. I would have liked more information on: _____

5. I would like to help implement the Arroyo Colorado WPP.

I am interested in the following:

- ___ Volunteer time
 ___ Water quality monitoring
 ___ Training and outreach activities
 ___ Membership dues/monetary support

6. I would like to receive more information by receiving:

___ bi-monthly email ___ bi-annual newsletters

To sign up for the email or newsletter, provide contact information below or visit the website at: <http://arroyocolorado.org>

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please make any additional comments about the presentation or any suggestions you have so we can better serve you on the back of this page.