

UCRA MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT . AUGUST 2010

GENERAL OR NON.PROJECT SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

UCRA staff provides technical and administrative assistance on an as-needed basis to various groups and municipal, state or federal agencies involved in water resource development and protection. UCRA staff also addresses questions and/or concerns relating to water issues from area residents. Fred Teagarden and Stephen Brown continue to work on the preliminary phase of a potential feasibility study regarding rural water supply treatment and distribution systems.

TEXAS CLEAN RIVERS PROGRAM (funded by the TCEQ through the LCRA)

WORK TASK 1: PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Activities include general administration, on-going communication with LCRA staff via email or telephone, maintenance of technical and financial files, planning, scheduling, coordination of work effort and the preparation of monthly/quarterly reports.

WORK TASK 2: QUALITY ASSURANCE

Work associated with data review and laboratory assistance is routine. Revisions to the QAPP due to changing conditions are reviewed and incorporated into normal procedures as requested and/or needed.

WORK TASK 3: WATER QUALITY MONITORING (conducted by UCRA staff, Chuck Brown)

North Concho River water quality complaints were submitted by UCRA staff to the TCEQ on 8.3.10. Staff conducted a routine monitoring event at (6) sites in segments 1421 & 1425 on 8.17.10 and at (6) sites on segments 1423 & 1424 on 8.18.10. Staff conducted (24) hour dissolved oxygen sampling as follows; Site 1421.12412 (Irving Street) on 8.23--8.24.10; site 1421.15886 (6th Street) on 8.24--8.25.10 and site 1421.12409 (Bell Street) on 8.25--8.26.10. Staff conducted a routine monitoring event at (7) sites in segment 1421 on 8.31.10.

WORK TASK 4: DATA MANAGEMENT

Analytical data is compiled, reviewed continuously and placed in the UCRA database for inclusion into the state database. The review includes QA/QC protocol.

WORK TASK 5: DATA ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

Staff evaluates water quality conditions in the basin on a continual basis. Watershed characteristics and changing climatic conditions are assessed for effects on water quality. Data is evaluated as to location, sample frequency and parameters tested. Staff also reviews permits and conducts data analysis and verification.

WORK TASK 6: STAKEHOLDRE PARTICPATION & OUTREACH

Routine website updates were made the CRP page of the UCRA website. The LCRA Project Manager was notified of changes to the website via email on 8.4.10

CONCHO RIVER BASIN EDUCATION CENTER (administered by TCEQ, funded by EPA)

WORK TASK 1: PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Activities include general administration, on-going communication with TCEQ Project Manager via email or telephone, maintenance of technical and financial files, planning, scheduling, coordination of work effort and the preparation of monthly/quarterly reports.

WORK TASK 2: PROJECT INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

Staff conducted routine facility maintenance on aquariums and ponds. Work to finish the large watershed model frame was authorized for completion by 8.31.10. Two additional frames to house educational panels were ordered along with a gallery hanging display system for artwork, which includes the Water Lilly exhibit that will be displayed at the center beginning 9.13.10. Dr. Youker has applied for a SACAC sub grant to help fund the hanging system.

WORK TASK 3: EDUCATION CENTER OPERATIONS

A Teacher Workshop was held at the Center on 8.9.10 in partnership with the Region XV Education Service Center. The Texas Stream Team (Texas State University, San Marcos led a training on water quality monitoring. Middle and high school teachers from area school attended the day long training. Teachers plan to involve students in the regular monitoring of water bodies near the schools and incorporate the data into research reports for TCEQ.

Outreach materials and center information was sent to all Principals in rural areas which includes the schools within the watershed outside the city of San Angelo. Some field trips for these groups have already been scheduled. Dr. Youker and SAMFA Museum Educator, Lillian Lewis are working with Ft. Concho Elementary for programs with third graders, focusing on the relationship between vegetation and water, connected to the current exhibit, "*Rooted in the Earth*" by Sherry Owens.

BRADY CREEK WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN PROJECT (administered by TCEQ, funded by EPA)

WORK TASK 1: ADMINISTRATION

Activities include general administration, on-going communication with TCEQ Project Manager via email or telephone, maintenance of technical and financial files, planning, scheduling, coordination of work effort and the preparation of monthly/quarterly reports. UCRA staff held a post award conference call with Project Manager Lauren Bible on 7.26.10. Discussion included the project work plan, the upcoming post award meeting with TCEQ & EPA, the QAPP, and the Public Participation Plan (PPP).

WORK TASK 2: BUILD PARTNERSHIPS:

A draft Project Fact sheet was prepared and submitted to Ms. Bilbe on 8.12.10. An MOU for the City of Brady and UCRA was also prepared for review. Staff also began preliminary work on the PPP after receiving a sample and shell.

WORK TASK 3: DATA COLLECTIONS AND ANALYSIS:

Staff submitted the QAPP with a request for final response from Project Manager. The QAPP was discussed with the Project Manager at the 8.26.10 teleconference. After a few minor edits the QAPP will be re-submitted to all parties for final signatures.

TSSWCB BRUSH MONITORING (funded through the TSSWCB)

Routine administrative tasks relating to the project were performed by UCRA staff. Staff continued to meet with TSSWCB to discuss contracts for monitoring and hydrologic assistance in FYE10 & FYE11.

OC FISHER USACE 1135 ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROEJCT (funded by USACE)

UCRA staff Scott McWilliams corresponded via phone/email and met with North Star Helicopter personnel to discuss the use of a new DuPont Chemical for mesquite spray. Staff also corresponded with USACE personnel regarding the *Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA)* comments and *Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)*. Staff held discussions with local partners and USACE regarding potential current year mesquite spraying using new DuPont chemicals, if an amended EA will allow for this. Staff also had discussions with TSSWCB staff regarding contract development for brush control for FY 2010 and carryover to FY 2011 and approval for new chemical use. An on-site assessment of mesquite conditions regarding suitability for spraying reclaim and remedy was performed on 8.18.10.

COSA NORTH CONCHO RIVER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (funded by the City of San Angelo)

UCRA staff Chuck Brown and City of San Angelo staff met to finalize project. The dredging project officially ended on August 4, 2010. JND Thomas was notified by letter and told to submit final billing to close out the project.

COSA STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROEJCT funded by the City of San Angelo)

A meeting was held with UCRA and TIAER staff regarding modeling and watershed inventory on 8.3.10. All batteries were replaced at sample stations on 8.24.10. Staff downloaded data and collected samples after a stormwater event on 8.25.10.

UCRA and COSA staff were interviewed by KSAN and provided status updates for the project on 8.13.10. UCRA staff met with Councilman Paul Alexander (SMD1) on 8.24.10 and Kendall Hirschfeld (SMD5) on 8.25.10 regarding the storm water program. An interview was conducted with the Standard Times on 8.25.10 to update the paper in regards to the Stormwater Program.

Storm drain stencils have been ordered and a volunteer campaign with students will be implemented. A slogan has been developed, "*If it's on the ground, it's in the water*". A billboard and ad campaign will begin

in October. Additional educational panels with storm water education information are also being designed for use at the Education Center and as portable displays.

TWIN BUTTES RESTORATION PROJECT (funded by the US Bureau of Reclamation)

A meeting was held with UCRA staff and North Star Helicopter on 8.26.10 to discuss the possibility of utilizing a new chemical now available to treat mesquite. Staff made an extensive tour the project area on 8.28.10 and documented current canopy conditions as well as efficacy of the areas previously treated.

WATER RIGHTS PROEJCTS (O & M, MILES, PAINT ROCK)

Staff contacted and coordinated efforts with the UCACOE office at Hords Creek Lake regarding upcoming water releases from OC Fisher. Releases downstream are scheduled to begin in October.

MOUNTAIN CREEK RESERVOIR

No work required for this project during the month.