

Table 30. TSS Concentration Targets

Year	TSS Concentration (mg/L)	
	Priority Reaches (including reaches 2, 4, 9, 14, 27, 29, 32, 36, 41, 42, 44, 45, 46)	Monitoring locations (including Jacobs Well, Downtown and Confluence)
2014-2018	5.0 mg/L	5.0 mg/L
2020-2050	Groups A, B, C - 4.5 mg/L	Groups A, B, C - 4.5 mg/L

## 12. Technical and Financial Assistance

During the fall of 2013, the Cypress Creek Stakeholder Committee worked together with governmental and nongovernmental organizations to gain commitment for technical and financial assistance in implementing the Watershed Protection Plan. Both cities, the County and local NGOs discussed commitments for implementing WPP activities. Formal financial agreements will be finalized during the Interim period (between acceptance of the WPP and implementation):

- **Woodcreek, Wimberley, Hays County and WVWA have pledged to implement the BMPs in Table 21 with TCEQ guidance with an estimated value of \$2,832,060.**
- **Since appropriation funding cycles for local governments cannot anticipate future projects beyond the current budget cycles, the formal appropriations at the city and county-level have not yet been approved nor allocated. The city of Woodcreek, city of Wimberley, and Hays county representatives have pledged to support and present the WPP implementation needs to their respective appropriations bodies for approval and allocation.**
- **The local governments have pledged to seek proclamations adopting the WPP during the interim.**
- **The local governments have pledged to conduct an education and outreach campaign for elected officials to ensure approval, appropriation, and allocation of funds for implementation of the WPP.**

Table 21 above shows dollar amounts pledged for initial implementation of BMPs throughout the watershed. Stakeholders decided that initial implementation efforts should span a three year period, during which time additional modeling, monitoring and assessments of pollution reductions from existing and proposed ordinances will take place, in addition to the installation of demonstration and pollution reduction BMPs. Modeling, monitoring and ordinance review outcomes will likely lead to adaptive management and revisions to this plan, including strategic placement of structural BMPs in vulnerable subwatersheds, additional land

management activities and revised ordinances to prevent and mitigate nonpoint source pollution.

### Technical committee composed of Stakeholder Committee members and regional scientists

Throughout the Cypress Creek Project local and regional scientists have contributed their time, expertise, efforts and results of studies to the process of characterizing the watershed and determining how to keep Cypress Creek clean, clear and flowing. The Interim Stakeholder Committee will continue to work with these individuals to analyze the results of monitoring, modeling and other activities.

Table 31 below shows pledged matching funds for technical assistance, outreach and education and implementation activities, but does not include anticipated additional cash contributions from city, county or NGO participants. Additional in-kind contributions are also expected from these entities and The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment.

**Table 31. Partial List of Pledged In-kind Implementation Funds**

WVWA donated office space [\$350 mo rent + \$100 mo supplies/utilities for 36 mo]	\$ 16,200
Stakeholder Committee member participation in meetings and implementation activities [\$40/hr (4 technical members) + \$23.40/hr (4 community members)x 3hr x 36 meetings x 8 members]	\$ 27,389
Stakeholder Committee Chair commitment to raise additional funds and assist with implementation activities. [\$40/hr for 5 hr per week for 20 weeks out of the year for 3 years]	\$ 12,000
WVWA Executive Director commitment to raise additional funds and assist with implementation activities [funds from external source to support grant activities if this grant is approved]	\$ 20,000
GBRA Staff time contributions [.01 FTE/20 hr per year x 3 yr: \$50/hr Director of WQ Serv, \$22/hr WQ Technician and \$32/hr for E&O staff]	\$ 6,240
Use of meeting rooms donated monthly [\$150 x 36 meetings]	\$ 5,420
GBRA assistance with Monitoring QAPP [48 hours @ \$50/hr x 40.5% Fringe x 25.22% indirect]	\$ 4,222
GBRA assistance with annual QAPP updates YR2&3 [12 hours @ \$50/hr x 40.5% Fringe x 25.22% indirect]	\$ 1,056
GBRA monitoring and analyses of CRP site [\$370 per quarter x 3 yr]	\$ 4,400
SwRI in-kind contribution of time to modeling develop QAPP [\$50/ hr staff time x 36 hr]	\$ 1,800
Halff/TRC in-kind contribution to develop modeling and mapping QAPP [\$50/hr staff time x 70 hr]	\$ 3,500

Hays County Development Services/Road Crew assistance with RWH system installation	\$ 40,000
Lions Club Water Speaker Series [ 9 events x \$200 room rental + \$300 recording fee x 40 hr volunteer time @ \$23.40/hr]	\$ 12,924
Wimberley Volunteer Advisory Group technical assistance with data compiling, analyses and modeling activities [monthly meetings at \$362.55/hour (total for 5 engineers) for 3 hour meetings +\$150 meeting space for 36 mo]	\$ 57,607
Pledged matching funds	\$ 212,758

### **Financial Assistance by Program (Potential Funding Sources for Implementation)**

During the first three years of implementation, a watershed coordinator will be hired to assist the Stakeholder Committee secure additional funding for the implementation of demonstration BMPs, structural BMPs and outreach and education efforts. Potential sources of funding (detailed below) will be identified for specific management measures during this period. Because this is a preventative plan and future development is the predicted major cause of increased pollution loads, many BMPs will not require implementation for several years. Therefore, seeking financial and technical assistance will be an on-going and iterative process.

#### **City of Wimberley**

Wastewater solutions were reviewed by a seven person City appointed panel. Results of the panel, including recommendations and actions for the WPP may be finalized in 2014 and will be added to this section in subsequent versions of the WPP. Any additional funding sources will be identified during this effort.

#### **Clean Water State Revolving Fund**

The State Revolving Fund (SRF) administered by the TWDB provides loans at interest rates below the market to entities with the authority to own and operate wastewater treatment facilities. Funds are used in the planning, design, and construction of facilities, collection systems, stormwater pollution control projects, and nonpoint source pollution control projects. If a wastewater treatment plant is deemed feasible in the Cypress Creek Watershed, involved parties will pursue funds to build one.

#### **Grassland Reserve Program Farm & Ranch Lands Protection Program**

NRCS Texas Conservation Easements Under the authority of the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), Grassland Reserve Program (GRP), and the Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program (FRPP), NRCS acquires or provides funds for the acquisition of conservation easements to

protect significant natural resources. The easements are filed in the county records and are considered public information. NRCS freely releases the location of these easements so that planned routes for pipelines, transmission lines or roads may avoid impact. NRCS easements lands are not subject to condemnation through eminent domain.

### **Lonestar Healthy Streams Program**

Administered via TWRI/AgriLife/TSSWCB, the goal of the Lone Star Healthy Streams (LSHS) program is the protection of Texas waterways from bacterial contamination originating from livestock operations and feral hogs that may pose a serious health risk to Texas citizens. To achieve this important goal, the program's objective is the education of Texas farmers, ranchers, and landowners about proper grazing, feral hog management, and riparian area protection to reduce the levels of bacterial contamination in streams and rivers.

### **NRCS Water Resources Programs**

Through the National Water Quality Initiative, NRCS is offering financial and technical assistance to farmers, ranchers and forest landowners interested in improving water quality and aquatic habitats in priority watersheds with impaired streams. NRCS will help producers implement conservation and management practices through a systems approach to control and trap nutrient and manure runoff. Qualified producers will receive assistance for installing conservation practices such as cover crops, filter strips and terraces. For over 75 years, NRCS has provided agricultural producers with assistance to implement voluntary conservation practices that protect natural resources while maintaining production and profits.

### **Nonpoint Source 319 Grant Program**

The USEPA provides funding to states to support projects and activities that meet federal requirements of reducing and eliminating nonpoint source pollution. In Texas, both the TSSWCB and the TCEQ receive 319(h) funds to support nonpoint source projects, with TSSWCB funds going to agricultural and silvicultural issues and TCEQ funds going to urban and other non-agricultural issues. 319(h) funds from the TCEQ supported the development of the Cypress Creek Project and can be used during best management practice implementation.

### **Texas Environmental Quality Incentives Program**

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program is administered by the NRCS. This voluntary conservation program promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals. Through cost-sharing, EQIP offers financial and technical assistance to eligible participants for the installation or implementation of structural controls and management practices on eligible agricultural land. This program will be engaged to assist in the implementation of agricultural management measures in the watershed.

### **Traditional Statewide LIP Funding Series**

Administered through TPWD, these USFWS funds create the Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) which provides federal grant funds to the states to protect and restore habitats on private lands, to benefit Federally listed, proposed or candidate species or other

species determined to be at-risk. Grant funds must be used to establish or supplement State landowner incentive programs to benefit species identified in the State's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (State Wildlife Action Plan) or classified as Special Concern by the State, or Federally listed, proposed, or candidate species or other species determined to be at-risk. These grant funds may also be used to provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners for habitat protection and restoration.

#### **Water Conservation Field Services Program- Demonstration**

Funded via US BOR/US DOI, the WCFSP demonstrates innovative conservation technologies. The program specifically emphasizes ways to improve water measurement techniques in effective and affordable ways for agricultural districts. This includes demonstrations in water measurement, canal automation, diversion structures, seepage control, xeriscaping, and urban retrofitting.

#### **Water and Environmental Program**

Funded via Rural Utilities Service (RUS)/USDA, the Water and Environmental Programs (WEP) provide loans, grants and loan guarantees for drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste and storm drainage facilities in rural areas and cities and towns of 10,000 or less. Public bodies, non-profit organizations and recognized Indian tribes may qualify for assistance. WEP also makes grants to nonprofit organizations to provide technical assistance and training to assist rural communities with their water, wastewater, and solid waste problems.

#### **Water Quality Management Plan**

The WQMP program is administered by the TSSWCB. Also known as the 503 program, the WQMP program is a voluntary mechanism by which site-specific plans are developed and implemented on agricultural and silvicultural lands to prevent or reduce nonpoint source pollution from these operations. Plans include appropriate treatment practices, production practices, management measures, technologies, or combinations thereof. Plans are developed in cooperation with local SWCDs, cover an entire operating unit, and allow financial incentives to augment participation. Funding from the 503 program will be sought to support implementation of agricultural management measures in the watershed.

#### **Wetlands Reserve Program**

Funded via USDA/NRCS, the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) is a voluntary program offering landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) provides technical and financial support to help landowners with their wetland restoration efforts. This program offers landowners an opportunity to establish long-term conservation and wildlife practices and protection. The goal of NRCS is to achieve the greatest wetland functions and values, along with optimum wildlife habitat, on every acre enrolled in the program.