

Texas Water Resources Institute

Development of a Synergistic, Comprehensive Statewide Lone Star Healthy Streams Program FY 09 CWA 319(h) TSSWCB Project No. 09-06

Quarter no. 10 from 1/1/12 through 3/31/12

I. Abstract

All LSHS manuals have been drafted and provided to AgComm for review and editing. Edits have been received from AgComm on all manuals except for the Poultry Manual. Once everything is finalized, the Extension Program Specialist will format all of the manuals one last time in preparation for printing. The Extension Program Specialist has made tremendous progress on the educational presentations this quarter. This quarter, all presentations were drafted except for the poultry manual which is anticipated to be completed next quarter. TWRI continues to work on obtaining final endorsements from the steering committee. Only a few members have yet to respond. The LSHS concept continued to be introduced statewide at 7 locals to 900 participants. Finally, the Extension Program Specialist made tremendous progress on the online version of the manuals. The draft prototype of the online manuals is now available for viewing.

II. Overall Progress and Results by Task

TASK 1: Project Administration

Subtask 1.1: *TWRI will prepare electronic quarterly progress reports (QPRs) for submission to the TSSWCB. QPRs shall document all activities performed within a quarter and shall be posted to the project website and distributed to all project partners.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI submitted Year 2, Quarter 8 Progress Report on January 13, 2012.

75% Complete

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

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. As of February 29, 2012, \$201,481 or 53% of federal project funds had been expended.

53% Complete

Subtask 1.3: *TWRI will host coordination meetings, conference calls, or TTVN meetings with the TSSWCB Project Manager and SCSC at least quarterly to discuss project activities, project schedule, communication needs, deliverables, and other requirements. TWRI will develop lists of action items needed following each project meeting and distribute to project personnel.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. TWRI and TSSWCB met to discuss project status on February 15, 2012.

75% Complete

Subtask 1.4: *TWRI will work with AgriLife Extension to develop a Final Report.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No activity to report this quarter.

0% Complete

TASK 2: LSHS Program Coordination

Subtask 2.1: *AgriLife Extension SCSC will hire an Extension Program Specialist responsible for carrying out all Subtasks for Tasks 2 and 3.*

100% Complete

Subtask 2.2: *TWRI and AgriLife Extension will utilize the framework of the TSSWCB project 06-05 LSHS Project Steering Committee to establish a LSHS Program Steering Committee to direct this synergistic project, serve as the review panel for the educational materials developed through the project, and provide endorsement of the final LSHS Program. This LSHS Program Steering Committee will meet as frequently as needed, likely semi-annually.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No further meetings of the full LSHS steering committee are planned.
- b. TWRI continues to work on obtaining final endorsements from the steering committee. Only TDA, TAHC, NRCS, and GLCI have not responded.

95% Complete

Subtask 2.3: *The Extension Program Specialist will work with the Principal Investigators of the amassed body of work to compile the information and educational materials developed. This LSHS Program Development Committee shall meet as often as needed and serve to ensure that the Extension Program Specialist accurately captures and represents the species-specific information from the amassed body of work.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No further meetings of the full LSHS Program Development Committee are planned.
- b. The Extension Program Specialist continues to meet with individual LSHS Program Development Committee members as needed to finalize the species specific LSHS Manuals and presentations.

90% Complete

Subtask 2.4: *The Professor/State Forage Specialist, with assistance as needed from TWRI, will work closely with Texas AgriLife Extension Service Regional Program Directors, County Extension Agents, Extension Specialists, and other Extension Leadership, as appropriate, to ensure that the LSHS Program is supported around the state to ensure delivery of this program upon completion.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The State Forage Specialist continues to work with Extension Leadership and other pertinent project partners to ensure program support and successful statewide program delivery.

75% Complete

TASK 3: LSHS Program Development

Subtask 3.1: *The Extension Program Specialist will compile the amassed body of work including, but not limited to, information and educational materials developed through TSSWCB projects 06-05, 06-08, 06-07, 05-06, and 08-07.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The compilation of the amassed body of information and educational materials is essentially complete and has been incorporated into LSHS manuals, presentations, and the online database which is available online at <http://lshs.tamu.edu>.

99% Complete

Subtask 3.2: *The Extension Program Specialist will work with the materials (subtask 3.1) and the Development Committee (subtask 2.3) to develop standardized educational manuals on bacteria issues and BMPs for addressing bacteria runoff from grazing cattle, dairy cattle, poultry, horses, and feral hogs.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. All manuals have been drafted and provided to AgComm for review and editing. Edits have been received from AgComm on all manuals except for the Poultry Manual. Once everything is finalized, the Extension Program Specialist will format all of the manuals one last time.

80% Complete

Subtask 3.3: *The Extension Program Specialist will work with the materials (subtask 3.1) and the Development Committee (subtask 2.3) to develop standardized educational presentations on bacteria issues and BMPs for addressing bacteria runoff from grazing and dairy cattle, poultry, horses, and feral hogs to be used for in-person LSHS Program delivery. These presentations should be based on and flow from the Resource Manuals (subtask 3.2)*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The Extension Program Specialist has made tremendous progress on the educational presentations this quarter. This quarter, all presentations were drafted except for the poultry manual which is anticipated to be completed next quarter.

65% Complete

Subtask 3.4: *The Extension Program Specialist will develop promotional materials to be used for LSHS Program delivery and to inform the public of the availability of the LSHS Program.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. LSHS brochure has been approved by the TSSWCB.

100% Complete

Subtask 3.5: *The Extension Program Specialist will work with TDA and Texas Certified Crop Advisors Program to establish CEU credits for the educational program to encourage participation by landowners and crop advisors in the program.*

100% Complete

Subtask 3.6: *The Extension Program Specialist will develop pre- and post- participant surveys to evaluate (1) changes in producer knowledge and awareness, (2) expected adoption of BMPs, and (3) any barriers to producer participation and successful implementation of the program to be used at in-person LSHS Program delivery events.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. No activity to report this quarter.

98% Complete

Subtask 3.7: *The Extension Program Specialist, Professor & State Forage Specialist, Assistant Professor & District Agronomist at Overton, and the Assistant Professor & District Agronomist at Corpus Christi will pilot each of the five components of the LSHS Program at selected sites in East, Central, and South Texas. Watersheds selected for piloting of the LSHS Program shall be TSSWCB priority TMDL or WPP watersheds.*

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. This quarter, the LSHS concept was introduced through presentations at:
 - Granbury – 68 people
 - Caldwell – 265 people
 - Waco – 201 people
 - San Jacinto County – 28 people
 - McLennan, Limestone, Coryell Counties – 64 people
 - Henderson County – 185 people
 - Tarrant County – 89 people

75% Complete

TASK 4: Develop Interactive Website to Increase Access to LSHS Program

Subtask 4.1: *Using the latest appropriate technology, the Extension Program Specialist and TWRI IT Associate will work together to develop an interactive website to make the educational materials developed under Task 3 easily accessible by the public, landowners, county agents, soil and water conservation districts, decision makers, and others. The Extension Program*

Specialist will also evaluate the feasibility of providing CEUs for participation in online modules and if found to be feasible, will work to make those available online as well.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. The Extension Program Specialist also made substantial progress on the online version of the manuals.

70% Complete

Subtask 4.2: The Extension Program Specialist will develop and provide information for the website to the TWRI IT Specialist and update this information quarterly. The number of unique visitors to the website will be tracked to assess its impact and reported in each QPR.

The following actions have been completed during this reporting period:

- a. This quarter, the website was viewed by 141 unique visitors. Since implementation in September 2010, <http://lshs.tamu.edu> has seen a grand total of 796 unique visitors.

75% Complete

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

- N/A

IV. Projected Work for Next Quarter

- Obtain final endorsements from LSHS Steering Committee members
- Finalize and print LSHS manuals
- Finalize LSHS presentations
- Pilot each of the 5 LSHS programs
- Complete the interactive website