

Colorado-Lavaca Basin and Bay Expert Science Team

June 2, 2010 8:30am-2:30pm

Action Items and Consensus Decision Points

The CLBBEST met June 2, 2010 at LCRA in Austin. Steve Watters was unable to attend.

Action Item: Budget. Dave Buzan modified the existing budget to include additional full meetings to handle anticipated interaction with the stakeholder group after the recommendation reports are finalized and additional workgroup meetings. Dave will distribute prior to the next meeting.

Action Item: Budget / Additional Work. The group discussed possibilities for using a portion of the budget for contracting other work. Dr. Hardy will prepare scope/cost for conducting instream flow work to complement existing studies in the Pedernales and Llano River for consideration by the group. Myron Hess will share NWF's information on riparian work conducted by Tom Hayes in the Sabine Basin. Melissa Romigh will prepare a scope of work for alternative to riparian modeling.

Action Item: Identify Soil Conservation Dams. Land surface management has likely impacted stream flows, particularly in the western portion of the basin. Kirk will prepare a table containing information of soil conservation dams that will be used to help explain how we pick periods of record for hydrologic evaluation.

Action Item: Schedule Bay Expert Meeting at the Coast

Dave Buzan and Bryan Cook scheduled July 9th for the meeting in Palacios, TX. An agenda will be distributed prior to the next meeting.

Action Item: TPWD and NWF review of MBHE Evaluation

TPWD and NWF reviewed and prepared technical comments on the MBHE approach to developing freshwater inflow recommendations to Matagorda Bay (related to the LCRA-SAWS water project). They will provide key pieces of their comments in the context of our SB-3 charge.

Consensus Decision and Action Item

Dave Buzan presented on the BBEST Direction for the next 3 months. The group reached consensus on the following revised schedule:

• June-September:

–At our selected stations, identify natural flow regime, native species, key habitats, and key ecological functions, then summarize to the best of our ability any conclusions about flow relationships.

–Hydro workgroup is using HEFR to compute flow regimes at the selected stations

• October: Provide draft flow regimes for the 7 experimental sites and freshwater inflows to bays to the Colorado/Lavaca stakeholders

- October –January 2011: Prepare draft environmental flow regimes for remaining sites. Provide support to help stakeholders understand the analytical process and source of values in the draft environmental flow regime. Draft environmental flow regime recommendation report.

- February 1: First draft of report completed and circulated

In addition to the revised schedule, various framework groups were created.

Framework

Fish- Dr. Hardy and Dr. Bonner will develop a framework to evaluate fish at each site. This will be based on the focal fish work that Dr. Hardy has begun.

Riparian Zone- Melissa Romigh, Dave, and Cathy Wakefield will develop the riparian zone framework

Water Quality- Okla, Dave, and Bryan will work on the water quality framework

Hydrology – Kirk, Joe, and Richard will work on the hydrology framework

Geomorphology- Nolan volunteered to prepare a framework for geomorphology/sedimentation analysis

The group will evaluate progress at the next meeting.

Consensus Decision: Final Gage Stations

The group discussed and finalized the list of gage stations to be analyzed. The list will be updated and distributed prior to the next meeting.

Consensus Decision: Meeting Dates

The following meeting dates were approved by consensus:

Wednesday, July 21, 2010 8:30am-2:30pm

Tuesday, August 24, 2010 8:30am-2:30pm

Tuesday, September 21, 2010 8:30am-2:30pm

Tuesday, October 19, 2010 8:30am-2:30pm

Tuesday, November 16, 2010 8:30am-2:30pm

Tuesday, December 21, 2010 8:30am-2:30pm