

Colorado-Lavaca Basin and Bay Expert Science Team
October 19, 2010 8:30am-2:30pm
Action Items and Consensus Decision Points

The CLBBEST met October 19, 2010 at LCRA in Austin. Melissa Romigh was unable to attend.

Consensus Decision:

The group conditionally adopted the minutes of the September 20, 2010 meeting, pending review and comment by Melissa Romigh. The discussion about LiDAR data will be reflected in the riparian discussion below.

Discussion: Budget

There may be up to \$99,000 that has not been allocated in the current budget. Not reflected in the budget is an additional \$25,000 and a possible \$22,500 from the TWDB. The BBEST discussed tasks and activities to allocate these funds.

Action Items: Budget

- There are 192 hours allocated to BBASC interaction. Kirk Kennedy is approved to attend three, 3 hour meetings to assist with WAM development. David Buzan will coordinate additional requests from the BBASC.
- Richard will discuss document production with the editorial staff from TWRI. The BBEST is seeking assistance in formatting and editing the final report.
- Cross-section analysis: Dr. Hardy was approved for 4 hours of Training and 4 hours of QAQC for the cross-section analysis tool.
- Kirk and Joe were each approved for 2 hours for preparing information for the WAM for stakeholders
- Thom was approved for 2 hrs to add the Pedernales and Llano River sites to the Cross-section Channel Model.
- Geomorphology assistance. Steve Watters and Nolan Raphelt will prepare an RFQ for assisting the TWDB with geomorphology analysis.

Joe Turngale's expenditures for the HEFR analysis were incorporated into the budget during the meeting.

Discussion: Cross-Section Work

Dr. Hardy presented an overview of the cross-section approach. Cross-sections collected by the TWDB and the TPWD will be used to produce habitat:discharge relationships for each site. Dr. Hardy will provide training to TWDB staff (open to all) and QAQC on the cross section modeling process. Cross-section data has been collected at the Concho River at Paint Rock, Colorado River at Ballenger, Colorado

River at 190, and San Saba at San Saba. Work in the Lavaca and coastal basin is underway.

Discussion: Hydrology Committee

Kirk Kennedy led a discussion about the Hydrology Committee meeting held October 8, 2010. See minutes from the Hydrology Committee for details. The three key areas discussed were:

- 1) Review of the current HEFR results and discussion of base flow separation by season.
- 2) Review of the initial geomorphic analysis.
- 3) Future conditions impact assessment and results of the recent BBASC WAM subcommittee meeting.

HEFR was unable to identify 2 per season pulses for some sites in the upper basin. Four hours were approved for Dr. Hardy and Dave Buzan to conduct additional analyses at these locations. Joe Trungale was approved for 1 hour to refine a data tool to assist with the evaluations.

Dr. Hoffpauir discussed the development and use of a daily WAM model from his recent dissertation. The daily time-step better reflects environmental flow regime components and would be useful supplemental modeling for the stakeholders to assess environmental flow standards. Richard will develop a scope for the development of a daily WAM.

Action Item: Focal Fish- Llano, San Saba, Pedernales, Lower Colorado

A conference call was held to finalize focal fish for these rivers. See meeting packet for completed fish list.

Consensus Decision: Riparian Approach

TPWD will use LiDAR to estimate elevations at each site where available. These elevations will be compared to NOAA flood elevations to estimate extent of overbanking in the riparian zone. LCRA GIS staff was able to provide processing and modeling assistance.

Discussion: TCEQ Environmental Flow Standards

TCEQ has released draft environmental flow standards for the Trinity and Sabine basins in preparation for the Commission rulemaking decision. Kathy Alexander noted that documentation of the decision process is very important. She emphasized that overlay

development and application should be clear and all HEFR and WAM results should be repeatable by TCEQ staff.

Discussion: Report Format

The group used the GSABBEST report outline to discuss the appropriate format of our report. Ultimately, the group favored a structure that included a preamble that discussing flow regimes, site specific fact sheets, and technical appendices. Dave Buzan will work with the outline and send to the group for writing assignments.

Consensus Decision: Meeting Dates

The next meeting will occur:

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

Meeting will be held at LCRA Redbud Center, Room 108