

Tres Palacios Creek: TMDL Implementation Status

Date of Status Report: June 2021, Year 3

I-Plan Approval Date: January 24, 2018

TCEQ Project Manager: Nicole Reed

Responsible Parties Abbreviations

CCN - Certificate of Convenience and Necessity

MUD - Municipal Utility District

NRCS - U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service

SWCD - Soil and Water Conservation District

TPWD - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

TSSWCB - Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board

TWRI - Texas Water Resources Institute

WWTF - Wastewater Treatment Facility

Management Measures

Management Measure 1: Development and Implementation of Conservation Plans

Responsible Party	Implementation Goals	Status
Watershed Coordinator, local stakeholders, AgriLife Extension, NRCS, SWCDs, TPWD, TSSWCB	Years 1, 3, and 5: Develop and implement nine conservation plans each year in the watershed, hold a Lone Star Healthy Streams education program and Management Practice Field Days. Years 2 and 4: Develop and implement nine conservation plans each year in the watershed and hold a Riparian and Stream Ecosystem Management education program.	In 2020, 107 conservation practices were implemented in the watershed that span a total of 9,109.2 acres.

Management Measure 2: Removal and Management of Feral Hogs

Responsible Party	Implementation Goals	Status
<p>Watershed Coordinator, local stakeholders, TPWD</p>	<p>Years 1-5: Voluntarily construct fencing, identify travel corridors for trapping and hunting, shoot hogs, promote use of AgriLife Extension’s online tracking tool for reporting harvest data.</p> <p>Years 1, 3, and 5: Feral Hog Management and Wildlife Management education programs.</p>	<p>As of January 31, 2021, there have been 6,699 feral hogs removed in Matagorda County between 2019 and 2021. Efforts for feral hog removal have included educational programming, aerial gunning, strategic shooting, and corral trapping.</p>

Management Measure 3: Identification, Prioritization, and Remediation of On-site Sewage Facilities (OSSFs)

Responsible Party	Implementation Goals	Status
<p>Watershed Coordinator, AgriLife Extension, OSSF owners, Matagorda and Wharton counties</p>	<p>Years 1, 3, and 5: Identify and inspect OSSFs, develop and then consistently maintain single OSSF database, administer replacement program annually, repair and replace six OSSFs as funding allows each year, implement OSSF O&M Workshops and OSSF Installer and Maintenance Provider Workshops.</p> <p>Years 2 and 4: Identify and inspect OSSFs, maintain single OSSF database, administer replacement program annually, repair or replace six systems each year as funding allows, and implement the Texas Well Owner Network.</p>	<p>No systems were repaired or replaced in FY21. TWRI continues grant project efforts in two targeted subdivisions in Palacios, TX (Tidewater Oaks and Tres Palacios Oaks). 15 applicants are in the soil testing/system design phase of the project with local vendors conducting soil testing and system design.</p> <p>The latest educational event was a Septic System Education Workshop delivered via ZOOM on January 21, 2021 that had 28 participants. During this event, a stakeholder meeting occurred to provide an update on Tres Palacios Creek Watershed Protection Plan efforts. TWRI is working with a Matagorda County agent to set up an education workshop for Fall 2021. Previously existing educational content continues to be distributed at educational events and meetings and through the stakeholder email group.</p>

Management Measure 4: Reduction of Illicit Dumping and Proper Disposal of Animal Carcasses

Responsible Party	Implementation Goals	Status
Watershed Coordinator, Wharton and Matagorda counties	Years 1-5: Implement and maintain five signs per year, develop illegal dumping and animal carcass disposal education programs over the course of the five-year span.	There is no update for this management measure this year

Management Measure 5: Planning and Management of Urban Stormwater

Responsible Party	Implementation Goals	Status
Watershed Coordinator, City of El Campo	Years 1-5: Initiation of stormwater management planning and strategies that are anticipated as part of the MS4 Phase II requirements, delivery of one stormwater education program each year.	The Watershed Coordinator, TWRI, is working with the City of El Campo to establish educational signage at Legacy Park in El Campo, TX to educate citizens on stormwater management. Additionally, TWRI continues to collaborate with the City of El Campo to develop new stormwater education content for their citizens.

Management Measure 6: Installation of Urban Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Responsible Party	Implementation Goals	Status
Watershed Coordinator, AgriLife Extension, City of El Campo	Years 1-5: Identify, plan, and prioritize areas for urban BMP stormwater demonstration projects. Plan and construct urban BMP stormwater projects to capture 50 acres as funding allows. Deliver education and outreach programs to area residents and property owners.	There is no update for this management measure this year.

Management Measure 7: Development and Implementation of Pet Waste Programs

Responsible Party	Implementation Goals	Status
Watershed Coordinator, City of El Campo, Matagorda and Wharton counties, CCN holders, local stakeholders, AgriLife Extension	Years 1-5: Install one pet waste station per Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN; three CCNs total), provide and deliver education and outreach materials to pet owners.	Five pet waste stations have been installed in Palacios, TX. An additional five stations have been installed in El Campo, TX at Legacy Park with stormwater management project funded by TCEQ back in February 2021. TWRI also developed a pet waste educational flyer for the City of El Campo to use for their personal education and outreach efforts.

Management Measure 8: Planning and Implementation of Wastewater Reuse

Responsible Party	Implementation Goals	Status
Watershed Coordinator, City of El Campo	Years 1-5: Inventory, identify, and prioritize sites that could utilize wastewater reuse. Plan and implement reuse projects as funding allows.	There is no update for this management measure this year.

Management Measure 9: Infrastructure Maintenance and Replacement

Responsible Party	Implementation Goals	Status
Markham MUD, City of El Campo, Midfield WWTF	Years 1-5: Inventory, identify, and prioritize sites that could utilize wastewater reuse. Plan and implement reuse projects as funding allows.	There is no update for this management measure this year.