

# Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board Clean Water Act §319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program FY 2021 Workplan 21-12

	SU	MMARY PAGE			
Title of Project	Implementing and Tracking Success of Agricultural Management Measures in Four Texas Watersheds				
Project Goals	<ul> <li>Implementation of agricultural BMPs in targeted watersheds</li> <li>Facilitate expanded implementation of agricultural management measures identified in the project area's Watershed Protection Plans</li> <li>Conduct a digital agricultural demonstration to better illustrate to the agricultural community the value, benefits, and protection that the featured BMPs can have on their land</li> <li>Coordinate and/or conduct water resources and related environmental outreach/education efforts across the project watersheds</li> </ul>				
Project Tasks	(1) Project Administration; (2) Development and Distribution of Educational Materials; (3) Facilitation and Participation in Education Programs; (4) Demonstration of Stocking Strategies on Forage Production				
Measures of Success	<ul> <li>Facilitate and promote watershed protection plan implementation with regard to agricultural management measures</li> <li>Deliver educational materials to key stakeholders across the four watersheds.</li> <li>Increase in the number of Conservation Plans and Water Quality Management Plans adopted</li> <li>Increase watershed stewardship among stakeholders</li> </ul>				
Project Type		cation (X); Planning (); Assessment (); Gre	oundwater ( )		
Status of Waterbody on 2020 Texas Integrated Report	Segment ID 0612 1213A 1902  1913 1209 1209C  1209E 1209G 1209H 1209I 1209J 1209K 1209L	Parameter of Impairment or Concern Bacteria Bacteria, Nitrate Bacteria, Macrobenthic Community, Habitat, Nitrate, Total Phosphorus Nitrate, Total Phosphorus Bacteria, Nitrate, Total Phosphorus Bacteria, Chlorophyll-a, Nitrate, Total Phosphorus Bacteria Depressed Dissolved Oxygen, Bacteria Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen Bacteria, Depressed Dissolved Oxygen Bacteria Bacteria Bacteria Bacteria	Category 5c 5b, CS 5c, CN, CS  CS 5a, CN, CS NS, CS  5b CS, CN 5c, 5b, CS, NS 5b, 5c, CS, NS 5c 5b NS, CS		
Project Location (Statewide or Watershed and County)  Key Project Activities	Attoyac Bayou: Nacogdoches, San Augustine, Shelby, Rusk Big Elm Creek: Bell, Falls, McLennan, Milam Mid and Lower Cibolo Creek: Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, Karnes, Wilson Navasota River: Brazos, Grimes, Leon, Limestone, Madison, Robertson Hire Staff (); Surface Water Quality Monitoring (); Technical Assistance (); Education (X); Implementation (X); BMP Effectiveness Monitoring (); Demonstration (X); Planning (); Modeling (); Bacterial Source Tracking (); Other ()				

2017 Texas NPS Management Program			Objectives 1, 3, 6	5, 7		
Reference	<ul> <li>STG 2, Objective D</li> <li>STG 3, Objective A, B, D, G</li> </ul>					
Project Costs	Federal	\$389,101	Non-Federal	\$259,401	Total	\$648,502
Project Management	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas Water Resources Institute					
Project Period	September	September 17, 2021 – August 31, 2025				

# Part I – Applicant Information

Applicant									
Project Lead		T. Allen Berthol	d, PhD						
Title		Assistant Director							
Organization		Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas Water Resources Institute							
E-mail Address		taberthold@ag.tamu.edu							
Street Address		578 John Kimbrough Blvd. 2260 TAMU							
City Colleg	e Stat	tion	County	Brazos		State	TX	Zip Code	77843
Telephone Number	9	79-845-2028		•	Fax	x Number	979-845-	-8554	

Project Partners	
Names	Roles & Responsibilities
Texas State Soil and Water Conservation	Provide state oversight and management of all project activities and
Board (TSSWCB)	ensure coordination of activities with related projects and TCEQ.
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service,	TWRI will manage the project, develop and distribute educational
Texas Water Resources Institute (TWRI)	resources, participate in in-person education programs, and coordinate the
	production of a field day and produce it digitally.
Texas A&M AgriLife Research &	Faculty at the Overton Center will assist with the development and
Extension Center at Overton	distribution of educational materials as well as the production of a digital
	field day, as a product of their ongoing efforts to provide education on
	proper grazing practices.

# Part II – Project Information

<b>Project Type</b>									
Surface Water	X	Groundwater							
Does the project implement recommendations made in: (a) a completed WPP; (b) an adopted TMDL; (c) an approved I-Plan; (d) a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan developed under CWA §320; (e) the <i>Texas Coastal NPS Pollution Control Program</i> ; or (f) the <i>Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy</i> ?									
If yes, identify the document.  Attoyac Bayou WPP  Mid and Lower Cibolo WPP  Navasota River WPP  Big Elm Creek WPP									
If yes, identify the agency/group that developed and/or approved the document.			Texas '	Water Resources Institute	Year Deve	r eloped	20 20 20 TE	20 17	

Watershed Information				
Watershed or Aquifer Name(s)	Hydrologic Unit Code (12 Digit)	Segment ID	Category on 2020 IR	Size (Acres)
Attoyac Bayou	120200050301- 307; 401-406; 501	0612	5c	364,481
Big Elm Creek	120702040201-207	1213A	5b, CS	207,106
Mid and Lower Cibolo Creek	12100304202-206; 301-305; 401-405	1913, 1902	5c, CS, CN	377,144
Navasota River	120701030201- 204; 0307, 0309; 0401-0407; 0501- 0510; 0601-0604; 0701-0707; 0801- 0804	1209, 1209C, 1209E, 1209G, 1209H, 1209I, 1209J, 1209K, 1209L	5a, 5b, 5c, CN, CS	1,002,056

## Water Quality Impairment

Describe all known causes (i.e., pollutants of concern) and sources (e.g., agricultural, silvicultural) of water quality impairments or concerns from any of the following sources: 2020 Texas Integrated Report, Clean Rivers Program Basin Summary/Highlights Reports, or other documented sources.

### **Impairments**

SegID 0612: Attoyac Bayou: From a point 3.9 km (2.4 mi) downstream of Curry Creek in Nacogdoches/San Augustine County to FM 95 in Rusk County

Parameter	Category	Year
Bacteria	5c	2004

0612\_01: From the lower boundary approximately at confluence with Granberry Branch upstream to confluence with Polly Branch

0612\_02: From a point immediately upstream of Polly Branch confluence upstream to confluence with Bear Bayou 0612\_03: From a point immediately upstream of Bear Bayou upstream to upper boundary at FM 95

SegID 1213A: Big Elm Creek: From the confluence with Little River in Milam county, 4.5 km northeast of the City of Cameron, upstream to its headwaters in McLennan County, 0.7 km west of Moody

Parameter	Category	Year
Bacteria	5b	2010

1213A\_01: Portion of Big Elm Creek from the confluence with the Little River upstream to confluence with Little Elm Creek

SegID 1902: Lower Cibolo Creek: From the confluence with the San Antonio River in Karnes County to a point 100 meters (110 yards) downstream of IH 10 in Bexar/Guadalupe County

Parameter	Category	Year
Bacteria	5c	2004

1902\_01: From the confluence with the San Antonio River in Karnes County upstream to the confluence with Mulifest Creek

1902\_02: From the confluence with Mulifest Creek upstream to the confluence with Pulaski Creek

1902\_03: From the confluence with Pulaski Creek upstream to the confluence with Clifton Branch

# SegID 1209: Navasota River Below Lake Limestone: From the confluence with the Brazos River in Grimes County to Sterling C. Robertson Dam in Leon/Robertson County

Parameter	Category	Year
Bacteria	5a	2002

1209\_05: Portion of Navasota River from the confluence with Camp Creek upstream to Lake Limestone Dam in Robertson County

SegID 1209E: Wickson Creek: Perennial stream from the confluence with an unnamed first order tributary (approximately 1.3 km upstream of Reliance Road crossing) upstream to the confluence with an unnamed first order tributary approximately 15 meters upstream of Dilly Shaw Road

Parameter	Category	Year
Bacteria	5b	2006

1209E\_01: Perennial stream from the confluence with an unnamed first order tributary (approximately 1.3 km upstream of Reliance Road crossing) upstream to the confluence with an unnamed first order tributary approximately 15 meters upstream of Dilly Shaw Road

# SegID 1209H: Duck Creek: From the confluence with the Navasota river in Robertson County to Twin Oak Reservoir dam in Robertson County

Parameter	Category	Year
Bacteria	5c	2006
Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	5b	2012

1209H\_01: Portion of Duck Creek from confluence with Navasota River upstream to confluence with Mineral Creek in Robertson County

1209H\_02: Portion of Duck Creek from confluence with Mineral Creek in Robertson County upstream to Twin Oak Reservoir dam in Robertson County

# SegID 1209I: Gibbons Creek: From confluence with Navasota River in Grimes County to SH 90 in Grimes County

Parameter	Category	Year
Bacteria	5b	2002
Depressed Dissolved Oxygen	5c	2016

1209I\_01: Portion of Gibbons Creek from confluence with Navasota River upstream to confluence with Dry Creek in Grimes County

1209I\_02: Portion of Gibbons Creek from confluence with Dry Creek upstream to Gibbons Creek Reservoir dam in Grimes County

# SegID 1209J: Shepherd Creek: From the confluence with Navasota River in Madison County to a point 0.7 mi upstream of FM 1452 in Madison County

Parameter	Category	<u>Year</u>
Bacteria	5c	2002

1209I\_01: From the confluence with the Navasota River in Madison County to a point 0.7 mi upstream of FM 1452 in Madison County

# SegID 1209K: Steele Creek: From confluence with Navasota River in Robertson County to a point 2.4 mi upstream of FM 147 in Limestone County

Parameter	Category	Year
Bacteria	5b	2002

1209K\_02: From confluence with Navasota River in Robertson County to a point 2.4 mi upstream of FM 147 in Limestone County

#### **Concerns**

SegID 0612: From a point 3.9 km (2.4 mi) downstream of Curry Creek in Nacogdoches/San Augustine County to FM 95 in Rusk County

Parameter Level of Concern
Bacteria NS

0612\_01: From the lower boundary approximately at confluence with Granberry Branch upstream to confluence with Polly Branch

0612\_02: From a point immediately upstream of Polly Branch confluence upstream to confluence with Bear Bayou

0612 03: From a point immediately upstream of Bear Bayou upstream to upper boundary at FM 95

SegID 1213A: From the confluence with Little River in Milam county, 4.5 km northeast of the City of Cameron, upstream to its headwaters in McLennan County, 0.7 km west of Moody

Parameter Level of Concern
Bacteria NS

1213A\_01: Portion of Big Elm Creek from the confluence with the Little River upstream to confluence with Little Elm Creek

Parameter Level of Concern
Nitrate CS

1213A\_01: Portion of Big Elm Creek from the confluence with the Little River upstream to confluence with Little Elm Creek

SegID 1902: From the confluence with the San Antonio River in Karnes County to a point 100 meters (110 yards) downstream of IH 10 in Bexar/Guadalupe County

Parameter Level of Concern
Bacteria NS

1902\_01: From the confluence with the San Antonio River in Karnes County upstream to the confluence with Mulifest Creek

1902\_02: From the confluence with Mulifest Creek upstream to the confluence with Pulaski Creek

1902\_03: From the confluence with Pulaski Creek upstream to the confluence with Clifton Branch

Parameter Level of Concern
Bacteria CN

1902\_05: From the confluence with Elm Creek upstream to a point 100 meters (110 yards) downstream of IH 10 in Bexar/Guadalupe County

Parameter Level of Concern

Macrobenthic Community

CN

1902 02: From the confluence with Mulifest Creek upstream to the confluence with Pulaski Creek

Parameter Level of Concern

Habitat

CS

1902 03: From the confluence with Pulaski Creek upstream to the confluence with Clifton Branch

Parameter Level of Concern

Nitrate

CS

1902\_03: From the confluence with Pulaski Creek upstream to the confluence with Clifton Branch

1902\_04: From the confluence with Clifton Branch upstream to the confluence with Elm Creek

1902\_05: From the confluence with Elm Creek upstream to a point 100 meters (110 yards) downstream of IH 10 in Bexar/Guadalupe County

Parameter Level of Concern

**Total Phosphorus** 

CS

1902\_04: From the confluence with Clifton Branch upstream to the confluence with Elm Creek

1902\_05: From the confluence with Elm Creek upstream to a point 100 meters (110 yards) downstream of IH 10 in Bexar/Guadalupe County

# SegID 1913: From a point 100 meters (110 yards) downstream of IH 10 in Bexar/Guadalupe County to the Missouri-Pacific Railroad bridge west of Bracken in Comal County

Parameter Level of Concern

Nitrate CS

1913\_01: From 100 meters downstream of I10 up to unnamed tributary approximately 0.3 mi upstream of Weir Road, Bexar County, Texas

1913\_02: From the confluence with unnamed tributary approximately 0.3 mi upstream of Weir Road, Bexar County, Texas up to 100 meters upstream of the Cibolo Creek Municipal

<u>Parameter</u> Level of Concern

**Total Phosphorus** 

CS

1913\_01: From 100 meters downstream of I10 up to unnamed tributary approximately 0.3 mi upstream of Weir Road, Bexar County, Texas

1913\_02: From the confluence with unnamed tributary approximately 0.3 mi upstream of Weir Road, Bexar County, Texas up to 100 meters upstream of the Cibolo Creek Municipal

# SegID 1209: From the confluence with the Brazos River in Grimes County to Sterling C. Robertson Dam in Leon/Robertson County

Parameter Level of Concern
Bacteria NS

1209\_05: Portion of Navasota River from the confluence with Camp Creek upstream to Lake Limestone Dam in Robertson County

Parameter	Level of Concern
Bacteria	CN
1209_01: Portion of Navasota River from confluence with Grimes County	Brazos River upstream to confluence with Rocky Creek in
Parameter	Level of Concern
Nitrate	CS
1209_01: Portion of Navasota River from confluence with Grimes County	Brazos River upstream to confluence with Rocky Creek in
Parameter	Level of Concern
Total Phosphorus	CS
1209_01: Portion of Navasota River from confluence with Grimes County	Brazos River upstream to confluence with Rocky Creek in
SegID 1209C: Perennial Stream from the confluence with unnamed tributary 0.5 km upstream of FM 158	ith the Navasota River upstream to the confluence of an
Parameter	Level of Concern
Bacteria	NS
1209C_01: Perennial Stream from the confluence with the tributary 0.5 km upstream of FM 158	Navasota River upstream to the confluence of an unnamed
Parameter	Level of Concern
Chlorophyll-a	CS
1209C_01: Perennial Stream from the confluence with the tributary 0.5 km upstream of FM 158	Navasota River upstream to the confluence of an unnamed
Parameter	Level of Concern
Nitrate	CS
1209C_01: Perennial Stream from the confluence with the tributary 0.5 km upstream of FM 158	Navasota River upstream to the confluence of an unnamed
Parameter	Level of Concern
Total Phosphorus	CS
1209C_01: Perennial Stream from the confluence with the tributary 0.5 km upstream of FM 158	Navasota River upstream to the confluence of an unnamed
SegID 1209E: Perennial stream from the confluence wi km upstream of Reliance Road crossing) upstream to the approximately 15 meters upstream of Dilly Shaw Road	
Parameter	Level of Concern

Bacteria

NS

1209E\_01: Perennial stream from the confluence with an unnamed first order tributary (approximately 1.3 km upstream of Reliance Road crossing) upstream to the confluence with an unnamed first order tributary approximately 15 meters upstream of Dilly Shaw Road

# SegID 1209G: From the confluence with the Navasota River in Brazos County to the confluence with Moores Branch and Rocky Branch in Robertson County

Parameter Level of Concern
Bacteria CN

1209G\_01: From the confluence with the Navasota River in Brazos County to the confluence with Moores Branch and Rocky Branch in Robertson County

<u>Parameter</u> Level of Concern

Depressed Dissolved Oxygen

CS

1209G\_01: From the confluence with the Navasota River in Brazos County to the confluence with Moores Branch and Rocky Branch in Robertson County

# SegID 1209H: From the confluence with the Navasota river in Robertson County to Twin Oak Reservoir dam in Robertson County

Parameter Level of Concern
Depressed Dissolved Oxygen NS, CS

1209H\_01: Portion of Duck Creek from confluence with Navasota River upstream to confluence with Mineral Creek in Robertson County

1209H\_02: Portion of Duck Creek from confluence with Mineral Creek in Robertson County upstream to Twin Oak Reservoir dam in Robertson County

Parameter Level of Concern
Bacteria NS

1209H\_02: Portion of Duck Creek from confluence with Mineral Creek in Robertson County upstream to Twin Oak Reservoir dam in Robertson County

#### SegID 1209I: From confluence with Navasota River in Grimes County to SH 90 in Grimes County

ParameterLevel of ConcernDepressed Dissolved OxygenNS, CS

1209I\_01: Portion of Gibbons Creek from confluence with Navasota River upstream to confluence with Dry Creek in Grimes County

Parameter Level of Concern

Bacteria NS

1209I\_01: Portion of Gibbons Creek from confluence with Navasota River upstream to confluence with Dry Creek in Grimes County

1209I\_02: Portion of Gibbons Creek from confluence with Dry Creek upstream to Gibbons Creek Reservoir dam in Grimes County

SegID 1209J: From the confluence with Navasota River in Madison County to a point 0.7 mi upstream of FM 1452 in Madison County

Parameter Level of Concern
Bacteria NS

1209J\_01: From the confluence with Navasota River in Madison County to a point 0.7 mi upstream of FM 1452 in Madison County

SegID 1209K: Portion of Steele Creek from confluence with Willow Creek upstream to headwaters in Limestone County

Parameter Level of Concern
Bacteria NS

1209K 01: Portion of Steele Creek from confluence with Willow Creek upstream to headwaters in Limestone County

SegID 1209L: From the confluence with Carters Creek in College Station, upstream to its headwaters located 0.4 miles east of Fin Feather Lake in Brazos County

Parameter Level of Concern
Bacteria NS

1209L\_01: From the confluence with Carters Creek in College Station, upstream to its headwaters located 0.4 miles east of Fin Feather Lake in Brazos County

Parameter Level of Concern
Nitrate CS

1209L\_01: From the confluence with Carters Creek in College Station, upstream to its headwaters located 0.4 miles east of Fin Feather Lake in Brazos County

#### **Sources**

SegID 0612: From a point 3.9 km (2.4 mi) downstream of Curry Creek in Nacogdoches/San Augustine County to FM 95 in Rusk County

Attovac Bayou: AUDID 0612 01

E.coli

Non-point sources: Unknown

Attoyac Bayou: AUDID 0612 02

E.coli

Point sources: Municipal Point Source Discharges

Non-point sources: Unknown

Attoyac Bayou: AUDID 0612\_03

E.coli

Point sources: Municipal point source discharges

Non-point sources: Unknown

SegID 1213A: From the confluence with Little River in Milam county, 4.5 km northeast of the City of Cameron, upstream to its headwaters in McLennan County, 0.7 km west of Moody

Big Elm Creek: AUDID 1213A\_01

E.coli, Nitrate

Non-point sources: Unknown

SegID 1902: From the confluence with the San Antonio River in Karnes County to a point 100 meters (110 yards) downstream of IH 10 in Bexar/Guadalupe County

Lower Cibolo Creek: AUDID 1902\_01

E.coli

Point sources: Unknown Unknown: Unknown

Lower Cibolo Creek: AUDID 1902\_02

Macrobenthic Community, E.coli
Point sources: Unknown
Unknown: Unknown

Lower Cibolo Creek: AUDID 1902\_03

Habitat, Nitrate, E. coli Unknown: Unknown

Lower Cibolo Creek: AUDID 1902\_04

Nitrate, Total Phosphorus

Point sources: Unknown Unknown: Unknown

Lower Cibolo Creek: AUDID 1902 05

Nitrate, Total Phosphorus, E. coli Point sources: Unknown Unknown: Unknown

SegID 1913: From a point 100 meters (110 yards) downstream of IH 10 in Bexar/Guadalupe County to the Missouri-Pacific Railroad bridge west of Bracken in Comal County

Mid Cibolo Creek: AUDID 1913\_01

Nitrate, Total Phosphorus Unknown: Unknown

Mid Cibolo Creek: AUDID 1913 02

Nitrate, Total Phosphorus
Unknown: Unknown

SegID 1209: From the confluence with the Brazos River in Grimes County to Sterling C. Robertson Dam in Leon/Robertson County

Navasota River Below Lake Limestone: AUDID 1209\_01

E. coli, Nitrate, Total Phosphorus

Non-point Sources: Municipal (Urbanized High Density Area), On-Site Treatment Systems (Septic Systems and

Similar Decentralized Systems)

Point Sources: Municipal Point Source Discharges

## Navasota River Below Lake Limestone: AUDID 1209\_05

E. coli

Non-point Sources: Municipal (Urbanized High Density Area), On-Site Treatment Systems (Septic Systems and

Similar Decentralized Systems)

Point Sources: Municipal Point Source Discharges

# SegID 1209C: Perennial Stream from the confluence with the Navasota River upstream to the confluence of an unnamed tributary 0.5 km upstream of FM 158

### Carters Creek: AUDID 1209C\_01

E. coli, Nitrate, Total Phosphorus, Chlorophyll-a

Non-point Sources: Unknown, Animal Feeding Operations, Rangeland Grazing, Unspecified Urban Stormwater Point Sources: Municipal Point Source Discharges

SegID 1209E: Perennial stream from the confluence with an unnamed first order tributary (approximately 1.3 km upstream of Reliance Road crossing) upstream to the confluence with an unnamed first order tributary approximately 15 meters upstream of Dilly Shaw Road

#### Wickson Creek: AUDID 1209E 01

E. coli

Non-point Sources: Unknown

SegID 1209G: From the confluence with the Navasota River in Brazos County to the confluence with Moores Branch and Rocky Branch in Robertson County

#### Cedar Creek: AUDID 1209G 01

E. coli, Dissolved Oxygen Grab Unknown: Unknown

# SegID 1209H: From the confluence with the Navasota river in Robertson County to Twin Oak Reservoir dam in Robertson County

#### Duck Creek: AUDID 1209H 01

Dissolved Oxygen Grab

Non-point Sources: Unknown, Natural Sources

### Duck Creek: AUDID 1209H\_02

Dissolved Oxygen Grab, E. coli

Non-point Sources: Unknown, Natural Sources

### SegID 1209I: From confluence with Navasota River in Grimes County to SH 90 in Grimes County

#### Gibbons Creek: AUDID 1209I 01

Dissolved Oxygen Grab, E. coli

Non-point Sources: Unknown, Natural Sources

### Gibbons Creek: AUDID 1209I\_02

E. coli

Non-point Sources: Unknown

SegID 1209J: From the confluence with Navasota River in Madison County to a point 0.7 mi upstream of FM 1452 in Madison County

Shepherd Creek: AUDID 1209J\_01

E. coli

Non-point Sources: Unknown

SegID 1209K: Portion of Steele Creek from confluence with Willow Creek upstream to headwaters in Limestone County

Shepherd Creek: AUDID 1209K\_02

E. coli

Non-point Sources: Unknown, Natural Sources

SegID 1209L: From the confluence with Carters Creek in College Station, upstream to its headwaters located 0.4 miles east of Fin Feather Lake in Brazos County

Burton Creek: AUDID 1209L\_01

E. coli, Nitrate

Point Sources: Municipal Point Source Discharges

## **Project Narrative**

#### Problem/Need Statement

The water quality issues vary slightly from one project area to another. However, the main issues are elevated bacteria concentrations, depressed dissolved oxygen, and elevated nutrient levels. Therefore, contact recreation use is not supported, excessive nutrients are possibly contributing to high levels of Chlorophyll-a, and in some instances the microbenthic community is impaired. In the absence of nutrient criteria for these waters, the elevated nutrient levels are listed as concerns.

TWRI has been involved in all of the project areas for multiple years and have assisted stakeholders with development of their WPPs. Through the WPP development process, potential sources of the impairments were identified through input from stakeholder groups, review of available data, and modeling the potential sources of impairments. A common potential source of loading in all the projects of bacteria, nutrients, and oxygen depleting substances was runoff from agricultural operations. Management measures to address these potential loadings were developed and integrated in all of the WPPs. TWRI has been working with stakeholders in all the project watersheds to get on-the-ground implementation of agricultural BMPs since completion of the WPPs.

A major component of each of these agricultural management measures includes education and outreach about proper stocking strategies, practices that can be adopted to improve grazing, and sources of technical and financial assistance for these practices. The most common method of delivering education and outreach has been through traditional inperson programs, but as agricultural producer demographics begin to change and shift to a younger age bracket, the need to reach them digitally has increased. More agricultural producers are using digital sources of information now more than at any time in our history and there has been an overall cultural shift to using digital resources in response to Covid-19. In order to effectively reach them, we must create digital media that they can easily access on their desktop computers, tablets, and mobile devices. Additionally, we need to deliver information that is easy to digest using a method that is proven to facilitate behavioral change.

Rogers (2003) describes a process, the Innovation-Decision Process, that all individuals go through when they are deciding whether to adopt an innovation or practice. The stages of this process are 1) Knowledge, where an individual first learns of an innovation, 2) Persuasion, where several attributes persuade an individual to adopt, 3) Decision, where an individual decides to adopt or not, 4) Implementation, where an individual implements the practice if they have decided to adopt, and 5) Confirmation, where an individual decides to continue the practice or go back to a method in which they were operating before.

As watershed managers, we can only influence the first two stages of Rogers Innovation-Decision Process. We make agricultural producers aware of practices by first raising awareness and introducing an innovation in an area of their operation. Following this, we can help in persuading producers to adopt practices by showing them that 1) it is better than what they were doing before, 2) it fits within the current method of operation, 3) it is easy to adopt, 4) they can try it on a partial basis before deciding to fully adopt, and 5) they can see that it works, which often times comes through field demonstrations.

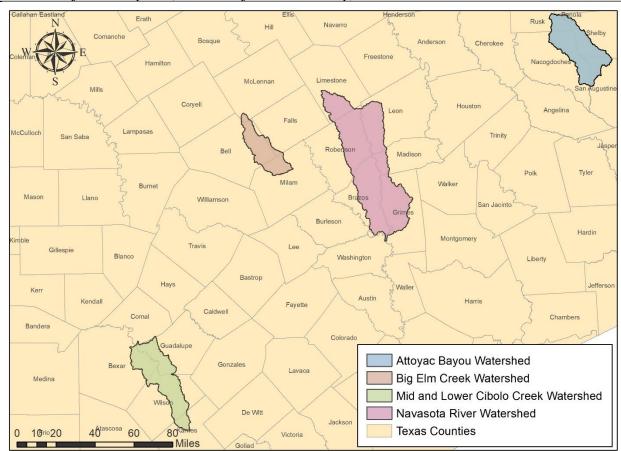
Following these key attributes to encourage producers to adopt BMPs that improve water quality is crucial to WPP implementation success. Grazing management practices are similar from one watershed to the other, so a cost-effective approach would be to use the same content across watersheds and have that content follow a proven behavior change theory.

As such, TWRI proposes to develop content that facilitates behavior change amongst the grazing community and delivers that content in various places where agricultural producers receive information to increase a positive impact, not only in the watersheds of interest, but across the state.

Rogers, E. M. (2003). Diffusion of innovations. New York: Free Press.

### **Project Narrative**

### General Project Description (Include Project Location Map)



TWRI will facilitate collaborative efforts among project partners to implement agricultural management measures for the project watersheds. Until now, TWRI's approach to implementation of agricultural management measures has been to approach each project watershed independently of other watersheds. Currently, individual watershed coordinators assist stakeholders with development of the WPP, and then enter implementation. Though the watershed coordinators are part of TWRI, efforts to implement agricultural management measures have been solely at the discretion of each watershed coordinator. This new approach/method will be at a larger, coordinated multiple-watershed scale that, once developed, could be used a statewide tool or approach to greater implementation of agricultural BMPs.

The majority of the WPPs that TWRI is currently engaged in all have increased implementation of agriculture management measures as a requirement for successfully addressing a contact recreation impairment or nutrient concerns.

Successful and long-lasting implementation of agricultural BMPs requires completion of multiple steps. Following Roger's Diffusion of Innovation Theory, the steps necessary for successful implementation of BMPs should address the relative advantage, compatibility, complexity, trialability, and observability of the management practices. The proposed new approach is a full package that addresses each of the key steps for successful implementation. TWRI, with the assistance of project partners, will develop educational materials covering effective BMPs for the agricultural community. Then, through cooperative outreach methods, the materials will be distributed and marketed specifically to the agricultural producers. The culmination of the project will be the educational field day, or demonstration day, where the producers across all of the watersheds, will have the opportunity to see the implementation of these BMPs in a

digital format. It is believed that this process will have the greatest impact on greater implementation of BMPs and a resulting impact on the receiving streams water quality.

This proposal will be for a multi-faceted approach. Key components include Education, Outreach, and Demonstration.

The education component will involve the development of educational materials that will describe the BMPs, estimated cost of initial implementation, available financial/technical assistance, profitability estimates, and maintenance costs.

Outreach will consist of the methods used to contact the agricultural community utilizing the educational materials developed. This will include:

- Direct mailings
- Newspaper
- Videos
- Social media

TWRI will work with project partners to organize one education program in each watershed per year that discusses stocking strategies and grazing management. The program may include elements of riparian education, beef cattle management and production, or other ranching topics. Visual demonstrations will be provided with these trainings, such as a rainfall simulation/runoff demonstration, to better illustrate the effects of BMP utilization.

Finally, demonstration of the BMPs will be showcased during the Digital Field Day. This will be the culmination of extensive coordination with project partners, especially faculty at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Overton. The Overton Center has the distinct honor of currently conducting the longest continuous stocking experiment in the United States. Through this Digital Field Day, producers will be able to see the value of rotational grazing and the potential to improve forage production, ultimately improving water quality. To extend the reach and impact of this event, it will be produced in an online, digital format, that can be viewed on desktop computers, tablets, and mobile devices.

Tasks, Objectives and Schedules								
Task 1	Project Administrat	ion						
Costs	Federal \$2	23,346	Non-Federal	\$15,564	То	tal	\$38,910	
Objective	To effectively admi	nister, coordina	ate, and monitor a	ll work performed	under th	is projec	including	
	technical and finance	technical and financial supervision, and preparation of status reports.						
Subtask 1.1	TWRI will prepare electronic quarterly progress reports (QPRs) for submission to the TSSWCB. QPRs							
	shall document all a					by the 1st	of January,	
	April, July and Octo	ober. QPRs sha	ll be distributed to	all Project Partne	ers.			
	Start Date		Month 1	Completion 1			Month 48	
Subtask 1.2	TWRI will perform			funds and will sul	bmit appı	opriate F	Reimbursement	
	Forms to TSSWCB	at least quarter	rly.					
	Start Date	te Month 1 Completion Date Mo				Month 48		
Subtask 1.3	TWRI will host coo		•	•	•			
	discuss project activ							
	TWRI will develop		items needed follo	wing each project	coordina	ation mee	ting and	
	distribute to project	•						
	Start Date		Month 1	Completion 1			Month 48	
Subtask 1.4	TWRI will develop						•	
	the project and disc							
- II		Start Date Month 30 Completion Date Month 48						
Deliverables	QPRs in electron							
			=	tation in hard copy	y format			
	<ul> <li>Final Report in</li> </ul>	electronic and	l hard copy forma	ts				

Tasks, Objectives and Schedules								
Task 2	Development and	Development and Distribution of Outreach and Educational Materials						
Costs	Federal	Federal         \$171,205         Non-Federal         \$114,136         Total         \$285,341						
Objective	practices that imassistance), ultim	To raise awareness amongst the agricultural community on stocking strategies and best management practices that improve grazing land management (as well as sources for technical and financial assistance), ultimately improving water quality, through the use of materials across all watersheds in a method consistent with behavioral change theory.						

## Subtask 2.1

TWRI will develop and distribute outreach materials with the goal of raising awareness about grazing best management practices that can be adopted to improve water quality, as well as technical and financial resources for these practices. Materials may include the following but will be developed by using content from existing materials such as best management practice one pagers on the Lone Star Healthy Streams website or other Extension materials available. These include:

- direct mailing post cards one post card with consistent messaging
- newspaper articles up to three
- short videos up to six
- social media schedules 10 per year

All materials will be produced on a general level such that they can be used across multiple project watersheds. However, local contact information to SWCD/NRCS offices will be included and specific to the county where materials are being distributed. Number of contacts will be reported in quarterly progress reports.

In order to reach as many landowners as possible in a cost-efficient manner, TWRI will coordinate with local stakeholders to develop a schedule of delivery for outreach materials within a given year. However, over the course of the project, materials will be distributed using the schedule below for each of the four watersheds. Number of contacts will be reported in quarterly progress reports (see Task 1).

#### Year 1

- direct mailing post cards delivered three times
- newspaper article one article
- short videos distributed via social media six videos total
- grazing BMP social media schedules 10 per year

#### Year 2

- direct mailing post cards delivered once
- newspaper article one article
- short videos distributed via social media six videos total
- grazing BMP social media schedules 10 per year

#### Year 3

- direct mailing post cards – delivered once

Measures of success – submitted annually

- newspaper article one article
- short videos distributed via social media six videos total
- grazing BMP social media schedules 10 per year

	- grazing BMP social media schedules – 10 per year							
	distribution of demonstration video from Task 4 – distributed across four watersheds							
	Start Date	Month 1 Completion Date Month 48						
Subtask 2.2	TWRI will work with local watershed coordinators and NRCS/SWCDs to measure success of the							
	outreach effort and will report on an annual basis. Metrics may include number of inquiries into							
	conservation plans/WQMPs (henceforth called plans), site visits by local technicians/conservationists,							
	number of plans develope	d, web analytics, and socia	ll media views and engager	nents.				
	Start Date	Month 1	Completion Date	Month 48				
Deliverables	Educational Videos – 6 total							
	Direct mailing post card – 1 total							
	• newspaper articles – 1 annually							
	10 social media sche	dules/vr – submitted quarte	erly					

Tasks, Objectives and Schedules									
Task 3	Facilitation and Participation in Education Programs								
Costs	Federal	\$77,820	0 Non-Federal \$51,880 Total \$129,700						
Objective	To deliver in-pers	son programs as v	well as demonstrat	e to agricultural p	roducers the bene	fits of good			
				r various pasture s	cenarios, demons	trating			
	additional phases								
Subtask 3.1				ize one education					
				nanagement. The p					
				ealthy Streams (Bo					
				l simulation/runof	f demonstration w	ill be given to			
	better illustrate th								
	Start Date		Month 1	Completion I		Month 48			
Subtask 3.2	<u> </u>			described in subtas					
				ty extension progr					
		ent to help lando	wners make the co	onnection between	n good grazing ma	inagement and			
	water quality.		N1.1	G 1.: I	- · ·	N1. 40			
0.1. 1.00	Start Date		Month 1	Completion I		Month 48			
Subtask 3.3				ninistration of pro	~	-			
	determine intentions to adopt, knowledge gained, anticipated monitory gain, or other metrics that may								
	be useful to enhar				_				
		Start Date Month 1 Completion Date Month 48							
Deliverables			other materials ava	ilable for program	ıs				
	<ul> <li>Program eva</li> </ul>	luations							

ectives and Schedules							
Demonstration of St	tocking Strateg	ies on Forage Pro	duction				
Federal \$1	116,730	Non-Federal	\$77,821	Total	\$194,551		
_				~ .	uction which leads		
0				_	·		
		•		on of interest to	o producers will be		
collected and distrib	outed in the dig	ital field day (sub	task 4.2).				
Start Date		Month 1	Completion 1	Date	Month 24		
Using information f	From subtask 4.	1, TWRI will wor	k to collect raw vi	ideo footage ne	ecessary to create an		
n-depth, stocking ra	ate/rotational g	razing field day v	ideo that can be us	sed across mul	tiple watersheds.		
This video will be sl	hared through t	targeted social me	edia, websites, CE	A and Watersh	ned Coordinator		
newsletters, the Overton website, the ForageFax website, and other avenues necessary to reach							
landowners.							
Start Date	I	Month 18	Completion 1	Date	Month 48		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·							
U							
	U	•					
	Demonstration of S Federal \$ Fo demonstrate to p o improvements in TWRI will work with the longest continuous formation will congrowth for their operiorage height, regroup to the collected and distributed to the collected and distributed to the collected and distributed to the collected and the collected and the collected and distributed to the collected and di	Demonstration of Stocking Strategy Federal \$116,730  To demonstrate to producers the beat of improvements in water quality, at TWRI will work with the Texas Ache longest continuous stocking rate information will continue to be collected and distributed in the dignerated and distributed in the dignerated and distributed in the dignerated and stributed in the dignerated and stribut	Demonstration of Stocking Strategies on Forage Pro- Federal \$116,730 Non-Federal To demonstrate to producers the benefit of proper stocking in water quality, a final step in behavior will work with the Texas A&M AgriLife Research leading to the longest continuous stocking rate experiment in the longest continuous stocking rate experiment in the stocking rate of the longest continuous stocking rate experiment in the longest continuous stocking rate, animal performance, and collected and distributed in the digital field day (subsequence)  Start Date Month 1  Using information from subtask 4.1, TWRI will work independent of the longest continuous stocking rate, animal performance, and collected and distributed in the digital field day of the longest continuous stocking rate, animal performance, and collected and distributed in the digital field day (subsequence)  Start Date Month 18  Grazing demonstration measurements  The Grazing demonstration measurements  To demonstration from subtask 4.1, TWRI will work and owners.  Month 18	Demonstration of Stocking Strategies on Forage Production  Federal \$116,730 Non-Federal \$77,821  To demonstrate to producers the benefit of proper stocking strategies of improvements in water quality, a final step in behavioral change the TWRI will work with the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension the longest continuous stocking rate experiment in the United States is information will continue to be collected that demonstrates to produce growth for their operations, which ultimately improves water quality. Forage height, regrowth rate, animal performance, and other information collected and distributed in the digital field day (subtask 4.2).  Start Date Month 1 Completion Desired Start Date Month 1 Completion of the stocking rate/rotational grazing field day video that can be used this video will be shared through targeted social media, websites, CE newsletters, the Overton website, the ForageFax website, and other avandowners.  Start Date Month 18 Completion of the Grazing demonstration measurements  Oraging demonstration measurements  This video will demonstration measurements  This video demonstration measurements  This video demonstration measurements	Demonstration of Stocking Strategies on Forage Production Federal \$116,730 Non-Federal \$77,821 Total To demonstrate to producers the benefit of proper stocking strategies on forage produce of improvements in water quality, a final step in behavioral change theory TWRI will work with the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Content of the longest continuous stocking rate experiment in the United States is being conduct information will continue to be collected that demonstrates to producers the benefits growth for their operations, which ultimately improves water quality. At this site, inforage height, regrowth rate, animal performance, and other information of interest the collected and distributed in the digital field day (subtask 4.2).  Start Date Month 1 Completion Date  Using information from subtask 4.1, TWRI will work to collect raw video footage in indepth, stocking rate/rotational grazing field day video that can be used across multiplies video will be shared through targeted social media, websites, CEA and Watershalewsletters, the Overton website, the ForageFax website, and other avenues necessar andowners.  Start Date Month 18 Completion Date  Grazing demonstration measurements  Grazing demonstration measurements  This video will demonstration measurements  This video of the content of the production		

### **Project Goals (Expand from Summary Page)**

The primary goal of the proposed project is to increase landowner adoption of best management practices through a cost-effective approach that aligns with changing landowner and producer demographics as well as the Covid-19 era. To achieve this goal, TWRI will develop and deliver educational materials directly to landowners through mail, newspaper, radio, social media, and in person. The educational material will include concise and relevant information for landowners explaining why program participation is important and how to participate. We estimate that this project will repeatedly put best practice information directly in the hands of high priority landowners that may otherwise not receive information through just one method of outreach and education.

### Measures of Success (Expand from Summary Page)

Overall, this project will be successful when educational materials are delivered to key stakeholders across the four watersheds. Through the distribution of the educational materials to the stakeholders, we anticipate that the number of Conservation Plans and Water Quality Management Plans will increase.

## 2017 Texas NPS Management Program Reference (Expand from Summary Page)

### Components, Goals, and Objectives

Long-Term Goal One- Protect and restore water quality affected by NPS pollution through assessment, implementation, and education

- Objective 1 Focus NPS abatement efforts, implementation strategies, and available resources in watersheds and aquifers identified as impacted by nonpoint source pollution.
- Objective 3 Support the implementation of state, regional, and local programs to reduce NPS pollution, such as the implementation of strategies defined in TMDL I-Plans, WPPs, and other water planning efforts in the state.
- Objective 6 Develop partnerships, relationships, memoranda of agreement, and other instruments to facilitate collective, cooperative approaches to manage NPS pollution.

Objective 7 – Increase overall public awareness of NPS issues and prevention activities.

### Short-Term Goal Two – Implementation

• Objective D – Implement TMDL I-Plans, WPPs, and other state, regional, and local plans developed to restore and maintain water quality in water bodies identified as impacted by NPS pollution.

#### Short-Term Goal Three – Education

- Objective A Enhance existing outreach programs at the state, regional, and local levels to maximize the effectiveness of NPS education.
- Objective B Administer programs to educate citizens about water quality and their potential role in causing NPS pollution.
- Objective D Conduct outreach through the CRP, AgriLife Extension, SWCDs, and others to enable stakeholders and the public to participate in decision-making and provide a more complete understanding of water quality issues and how they relate to each citizen.
- Objective G Implement public outreach and education to maintain and restore water quality in water bodies by NPS pollution.

## **Estimated Load Reductions Expected (Only applicable to Implementation Project Type)**

Load reductions from this project will vary based on landowner response to education efforts. Expected load reductions from landowner adoption of conservation plans and WQMPs are described in each of the WPPs where educational efforts will be targeted.

# **EPA State Categorical Program Grants – Workplan Essential Elements FY 2018-2022 EPA Strategic Plan Reference**

Strategic Plan Goal – Goal 1 Core Mission: Deliver a cleaner, safer, and healthier environment for all Americans and future generations by carrying out the Agency's core mission.

Strategic Plan Objective – Objective 1.2 Provide for Clean and Safe Water to ensure waters are clean through improved water infrastructure and, in partnership with states and tribes, sustainably manage programs to support drinking water, aquatic ecosystems, and recreational, economic, and subsistence activities.

# Part III – Financial Information

Budget Summary								
Federal	\$	389,10	1	9/	of total	project		60%
Non-Federal	\$	259,40	1	%	of total	project		40%
Total	\$	648,50	2		Tota	al		100%
Category			Federal			Non-Federal		Total
Personnel		\$	\$ 153,082		\$	126,026	\$	279,108
Fringe Benefits		\$	\$ 42,646		\$	29,881	\$	72,527
Travel		\$ 10,275		75	\$	0	\$	10,275
Equipment		\$	\$ 0		\$	0	\$	0
Supplies		\$	38,85	58	\$	0	\$	38,858
Contractual		\$		0	\$	0	\$	0
Construction		\$		0	\$	0	\$	0
Other		\$	93,48	38	\$	0	\$	93,488
Total Direct Costs		\$ 338,349		19	\$	155,907	\$	494,256
Indirect Costs (≤ 1	5%)	\$ 50,752		\$	53,640	\$	104,392	
Unrecovered IDC		\$		0	\$	49,854	\$	49,854
Total Project Costs	s	\$	389,10	)1	\$	259,401	\$	648,502

Budget Justification (Federal)							
Category	Total	Amount	Justification				
Personnel	\$	153,082	TWRI Assistant Director: \$83,118 annually @ 3 months (8.33% per year) – \$22,042  Extension Forage Specialist: \$101,736 annually @ 1.44 months (4% per year) – \$12,956  TBD Program Manager \$64,970 annually @ 3 months (8.33% per year) – \$16,728  Program Specialist IV: \$77,500 annually @ 12.6 months (35% per year) – \$86,356  Graduate Student worker: \$15/hr, 20 hrs/week for 50 weeks – \$15,000  *named positions are budgeted with a 3% annual pay increase in all years; TBD positions and graduate students are budgeted with a 3% pay increase in years after year 1  *Salary estimates are based on average monthly percent effort for the entire contract. Actual percent effort may vary more or less than estimated between months; but in aggregate, will not exceed total effort estimates for the entire project.  *cell phone allowances for project calls/emails during & after business hours & travel are occasionally factored into salaries & fringe, but again, will not exceed overall dollar amount.				
Fringe Benefits	\$	42,646	Fringe for faculty and staff is calculated at 18.5% salary plus \$771 per month.  Fringe for students is calculated at 11% salary plus \$558 per month.  *named positions are budgeted with a 3% annual pay increase in all years; TBD positions and graduate students are budgeted with a 3% pay increase in years after year 1  *Salary estimates are based on average monthly percent effort for the entire contract. Actual percent effort may vary more or less than estimated between months; but in aggregate, will not exceed total effort estimates for the entire project.  *cell phone allowances for project calls/emails during & after business hours & travel are occasionally factored into salaries & fringe, but again, will not exceed overall dollar amount.				
Travel	\$	10,275	TWRI travel to watersheds to participate in programs  - State vehicle mileage for 18 trips at 162 miles round trip per trip @ state rate (\$1,458)  - Per diem at state rate for 2 people, 12 days (\$1,320)  - Lodging at state rate for 2 people, 6 nights (\$1,152)  Overton travel to watersheds  - Mileage for 3,000 miles to project sites and watersheds throughout the project @ state rate (\$1,500)  Overton travel to field days, regional conferences and planning meetings @13 trips for 1 person  - Per diem for 29 days at state rate (\$1,672)  - Lodging for 17 nights at state rate (\$1,902)  - Rental car for 24 days at state rate (\$621)  - Airfare (\$650)				
Equipment	\$	0	N/A				
Supplies	\$	38,858	Project supplies, including, but not limited to: printer, paper, pens, toner, fuel, field supplies, etc. (\$5,458), electric fencing (\$4,500), fertilizer (\$28,500) Webinar Supplies (microphone and headset) – \$200, Cordless lapel microphone – \$200				
Contractual*	\$	0	N/A				
Construction	\$	0	N/A				

Other	\$ 93,488	Communications Services (videos, social media, articles) – \$23,400
		Printing: 14,987 cards for 5 mailings total – \$11,990
		Postage: 14,987 cards for 5 mailings total – \$13,488
		Rainfall Simulator – \$3,250
		Education Demonstration Setup and Maintenance (input costs, equipment
		rental, practice input costs) (\$10,270/yr) - \$30,810
		Video Camera – \$3,500
		Professional Zoom License – \$1,200
		Video Editing Software – \$1,000
		Computer and computer equipment – \$1,500
		Portable tripod – \$350
		Conference/ training registrations and facility rental fees – \$3,000
Indirect	\$ 50,752	15% of Total Direct Costs (TDC)

Budget Justification (Non-Federal)			
Category	Total	Amount	Justification
Personnel	\$	126,026	TWRI Director: \$209,180 annually @ 4.56 months (12.66 per year) – \$84,278 Professor: \$133,778 annually @ 2.16 months (6% per year) – \$25,554 Extension Forage Specialist: \$101,736 annually @ 1.8 months (5% per year) - \$16,194 *named positions are budgeted with a 3% annual pay increase in all years; TBD positions and graduate students are budgeted with a 3% pay increase in years after year 1 *Salary estimates are based on average monthly percent effort for the entire contract. Actual percent effort may vary more or less than estimated between months; but in aggregate, will not exceed total effort estimates for the entire project.
Fringe Benefits	\$	29,881	Fringe for faculty and staff is calculated at 18.5% salary plus \$771 per month. Fringe for students is calculated at 11% salary plus \$558 per month.  *named positions are budgeted with a 3% annual pay increase in all years; TBD positions and graduate students are budgeted with a 3% pay increase in years after year 1  *Salary estimates are based on average monthly percent effort for the entire contract. Actual percent effort may vary more or less than estimated between months; but in aggregate, will not exceed total effort estimates for the entire project.
Travel	\$	0	N/A
Equipment	\$	0	N/A
Supplies	\$	0	N/A
Contractual*	\$	0	N/A
Construction	\$	0	N/A
Other	\$	0	N/A
Indirect	\$	53,640	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's federally negotiated indirect cost rate (IDC) is 30% of modified total direct costs (MTDC). Texas A&M AgriLife Research's federal negotiated indirect cost rate is 51.5% MTDC. MTDC includes up to \$25,000 of each subcontract and excludes tuition, facility rental and equipment over \$5,000.  - AgriLife Extension – TWRI Director, Extension Forage Specialist: \$123,961 MTDC * 0.3 = \$37,188  - AgriLife Research – Professor: \$31,946 * 0.515 = \$16,452  - \$37,188 + \$16,452 = \$53,640
Unrecovered IDC	\$	49,854	Unrecovered IDC: 30% MTDC – 15% TDC  • IDC on MTDC: \$335,349 MTDC * 30% = \$100,606  • IDC on TDC: \$338,349 TDC * 15% = \$50,752  Total Unrecovered IDC: \$100,606 – \$50,752 = \$49,854