

Lampasas River Watershed Partnership Urban / Suburban Issues Work Group		
4.21.2010	2:00 – 5:00 pm	City of Killeen - Solid Waste Building
Attendees	Lisa Prcin, AgriLife Research Karen Sears, AgriLife Research Pam Casebolt, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board Dirk Aaron, Bell County Extension Agent Clyde Bohmfalk, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Crystal Davis, Texas Forest Service Rob Grotty, Texas Forest Service Judy Parker, Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District Kristina Ramirez, City of Killeen Rita Schoen, Lake Stillhouse Hollow Cleanwater Steering Committee Kenneth Schoen, Lake Stillhouse Hollow Cleanwater Steering Committee	

- ❖ Introductions
- ❖ Power Point Presentation provided
 - Printed copies provided as handout
- ❖ Interactive Discussion about Stakeholder Concerns
 - Water Rights
 - Land owners cannot find accurate answers
 - More people are using the river as Killeen gets larger
 - Where does the landowners property end and the state property start?
 - Dependent on county – for some counties, private property ends at the center of the river and some counties it is at bankfull
 - The water belongs to the state but the streambed beneath is questionable
 - How is the a river determined to be a “navigable river”
 - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department can make this distinction on a case by case basis
 - Have someone come present on this topic
 - Vehicle Use
 - Vehicle use is limited by access points
 - Kayakers
 - Erosion and Bank Failure
 - Dwindling percentage of bank
 - Urban bulge
 - Properties in Killeen’s ETJ want intelligent planning done closer to river
 - City of Killeen Master Plan- need intelligent master planning as the city moves south towards the river
 - City of Killeen has recommended permanent water quality monitoring station during construction of Central Texas A&M
 - Construction within the City of Killeen
 - Killeen community is becoming more permanent and less transient
 - City of Killeen revises Zoning and Planning Master every 5 years
 - Master Plan is not set in stone, but a ‘preferred’ roadmap for development
 - City of Killeen wants buffer zones and larger residential lots along the river

- City of Killeen has no plans for to connect existing homes with OSSFs in particular areas of watershed to the WWTF because of the prohibitive cost of building new pump stations
- City of Killeen has a post construction ordinance that is available for public comment on their website
- City of Killeen has difficulty enforcing drainage control in many areas because they do not have an easement. Need landowner education to help maintain waterways in subdivisions to suppress habitat
- Landscaping
 - Homebuilders within the City of Killeen must plant 2 trees and 2 shrubs on each lot per city ordinance
 - April 20, 2010 Killeen City Council meeting minutes reflect changes to landscape ordinance
 - City of Killeen Parks Department creates lists of preferred trees for planting by city and homeowners
 - Some existing programs are to refer cities and homeowners to:
 - Texas Forest Service offers a list of invasive tree species that should be avoided when landscaping at www.texasinvasives.org.
 - The RED DOT program – signage for local/native plants with low water usage
 - <http://texastreeplanting.tamu.edu> – Texas Forest Service website with recommended tree species
 - Evapotranspiration (ET) controllers for irrigation systems
 - Regulates irrigation systems to operate only when soil moisture conditions dictate
 - Expensive system
 - Over fertilization of lawns
 - Homeowners apply more than the recommended rates
- Regulations on rock and topsoil quarries
 - Operators sells topsoil and then deeper soils for roadbase
 - Because of changes in hydrology, some homes are now in danger of flooding
 - Clyde Bohmfalk will provide more information on rules and regulations
- Agriculture Appraisal Evaluations
 - Lower property taxes for land that is in agricultural production
 - Some land owners placing unsustainable number of livestock to gain the agriculture appraisal evaluation, although land cannot carry that number of animals. This could result in overgrazing, erosion, and pollution problems
 - Can be a larger issue with smaller acreage farms/ranches (ranchettes)
 - Should Agricultural Issues Work Group review?
- Discussed Solutions
 - Educational signage at public access points for recreational users
 - Parks and Wildlife have some publications that may possibly be put in stores and areas where recreational equipment is purchased i.e. kayaks
 - Using the color “purple” in signs – Purple means NO TRESSPASSING
 - “Leave it cleaner than you found it...” on signs possibly tweaked for this area
 - Work with cities to educate populations with guidelines
 - City of Killeen utilizes inserts into water bills to carry messages to citizens
 - Maybe a possible education avenue about proper septic maintenance

- Drainage Department is allotted 2 months per year

- ❖ Initial Land Use/Land Cover Analysis
 - Types of land use – water, urban, forest, pasture, managed pasture, rangeland, barren, and crops
 - Rangeland and Pastureland Separate or Combined
 - Difficult to distinguish between rangeland and pastureland even using satellite imagery
 - Habitat and Wildlife and the Agricultural Issues Work Groups were asked to decide whether to have rangeland and pastureland as separate land use categories for analysis or to combine rangeland and pastureland into one category for land use analysis
 - Necessary to help distribute livestock, wildlife and feral hog populations across appropriate land uses
 - Rangeland and Pastureland Combined was chosen by both work groups for use in accuracy based on ground-truthing
 - Land Classification
 - Concern that South Killeen considered Barren (see land class definitions)
 - City of Killeen requests that this area be reevaluated and classified as urban as it is in the process of being developed
 - Silviculture
 - What practices are in place?
 - Cedar tree removal
 - Small portable saw mills – companies clear for free leaving some cedar trees on the ground
 - Prescribed burns – excellent tool but must know how to use
 - Several local endangered species use the cedar trees to nest
 - Request help from Texas Forest Service

- ❖ Sources and Distribution of Nonpoint Source Pollutions
 - SELECT modeling
 - SELECT uses estimated populations and land use to estimate loadings from sources
 - SELECT inputs, such as livestock- cattle, horses, sheep and goats, feral hogs, septic systems, urban stormwater runoff, and feral hogs, are being identified by each work group
 - Population Estimates – Dogs
 - Use household census for numbers
 - Group voted to use one (1) dog per household
 - What green space is available for dogs, etc.?
 - Are there any existing programs that promote/provide pet waste stations along hike & bike trails and city parks?
 - City of Killeen is currently completing a TCEQ funded grant to study OSSFs within the city, some of which are within the Lampasas River watershed
 - Data from study has been given to AgriLife Research and a final report will be available Summer 2010.

❖ Data Needed

- Ordinances
 - Kristina Ramirez will provide City of Killeen Ordinances to Lisa Prcin
- Sources of 911 Addresses
 - Bell County - Central Texas Council of Governments or Loren Hoeschler with Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District
- Population Projections
 - Kristina Ramirez will provide City of Killeen data to Lisa Prcin
 - Copperas Cove ~ 40,000 – contact Marty Smith with Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce
 - Harker Heights ~ 23,000 per Kristina Ramirez
 - Brazos River Authority website may have data for all counties
- Age and Location of subdivisions
 - Places age on septic tanks
 - City of Killeen does not have this information

❖ Next Steps

- Discussion of Plum Creek Watershed and their use of the SELECT model
 - Lampasas' utilization of the SELECT model will be similar to Plum Creek
- Meeting schedule
 - Wednesdays are best day to use the City of Killeen Solid Waste Building for meetings
 - Would like to see more city departments and members at meetings
 - The Wastewater Infrastructure requested to be joined with the Urban/Suburban Issues work group as there are overlapping issues between the two groups. Urban/Suburban work group was in agreement. The work groups will have a joint meeting the next time they get together. The Steering Committee will vote on combining the groups

❖ Adjourn