

Summary of the Red River Basin Advisory Committee Meeting March 30, 2010

The Red River Basin Advisory Committee Meeting was held on March 30, 2010 in the Conference Room at the Red River Authority of Texas Administrative Offices and Environmental Laboratory Facility in Wichita Falls, Texas at 9:30 a.m. There were approximately 37 stakeholders, including staff, in attendance at the meeting.

Mr. James Wright, ESD Manager with the Red River Authority, opened the meeting with introductions and a short review of the meeting agenda. He encouraged everyone to complete their comment form after the meeting. Mr. Wright emphasized the importance of stakeholder participation in the Clean Rivers Program through their comments and suggestions.

Ms. Patricia Wise, with the TCEQ Clean Rivers Program, discussed the reorganization taking place within the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and she listed the divisions currently operating in the newly named "Office of Water". She then reviewed a list of acronyms that would be used throughout the meeting. Ms. Wise noted some revisions in Water Quality Standards taking effect in July 2010 and talked about some of the programs operating through funding from the Clean Water Act.

Mr. Scott Burns, Environmental Specialist with the Red River Authority, presented the *Draft 2010 Basin Highlights Report*. He explained the process for collecting the data in the report and recommended reviewing the *2009 Basin Summary Report* at rra.dst.tx.us for more detailed information. Mr. Burns also discussed the current monitoring activities in the basins and highlighted water bodies with concerns. He asked that the members use their comment sheets to note suggestions and recommendations they may have for the FY 2011 Monitoring Schedule.

Ms. Phyllis Dyer, with Texas AgriLIFE Research Center, presented some bacterial source tracking results in association with the six year *Buck Creek Watershed Protection Plan Study*. She listed sources of bacteria as wildlife, domestic, human and unidentified. She affirmed that further research would be required to study the unidentified occurrences of bacteria. Ms. Dyer accredited the success of the study so far to the assistance of coordinating entities and increased support from the stakeholders in the area.

The "Water Supply Enhancement Program" presentation was given by Mr. Tuffy Wood, with the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board. Mr. Wood mentioned that the State Brush Control Program had been renamed to the Water Supply Enhancement Program to represent their expanding goals and the various cooperating entities that are supporting the program. He remarked that increased funding has enabled several brush control projects and a monitoring contract with Texas Tech University at the Lake Arrowhead Watershed.

Dr. Earl W. Chilton II, who is the Aquatic Habitat Enhancement Program Director with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, spoke on the impacts of Zebra Mussels in Texas. Dr. Chilton discussed the ecological, recreational and economic effects the Zebra Mussels could have in Texas. He included the need to educate the public to slow the spread of the mussels to other Texas lakes.

Mr. James Wright, with the Red River Authority, opened the floor for final questions and comments. Following discussion the meeting adjourned around 12:15 and lunch was served.