

**RED RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS**  
**Summary of the Red River Basin**  
**Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**March 29, 2011**

The Red River Basin Advisory Committee Meeting was held on March 29, 2011 in the Conference Room at the Red River Authority of Texas Administrative Offices and Environmental Laboratory in Wichita Falls, Texas at 9:30 a.m. There were approximately 39 stakeholders, including staff, in attendance at the meeting.

Mr. Allen Pappas, ESD Program Supervisor with the 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. Pappas emphasized the importance of stakeholder participation in the Clean Rivers Program through their comments and suggestions.

Mr. Pappas, Clean Rivers Program Project Manager with the Authority, presented information regarding recent developments with nutrient criteria on both the Federal and State level. He explained the development process and the processes leading up to the Texas Commission on Environmental Qualities' (TCEQ) recent acceptance of numeric nutrient criteria for approximately 75 reservoirs throughout the state. He also focused on some of the logistical and analytical obstacles TCEQ is currently facing.

Mr. Scott Burns, Environmental Specialist with the Authority, presented the *Draft 2011 Canadian and Red River Basins Highlights Report*. He explained the process for collecting the data in the report and recommended reviewing the *2009 Basin Summary Report*, on the Authority's website at [www.rra.dst.tx.us](http://www.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 any suggestions or recommendations they may have for the FY 2012 Monitoring Schedule.

Dr. Paul DeLaune, assistant professor with Texas AgriLife Research Center in Vernon, Texas, presented information on a variety of water quality projects throughout the Rolling and High Plains. Dr. DeLaune is in charge of a new soil science program and is pursuing several nutrient agriculture-related projects with the Texas Cattle Feeders Association and various other entities throughout the State. Currently, his research is focusing on nitrate "crediting," continuing with the *Buck Creek Watershed Protection Plan Study*, impacts of nutrient enriched livestock feed, etc.

Mr. Mick Baldys, hydrologist with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) in Ft. Worth, Texas, presented an overview of an ongoing study with the City of Dallas, Texas, attempting to quantify pharmaceutical and personal care product contamination in the Trinity River. Mr. Baldys stressed that over the past decade the concern that pharmaceuticals and other personal care products has increased with little research based evidence to support either theory. The City of Dallas, Texas requested that the USGS develop a study to determine if, in fact, such

products were present in the Trinity River. This study is ongoing with a final report scheduled to be released towards the end of 2012.

Dr. Earl W. Chilton II, the Aquatic Habitat Enhancement Program Director with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), spoke on the impacts of a number of invasive species found in Texas. Dr. Chilton discussed the ecological, recreational and economic effects caused by these species and he also presented several examples on how devastating such species can be. Additionally, Dr. Chilton discussed some of the measures TPWD has taken to control the spread of nuisance aquatic species, primarily the Zebra Mussel, as well as common removal methods employed by TPWD. He included the need to educate the public to slow the spread of invasives throughout Texas.

Mr. Josh Oyer, Statewide Volunteer Coordinator with the Texas Stream Team, presented information about the Texas Stream Team and the suite of services they provide to interested citizens. Mr. Oyer is responsible for coordinating training events throughout the State for citizens interested in becoming certified volunteer water quality monitors with the Texas Stream Team. Volunteer monitors collect a variety of water quality data, such as dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, etc. This data is then reported and stored in a water quality database hosted at the River Systems Institute at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas. Mr. Oyer encouraged all interested parties to contact him for information about becoming a volunteer monitor.

Mr. Pappas then opened the floor for final questions and comments. Following discussion, the meeting adjourned around 12:00 p.m. and lunch was served.