Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP)  
North Bosque River Watershed, Texas: 2004-2006

CEAP Assessment
Evaluate the ability of conservation practices to reduce phosphorus flow to Lake Waco.

Watershed Description
• Drains into Lake Waco, which provides 75% of the drinking water for the city of Waco.
• 800,000 acres
• 41% pasture, 28% range, 20% forest, and 7% cropland
• Study area has the largest concentration of dairy animals in the state of Texas.
• A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) has been established for phosphorus.

Issues:
Quality of water entering Lake Waco, air quality and soil quality.

Approach
Water sampling: Phosphorus
Watershed model: APEX (Agricultural Policy/Environmental eXtender)
Assess practices: Compile data and model conservation practices as close to actual field scale as possible.

Communicating Results
Three annual progress reports planned. Also, reports on changes in phosphorus loading into Lake Waco; effects of conservation practices; and effectiveness of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).

Collaborators
• USDA, Farm Services Agency
• U.S. Geological Survey
• U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
• Local Conservation Districts
• Dairy Farmers
• City of Waco
• Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
• Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
• Texas Cooperative Extension
• Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
• Texas Water Resource Institute
• Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research
• Texas Department of Agriculture

Timeline

2003
Initial funding
2004
August CEAP bibliographies
2005
May Wetlands peer review
July Wildlife literature review (program-based)
2006
February Preliminary habitat quality model— Prairie Potholes wetland region
March Preliminary National Assessment Report
2007
Fall National Assessment Final Report
Special Emphasis Watershed reports
2008
February
Collaborators

Timeline

2003
Initial funding
2004
August CEAP bibliographies
2005
May Wetlands peer review
July Wildlife literature review (program-based)
2006
February Preliminary habitat quality model— Prairie Potholes wetland region
March Preliminary National Assessment Report
2007
Fall National Assessment Final Report
Special Emphasis Watershed reports
2008
February

www nrsc usda gov/technical/nri/ceap/