

Update of the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Protection Plan

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ARROYO COLORADO

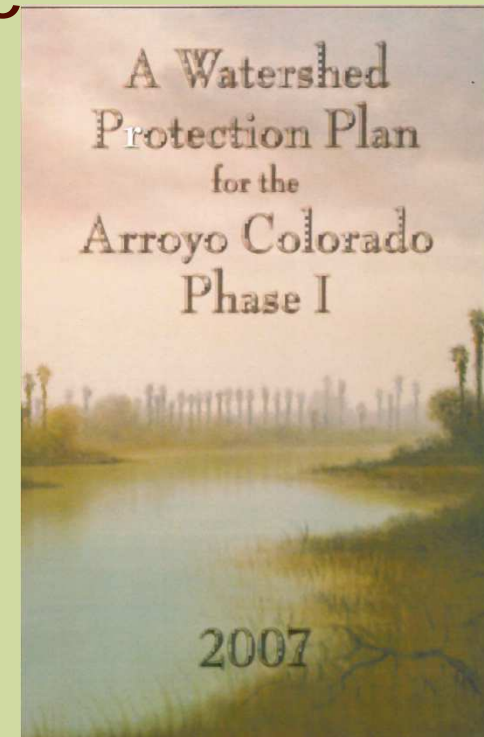
Planning in the Arroyo Colorado Watershed

- 1998 TCEQ began a TMDL study that resulted in the need for a 90% reduction in nutrients
- TCEQ determined that 90% was not attainable
- Watershed Protection Plan was better approach



Arroyo Colorado Watershed Protection Plan (ACWPP)

- Began in 2003 with local interest groups identifying goals to reduce nonpoint source pollution
- Adopted in 2007 by the Partnership
- Ultimate Purpose
 - Create a plan for restoring water quality
 - Educate public on water quality issues



ACWPP Mission

“Reduce the additions of pollutants to the Arroyo Colorado to the maximum extent possible in order to meet state water quality standards and improve the natural terrestrial, riparian, and aquatic habitat associated with the Arroyo Colorado Watershed.”



Implementation of the ACWPP

- Irrigated Crop land/Conservation Plans
- Colonias-OSSF's
- Updating Aging & Outdated WWTP's
- Population, Bigger Cities-Storm Water
- Enhanced Wetland Habitats
- Monitoring
- Outreach & Education



Update of the Arroyo Colorado WPP (2012-2015)

- Establish Loading Reductions-Bacteria
 - Incorporating SWAT results into a hydrodynamic/
Water Quality Model
- Milestones/Accomplishments-1st 10 yrs
- New WWTP's in watershed, MS4
- Increase in population
- Landuse/Urbanization of watershed
Effects on Ag &Habitat



Ch. 2 Progress Report-What did we find? Lots of progress

- Colonia connections to WWTP's
 - Most colonias in watershed have been connected
 - what about the colonias outside of the watershed?
- Topography an issue here in the RGV-OSSF's and Flooding
- Let's report all of them-time, effort, planning and money to connect



Update of the Arroyo Colorado WPP-Ch. 2 Progress Report

- 2 new WWTP's-La Feria, Progreso
- upgraded WWTP's-Mission, Pharr, San Juan, Donna, Mercedes, Harlingen, San Benito, ERHWSC
- San Juan, La Feria, San Benito wetlands
- Questions-Alamo, La Joya, Agua



Update of the Arroyo Colorado WPP-Ch. 2 Progress Report

- 9 LID demo projects in the RGV

- Monte Bella Trail Park-Brownsville
- Amigos Del Valle Building-San Juan
- Valley Nature Center-Weslaco
- La Feria Boys & Girls Club
- Cascade Park-CCDD #1, Brownsville
- Fire Station-Alton
- Weslaco Public Library
- La Joya Municipal Building
- Alamo Sports Complex
- LID Inventory of watershed



Update of the Arroyo Colorado WPP-Ch. 2 Progress Report

- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)-What have you done?
- Street Sweeping
- Vacuum Trucks
- Storm Drain markers, stenciling
- Watershed boundary/crossing signs
- Tires collected



Ag BMP's

- Approximately 110,000 acres under Conservation Plan-TSSWCB, NRCS
- SWAT model will locate hotspots-focus BMP's on these areas
- Water conservation
- No Till/Cover Crops and Soil Health



Outreach & Education

- # of Earth, Arbor, Green Living Events Up
- 221 O&E Events/watershed model-viewed by over 100,000 watershed residents!
- 11 Workshops/Trainings
- 16 Educator Workshops
- 41 Festivals
- 122 Classroom Presentations
- 12 Ag Presentations
- 2 HESTEC



What about the next 10 years?

- What are we missing?
- What would you like to see in the plan?
- Urbanization a big issue-Smart growth
- New Mobility plan-Highways, Loops & Habitat
- Population
- Increase in Severe weather events



Future Projects for Update

- Tio Cano Lake Bed Regional Storm Water Ecological Enhancement Project-900acre
- Hickory Hill Park & Detention Facility-46acre
- Palm Valley Stormwater Ponds and Drainage Rehabilitation Project
- San Benito Wetlands II
- Llano Grande Lake Restoration Project





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ARROYO COLORADO

Know it. Respect it. Enjoy it.

Conócelo. Respétalo. Disfrítalo.