319 Clean Water Act NPS: Steering Committee Meeting Notes

Hidalgo/Willacy Main Drain Watershed Planning Project Key Stakeholder Meeting

Location: Zoom

Date: Wednesday, November 3rd, 2021

Time: 12:30 pm

I. Attendees

- a) Andrew Ernest, RATES
- b) Chris Fuller, RATES
- c) Roy Jimenez, Donna
- d) Saul Garcia, HC Pct 1
- e) Jose Hinojosa, Santa Cruz Irrigation District
- f) Raul Alaniz, Palmview
- g) Derek Katznelson, LRGVDC
- h) Will Kirkey, RATES
- i) Deanna LeVrier, RATES
- j) Linda Navarro, RATES
- k) Jungseok Ho, UTRGV
- I) Cynthia Puente, San Juan
- m) Augusto Sanchez, Cameron County
- n) Velinda Reyes, HC Pct. 4
- o) Kimberly Salinas, Harlingen
- p) Rodolfo Flores, Palmview

II. Welcome & Introductions – Andrew Ernest, Ph.D.

III. Current Status of Program – Linda Navarro

a) Review & Analysis of Data Collected to Date

Flow data from 2017 to 2019 obtained from SWQMIS was presented, the average flow was 8.8 cm³/s. In terms of water quality, parameters such as Total Nitrogen, Chlorophyll-a, Nitrate + Nitrite and E. Coli, are exceeding the permitted concentration.

b) Watershed Delineation

A new watershed delineation was conducted to obtain sub-basins within Hidalgo Willacy Main Drain.

c) Current and future efforts

A new RTHS station was installed in the Hidalgo Willacy Main Drain Waterway to obtain real-time freshwater flow data. This data is online and can be

consulted using the following link: <u>RTHS - Map</u>. A sampling event to test flow, water quality and nutrients concentrations will take place in November.

IV. Closure of the Meeting – Andrew Ernest, Ph.D.The meeting concluded at 12:30.