Water Quality Management Plan Program

Senate Bill 503, 73rd Regular Legislative Session (1993)
Texas Agriculture Code Chapter 201
Water Quality Management Plan Program

- Site-Specific Conservation Plans for “Nonpoint Source” Agricultural and Silvicultural Lands
- When Properly Implemented, WQMPs Achieve Pollution Prevention/Abatement Consistent with Texas Water Quality Standards
- Based on:
  - Soil
  - Planned Land Use
  - Known and/or Potential Water Quality Problems
  - Agricultural Production Goals
  - Other Factors
Water Quality Management Plan Program

- Technical Criteria is Based on the Natural Resources Conservation Service’s (NRCS) Field Office Technical Guide

- NRCS’ Primary Scientific Reference
  - Contains Technical Information on Conserving
    - Soil Resources
    - Water Resources
    - Air Resources
    - Plant Resources
    - Animal Resources
Field Office Technical Guide

- County Specific
- Five Sections
  - Section 1 – General References
  - Section 2 – Soil and Site Information
  - Section 3 – Conservation Management Systems
  - Section 4 – Practice Standards and Specifications
  - Section 5 – Conservation Effects
Field Office Technical Guide

- Primary Scientific Reference
- Technical Information on Conserving
  - Soil Resources
  - Water Resources
  - Air Resources
  - Plant Resources
  - Animal Resources
Conservation Plans and Systems

- Standardized vehicles for documenting resource planning advice
- Many derivations of plans
  - Politics
  - Special resource concerns
  - Cultural movements
    - Environmentalism
    - Economics

Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board
Conservation Plans VS Regulatory Instruments

- Conservation Plans
  - Resource Management System Plans
    - Water Quality Management Plans
    - Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans
  - Specific Resource Concern Plans
    - Nutrient Management Plans
Water Quality Management Plans

- Cover the entire operating unit
- Include essential practices from Field Office Tech Guide for each planned land use:
  - Cropland (conservation crop rotation, residue mgt.)
  - Pastureland (prescribed grazing, livestock water)
  - Rangeland (prescribed grazing, livestock water)
  - Wildlife (wildlife mgt.)
  - Forestland (forest mgt.)
WQMPs also include:

- Nutrient management
- Pest management
- Animal waste management system
- Waste utilization
- Irrigation water management
- Erosion control measures to bring soil loss to acceptable levels
- Erosion control to treat other forms of erosion according to quality criteria in the FOTG
- Other practices to meet site concerns for a WQMP
Steps to obtain a certified WQMP

1. Producer requests planning assistance through local Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)
2. Plan developed with NRCS and TSSWCB assistance
3. Plan approved by producer and SWCD
4. Plan reviewed by TSSWCB
5. Plan certified by TSSWCB
6. Individual plan implementation
7. Annual status review
WQMP Content

- District cooperative agreement
- Request for planning assistance
- Soil map with appropriate interpretations
- Conservation plan map
WQMP Content (continued)

- Practices needed for WQMP
- Implementation schedule indicating year practices are to be applied
- Worksheets used during the inventory and/or planning phase
- Signature sheet (Certification)
District
Cooperative
Agreement

Matagorda County Soil and Water Conservation District
200 Avenue A - Bay City, Texas 77414

DISTRIBUTION—COOPERATOR AGREEMENT

I, the undersigned cooperators, understand the purpose of the Matagorda County Soil and Water Conservation District, its objectives and program. I desire to use my land within its capabilities and to treat it according to its needs. To this end, therefore, I enter into the following agreement with the Matagorda County Soil and Water Conservation District.

I AGREE:

1. To develop as rapidly as feasible, with the assistance of the district a conservation plan for my operating unit that will be mutually acceptable to me and the district.
2. To carry out this plan in a manner as my resources and help available to me from the district, will permit.
3. To comply, in carrying out this plan, with any applicable State laws governing the beneficial use of water.
4. To maintain all structures and other conservation measures which the district has helped me put into effect on my unit.
5. That members of the district governing body or their representatives will have the right of ingress and egress to my operating unit during the period of this agreement for the purpose of conducting surveys, planning, and installing or inspecting conservation measures or structures.

THE DISTRICT AGREES TO:

1. To supply soil survey information for the operating unit.
2. To provide technical assistance to help in the development or revision and application of the conservation plan.

IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED:

1. That neither the district nor the cooperators will be liable for damages to the other in connection with the installation of structures or other conservation measures unless damages are caused by negligence or misconduct.
2. That this agreement will become effective on the date of the last signature and may be terminated by mutual agreement of the parties herein.

COOPERATOR: ____________________________ DATE: ______________

DIRECTOR: ____________________________ DATE: ______________

MATAGORDA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

We are happy to have you as a cooperators. Feel free to call us anytime we can be of assistance.
Request For Planning Assistance

Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board
Soils
Map
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soil name and description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bacliff clay, 0 to 1 percent slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Unit DaA, Component BA CLIFF is 250 - inches thick. Permeability is VERY SLOW and available water holding capacity is HIGH. A water table when present is 0 - 1 feet. The soil has a capability subclass of 3W dryland and 2W irrigated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7A (HEAVY CLAYEY UPLAND (NON-CALCAREOUS) - Deep heavy clayey uplands with slope of 0 to 5 percent; dense clayey subsolils; reaction is slightly acid to moderately alkaline in the surface and mildly to moderately alkaline in the lower layers; high natural fertility; seasonally wet or droughly; high water holding capacity but fair plant-soil-moisture relationship; medium to high production potential.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLACKLAND SITE - Deep, dark, clay soils on nearly level coastal prairie. Climax vegetation is a treecess, tall grass prairie including little bluestem, eastern gamagrass, switchgrass, indiangrass, big bluestem, Florida panicum panicum, sedges, snakeroot, gayfeather, mimosa, sensitivebrich, napaulia, bundleflower, gaurs, and indiangrass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE BA CLIFF SERIES CONSISTS OF VERY DEEP, POORLY DRAINED, VERY SLOWLY PERMEABLE SOILS THAT FUNNELED IN THICK CLAYEY SEDIMENTS. THESE NEARLY LEVEL SOILS ARE ON BROAD UPLANDS. IN A REPRESENTATIVE PROFILE, THE SURFACE LAYER IS A DARK GRAY CLAY ABOUT 9 INCHES THICK. THE NEXT LAYER, FROM 9 TO 69 INCHES, IS A GRAY CLAY.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DaA Da A sandy clay loam, 0 to 1 percent slopes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Unit DaA, Component DACOSTA is 129 - inches thick. Permeability is VERY SLOW and available water holding capacity is MODERATE. A water table when present is 12 feet. The soil has a capability subclass of 2W dryland and NONE irrigated.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Conservation Plan Map
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRACT</th>
<th>FIELD</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>MONTH YEAR</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>PLANNED CONSERVATION TREATMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>089</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>145.0ac</td>
<td>06/2000</td>
<td>137.0ac</td>
<td>06/2000</td>
<td>Practices Needed &amp; Schedule</td>
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<td>Nutrient and pest management will improve plant health and vigor, and increase production. Soil condition will be improved through application of prescribed grazing. Wildlife habitat will be maintained or improved. Existing ponds, water facilities, grade stabilization structures, field ditches and fence should be maintained. Pasture management will be applied as prescribed grazing.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>089</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7500.0ac</td>
<td>01/2001</td>
<td></td>
<td>FENCE</td>
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<td>Construct 4 strand barbed wire fence at location shown on plan map.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>089</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>100.0ac</td>
<td>04/2001</td>
<td></td>
<td>NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT</td>
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<td>A soil test will be taken a minimum of once in every three years for each field or group of similar fields in crops and pasture and/or hayland to ascertain the nutrient status and to determine the need for additional nutrients. A detailed nutrient management plan for each management system will be developed based on the current soil test analysis 1 - 3 months prior to date of application of any nutrients for each field or group of similar fields. For years between soil tests, nutrient budgets will be used to determine nutrient application. When the detailed nutrient management plan for each management system approved by NWSO has been provided to and has been implemented by the producer, NWS nutrient management standards will be met.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>089</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>50.0ac</td>
<td>10/2000</td>
<td></td>
<td>PASTURE AND WY PLANTING</td>
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<td>Prepare a smooth, firm, weed-free seeded. Plant adapted species at the recommended rate and within recommended dates. Fertilize for establishment using recommended amounts and analysis. Control weeds mechanically or by use of approved herbicides.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>089</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>43.0ac</td>
<td>10/2001</td>
<td></td>
<td>PEST MANAGEMENT</td>
</tr>
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<td>Employ chemical and/or mechanical methods to control weeds prior to bloom. Tread or hoe weeds approximately one inch above the average height of the grass. Follow all product label directions when chemical control measures are utilized.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>089</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>100.0ac</td>
<td>06/2001</td>
<td></td>
<td>PRESCRIBED GRIZZLING</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|       |       |         |            |        |      | Manage livestock grazing so grass is not grazed below
Certification Page

Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board

CERTIFICATION

I (We) concur in the conservation practices and implementation schedules indicated in this Water Quality Management Plan. I (We) understand that when these planned Conservation Practices are applied and maintained, the Resource Management System will meet the State's requirements for water quality. Failure to comply with this plan and implementation schedule will result in the loss of certification. I (We) agree to notify the local Soil and Water Conservation District in the event of deviation from the implementation schedule. Any substitution or changes to the above practices or implementation schedule must be in accordance with the Field Office Technical Guide and approved by the Soil and Water Conservation District.

Applicant (Producer) Date


Certified By: District Conservationist Date

The Water Quality Management Plan includes the entire operating unit and meets the Soil and Water Conservation District's program's plan and its priorities.

Approved by: Soil & Water Conservation District Date

The Water Quality Management Plan satisfies the State Board's criteria; complies with Section 26.121 (a) (2) of the Water Code which prohibits the discharge of other waste (agriculture nonpoint source pollution), unless the discharge complies with the person's Certified Water Quality Management Plan approved by the State Soil and Water Conservation Board as provided by Section 201.026 of the Agriculture Code.

Certified by: Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board Date
Worksheets & Engineering Plans

Land Use:
1. Cropland - Irr. 11.8 AC
2. Cropland - Irr. 10 AC
3. Cropland - Dry 7.5 AC
4. Pastureland 5 AC
5. Other Land (Cont.) 7 AC
6. Farmstead Area 5 AC
Total Acreage 160 AC

Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board
Cost-share Assistance

- The Texas Legislature Appropriates Funding Specifically for Cost-share Assistance
- Must be Used to Implement BMPs Contained Within a TSSWCB-Certified WQMP
Water Quality Management Plan Program

The WQMP Program is Available Statewide, but Cost-share Assistance for Implementing the WQMP is Only Available in Certain Areas.

However, the TSSWCB Retains Some Funding for Statewide Use in Special Situations.
Cost-Share Program – Practice Eligibility

- Must be included in applicant’s certified water quality management plan
- Must be on the SWCD and TSSWCB approved practice lists
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Practice Name and Unit</th>
<th>Minimum Life Span in Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>312</td>
<td>Waste management system (no.) (See note 9 for eligible components)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>314</td>
<td>Brush management (acre)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>317</td>
<td>Compost facility (no.)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>342</td>
<td>Critical area planting (acre)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>351</td>
<td>Well decommissioning (no.) (See note 7)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>392</td>
<td>Diversion (ft)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>378</td>
<td>Pond (no.) (See note 4)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>382</td>
<td>Fencing (ft) (See note 1)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>389</td>
<td>Field border (ft)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>391-A</td>
<td>Riparian forest buffer (See note 11)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>393</td>
<td>Filter strip (acre)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>410</td>
<td>Grade stabilization structure (no.)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>412</td>
<td>Grassed waterway (acre)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>430</td>
<td>Irrigation pipeline (ft)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>441</td>
<td>Trickle (all needed components)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>442</td>
<td>Sprinkler-low pressure (new installations on B-Slope) (See Note 2)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>442-A</td>
<td>Sprinkler – Conversion to low pressure</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>443</td>
<td>Sprinkler – Chemigation equipment</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>443</td>
<td>Surface – Shallow flood, rice (all needed components)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>443</td>
<td>Surface – Surge valves</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>447</td>
<td>Irrigation system, tailwater recovery (no.)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>462</td>
<td>Precision land forming (acre)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>464</td>
<td>Irrigation land leveling (acre)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>472</td>
<td>Use exclusion (See note 10)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>512</td>
<td>Pasture and hayland planting (acre) (See note 3)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>516</td>
<td>Pipeline (ft)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>521</td>
<td>Pond sealing or liming (no.)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>525</td>
<td>Range planting (acre) (See note 5)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>552-A</td>
<td>Irrigation pit (no.)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>552-B</td>
<td>Irrigation regulating reservoir (no.)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600</td>
<td>Terrace (ft)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>608</td>
<td>Subsurface drain (ft)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>612</td>
<td>Treeshrub establishment (See note 11)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>614</td>
<td>Trough or tank (no.)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>638</td>
<td>Water and sediment control basin (no.)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>842</td>
<td>Water Well (no.) (See note 6)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>542</td>
<td>Well head protection (no.)</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inscram (no.) (See note 8)</td>
<td>10</td>
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(See reverse side for Guidance Notes)

10/26/00
Obtaining Cost-Share Assistance

- Individual with certified WQMP makes application to SWCD for cost-share assistance

- SWCD approves application based on its allocation

- Individual installs practice(s) with needed technical assistance provided by NRCS or TSSWCB Regional Office
Obtaining Cost-Share Assistance (continued)

- Individual submits performance report certifying practice completion
- SWCD, with NRCS and TSSWCB Regional Office assistance, determines that completed practice meets FOTG standards
- SWCD signs and sends performance report to TSSWCB
- TSSWCB reimburses landowner
Applying For Cost Share

Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board
Performance Certification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field No.</th>
<th>Practice No.</th>
<th>Soil &amp; Water Conservation Practice</th>
<th>Quantity Performed</th>
<th>Cost Share</th>
<th>Cost of Practice</th>
<th>Cost Share Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</table>

I certify that the Conservation Practices approved for cost-share on the application number as shown above have been completed in accordance with established standards.

I hereby release $________ of cost-share funds allocated to me by the above listed Application for Cost-Share Assistance. All practices listed on this application have been installed. I understand these funds may be reallocated.

Applicant’s Signature ___________________________ Date ____________

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT CERTIFICATION

I certify that the applicant named above has completed the approved Soil and Water Conservation Practices listed and provided necessary documentation that the practices meet standards. The district therefore requests that cost-share be provided.

For the Soil & Water Conservation District ___________________________ Date ____________

*Estimated Cost-share amount is not to exceed the maximum set by the FSSWCD
Annual Status Reviews

- Monitor producer’s compliance with WQMP
- 10% of WQMPs randomly selected for review each year in each district
- Performed by TSSWCB Regional Office and local Soil and Water Conservation District
- Follow-up reviews conducted until WQMP in compliance
- Annual status reviews filed at Regional Offices
Thank You!

- Please visit our website at:
  - www.tsswcb.state.tx.us

- Or contact me at:
  - jalbus@tsswcb.state.tx.us
  - PO Box 848, Hale Center, TX 79041-0848
  - 1201 Ave E, Hale Center, TX 79041
  - Phone Number: 806-839-1030
  - Fax Number: 806-839-1323