

**Nonroutine Adaptive Management Proposal
Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan
EAHCP Stakeholder Committee Report
September 21, 2017**



(Sediment Removal and Impervious Cover/Water Quality Protection Measures)

Overview

This Report is issued in response to the Nonroutine Adaptive Management Process (AMP) proposal submitted by the Program Manager of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP), dated August 1, 2017. Per the Funding & Management Agreement, the EAHCP Stakeholder Committee is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations to the Implementing Committee for proposals submitted through the Nonroutine AMP. This Report presents the final recommendation of the EAHCP Stakeholder Committee concerning this Nonroutine AMP proposal.

Summary of the Nonroutine Adaptive Management Proposal

On August 1, 2017, the EAHCP Program Manager submitted the attached Nonroutine AMP proposal to the Science, Stakeholder, and Implementing Committees. The proposal involves modifying the Sediment Removal measures with efforts to focus on sediment prevention activities (§5.3.6 and §5.4.4) and modifying the Impervious Cover & Water Quality Protection measure (§5.7.6) to include the implementation of Water Quality Protection Plan activities.

Summary of September 21, 2017 Stakeholder Committee Discussion

At the September 21, 2017 Stakeholder Committee meeting, Alicia Reinmund-Martinez, HCP Director, provided a presentation – *Proposed Nonroutine Adaptive Management Proposal: City of San Marcos/Texas State University Sediment Removal and City of San Marcos/City of New Braunfels Impervious Cover-Water Quality Protection* – to the Committee. This presentation covered the following: 1) the AMP process, 2) the challenges and opportunities of sediment removal; 3) a comparative analysis between implementing storm water BMPs and sediment removal, 4) a summary of the COSM and CONB Water Quality Protection Plans, and 5) the Scientific Evaluation Report issued by the Science Committee in response to the Proposal.

Following this presentation, the Stakeholder Committee had a short discussion on the merits of the proposal. This section provides a summary of this discussion. It also includes the final motions taken by the Committee.

1) Cost Effectiveness due to Cost Sharing

Ms. Carol Patterson asked about whether this annualized capital cost, which is less annually than sediment removal, is also a shared cost between the City of San Marcos as well as utilization of other grant funds. Mr. Reinmund-Martinez said yes, that it was a shared cost and could be used as match for federally-funded projects.

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2) Specific Water Quality Protection Plan Projects

Mr. Nathan Pence clarified that this AMP proposal is not specifically about Sessom Creek or Landa Lake BMPs but rather a broader amendment that would affect Low Impact Development work in San Marcos and New Braunfels. The specific details regarding these efforts will go through the proper annual Work Plan and Funding Application process.

Mr. Myron Hess asked for clarification on the process for work plans and funding applications. Mr. Pence did correct his statement and confirmed that annual work plans and funding applications will go the prescribed review process - first through a Science Committee review and then through the Implementing Committee review. Mr. Pence stated that the Stakeholder Committee does not have a role in the work plan review, but if a Stakeholder Committee member has a request regarding a work plan, staff will always respond.

Final Motions by the Committee

Mr. Cary Betz provided a correction to the language in Nonroutine AMP Proposal to change the word “respected” to “respective.” With that correction, Ms. Dianne Wassenich made a motion to approve, Ms. Carol Patterson seconded. There were no objections.

An expedited process whereby this Nonroutine AMP Stakeholder Report, reflecting the discussion of the Stakeholders concerns the proposed Nonroutine AMP proposal, would be approved by the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Stakeholder Committee was presented to the Committee for their consideration. Mr. Roger Biggers made a motion to approve the expedited process, Ms. Cindy Loeffler seconded. There were no objections.

Nature of Stakeholder Committee Decision

Twenty-two members of the Committee attended the September 21, 2017 meeting in attainment of a quorum for the meeting. Votes for both Committee actions concerning the Nonroutine AMP proposal were by consensus; there were not competing positions.

Stakeholder Recommendation

By consensus, the Stakeholder Committee recommends the Nonroutine AMP proposal to the Implementing Committee for approval and adoption.

Attachments

- Nonroutine Adaptive Management proposal dated August 1, 2017

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- Nonroutine Adaptive Management Scientific Evaluation Report, EAHCP Science Committee, August 25, 2017
- Minutes from the September 21, 2017 Stakeholder Committee Meeting