

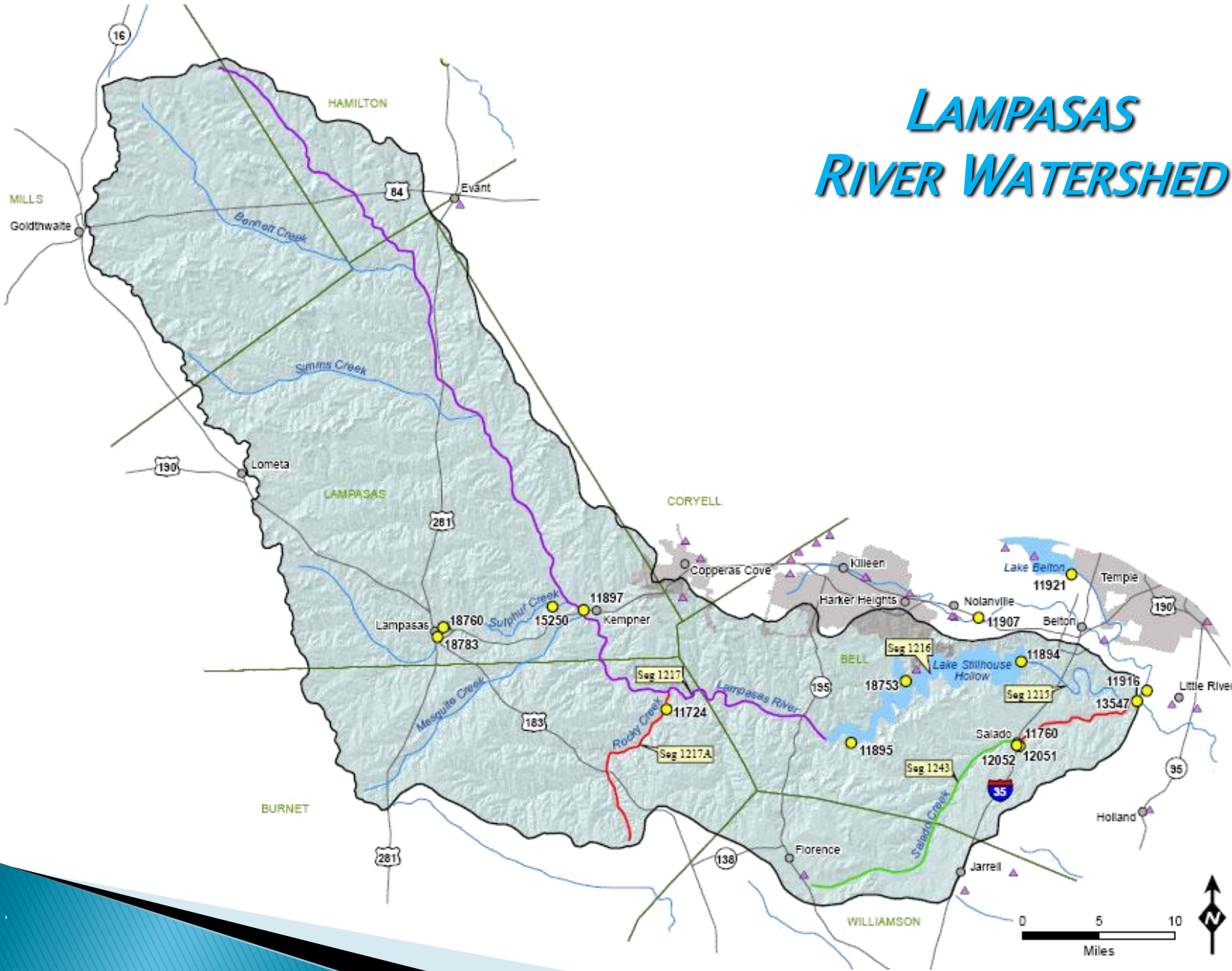
# Review of the WPP Process & May 2009 Partnership Kickoff Meetings

Lisa Prcin  
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Texas AgriLife Research at  
Blackland Research & Extension Center

# BRAZOS RIVER BASIN



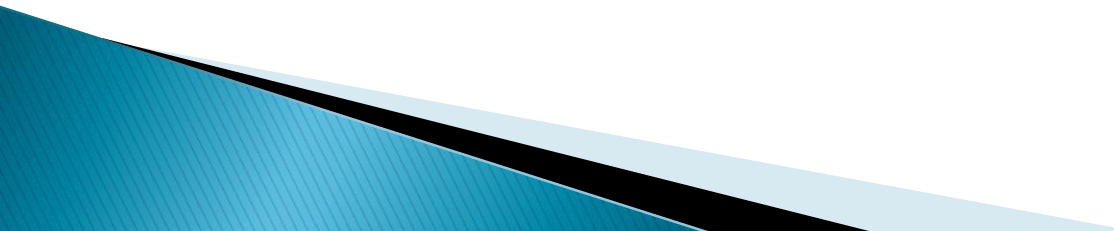
# LAMPASAS RIVER WATERSHED



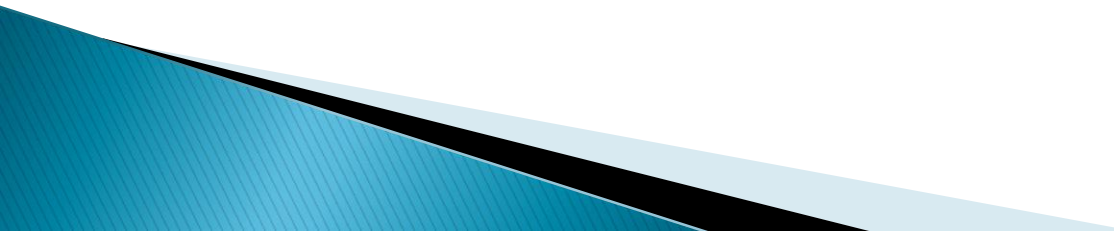
# How Did the Lampasas River Get Selected?

- ▶ Main stem of Lampasas River is impaired for elevated bacteria levels
- ▶ North Fork Rocky Creek (a tributary of the Lampasas River) is impaired for a depressed dissolved oxygen
- ▶ TSSWCB was approached by landowners to help maintain the health of the Lampasas River watershed
- ▶ Texas AgriLife Research obtained a Clean Water Act 319(h) grant from TSSWCB and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to develop a WPP for the Lampasas River watershed

# What is a Watershed Protection Plan?

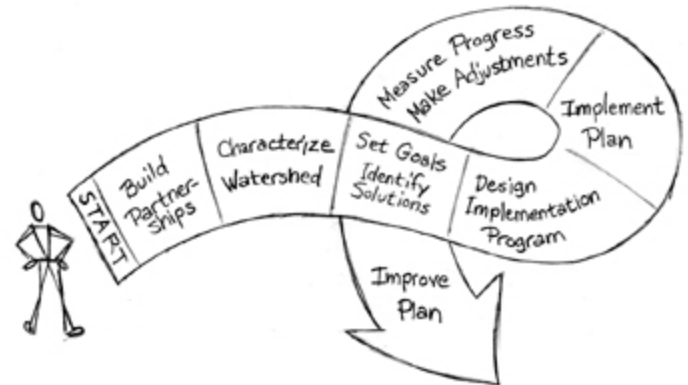
- ▶ Coordinated framework for implementing prioritized & integrated water quality protection & restoration strategies
  - ▶ Addresses complex water quality problems that cross multiple jurisdictions
  - ▶ Developed & implemented through diverse, well integrated partnerships
  - ▶ Specific geographic watershed focus large enough so that implementation holistically addresses all of the sources & causes of impairments to water resources
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# What is a Watershed Protection Plan?

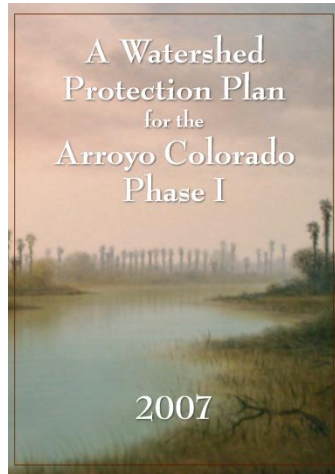
- ▶ Assures the long-term health of the watershed through strategies for protecting unimpaired waters & restoring impaired waters
  - ▶ Tool to better leverage the resources (i.e. funding) of local governments, state & federal agencies, & non-governmental organizations
  - ▶ Voluntary, proactive approach
  - ▶ Implementation is iterative through Adaptive Management
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# EPA's 9 Elements of a WPP

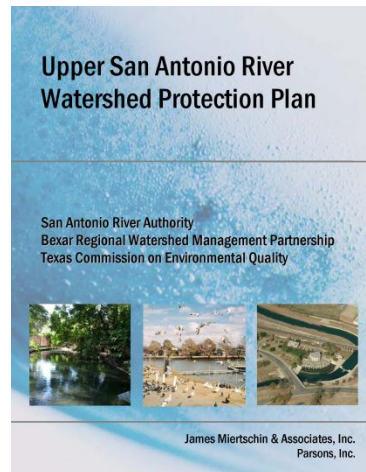
- A. Identification of the causes
- B. Estimate of the load reductions
- C. Description of management measures
- D. Estimate of financial assistance needed
- E. Information/education component
- F. Schedule for implementing
- G. Description of interim, measurable milestones
- H. Set of criteria to determine achievement
- I. Monitoring component



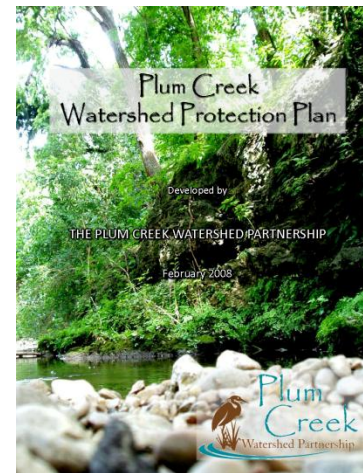
# Examples of Other WPP



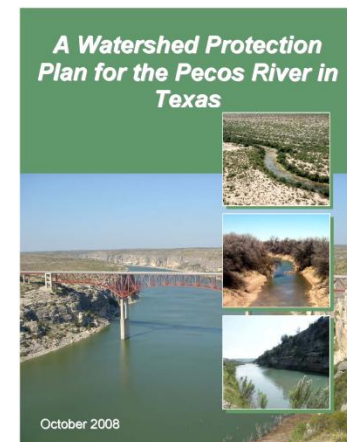
[www.arroyocolorado.org](http://www.arroyocolorado.org)



[www.sara-tx.org](http://www.sara-tx.org)



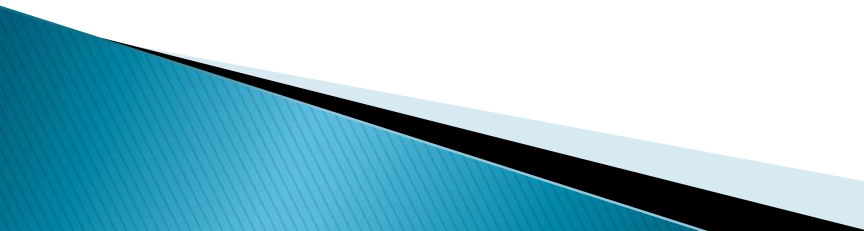
<http://pcwp.tamu.edu>



<http://pecosbasin.tamu.edu>



# Water Quality Solutions Identified in Other WPPs

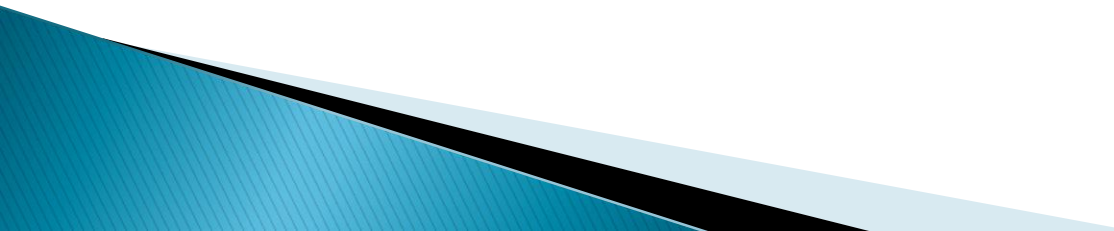
- ▶ Changes to Wastewater Treatment Facility permits & possible upgrades
  - ▶ Repair & replace failing septic systems
  - ▶ Technical & financial assistance to landowners for voluntary implementation of best management practices on agricultural land
  - ▶ Education on & demonstration of best management practices
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# Who are the stakeholders?


Those who make and implement decisions, those who are affected by the decisions made, and those who have the ability to assist with the implementation of decisions.

- ▶ Individuals & Non-government Entities
  - Landowners
  - Citizen groups
  - Community service organizations
  - Religious organizations
  - Homeowners' associations
  - Recreationist
  - Business & Industry representatives
  - Environmental & conservation groups
- ▶ Local & Regional Government Entities
  - Soil & Water Conservation Districts
  - Underground Water Conservation Districts
  - County or regional officials
  - Local municipal representatives
  - Universities, colleges & schools
- ▶ State & Federal Agencies
  - Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
  - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

# Lampasas River Watershed Partnership

- ▶ Partnership includes:
    - Steering Committee
    - Topical Workgroups
    - General Members
    - Technical Advisory Group
  - ▶ Develop recommendations to address water quality issues within the watershed to be used in the WPP
  - ▶ Carry the WPP through to implementation
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# Role of Texas AgriLife Research at Blackland Research & Extension Center

- ▶ **Watershed Coordinator**
    - Facilitate steering committee and work group meetings
    - Ensure that all voices are heard
    - Provide communication lines between technical expert panel, work groups, steering committee and public
    - Provide information needed for stakeholders to make decisions
    - Work to ensure smooth transition from plan development to implementation
    - Write the WPP based on the Partnership's decisions
  
  - ▶ **Technical Coordinator**
    - Complete watershed characterization and analysis
    - Provide information needed for stakeholders to make decisions
    - Facilitate steering committee and work group meetings
  
  - ▶ **AgriLife will write the WPP based on the Partnership's decisions**
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# Thank You



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