

Texas Water Resources Institute

**Enhancing Water Quality and Dredged Material for the Port of Harlingen (Phase I)
Coastal Management Program, Cycle 14
General Land Office Agreement No. 10-046-000-3742**

Quarter no. 7 From 4/1/11 Through 6/30/11

ABSTRACT

Work this quarter consisted of primarily of finishing up the Ecological Assessment Report. Also, issues with meeting the cost share requirements have been resolved. Since the Ecological Assessment Report wasn't sent to the project team until June 22, 2011, a three month, no cost extension was requested to carry the project through September 30, 2011. The extension will provide APAI with enough time to get the Conceptual Design Report completed. This task will be the bulk of next quarters work.

TASK REPORT

TASK 1: Project Management

Task Status: In progress 93% complete

Major Accomplishments for the reporting period include:

Subtask 1.1: Project Oversight

- TWRI met either in person or had phone conversations with all project partners discussing the status of each individual task.

Subtask 1.2: Fiscal/invoicing

- As of March 31, 2011, \$31,378.20 or 39% of the project funds have been spent.

Subtask 1.3: Regular Meetings

- A project coordination meeting will be held next quarter.

Subtask 1.4: Quarter Progress Reports

- Quarter 7 progress report was turned in on July 8, 2011.

Subtask 1.5: Final Report

- No activities to report at this time.

Related Issues/Current Problems and Favorable of Unusual Developments:

- N/A

Projected Work for Next Quarter:

- Continue project discussions and arrange a conference call during the next quarter.
- AgriLife will submit monthly invoices per the contract.
- TWRI will submit quarterly reports for the contract.

TASK 2: Conduct Ecological Assessment

Task Status:

In progress

80% complete

Major Accomplishments for the reporting period include:

Subtask 2.1: A coordination meeting with Port of Harlingen staff, Alan Plummer Associates, Inc (APAI), TWRI, and University of Texas at Brownsville (UTB) faculty (to be conducted by conference call) will be held to discuss goals and objectives of studies to be conducted.

- A coordination meeting was held on February 10, 2011 at the Port of Harlingen where it was discussed what the appropriate steps in accomplishing project goals would be.

Subtask 2.2: Ecological Assessment

- Fieldwork for the entire area has been completed. The Ecological Assessment report was provided for review June 20, 2011.

Subtask 2.3: Report and Map

- The Ecological Assessment report with figures was provided for review June 20, 2011. GIS files of the report figures were requested of UTB.

Subtask 2.4: Permit Requirement Coordination

- APAI reviewed the Ecological Assessment report provided by UTB on June 20, 2011, but information regarding delineation of jurisdictional waters of the U.S., identification and location of any threatened or endangered species observed on site, soils, and erosion concerns was not provided. This information was requested to facilitate determination of permit requirements and required coordination with federal and/or state regulatory agencies.

Related Issues/Current Problems and Favorable of Unusual Developments:

- N/A

Projected Work for Next Quarter:

- Set up coordination meeting with Port of Harlingen staff, Alan Plummer Associates, Inc, TWRI, and UTB faculty for April (coordinate with TWRI quarterly visit to the Valley).
- Provide additional information requested regarding delineation of jurisdictional waters of the U. S., threatened and endangered species information, soils information, and areas of erosion concern,

TASK 3: Alan Plummer Associates, Inc. (APAI) in cooperation with the Port of Harlingen will analyze the following data for the proposed project site as part of the technical review and analysis. APAI will be responsible for gathering data.

Task Status:

In progress

60% complete

Major Accomplishments for the reporting period include:

Subtask 3.1: A coordination meeting with Port of Harlingen Staff, APAI, and TWRI will be held to discuss goals and objectives of analysis to be conducted (via conference call).

- Coordination meeting via conference call was conducted November 3, 2010

Subtask 3.2: Survey

- LIDAR topographic data was procured for the project site. The LIDAR topographic data will be utilized for developing the conceptual layout.

Subtask 3.3: Conceptual layout of the wetland

- No activities to report at this time.
- Awaiting the additional data requested regarding the proposed site and other data to be provided by the Port of Harlingen to enable development of conceptual layout.

Subtask 3.4: Conceptual Design Report

- No activities to report at this time.

Related Issues/Current Problems and Favorable of Unusual Developments:

- The Conceptual Design Report has been started but the process was delayed due to receiving the Ecological Assessment Report late last quarter. Also, the Ecological Assessment was lacking certain components.

Projected Work for Next Quarter:

- Work on report summarizing data collection efforts.