

Summary of Planning Meetings
For Fall Caddo Lake Flows-Ecology Workshop
April 26 and May 18, 2006
[August 28, 2006]

Introductions (see list of attendees below)

Update on work-to-date and new projects (See attached summaries provided before or at the meetings.)

Annotated Agenda

- Update on the Texas environmental flows process: Wendy Gordon announced that the draft of the Texas State Technical Overview for Instream Flow Studies would be available to the public in late May or early June and that the final version should be published by the end of the summer (in August). *The final version is now expected in the fall.* Two workshops were scheduled and held to obtain stakeholder input: San Antonio on June 15 and Dallas on July 12.
- Update on WPP: A summary of the WPP process was presented, noting that the flows-ecology workshop would serve as hydrology working group - one of the three working groups for the WPP. The other two working groups are the physical concerns group that to deal with issues such as septic tanks and aquatic vegetation and the water quality group that would be merged with the ongoing Clean Rivers Project for the watershed. TCEQ, NETMWD and USGS presented additional information on the location and timing of the installation of a new flow gage on Big Cypress, downstream of Jefferson.
- Update on work resulting from the first flows-ecology workshop:
 - * USGS Work: Bruce Moring discussed the work of the USGS on Big Cypress, and the continuing work proposed for August. The possibility of expanding the work was discussed, both for Big Cypress and for some tributaries.
 - * Flood Modeling Work: Joe Trungale explained the effort to use models developed by the Corps of Engineers to model the floodplain on Big Cypress.
 - * Rapid Response Team: Gary Endsley explained the development of a volunteer team that would support the efforts, by taking readings from the new USGS transducers and attempt to get flood level measurements at a number of sites on Big Cypress during releases from Lake O' the Pine and during or after significant rainfall events.
 - * Mercury Studies: Thomas Rainwater discussed some of the ongoing efforts to get a better assessment of the ecological impacts of mercury in the watershed.
- New work to be done prior to fall workshop
 - * Input for development of building blocks and research priorities for other tributaries: There was agreement to focus part of the next workshop on the three other major tributaries – Little Cypress, Black Cypress and Jim's or James Bayou. There was consensus that background materials, such as those developed by Texas A&M for the first workshop, would be needed to assist participants in developing building blocks and priorities during the fall workshop. Joe Trungale and CLI were

given the lead responsibility for preparing the materials with the assistance of TNC, and possibly Texas A&M and TCEQ.

* Additional studies of the floodplain of Big Cypress. With funding made available by TNC and the Corps of Engineers, a work group was established to evaluate the options for the work and for coordination with other work. The work group included TNC, CLI, TCEQ, the Corps of Engineers and USGS.

* Nutrient studies: TCEQ announced that it was funding additional work for a nutrient balance of Caddo Lake. A small workgroup was set to examine the options for look at what might be needed and possible for additional nutrient studies, coordinated by Bill Harris of the TAMU-TWRI with Paul Price (HDR), Roy Darville (ETBU), Art Crowe (TCEQ), and Kent Becher (USGS).

- Workshop Schedule and Activities:

Dates for Next Workshop: Oct. 2-4, 2006 (now selected)

April 26th, 2006 Caddo Lake Planning Meeting

List of Attendees

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Email</u>
Rick Lowerre	CLI	rl@lf-lawfirm.com
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Tim Bister	TPWD	Timothy.Bister@tpwd.state.tx.us
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David Brown	USGS	dsbrown@usgs.gov
Walt Sears	NEWMWD	netmwd@aol.com
Thomas Rainwater	Texas Tech Univ.	Thomas.rainwater@tiehh.ttu.edu

May 18th Meeting at USGS Office

List of Attendees

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