



## OSSF Workgroup Meeting Minutes

October 5, 2010 9:30 AM

**Workgroup Members Present:** Martin Entringer (GCHD), Bryan Eastham (TCEQ), Ryan Gerlich (TX Agrilife Extension Service), Amanda Ross (TCEQ by phone), Scott Jones (GBF) and Lisa Miller-Marshall (GBF)

**Discussion:** In order to determine the number of septic systems in the area, the geographic scope for the project must be established. H-GAC is working on developing a map for the 13 county region that would show permitted systems, MUDs, WWTFs, etc. Once those are mapped, the location of OSSFs can be extrapolated and the number of systems estimated. The group suggested looking at systems that are a half mile from the coastal boundary and a half mile upstream in a tributary. Once those boundaries have been established, then the systems can be prioritized by distance to the watershed, age of the system, and type of soils. The actions described above would take place during the first year of the implementation plan. At the end of the year, the prioritization schedule would be reviewed and revisions made.

The group is concerned about representatives from Chambers and Brazoria County not being represented on our workgroup. Once the implementation plan is further along, letters will be written to the non-represented authorized agents and calls made to inform them of the plan and solicit their support.

Requiring a licensed maintenance provider and requiring a point of sale inspection are legislative actions. They will be a recommendation within the I-Plan but not a management measure. We will also recommend Bruce Lesikar's inspection manual as the standard for point of sale inspections.

*Load Reduction* - To estimate the load reduction, we will need a more current estimate of the number of systems in the project area. Once the map from H-GAC is developed, the estimate can be calculated. The failure rate for the calculation would probably be between 8% and 20%. Ryan mentioned a model, SWOT, which considers many parameters of a watershed to determine the load reduction that could be used.

*Financial Assistance* – H-GAC provides a pamphlet that lists many of the grants available. Lisa will research the H-GAC website for the pamphlet. The Texas Water Development Board and USDA may also have grants available.

*Technical Assistance* – H-GAC, Galveston County, and TCEQ will provide technical assistance.

### Action Items

1. Lisa will research the H-GAC website for financial information.
2. Ryan will send Marty a copy of the inspection manual and send Lisa load reduction calculation equations.
3. Bryan will inquire about the mapping effort at H-GAC and send a list of the authorized agents in the project area.
4. All workgroup members will come up with some interim measurable milestones and bring the ideas back to the group for the next meeting.

5. **Next meeting:** Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 9:30 AM

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