Plum Creek Watershed Partnership Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday, November 7, 2013
6:30 – 8:30 PM
Lockhart State Park

The Plum Creek Watershed: From Feral Hogs to Landfills

Agenda

6:30 Meeting Overview & Introductions
   – Nick Dornak, Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator

6:35 6th Annual, Keep Lockhart Beautiful Cleanup: Plum Creek, Town Branch, Lockhart Springs
   – KLB Volunteer and Sponsor Recognition

6:50 Watershed Coordinator Update
   – Nick Dornak, Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator

7:05 Implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices
   – Troy Freeman, Caldwell-Travis Soil and Water Conservation District

7:20 Texas Dept. of Agriculture, CHAMP Grant
   – Nick Dornak, Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator
   – R.A. ‘Bubba’ Ortiz, Ortiz Game Management
   – Steve Van Buren / Jamie Gregg, Helicopter Tours of Texas

8:00 Proposed Caldwell County Landfill
   – Mack Reynolds, GreenGroup Holdings
   – Susan Meckel, PCWP report on GreenGroup Holdings site visit

8:30 Adjourn

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 7, 2013
Lockhart State Park
Partnership/Steering Committee Meeting
6:30 – 8:30 pm
Keep Lockhart Beautiful—
Plum Creek/Town Branch/Lockhart Springs
6th Annual Cleanup and Environmental Fair

- 200 volunteers
- 1,580 lbs of refuse
- 840 lbs of recyclables
- Wildflower planting
- 7 parks and 4.5 stream miles covered
- Environmental Fair 2013
  - Over 125 participants
  - 6 educational exhibits
  - Environmental Fair Passport
- Total fundraising = $3,960
Thank you sponsors!
Watershed Coordinator Update

Nick Dornak, Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator

Implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices

Troy Freeman, Caldwell-Travis Soil and Water Conservation District Technician
Plum Creek Watershed Updates

- Planning and Design for Hillside Terrace underway

- Keep Lockhart Beautiful and KTB affiliation process

- Clean Water Act §319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program FY 2014 Proposal
  - September 25, 2013 - Meeting of project partners
  - Funds additional three years of WPP implementation
  - Total project proposal - $389,535 (60% Federal / 40% Local Match)
  - Includes: (1) Salary, travel and supplies for watershed coordinator, (2) Continued outreach and education, (3) Workshops – septic, riparian education, (4) Illicit dumping site cleanups
Plum Creek Watershed Updates

- Continued to track high levels of E. coli and ammonia in discharge from Kyle WWTP
- Follow-up on Lake Falling Star Fish Kill (Teeney Creek)
  - Depressed DO and elevated ammonia
  - Sources
- Caldwell County Feral Hog Task Force
- Project updates to funding partners
- Stakeholder meetings
  - Green Group Holdings
  - EPICC
- TSSWCB - 73rd Annual State Meeting of District Directors, Fort Worth, TX
2013 GBRA Youth Ag Fair

Well Educated!!!
IN THE PRESS!!!

- **July 11, 2013** – Luling Newsboy and Signal, “*Trap Set Up*”
- **July 15, 2013** – Filmed educational video regarding the benefits of technology in feral hog management.
- **July 23, 2013** – Issued press release, “*Plum Creek meeting and documentary screening set for August 8 at Lockhart State Park*”
- **August 8, 2013** – Public screening, “*Watershed – A New Water Ethic for the New West*, Lockhart State Park, Lockhart, TX
- **August 15, 2013** – Hays Free Press interview, “*Plant Deemed Hazardous Downstream*”
- **August 23, 2013** – Issued press release, “*Volunteers to Clean Up Plum Creek Watershed*”
- **August 28, 2013** – Television interview with YNN
- **August 28, 2013** – Television interview with KEYE Austin (interview also ran on San Antonio and Houston CBS affiliates)
- **August 28, 2013** – Radio interview with KLBJ
- **August 29, 2013** – AP article “*Bounty Doubles for Central Texas Feral Hogs*”
- **August 30, 2013** – Television interview with KHOU Houston, “*Hogs Beware, Bounty Doubles in Some Texas Counties*”
- **August 30, 2013** – Lockhart Post Register interview, “*Plant to Add 1.5 Million Gallons Per Day to Creek*”
- **September 3, 2013** – University Star (Texas State University), “*Local Hunters Control Hog Population*”
- **September 5, 2013** – San Marcos Record, “*Funds Raise Bounty for Feral Hogs*”
- **September 11, 2013** – Advertisement for 6th Annual KLB Cleanup in Lockhart Post Register
- **October 4, 2013** – Austin-American Statesman, “*Counties boost bounties for feral hog hunts*”
- **October 21, 2013** – “*Task Force announces details for feral hog bounty, food bank donations and additional feral swine management programs set for Caldwell and Hays County, TX*”
- **October 25, 2013** – “*The Plum Creek Watershed – From Feral Hogs to Landfills*”
- **November 5, 2013** – Television interview with KSAT 12 San Antonio

***HIGHLIGHTED - FRONT PAGE OR NETWORK TELEVISION***
Next PCWP Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 13, 2014
6:30 to 8:00 pm
Lockhart State Park, Lockhart
Thanks!

Nick Dornak,
Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator

ndornak@plumcreekwatershed.org

1403 Blackjack Street, Suite B
Lockhart, TX 78644

(512)213-7389
Texas Department of Agriculture
CHAMP Grant

Nick Dornak, Plum Creek Watershed Coordinator
R.A. “Bubba” Ortiz, Ortiz Game Management
Steve Van Buren / Jamie Gregg, Helicopter Tours of Texas
Caldwell County and Hays County awarded first ever CHAMP Grant for $30,000
CHAMP Project Partners

- Caldwell County Feral Hog Task Force
- Hays County
- Caldwell County Farm Bureau
- State Farm Insurance
- Plum Creek Conservation District
- Bastrop-Caldwell County WMA
- Tri-Community WMA
- Hays County Master Naturalist
- Mid-Tex Chapter of the Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas
- Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension Service
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Caldwell-Travis County SWCD
- City of Lockhart
- City of Kyle

- Caldwell County
- SH130/TXDoT
- Hays County Farm Bureau
- Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
- Plum Creek Watershed Partnership
- Clearfork WMA
- Lost Pines Master Naturalist
- San Marcos River Foundation
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Texas Wildlife Services
- Farm Service Agency
- Hays County SWCD
- City of Luling
- City of Uhland

****Last but certainly not least, local citizens and stakeholders****
CHAMP Grant Summary

Project Goals

- Reduce feral hog population in Caldwell and Hays County by 4,720 individuals in 1 year
- Quantify and reduce short-term and long-term economic impact of feral swine in Caldwell and Hays County
- Encourage and enhance landowner participation in feral hog management through cooperative and incentive programs
- Information transfer to stakeholders in the Plum Creek Watershed and surrounding areas
- Develop sustainable funding structure for continuation of programs
CHAMP Grant Summary

- Administered by the Caldwell County Feral Hog Task Force (CCFHTF)
  - CCFHTF Leadership Committee (includes an appointed representative for Hays County)
- Implementation of the Caldwell / Hays Feral Hog Action Plan (Year 1)
- $85,000 in total funding ($55,000 in local funding)
- Landowner cooperative programs
  - Bounty program
  - Aerial Control
  - Professional Hunting/Trapping Services
  - Wireless Traps
  - Drop Net
  - Feral Hog Exclosures
CHAMP Grant Summary

Program Support

- Dedicated website
- Educational workshops
- Caldwell / Hays feral hog survey
- Food bank donation program
- Landowner and participant optional donation guide
- Advertising / promotion at 4 Bounty Claim Stations
  - Caldwell County Farm and Ranch, Lockhart
  - Salt Flat Feed and Mercantile, Luling
  - King Feed, Wimberley
  - Triple S Feed, Dripping Springs
Caldwell County Landfill / 130 Environmental Park

Mack Reynolds, Green Group Holdings

Susan Meckel, PCWP Report on Meriwether County, Georgia site visit

Q&A with PCWP Stakeholders

(Limit: 1 question per person with optional 1 question follow-up for clarification purposes)