

# Nonpoint Source Success Stories - Grants Reporting and tracking System.

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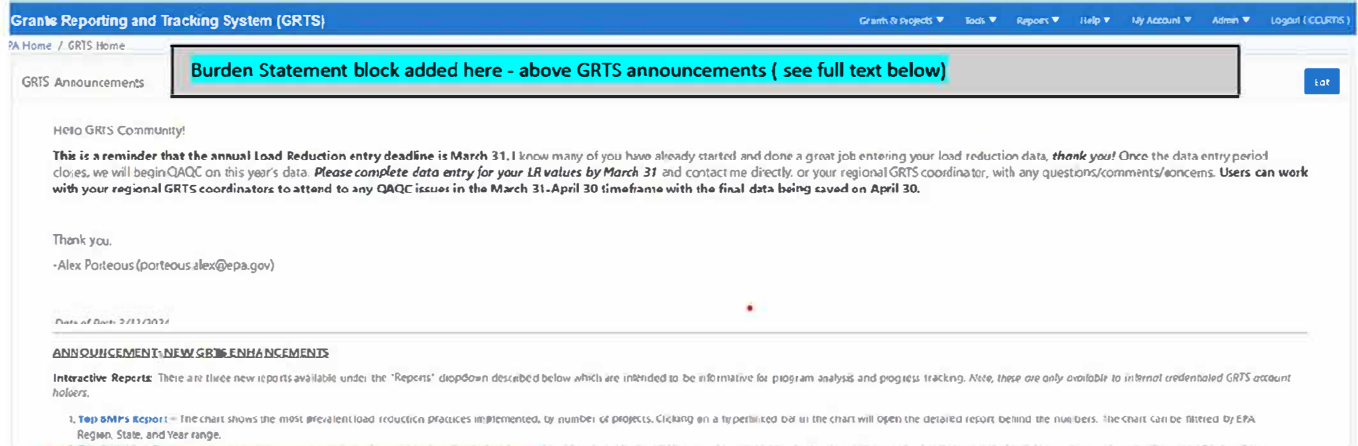
- [1 User interface home page](#)
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### Notes:

- [Success Stories](#) are the culmination of 319 program work. They reflect environmental results of the NPS program which typically cut across multiple grants. We collect the information with a separate form in the GRTS database. Showing water quality /env. results from both the grant and the NPS program is a requirement in the statute.
- The database streamlines grantees story generation by drawing on existing project data.

### Grants Reporting and Tracking system Home page:

( the home page is for 319 grants and success stories)



**Text that will be added in text box above:** This collection of information is approved by OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. OMB Control Number: 2090-NEW. Responses to this collection of information are mandatory [2 CFR Part 200]. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. **The public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to be 8-16 hours per response.** Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden to Director, Information Engagement Division; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2821T); 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW; Washington, D.C. 20460. Include the OMB control number in any correspondence. Do not send the completed form to this address.

## Screenshots of Success Story Entries:

**Grants Reporting and Tracking System (GRTS)** Grants & Projects ▾ Tools ▾ Reports ▾ Help ▾ My Account ▾ Admin ▾ Logout ( COURTIS )

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**Success Story**

SS ID: 2137      Fiscal Year: 2023      EPA Region: 06      State: Texas

**Title:** Implementing Best Management Practices Improves Water Quality in Highland Bayou Diversion Canal

**Web Link:** [https://ordspub.epa.gov/ords/grts/f?p=109:1225:::1225:P1225\\_SS\\_SEQ:2137](https://ordspub.epa.gov/ords/grts/f?p=109:1225:::1225:P1225_SS_SEQ:2137)      [View Link](#)      **Publication Date:** 03/11/2024      **Publication Number:**

**Current Status:** Finalized

**Type:** 1. Partially/fully restored water (WQ-10 eligible)

**Related GRTS Projects:** [ 99614621-03 (1.03) | 99614614-09 (1.04) | 99662714-05 ]     

**Notes:** New layout      **Headquarter Notes:** Delisting confirmed

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**Waterbody Information**  ?

Delete selected waterbody(s)

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Waterbody Name	Waterbody ID	ID Source	Size	Units	Type	Designated Use
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HIGHLAND BAYOU DIVERSION CANAL	TX-2424G_01	ATTAINS	12.61	MILES	Stream/Creek/River	Recreation

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**Waterbody Listings**

Edit All Listings      Delete selected waterbody listing(s)

1 - 1

Water Body Name: HIGHLAND BAYOU DIVERSION CANAL, Waterbody ID: TX-2424G\_01

<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	Pollutants	Source of Impairment	Year of Listing	Year Delisted	Listing Status	Designated Use	TMDL?	TMDL Year	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pathogens (Other)	Onsite Waste Disposal Systems	2014	2022	Confirmed	Recreation	-	-	-

Story Sections (Written Narrative)

Submission Edit Instructions:

- Enter all text directly onto GRTS and add images under "Attachments."
- All edits to and versions of the success story should be uploaded as a Word doc to the "Attachments" section. Do not make any edits to the text directly on GRTS beyond the initial text entry.
- The text on GRTS will only be revised after the story is finalized and published on the web.

Please limit Abstract to less than 1000 characters

**Abstract (Waterbody Improved)** The Highland Bayou Diversion Canal (assessment unit (AU) 2424G\_01) was first identified as impaired due to elevated bacteria and placed on the Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d) list of impaired waters in the 2014 Texas Integrated Report of Surface Water Quality (Texas Integrated Report). Since then, efforts to improve water quality by state and federal agencies and local communities have been focused on on-site sewage facilities (OSSFs) by implementing education and outreach programs and assisting with OSSF maintenance and repairs. Bacteria levels in the Highland Bayou Diversion Canal subsequently improved, and the canal was determined to be meeting water quality standards for primary contact recreation in the 2022 Texas Integrated Report.

**Water Quality Challenge** The Army Corps of Engineers constructed the Highland Bayou Diversion Canal (AU 2424G\_01) in the 1970s to reduce flooding along Highland Bayou. The canal diverts water from Highland Bayou south through Basford Bayou and empties into West Bay (Figures 1 and 2). The area around the canal contains a large amount of residential OSSFs. The city of Santa Fe has the largest concentration of OSSFs, and any failures among these are likely to drain into the Highland Bayou Diversion Canal. Additionally, the area's soils have a high clay content, which is not ideal for the drain fields that are part of traditional OSSFs. Aerobic OSSFs are better suited for these types of soil but are more mechanical in nature, and many OSSF owners are not familiar with how to properly maintain these systems. The Highland Bayou Diversion Canal was first placed on the 2014 CWA section 303(d) list when water quality data indicated that it no longer met its designated primary contact recreation use due to Enterococcus concentrations in excess of 35 colony-forming units (cfu) per 100 milliliters (100 mL).

**Story Highlights** In 2010, the Galveston Bay Estuary Program (GBEP) began a watershed characterization project on the Highland and Marchand bayous to collect data and facilitate stakeholder involvement. GBEP and partners completed the Highland and Marchand Bayous Watershed Protection Plan (WPP), which was accepted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in May 2021. The WPP cites failing OSSFs as significant potential sources of bacteria pollution in the Highland Bayou Diversion Canal. Since 2010, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has continuously funded projects with EPA CWA Section 319(h) grant funds to provide OSSF maintenance trainings for homeowners, as well as initiatives that offer OSSF pump-outs, repairs, and replacements. These projects were carried out to help achieve federal approval of the Texas Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program under the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments.

**Results** From 2010 to 2020, both education and outreach activities and OSSF repair and maintenance initiatives in the watershed have helped to reduce nonpoint source pollution. The geometric mean of Enterococcus concentration decreased from 77.34 cfu/100 mL to 26.96 cfu/100 mL during this time. As a result, the Highland Bayou Diversion Canal was identified as fully supporting the primary contact recreation use in the 2022 Texas Integrated Report (Figure 3).

**Partners & Funding** Watershed partners have spent approximately \$2,205,867 on WPP development, implementing best management practices, and education and outreach efforts. Of these funds, \$1,528,319 are federal CWA section 319(h) funds; \$84,181 are state funds; and \$593,367 are funds matched by local entities. Watershed partners include H-GAC, Texas Water Resources Institute, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, and Texas A&M AgriLife Research.



*NOTE: As of 2024, Partners and Funding narrative field is no longer captured.*

Point(s) of Contact

Add Point of Contact

Delete selected point of contact(s)

row(s) 1 - 2 of 2


<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Agency	Email	Phone
<input type="checkbox"/>	 Kristin DeBone	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	kristin.debone@tceq.texas.gov	512-239-5447
<input type="checkbox"/>	 Brian Koch	Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board	bkoch@tswcwb.texas.gov	979-532-9498

Watershed Plans

Add Watershed Plan

Delete selected watershed plan record(s)

1 - 1 of 1

<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit	Plan Name	Notes	File / URL	
<input type="checkbox"/>		Highland Bayou Coastal Basin Watershed Protection Plan For Highland Bayou, Highland Bayou Diversion Canal, Marchand Bayou, Moses Bayou, And Unnamed Tributary of Moses Lake	-	<a href="https://agrillife.org/highlandbayou/files/2021/05/Highland-Bayou-Coastal-Basin-6.12.2021-FINAL.pdf">https://agrillife.org/highlandbayou/files/2021/05/Highland-Bayou-Coastal-Basin-6.12.2021-FINAL.pdf</a>	URL

Project BMPs/Activities

Add BMP

Delete selected BMPs Edit All BMPs

row(s) 1 - 4 of 4

<input type="checkbox"/>	BMP	Number Installed	Units	Comments	GRTS Project Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	Onsite Waste Water System (Repair/Upkeep)	8	INDIVIDUAL UNITS	OSSF inspections to prioritize failing systems for replacement.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Onsite Waste Water Treatment System (New/Existing)	6	SYSTEM(s)	Six replacements were in proximity to the Highland Bayou Diversion Canal. Annual Enterococcus load reduction in the watershed was approximately 1.7 x 10 <sup>16</sup> cfu/year.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Onsite Waste Water Treatment System (pumpout)	8	SYSTEM(s)	Eight pump-outs were in proximity to the Highland Bayou Diversion Canal. Over 5,000 gallons of septage removed from watershed.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Outreach And Education	3	INDIVIDUAL UNITS	Training events for homeowners on OSSF maintenance and where to locate resources.	

Partners and Funding

Add Partner/Funding

Delete selected partners and funding

row(s) 1 - 7 of 7

<input type="checkbox"/>	Partner Type	Agency/Program	Funding Provided	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal	Clean Water Act Section 319	\$35,000.00	Through TSSWCB
<input type="checkbox"/>	State	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	\$50,000.00	Through GBEP's Water and Sediment Quality Committee's project funding process
<input type="checkbox"/>	University/College	TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE	\$400,703.00	Non-federal match
<input type="checkbox"/>	State	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	\$34,181.00	TCEQ state funding
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL	\$132,864.00	Non-federal match
<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal	Clean Water Act Section 319	\$399,181.00	Through GBEP
<input type="checkbox"/>	Federal	Clean Water Act Section 319	\$1,094,138.00	Through TCEQ
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$2,205,867.00</b>	

Counties

Add County

Delete selected county(s)

row(s) 1 - 1 of 1

- County ↑
- GALVESTON

Attachments

Add Attachment

Delete selected attachment(s)

Edit the attachment record to indicate whether or not the image should be included in the story printout. Use the up/down arrows in columns 3 and 4 to sort the images in the order you wish for them to appear in the printout.

row(s) 1 - 6 of 6

<input type="checkbox"/>	Edit			File / URL	Size	Description/Caption	Image for Print Layout	Uploaded By	Date Uploaded	File Uri Link
<input type="checkbox"/>		^	v	Highland Bayou Diversion Canal Map.png	5,374.8KB	Figure 1. The Highland Bayou Diversion Canal (AU 2424G_01) in southeast Texas.	✓	KDEBONE	08/08/2023	GRTSADM.download_my_file?p_file=103228p_page=SS
<input type="checkbox"/>		^	v	Highland Bayou Diversion Canal.jpg	3,809.6KB	Figure 2. Highland Bayou Diversion Canal (AU 2424G_01), 2020 (Source GBEP).	✓	KDEBONE	08/08/2023	GRTSADM.download_my_file?p_file=103238p_page=SS
<input type="checkbox"/>		^	v	Highland Bayou Diversion Canal Graph.png	33.8KB	Figure 3. Highland Bayou Diversion Canal (AU 2424G_01) Enterococci geometric means from the 2012-2022 Integrated Reports.	✓	KDEBONE	08/08/2023	GRTSADM.download_my_file?p_file=103248p_page=SS
<input type="checkbox"/>		^	v	Success_Story_2137.docx	25,209.3KB	For KP review	-	EFLAHERT	10/13/2023	GRTSADM.download_my_file?p_file=117138p_page=SS
<input type="checkbox"/>		^	v	Success_Story_EPAComments_addressed.docx	25,211.2KB	Success Story, comments addressed	-	JHOWARD0	10/25/2023	GRTSADM.download_my_file?p_file=118728p_page=SS
<input type="checkbox"/>		^	v	TX_HighlandBayou_2137_newlayout_AllChanges.docx	25,266.9KB	Tracked changes Word file showing all edits made	-	KPHILLIP	12/11/2023	GRTSADM.download_my_file?p_file=121968p_page=SS

Review Status

Email Review Team    Unlock

1 - 10

Status	Status Date ↓ ↑	Submitted By	Sent To	Comments	Submitted Story
Finalized	03/12/2024 10:44AM	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Congrats! The story is up on the web.	
Approved	01/31/2024 05:06PM			Looks great, love the new layout. Appreciate everyone involved in getting this across the line. JPO	
Approved	01/31/2024 04:37PM			Thank you everyone for your work on this success story!	
Open for Review	01/29/2024 04:12PM			Hi all - The draft story layout is ready for EPA Region 5 and state review. Please click "Show Preview" at the top of the screen to view the draft story layout. For your reference, a word document with track changes is available in the Attachment section. If the draft shown in "Show Preview" looks okay, please click Approve. Minor edits can be made in the comment box. Please reach out to me directly with any questions or more significant changes. Thanks!	
Email	01/19/2024 08:48AM			Hi, I was asked on the status of this SS from TCEQ. Looks like it's ready, Ellie, is there anything else you need from us here at RO? Jim	
Email	10/25/2023 05:19PM			Good afternoon everyone. I've uploaded a new Success Story document that contains our responses to your comments. Thanks, Jaymes Howard, TCEQ.	
Accepted by EPA HQ	10/12/2023 01:12PM			Hi Kary - This story is ready for your final review with the document I added to the attachment section. This story will be finalized in the new layout, so no need to provide a polished PDF layout. Please provide your usual content/editorial review and include any edits/comments you have as track changes. Jim/Kristin - For our editor, can you please provide some additional information on which practices were 310 funded? (please see comments in the attached doc for reference) Thanks!	
Email	09/12/2023 03:22PM			Hello Ellie, we (TCEQ) would be interested in using the new layout for our FY23 Success Story "Implementing Best Management Practices Improves Water Quality in Highland Bayou Diversion Canal."	
Submitted to EPA HQ	08/20/2023 09:45AM			Hello, Ready for HQ review.	
Submitted to EPA Region	08/09/2023 04:20PM			Thank you for your review.	

OMB Control Number = 2090.NEW, Expiration Date = mm/dd/yyyy.

[Terms and Conditions for states and Territories excerpt](#)

**f. NPS Success Stories**

The recipient must draft and submit to the EPA any applicable NPSMP success stories that highlight projects resulting in the restoration or improvement of waterbodies. These stories shall be submitted through the success story database in GRTS.