

## PROJECT FACT SHEET

**Project Title:** Middle Brazos Feasibility Study

**Project Lead:** [Brazos River Authority](#)

**Funding Source(s):** Authority / TWDB / USACE

**Project Partner(s):** [USACE](#) / [TWDB](#) / USFWS / individual landowners.

**Project Description:** In 1997, Congress appropriated funds to the Fort Worth District of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to conduct the Middle Brazos Study. The study includes all or part of 29 counties and consists of three phases. The first phase, Reconnaissance, assessed the degree of natural resources lost due to changes in land use and identified restorative measures for the North Bosque River watershed and other watersheds in the Central Brazos River basin.

The second phase, Feasibility, includes the analysis of riparian corridor restoration, such as constructed wetlands, reforestation, and conservation easements. Three watersheds, Duffau Creek, Indian Creek, and Green Creek in Erath County, were selected as the focus of this phase. The study relies on volunteer landowner participation. Individual restoration plans have been drafted for participating landowners.

During phase two, the Authority will meet with landowners to finalize restoration plans and obtain landowner commitment to participate in the Study's Implementation phase. Upon completion of land surveys, the USACE will appraise each parcel of land and develop construction costs for the restoration plan. The final stage of phase two will involve determining which of the restoration plans are feasible for implementation.

Phase three, Implementation, will involve the actual construction and implementation of remediation measures on individual parcels of land.

**Potential Project Benefits:** Constructed wetlands are often used to remove pollutants from water. Reforestation also improves water quality by reducing soil erosion. Suspended sediment carried in streams will transport phosphorous, which is often attached to the soil particles.

**Current Project Status:** Phase I – Completed in 1999; Phase II – Will be completed by December 2004; Phase III – Completion dates for phase three are unknown at this time.