



Lower Mississippi Valley
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NE TX CONSERVATION



DELIVERY NETWORK

NETX Conservation Delivery Network CDN Steering Committee

Welcome Steering Committee

Northeast Texas Conservation Delivery Network

Working Together for Conservation in East Texas



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NETX Conservation Delivery Network CDN Steering Committee

**CDN Welcome New Members, Leadership Transfer, and Business
Chair - Andy McCrady and Vice Chair Reuben Gay**

- **Welcome** new members and alternates; guests
 - Operating Guidelines (Handout – Operations Guide)
- **Action** - Leadership and Work Group Leads/Geographies
 - Approve transition Vice Chair
 - Steering Committee for Vice Chair nominations
- **Information** - Review Highlights LMVJV meeting (R. Gay)

NETX CDN 2023 Actions

Approved Delivery Area Modification

Revision Ops Guide and Strategic Plan

Transition Vice Chair-Chair June 28 Meeting

Steering Committee

Expanded Membership from 9 to 11

Designated Alternates

New Business

Establish Ad Hoc Watershed Work Group



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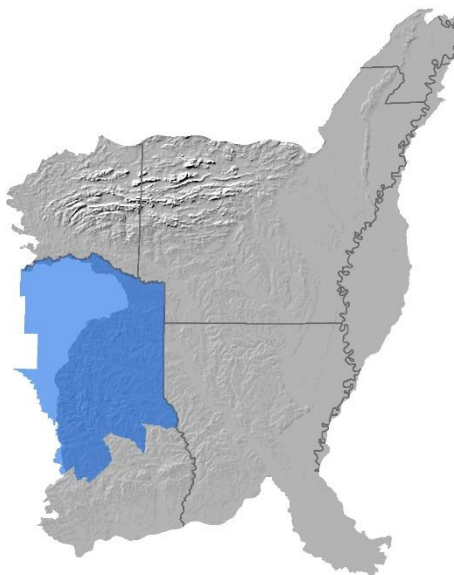
NETX Conservation Delivery Network CDN Steering Committee

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DELIVERY NETWORK

Caddo Lake Institute
USDA – NRCS
National Wild Turkey Fed
Texas Forest Service
The Nature Conservancy
Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.
Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.
USFWS (Partners)
USFWS (Refuges)
Boggy Slough Conservation Area
Texas Longleaf Team



Laura Ashley Overdyke
Rigoberto Lopez
Annie Farrell
Brian Pope
David Bezanson
Stephen Lange
Marcos DeJesus
Steve Arey
Erik Duerkop
Steve Jack
Jenny Sanders

2023 NETX OP Guide (a)

- **Modifications Expand Delivery Area**
 - Operations Guide describes Delivery in WGCP
 - RFPs define Delivery Area to allow flexibility
- **Membership in CDN – Agency/Organization**
 - Leads – Watershed Work Groups
 - Membership Expanded to 11

2023 NETX OP Guide (b)

- **Work Group Leads - Geographies**
 - Watershed-based expanded Trinity (OPJV area)
 - Extending NETX potential into TLT for shared support
 - 3 Wild Turkey restocking areas
- **Leadership Roles and Alternates**
 - Group Leads are backbone of local delivery
 - **Established alternate/successional planning**
 - Coordination with OPJV and TLT
 - Trinity and Red - OPJV
 - Lower Neches and Sabine - TLT

Strategic Plan – Need for Change

- **Delivery – Refining Priority Habitats**
 - Currently New HSI Model in Development
 - Covers all WGCP and EGCP (MSU)
- **Convene NETX Science Work Group (Leads)**
 - Matt Jackson – TPWD GIS Specialist
 - Anne Mini – LMVJV Science Coordinator
 - Janine Antalffy – LMVJV Avian Ecologist (Monitoring)



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**Annie Farrell – NWTf
NETX Administrator**



Working Together for Conservation in East Texas

2023 NETX HIP Progress



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7 Years of Delivery – HIP Milestones

- Habitat Accomplishment and Investment
 - Over 23,000 acres and \$1,000,000
- 2022 RFP Streamlined Process worked well
 - Anticipate \$180k - \$240k annually
- New Payment Rates and Adjusted Map
 - Simplified Rates and Map on NETX Website
 - More changes in 2024 with Strategic Plan/Map

2023 RFP/HIP Timeline

- Open **April 17-21, 2023**
- Close **June 9**
- Draft Ranking **June 26**
- **Steering Committee**
 - Convene to Approve
 - ***June 28***

2023 Challenges – 63 Proposals!

- Requesting almost \$850,000
 - Funds available for only 20-25 projects
- Considerations
 - Reduce cap for 2024?
 - Negotiate lower rates on projects over \$20k?
 - Fund only known cooperators (maintain investment)
 - No new cooperator landowners?

Future options for “many good” unfunded projects:

- Reduce \$40,000 project cap, with limit to 1 ownership
 - (LLC, Company cannot submit 3 projects)
- Restrict applicants with open projects
- Request funding for initial treatment
 - Only projects to be completed within 12-18 months
- Negotiate lower payments for proposals \$20-40k
- Alternative Options for small ownerships
 - (develop process to offer NRCS options)
- Alternative Options for projects outside priority
- Scoring criteria (pts fire 10 - chemical 5 - mechanical 0)
- Re-evaluate Priority Habitat Model & extend to all East Tx
- Notification to unselected projects with suggestions to improve

Watershed Work Groups

Julia Schmidt – Partnership for Forest and Water

- TX A&M Forest Service

Participation in TWAC – Texan by Nature/

- NE Texas Municipal Water District - Robert Speight
<https://netmwd.com/>
- Caddo/Big Cypress – Active watershed efforts with CLI
- Propose Merging Red, Sulphur & Cypress Work Groups

Progress Report Watershed Ad Hoc

- Watershed Ad Hoc – Progress Report (Speight)

Texas Water Action Collaborative (TxWAC)

TxWAC is Facilitated by Texan by Nature with an objective to:
Unite Conservation and Business Leaders

TxWAC matches companies and funders with conservation projects to positively benefit Texas' water resources.

Many Conservation Dollars in 18 months to TPWD, DU, TLT etc

NETX CDN should collaborate more actively with

TxWAC and Partnership for Forests and Water

Future Opportunities

TPWD – Foundational Funding

Future NFWF Funding

LMVJV unsuccessful with LLP

Arbor Day – SLP @ \$.35/seedling (\$220/ac)

TWAC and Industry (J. Sanders)

WGCPO Delivery Coordinator - ABC

Re-Cap of 2023 Actions

Approved Delivery Area Modification

Revision Ops Guide and Strategic Plan

Transition Vice Chair-Chair June 28 Meeting

Steering Committee 6/28/23

- **Expanded Membership from 9 to 11**
- **Designated Alternates**
- **Approved Record HIP projects**

Other Business and News *(as time permits)*

NETX Calendar for 2023

- **July 25-26 Shortleaf Pine (SLP) Ozark Plateau (MO)**
- **August 15 Tour Nacogdoches PPMC – NRCS (TBD)**
- **August 15-16 Virtual SLP Webinar (UGA – Registration)**
- **August 15-16 RCW Meeting Alexandria LA**
- **September 13 NETX CDN All Hands Meeting**
- **September 19-21 Longleaf Stewards Natchitoches**
- **October SLP or BHWD/Riparian NETX Field Day**

*NETX Conservation Delivery Network
Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture*

Closing Remarks
Reuben Gay