

Upper Colorado River Authority
Self-Evaluation Report



Submitted to the Sunset Advisory Commission
September 1, 2015

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**Upper Colorado River Authority (UCRA)
Self-Evaluation Report**

I. AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

**UCRA
Agency Contacts**

	Name	Address	Telephone & Fax No	Email Address
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Agency's Sunset Liaison	Ellen Groth	512 Orient, San Angelo, TX 76903	325.655.0565 (p) 325.655.1371 (f)	elleng@ucratx.org

II. KEY FUNCTIONS AND PERFORMANCE

Provide the following information about the overall operation of your agency. More detailed information about individual programs will be requested in a later section.

A. Provide an overview of your agency's mission, objectives, and key functions:

The Upper Colorado River Authority was created through the Enabling Act of 1935 by the Texas Legislature. The boundaries include Tom Green and Coke County. The broad language of the act states that the UCRA is allowed the rights of; *"The control, storing, preservation and distribution of the Upper Colorado River Authority and its tributaries for irrigation, power and other useful purposes, the reclamation of and irrigation of arid, semi-arid and other lands needing irrigation and the conservation and development of the forest, water and hydro-electric power of the State of Texas"*.

To that end, UCRA's adopted mission statement is as follows;

"The mission of the Upper Colorado River Authority is to enhance the water quality of the streams and tributaries located within the watershed of the Upper Colorado River Authority".

The UCRA works diligently towards its key function to preserve water quality and enhance water quantity within the watershed it serves. The UCRA partners with various federal, state and local agencies. UCRA works in partnership with the Texas Clean Rivers Program through stakeholder participation and actively monitoring the tributaries of the Colorado. UCRA also implements non-point source pollution abatement control programs, brush control and special projects with municipalities. UCRA works in partnership with other river authorities and state and local government to ensure water quality and quantity issues are addressed as efficiently and thoroughly as possible. UCRA also serves as an advisor to various municipalities and provides assistance where needed.

B. Do your key functions continue to serve a clear and ongoing objective? Explain why each of these functions is still needed. What harm would come from no longer performing these functions?

Our key functions continue to serve a clear and on-going objective. UCRA is a small but crucial organization for the counties it represents. The agency manages efficiently with its small staff while accomplishing more than many other agencies with large staff numbers. No dollars are received from state appropriations and

UCRA's operations have relied solely on prudently invested funds obtained from the original enabling act in 1935, grant programming, special projects and studies, and water sales revenue.

As a partner for the Clean Rivers Program, UCRA often monitors sites that other agencies can no longer service and contributes to the state water quality database. UCRA continues to see water quality improvements through the 15+ year NPS programs that have benefited the watershed through implemented structural and non-structural controls. The innovative statewide brush control program, begun in 1998, has restored water to historically dry parts of the watershed and a cooperative agreement with the City of San Angelo has assisted an over utilized city staff in compliance with the stormwater permitting process, stormwater management program and public works departments. UCRA has also worked to find additional water sources for the City of Robert Lee, addressed non-point source pollution issues within the City of Brady and provided water for the outlying rural counties.

If UCRA could no longer serve in this capacity, the area rivers, streams and tributaries entrusted to it would no longer have oversight and mediation, municipalities would be without assistance, small water districts would lose access to valuable water resources and all gains in changing public perception through programming, particularly in regards to the value of water and the importance of maintaining the integrity of water quality, would be lost. UCRA continues to play an essential and vital role in the watershed it serves.

C. What evidence can your agency provide to show your overall effectiveness and efficiency in meeting your objectives?

UCRA staff evaluates the effectiveness and efficiency in meeting objectives through the measures of success required by all of its programs in assessment reporting, physical evidence and public perception. All projects require extensive quarterly and final reports. Copies of and all project reports may be made available for review upon request. UCRA and its staff have an impeccable reputation with the citizens in the communities served, with local media, in the area school system and with other federal, state and local agencies with whom it partners. UCRA is relied upon heavily for leadership and expertise as the agency and staff are asked for input and consultation in water quality/quantity matters on a regular basis.

D. Does your agency's enabling law continue to correctly reflect your mission, objectives, and approach to performing your functions? Have you recommended changes to the Legislature in the past to improve your agency's operations? If so, explain. Were the changes adopted?

UCRA believes the broad enabling law continues to reflect its mission and objectives. The only recommendation made was the removal of the position of General Manager from the act in 1994 due to a legal matter with the previous General Manager. UCRA believes that this change has made the infrastructure more productive as a result.

E. Do any of your agency's functions overlap or duplicate those of another state or federal agency? Explain if, and why, each of your key functions is most appropriately placed within your agency. How do you ensure against duplication with other related agencies?

UCRA does not believe that there is any overlap or duplication in functions as its functions are unique to the agency. UCRA is not a *State Agency*, and as a *River Authority*, is considered a *Quasi State Agency* and is classified as a *Special Water District*. UCRA works closely with any other agencies that could have the potential for overlap to ensure that there is no duplication and that it operates as efficiently as possible.

F. In general, how do other states carry out similar functions?

UCRA is unsure as to how other states carry out similar functions. This agency's dealings are typically on the state or local level only and are specific to this watershed. To UCRA's knowledge, river authorities are unique to Texas, and do not exist in other states, though there are likely to be other agencies that carry out similar functions in a different capacity.

G. What key obstacles impair your agency's ability to achieve its objectives?

UCRA feels there are no real key obstacles to achieving its objectives. This organization has a good working relationship with local, state and federal agencies and a good working relationship with area political representatives. As a quasi state agency, there is freedom to work outside of some of the standard regulatory boundaries and the agency does not typically have to deal with the extensive bureaucratic hoops a state agency does. This does not negate the fact that UCRA has a measure of accountability, which is crucial, but the agency is generally not inhibited by governmental overreach at this time.

H. Discuss any changes that could impact your agency's key functions in the near future (e.g., changes in federal law or outstanding court cases).

A growing concern for UCRA is the expense involved in repetition of governmental oversight. It is UCRA's understanding that current legislation is pending that could require River Authorities to be subject to a state economy and efficiency audit. River Authorities have been required to conduct an independent audit annually under *Water Code 49 for Water Districts* for many years. The addition of a state audit itself is not problematic, but the potential additional costs for an agency that receives no state appropriations and maintains a tight budget is burdensome, to say the least. Particularly if a required audit process is already in place and at significant expense. The same concern applies for the recent inclusion of River Authorities in the Sunset Review process and the burden of expense that will be incurred as a result of this process. Consolidation of oversight services should be considered when implementing any of these types of changes to ensure efficiency and effectiveness.

I. What are your agency's biggest opportunities for improvement in the future?

As UCRA does not receive appropriations, all funding is derived from interest income, water sales and special projects. The agency opportunities are variable depending on programming from other agencies and UCRA continually seeks new ways to fulfill its mission. The biggest opportunities are always in programming that is evolutionary in nature and offers probabilities for long term funding.

J. In the following chart, provide information regarding your agency's key performance measures included in your appropriations bill pattern, including outcome, input, efficiency, and explanatory measures.

UCRA is not a State Agency, it does not receive appropriations and does not have an appropriations bill pattern. The chart has been deleted and this section believed non-applicable.

III. HISTORY AND MAJOR EVENTS

UCRA was chartered in **1935**. The enabling legislation is attached. The original intent of the legislation for the agency was to establish natural divisions within the state so that powers and responsibilities were equally distributed to all the agencies. At the time, river authorities were charged with the same legislation and issued equal amounts of funding. Over the past years, not much has changed in UCRA's legislation.

1935-1990

UCRA served primarily as a lending institution to municipalities for water infrastructure improvements. Low interest loans were extended so that cities could construct water enhancement and supply projects or improve existing systems for source water.

1990-Present

The UCRA evolved into a working agency in early 1990 when it entered into partnership with the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) through the Texas Clean Rivers Program to assist in monitoring rivers and waterways in the Upper Colorado River Basin, conduct public education and awareness campaigns and create a Stakeholder Group to assess potential and/or on-going watershed problems in the basin.

UCRA became involved in the USEPA 319(h) Non Point Source (NPS) Abatement Program in 1995, when the first grant was received. As a result, numerous NPS grants would be awarded to UCRA and implemented over the next 20 years. UCRA would partner with the City of San Angelo (COSA) and the City of Brady to implement these projects and continues to seek program funding from NPS.

UCRA was a forerunner in the State Brush Control Program Pilot project in 1998 beginning with a feasibility study and then subsequently involved in the implementation of other and future programming that is still active to date. UCRA also worked on various other local water quality projects and now manages several small water sales contracts.

UCRA continues to investigate water quality complaints upon request, and while regulatory power is granted in the enabling act, UCRA typically defers to TCEQ for regulatory and enforcement matters.

Little has been altered from the original enabling act, other than HB3053 in 1995, which removed the position of General Manager and replaced it with “Chairman”. This was a result of legal issues in 1994 involving the resignation and dismissal of the current General Manager. The agency can no longer employ a General Manager as a result of this legislative action.

There is no state/federal litigation that specifically affects this agency.

In 1994, after the dismissal of the GM, the Board of Directors hired a part time Office Manager and Independent Management Consultant. In 2001, as grant programming expanded, UCRA increased the staff to include the existing Office Manager/Financial Administrator (now full time), two Hydrologists, one Hydrogeologist and an Education Outreach Director. This was with the understanding that all positions are contingent on continued funding from grants and special projects.

UCRA streamlined operations in 2014 and the three staff currently employed are the Office Manager/Financial Administrator, who has oversight of Education and Outreach programming, a Director of Operations, who also does the field Hydrology and a Hydrogeologist, who also serves as a Technical Services Coordinator for grant writing and contract review.

Current staff has been employed by UCRA for twelve years or more with duties based on programming needs. UCRA staff members are stable, efficient and flexible, intent on fulfilling the agency’s mission and seeking opportunities to improve water quality and water quality for the watershed in its purview.

IV. POLICYMAKING STRUCTURE

UCRA Policymaking Body – The Board of Directors

Member Name	6 Year Terms Appointed by Governor	Qualification	City/County
Jeffie H. Roberts Board Member & Chairperson	Term Expires February 2017	Public Member	Robert Lee Coke County
John Nikolauk Board Member & Vice-Chairperson	Term Expires February 2017	Public Member	Eldorado/ Schleicher County
Hyman Sauer Board Member & Treasurer	Term Expires February 2017	Public Member	Eldorado/ Schleicher County
Bill Hood Board Member & Secretary	Term Expires February 2015	Public Member	Robert Lee Coke County
Martin Lee Board Member	Term Expires February 2019	Public Member	Bronte Coke County
Bill Holland Board Member	Term Expires February 2019	Public Member	San Angelo Tom Green County
Eva Horton Board Member	Term Expires February 2015	Public Member	San Angelo Tom Green County
Ronnie Alexander Board Member	Term Expires February 2015	Public Member	Paint Rock Concho County
Hugh “Che” Stone Board Member	Term Expires February 2017	Public Member	San Angelo Coke County

B. Describe the primary role and responsibilities of your policymaking body.

The UCRA Board of Directors provides oversight and guidance to the agency and its staff. Board meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month at 3 p.m. An agenda is prepared and posted according to the Open Meetings and Records Act. The staff reports monthly activities to the board and the board takes action on any pertinent agenda items. The board makes recommendations on general business and approves all contracts and agreements. The board reviews receivable and payables at the monthly meetings, payment of bills are authorized and checks are signed by two designated and bonded board officers. The Finance/Personnel committees meet annually to review the budget and make recommendations to the entire board. They may meet more often, if necessary or required. The Board approves the annual budget at the August meeting.

C. How is the chair selected?

In January of each year a Nominating committee is selected by the Chairperson to meet and prepare a slate of officers to be presented at the February meeting. The Chairperson and other officers are selected by unanimous board vote at the February meeting each year.

D. List any special circumstances or unique features about your policymaking body or its responsibilities.

UCRA is small agency in Urban/Rural West Texas and board members are long time residents of the counties that they serve. They live in the watershed and work within their own communities to address interests and concerns that will implement changes for the better. The UCRA board actively participates in grant projects, by serving on project committees, hosting meetings in their cities and attending special meetings. There is a clear understanding of all aspects of the daily operations of the river authority and they know the staff on a first name basis.

E. In general, how often does your policymaking body meet? How many times did it meet in FY 2014 and FY 2015?

The by-laws state that the board meets monthly and typically does, unless mitigating circumstances prohibit this from happening. The board met 12 times in 2014 and 11 times in 2015, when two meeting dates were consolidated to accommodate a staff medical issue.

F. What type of training do members of your agency's policymaking body receive?

Upon confirmation, board members are required to participate in the Governor Orientation in Austin and an Open Meetings and Records training. The Treasurer is required to attend supplemental financial training specific to the Public Investments Act. UCRA staff has created a handbook for board members containing relevant information about the current state of the authority (a copy is attached). Staff meets with new board members at the UCRA office within a month of their appointment and confirmation to review the handbook, discuss relevant topics and answer any questions they may have. Field staff will also take members out to project sites upon request. Board members have also participated in group project tours.

G. Does your agency have policies that describe the respective roles of the policymaking body and agency staff in running the agency? If so, describe these policies.

The UCRA has adopted General Operating Procedures, By-laws and an Employee Policy Manual. These policies and procedures outline the respective roles of the policymaking body and agency staff and are attached to this report. There is also a Board Member Handbook. All handbooks and by-laws are reviewed periodically and approved by the board if any updates and/or changes are recommended or required.

H. What information is regularly presented to your policymaking body to keep them informed of your agency's performance?

Staff provides a written status and activity report to the board each month and makes a presentation at all board meetings. UCRA staff attendance at all board meetings is required. UCRA staff also sends out emails if something pertinent is pending prior to a board meeting.

I. How does your policymaking body obtain input from the public regarding issues under the jurisdiction of the agency? How is this input incorporated into the operations of your agency?

Public input required for issues specific to UCRA is gathered through public meetings, media, the agency website, social media and email. These are often specific to current projects that require comment periods, but general operations business that might require public comment is also handled in this manner.

- J. If your policymaking body uses subcommittees or advisory committees to carry out its duties, fill in the following chart.**

**UCRA
Subcommittees and Advisory Committees**

Name of Subcommittee or Advisory Committee	Size/Composition How are members appointed?	Purpose/Duties	Legal Basis for Committee
Finance Committee	Executive Committee Appointed by the Chairperson 3 members + Chair as Ex-Officio	Typically meets annually to review, make recommendations, approve and present the annual budget.	Water Code, Ch 49, Sections 49.054,49.057, and UCRA By-Laws
Nominating Committee	Appointed annually by the Chairperson 3 members	Meets annually to create a slate of officers to present at the February meeting for vote.	Water Code, Ch 49, Sections 49.054,49.057, and UCRA By-Laws
Personnel Committee	Combined with Finance Committee Appointed by the Chairperson 3 members + Chair as Ex-Officio	Makes recommendations, approves any changes to personnel policies, authorize salaries and benefits. Meets as needed.	Water Code, Ch 49, Sections 49.054,49.057, and UCRA By-Laws

V. FUNDING

A. The UCRA is funded in part by grants, projects and water sales. Funding is also obtained through interest income from municipality loans and the prudent investment of the original funds received when the agency was chartered in 1935. The UCRA receives no appropriations from the state and does not tax or charge fees.

B. List all riders that significantly impact your agency's budget.

The operating budget is based on programming and water sales. If there is a reduction in grant programming and special projects, staff and operating expenses are adjusted accordingly. The budget process begins mid-year before fiscal year end to see where shortfall or surplus is and adjusted accordingly. The majority of UCRA's grant contracts are funded in three year cycles.

C. UCRA

Expenditures by Strategy — 2014 (Actual)

Goal/Strategy	Amount Spent
<p>General Operating Expenses-- Funds to manage the day to day operations of the River authority, which includes employees salaries, benefits and reimbursements, office supplies, dues and memberships, consultant and professional fees, Director expenses, utilities and facility expenses.</p> <p>Expenditures are budgeted annually with the approved budget and should not exceed the costs authorized unless considered and approved through a board amendment.</p>	451,592
<p>Grants & Special Projects-- Manage and implement projects based on costs set forth in contracts and agreements. Costs should not exceed what has been budgeted unless special permission has been granted from the contracting agency and the UCRA board. Each project has its own approved budget and reporting process to the granting agency.</p>	255,687
<p>Water Sales – Raw water cost are based on actual costs incurred and billed</p>	144,129
<p>TOTAL EXPENDITURES:</p>	851,408

- D. Show your agency's sources of revenue. Include all local, state, and federal appropriations, all professional and operating fees, and all other sources of revenue collected by the agency, including taxes and fines.**

**UCRA
Sources of Revenue — Fiscal Year 2014 (Actual)**

Source	Amount
Interest on Notes Receivable	21,166
Interest on Temporary Investments	9400
Special Projects and Grant Revenue	449,173
Water Sales	185,327
TOTAL	665,066

- E. If you receive funds from multiple federal programs, show the types of federal funding sources.**

**UCRA
Federal Funds — Fiscal Year 2014 (Actual)**

Type of Fund	Match Ratio	State Share	Federal Share	Total Funding
Bank Stabilization Project - EPA 319(h) Funding	40/60	6706	10,060	16,765
EPA Urban Waters Grant	0	0	24,533	24,533
	TOTAL			41,298

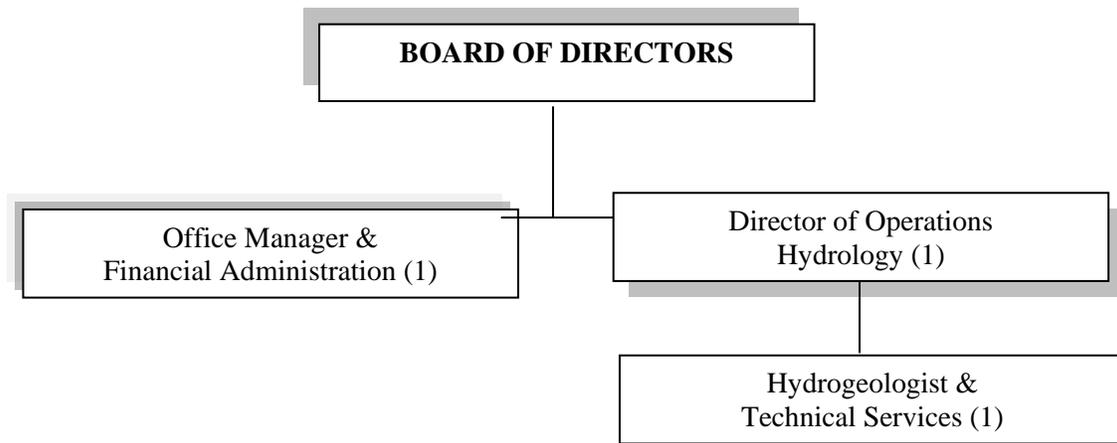
- F. If applicable, provide detailed information on fees collected by your agency.**

N/A - UCRA does not collect fees.

VI. ORGANIZATION

- A. Provide an organizational chart that includes major programs and divisions, and shows the number of FTEs in each program or division. Detail should include, if possible, Department Heads with subordinates, and actual FTEs with budgeted FTEs in parenthesis.**

UCRA is a very small, but productive agency. There are currently three employees and one very part time management consultant. Depending on the employee's area of expertise, one staff member might be assigned to a specific. The Management Consultant reports directly to the board, is utilized for specific projects only when necessary, will be leaving in December 2015 and has not been included in the organizational chart.



- B. UCRA FTEs by Location — Fiscal Year 2014**

Headquarters, Region, or Field Office	Location	Co-Location? Yes / No	Number of Budgeted FTEs FY 2014	Number of Actual FTEs as of 6.1. 2014
UCRA Headquarters	512 Orient San Angelo, Texas	No	4	3
TOTALS			4	3

- C. What are your agency's FTE caps for fiscal years 2014–2017?**

Four -- depending on project needs.

- D. How many temporary or contract employees did your agency have as of August 31, 2014?**

None

- E. List each of your agency's key programs or functions, along with expenditures and FTEs by program.**

Four employees were budgeted for FY14. The Education & Outreach Director accepted a position elsewhere and the decision was made to eliminate the position as some of the funding specific those

duties would be ending in FYE14. The remaining responsibilities were absorbed by the existing three employees. Expenditures in the following chart include salaries and fringe for FTEs.

UCRA List of Program FTEs and Expenditures — Fiscal Year 2014

Program	Number of Budgeted FTEs FY 2014	Actual FTEs as of 8.31.2014	Actual Expenditures
A. UCRA General Operations	3	3	92,791
B. Clean Rivers Program	4	3	64,142
C. Urban Waters	4	3	18,669
D. TMDL I-Plan Review	4	3	40,867
E. Bank Stabilization	4	3	14,578
F. Ivie Brush Modeling	4	3	3,455
G. Consulting Services COSA	4	3	80,658
H. Robert Lee Well Exploration	2	2	2,720

VII. GUIDE TO AGENCY PROGRAMS



A. UCRA GENERAL OPERATIONS

The general operations are conducted by the UCRA staff (3 FTEs) for the purpose of oversight and management of the agency. An agency of this size requires that while all parties have specific duties, they must work together to complete multiple tasks for the authority. The staff and their duties required for general operations are as follows:

Director of Operations – General Operations Duties

- Reports directly to the Board of Directors
- Agency oversight, representing the UCRA and serving as liaison to other organizations, local and state agencies and political subdivisions
- Manages and conducts field work for all programs requiring boots on the ground monitoring assessment and database input
- Contributes to reporting grant projects and special agreements as needed
- Works with grant proposals for prospective projects as needed
- Conducts education and outreach in the community and with youth
- Works with local media to keep them informed of current area events

Office Manger/ Financial Administration – General Operations Duties

- Reports directly to the Board of Directors, works with Executive Officers where applicable
- Manages the day to day administrative and financial administration of the agency
- Compiles and keeps all agency records pertaining to general business, board correspondence and board meetings
- Insures that the agency is in compliance with the most current open meetings and records laws

- Manages all aspects of river authority finances including general business, projects, payroll and appropriate payroll reporting & tasks; compiles the budget for presentation to the Finance Committee and at the annual meeting
- Handles management, accounting and billing of water sales
- Works with independent auditor in gathering information for annual audit
- Maintains UCRA website
- Schedules meetings and coordinates with other staff to ensure responsibilities are being met
- **Staff Hydrogeologist/Technical Services**
- Reports directly to the Director of Operations
- Responsible for review of all legal documents pertaining to grants and special projects
- Compiles and completes specific reports
- Works with field staff when necessary
- Pursues potential grants funding, reviews, completes and submits applications

B. CLEAN RIVERS PROGRAM

Managing Agency: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

Contractor: Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA)

David Cowan, CRP Program Manager

800.776.4252 ext 2495

david.cowan@lcra.org

Sub-Contracting Agency: UCRA

Actual Expenditures FY 2014: \$119,028

Actual FTEs as of June 1, 2015: 3

Statutory Citation for Program: Texas Clean Rivers Act

Program objectives/function:

- Encourage comprehensive and cooperative watershed planning;
- Enhance public participation and outreach;
- Maintain a basin-wide water quality monitoring program;
- Provide a scientific response to water quality problems;
- Identify, analyze, and report on water quality issues and potential causes of pollution.

Major activities performed under this program:

- Water Quality Monitoring
- Reporting and Assessment
- Input to the statewide water quality database
- Public Education and Outreach

Evidence of the program effectiveness and efficiency:

This is a highly efficient and effective program for the Upper Colorado River Basin and all involved. This program has been the starting point for many special studies that were initiated as result of stakeholder input at annual meetings. Significant activity for the UCRA in water quality began in the early 90's as a result of CRP. Programs that evolved as a result of CRP include but are not limited to: NPS projects, TMDL Segment 1426, Upper Colorado River Basin Desalination Studies and Ecosystem Restoration, Well Plugging.

This is one of the few programs that has increased responsibilities while working with the original budget set in 1991, due in part to partnerships with professional monitors and the evolution of technology. Additionally, CRP provides TCEQ water assessors approximately 70% of the surface water data collected across the entire state and is driven stakeholders at the local watershed level.

Key statistics and performance can be found in chronological basin highlights and basin summary reports. Reports may be viewed and downloaded at:

<http://www.lcra.org/water/quality/texas-clean-rivers-program/Pages/resources-and-publications.aspx>

Program History

In 1991, the Texas Legislature passed the Texas Clean Rivers Act in response to growing concerns that water resource issues were not being addressed in a holistic manner. The legislation requires that assessments for each river basin in Texas integrate management of water quality within a river basin or watershed. To fund the program, the TCEQ assesses a fee from permit holders for water use and wastewater discharges. The TCEQ implements the Program by contracting with [15 partner agencies](#)—12 river authorities, one water district, one federal agency, and one council of government—to monitor and assess water quality in the 23 river and coastal basins of Texas. Each river or coastal basin is assigned to one of the partner agencies. The Since 1991, LCRA has been charged with the Colorado River Basin and has contracted with UCRA to perform these duties in the Upper Basin. UCRA has been a partner in the program since its inception. <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/waterquality/clean-rivers/about-crp.html>

The Clean Rivers program is the foundation for partnerships between the TCEQ, River Authorities, local governmental agencies, industry and citizens.

Who does this program effect?

The program ultimately impacts all of the citizens of the Upper basin, statewide and on the local level. The program provides a way to monitor and track the health of the water quality of the river basin and keep the public informed of changes that can be made on a local level. The program empowers the community to make changes either before or after problems occur and to try to mitigate a reoccurring pattern over time. It also provides assistance to local TCEQ offices, allowing partners agencies to supplement site monitoring that TCEQ can no longer monitor due to staffing and/or monetary limitations.

How is the program administered?

The TCEQ is tasked with managing program oversight for the state. The LCRA is under contract with TCEQ and UCRA is under sub-contract with LCRA. UCRA staff works directly with LCRA staff in regards to implementation of all required program tasks to ensure that the work performed is meeting and /or exceeding contract standards. This project requires extensive quarterly project status reporting and financial reporting.

Funding sources and amounts allocated for the program:

Program funding is acquired from fees assessed to permit holders statewide and allocated to participating partners. Funding cycles are biennial and the last funding cycle will end August 31, 2014. The next cycle begins September 1, 2015 and ends August 31, 2017.

Six months prior to the beginning of each biennium partners are asked to complete a detailed budget, using the amount allocated to them. It should be noted that the original dollars funded per biennium over the last 23 years has not increased. Budget cuts were made in FYE14 & FYE15 due to state shortfalls but the programming functions have not been altered significantly and in some instances have increased. Partners were required to make up the difference in either in-kind services or financial contributions. The amount allocated to the UCRA for the Upper Basin for FYE14-FYE15 was \$243,345.

Identify any programs, internal or external to your agency, that provide identical or similar services or functions to the target population. Describe the similarities and differences.

The services for the Clean Rivers Program are not identical to any other program that the UCRA or anyone else manages. However, there are a few similar functions that may overlap within the Education & Outreach component of this program as many of the programs require outreach efforts.

Discuss how the program or function is coordinating its activities to avoid duplication or conflict with the other programs listed in the previous question and with the agency's customers. If applicable, briefly discuss any memorandums of understanding (MOUs), interagency agreements, or interagency contracts.

The benefit of a small agency is that oversight and contract task management is easy to achieve. As stated previously, there is really no duplication in services. While education and outreach efforts tasks are broad in nature, each program has clearly defined outreach goals specific or unique to that project.

If the program or function works with local, regional, or federal units of government, include a brief description of these entities and their relationship to the agency.

Stakeholder involvement is crucial to this program. To this end, the Upper Basin Water Quality Advisory Group (WQAC), is made up of citizens and representatives from federal, regional and local government. Some of the agencies currently participating are; The Colorado River Municipal Water District, Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board, Regional TCEQ offices, Texas Parks & Wildlife, USGS, USACE, US Department of Agriculture, Angelo State University, Irion & Sterling City Underground Water Districts and the following cities; Winters, Ballinger, Midland/Odessa, Big Spring, San Angelo, Robert Lee, Bronte, Mertzon, Eldorado. The WQAC meets annually and is a volunteer organization. The group provides valuable input and makes program suggestions, many of which have been implemented over time (see the Effectiveness & Efficiency section).

Contracted expenditures made through this:

N/A

Provide information on any grants awarded by the program.

N/A

What statutory changes could be made to assist this program in performing its functions? Explain.

N/A

Provide any additional information needed to gain a preliminary understanding of the program or function:

A copy of the last fully executed agreement will be provided upon request. The following links might also be helpful: <http://www.ucratx.org/crp.html> and http://www.ucratx.org/water_adv.html

C. URBAN WATERS PROJECT

Funding Agency:	US EPA Urban Waters Program Virginia Vietti, Urban Waters Project Manager Vietti.Virginia@epa.gov 214.665.8396
Managing Agency:	UCRA
Actual Project Cost FY 2014:	\$24,533
Actual FTEs as of June 1, 2015:	<u>3</u>
Statutory Citation for Program:	Section 104(b)(3) of the CWA, 33 USC §1254(b)(3)

Program objectives/function:

The long-term program objective is to improve and restore water quality along urban river segment 1421_08 and contribute to its removal from the 303(d) list. Urban river segment 1421_08 is included on the 303(d) list for bacteria. The need for a bacteria source tracking study was identified in the Concho River Basin Watershed Protection Plan (CRBWPP). The primary functions of the three-year study are the collection and analysis of baseline sample data leading to the identification of areas of concern and the bacterial source(s) responsible for the 303(d) listing. Data collected will be used as input in future projects to conceptualize BMPs, which if implemented, would contribute to delisting this urban river segment for bacteria.

The second program objective was a the two-year water quality education/outreach component which included training 13 teachers, conducting 108 classroom sessions with roughly 1600 student participants, and directing a minimum of 6 field training sessions with roughly 150 student participants. Knowledge, awareness, skills, and motivational outcomes were be evaluated with pre-and post-training surveys and found successful. Classroom sessions and field training is planned for inclusion in the classroom even after the project ends.

Major activities performed under this program:

- Reporting and Assessment
- Collection and analysis of baseline data
- Identification of areas of concern and source bacteria
- Education and outreach training to include Title One Students completed in FYE14

Evidence of the program effectiveness and efficiency:

The program cycle ends on September 30, 2015, so the data results have not been compiled and the final report still remains. Data assessment from the program will be shared with the City of San Angelo (see “Who does this Program effect”). There have already been positive results from the two year water quality education & outreach component which provided hands on classroom training to teachers as well as outdoor sessions. Post training surveys were favorable and the programs will remain in place within the schools after the grant expires. Long term effects are unknown at this time as the program is still in its infancy. It is our hope that these efforts, particularly on the elementary school level will foster an environmental stewardship mindset with our young participants, impacting future generations.

Program History

The goal of [the Urban Waters Small Grants program](#) is to fund research, investigations, experiments, training, surveys, studies, and demonstrations that will advance the restoration of urban waters by improving water quality through activities that also support community revitalization and other local priorities. Since its inception in 2012, the program has awarded approximately \$5.3 million in Urban Waters Small Grants to 92 organizations across the country and Puerto Rico. The grants are awarded every two years, with individual award amounts of up to \$60,000.

The UCRA was awarded a grant for \$60,000 in 2012. While the initial project period was two years, UCRA requested an additional year of study with an extension through FYE15 due to delays in data collection as a result of City construction on the river. UCRA currently wrapping up the project, writing a final report of findings and looking at next steps, which could include additional funding through new projects in FYE17.

Who does this program effect?

This grant program impacts all citizens living near and affected by water quality concerns in the stream segment being studied, aquatic life present in the stream segment. The program effects the students and educators and students who are on the receiving end of the education and outreach campaign. This project will also be beneficial to the City of San Angelo as it will provide valuable data required for their stormwater management program in regards to bacteriological impairments on the study area.

How is the program administered?

The program is managed through the South Central Region 6 Office of the USEPA. UCRA is the lead agency, reporting directly to the EPA Region Office. UCRA staff works directly with EPA staff in regards to implementation of all required program tasks to ensure that the work performed is meeting and /or exceeding contract standards.

Funding sources and amounts allocated for the program:

The total grant funds awarded for this project is \$60,000. The primary funding source for the project is USEPA. UCRA will be required to make a cash match contribution of \$2500 at end of project.

Identify any programs, internal or external to your agency, that provide identical or similar services or functions to the target population. Describe the similarities and differences.

The services provided not identical to any other program that the UCRA or anyone else manages in this area. The study conducted with this grant is specific to its tasks. This was an opportunity to monitor a specific impaired stream segment and to identify and make suggestions for the remedy of its bacteria source. The Education & Outreach campaign was also written specifically to this grant. The educational efforts were

unique in that they allowed an educator from this agency to work directly with local middle and elementary schools (particularly Title One students) in hands on learning experiences to give teachers the ability to implement the programming within the classroom on their own, long after the grant cycle and funding expires.

Discuss how the program or function is coordinating its activities to avoid duplication or conflict with the other programs listed in the previous question and with the agency's customers. If applicable, briefly discuss any memorandums of understanding (MOUs), interagency agreements, or interagency contracts.

The benefit of a small agency is that oversight and contract task management is easy to achieve. There is no duplication in services applicable to this programming.

If the program or function works with local, regional, or federal units of government, include a brief description of these entities and their relationship to the agency:

The grant created a partnership opportunity with the Physics & GeoScience Department at Angelo State University at no expense to EPA or UCRA. The University provided in-kind services with student participation in the monitoring and research portion of the grant. The student was able to use data collected for a research paper, which also aided in his Graduate school application process.

Contracted expenditures made through this:

N/A

Provide information on any grants awarded by the program.

N/A

What statutory changes could be made to assist this program in performing its functions? Explain.

N/A

Provide any additional information needed to gain a preliminary understanding of the program or function:

A copy of the last fully executed agreement will be provided upon request. The following link might also be helpful: <http://www2.epa.gov/urbanwaters/urban-waters-small-grants>

D. TMDL I-PLAN REVIEW

Managing Agency:	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Lauren Oertel, Project Manager TMDL Program Lauren.Oertel@tceq.texas.gov 512.239.3604
Contractor:	UCRA
Actual Expenditures FY 2014:	\$46,998.19
Actual FTEs as of June 1, 2015:	<u>3</u>
Statutory Citation for Program:	Texas Clean Water Act, Section 303(d)

Program objectives/function:

The objective of this program is to facilitate the development and maintenance of a Coordination Committee for the Colorado River below E.V. Spence Reservoir, initiate and oversee the TMDL I-Plan related outreach activities, and facilitate revision of the I-Plan.

Major activities performed under this program:

- Project Administration;
- Coordination Committee facilitation and assistance;
- I-Plan revision; and
- Assistance to TCEQ staff.

Evidence of the program effectiveness and efficiency:

This is a very effective and efficient program. All of the tasks required to complete the project were achieved in the specific time frame allowed. The program encouraged stakeholder involvement and participation. The revised plan is completed and awaiting final approval from TCEQ. UCRA feels that the work with TCEQ to meet the defined program standards was achieved to the satisfaction of all parties involved and accomplished all of the goals set forth. The information gleaned from this phase of the program can and will be used for further funding opportunities water enhancement projects for the river authority.

Program History

The Colorado River below E.V. Spence Reservoir, Segment 1426, is a 66-mile freshwater stream located within the larger Colorado River Basin. Segment 1426 receives the majority of its flow from E.V. Spence Reservoir.

In 2000, water quality testing found elevated levels of chloride, sulfate, and total dissolved solids (TDS) in the creek. High concentrations of these salts are indicators of general water quality that are not tied to a specific use, but may affect several uses. For example, too much chloride can cause a bad taste in drinking water, harm plumbing, and increase the risk of hypertension in humans. Large quantities of sulfate can cause drinking water to smell or taste bad. High concentrations of dissolved solids can be toxic to species that live in fresh water.

The goal of this program is to improve water quality in the river by implementing total maximum daily loads. In 2013, with Phase I, the Upper Colorado River Authority began working with stakeholders to review the Implementation Plan and its progress. Through a series of public meetings, UCRA worked closely with stakeholders, gathered information and formed a coordination committee and work groups that focused on specific aspects of the plan. In 2014, with Phase II, the stakeholders prepared a revised Implementation Plan to continue efforts in improving local water quality. The revised plan is still under review and is awaiting final approval.

Who does this program effect?

This grant program impacts all citizens living near and affected by water quality concerns in the assessment stream segment. The program affects area landowners and agricultural producers. The program also provides assistance to TCEQ in managing the requirements of their TMDL program.

How is the program administered?

Program oversight is managed through TCEQs TMDL Program. The UCRA conducted work for all aspects of the program, utilizing stakeholder participation. This project also required extensive quarterly project status reporting and financial reporting.

The UCRA has administered the program and completed all required project tasks in 2014, when the contract ended.

Funding sources and amounts allocated for the program:

The funding source for the project was the TCEQ TMDL Program.

<i>Program Amount allocated:</i>	<u>FYE13</u>	<u>FYE14</u>
	\$33,336	\$47,000

Identify any programs, internal or external to your agency, that provide identical or similar services or functions to the target population. Describe the similarities and differences.

The services provided not identical to any other program that the UCRA or anyone else manages in this area.

Discuss how the program or function is coordinating its activities to avoid duplication or conflict with the other programs listed in the previous question and with the agency's customers. If applicable, briefly discuss any memorandums of understanding (MOUs), interagency agreements, or interagency contracts.

The benefit of an agency our size is that oversight and contract task management is easy to achieve. As stated previously, there is really no duplication in services and this question in not applicable to this program.

If the program or function works with local, regional, or federal units of government, include a brief description of these entities and their relationship to the agency:

As part of the program, UCRA partnered with local representatives from the Texas Railroad Commission, Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Districts, TSSWCB, Colorado River Municipal Water District and the City of Robert Lee. All agency representatives served on the workgroups and in some capacity, part of the Stakeholder Group. More information in regards to the workgroups can be found here: <http://www.ucratx.org/tmdl.html>

Contracted expenditures made through this program:

N/A

Provide information on any grants awarded by the program.

N/A

What statutory changes could be made to assist this program in performing its functions? Explain.

N/A

Provide any additional information needed to gain a preliminary understanding of the program or function:

A copy of the last fully executed agreement will be provided upon request. The following links may also be helpful: <http://www.ucratx.org/tmdl.html> and <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/nav/32-colorado/32-colorado.html>

E. BANK STABILIZATION PROJECT**Managing Agency:**

TCEQ

Bill Carter, Project Manager, NPS Program

bill.carter@tceq.texas.gov

512.239.6771

Contractor:

UCRA

Actual Expenditures FY 2014:

\$16,821.08

Actual FTEs as of June 1, 2015:3**Statutory Citation for Program:**

Interagency Cooperation Act

Interlocal Cooperation Act

Texas Water Code 5.124 & 5.229

Program objectives/function:

The program objective was to implement a major Best Management Practice (BMP) from the Concho River Basin Watershed Protection Plan. This particular BMP is designed to provide a control strategy by addressing water quality impairments identified within the urban reach of the North Concho River (stream segment 1421) and improve segment water quality. The stream improvements are designed to stabilize a large number of at-risk trees and areas of bank deterioration, to mitigate slumping and erosion that contributes to streambed deposition of substantial quantities of sediment and sludge. The stabilization of these sources of streambed sediment and sludge deposition will reduce the amounts of suspended nutrients

and oxygen depleting matter that are reintroduced into the water column by wave action and hydraulic scouring during storm events, thereby improving water quality.

Major activities performed under this program:

- Project Administration;
- Quality Assurance for Acquired Data;
- Project Construction;
- Evaluation and Reporting;
- Public Education/Outreach;
- Final Report.

Evidence of the program effectiveness and efficiency:

This program was part of a three year contract ending in FYE14. The measures for success as defined in the original work plan are as follows:

- Successfully stabilize approximately 2000ft of riverbank on the N. Concho River in San Angelo, a BMP outlined in the Concho River Basin Watershed Protection Plan;
- Document improvements in water quality through comparative analysis of post-project water quality data and historic and ongoing data from the CRP database and TCEQ CWQMN site data;
- Provide photographic and construction contract documentation of work performed;
- Provide load reductions for the bank stabilization implementation;
- Provide documentation for all types of public education/outreach activities performed.

To date all measures were taken and results documented in a final report, which can be found here: <http://www.ucratx.org/bankstab.html> . A hard copy can be provided upon request. In addition to the stated measures of success, there are other indicators of the effectiveness of this program.

The program, conducted in partnership with the City of San Angelo (COSA), enhanced the downtown river portion of the city, creating substantial recreational opportunities for the area. The program was so successful, that the City created a large scale event on the River called “Riverfest” in 2013. The event was widely attended that it has become an annual event. This project was one of many successful NPS programs responsible for water quality improvements on the Concho River in San Angelo.

Program History

The urban North Concho River watershed portion of stream segment 1421 is comprised of approximately 7,750 acres and is almost totally developed for residential, commercial and light industrial uses. Due to the deteriorated water quality and frequent fish kills, the urban portions of the North Concho and particularly the downtown stream reach have been the focus of significant nonpoint source (NPS) study, monitoring and BMP construction in recent years. This attention began with the 1998 NPS Abatement Master Plan and its implementation through funding from the EPA Clean Water Act 319(h) program administered by the TCEQ.

To date, the NPS abatement program was very successful, water quality improved and the occurrence of fish kills was reduced. However, funding is still being sought as poor water quality conditions persist. The 2008 303(d) List identifies this assessment unit of the segment as being impaired for dissolved oxygen and bacteria.

This project was a part of a larger river improvement project being conducted by COSA, who has contracted its administration and management to the UCRA. The program allowed for a portion of an existing construction project to be funded. Much of the project planning, permitting and engineering was funded by

COSA and accomplished prior to the grant commencement date. The structural project began in March of 2011 and was completed in October 2013. In 2014, a final assessment report was compiled and submitted to TCEQ in August. The project officially ended on August 31, 2014.

Who does this program effect?

This program impacts the City of San Angelo economy, city government, the citizens, and the aquatic life and infrastructure of the river.

How is the program administered?

Program oversight is managed through TCEQs 319 Program. The UCRA administered the program, worked in partnership with the City of San Angelo during the construction phase, and completed all required tasks for the project in 2014 at contract. This project also required extensive quarterly project status reporting and financial reporting.

Funding sources and amounts allocated for the program:

The funding source for the project was the EPA non-point source program with matching funds from the UCRA and City of San Angelo.

Total Contract:	\$622,520
Federal Contribution:	\$373,512
Local Match (UCRA & COSA)	\$249,008
Project Balance in FYE14:	\$16,821.08

Identify any programs, internal or external to your agency, that provide identical or similar services or functions to the target population. Describe the similarities and differences.

The services provided not identical to any other program that the UCRA or anyone else manages in this area.

Discuss how the program or function is coordinating its activities to avoid duplication or conflict with the other programs listed in the previous question and with the agency's customers. If applicable, briefly discuss any memorandums of understanding (MOUs), interagency agreements, or interagency contracts.

The benefit of an agency our size is that oversight and contract task management is easy to achieve. As stated previously, there is really no duplication in services and this question in not applicable to our programming.

If the program or function works with local, regional, or federal units of government, include a brief description of these entities and their relationship to the agency:

The UCRA worked closely with the City of San Angelo. The city provided a large portion of the required match through in-kind services and construction work for project.

Contracted expenditures made through this:

Total construction costs for the City of San Angelo were \$572,520.

Provide information on any grants awarded by the program.

N/A

What statutory changes could be made to assist this program in performing its functions? Explain.

N/A

Provide any additional information needed to gain a preliminary understanding of the program or function:

A copy of the last fully executed agreement will be provided upon request. The following link may also be helpful:

<http://www.ucratx.org/bankstab.html>

F. LAKE IVIE BRUSH MODELING

Managing Agency:	Texas State Soil Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) Cody York, Program Manager Regional Water Supply Enhancement Program cody.york@hotmail.com 325.481.0335
Contractor:	UCRA
Actual Expenditures FY 2014:	\$40,101
Actual FTEs as of June 1, 2015:	<u>3</u>
Statutory Citation for Program:	Texas Agriculture Code, Ch. 203

Program objectives/function:

The program objective was for UCRA, with technical assistance from the Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research (TIAER) at Tarleton State University to conduct a feasibility study using computer modeling with the Soil & Water Assessment Tool (SWAT) to predict water yield increases from brush control.

Major activities performed under this program:

- General Administrative tasks
- Site reconnaissance trips to obtain details and firsthand knowledge of the study watershed for O.H. Ivie Reservoir with a focus on the areas of potential brush control.

- Development of a quality assurance project plan (QAPP) for approval by the TSSWCB based on the latest guidance in the document *Requirements for Computer Modeling for Water Yield Prediction in Feasibility Studies*. All following tasks conform to the requirements stipulated in the QAPP.
- Development of SWAT model for study area
- Calibration of SWAT for stream flow and water balance for the period of 1995 – 2010. Application of SWAT to predict stream flow, evaluating at least the removal of 100% of treatable brush in the area of interest within the study area.
- Report results and findings in a report with the draft reviewed by the TSSWCB and finalized by addressing all comments.

Evidence of the program effectiveness and efficiency:

The program achieved its goals in determining how brush control will be effective in the study area using specific methods outlined in the contract. To this end, UCRA has been considered eligible, and has applied for, additional funding to implement an ecosystem restoration project in FYE16.

Program History

The dam to O.H. Ivie Reservoir was completed and storage began March 15, 1990. According to information from the U.S. Geological Survey for station 0813660 (O.H. Ivie Reservoir near Voss, TX), the drainage area of the reservoir is 24,038 sq. mi. of which it is estimated that 11,391 sq. mi. probably are noncontributing. In addition, E. V. Spence Reservoir on the Colorado River and Twin Butter Reservoir and O.C. Fisher Lake within the Concho River watershed are all positioned upstream of Ivie Reservoir. These upstream reservoirs reduce the effective drainage area of the Ivie Reservoir under all but the wettest conditions to about 3,400 sq. mi. At conservation pool elevation, Ivie Reservoir has a storage capacity of 554,000 acre-feet and a surface area of 19,100 acres.

Within the last 15 years the reservoir has suffered from low water levels well below the conservation pool elevation of 1,551.5 feet and reduced storage volume due to insufficiency of inflows to replace evaporative losses and withdrawals. Within the last five years, conditions have been particularly severe, resulting in water levels 30 to 50 feet below the conservation pool elevation and storage volumes only a fraction of full capacity. The lowered water levels resulted in a proliferation of salt cedar in the immediate basin of the reservoir. Brush species such as mesquite and juniper are also abundant in the watershed of O.H. Ivie Reservoir. The feasibility study was requested by the State Board to determine whether or not ecosystem restoration would be effective for this area.

Who does this program effect?

This program impacts the Texas Brush Control Program, the watershed of Upper Colorado River Basin, the Colorado River Municipal Water District and their customers, local Ag producers and the farming and ranching community.

How is the program administered?

Program oversight is managed through the TSSWCB and administered by the UCRA, in partnership with TIAER.

Funding sources and amounts allocated for the program:

The funding source for the project was the TSSCWB Water Supply Enhancement Program (formerly the Brush Control Program). The project period was for FYE14 & FYE15.

Total Contract: \$60,229 Expenditures FYE14: \$40,101 Project Balance FYE15: \$20,128

The bulk of the project expenses were allocated to TIAER for the modeling services. A small amount for project oversight and administration was been allocated to UCRA. The project ended officially in June 2015.

Identify any programs, internal or external to your agency, that provide identical or similar services or functions to the target population. Describe the similarities and differences.

The services provided are not identical to any other program that the UCRA or anyone else manages in this area.

Discuss how the program or function is coordinating its activities to avoid duplication or conflict with the other programs listed in the previous question and with the agency's customers. If applicable, briefly discuss any memorandums of understanding (MOUs), interagency agreements, or interagency contracts.

The benefit of an agency this size is that oversight and contract task management is easy to achieve. As stated previously, there is really no duplication in services and this question is not applicable to our programming.

If the program or function works with local, regional, or federal units of government, include a brief description of these entities and their relationship to the agency:

The UCRA worked closely with the TSSWCB and TIAER.

Contracted expenditures made through this:

Budgeted contract expenses for TIAER for the project period FYE14-FYE15 was \$54,754.

Provide information on any grants awarded by the program.

N/A

What statutory changes could be made to assist this program in performing its functions? Explain.

N/A

Provide any additional information needed to gain a preliminary understanding of the program or function:

A copy of the last fully executed agreement and the draft copy of the study will be provided upon request. The following link may also be helpful: <https://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/en/brushcontrol>

G. CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SAN ANGELO (COSA)

Managing Agency:	Upper Colorado River Authority
Contact:	Chuck Brown, Director of Operations
	chuckb@ucratx.org
	325.655.0565
Actual Expenditures FY 2014:	\$ 124,088
Actual FTEs as of June 1, 2015:	3
Statutory Citation for Program:	None

Program objectives/function:

The UCRA staff serves as an Advisor to the City of San Angelo's Stormwater Management Department, Water Utilities and Parks Department. UCRA works with the city to ensure that they are meeting their MS4 permit requirements, assists in other permitting processes and works with the city to create and implement education outreach initiatives and a spring media blitz. UCRA staff also coordinates periodic reservoir water releases through the US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) for the city.

Major activities performed under this program:

- Administrative assistance and advisor to manage the stormwater program for the city
- Stormwater station monitoring and data base input
- Annual MS4 compliance report for the City
- Media campaign for stormwater education
- Training for city staff in proper stormwater management
- Liaison with USACOE for water releases for OC Fisher
- Boat Ramp Permitting
- Liaison with COSA and TCEQ in regards to stream standards
- Special studies as requested

Evidence of the program effectiveness and efficiency:

The program has been effective and efficient in assisting the City of San Angelo with various responsibilities, particularly in regards to the adherence of fairly new stormwater management requirements. UCRA has provided valuable stormwater monitoring over the life of the program and created a working database for city staff that did not previously exist.

Training for stormwater management is provided to city employees as part of this program and we feel this is a valuable and effective tool for City of Angelo Management staff. UCRA developed hands on stormwater training programs that can be completed in less than a day, addressing multiple city departments.

The stormwater program has assisted the city in changing the mindset of a previously resistant community in regards to a perception of water quality issues and current ordinances. UCRA was also responsible for the delisting of a highly impacted stream segment, saving the City thousands of dollars.

Program History

In 2012 the City of San Angelo was faced with addressing significant stormwater regulation requirements. UCRA entered into a three year contract with the City in FYE13 to provide hydrological and other consulting services in connection with implementation of various tasks within projects and programs identified in the MOU that have included but are not limited to; Project management; Storm water monitoring, assembly and maintenance of a stormwater database; Public education and outreach for stormwater education and water conservation; Grant writing; Any other special projects.

In FYE14 the MOU was amended to include work on the TPEWDFES Phase II MSR General Permit application process and a subsequent annual report. UCRA is currently in negotiations with COSA staff for a new MOU for FYE16.

Who does this program effect?

This program impacts the City of San Angelo, its staff, and the residents of San Angelo.

How is the program administered?

The program is administered by the UCRA.

Funding sources and amounts allocated for the program:

The funding source for the agreement is the City of San Angelo. The current project period is from FYE13 to FYE15.

Total Contract:	\$389,800
Expenditures for FYE14:	\$124,088
Project Balance in FYE15:	\$151,600

Identify any programs, internal or external to your agency, that provide identical or similar services or functions to the target population. Describe the similarities and differences.

The services provided are not identical to any other program that the UCRA or anyone else manages in this area.

Discuss how the program or function is coordinating its activities to avoid duplication or conflict with the other programs listed in the previous question and with the agency's customers. If applicable, briefly discuss any memorandums of understanding (MOUs), interagency agreements, or interagency contracts.

The benefit of an agency this size is that oversight and contract task management is easy to achieve. As stated previously, there is really no duplication in services and this question is not applicable to our programming.

If the program or function works with local, regional, or federal units of government, include a brief description of these entities and their relationship to the agency:

The UCRA works closely with City of San Angelo Staff. UCRA also works with the USACE towards water releases from OC Fisher, the Corp has management responsibilities for OC Fisher Lake.

Contracted expenditures made through this:

N/A

Provide information on any grants awarded by the program.

N/A

What statutory changes could be made to assist this program in performing its functions? Explain.

N/A

Provide any additional information needed to gain a preliminary understanding of the program or function:

A copy of the last fully executed agreement will be provided upon request.

H. ROBERT LEE, WELL EXPLORATION

Managing Agency: Upper Colorado River Authority

Scott McWilliams

scottm@ucratx.org

325.655.0565

Actual Expenditures FY 2014: \$ 5163

Actual FTEs as of June 1, 2015: 2

Statutory Citation for Program: None

Program objectives/function:

Undertake a well testing project for the City of Robert Lee for the purposes of quantifying water production from an existing on well property located in Coke County.

Major activities performed under this program:

- UCRA program oversight
- Contract with an experienced water well company which has capabilities of pumping and testing the well's ability for water production.
- Make a final recommendation to proceed or not proceed based on results

Evidence of the program effectiveness and efficiency:

This program was conducted in the most efficient manner possible. The City of Robert Lee was billed for drilling services and minimal time and mileage was accrued by UCRA staff. Unfortunately no viable water source was found on the property and the project ended. A final report was produced and is attached to this document.

Program History

During the spring and summer of 2011 the UCRA conducted a groundwater exploration project on the Counts Ranch in Coke County, Texas. The project was performed in accordance with an agreement between the UCRA and the City of Robert Lee for the purpose of facilitating the discovery and potential development of an underground water resource to meet Robert Lee's public water supply needs. The primary effort was undertaken on the Counts Ranch, located in southwest Coke County.

An amended lease agreement was executed in June 2012 between the Counts and UCRA to govern exploration, production, royalties and construction activities on the leased properties in the event that further exploration was requested. The lease has a stipulation that allows for the UCRA to assign the lease to the city of Robert Lee if it chooses to do so.

In 2014, the city of Robert Lee requested further exploration to determine if the Counts well field was a viable water resource. The drilling occurred in July 2014 and while the results were not favorable in the drill location, it was determined that there could be a potential source on the adjacent (May) property and further exploration would be required. In FYE15 a new agreement was reached with another landowner (May) and additional drilling authorized by the city of Robert Lee through a separate contract. Unfortunately, the wells were not a viable water resource. UCRA continued to maintain the lease in 2015 and in August, voted to offer assignment to Robert Lee. If Robert Lee does not take the assignment, the lease will be null and void. All efforts towards exploration for these well fields have now ceased.

Who does this program effect?

The City of Robert Lee and its citizens.

How is the program administered?

The program was administered by the UCRA.

Funding sources and amounts allocated for the program:

The funding source for the agreement was the City of Robert Lee.

Total Contract: \$5730.00

Expenditures for FYE14: \$5163.00

Identify any programs, internal or external to your agency, that provide identical or similar services or functions to the target population. Describe the similarities and differences.

The services provided were not identical to any other program that the UCRA or anyone else manages in this area.

Discuss how the program or function is coordinating its activities to avoid duplication or conflict with the other programs listed in the previous question and with the agency's customers. If applicable, briefly discuss any memorandums of understanding (MOUs), interagency agreements, or interagency contracts.

The benefit of an agency this size is that oversight and contract task management is easy to achieve. As stated previously, there is really no duplication in services and this question is not applicable to our programming.

If the program or function works with local, regional, or federal units of government, include a brief description of these entities and their relationship to the agency:

The City of Robert Lee was involved with the program as they contracted with UCRA to conduct the study.

Contracted expenditures made through this:

Drilling Services. Total expenditures \$956.00.

Provide information on any grants awarded by the program.

N/A

What statutory changes could be made to assist this program in performing its functions? Explain.

N/A

Provide any additional information needed to gain a preliminary understanding of the program or function:

This was a short term, small special study conducted by requested by the City of Robert Lee in an attempt to discover an additional water source through an agreement with a private landowner. It was an exploration project for information seeking purpose only.

- O. Regulatory programs relate to the licensing, registration, certification, or permitting of a person, business, or other entity. For each regulatory program, if applicable, describe:**
- why the regulation is needed;
 - the scope of, and procedures for, inspections or audits of regulated entities;
 - follow-up activities conducted when non-compliance is identified;
 - sanctions available to the agency to ensure compliance; and
 - procedures for handling consumer/public complaints against regulated entities.

N/A - UCRA has no regulatory programs.

- P. For each regulatory program, if applicable, provide the following complaint information. The chart headings may be changed if needed to better reflect your agency's practices.**

N/A - UCRA has no regulatory programs.

VIII. STATUTORY AUTHORITY AND RECENT LEGISLATION

- A. Fill in the following charts, listing citations for all state and federal statutes that grant authority to or otherwise significantly impact your agency. Do not include general state statutes that apply to all agencies, such as the Public Information Act, the Open Meetings Act, or the Administrative Procedure Act. Provide information on Attorney General opinions from FY 2011–2015, or earlier significant Attorney General opinions, that affect your agency's operations.**

UCRA
Statutes / Attorney General Opinions

Statutes

Citation / Title	Authority / Impact on Agency
N/A	N/A

Attorney General Opinions

Attorney General Opinion No.	Impact on Agency
N/A	N/A

- B. Provide a summary of recent legislation regarding your agency by filling in the charts below or attaching information already available in an agency-developed format. Briefly summarize the key provisions. For bills that did not pass, briefly explain the key provisions and issues that resulted in failure of the bill to pass (e.g., opposition to a new fee, or high cost of implementation). Place an asterisk next to bills that could have a major impact on the agency.**

UCRA
Exhibit 13: 84th Legislative Session

Legislation Enacted

Bill Number	Author	Summary of Key Provisions
Senate Bill 523	Birdwell	Requires Sunset Review Commission to analyze each Texas River Authority's governance, operating structure and compliance with legislative requirements. River Authorities will be reviewed on a biannual basis.

Legislation Not Passed 84th Leg

Bill Number	Author	Summary of Key Provisions / Reason Bill Did Not Pass
House Bill 1275	Keffer	Bill introduced requiring an efficiency and economy audit of river authorities every five years. Is currently pending, in committee.

IX. MAJOR ISSUES

None at this time. N/A

X. OTHER CONTACTS

- A. Fill in the following charts with updated information on people with an interest in your agency, and be sure to include the most recent email address.**

UCRA

Contacts

Interest Groups*(groups affected by agency actions or that represent others served by or affected by agency actions)*

Group or Association Name/ Contact Person	Address	Telephone	Email Address
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Interagency, State, or National Associations*(that serve as an information clearinghouse or regularly interact with your agency)*

Group or Association Name/ Contact Person	Address	Telephone	Email Address
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Liaisons at Other State Agencies*(with which your agency maintains an ongoing relationship, e.g., the agency's assigned analyst at the Legislative Budget Board, or attorney at the Attorney General's office)*

Agency Name / Relationship / Contact Person	Address	Telephone	Email Address
LCRA Partner, Clean Rivers Program Director, David Cowan	P.O. Box 220 Austin, Texas 78767	512.578.2495 Ext 2495	david.cowan@lcra.org
TSSWCB Partner, Texas Water Supply Enhancement Project Program Director, Johnny Oswald	622 S Oakes St H2, San Angelo, TX 76903	325.481.0335	joswald@tsswcb.state.tx.us

XI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- A. Texas Government Code, Sec. 325.0075 requires agencies under review to submit a report about their reporting requirements to Sunset with the same due date as the SER. Include a list of each agency-specific report that the agency is required by statute to prepare and an evaluation of the need for each report based on whether factors or conditions have changed since the statutory requirement was put in place. Please do not include general reporting requirements applicable to all agencies, reports that have an expiration date, routine notifications or notices, posting requirements, federally mandated reports, or reports required by G.A.A. rider. If the list is longer than one page, please include it as an attachment.

**Upper Colorado River Authority
Exhibit 15: Evaluation of Agency Reporting Requirements**

Report Title	Legal Authority	Due Date and Frequency	Recipient	Description	Is the Report Still Needed? Why?
Annual Financial Report	Texas Water Code Ch 49.194	Due Annually 135 days after end of fiscal year	TCEQ	Independent Financial Audit	Yes. This is a solid accountability measure that offers transparency and reflects the financial framework on an annual basis.
Management Audit	Texas Administrative Code 291.13(6) A	Every 5 years. Last completed 2013	TCEQ	Management	Unsure. The guidelines required are not very specific. There is pending legislation that would require river authorities to have a state economy and efficiency audit, that could take its place, depending on the parameters. There is not enough information at this time.

- B. Has the agency implemented statutory requirements to ensure the use of "first person respectful language"? Please explain and include any statutory provisions that prohibits these changes.

N/A

- C. Fill in the following chart detailing information on complaints regarding your agency. Do not include complaints received against people or entities you regulate. The chart headings may be changed if needed to better reflect your agency's practices.

No complaints have ever been made against UCRA to our knowledge.

- D. Fill in the following charts detailing your agency's Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) purchases.**

**UCRA
Purchases from HUBs**

This chart has been deleted as it is believed to be non applicable to the general operations of our agency, HUBS are grant project specific and are addressed within each separate contract.

- E. Does your agency have a HUB policy? How does your agency address performance shortfalls related to the policy? (Texas Government Code, Sec. 2161.003; TAC Title 34, Part 1, rule 20.15b)**

Our agency does have a HUB policy in Article II, Section 2.01 of its General Operating Policies and Procedures manual. To date we have not had performance shortfalls related to the policy, but if there were an issue, it would be handled through board oversight.

- F. For agencies with contracts valued at \$100,000 or more: Does your agency follow a HUB subcontracting plan to solicit bids, proposals, offers, or other applicable expressions of interest for subcontracting opportunities available for contracts of \$100,000 or more? (Texas Government Code, Sec. 2161.252; TAC Title 34, Part 1, rule 20.14)**

N/A

- G. For agencies with biennial appropriations exceeding \$10 million, answer the following HUB questions. N/A**

- 1. Do you have a HUB coordinator? If yes, provide name and contact information. (Texas Government Code, Sec. 2161.062; TAC Title 34, Part 1, rule 20.26)**

N/A

- 2. Has your agency designed a program of HUB forums in which businesses are invited to deliver presentations that demonstrate their capability to do business with your agency? (Texas Government Code, Sec. 2161.066; TAC Title 34, Part 1, rule 20.27)**

N/A

- 3. Has your agency developed a mentor-protégé program to foster long-term relationships between prime contractors and HUBs and to increase the ability of HUBs to contract with the state or to receive subcontracts under a state contract? (Texas Government Code, Sec. 2161.065; TAC Title 34, Part 1, rule 20.28)**

N/A

H. UCRA Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) statistics.**1. Officials / Administration**

Year	Total Number of Positions	Percent African-American	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent	Percent Hispanic	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent	Percent Female	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent
2013	(1)	0%	8.99%	0%	19.51%	100%	39.34%
2014	(1)	0%	8.99%	0%	19.51%	100%	39.34%
2015	(1)	0%	8.99%	0%	19.51%	100%	39.34%

2. Professional

Year	Total Number of Positions	Percent African-American	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent	Percent Hispanic	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent	Percent Female	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent
2013	(3)	0%	11.33%	0%	17.4%	33%	59.14%
2014	(3)	0%	11.33%	0%	17.4%	33%	59.14%
2015	(2)	0%	11.33%	0%	17.4%	0%	59.14%

3. Technical—NA---No Staff in this Category

Year	Total Number of Positions	Percent African-American	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent	Percent Hispanic	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent	Percent Female	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent
2013	(number)	(percent)	14.16%	(percent)	21.36%	(percent)	41.47%
2014	(number)	(percent)	14.16%	(percent)	21.36%	(percent)	41.47%
2015	(number)	(percent)	14.16%	(percent)	21.36%	(percent)	41.47%

4. Administrative Support-No Staff in this Category

Year	Total Number of Positions	Percent African-American	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent	Percent Hispanic	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent	Percent Female	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent
2013	(number)	(percent)	13.57%	(percent)	30.53%	(percent)	65.62%
2014	(number)	(percent)	13.57%	(percent)	30.53%	(percent)	65.62%
2015	(number)	(percent)	13.57%	(percent)	30.53%	(percent)	65.62%

5. Service / Maintenance- No Staff in this Category

Year	Total Number of Positions	Percent African-American	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent	Percent Hispanic	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent	Percent Female	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent
2013	(number)	(percent)	14.68%	(percent)	48.18%	(percent)	40.79%
2014	(number)	(percent)	14.68%	(percent)	48.18%	(percent)	40.79%
2015	(number)	(percent)	14.68%	(percent)	48.18%	(percent)	40.79%

6. Skilled Craft-- *No Staff in this Category*

Year	Total Number of Positions	Percent African-American	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent	Percent Hispanic	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent	Percent Female	Statewide Civilian Workforce Percent
2013	(number)	(percent)	6.35%	(percent)	47.44%	(percent)	4.19%
2014	(number)	(percent)	6.35%	(percent)	47.44%	(percent)	4.19%
2015	(number)	(percent)	6.35%	(percent)	47.44%	(percent)	4.19%

I. Does your agency have an equal employment opportunity policy? How does your agency address performance shortfalls related to the policy?

Yes. Our Employee Handbook, which is attached, addresses this issue.

Here is the relevant section:

DIVERSITY:

“The UCRA is an equal opportunity employer and does not allow discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation or veteran status.

No employee will be discriminated against during the process of training, promotion, retention for any other personnel related action, or be denied any benefits or participation in any educational programs or activities within the agency. No applicant will be discriminated against during the process of recruitment or selection.

UCRA employees are required to comply with the non-discrimination provisions of all federal and state laws, regulations and agency policy. Any employee who violates this policy is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.”

We have had no performance shortfalls in the area. It would be addressed by our Board of Directors if it ever became a concern.

XII. AGENCY COMMENTS

UCRA is a small but efficient, effective and often underestimated organization. UCRA is not as large as other river authorities, does not sell utilities, but does sell water to a very small customer base. The agency works with Coke, Tom Green and contiguous counties to assist them in their water quality and quantity needs. UCRA has provided funding over a number of years to municipalities who would not be able to make improvement or build infrastructure otherwise.

UCRA will continue to seek out and procure grants and special projects that will serve the mission statement in the best way possible. UCRA does everything to honor the intent of the 1935 charter, respect the guidelines set forth and to follow the laws and to rules as a special water district.

The agency does all of this and more with a relatively minor budget and staff. UCRA is very proud of its accomplishments over the years and looks forward to many more to come. The concerns expressed over the Sunset Review process have nothing to do with the review itself, UCRA believes firmly in transparency and accountability in government. The only concern is in regard to the potential costs that will be incurred.

ATTACHMENTS ---

Create a separate file and label each attachment (e.g., Attachment 1, Agency Statute) and include a list of items submitted.

Attachments Relating to Key Functions, Powers, and Duties

1. Agency's enabling statute. **ATTACHED**
2. Annual report published by the agency from FY 2012–2015. **N/A**
3. Internal or external newsletters published by the agency from FY 2014–2015. **N/A**
4. List of publications and brochures describing the agency. **N/A**
5. List of studies that the agency is required to do by legislation or riders. **N/A**
6. List of legislative or interagency studies relating to the agency that are being performed during the current interim. **SUNSET REVIEW FYE16-17 CYCLE.**
7. List of studies from other states, the federal government, or national groups/associations that relate to or affect the agency or agencies with similar duties or functions. Provide links if available. **N/A**

Attachments Relating to Policymaking Structure

8. Biographical information (e.g., education, employment, affiliations, and honors) or resumes of all policymaking body members. **ATTACHED**
9. Agency's most recent rules. If lengthy, please provide citations. **ATTACHED**

Attachments Relating to Funding

10. Agency's Legislative Appropriations Request for FY 2016–2017. **N/A**
11. Annual financial reports from FY 2012–2014. **ATTACHED**
12. Operating budgets from FY 2013–2015. **ATTACHED**

Attachments Relating to Organization

13. If applicable, a map to illustrate the regional boundaries, headquarters location, and field or regional office locations. **N/A**

Attachments Relating to Agency Performance Evaluation

14. Quarterly performance reports completed by the agency in FY 2012–2015. **N/A**
15. Any recent studies on the agency or any of its functions conducted by outside management consultants or academic institutions. **N/A**
16. Agency's current internal audit plan. **N/A**
17. Agency's current strategic plan. **N/A**

18. Internal audit reports from FY 2011–2015 completed by or in progress at the agency. **N/A**
19. List of State Auditor reports from FY 2011–2015 that relate to the agency or any of its functions. **N/A**
20. Any customer service surveys conducted by or for your agency in FY 2014–2015. **N/A**