

GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS

STUDY NAME AND STATE: Middle Brazos River, Texas

AUTHORIZATION: Senate Resolution by the Committee on Public Works, dated 12 August 1954

<u>SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL DATA:</u>	<u>Feasibility</u>
Estimated Federal Cost	\$ 3,225,000
Estimated Non-Federal Cost:	2,647,000
Total Estimated Study Cost	\$ 5,872,000

Allocation thru FY 2006	1,142,000
FY 2007 Budget	0
Tentative FY 2007 Work Plan Allocation	200,000 1/
Budget Request for FY 2008	0
Balance to Complete After FY 2008	1,883,000
Amount that Could be Used in FY 2008	600,000

1/ Final amount is subject to change, and will not be known until the Joint Continuing Resolution is passed by both the House and Senate, and final allocations are provided.

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION: The study area, located within the middle portion of the Brazos River Basin, is bounded on the northwest by the Clear Fork of the Brazos River and on the southeast by Yegua Creek, and includes all or part of 32 counties. The study area includes 11 Federal and non-Federal reservoirs.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES FOR FY 2007: Funds requested as part of the Tentative FY 2007 Work Plan Allocation are being used to complete Phase I of the Systems Assessment Interim Feasibility Study (IFS). Phase I efforts are intended to provide sufficient data to identify reservoirs to be carried forward into detailed Phase II investigations.

APPLICATION OF THE AMOUNT THAT COULD BE USED IN FY 2008: FY 2008 capability funds in the amount of \$600,000 could be used to initiate Phase II of the Systems Assessment IFS by conducting field surveys (\$300,000), and establishing baseline conditions for the highest priority reallocation site (\$300,000). Projects identified in Phase I of the interim feasibility study will be carried forward into a detailed reallocation analysis. New data will be compiled to determine the benefits, impacts, trade-offs and costs of potential storage reallocations.

ISSUES AND OTHER INFORMATION: The Systems Assessment IFS would provide a basinwide systems assessment of Federal reservoir operations to determine if more optimal uses of existing water resources are possible. The lack of continued funding will postpone efforts to identify additional sources of water to meet the ever growing demands of the region and continue the degradation of the environment and water quality, all of which have been accentuated by the recent drought in central Texas. The non-Federal sponsor of this study is the Brazos River Authority.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION: Consistent with Administration policy but low budget priority.

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: Congressmen Barton, TX-06; McCaul, TX-10; Conaway, TX-11; Thornberry, TX-13; Edwards, TX-17; Neugebauer, TX-19; Carter, TX-31; Congresswoman Granger, TX-12.