

# San Bernard Watershed Protection Plan

Stakeholder Meeting #10

August 18, 2011



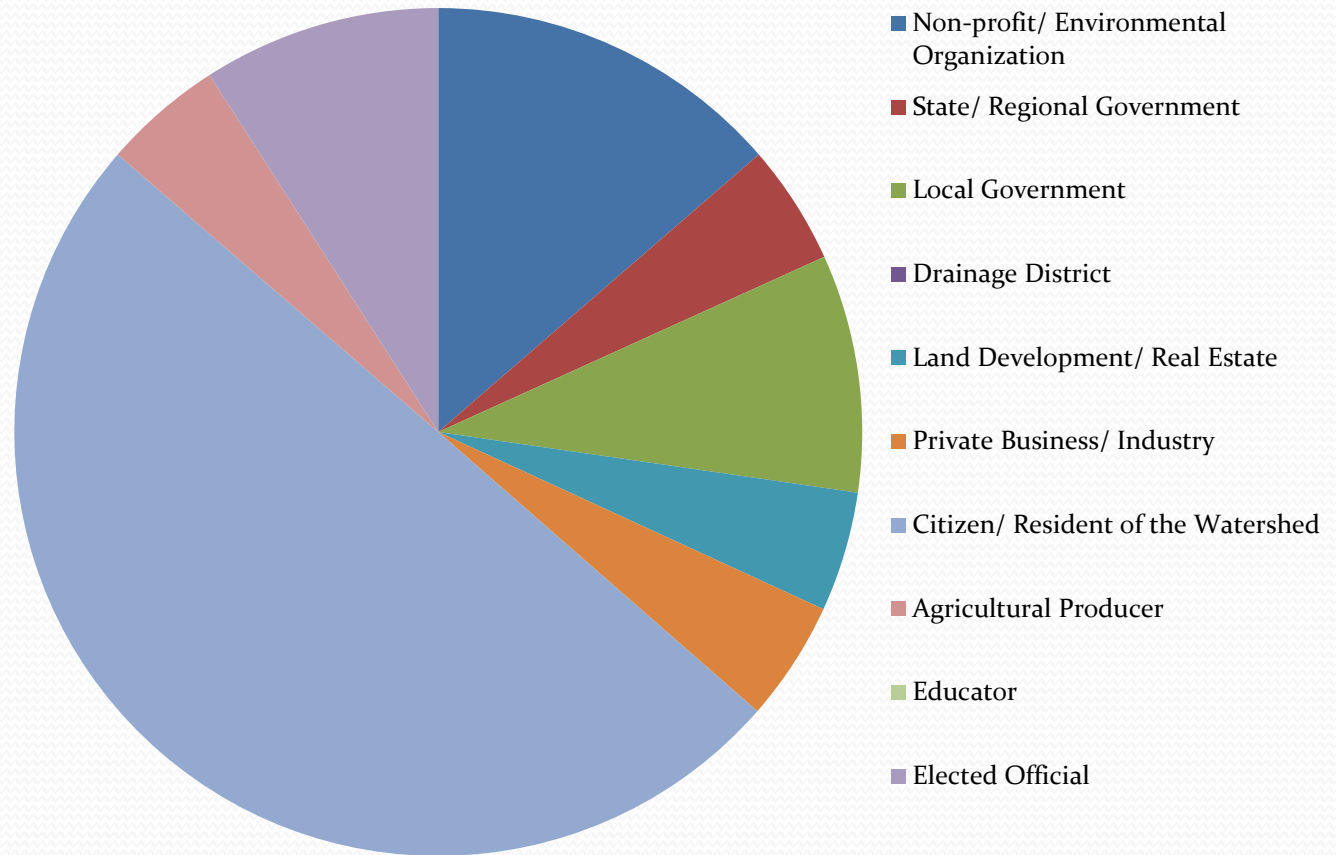
# Updates

- Modeling Plan almost complete for BMP monitoring project – three sites have been selected
- Stream Team training held last week in Sealy
- Funding received from TCEQ to continue stakeholder coordination for the next year



# Watershed Protection Plan Survey

- 20 Responses Received
- Posted to Friends of the River San Bernard Website
- Still open if you would like to participate!



# How Much Land Do You Own in the Watershed?

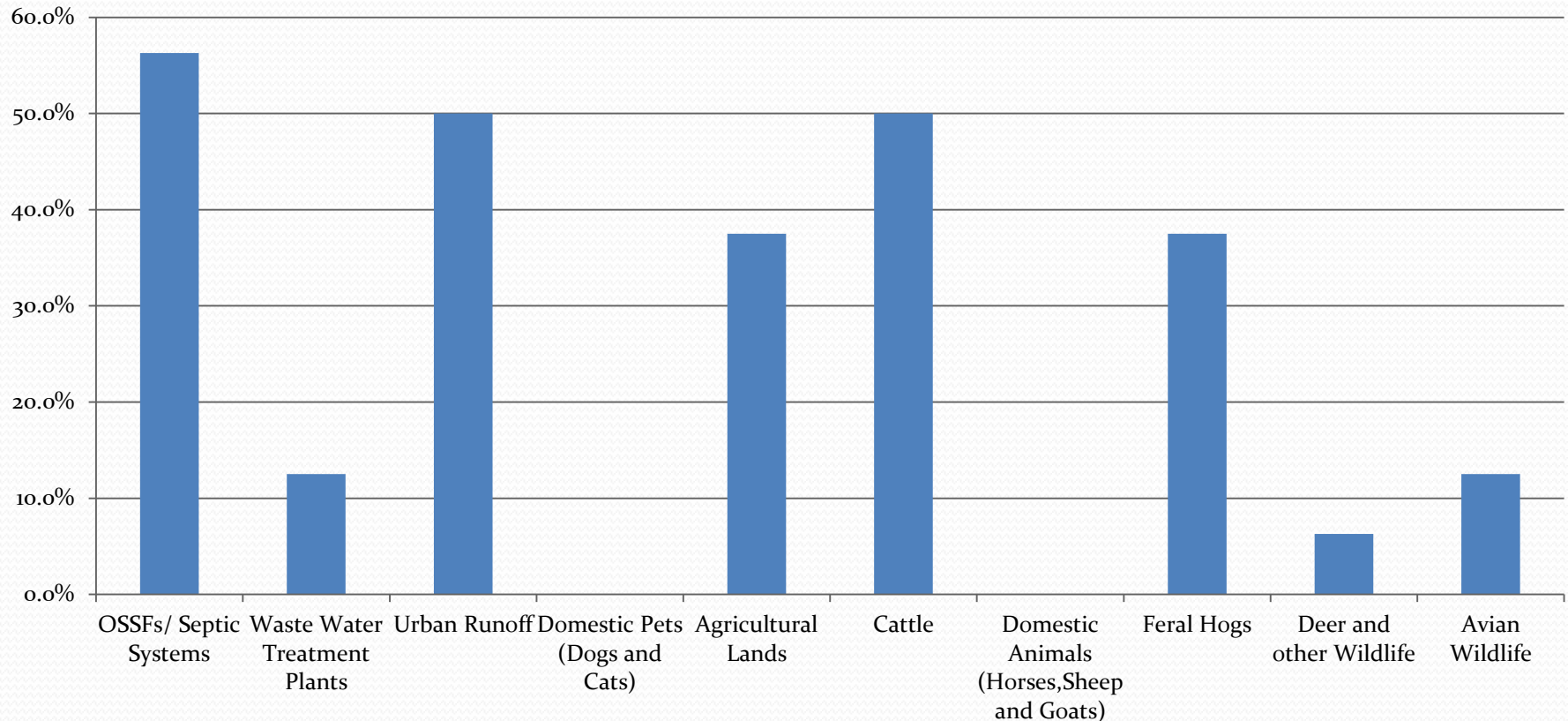
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
None	15.8%	3
Less than 1 acre	15.8%	3
1 -5 acres	15.8%	3
6-10 acres	15.8%	3
10-50 acres	10.5%	2
50-100 acres	0.0%	0
100-500 acres	10.5%	2
More than 500 acres	15.8%	3

# How Do You Use Your Land in The Watershed?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Grazing	16.7%	3
Crops	11.1%	2
Wildlife	22.2%	4
Hunting	11.1%	2
Water access	11.1%	2
Residential	61.1%	11
N/A	16.7%	3
Other (please specify)		2

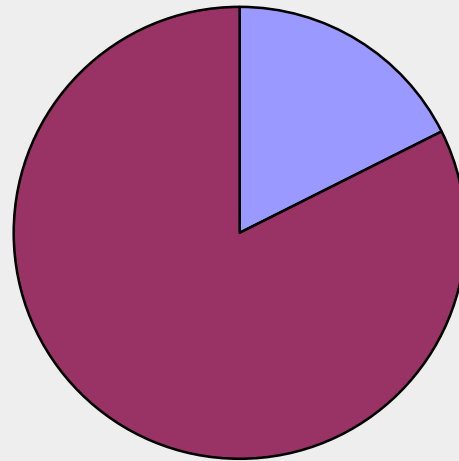
Conservation Easement, WWTP

# What Do You Think Are The Main Causes and Sources of Pollution?



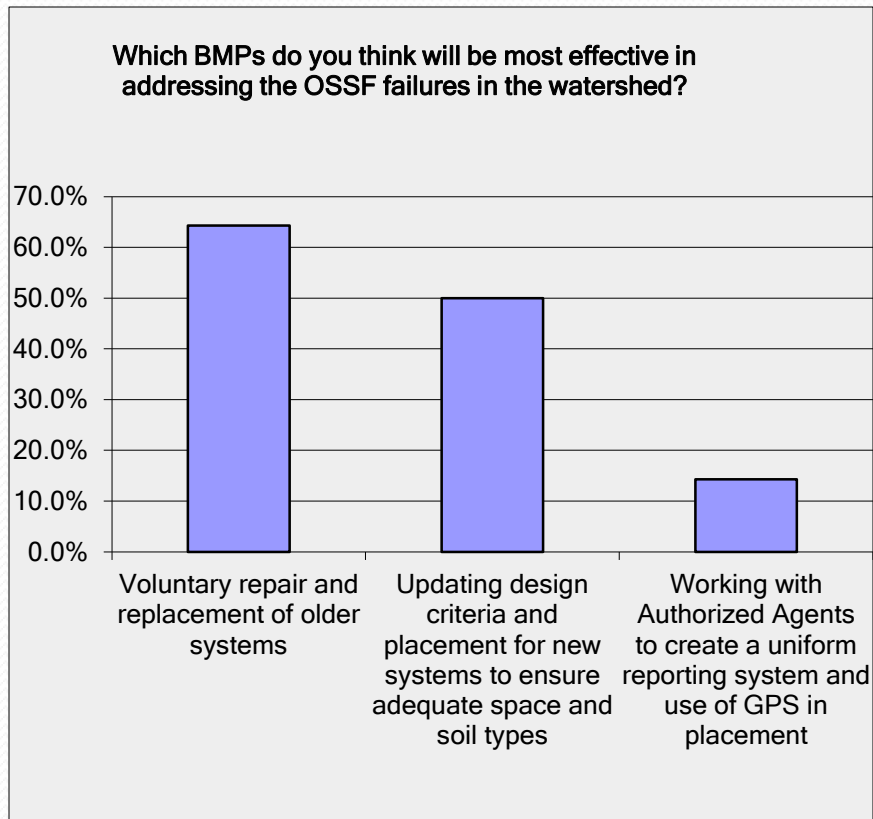
# Are You Familiar With WQMPPs?

Are you familiar with the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) Water Quality Management Plans Program that is available at no cost for agricultural lands in the watershed?



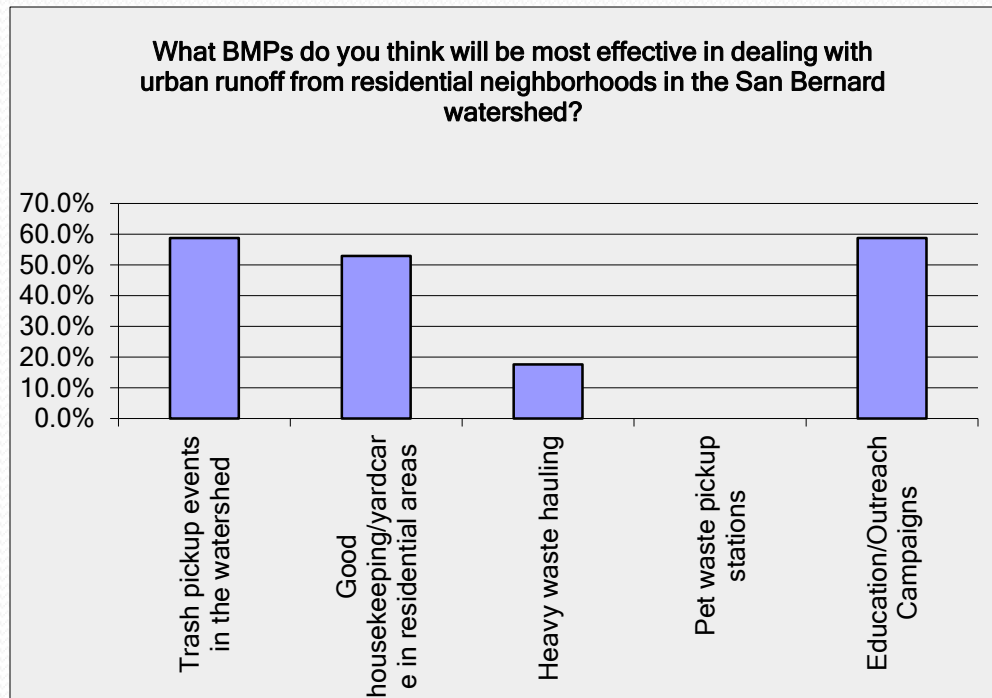
■ Yes ■ No

# Which BMPs do you think will be most effective in addressing the OSSF Failures in the Watershed?



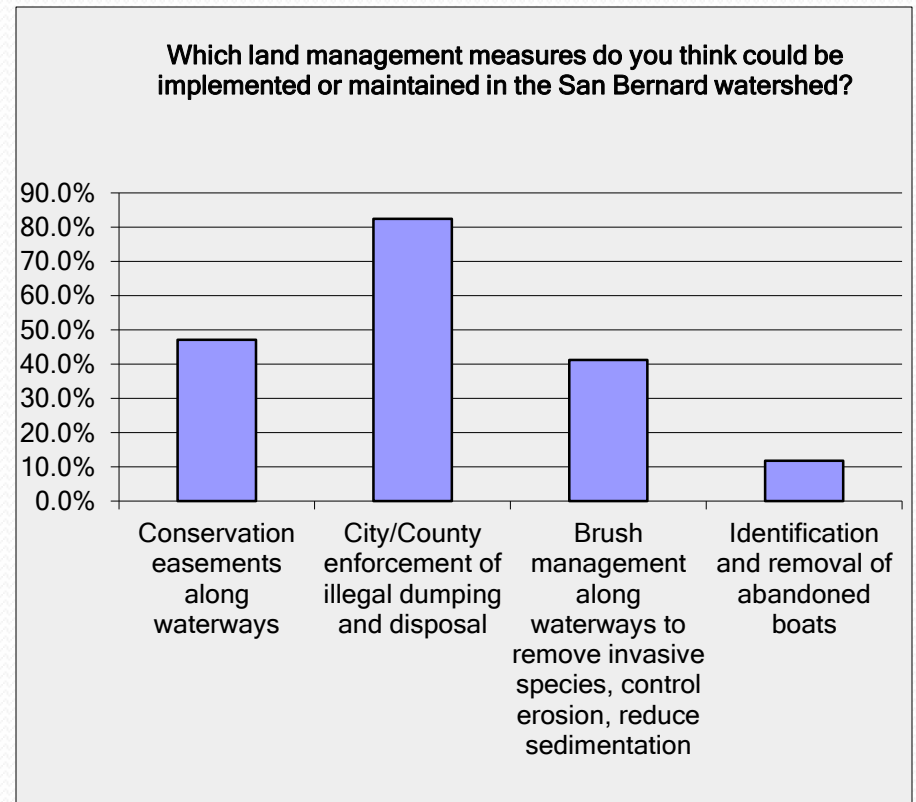


# What BMPs do you think will be most effective in dealing with urban runoff?

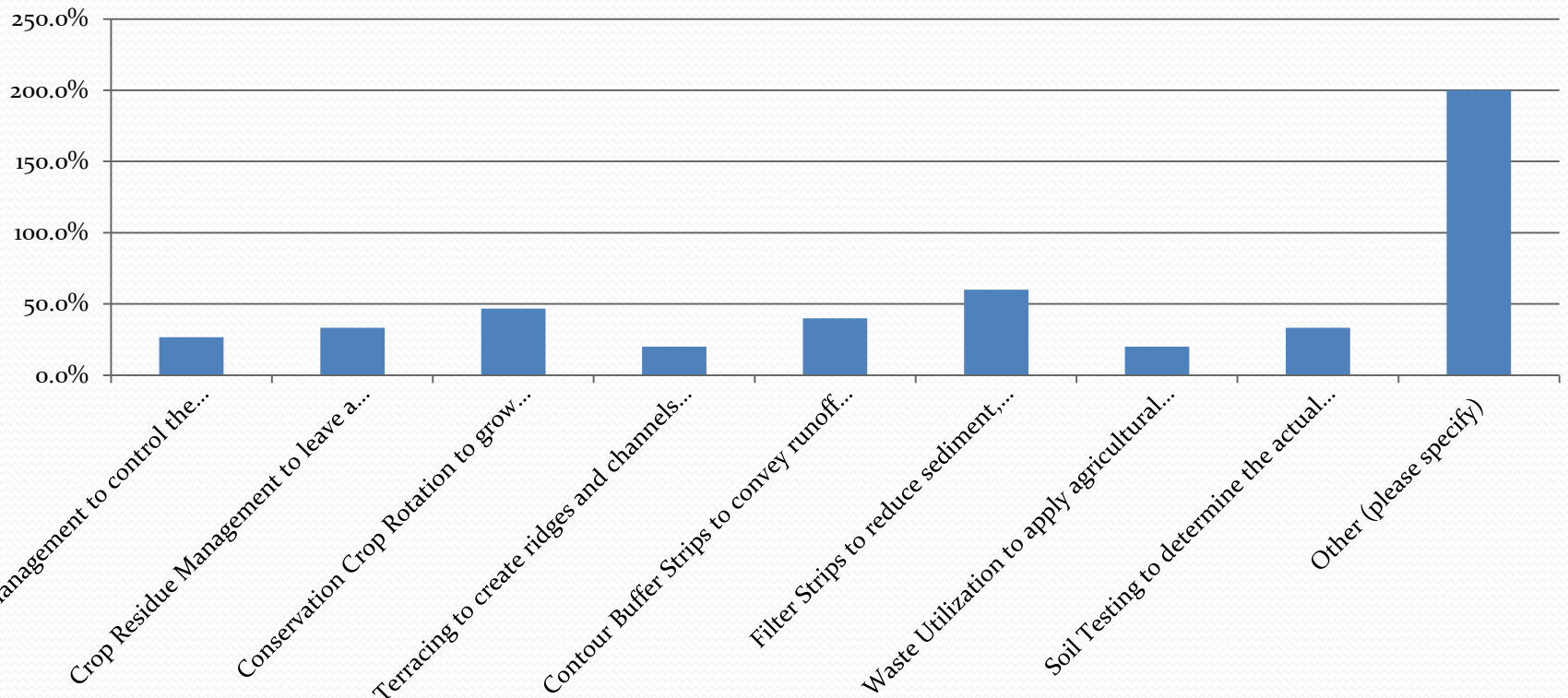


Fine people that use the river as a trash can  
Clear out the bottlenecks so the river can flow freely

# Which land management measures do you think could be implemented or maintained?

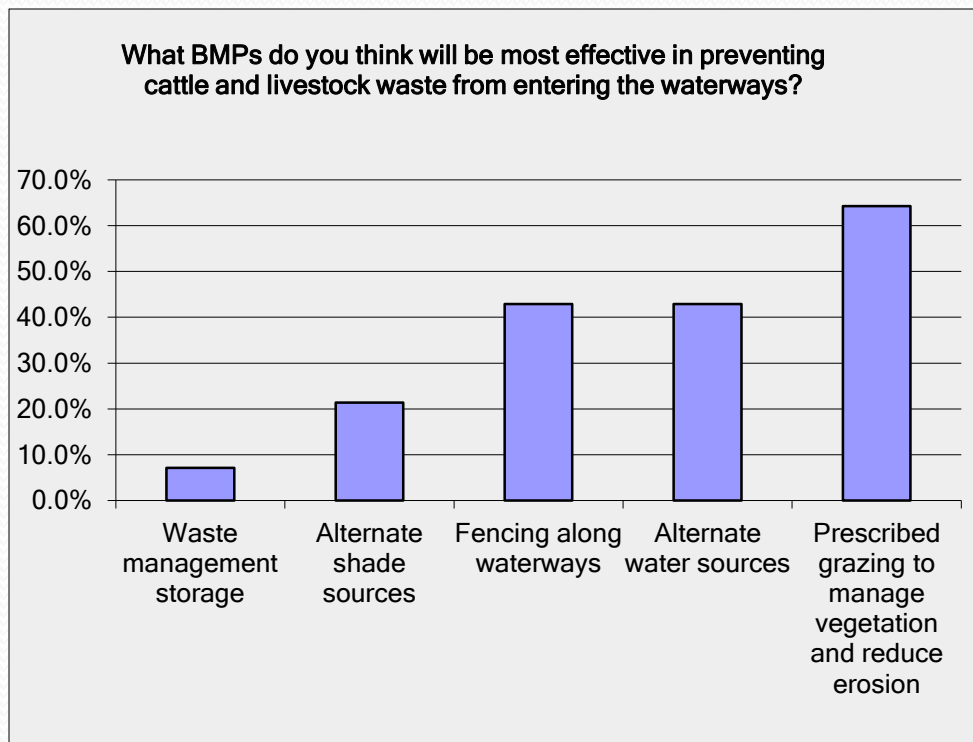


# What BMPs do you think will help prevent runoff and erosion from agricultural lands?



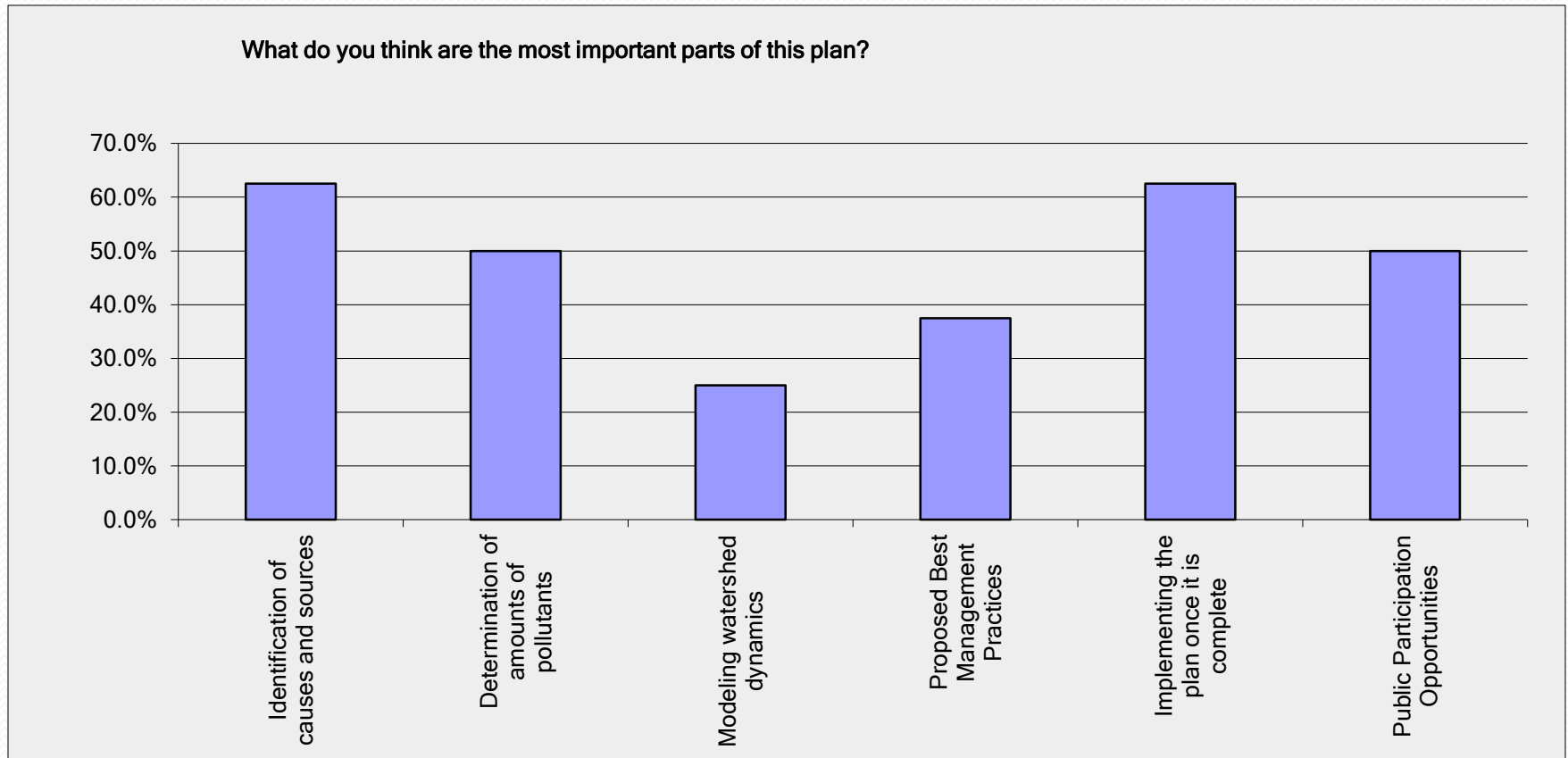
Clear waterways of trees and sediment to prevent ponding  
Land is too flat for terracing

# What BMPs do you think will be most effective in preventing cattle from entering waterways?



Cattle need access to water in drought conditions

# What do you think are the most important parts of this plan?



# What do you think needs to be added to this plan?

1. More stakeholder outreach and input
2. Additional monitoring
3. Input from East Bernard and Wharton County
4. Steering committees and workgroups

# What is the biggest obstacle to implementing this plan?

1. Funding
2. Getting input from stakeholders
3. Disseminating information to stakeholders
4. Money and a lack of willingness to change
5. Lack of participation and knowledge of water quality issues



Ideas to help increase public participation ?



# RUAA



- Recreational Use Attainability Assessment
- Natalie Bell (TCEQ) and Jenny Wrast (UofH/EIH)
- Purpose: to determine what types of recreation have occurred in the past, present and are possible in the future
- Area was mapped and observed, and interviews were conducted with residents
- Looked at West Bernard Creek, Gum Tree Branch and San Bernard River above tidal

# Four classification levels for RUAA

- Primary – 126 cfu
  - Swimming, water skiing, SCUBA diving
- Secondary 1 – 630 cfu
  - Wading, canoeing
- Secondary 2 – 1030 cfu
  - Fishing from banks or piers
- Non-Contact – 2060 cfu
  - Houston Ship Channel

# RUAA results

- UofH/EIH will present the final report to TCEQ by September 1
- Will be based on what the streams are suitable for, not current water quality standards
- RUAA designation will not impact the WPP effort to improve water quality

# Upcoming Events

- Texas Watershed Stewards training next Tuesday, August 30 in Baytown
  - Register online at [tws.tamu.edu](http://tws.tamu.edu)
- Meeting of the Monitors coming up September 30-Oct 2 in Clear Lake
  - Register online at <http://txstreamteam.rivers.txstate.edu/mom>
- Watershed signs will be posted by the end of the month