



USDA-CSREES 2007 National Water Quality Conference

[Sustainable Agricultural Water Conservation in the Rio Grande Basin](#)

The USDA-Funded Sustainable Agricultural Water Conservation in the Rio Grande Basin research program (SAWC) is a joint Texas State University System (TSUS) biophysical assessment of Rio Grande Basin watershed resources coordinated thru the Rio Grande Research Center at Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Texas. The objectives of the study are to assess the present environmental status of the Rio Grande and integrity of systems within the watershed drainage area. SAWC research project categories include: Physical and biologic environmental assessment of systems within the basin; Surface and groundwater characterization research; Water uses and demands; Land use change and impacts; Socioeconomic characteristics of the Basin; Policies and legislation; Institutions; Environmental degradation; Education and outreach. A central component of the study is the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) framework. The TDA is a scientific document that involves identifying institutions active in the region, locating existing information related to the Rio Grande and listing concerns of stake holders into a useful framework to encourage sustainable use of Rio Grande resources.

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