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Texas Water Trade selected for \$2.7 million Regional Conservation Partnership Program near Fort Stockton

AUSTIN, TEXAS – April 16, 2020 – Texas Water Trade (TWT) announced today its selection for a USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) near Fort Stockton in Pecos County. The RCPP will drive on-farm water conservation investments in the contributing zone of Comanche Springs, once one of the five largest springs in Texas. The spring system stopped flowing in the 1960s, but has begun to flow in the off-irrigation season within the last decade.

The RCPP will deliver \$1.1 million in federal funding to on-farm water conservation, leveraging another \$1.6 million committed by Texas Water Trade over the next 5 years. Through the RCPP, NRCS and Texas Water Trade will work together with private landowners and agricultural producers to implement a variety of conservation activities, including installation of high-efficiency irrigation systems and conversion of existing irrigated acreage to more water-efficient crops.

This is the second federal award that Texas Water Trade has received for its Comanche Springs restoration project. In February, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation announced it had awarded Texas Water Trade \$150,000 over two years through its WaterSMART Applied Science program to advance modeling of aquifer properties in Comanche Spring's contributing zone.

"Through this partnership with NRCS, we will advance our work to demonstrate that Comanche Springs can be restored to year-round flow," said Texas Water Trade's Chief Executive Officer, Sharlene Leurig. "If we can achieve perennial flow, this will be the first-of-its-kind restoration of a spring in Texas, bringing back an ecological and recreational jewel to the region."

Read more about the program [here](#).

About Texas Water Trade

Texas Water Trade is a nonprofit organization harnessing the power of markets and technological innovation to build a future of clean, flowing water for all Texans. Learn more at www.texaswatertrade.org

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