Management of urban waterways using saltgrass \( [Distichlis \ spicata \ var. \ stricta \ (L.) \ Greene] \) to improve water quality and land aesthetics

**Study Area**
- Along the Nemexas Drain
- Sunland Park, NM; West of El Paso, TX

**Objectives**
1) Measure environmental conditions of the site that would affect saltgrass establishment and growth
2) Establish saltgrass along the bank of a peri-urban drain.

**Scope**
- Measure soil and water physical and chemical properties at this site
- Transplant individual saltgrass specimens to evaluate the feasibility of establishing them as a re-vegetation strategy along the waterway
Major Outcomes

- High salinity is not a limiting factor of the establishment and development
- The fine sand and loamy soil texture of the transplanted area compared well to other studies on saltgrass growth
- Saturated soils of the planted terrace provide good moisture for the plants
- A survival rate of 74 percent one week after transplantation of 140 individuals