HOUSE BILL 30
STAKEHOLDER MEETING

OCTOBER 26, 2015
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Facilitator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00– 10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Introductions</td>
<td>Robert Mace</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 – 10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Presentation on House Bill 30</td>
<td>John Meyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 – 10:50 a.m.</td>
<td>Meeting Format</td>
<td>Robert Mace</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:50 – 11:50 a.m.</td>
<td>Open for public comment</td>
<td>Robert Mace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:50 – 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
<td>Robert Mace</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Adjourn</td>
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</table>
HB 30 directs TWDB to designate brackish groundwater production zones and to work together with groundwater conservation districts and stakeholders when identifying and designating brackish groundwater production zones.

TWDB will produce a report every two years and make recommendations regarding reasonable monitoring to observe the effects of brackish groundwater production within the designated zones.

Four aquifers will be included in the December 1, 2016 report to the Legislature:
- Gulf Coast
- Carrizo-Wilcox (between the Colorado River and the Rio Grande)
- Blaine
- Rustler

Remaining aquifers in the state will be completed by December 1, 2022.
TWDB BRACS PROGRAM

• Began in 2009

• Objective is to map in sufficient detail the brackish groundwater resources of each major and minor aquifer

• Collect and load data into a relational BRACS Database and GIS datasets

• Maintain a collection of well reports and geophysical well logs

• All data is available from our website: http://www.twdb.texas.gov/innovativewater/index.asp
# Groundwater Salinity Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groundwater salinity classification</th>
<th>Salinity zone code</th>
<th>Total dissolved solids concentration (units: milligrams per liter)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresh</td>
<td>FR</td>
<td>0 to 1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slightly saline</td>
<td>SS</td>
<td>1,000 to 3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately saline</td>
<td>MS</td>
<td>3,000 to 10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very saline</td>
<td>VS</td>
<td>10,000 to 35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brine</td>
<td>BR</td>
<td>Greater than 35,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TWDB Approach

Initial stakeholder meeting

Map entire brackish groundwater resource for each aquifer

Propose potential production areas in each aquifer in a stakeholder meeting

TWDB staff prioritizes potential production areas

Perform impact analysis of 30 and 50 year pumping

Propose brackish groundwater production zones to TWDB Executive Administrator

Present Executive Administrator’s recommendations to TWDB Board in public meeting

Present study findings in biennial seawater and brackish groundwater report to Legislature due December 1 of each even-numbered year
Contracted studies due August 2016

2016 contracts:
- Blaine
- Carrizo-Wilcox
- Gulf Coast
- Rustler
Additional contracted studies due August 2017

2016-17 contracts:

- Blossom
- Nacatoch
- Trinity
Remaining aquifers studied by TWDB staff by 12/2022

These aquifer studies will be completed by TWDB by December 1, 2022*.  

* subject to change
Aquifers with no significant brackish groundwater

These aquifers will not be studied at this time.

Should information become available in the future, TWDB may study these aquifers.
Aquifers with significant use of brackish groundwater for supply

These aquifers contain, in areas, brackish groundwater used for municipal, domestic, or agricultural purposes.

HB 30 excludes these areas from brackish groundwater production zone designation.

These aquifers may be studied as a brackish water resource after 2022.
Brackish groundwater production zones cannot be designated in four groundwater districts.

HB 30 states that brackish groundwater production zones cannot be designated in four districts. These districts are located in parts of the Edwards and Gulf Coast aquifers.

The Edwards Aquifer outside of a district could be studied.
HB 30: the board shall identify and designate local or regional brackish groundwater production zones in areas of the state with moderate to high availability and productivity of brackish groundwater that are separated by hydrogeologic barriers sufficient to prevent *significant impacts* to water availability or water quality in any area of the same or other aquifers that have an average total dissolved solids level of 1,000 milligrams per liter or less at the time of designation of the zones.

How should we define “*significant impact*”? 
HB 30: the board shall identify and designate local or regional brackish groundwater production zones in areas of the state with moderate to high availability and productivity of brackish groundwater that are separated by **hydrogeologic barriers sufficient to prevent significant impacts** to water availability or water quality in any area of the same or other aquifers that have an average total dissolved solids level of 1,000 milligrams per liter or less at the time of designation of the zones.

How should we define “separated by **hydrogeologic barriers sufficient to prevent significant impacts**”?

Does there have to be a physical barrier, such as impermeable clay/shale or a fault?

Can separation also include distance, for example, where “**significant impacts**” are manageable?
HB 30: Brackish groundwater production zones are not located in an aquifer that has an average total dissolved solids level of more than 1,000 milligrams per liter and is serving as a significant source of water supply for municipal, domestic, or agricultural purposes at the time of designation of the zones or an area of a geologic stratum that is designated or used for wastewater injection through the use of injection wells or disposal wells permitted under Chapter 27.

How should we define “significant source” of water supply for municipal, domestic, or agricultural purposes?

Is there a distance from existing use that a brackish groundwater production zone could be designated?
How should we define “significant impact”? 

How should we define “separated by hydrogeologic barriers sufficient to prevent significant impacts”?

How should we define “significant source” of water supply for municipal, domestic, or agricultural purposes?
Path forward

Written comments due October 30, 2015

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