

GAM run 06-11

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Texas Water Development Board
Groundwater Availability Modeling Section
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July 12, 2006

REQUESTOR:

Mr. Lee Sweeten, Real-Edwards Conservation and Reclamation District (District).

DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST:

Mr. Sweeten requested that we run the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) aquifer groundwater availability model (GAM) to provide him with the input numbers for his district's management plan. The management plan requires recharge from precipitation, surface-water inflow, surface-water outflow, inflow into the district, outflow from the district, net inter-aquifer flow (upper), and net inter-aquifer flow (lower). In addition to District totals, Mr. Sweeten also requested values for these same parameters for each county (Real and Edwards) in the District.

METHODS:

To address the request, we:

- ran the transient GAM for the Edwards-Trinity(Plateau) aquifer and extracted water budgets for each year of the 1980 through 1999 period and
- averaged the twenty-year period for recharge, surface water inflow, surface water outflow, inflow to the district, outflow from the district, net inter-aquifer flow (upper) and net inter-aquifer flow (lower).

PARAMETERS AND ASSUMPTIONS:

- In the analysis, the pumpage distribution is the same as for the transient calibrated model described in Anaya and Jones (2004).
- The root mean squared error (a measure of the difference between simulated and actual water levels during model calibration) in the entire Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) and Cenozoic Pecos Alluvium GAM for the period of 1990 to 2000 is 143 feet, or six percent of the range of measured water levels (Anaya and Jones, 2004).
- The model includes two layers, representing the Edwards and associated limestones (Layer 1) and undifferentiated Trinity units (Layer 2) in the Real-Edwards Conservation and Reclamation District.

RESULTS:

Water budgets for Real-Edwards Conservation and Reclamation District are presented in Tables one to nine. These tables show the average annual flow, in acre-feet, of water into (Inflow) and out of (Outflow) each aquifer in the GAM for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) aquifer in each county for the years 1980 to 1999. The components of the budgets shown in Tables one to nine include:

- Springs and seeps—This is water that drains from an aquifer if water levels are above the elevation of the spring or seep. This component is always shown as “Outflow”, or discharge, from an aquifer. Springs and seeps are modeled in the GAM for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) aquifer using the MODFLOW Drain package, and are found along the margins of the aquifer, primarily in the northern and eastern parts of the modeled region.
- Wells—This is water produced from wells in each aquifer. In the GAM for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) aquifer, this component is always shown as “Outflow” from an aquifer, because all wells included in the GAM produce (rather than inject) water. Wells are modeled in the GAM for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) aquifer using the MODFLOW Well package.
- Recharge—This component simulates areally distributed recharge due to precipitation falling on the outcrop areas of aquifers. Recharge is always shown as “Inflow” into an aquifer. This component does not include runoff from precipitation events that may later recharge an aquifer as stream losses, which is included in the model using the stream package, described above. Recharge is modeled in the GAM for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) aquifer using the MODFLOW Recharge package.
- Storage—This component is water stored in the aquifer. The storage component that is included in “Inflow” is water that is removed from storage in the aquifer (that is, water levels decline). The storage component that is included in “Outflow” is water that is added back into storage in the aquifer (that is, water levels increase). This component of the budget is often seen as water both going into and out of the aquifer because this is a county-wide budget, and water levels will decline in some areas (water is being removed from storage) and will rise in others (water is being added to storage).
- Lateral flow between counties—This component describes lateral flow within an aquifer between Real and Edwards and adjacent counties.

It is important to note that sub-regional water budgets for individual counties, such as Real and Edwards County, are not exact. This is due to the one-mile spacing of the model grid and because we assumed each model cell is assigned to a single county. The water budgets for an individual cell containing a county boundary are assigned to either one county or the other and therefore very minor variations in the county-wide budgets may be observed.

REFERENCES:

Anaya, R., and Jones, I., 2004, Groundwater availability model for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) and Cenozoic Pecos Alluvium aquifer systems, Texas: Texas Water Development Board, GAM Report, 208 p.

Table 1. Summary of average annual water budgets for the Edwards aquifer in Edwards County for 1980 to 1999. Flows reported in acre-feet per year. Values are probably only accurate to two significant figures.

Flow Parameter	Total Inflow—Edwards aquifer	Total Outflow—Edwards aquifer
Springs and Seeps	0	5,425
Wells	0	820
Streams	10,440	36,364
Recharge	75,133	0
Storage	3,084	5,045

Table 2. Summary of average lateral flows for the Edwards Formation in Edwards County for 1980 to 1999. Flows are reported in acre-feet per year. Values are probably only accurate to two significant figures.

Counties Contributing Flow within the Edwards aquifer	Total Inflow Edwards County—Edwards aquifer	Total Outflow Edwards County--Edwards aquifer
Kerr	1,412	1,177
Kimble	2,252	3,454
Kinney	1,524	15,974
Real	667	1,337
Sutton	3,308	2,280
Uvalde	1	464
Val Verde	22	20,881
Edwards	3	4,655

Table 3. Summary of average annual water budgets for the Trinity aquifer in Edwards County for 1980 to 1999. Flows reported in acre-feet per year. Values are probably only accurate to two significant figures.

Flow Parameter	Total Inflow--Trinity aquifer	Total Outflow--Trinity aquifer
Springs and Seeps	0	0
Wells	0	96
Streams	2,222	1,374
Recharge	3,221	0
Storage	256	527

Table 4. Summary of average lateral flows for the Trinity aquifer in Edwards County for 1980 to 1999. Flows are reported in acre-feet per year. Values are probably only accurate to two significant figures.

Counties Contributing Flow within the Trinity aquifer	Total Inflow Edwards County--Trinity aquifer	Total Outflow Edwards County—Trinity aquifer
Edwards Co	4,655	3
Kerr	85	342
Kimble	898	387
Kinney	0	10,045
Real	3,848	3,971
Sutton	4,350	0
Uvalde	0	2,848
Val Verde	3,343	3,282

Table 5. Summary of average annual water budgets for the Edwards aquifer in Real County for 1980 to 1999. Flows reported in acre-feet per year. Values are probably only accurate to two significant figures.

Flow Parameter	Total Inflow Real County-- Edwards aquifer	Total Outflow Real County-- Edwards aquifer
Springs and Seeps	0	10,492
Wells	0	150
Streams	259	6,104
Recharge	13,656	0
Storage	494	655

Table 6. Summary of average lateral flows for the Edwards aquifer in Real County for 1980 to 1999. Flows are reported in acre-feet per year. Values are probably only accurate to two significant figures.

Counties Contributing Flow within the Edwards aquifer	Total Inflow Real County-- Edwards aquifer	Total Outflow Real County-- Edwards aquifer
Bandera	1,505	35
Edwards	1,337	667
Kerr	3,489	702
Uvalde	0	1,229
Real	26	731

Table 7. Summary of average annual water budgets for the Trinity aquifer in Real County for 1980 to 1999. Flows reported in acre-feet per year. Values are probably only accurate to two significant figures.

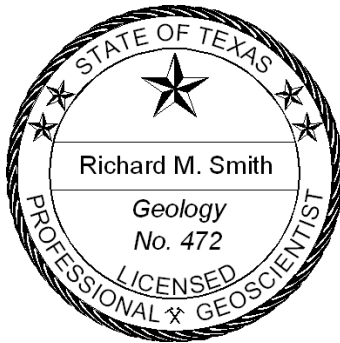
Flow Parameter	Total Inflow Real County--Trinity aquifer	Total Outflow Real County-- Trinity aquifer
Springs and Seeps	0	0
Wells	0	396
Streams	6,626	2,553
Recharge	9,784	0
Storage	717	876

Table 8. Summary of average lateral flows for the Trinity aquifer in Real County for 1980 to 1999. Flows are reported in acre-feet per year. Values are probably only accurate to two significant figures.

Counties Contributing Flow within the Trinity aquifer	Total Inflow Real County--Trinity aquifer	Total Outflow Real County-- Trinity aquifer
Bandera	731	26
Edwards	2,566	4,154
Kerr	3,971	3,848
Uvalde	1,239	459
Real	0	13,317

Table 9. Summary of flows for the Real-Edwards Conservation and Reclamation District in acre-feet per year

Aquifer	Edwards Aquifer (Plateau)	Trinity Aquifer (Plateau)
Precipitation recharge	85,393	12,663
Average Surface water inflow	10,894	8,861
Average Surface water outflow	57,336	3,863
Average flow into district	13,435	12,465
Average flow out of district	45,854	34,791
Net flow from Edwards(upper)	0	5,294
Net flow to Trinity (lower)	-5,294	0



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