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Comments at Texas Water Development Board Public Hearing at:
Bob Duncan Center, 2800 S. Center St., Arlington, TX.

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The water use projections for the Dallas-Fort Worth area are inflated and these inflated numbers are used to “justify” building four new reservoirs – Fastrill, Marvin Nichols, Lower Bois d’Arc Creek, and Ralph Hall Lake . These reservoirs would flood more than 125,000 acres of bottomland and they are *not needed*.

Region C (Dallas, Fort Worth) is projecting that they will still be using 197 gallons per person per day in the year 2060. Dallas currently uses 240 gallons/person per day. As an example of how much water conservation can help the situation, San Antonio has reduced water consumption by 31% in the last 15 years to a level of 147 gallons/person per day.

The State Water Plan needs to focus on how to best use *existing* water supplies rather than on building new reservoirs.

Fastrill Reservoir should be removed from the State Water Plan! This site is slated for the Neches River National Wildlife Refuge, which will preclude it having a reservoir built on it. It is clear that there is huge support for the Neches River Refuge and not for Fastrill.

Building these four reservoirs would take at least 375,000 acres of productive private lands from thousands of mostly unwilling sellers and would devastate ranching, farming, and timber industries in large areas of Texas. Some of Texas’ best remaining bottomland hardwood forests and crucial wildlife habitat would be lost forever.