

TO: Board Members

THROUGH: Carolyn L. Brittin, Deputy Executive Administrator
Water Resources Planning and Information

FROM: Dan Hardin, Director, Water Resources Planning
Kathleen B. Ligon, Special Assistant, Water Resources Planning and Information

DATE: April 25, 2011

SUBJECT: Briefing, discussion and possible action on status, future activities, and required actions by Texas Water Development Board for 2012 State Water Plan.

ACTION REQUESTED

This is an informational item presenting a proposal for the development of the 2012 State Water Plan including Board actions and requesting feedback on policy recommendations to be recommended in the plan. Staff proposes presenting policy items for Board consideration at the June and July Board meetings to provide members time for review and deliberation.

BACKGROUND

Drought conditions, like Texas is currently experiencing statewide, are common occurrences in Texas and have significant economic and social impacts to the state’s citizens, communities, water providers, environment, and businesses. The state water plan provides the state with a plan for preparing and responding to droughts. TWDB has been preparing plans to meet the state’s future water needs under drought conditions since 1957. Under the agency’s original authority, TWDB published six state water plans: 1961, 1968, 1984, 1990, 1992, and 1997. Following the drought of 1996, the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 1 in 1997, which established a regional water planning process that results in the development and Board approval of 16 regional water plans during a five-year planning cycle. Two state water plans were adopted by the Board in 2002 and 2007 under the planning process established in 1997. At the end of each regional planning cycle, agency staff compiles information from the approved regional water plans and other sources to develop the state water plan, which is presented to the Board for

<p>Our Mission</p> <p>To provide leadership, planning, financial assistance, information, and education for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas</p>	<p>Board Members</p> <p>Edward G. Vaughan, Chairman Thomas Weir Labatt III, Member Melanie Callahan, Interim Executive Administrator</p>	<p>Joe M. Crutcher, Member Lewis H. McMahan, Member</p>	<p>Billy R. Bradford Jr., Member Monte Cluck, Member</p>
--	---	---	--

adoption. The final adopted plan is then submitted to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, and the House and Senate Natural Resource committees.

The Board's statutory requirement to develop and adopt the state water plan is contained in Texas Water Code (TWC) §16.051 as follows:

TWC, Sec. 16.051. STATE WATER PLAN: DROUGHT, CONSERVATION, DEVELOPMENT, AND MANAGEMENT; EFFECT OF PLAN. (a) Not later than January 5, 2002, and before the end of each successive five-year period after that date, the board shall prepare, develop, formulate, and adopt a comprehensive state water plan that incorporates the regional water plans approved under Section 16.053. The state water plan shall provide for the orderly development, management, and conservation of water resources and preparation for and response to drought conditions, in order that sufficient water will be available at a reasonable cost to ensure public health, safety, and welfare; further economic development; and protect the agricultural and natural resources of the entire state.

(b) The state water plan, as formally adopted by the board, shall be a guide to state water policy. The commission shall take the plan into consideration in matters coming before it.

(c) The board by rule shall define and designate river basins and watersheds.

(d) The board, in coordination with the commission, the Department of Agriculture, and the Parks and Wildlife Department, shall adopt by rule guidance principles for the state water plan which reflect the public interest of the entire state. When adopting guidance principles, due consideration shall be given to the construction and improvement of surface water resources and the application of principles that result in voluntary redistribution of water resources. The board shall review and update the guidance principles, with input from the commission, the Department of Agriculture, and the Parks and Wildlife Department, as necessary but at least every five years to coincide with the five-year cycle for adoption of a new water plan as described in Subsection (a).

(e) On adoption the board shall deliver the state water plan to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives and present the plan for review to the appropriate legislative committees. The plan shall include legislative recommendations that the board believes are needed and desirable to facilitate more voluntary water transfers. The plan shall identify river and stream segments of unique ecological value and sites of unique value for the construction of reservoirs that the board recommends for protection under this section.

(f) The legislature may designate a river or stream segment of unique ecological value. This designation solely means that a state agency or political

subdivision of the state may not finance the actual construction of a reservoir in a specific river or stream segment designated by the legislature under this subsection.

(g) The legislature may designate a site of unique value for the construction of a reservoir. A state agency or political subdivision of the state may not obtain a fee title or an easement that would significantly prevent the construction of a reservoir on a site designated by the legislature under this subsection.

(g-1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, a site is considered to be a designated site of unique value for the construction of a reservoir if the site is recommended for designation in the 2007 state water plan adopted by the board and in effect on May 1, 2007. The designation of a unique reservoir site under this subsection terminates on September 1, 2015, unless there is an affirmative vote by a proposed project sponsor to make expenditures necessary in order to construct or file applications for permits required in connection with the construction of the reservoir under federal or state law.

(h) The board, the commission, or the Parks and Wildlife Department or a political subdivision affected by an action taken in violation of Subsection (f) or (g) may bring a cause of action to remedy or prevent the violation. A cause of action brought under this subsection must be filed in a district court in Travis County or in the county in which the action is proposed or occurring.

(i) For purposes of this section, the acquisition of fee title or an easement by a political subdivision for the purpose of providing retail public utility service to property in the reservoir site or allowing an owner of property in the reservoir site to improve or develop the property may not be considered a significant impairment that prevents the construction of a reservoir site under Subsection (g). A fee title or easement acquired under this subsection may not be considered the basis for preventing the future acquisition of land needed to construct a reservoir on a designated site.

The 2012 State Water Plan, due January 5, 2012, will be the third plan developed through the regional water planning process, following the plans adopted in 2002 and 2007. The plan will incorporate the 2011 Regional Water Plans that were approved in the fall of 2010. Since the 2012 State Water Plan is due during the legislative interim, staff has already prepared a summary of the regional water plans that was presented to the Board in December 2010 and available in January 2011 at the commencement of the 82nd Legislative Session.

In addition to incorporating the regional water plans, the state water plan, as formally adopted by the Board, serves as a guide to state water policy as provided for in Texas Water Code §16.051(b); includes legislative recommendations that the Board believes are needed and desirable to facilitate more voluntary water transfers, TWC §16.051(e); and identifies river and stream segments of unique ecological value and sites of unique value for the construction of reservoirs that the Board recommends for protection, TWC §16.051(e).

The purpose of this item is to brief you on the steps required to develop, adopt, and submit the 2012 State Water Plan by the statutory deadline of January 5, 2012. The key issues below include a proposed final outline for the plan and a timeline for the activities required to develop the plan. In addition, staff would appreciate feedback and direction on potential Board policy recommendations to be included in the plan and obtain any other direction on the water planning work efforts. Attachment A is a draft summary list of the regional water planning groups' policy recommendations that were included in the 2011 regional water plans.

KEY ISSUES

State Water Plan Development and Adoption Proposed Timeline

Development of policy recommendations for 2012 State Water Plan – May 4, June 22, and July 20, 2011 Board meetings

Board consideration of publication of draft 2012 State Water Plan – August 18, 2011

Draft 2012 State Water Plan published; notice of the intent to adopt 2012 State Water Plan published in *Texas Register* and mailed to each regional water planning group – August 2011

Public hearing held in Austin and potential public meetings to be held across the state on the 2012 State Water Plan – September and October 2011

Staff revision of 2012 State Water Plan based on public comments – October 2011

Board briefed on changes made in response to comments; Board consideration of adoption of final 2012 State Water Plan – November 17, 2011

2012 State Water Plan distributed to Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, and Legislature – January 5, 2012

State Water Plan Outline

Staff proposes a single volume plan that would include the following:

Letter from Chairman

Executive Summary: Acknowledgement and description of state water plan as the state's plan for preparing and responding to drought. Synopsis of the key findings of the state water plan including population and water demand projections for the 50-year planning horizon; analysis of current water supplies; analysis of water needs; presentation of water management strategies recommended to meet needs and the costs associated with those strategies; and policy recommendations.

Chapter 1, Introduction: Description of the regional water planning process and basis for planning, including planning history, statutes, rules, regulations, and Texas water supply institutions.

Chapter 2, Regional Water Plan Summaries: Summary of each regional water plan, including population and water demand projections, existing supplies, needs, plan highlights, and recommended water management strategies.

Chapter 3, Population and Water Demand: Description of methods used for projecting future population and water demands, including demands for municipal, manufacturing, irrigation, steam-electric, mining, and livestock watering.

Chapter 4, Water Quality: Description of methods to address water quality problems related to water supply; to ensure public health, safety and welfare; to further economic growth; to protect agricultural and natural resources; to determine water supply availability; and to address drought response planning.

Chapter 5, Climate of Texas: Climatic zones; rainfall distribution; frequency and magnitude of Texas droughts; and an assessment of past, current, and possible future climate variability.

Chapter 6, Water Supplies: Existing surface water, groundwater and reuse supplies, and groundwater and surface water modeling. (The plan will reference the detailed river basin and aquifer summaries in the 2007 State Water Plan, and will describe basin and aquifer boundary revisions where applicable.)

Chapter 7, Water Supply Needs: Comparison of water demand and supply to identify surpluses and needs for water; the socioeconomic impact of not meeting needs; and needs for which no feasible water management strategies exist.

Chapter 8, Water Management Strategies: Recommended solutions to meet needs including conservation, groundwater, surface water, reuse, desalination, and other strategies; evaluation and selection methodology; timing of implementation.

Chapter 9, Plan Implementation Funding: Cost of recommended strategies; state water plan project implementation; and future needs for water, wastewater, flood protection infrastructure funding.

Chapter 10, Challenges and Uncertainty: Risks and uncertainties in the planning process, including implementation of strategies, drought and other natural disasters, climate variability, and others.

Chapter 11, Policy Recommendations: Regulatory, administrative, and legislative policy recommendations from regional water planning groups and the TWDB, including recommendations of river and stream segments of unique ecological value and sites of unique value for construction of reservoirs.

Glossary of terms

Acknowledgements

Appendices: Recommended Water Management Strategies and Cost Estimates
Major Reservoirs
County Population Projections

State Water Plan Legislative Recommendations

Staff is seeking Board guidance on policy and legislative recommendations for inclusion in the 2012 State Water Plan. Once topics for these recommendations are identified by the Board, staff proposes to draft recommendations for Board discussion and feedback at the Board's June and July meetings.

Regional water planning groups also include policy recommendations and legislative recommendations for the protection of unique ecological value and sites of unique value for the construction of reservoirs in their plans. A summary of regional water planning group legislative recommendations is provided for your information in Attachment A and their recommended sites for stream segments and reservoirs are included as Attachment B.

The 2002 State Water Plan presented a range of policy recommendations on a variety of topics, including general recommendations, agricultural and rural water issues, groundwater, surface water, conservation, innovative strategies, environmental, providing and financing water and wastewater service, and data. During policy discussions for the development of the 2007 State Water Plan, the Board directed staff to identify obstacles to implementing the regional and state plans. Volume 1 of the 2007 State Water Plan presented the following policy recommendations to the legislature:

- **Issue: Financing Water Management Strategies** - The legislature should consider appropriating funds to TWDB for debt service to the State Participation and Water Infrastructure Fund programs to fund water management strategies in the 2007 State Water Plan. An initial appropriation of \$77.5 million for the 2008-2009 biennium would pay the first two years of debt service on general obligation bonds and grants, ultimately resulting in funding \$1.7 billion in projects needed through 2020. The total appropriation needed through 2028 for debt service and grants is \$674.6 million.

The legislature should maintain the existing state programs for water and wastewater infrastructure financing in order to provide adequate financial assistance for ongoing compliance with regulatory requirements and ensure Texas continues to access federal funds for water-related infrastructure projects.

- **Issue: Reservoir Site Designation and Acquisition** - The legislature should designate all remaining viable reservoir sites of unique value for protection under Texas Water Code, Section 16.051(g), that are identified by TWDB and planning groups in the 2006 Regional Water Plans and the 2007 State Water Plan. The legislature should also

designate any other feasible sites needed beyond the 50- year regional and state water planning horizon identified by TWDB-funded research currently in progress.

The legislature should designate all river or stream segments of unique ecological value recommended in the 2006 Regional Water Plans and the 2007 State Water Plan for protection under Texas Water Code, Section 16.051(f).

In addition, the legislature should provide a mechanism to acquire viable reservoir sites and possibly associated mitigation areas. These sites could be used to develop additional surface water supplies to meet the future water supply needs identified in the 2006 Regional Water Plans and those that will occur beyond the 50-year planning horizon.

- **Issue: Interbasin Transfers of Surface Water** - The legislature should provide statutory provisions that eliminate unreasonable restrictions on the voluntary transfer of surface water from one basin to another.
- **Issue: Environmental Water Needs-** The legislature should enact statutory provisions similar to those in Article 1, House Committee Substitute Senate Bill 3, 79th Legislative Session considering recommendations from the Environmental Flows Advisory Committee, in light of the importance of balancing human water needs with the needs for instream flows and bay and estuary freshwater inflows and the need for greater certainty in water right permitting.
- **Issue: Water Conservation** - The legislature should review the Water Conservation Implementation Task Force recommendations and implement those that will result in optimal levels of water use efficiency and water conservation for the citizens of Texas.
- **Issue: Expedited Amendment Process** - The legislature should provide statutory authority in Texas Water Code, Section 16.053, to allow for an expedited process for minor amendments to regional water plans where TWDB's Executive Administrator determines the amendment will not result in over-allocation of a source, is not related to a new reservoir, and does not have a significant impact on instream flows or freshwater inflows to bays and estuaries.
- **Issue: Indirect Reuse** - The legislature should develop policy in response to the following questions identified by the Texas Water Conservation Association's Reuse Committee:
 - (1) Under current law, is the use of wastewater effluent after discharge to a stream a use of "state water" subject to the laws of prior appropriation or is it subject to a different regulatory scheme?
 - (2) Does current law allow effluent derived from different sources of water to be treated differently for purposes of evaluating a request to reuse this effluent?
 - (3) Does current law provide for different treatment of effluent derived from "future" and "existing" return flows, regardless of the source?
 - (4) Who can obtain indirect reuse rights?

ATTACHMENT A

(DRAFT)

Policy Recommendations Contained in the 2011 Regional Water Plans

Agriculture

Eight regions: A, B, E, H, J, K, L, and P

Water Data - *Five regions: A, B, E, J, and L*

- Develop irrigation demand numbers on a regional basis - A
- Provide funding for agricultural water use data collection - B
- Improve accuracy of TWDB historical irrigation pumpage reports - E
- Develop more accurate means of estimating actual irrigation use - J
- Continue supporting evaluations of exotic animal water use to improve demand estimates - J
- Improve accuracy of water use and demand information for irrigation and livestock - L

Conservation - *Five regions: A, H, K, L, and P*

- Create a water conservation reserve program to convert irrigated acreage to dry land - A
- Encourage the federal government to continue to support Conservation Reserve Program participation - A
- Provide funding to expand the High Plains Potential Evapotranspiration network into a statewide network - A
- Fund grants or subsidies to stimulate irrigation conservation practices - H
- Increase funding for TWDB agricultural water conservation programs - H, L
- Collaborate with the Natural Resources Conservation Service state conservationist in identifying projects to fund - K
- Support adequate funding of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and its water conservation efforts - K
- Support funding of the Natural Resources Conservation Service - K, P
- Leverage federal agricultural conservation grants by providing local matching share - P
- Continue supporting state and federal programs that improve irrigation efficiency and agricultural water conservation - P
- Support adequate funding of State Soil and Water Conservation Board and local soil and conservation districts - P

Other - *Three regions: K, L, and P*

- Develop water polices that enable agriculture and rural Texas to achieve parity with other users - K
- Provide additional funding to the Irrigation Technology Center at Texas A&M University - L
- Protect groundwater sources for agricultural production - P

Conjunctive Use

Four regions: F, G, L, and N

- Expand definition of conjunctive use - F
- Encourage conceptual modeling for conjunctive use projects - G
- Include conjunctive use projects as management strategies - G
- Develop incentives for conjunctive use projects - L
- Develop policy to manage all water resources on conjunctive use basis - N

Conservation

Fifteen regions: A, B, C, D, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, and P

Reuse - *Nine regions: A, C, F, G, H, I, K, L, and N*

- Encourage Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to evaluate rules governing reuse of wastewater and quantify incentives for its use - A
- Recommend reducing legal obstacles to indirect reuse of treated wastewater - C
- Recommend Texas Commission on Environmental Quality clearly define permitting process for large-scale reuse projects - C
- Encourage legislation for safe and economical water reuse - F
- Work with federal agencies/representatives to develop safe procedures for disposing of reject water - F
- Encourage municipalities to manage return flows through direct and indirect reuse - G
- Encourage river authorities to manage return flows not under others' jurisdictions - G
- Clarify TPDES rules for wastewater permitting to eliminate double-counting of waste loads - H
- Advocate statewide reuse - H
- Resolve permitting issues for indirect reuse, including clarifying Texas Water Code Sections 11.042 and 11.046 - H, I
- Encourage Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to continue thorough review of indirect reuse applications, including environmental and water rights concerns - K
- Fund reuse technologies - L
- Promote water reuse and return flows wherever practical, after evaluating environmental needs - N

Conservation Funding - *Four regions: F, H, K, and O*

- Fund grants or low-interest loans as incentives to use conservation technologies - F
- Leverage federal conservation grants by providing matching funds - H
- Continue and expand TWDB funding for retail utility water loss projects - K
- Fund conservation incentives for all user groups - O

Water Conservation Advisory Council - Four Regions: A, C, K, and L

- Adopt definitions and methodology for gallons per capita per day proposed by Water Conservation Advisory Council - A, K
- Maintain the functionality and viability of the Water Conservation Advisory Council - A
- Fund activities of the Water Conservation Advisory Council and a statewide awareness campaign - C, L

Water Conservation Implementation Task Force - Four regions: C, F, L, and O

- Follow the Water Conservation Implementation Task Force recommendation to institute voluntary, rather than mandatory, per capita water use goals - C, F
- Fund and implement programs recommended by the Water Conservation Implementation Task Force - L
- Update the 2004 Best Management Practices Guide - O

Voluntary Conservation - Four regions: B, D, F, and O

- Allow regions to establish voluntary water conservation goals - B, D
- Encourage conservation through technical assistance rather than mandatory goals - F
- Support landowner's voluntary protection of springs and seeps - O

Water Providers - Five regions: D, F, G, K, and M

- Train water utilities to reduce water losses and improve their accountability - D, M
- Encourage retail water providers to use inclining block rate structure - F, G
- Support required use of conservation coordinator by all public water suppliers - K
- Encourage TCEQ to amend 30 TAC Chapter 288 to require designated water conservation coordinators - K

Conservation Management - Five regions: J, K, L, M, and N

- Develop conservation-oriented management plans for areas particularly susceptible to drought - J
- Encourage legislation to allow water providers to have dedicated funding for longer term water conservation - K
- Encourage legislation to allow property owners' associations to adopt restrictive covenants consistent with their water providers drought and conservation recommendations - K
- Encourage water users to develop and implement conservation plans that meet or exceed legal requirements - L, M
- Encourage municipal providers to develop and implement drought contingency plans that meet or exceed legal requirements - L, M
- Encourage legislation to support conservation strategies that manage water supplies more efficiently - N

Other - Ten regions: A, B, D, F, H, J, K, L, M, and O

- Evaluate policy barriers to using playa lakes for conservation purposes - A
- Base calculation of gallons per capita per day on residential water use only - B

- Recommend the legislature standardize the measurement of gallons per capita per day - D
- Systems with use greater than 140 gpcd should perform water audits - D
- Recommends legislature continue to address and improve water conservation in the state - H
- Require conservation on all state-owned lands - J
- Encourage conservation partnerships between water groups - K
- Recommend consideration of drought management as an interim strategy to meet near-term needs - L
- Recommend the state more actively monitor compliance with conservation and drought plans - M
- Recommend conservation and drought plans be consistent with the regional water plan - M
- Regional water planning groups should have a more active role in evaluating conservation and drought plans - M
- Develop a tiered recognition program for conservation achievements - O
- Control aquatic vegetation as water conservation practice - O

Data Collection and Research

Fourteen regions: A, B, D, E, F, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, and P

Groundwater and Surface Water Availability Modeling - *Nine regions: A, D, E, F, H, J, K, M, and N*

- Fund updates of water availability models - A, M, N
- Continue funding ground-water availability models - D, E, H, J, K, M, N
- Continue water availability modeling for minor Panhandle aquifers - A
- Recommend agencies coordinate with one another and planning groups in developing water availability and groundwater availability models - A
- Fund improvements to groundwater modeling and research in West Texas - E
- Request data from water agencies in Mexico to extend the Presidio Bolson groundwater availability model - E
- Allow more flexibility in the use of water availability models in the planning process - F
- Revise Hill Country Trinity Aquifer ground-water availability model - J
- Fund feasibility study linking groundwater and surface water in next generation of groundwater and water availability models - J, K
- Encourage public and private sector technical review of groundwater and water availability models - K
- Update the Central Gulf Coast Aquifer groundwater availability model - N

Groundwater Studies - *Eight regions: E, F, J, K, L, N, O, and P*

- Finish study of Presidio Bolson Aquifer - E
- Study and characterize limestone formation in southern Brewster County - E
- Collect groundwater data to carry out Senate Bill 1 and Joint Planning for Groundwater - F

- Continue funding monitoring studies - J
- Study and characterize the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer and associated aquifers - J
- Provide groundwater conservation districts with technical assistance in gathering aquifer data - J
- Study the Frio River alluvium - J
- Study surface water/groundwater interaction in the upper Guadalupe River for springflow analysis - J
- Complete study of Trinity Aquifer use in Hays County and use results in next regional water plan - K
- Encourage legislation requiring economic and environmental studies for any groundwater project - L
- Encourage Railroad Commission to provide better information for identifying aquifer characteristics - N
- Provide additional funds to expand groundwater data program - N
- Encourage TWDB, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and Railroad Commission to expand and intensify ground-water data gathering and disseminating - N
- Fund computer models that quantify groundwater resources in each aquifer and project future availability based on historical net changes - O
- Continue monitoring static water levels and groundwater pumpage - P

Environmental Studies - Four regions: D, F, H, and L

- Study mitigation effects as early as possible in reservoir planning - D
- Fund studies to identify and quantify environmental values to be protected and stream flows necessary to maintain priority environmental values - F
- Involve local groups in studies that evaluate streamflow issues - F
- Increase funding for research to determine freshwater inflow needs - H
- Complete the Texas Instream Flow Program - L
- Fund and improve freshwater inflow studies for bays and estuaries - L
- Examine applicability of report by Study Commission on Water for Environmental Flows - L
- Perform studies to evaluate effects of water management strategies on basin ecosystems - L

Aquifer Recharge - Five regions: A, B, J, L, and O

- Consider the minimal recharge rate in assessments of the Ogallala Aquifer - A
- Study means to improve groundwater recharge - A
- Study the applicability of aquifer recharge programs and their impact to surface water rights - B
- Study quantity of increased groundwater from enhanced recharge structures - B
- Study aquifer recharge with harvested rainwater - J
- Fund research on Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) Aquifer recharge and recirculation systems water management strategy - L
- Identify and quantify recharge mechanisms for Ogallala Aquifer - O
- Study and describe impact of playas on recharge - O

Agriculture/Rural - Five regions: E, H, J, L, and O

- Establish an integrated Rio Grande data management system to better manage irrigation releases and flood control - E
- Provide real time monitoring on the Rio Grande Project delivery system via information systems analysis and hydrologic operations modeling - E
- Fund research on more efficient irrigation practices - H
- Increase funding to research drought-resistant crop species - H, O
- Encourage riparian landowners to implement land stewardship practices - J
- Study impact of transient populations on rural water demand - J
- Undertake economic studies of water management strategies that meet irrigation needs - L

Conservation - Four regions: F, H, K, and O

- Continue participating in conservation research and demonstration projects - F
- Fund research for advanced conservation technologies - H
- Fund research on developing and implementing conservation goals and successful water management strategies to update the 2004 Best Management Practices Guide - K
- Update the 2004 Best Management Practices Guide - O

Brush Control - Three regions: D, J, and K

- Monitor water pollution from Giant Salvinia and research and develop best management practices for its control - D
- Fund multidisciplinary research for defining watersheds with greatest potential for increasing water yields through brush management; quantify costs - J
- Fund voluntary brush control studies - K

Rivers - One region: E

- Study effects of possible rechannelization of Rio Grande below Fort Quitman - E

General - Eleven regions: A, B, E, F, I, J, K, L, M, N, and O

- Improve monitoring and quantifying of small communities, manufacturers, livestock operators, and County-other categories - A
- Analyze economic effects of implementing water management strategies - A
- Remove provisions from Open Records Act restricting access to water data on private property - E
- Recommend TWDB meet with regions and consultants to discuss data collection and quality control - F
- Fund study on oral ingestion of radium before enforcing maximum containment load - F
- Fund improved data for next planning cycle - I
- Conduct studies on specific water resource issues - J
- Fund all levels of data collection and analysis - K, L, O
- Fund roles of TWDB and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in providing data for regional planning - L

- Review the Texas Water Code regarding transfers of water out of groundwater conservation districts and provide sufficient revenue for technical studies - L
- Evaluate the effect of groundwater withdrawals on surface water availability - M
- Evaluate true impact and treaty compliance factors of aqueduct construction from Falcon Reservoir to Matamoros, Mexico - M
- Fund and establish regional research centers at local universities to focus on Coastal Bend water issues - N
- Provide funds to establish and maintain a regional water resources information management system - N
- Recommend TWDB consider local projects when developing mining water demand projections, specifically the Eagle Ford shale - N
- Fund a basic data network that maintains current inventory of surface water and groundwater resources - O
- Develop standardized, comprehensive methodologies for characterizing and computing per capita water use - O

Education

Nine regions: D, F, G, J, K, L, M, N, and O

Conservation Education - *Eight regions: D, F, G, J, K, L, M, and O*

- Fund and implement conservation education programs for the public - D, F, J, M
- Create and fund a water conservation awareness program through TWDB - G, O
- Fund the Water IQ public education program - K, L
- Supports regional coordination and resource pooling for uniform conservation messaging - K
- Encourage TWDB to assist communities to coordinate on conservation education efforts - K

General Education - *Four regions: J, K, L, and O*

- Fund education on conservation and about water supplies programs for public sector - J, O
- Fund education on water management and rainwater harvesting programs for private sector - J
- Address sustainability through education - K
- Fund statewide education program and coordinate with Texas Cooperative Extension - L

Aquatic Weed Control - *One region: D*

- Develop awareness campaign and provide extension and education services to urban and industry stakeholders on Giant Salvinia threat and mitigation - D

Regional Groups - *One region: N*

- Make funds available to planning groups and groundwater conservation districts to educate public on water issues - N

Environment

Twelve regions: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, K, L, O, and P

Unique Stream Segments - *Five regions: A, B, C, D, and L*

- Clarify intent and uncertainties of unique stream segment designation - A, B, C, D, L
- Examine ancillary issues regarding unique stream segments - C
- Establish a working group on unique stream segments to review legislative intent, agency rules, and impacts of designations - C

Instream Flows - *Three regions: F, G, and K*

- Protect existing water rights when considering instream flows - F
- Oppose adaptive management requirements concerning instream flows - F
- Evaluate return flows to determine impact on instream flows - G
- Provide direction to protect instream/freshwater inflows - K
- Monitor and provide adequate funding for environmental flows - K
- Encourage Colorado and Lavaca Stakeholder Group to develop recommendations protective of long-term ecological productivity - K
- Recommend state evaluate ways to convert existing water rights to environmental uses - K

Reservoirs - *Two regions: D and P*

- Consider environmental and economic impacts of reservoir development - D
- Recommend entities proposing new reservoirs through the planning process include a map of proposed mitigation acreage - D
- Support efforts to mitigate environmental impacts of Palmetto Bend Stage II - P

Other - *Seven regions: E, F, G, H, K, L, and O*

- Establish policy to protect aquifers and springs to preserve "the rural way of life" - E
- Support recognition of the importance of springs and spring-fed stream - F
- Encourage responsible land management practices to protect water sources - G, L
- Clarify agency rules on quantitative environmental analysis - H
- Support planning process structure that evaluates environmental needs to determine available water supply - K
- Evaluate land use and ecosystem health in light of sustaining future quality of life - L
- Encourage collaboration of scientists, policy makers, and agricultural representatives in managing threatened species - O

Groundwater

Fifteen regions: A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, and P

Groundwater Conservation Districts - *Twelve regions: A, C, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, O, and P*

- Manage groundwater resources through local groundwater conservation districts - A, F, G, H, J, K, M, P
- Create or expand groundwater conservation districts in areas not currently served - A, F, I, J, K, M
- Encourage cooperation between ground-water conservation districts - C, F
- Recommend TWDB or Texas Commission on Environmental Quality oversee groundwater districts to standardize regulations - C, F
- Support groundwater conservation districts as local authority on groundwater issues - G, K
- Respect property rights and right to capture when adopting rules and regulations - F
- Base groundwater supply availability on management goals and rules - F
- Restrict export from a district until there is a plan to ensure adequate supplies are available for the district or region - F
- Ensure all state lands are subject to groundwater district rules and limits - F
- Train groundwater conservation districts in use of groundwater availability modeling - J
- Form groundwater conservation districts to administer sound, scientifically based groundwater management objectives - J
- Advocate that groundwater conservation districts consider developing management rules for Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) Aquifer to sustain spring flows of upper Guadalupe River - J
- Strengthen groundwater conservation districts' abilities to protect groundwater supplies - K
- Encourage TWDB to continue assisting groundwater districts - K
- Support referral of any groundwater district reorganization to the local election process - K
- Recommends groundwater districts manage groundwater as necessary to meet desired future conditions rather than use the Managed Available Groundwater as a permitting cap - K
- Review Texas Water Code to ensure groundwater conservation districts are funded and equipped for comprehensive analysis tasks - L
- Create and operate groundwater conservation districts under Texas Water Code, Chapter 36 - O

Groundwater Management Areas - *Six regions: D, E, F, J, K, and L*

- Recommend voting representation for areas without groundwater districts be based upon the areas population, groundwater use, or number of aquifers - D
- Reschedule due dates in the Joint Planning process so Managed Available Groundwater data can be better integrated into the water plans - E, F

- Examine interaction of regional water planning and groundwater management areas processes to improve the resulting economic impacts - J
- Support use of GMA-wide average desired future conditions to expedite establishment of managed available groundwater values - K
- Revise Texas Water Code Chapter 36 to allow groundwater districts to either manage groundwater to achieve the desired future condition or use TWDB-provided managed available groundwater to restrict permitting - K
- Support determinations of Managed Available Groundwater based on Desired Future Conditions Joint Planning process - L

Regional Collaboration - Six regions: E, F, G, J, K, and L

- Encourage groundwater conservation districts to collaborate in planning process - E, F, G, K
- Recommend groundwater management councils coordinate efforts with planning groups - E
- Require state lands to abide by ground-water district regulations and submit water withdrawal plans to relevant planning group - F
- Notify planning groups when significant amounts of groundwater are being exported - F
- Assess groundwater availability for regional plans based on groundwater conservation district's goals and requirements - F
- Recommend planning groups J, K, and L collaborate on Trinity Aquifer evaluation - J
- Recommend TWDB-sponsored workshops for regions sharing aquifers - J
- Encourage collaboration between regions sharing aquifers - L

Rule of Capture - Five regions: F, H, K, O, and P

- Support rule of capture - F, P
- Maintain rule of capture in areas not subject to defined subsidence or groundwater conservation districts - H, K
- Support rule of capture as modified by rules and regulations of existing ground-water conservation districts - K, O
- Oppose legal recognition of groundwater ownership in place as vested right of surface property owner - K

Oil and Gas - Four regions: D, F, M, and N

- Recommend Railroad Commission review and enforce regulations protecting aquifers from oil well contamination - D, F
- Levy fines for oil and gas producers who violate rules governing aquifer contamination - F
- Support the industry-funded program to plug abandoned wells - F
- Encourage adequate funding for the Railroad Commission to protect water supplies - F
- Encourage restoring funding to well-plugging account - F
- Appropriate sufficient funds to Railroad Commission for capping abandoned wells - M, N

Sustainability - Three regions: G, L, and P

- Advocate adoption of water management strategies that do not substantially deplete aquifers - G
- Suggest the state continue developing policy that protects historical use and future sustainability - G
- Support management strategies that achieve groundwater sustainability - L
- Support sustainable yield of the Gulf Coast Aquifer as the limit for water development - P
- Recommend sustainable yield as upper limit for all groundwater conservation districts in region - P

State Agencies - Two regions: K and N

- Encourage funding of TWDB groundwater programs - K
- Expand efforts of TWDB, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and Railroad Commission in managing groundwater - N

Other - Three regions: F, J, and L

- Encourage groundwater legislation that is fair to all users - F
- Oppose historical use limits in granting water rights permits - F
- Oppose groundwater fees for wells used exclusively for dewatering - F
- Encourage state to review groundwater resources on state-owned land and determine appropriate management - F
- Standardize groundwater evaluations statewide - J
- Advocate groundwater management based on science, equity, and rationality - L
- Determine water management strategies for Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) Aquifer during drought of record - L

Innovative Strategies

Twelve regions: A, B, C, D, E, F, J, K, L, M, N, and O

Brush Control - Nine regions: A, B, D, F, J, K, L, M, and O

- Provide funding to implement brush control and land stewardship - B, O
- Encourage funding for new technical resources to combat giant salvinia, saltcedar, and aquatic weeds - D, M
- Request TWDB guidance on including brush control projects as source of new surface water - A
- Support brush control as funding priority - F
- Recommend completing final phase of North Concho River brush control program - F
- Continue funding Twin Buttes brush control project until completed - F
- Fund brush control for region's reservoirs - F
- Give priority funding to land conservation and management practices, including brush and burn management and follow-up grazing - F
- Continue cooperating with federal agencies to secure brush control funds - F
- Fund programs to eradicate nuisance vegetation - J

- Fund a long-term, cost-sharing program for landowners participating in brush management similar to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Great Plains Conservation Program - J
- Encourage funding for saltcedar eradication and long-term brush management strategies in Rio Grande watershed - J, M
- Fund programs to eradicate saltcedar - J, O
- Provide pro rata funds to landowners for brush control assistance - K
- Fund brush management technologies - L

Desalination - Six regions: A, C, F, L, M, and N

- Continue funding salinity control projects in Canadian and Red River basins - A
- Support research to advance desalination and reuse - C
- Provide funding to small communities for desalination projects - C
- Provide funds for desalination - F, L
- Continue funding brackish groundwater projects and seawater desalination demonstration projects - M
- Encourage Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, TWDB, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to investigate environmental impacts of seawater desalination discharge and allow it where no damage will occur - N
- Recommend changing regulations governing desalination brine to coincide with those governing petroleum brine - N

Stormwater - One region: E

- Future planning should include stormwater, including aquifer recharge and optimization of surface water resources - E

Weather Modification - Two regions: F and L

- Support funding for researching, evaluating, creating, and operating weather modification programs - F
- Fund weather modification technologies - L

Aquifer Recharge - Two regions: J and L

- Fund recharge structures and provide technical assistance - J
- Fund small aquifer recharge dams - L

Playas - One region: O

- Create and preserve native grass buffers to protect playa basins - O

Other - Three regions: F, J, and L

- Support state/federal funding for demineralization, reclamation, and aquifer storage and recovery - F
- Encourage and fund rainwater harvesting - J, L
- Increase funds for projects demonstrating alternative water supply strategies - L

Interbasin Transfers
Eight regions: C, D, F, G, H, I, K, and N

Junior Rights - *Three regions: F, I, and N*

- Oppose modifying the junior rights provision until basin of origin needs are ensured by reviewing water availability models to determine there are no detrimental impacts - F
- Support legislation to allow junior water rights exemptions from contracts reserving sufficient supply to meet 125 percent of demand in basin of origin - I
- Repeal junior rights provision and additional application requirements for interbasin transfers - N

Basin of Origin - *Two regions: D and K*

- Review the definition of "need" in basin of origin to ensure that needs are met before transfers are permitted - D
- Evaluate compensation to basin of origin - D
- Protect basins of origin in interbasin transfers - K

Other - *Four regions: C, F, H, and K*

- Recommend that unnecessary, counterproductive barriers to interbasin transfers be removed from Texas Water Code - C, H
- Support interbasin transfers as most efficient method for meeting state water needs - F
- Protect current water rights holders in interbasin transfers - F
- Verify that interbasin transfers are consistent with regional water plans - K
- Complete the Lower Colorado River Authority/San Antonio Water System study to verify that water transport meets regional water plan guidelines - K

Funding for Plan Implementation

Nine regions: A, C, E, F, G, H, L, M, and O

- Fund region-specific water supply strategies - A, E
- Change TWDB regulations to allow Water Infrastructure Funds to be used for acquisition of reservoir sites prior to permitting process - C
- Increase appropriations to the Water Infrastructure Fund - F
- Create statewide mechanism for funding state water plan projects - G, L
- Increase funding of State Participation Program to develop water supply projects meeting long-term demands - H
- Establish financing mechanisms to develop new water supply projects in adopted regional plans - H
- Provide sufficient funding to TWDB and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for administering state water plan programs - L
- Fund water management strategies identified in regional water plans - M, O

Providing and Financing Water and Wastewater Systems
Seven regions: A, F, H, K, L, M, and O

Federal Monies - Three regions: E, H, and L

- Continue federal and state financial programs for substandard water and wastewater systems (colonia areas) - E
- Investigate opportunities for increased Corps of Engineers funding - H
- Encourage more active state solicitation of federal monies - L

State Funding Programs - Four regions: C, H, I, and K

- Establish more flexible deferred financing programs for large projects which allow repayment as portions of projects are brought online - C
- Increase funding of the State Loan Program for near-term infrastructure cost projections - H
- Continue state and federal support of Texas Community Development Program - H
- Increase funds for Small Towns Environment Program - H
- Increase funding of Regional Water Supply and Wastewater Facilities Planning Program; expand to include engineering design and cost estimates - H
- Increase future funding of State Revolving Fund to cover system capacity increases - H
- Make State Participation Program available to public/private partnerships and nonprofit water supply corporations - H
- Allow Water Infrastructure Funds to be used for replacement of water supply infrastructure - I
- Increase flexibility in determining categorical exclusions for Environmental Information Documents - I
- Revise EDAP requirements to reduce difficult eligibility requirements, including model subdivision planning - I
- Provide low-interest loans and grants to reduce system water loss - K

Other - Seven regions: A, F, H, I, K, M, and N

- Develop or improve grant and loan programs to replace and repair aging infrastructure - A, I
- Provide grants to small and rural drinking water treatment systems to meet federal drinking water standards - F
- Increase funds for the Galveston Bay and Estuary program - H
- Provide funds for water treatment and radioactive waste disposal threatening rural water supplies - K
- Encourage regionalization of water and wastewater utility service - M
- Fund and support efforts of Groundwater Management Areas - N

Regional Water Planning

Sixteen regions: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, and P

Funding/Support - *Eleven regions: B, E, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, and P*

- Continue adequate funding of regional water planning process - B, E, H, K, L, M, N, O
- Provide additional state funding for regional planning administrative costs - B, E, J, K,
- Fund technical studies necessary to support the work of the planning groups - H
- Advocate that regions fund administrative costs of planning process - I
- Reimburse planning group members for reasonable expenses - J
- Consider factors other than population in funding the planning process - M
- Request public entities provide their share of funding for regional planning activities - N
- Establish funding for planning groups through TWDB - P

State Agencies - *Six regions: C, F, G, J, K, and M*

- Recommend that TWDB and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality collaborate on determining which water availability modeling data to use in regional planning - C, F
- Recommend all state agencies adhere to state water plan - G
- Recommend nonvoting state agencies attend regional planning meetings or relinquish authority to alter adopted plan - J
- Encourage Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to provide technical reviews and draft permits to planning groups to ensure consistency with regional plans - K
- Suggest Texas Commission on Environmental Quality assist Rio Grande area in converting water rights from one use to another - M

Alternative Strategies - *Four regions: A, D, F, and I*

- Allow small systems to develop alternative near-term scenarios - A
- Allow alternative scenarios in population growth and economic development in determining future water demands - D
- Allow alternative water management strategies in regional plan - F, I

Consistency - *Six regions: B, D, E, F, H, and I*

- Recommend waivers for surface water projects that will not significantly impact regional supplies and do not involve new water sources - B
- Recommend TWDB consider entire regional plan when determining consistency - D
- Apply consistent economic principles to water project and strategy evaluation - E
- Allow maximum flexibility in determining consistency with regional plans - F, I
- Recommend Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and TWDB collaborate on consistency determinations and waivers to allow for maximum flexibility - F, I
- Recommend TWDB publish clear criteria for consistency determinations before adopting regional water plans - F
- Recommend waivers for consistency issues for small projects - F
- Clarify rules to address consistency within regional plans - H

- Allow entities smaller than planning criteria that do not have specific needs identified in water plans to be eligible for state funds - I
- Remove willing buyer/seller transactions from consistency requirements - I
- Advocate removing consistency requirements from Senate Bill 1 - I

Water Demand Figures - Five regions: D, E, H, J, and L

- Revise procedure for water demand reductions to recognize areas with low per capita consumption - D
- Allow more time for final demand figures - E
- Recommend more real life analysis of demand figures during drought conditions - E
- Recommend State Demographer explore potential changes in population distribution due to information technology advancements - H
- Develop better methodologies for estimating population and water demand - J
- Modify planning process so that water demand projections allow for regional input - L
- Modify regional planning process to allow for more flexibility in developing growth and water demand methodologies - L

Planning Group Authority - One region: O

- Oppose legislature empowering planning groups with any regulatory authority - O

Training - One region: J

- Provide training for new planning group members - J
- **Other - Ten regions: A, C, E, F, H, K, L, M, O, and P**
- Clarify relationship between drought contingency planning and regional water supply planning - A
- Include project for future groundwater quality in the region - A
- Ensure eligibility for small cities and entities included as County-other - A
- Allow flexibility in applying water availability models for planning - C, F
- Avoid constraining planning process with technical requirements - E
- Set deadlines for regional plans that avoid legislative sessions - E
- Consider all water resources available to a region including those outside of the state - E
- Recommend rule simplification before next round of planning - F
- Allow planning groups to adopt an existing water plan if there are no significant changes to the recommended water management strategies - F
- Clarify rules on quantitative environmental analysis - H
- Review the administrative provisions of SB1 and subsequent policies to determine if appropriate organizational structure exists - H
- Coordinate regional planning process with Texas Clean Rivers Program - K
- Improve representation of women and minorities on planning groups - K
- Oppose development of new water management strategies to accommodate export of supplies to another County and planning region of state - K
- Oppose use of WAM Run 3 in regional water planning as being unreasonably restrictive - K

- Include in plan water supplies over and above those required to meet the projected need - L
- Establish contract requirements before grant proposals are submitted - L
- Oppose changes to planning process except through formal rulemaking procedure - L
- Urge prompt and full implementation of these plans - L
- Include wildlife and environmental needs as a category of water use - M
- Recommend shifting to a utility-centric method of planning rather than city-centric - M
- State should consider impacts of climate change on regional water planning and future water supplies - M
- Allow for additional region-specific planning options and forecast scenarios - O
- Review the planning process with a group of stakeholders and identify any revisions to the planning process by the end of 2010 - O
- Support a greater role for inter-regional coordination in future planning - P

Rural Water

Three regions: G, H, and L

- Encourage regionalization, education, and proactive planning of small water systems - G
- Support increased funding of federal Rural Utilities Service programs and funding of the state Rural Water Assistance Fund - H
- Study implications of water export, considering its implications on rural environment and economy - L

Surface Water

Ten regions: A, B, C, D, F, G, H, L, M, and P

Reservoirs - *Six regions: A, B, D, H, I, and P*

- Recommend TWDB submit reservoir feasibility study plans and results to Compact Commissions - A
- Change definition of water availability in reservoirs to match owner's operational criteria - A
- Include possible reservoir sites and flood control/aquifer recharge structures in future water plans - A
- Extend designations for unique reservoir sites beyond 2015 - B, I
- Designate Toledo Bend Reservoir as a supply strategy for upper Sabine Basin in Region D and supply option for Region C - D
- Consider potential economic and environmental impacts to reservoir development - D
- Consider raising the level for Lake Wright Patman prior to development of new reservoirs in Region D - D
- Consider development of reservoirs in the Sulphur Basin in Region D as violation of the quantitative evaluations of water management strategies under 31 TAC 357.7(a)(8)(A) and a conflict with the Region D plan - D
- Oppose development of reservoirs in the Sulphur Basin in Region D prior to development of environmental flow standards through Senate Bill 3 process - D
- Establish flood damage liability limits for reservoirs - H

- Develop Lake Texana Stage II as supply strategy - P

Water Permits - Four regions: C, F, L, and N

- Encourage TWDB and TCEQ work with USEPA to revise Section 361(b) regulations on power plant cooling water - C
- Notify all basin water rights holders when a request to amend a water right increases quantity or changes purpose or place of use - F
- Fund Texas Commission on Environmental Quality adequately to ensure appropriate use of permitted surface water rights - L
- Urge TCEQ to enforce existing rules and regulations regarding impoundments - N

Corps of Engineers - Four regions: B, D, H, and I

- Recommend Corps of Engineers transfer flood storage to conservation storage - B
- Recommend the Wetlands Compensatory Mitigation Rule of “avoid, minimize, and compensate” be closely followed - D
- Allow Corps of Engineers to increase water supply storage in new reservoirs - H
- Include TWDB and regional water planning agencies on mitigation bank review teams - I

Sediment Control - Three regions: B, C, and D

- Support efforts, including land management, to rehabilitate existing sediment control structures and construct new ones - B
- Seek additional federal funding to improve and maintain Natural Resources Conservation Service sediment and flood control structures - C, D

Uncommitted Water - Two regions: C and F

- Recommend changing Texas Water Code to exempt from cancellation nonuse associated with developing and managing reservoirs - C
- Oppose canceling uncommitted water contracts/rights - F

Watermaster Program - One region: M

- Authorize Watermaster Program to manage the Rio Grande water availability model - M
- Direct all appropriate Rio Grande water rights fees to Watermaster operations - M

Other - Six regions: B, C, F, G, K, and M

- Recommend all surface water uses, regard-less of size, be consistent with regional plan - B
- Continued and increased state support of efforts to develop water supplies in Oklahoma - C
- Review state surface water policy to ensure its appropriateness for next 50 years - F
- Amend state water law to incorporate river basin subordinations in regional water plans - F
- Support long-term contracts for future projects and droughts - F
- Support long-term contracts for reliable water supply planning and shorter-term “interruptible” contracts to meet needs before long-term water rights are fully used - F

- Support coordinated operation of two or more water supply sources - G
- Give priority to water policies that increase surface water availability - K
- Encourage development of an operating plan for Mexican tributary reservoirs that ensures full compliance with 1944 Water Treaty while optimizing supply available to Mexico - M
- Continue considering allocation of Rio Grande Flows upstream of Ft. Quitman for treaty compliance - M

Water Marketing

Four regions: A, F, L, and P

- Assess potential of transporting water into or out of the Panhandle - A
- Assess potential for transferring groundwater to counties within region - A
- Oppose additional regulations in willing buyer/willing seller water transactions - F
- Require all water export plans to be sub-mitted to regional planning groups - F
- Recommend legislative review of Water Code to consider changes in light of increasing number of water export proposals - F
- Oppose export of surface water outside of region, except for existing contracts until a comprehensive plan is in place - F
- Allow property owners to capture and market water - F
- Fund development of a standard method for evaluating water export proposals - L
- Clarify that water planning regions are not intended to be barriers to water transport - L
- Consider export fee to offset negative impacts of transferring water out of basin - P
- Allow water transfer out of basin that does not interfere with exempt, existing, or previously permitted wells - P

Water Quality

Seven regions: A, B, D, F, G, K, and N

Standards - *Three regions: B, D, and F*

- Allow flexibility in drinking water standards for small systems, such as use of bottled water programs - B, F
- Recommend TWDB and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality standardize rules for minimum water supply requirements - D
- Recommend that Texas Commission on Environmental Quality revise its policy requiring use of secondary water standards, particularly total dissolved solids, when granting permits - F

Water Planning - *Two regions: A and K*

- Require Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to attend regional planning meetings and assist with water quality issues - A
- Support integrating water quality into water supply planning - K

Radioactive Wastes - Two regions: F and K

- Recommend Texas Commission on Environmental Quality develop disposal procedures for the safe handling of radio-active wastes in water treatment process - F, K
- Develop disposal procedures for radioactive wastes threatening water supplies - K

Mining - One region: N

- Amend rules to require routine, nonpartisan water quality monitoring of mining operations - N
- Oppose in-situ mining (a process that circulates acidic water through injection and recovery wells to remove minerals) where drinking water will be contaminated - N
- Monitor water quality from mining activities - N

Other - Three regions: B, D, and G

- Recognize chloride control project as regional priority - B
- Recommend Texas Commission on Environmental Quality expedite effort to replace methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) in gasoline - D
- Encourage policies and business practices that give priority to water quality - G

Other

Six regions: A, J, K, L, M, and N

- Establish guidelines differentiating between groundwater and surface rights - A
- Recommend basing drought management plans on peak use rather than annual production - J
- New electric generation facilities should utilize the most efficient technologies and conservation practices and assure water is available or can be obtained during the planning and permitting process - K
- Give counties additional authority for regulating land development to protect water resources - L
- Supports providers obtaining land for project through willing buyer-willing seller and using limited condemnation as a last resort - L
- Renew efforts to ensure Mexico's compliance with 1944 Treaty to eliminate water delivery deficits - M
- Amend state laws governing procurement of professional services to allow more flexibility in public works projects - N

~

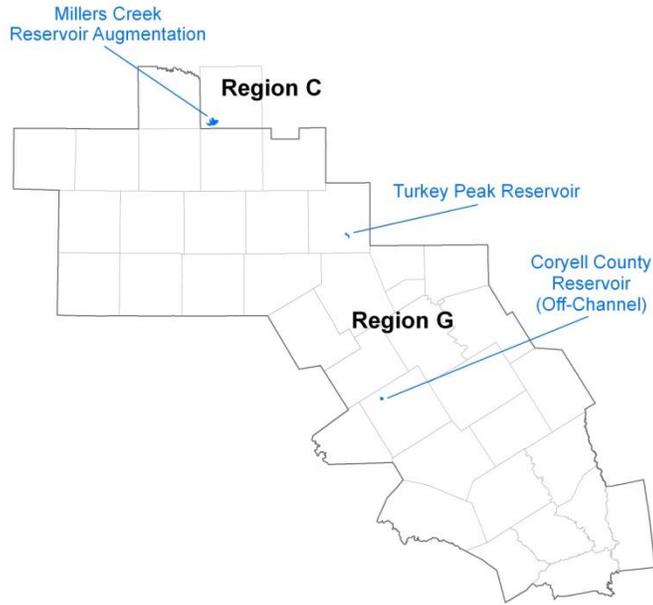


Figure I - Locations Recommended in the Brazos G RWPG Water Plan for Designation as Unique Reservoir Sites

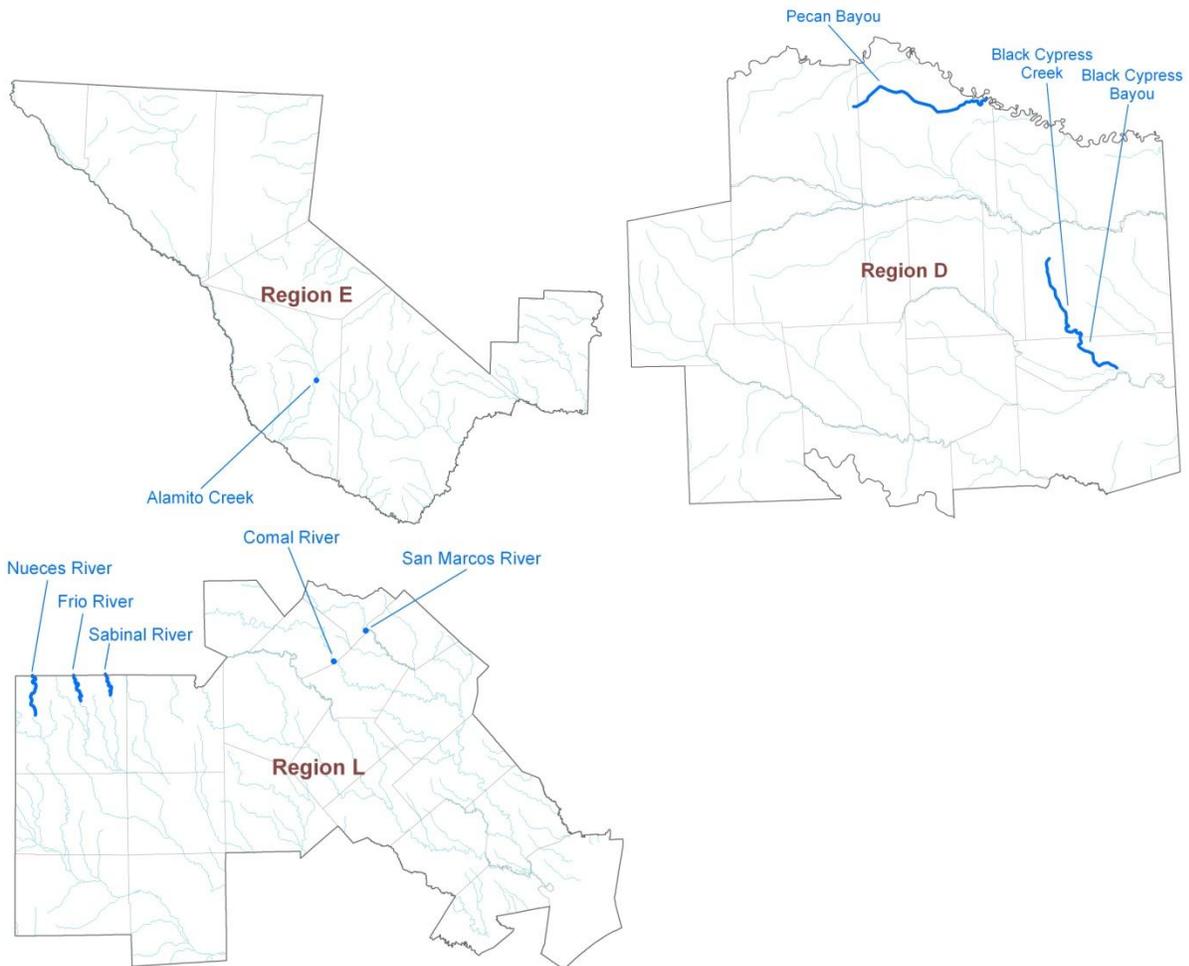


Figure II - Locations Recommended by Regional Water Planning Groups for Designation as River and Stream Segments of Unique Ecological Value