



BRAZOS G REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP

September 9, 2020

10:00 A.M.

Virtual Meeting



- 1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**
- 2. INVOCATION**
- 3. NOTICE OF MEETING**
- 4. ATTENDANCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 5. PUBLIC INPUT**



6.1. Report and possible discussion from Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) staff.



6.2. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding responses to comments received regarding the Initially Prepared 2021 Brazos G Regional Water Plan.



Responses to Comments Received Regarding the IPP

Agenda Item 6.2

September 9, 2020



Background

- Comments received from:
 - TWDB – Level 1 and Level 2 comments
 - Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
 - BRA
 - City of Cameron
 - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Review specific comments and responses HDR feels warrant discussion
- Review other comments of interest
- Approve responses to comments



TWDB Comments Considered Previously

- Lake Granger Augmentation supplies
- BRA's Belton to Stillhouse Hollow Pipeline
- Reuse strategies – Cleburne, College Station, Bryan
- Increased supplies from Williamson County Groundwater South Option
- Lake Whitney Reallocation Supply to Williamson County
- Leaving municipal needs unmet in 2020 by removing strategies that cannot be implemented by 2023
- Assessment of significant water needs relating to the assessment of aquifer storage and recovery potential for meeting the identified significant water needs
- Recommendations to/from the Drought Preparedness Council



Other TWDB Comments

32. Volume II. Please include documentation of why seawater desalination and brackish groundwater desalination were not selected as recommended WMSs in the final, adopted regional water plan. [TWC § 16.053(e)(5)(j); Contract Exhibit C, Section 5.2; 31 § TAC 357.34(g)]

Text describing why seawater desalination wasn't considered potentially feasible will be included in Volume II of the final plan. It wasn't considered potentially feasible due to the distance of Brazos G from the Gulf of Mexico.

Text describing why brackish groundwater desalination wasn't considered potentially feasible will be included in Volume II of the final plan. Brackish groundwater desalination wasn't considered because it is considered to be part of the MAG, so brackish groundwater would have only been considered if it was cheaper than going to a freshwater portion of an aquifer. Note that the SFWQ Corp project takes highly saline water and turns it into fresh water.



Other TWDB Comments

37. Chapter 7. The plan does not appear to include discussion of unnecessary or counterproductive variations in drought response strategies that may impede drought response efforts. Please include discussion of any unnecessary or counterproductive variations in drought response strategies that were identified by the planning group in the final, adopted regional water plan. [TWC § 16.053(e)(3)(E); 31 TAC § 357.42(b)(2)]

The Brazos G Scope of Work Committee was responsible for coordinating Chapter 7 of the plan. The committee identified that neighboring utilities using different triggers to initiate drought responses when supplied by the same source, or using triggers not associated with the utility's actual source of supply, would be counterproductive. That will be clearly stated in the text of Chapter 7.



City of Cameron Comment

The City of Cameron has identified the need to relocate its surface water intake and pump station to address channel migration concerns and requests inclusion of the Little River Pump Station in the plan and in the project prioritization process.

The Cameron Little River Intake will be added to the plan as a recommended water management strategy project using the technical information you provided.



TPWD Comment

7. Ecologically Unique Stream Segments. TPWD supports regional water planning groups in recommending ecologically unique river and stream segments. The nomination of stream segments is an opportunity to demonstrate a regional commitment towards the long-term protection of natural resources. TPWD offers to support an update if Brazos G would find it beneficial in deciding to recommend a river or stream segment as unique.

Brazos G thanks the TPWD for the offer to support identifying and recommending unique stream segments. We acknowledge the support of TPWD in previous planning cycles. For the 2021 Plan, the BGRWPG has opted not to offer a recommendation. However, we will revisit this issue during the next planning cycle.



Suggested Action

“The Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group directs HDR to incorporate the responses to agency and public comments received regarding the Initially Prepared 2021 Brazos G Regional Water Plan as discussed and modified today, and make the necessary changes to the Brazos G Regional Water Plan to reflect those responses.”



Questions/Discussion





6.3. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding changes to the Initially Prepared 2021 Brazos G Regional Water Plan.



Changes to the IPP

Agenda Item 6.3

September 9, 2020



Background

- Changes to the Plan since the IPP was submitted
 - Focusing on changes to recommended strategies and projects, not to address administrative requirements or textual corrections
 - Responses to comments (TWDB, Cameron)
 - New strategy for City of Abilene (West Texas Water Partnership)



Previous Changes Approved (August 12 BGRWPG) - 1

- Changes to reuse strategies
 - Remove some components from Cleburne Reuse
 - Remove some components from Bell County WCID No. 1 Reuse
 - Remove College Station Non-Potable Reuse
 - Remove City of Bryan Miramont Reuse
- Strategies for BRA Little River System
 - Remove Phase 1 (Trinity Aquifer supply) – no MAG available
 - Reduce supply from Phase 2 – MAG limitations
 - Increase supplies from Williamson County Groundwater South Option
 - Additional groundwater from the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer in Lee County
 - Additional groundwater from the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer in Burleson County
 - Additional groundwater from the Sparta Aquifer in Burleson County



Previous Changes Approved (August 12 BGRWPG) - 2

- Increase Lake Whitney supply to Williamson County-Other
 - 12,000 acft/yr in 2060 and 26,000 acft/yr in 2070
- Belton to Stillhouse Pipeline
 - Database constraint for Georgetown (5,000 acft/yr)
 - Assume pipeline removes this constraint to create supply

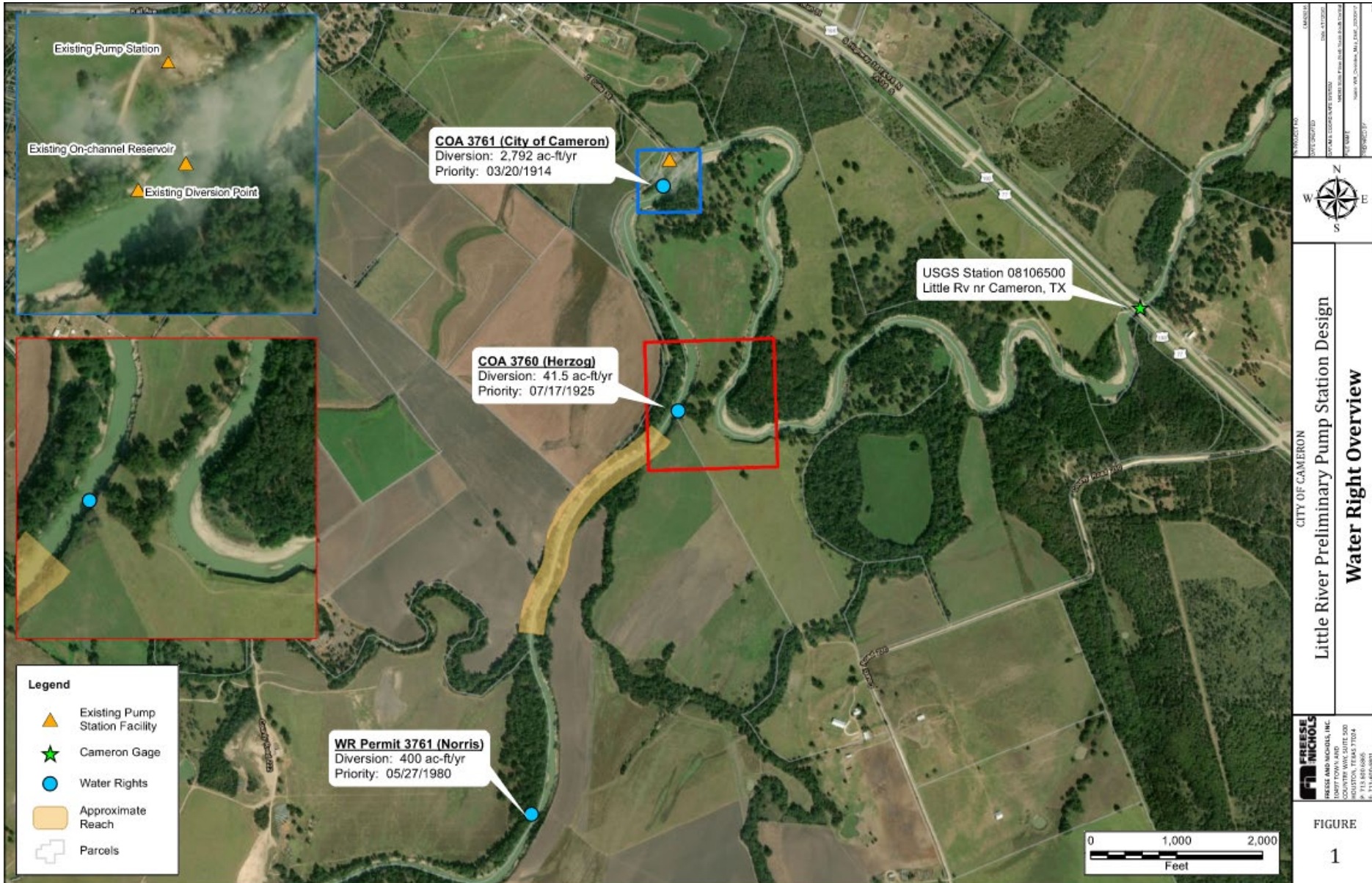


New Strategies - 1

- City of Cameron Little River Intake
 - Existing river intake in danger of being cut off by meander oxbow
 - Requested new intake be recommended in the Brazos G Plan
 - Received map, costing information for intake, pump station, pipeline
 - 5 MGD intake and PS and 2 miles, 18-inch pipe
 - Assume supply reduced in 2030 and new intake replaces old intake
 - Included in Miscellaneous Strategies (Chapter 13)
 - Supply Developed: 2,792 acft/yr
 - Total Capital Cost: \$13,006,000
 - Annual Cost during Amortization: \$407/acft (\$1.25/1,000 gal)
 - Annual Cost after Amortization: \$80/acft (\$0.24/1,000 gal)



Cameron Little River Intake



New Strategies - 2

- City of Abilene Supplies from West Texas Water Partnership
 - Abilene, Midland and San Angelo have reached agreement to develop groundwater supplies from Pecos County prior to 2030
 - Midland and San Angelo would utilize the new groundwater supply and make available supplies from O.H. Ivie Reservoir for Abilene, while all three participate in the infrastructure costs

Supplies Developed (acre-feet/year)

Abilene	Midland	San Angelo	Total
8,400	15,000	5,000	28,400 acft/yr

Costs (\$549,093,000 Total Capital Cost)

	During Debt Service	After Debt Service
Annual Cost (\$/acft)	\$1,783	\$403
Annual Cost (\$/1,000 gal)	\$5.47	\$1.24



Suggested Action

“The Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group directs HDR to include the Cameron Little River Intake as a recommended water management strategy for the City of Cameron and the West Texas Water Partnership as a recommended water management strategy for the City of Abilene.”



Questions/Discussion





6.4. Summary of responses to the Infrastructure Financing Survey.



Summary of Responses to IFR Survey

Agenda Item 6.4

September 9, 2020



Background

- Survey prepared by TWDB listing all projects with capital costs in IPP for each WUG and WWP
- Intended to provide a snapshot of funding needed for projects in the State Water Plan
- IFR survey mailed by BRA in early August, surveys returned end of Aug
- 169 total surveys prepared – all WUGs with capital cost projects
- 125 surveys mailed – surveys not mailed to County-Other, Mining, Irrigation, Livestock, Steam-Electric
- Data collection spreadsheet provided by TWDB to summarize the data
- Responses will be summarized in final plan



IFR Survey Example



Responses Received

Cedar Park	Brushy Creek MUD	Cleburne	Bryan
Cross Country WSC	Gatesville	North Central Texas MWA	Palo Pinto County MWD No. 1
Rockdale	Roby	Round Rock	Texas A&M
Woodway			



Response Statistics

	2016 Plan	2021 Plan
Surveys Mailed	64	125
Surveys Mailed for Conservation Only	0	70
Muni WUGs and WWP's Mailed, more than conservation	64	55
Responses Received	11	13



Questions/Discussion





- 6.5. Possible action regarding approval to submit prioritization scoring after final changes are made to entries in DB22.**



Submission of Prioritization Scoring

Agenda Item 6.5

September 9, 2020



Background

- All recommended projects with capital costs are assigned scores, based on uniform standards developed by RWPG Chairs
- Scoring mechanism is identical to 2016 Plan
- Spreadsheet provided by TWDB with 228 records (107 are conservation)
 - Based on Initially Prepared Plan
- Scoring methodology is largely prescriptive, i.e., little room for interpretation
- Score used by TWDB as one criteria for prioritizing SWIFT funding (15%)



Status and Recommendation

- August 12 – Presented method to Policy Committee, decided on grey areas
 - Discussed briefly at BGRWPG meeting
- Waiting in queue at TWDB to make DB22 changes, then will receive updated list of projects for scoring (mid-September)
- Given the formulaic nature of the scoring, recommend allowing HDR to proceed and submit directly to TWDB after scores are assigned



Questions/Discussion



Proposed Action

“The Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group directs HDR to complete the prioritization scoring of water management strategy projects recommended in the 2021 Brazos G Regional Water Plan after final DB22 updates have been made. The Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group authorizes the [Chairman / Executive Committee / BRA / HDR] to submit the prioritization scoring to the TWDB after the scoring process is completed.”





- 6.6. Discussion and possible action adopting the final 2021 Brazos G Regional Water Plan, pending textual changes necessary to address comments received and authorizing BRA and HDR to submit the final plan to TWDB when ready, but no later than November 1, 2020.**



Adoption of 2021 Brazos G Regional Water Plan

Agenda Item 6.6

September 9, 2020



Status

- Responses to comments have been made
- Textual changes to address some comments in progress
- All recommended water management strategies have been selected
 - “We have a plan.”
- DB22 database entries being refined (mid-September completion)



Still to Do

- Complete DB22 changes
- Compare final plan text with DB22 reports
- IFR Survey summary chapter
- Finalize Implementation Survey – a few contacts still to be made
- Final edits of plan text – formatting, proof-reading, insert DB22 reports



Proposed Action

““The Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group hereby adopts the 2021 Brazos G Regional Water Plan and authorizes the Brazos River Authority and HDR to finalize the plan documents and submit the plan to the Texas Water Development Board. The Chairman is authorized to approve minor adjustments to the plan prior to submittal.”.”





6.7. Report and possible discussion on updates from other regional water planning groups (Regions B, C, F,H, K, L & O).



6.8. Report and possible discussion on Groundwater Management Area (GMA) activities.



6.9. Report and possible discussion on agency communication and information.



6.10. Discussion and possible action on report by Brazos G Administrator.



6.11. Discussion and possible action on report by Brazos G Chair.



- 7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON
NEW BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT
NEXT MEETING**
- 8. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING
DATE**
- 9. ADJOURN**