

# TWDB Update

## Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

November 2, 2022

Jean Devlin

Jean.Devlin@TWDB.Texas.gov



## Significant new requirements for the 2026 RWPs

- Task 3: Exhibit C, Section 2.3 (Water Availability and Existing Supplies)
  - Technical Memorandum and RWPs must include methodology for calculating anticipated sedimentation rate and revising the area-capacity rating curves
  - Reuse availability presented as a separate subsection in Chapter 3
  - Hydrologic variance requests for surface water must use template checklist

## Significant new requirements for the 2026 RWPs (cont.)

- Task 4B: Exhibit C, Section 2.11 (Identification of infeasible WMSs in the 2021 RWP)
  - Required by SB 1511, 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature
  - Analysis must be completed prior to **March 4, 2024**
  - Results presented at public meeting where RWPG also presents methodology for identifying potentially feasible WMSs in 2026 RWP
  - Infeasible WMSs to be listed in Technical Memorandum
  - If infeasible WMSs identified, amend 2021 plans to:
    - Remove infeasible WMS or WMSP,
    - Revise infeasible WMS or WMSP to make feasible, and/or
    - Incorporate new WMS or WMSP
  - RWPG-adopted amendments due **June 4, 2024**

# Significant new requirements for the 2026 RWPs (cont.)

- Task 4B: Exhibit C, Section 2.11 (cont.)
  - Review WMSs and WMSPs in the previous RWP and coordinate with project sponsors to determine implementation status and determine infeasibility
  - At a minimum, review status of strategies and projects with an online decade of 2020 in the 2021 RWPs.
    - Such strategies were required to be online and delivering water by **January 5, 2023**
  - Additional near-term strategies and projects that have lengthy permitting or construction processes should also be reviewed for infeasibility
  - Affirmative steps by the sponsor may include but not limited to:
    - spending money on the strategy or project,
    - voting to spend money on the strategy or project, or
    - applying for a federal or state permit for the strategy or project

## Significant new requirements for the 2026 RWPs (cont.)

- Task 4C: Exhibit C, Section 2.12.1 (Technical Memorandum)
  - Include summary of region's interregional coordination efforts to date
  - Include list of identified infeasible WMSs and WMSPs resulting from new Task 4B
- Task 5B: Exhibit C, Section 2.5 (Evaluation/Recommendation of Strategies & Projects)
  - Guidance added to address HB 807, 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature (ASR assessments and GPCD goals)
  - Conservation WMSs required to be split out for water loss mitigation vs water use reduction
  - New subsection documenting implementation status of certain WMS types

## Significant new requirements for the 2026 RWPs (cont.)

- Task 7: Exhibit C, Section 2.7 (Drought response information)
  - Guidance added to address HB 807, 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature (unnecessary or counterproductive drought response)
  - RWPGs to identify rather than recommend drought response triggers & actions
  - New guidance to optionally address droughts worse than drought of record
  - New subsection required to address how the planning group is addressing uncertainty and droughts worse than drought of record (if applicable), and what additional measures not included in the plan could be available during a drought worse than drought of record

## Significant new requirements for the 2026 RWPs (cont.)

- Task 9: Exhibit C, Section 2.9 (Implementation)
  - Reduced content of implementation survey
  - Guidance added to address HB 807, 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature (progress in achieving economies of scale)
- Task 10: Exhibit C, Section 2.10, 2.13, 2.14 (Adoption and deliverables)
  - Initially Prepared Plan and final RWP must document summary of region's interregional coordination efforts
  - State Database Reports (DB27) to be included in Initially Prepared Plan and final RWP via hyperlinks to TWDB's Database Reports application, in lieu of hard copies

# Important Reminders

- Infrastructure finance survey and related chapter removed
- RWPG task to prioritize recommended projects removed
- Due to removal of IFR chapter, 2026 RWPs will have 10 chapters
  - Implementation and comparison of previous plan now Chapter 9
- Documents available on the 2026 RWP Document Page:
  - General copy of first amended SOW
  - First amended Exhibit C
  - Summary of major revisions to Exhibit C
  - <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/planningdocu/2026/documents.asp>



# Projections Timeline

Draft Water Demand Projections	Timeline
Livestock, Manufacturing, Steam-Electric Projections + Supporting Data	January 20, 2022
Water User Group List + Historical Population, Connections, Net Use, GPCD	March 16, 2022
<b>DUE:</b> RWPGs review WUG list + historical WUG data	July 29, 2022
Irrigation, Mining Projections + Supporting Data	August 23, 2022
Non-municipal Basin Splits	August 23, 2022
Population Projections + Plumbing Code Savings + Municipal Demand Projections	February 2023
<b>DUE:</b> RWPGs request revisions for non-municipal demand projections	July 14, 2023
<b>DUE:</b> RWPGs request revisions for population and municipal demand projections	August 11, 2023
TWDB Board Meeting to Adopt Projections	Fall 2023
<b>DUE:</b> Technical Memorandum	March 4, 2024

# Important Considerations

- All data released thus far is available online
  - Interactive dashboards
  - Underneath each dashboard is Excel file format + methodology summaries
- <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/data/projections/2027/projections.asp>
- Timeframe for reviewing draft population and municipal demand projections is ~6 months
  - Regions should meet soon after release and develop strategy for meeting the deadline
  - Regions are strongly encouraged to submit non-municipal revisions requests before municipal data release
  - Declines in population will be reflected in the draft population projections

## Important Considerations (cont.)

- Planning groups must take action to approve submitting revisions requests
- Planning groups encouraged to coordinate with TWDB as early as possible on potential revisions
- Guidance regarding projections revisions provided in RWP contract Exhibit C, Section 2.2
- TWDB staff available for assistance and to provide projections presentations
- RWP grant funds may not be used for revisions to TWDB **Board-adopted** projections



# Interregional Planning Council

- On July 7, 2022 the Board appointed a member and alternate for each regional water planning group to the Interregional Planning Council.
- The planning groups were sent an e-mail with a welcome letter from the TWDB's Executive Administrator, a copy of House Bill 807, and a copy of the TWDB Board appointment memorandum
- First meeting is scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held in Austin with a virtual component.

# New Education Materials

- New one-pager: Water Supply and Flood Mitigation strategies; Drought of Record
- New educational materials: Member Guide and Administrative Guidance
- Both materials are now available on the TWDB website for viewing



# 6th Cycle of Regional Water Planning Web Page

- 6th Cycle of RWP landing page:  
<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/planningdocu/2026/index.asp>
- Page includes planning documents such as the 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle plan timeline, BMP Guide, rules pamphlet, contract docs, planning newsletters, and Chairs' Conference Call notes
- [RegionalWaterPlanning@twdb.Texas.gov](mailto:RegionalWaterPlanning@twdb.Texas.gov) is now being used for broadcast communications to RWPGs regarding regional water planning