



BRAZOS G REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP

Executive Committee

June 2, 2021

10:00 A.M.

**Brazos River Authority Central Office
4600 Cobbs Drive, Waco, Texas 76710**



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



6.1. Presentation by and possible discussion with representative(s) from Carollo.

2026 Regional Water Plan Preparation

For the Brazos G
Regional Water Planning Group



PLUMMER



AGS

Advanced Groundwater Solutions, LLC

Waco, Texas // June 2, 2021

Deep bench of resources brings the best skill set combination

Tony Smith, PE

23 years' experience
B.S. University of Texas



Heather Harris, PE

22 years' experience
B.S., M.S. Texas A&M University



David Harkins, PhD, PE

24 years' experience
B.S., M.S., Ph.D., Texas Tech University



James Beach, PG

30 years' experience
B.S. Tarleton State University
M.S. New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology



Rex Hunt, PE

44 years' experience
B.S. University of Texas at Austin
M.S. University of Texas at Arlington



PROJECT SUPPORT TEAM

POPULATION AND DEMAND PROJECTIONS

Rachel Gross, PE*
Dexter May, PE¹

WATER CONSERVATION AND DROUGHT PLANNING

Brian McDonald, PE¹
Eddie Wilcut, PE¹

WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Michael Pinckney, PE
Cynthia Syvarth, PE¹
Christopher Drabek, PG²

FUNDING

Jennifer Ivey, PE
Cody Berg

GROUNDWATER SUPPLIES

James Beach, PG²
Jeff Stovall, PhD, PE
Christopher Drabek, PG²

WATER QUALITY AND ECOLOGY

Rex Hunt, PE¹
Ernest To, PhD, PE¹

SURFACE WATER SUPPLIES

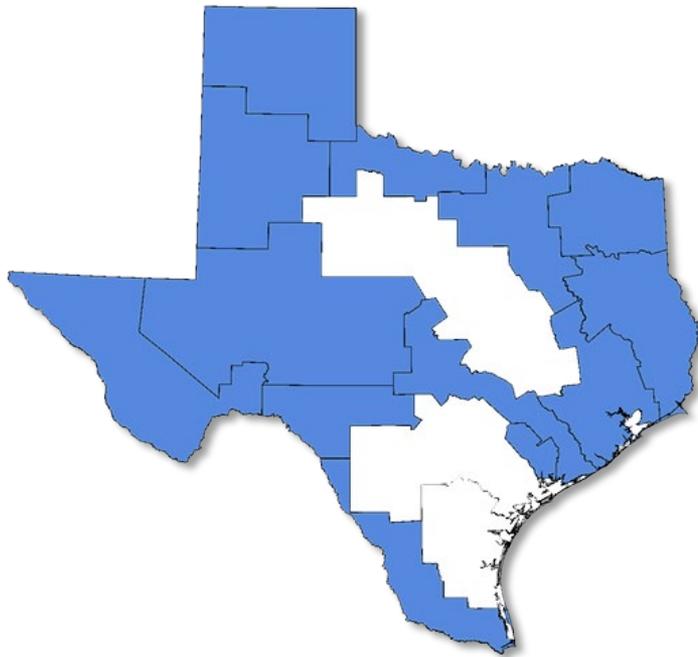
Michael Pinckney, PE
Phil Bullock, PE

Subconsultants

1 Plummer Associates, Inc
2 Advanced Groundwater Solutions, LLC

* License obtained in states other than Texas

Our technical and management experience ensures minimal learning curve and meeting TWDB's schedule



REGIONAL WATER PLANNING TASKS		REGIONS													
		A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	J	K	M	O	P	
1	Planning Area Description				●	●			●	●					
2	Projected Water Demands		●		●	●			●	●	●				
3	Supply Analysis				●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
4	Identification of Needs		●		●	●			●	●		●	●	●	●
5	Management Strategies and Recommendations	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
6	Impacts and Consistency		●		●	●			●	●				●	●
7	Drought Response	●	●	●	●	●	●		●	●					
8	Policy Recommendations		●		●	●			●	●		●			
9	Infrastructure Financing				●	●			●	●					
10	Public Participation		●		●	●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●
11	Implementation and Comparisons				●	●			●	●					
12	Prioritization				●	●			●	●				●	●

LEGEND ● Carollo Engineers ● Plummer Associates ● Advanced Groundwater Solutions*

*Staff while at previous firms

Our team's staff has worked throughout Brazos G

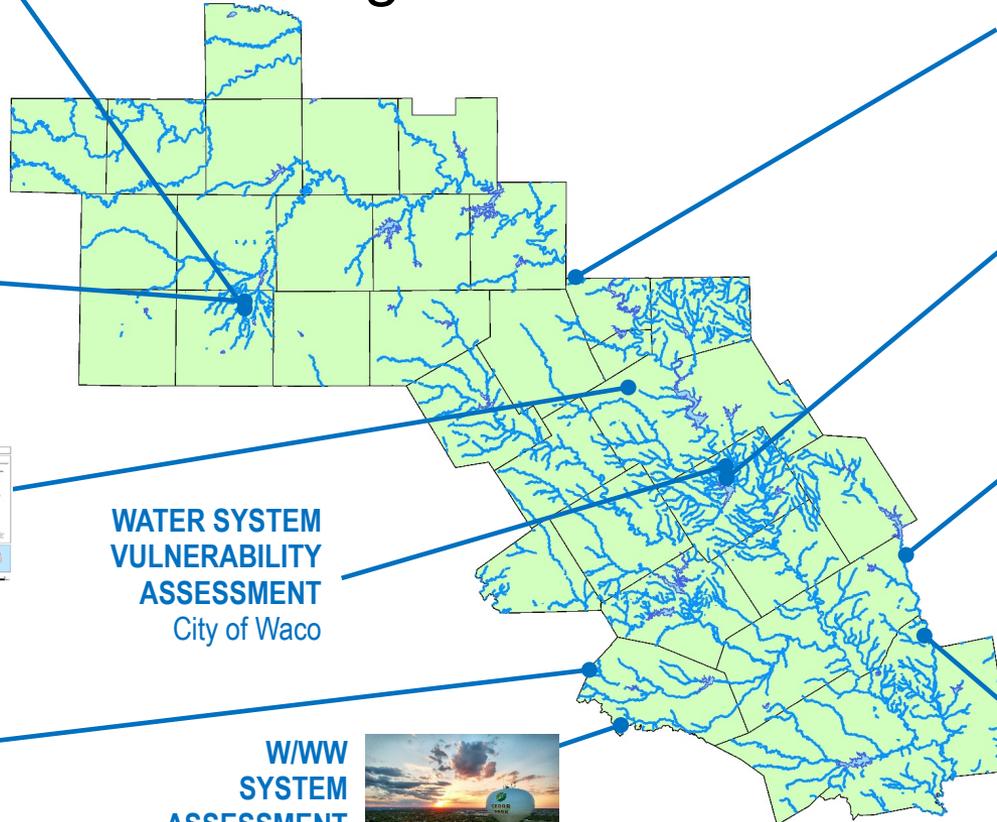
**AIRFIELD VEGETATION
CONVERSION PILOT
PROJECT**
Dyess AFB



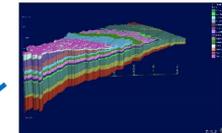
WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
Brazos River Authority



**ABILENE HAMBY
INDIRECT POTABLE
REUSE DESIGN**
City of Abilene



**ERATH COUNTY DAIRY WQ
EVALUATION**
Lake Waco



**CARRIZO-WILCOX
HYDROGEOLOGIC ANALYSIS**
BVGCD

**JOINT
GROUNDWATER
PLANNING**
GMA 8



**WATER SYSTEM
VULNERABILITY
ASSESSMENT**
City of Waco

**BRAZOS-NAVASOTA
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT
PROJECT**
Brazos River
Authority

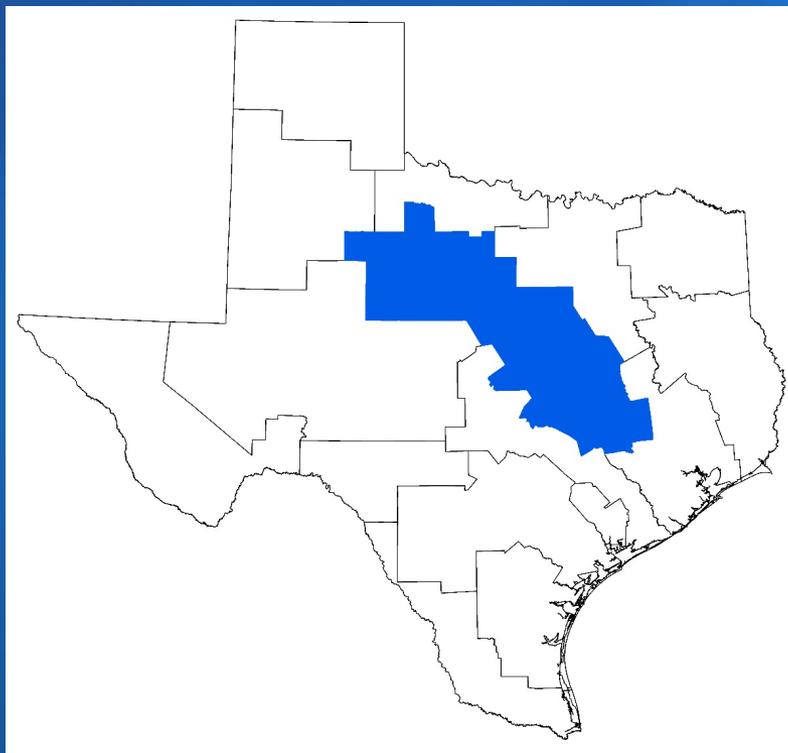


SYSOPS WAM MODELING
Brazos River Authority



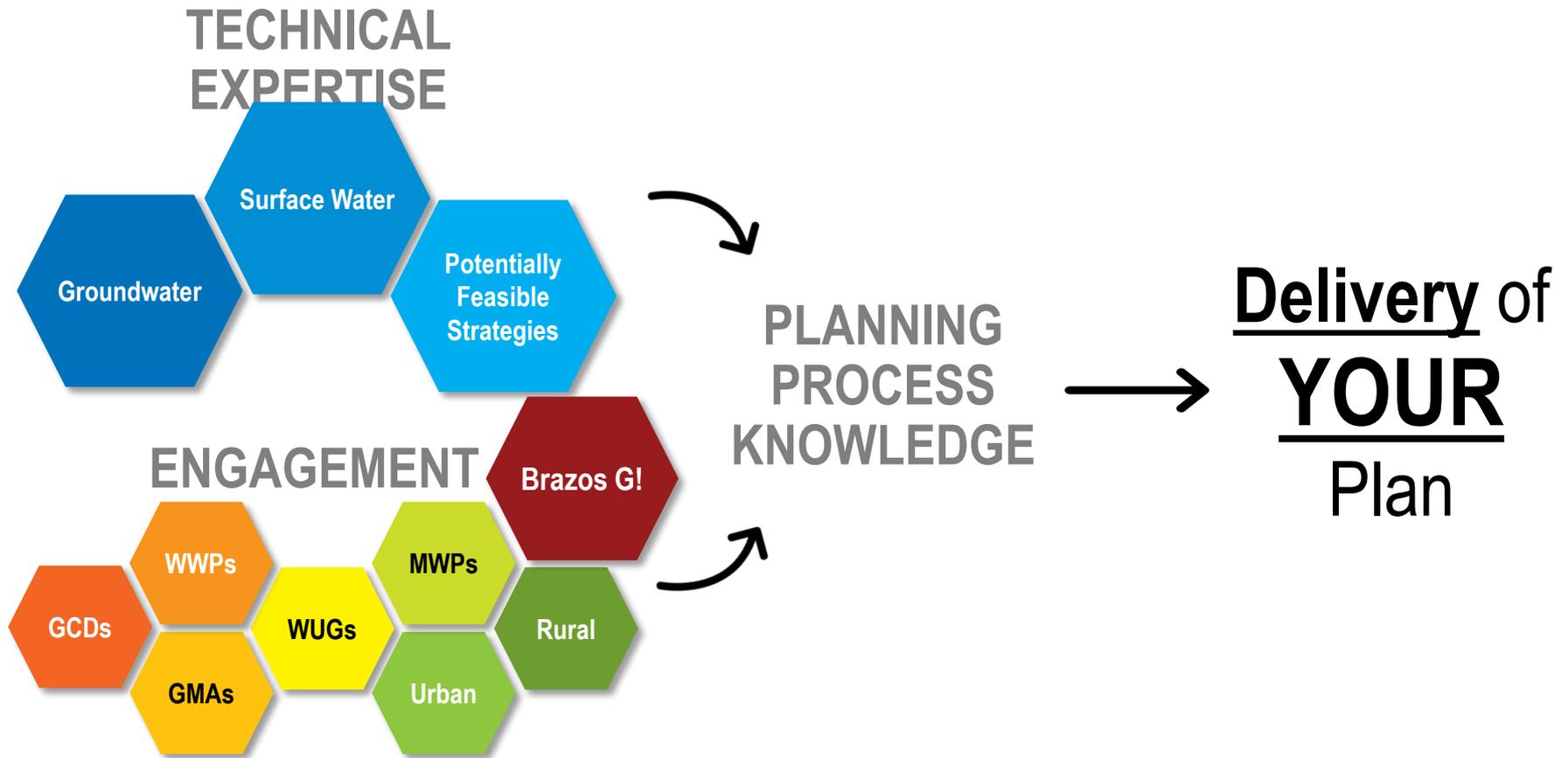
**W/WW
SYSTEM
ASSESSMENT**
City of Cedar Park



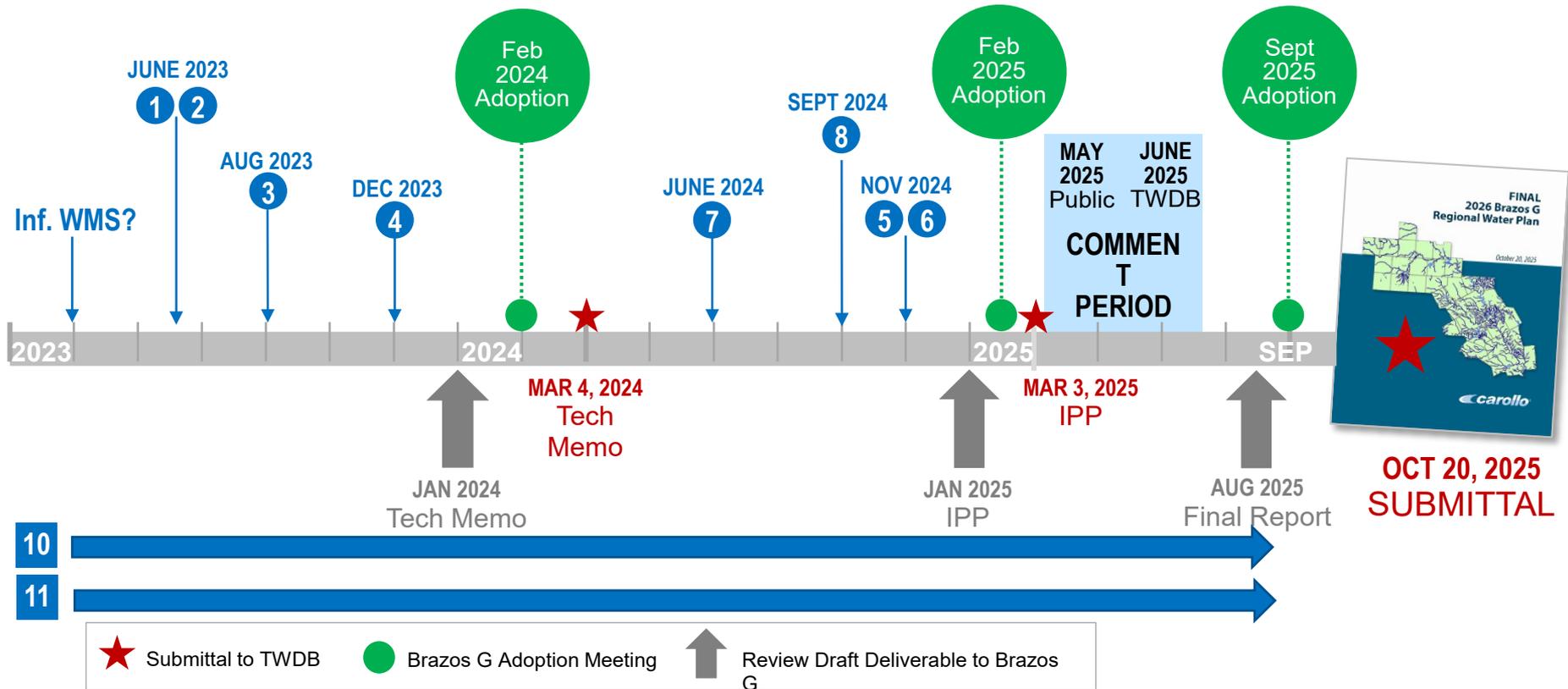


**We're here to move
you forward.**

Bringing Lessons Learned to Regional Planning



Brazos G Approval Path to the Final 2026 Regional Water Plan



We will transform your strategies into action on the state water plan

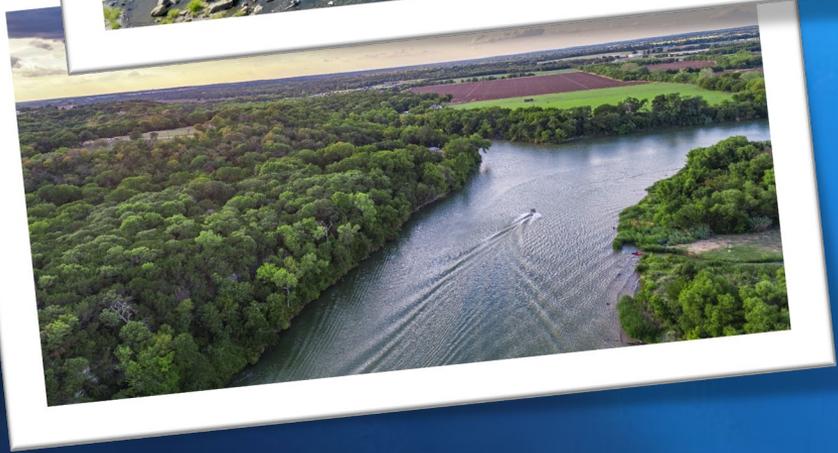
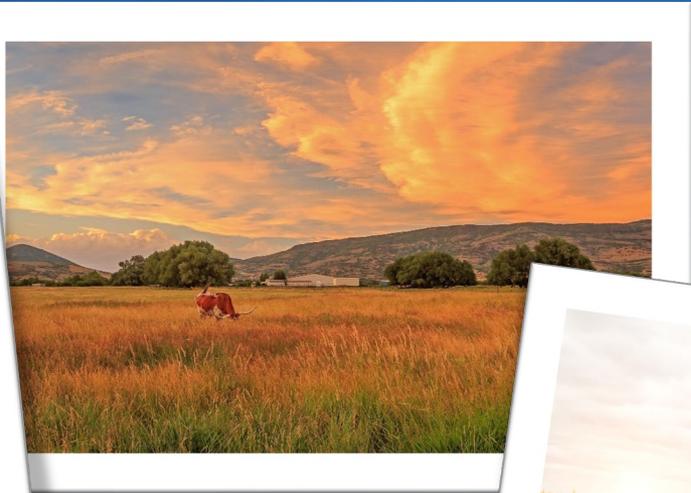
- Plans need to be implementable and technically defensible, with supportive costing of strategies
- Contacts at TWDB and Texas government
- Contacts with the Federal agencies
- Knowledge of SWIFT and other funding programs



Why the Carollo Team?

Why this team?





Questions?



6.2. Presentation by and possible discussion with representative(s) from HDR.



Plan Continuity, With A Fresh Perspective

June 2, 2021

Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group

Proven Team to Deliver Plan Success in 2026



PETER
NEWELL, PE



DAVID
DUNN, PE



JENNA
RAO, PE, PG



SPENCER
SCHNIER, PhD, PE



SUSAN
ROTH, PE, PMP

Plan Continuity, With A Fresh Perspective

1 Continuity

Leveraging best practices and lessons learned from five previous cycles

2 A Fresh Perspective

A collaborative approach to fully integrate solutions

3 Your Trusted Partner

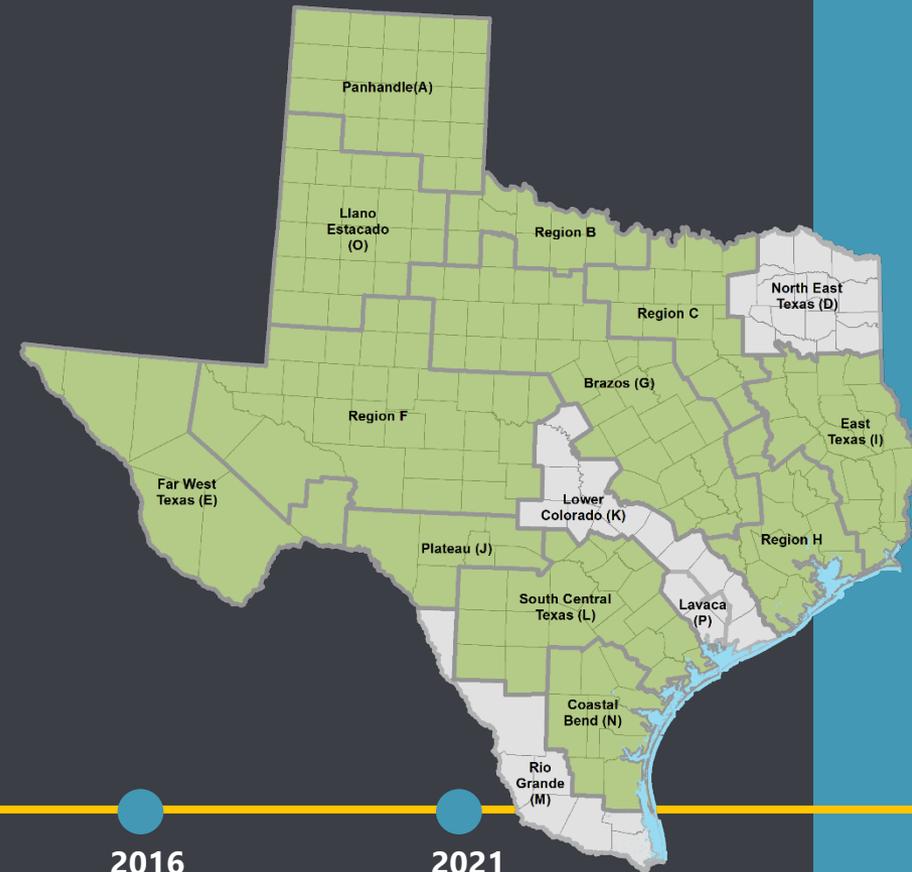
Delivering success



1 Continuity

Leveraging Proven Experience to Deliver Success for Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group

- HDR Team has developed every Brazos G RWP since 2001.
- HDR and FNI have served as technical consultant for 12 of the 16 RWPGs in the State since 2001 (totaling 58 plans)
- Familiar with TWDB process, how the plans come together, and where to anticipate challenges



No Learning Curve Results in Efficiencies for Brazos G

- Data is more than a database
- Developed methods to track and update
 - Surface water supplies
 - Reservoir yields, prorated to wholesale contracts
 - Apply infrastructure constraints
 - Groundwater supplies
 - Based on MAG, address peak factors
 - Harvested TCEQ data for well capacities, consider permitted volumes



No Learning Curve Results in Efficiencies for Brazos G

- We developed the TWDB tools for RWP
 - Costing Tool (UCM)
 - Brazos WAM & Update
 - ASR Screening Tool
 - Cumulative Effects Tool
 - Brazos Trends Study
- We have strong relationship with key stakeholders
 - Brazos G municipalities, utilities, groundwater districts, wholesale water providers, and TWDB
 - Building relationships with others and how they engage in the process



History of Success in Providing Innovative Solutions to Brazos G

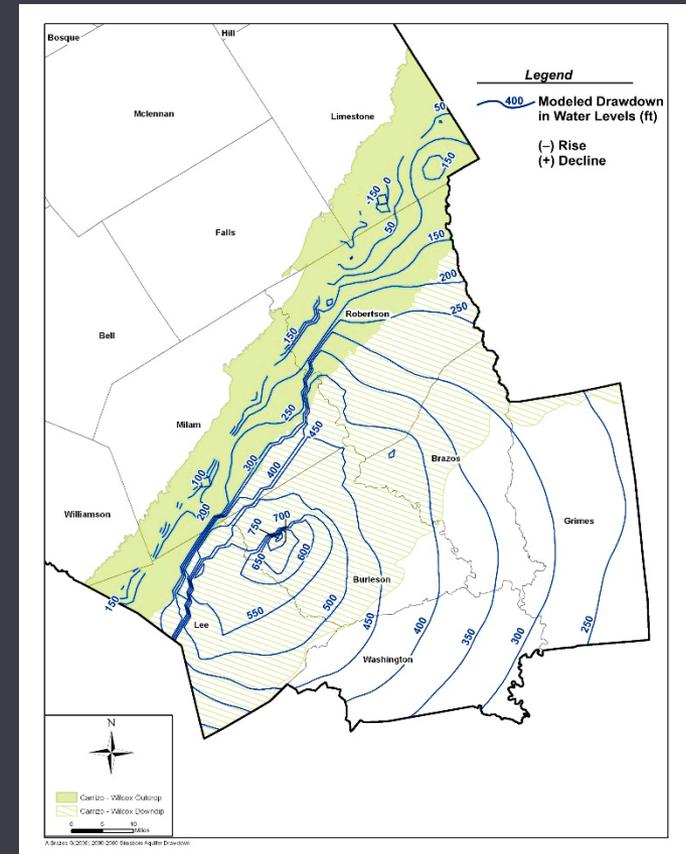
CW Aquifer Modeling

Challenges

- **2001:** No WAMS/GAMs/ database, sets standard for regional plan
- **2006:** Pop projections controversial, public process for ground water availability
- **2011:** Drought reality, Phase I studies, faster pop growth but TWDB limitations, Millican Reservoir, DB12, BRA SysOps

Solutions

- HDR costing methodology, CW aquifer model, environmental evaluations
- Added educational briefings, documented process for ground water availability
- Developed tools to manage data, increase outreach to WUGs



History of Success in Providing Innovative Solutions to Brazos G

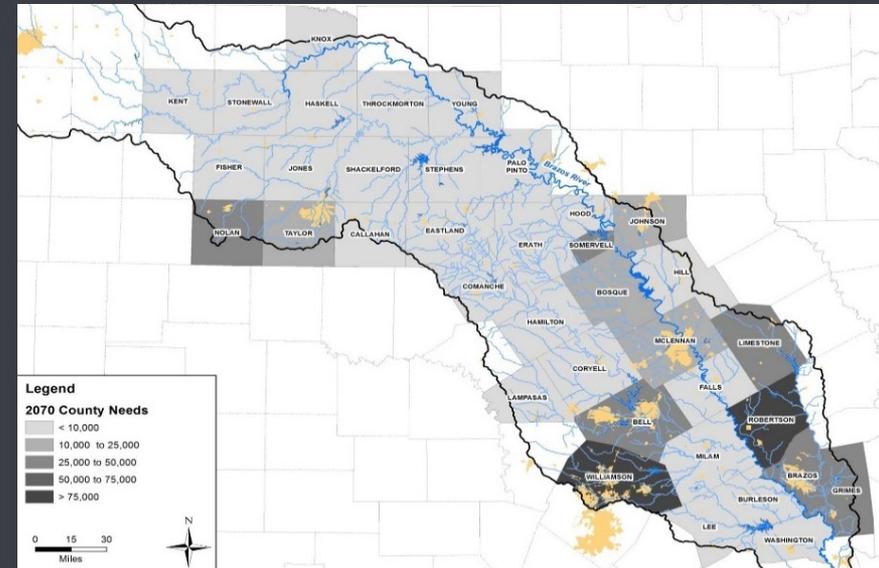
Challenges

- **2016:** Legislative requirements, SB3 environmental flows, delayed projections/compressed schedule, interregional conflicts, DB17, Little River OCR
- **2021:** Utility-based projections, MAG peak factor, DB21, BRA SysOps, Wilco growth

Solutions

- Enhanced data on water supplies, pop/demand, detailed review of GPCD, Wilco workshop, more GCD involvement, BRA SysOps strategy
- Increased stakeholder outreach, developed approach for MAG PF, updated UCM for 2021 RWP, incorporated BRA SysOps supply

Projected Water Shortages

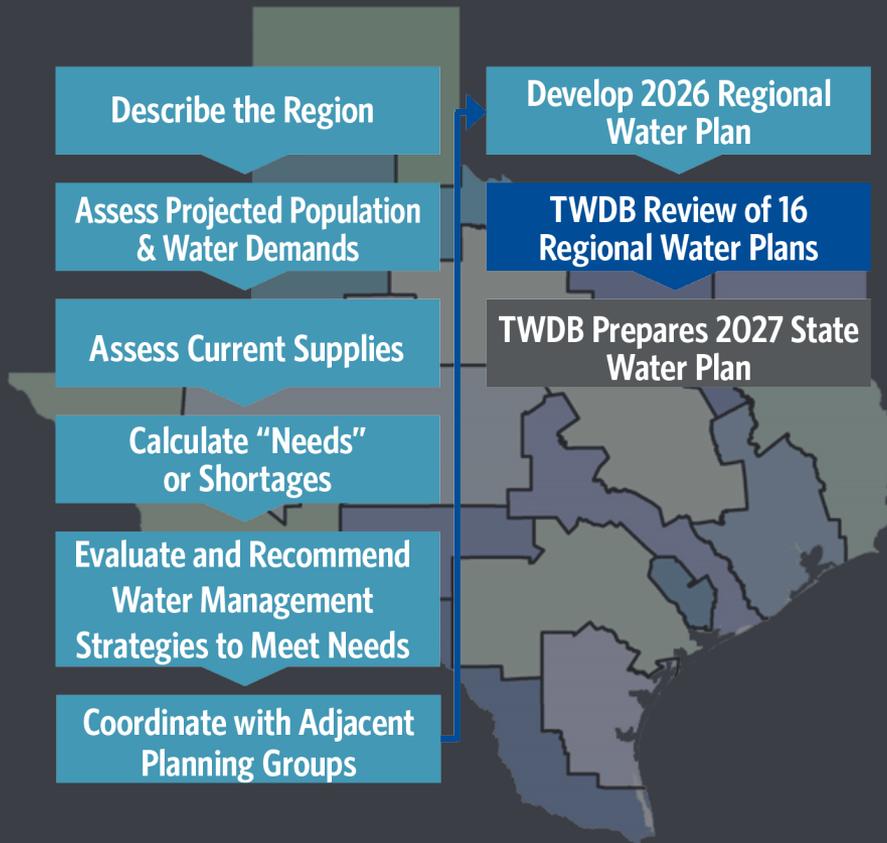




2 A Fresh Perspective

A collaborative approach to fully integrate solutions

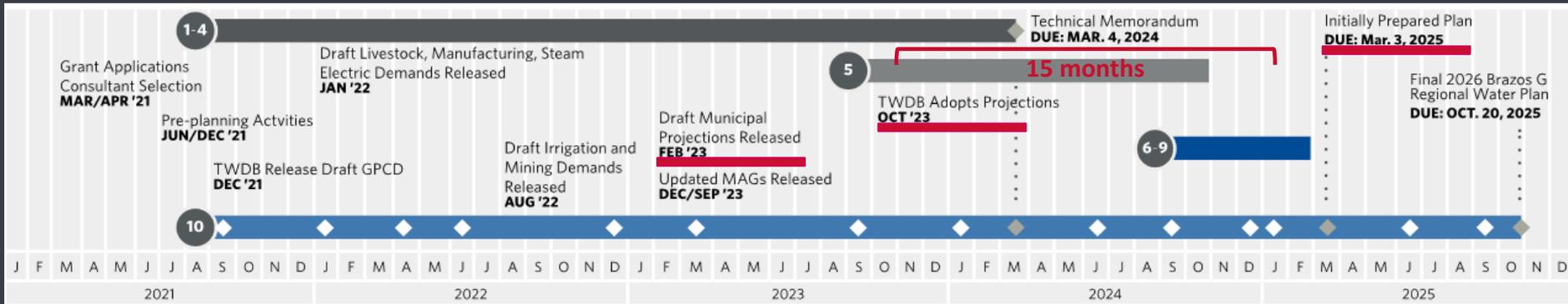
A Fresh Perspective to New Challenges



Challenges for the 2026 Plan

- New legislative requirements
- 2020 Census
- Schedule
- Groundwater/ASR
- 2021 Plan feedback

Executing Tasks in Parallel Where Possible Keeps the Plan on Track

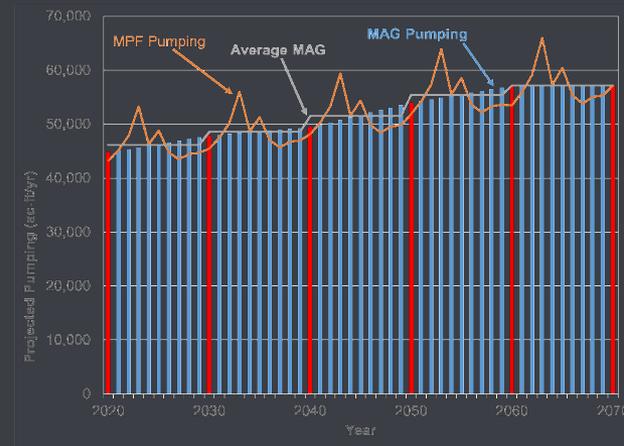


- Tasks 1-4: Area description, pop & water demand projections, water supply analysis, tech memorandums
- Task 5: Evaluation and recommendation of WMS
- Tasks 6-9: Drought response, policy recommendations, financing
- Task 10: Outreach, public participation, prioritization, plan adoption

Groundwater Complexities

- MAG v. GCD management of GW resources
- MAG Peak Factor
- How to better reflect GCD management within the MAG Peak Factor
- Assign GW supplies to individual WUGs

MAG Peak Factor Analysis



Groundwater
Modeling



Aquifer Storage
Recovery & Managed
Aquifer Recharge (MAR)



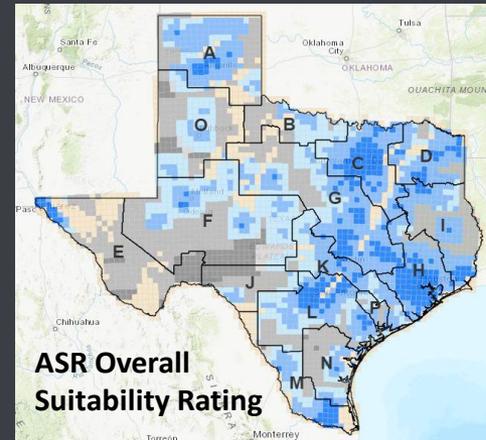
Aquifer
Characterization &
Testing



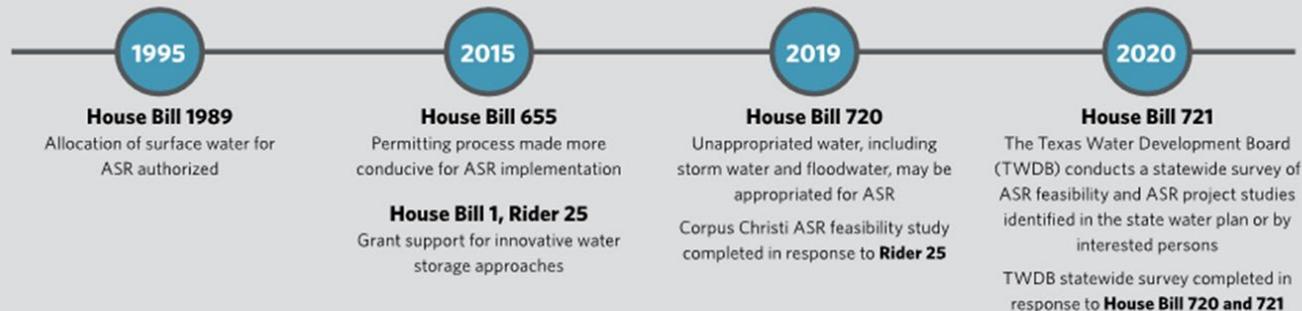
Conjunctive Use (Surface
Water/Groundwater)

Innovation- Aquifer Storage and Recovery & Aquifer Recharge

- SWP indicates 3300% increase reliance statewide in ASR project supply since 2011 Drought
- HDR Experience
 - Six Brazos G ASR Strategies
 - TWDB Statewide Survey of Aquifer Suitability for ASR and Aquifer Recharge
 - City of Austin ASR
 - Corpus Christi ASR Feasibility Study
 - TRWD ASR Pilot Well
 - City of Buda ASR Pilot Well



Timeline of Texas Legislature House Bills to Encourage ASR for Water Supply and State-Funded Projects



Continuous Improvement

- HDR discussed 2021 Plan in Jan-Feb with Planning Group members
- How we can improve the process and what to prioritize for 2026
- Presented to planning group March 2, 2021

Themes from BGRWPG Discussions	Count
Continued provision of timely information	8
Communication to those not at the table	6
Level of detail	4
Meeting length	3
New member orientation	2
Communication to GCDs	1
Priority Issues for 2026	
TWDB rules, process, regulations	4
MAG Peak Factor	3
Available GW, alluvial	3
Controversial projects	3
Conservation	2
Aquifer recharge/conjunctive use	2
Prioritize efficiencies (last 6 mo lots of work)	2
Feasible projects	2
Groundwater bias	1
Middle basin priorities	1

Enhanced Collaborative Approach for 2026

DATA SHARING

- Utilize SharePoint
- Allow more time BGRWPG members to review technical information
- Continue posting materials to Brazos G website



EFFECTIVE MEETINGS

- Summarize decisions from previous meeting/develop action plan for current
- Identify upcoming issues
- Better content in packets = less presentation & more discussion
- Utilize committees for ongoing issues
- Log of decisions
- Enhance new member orientation

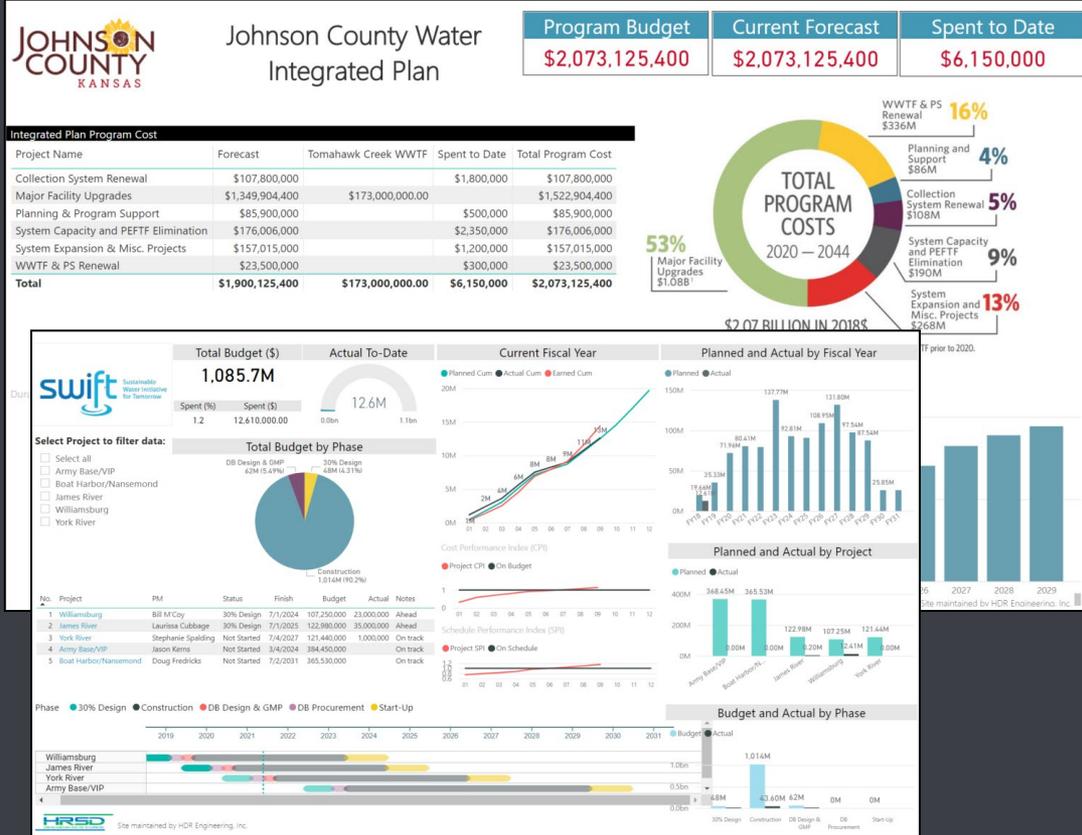
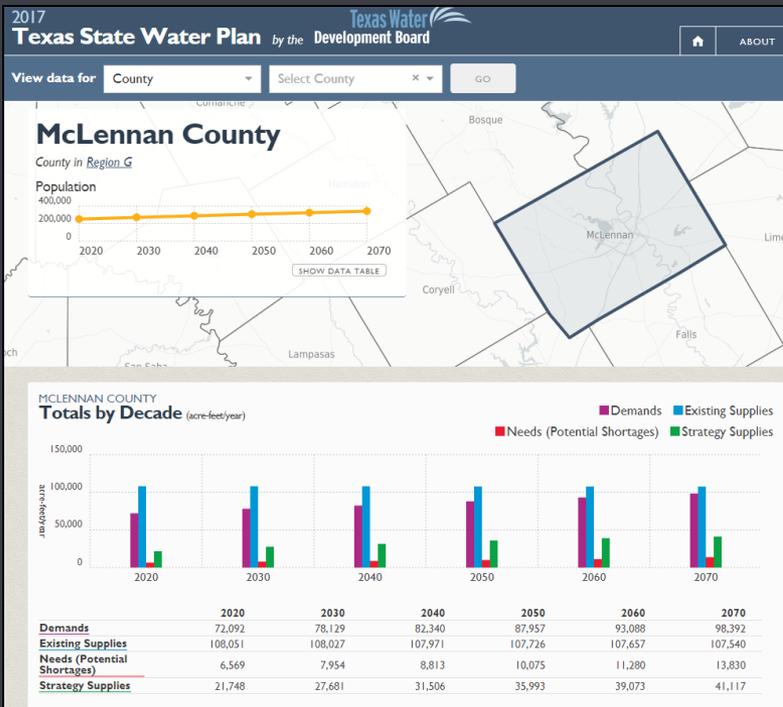


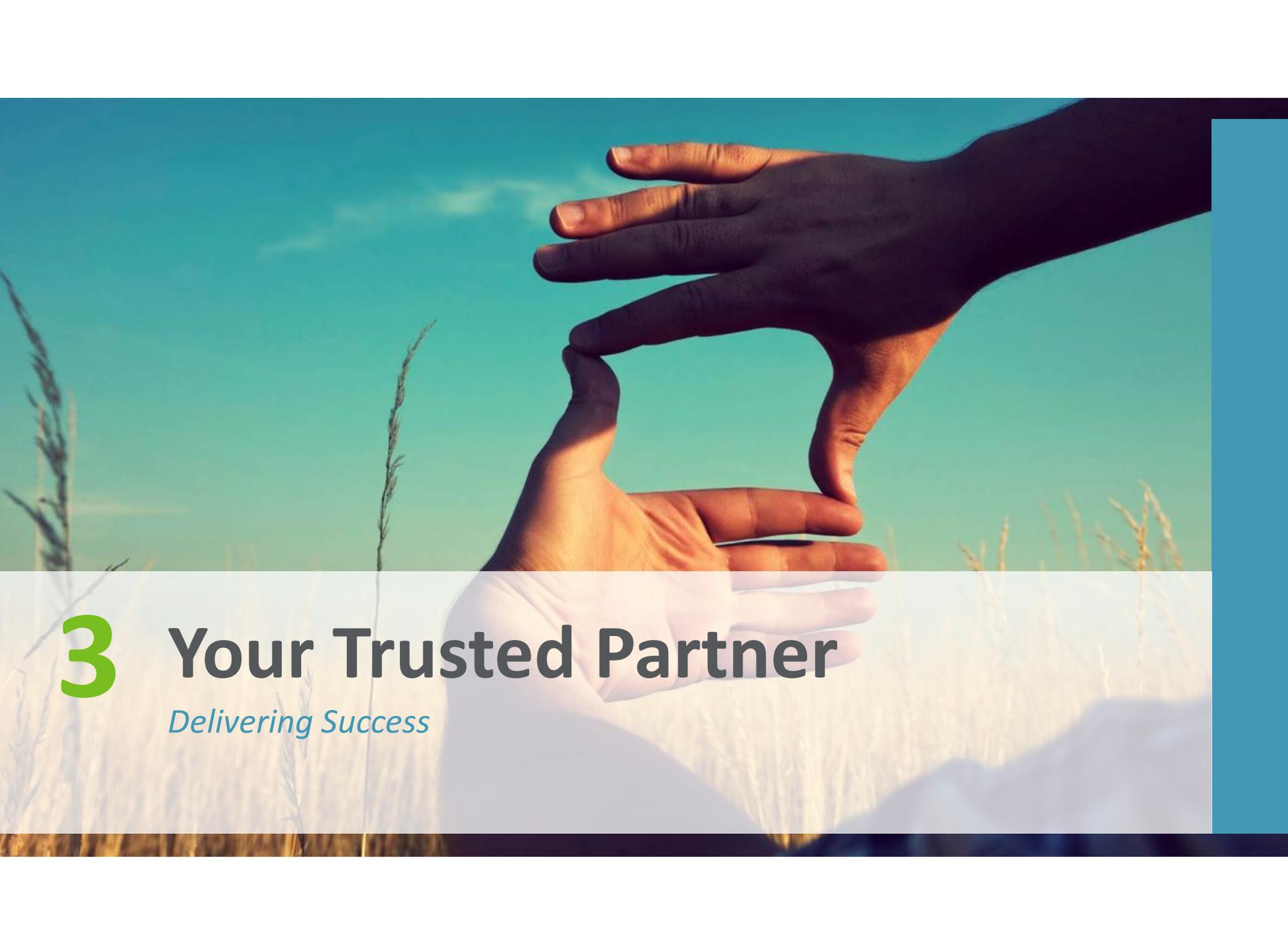
EXPAND COMMUNICATIONS

- Coordinate an outreach plan
 - Prioritize early outreach to County Judges and WUGs
 - Utilize BGRWPG and BRA
- Provide HDR online office hours
- Increase interregional coordination



Real-time Access for Planning Group Members



A photograph of two hands reaching towards each other in a field of tall grass under a clear blue sky. The hands are positioned in the center of the frame, with the fingers slightly curled as if about to grasp each other. The background is a soft-focus field of golden-brown grasses. The sky is a vibrant, clear blue. A semi-transparent white banner is overlaid across the bottom half of the image, containing the text.

3 Your Trusted Partner

Delivering Success

Why Choose the HDR Team as your Partner

- Plan continuity & no learning curve provides efficiency
- Technical excellence provides confidence and innovation
- Leverage experience to enhance approach and address new challenges for 2026
- Strategic teaming partners provide additional value



Questions



6.3. Presentation by and possible discussion with representative(s) from LRE.

2026 REGIONAL WATER PLAN PREPARATION FOR THE BRAZOS G REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP



**Lockwood, Andrews
& Newnam, Inc.**

A LEO A DALY COMPANY



Key Advantages

Fresh approach

+

Process improvements



Better 2026 Plan

Our Objective:



To create an Improved 2026 Plan

1. More Inclusive Planning

- a. Greater WUG participation & communication
- b. Documented WUG participation & approval – “Tracker”

2. More Efficient Planning Group Meetings

- a. Earlier provision of meeting materials
- b. Virtual Office Hours for WUG, Planning Group, and Tech Consultant Interaction

3. More Comprehensive Strategy Review

- a. Inclusion of current and developing WUG strategies
- b. Objective scrutiny of strategies & applications

Your Brazos G Planning Team

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES TABLE

TEAM MEMBER	FIRM	ROLE	RELEVANT LICENSURE
Jordan Furnans	LRE Water	Project Manager, Lead Planner, Surface Water Availability	TX PE (97316) TX PG (11002)
Tom Ray	LAN	Assistant Project Manager, WUG Interactions	TX PE (61305)
Mike Keester	LRE Water	Groundwater Availability and Supply Assessment	TX PG (10331)
Gary Gin	LRE Water	ASR Assessor	TX PG (4937)
Lisa Lattu	LAN	Population and Water Supply Projections, WUG Interactions	TX PE (90205) American Institute of Certified Planners (19567)
Lee Hamm	LAN	Water Supply Strategies and Cost Assessments	TXDoT LGPP
Laura Raun	LRPR	Stakeholder Outreach, Consensus Building	Group Facilitation Certificate from Corder/Thompson & Associates
Micaela Pedrazas	LRE Water	Water Supply Strategies and Cost Assessments, Project Manager in Training	TX EIT (70950)
Jennifer Herrera	WSP USA	TWDB Planning Process Oversight	N/A
Andrew Feigenbaum	WSP USA	TWDB Planning Process Oversight, Project Support	TX PG (15113)

10 Dedicated Professionals

5 Project Team Faces

100's of Firm Support Staff

Jordan Furnans - PM



20 Years of Texas Water Resources Experience
TWDB Instream Flows & Hydrosurvey Work

Testifying Expert – Water Availability Modeling:
Brazos Watermaster Hearings
Gulf Coast Water Authority Modeling

Live in Round Rock
Depend Upon water from Lake Georgetown

Hobbies: Raising kids, sailing, puzzles

Driving Question:

How can we engineer better
water management solutions?



Tom Ray – Assistant PM



Over 40 years of Water Resources Experience,
primarily in the Brazos River Basin

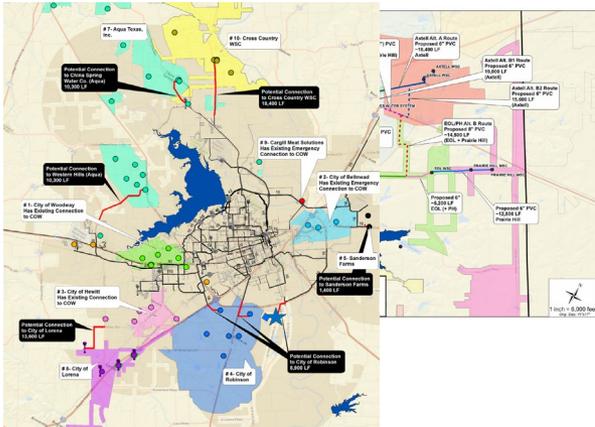
Wide-ranging water supply & quality planning

- Surface water, groundwater, & conjunctive use
- Key Regional supply strategies **implemented** include
 - ✓ Wm Co Raw Water Line
 - ✓ Bell Co WCID#1 Master Planning/Reuse
 - ✓ Hays-Caldwell GW (Alliance Regional Wtr Authority)

Lives & offices in Waco

Interests: family, grandkids & fishing

My take-away: *Regional planning starts with sound projections, engineering, & frequent communication; it ends with strategies that meet the tests for local implementation*



McLennan Co Conjunctive Use

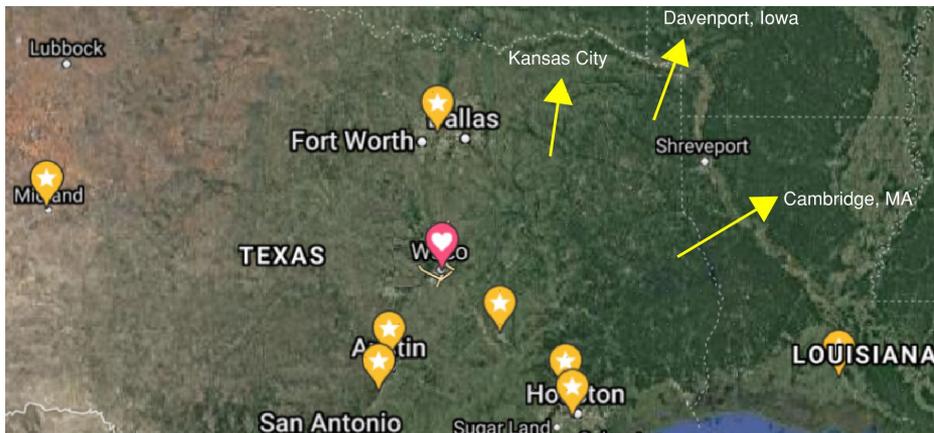
Lisa Lattu – Population & Supply



Infrastructure Engineer & City Planner; 25 years of water work supply and distribution planning, design, and construction treatment, regulations, and ordinances

Moving to Kyle (Edwards Aquifer - Guadalupe River)

also lived on water from the Ogallala, Carrizo-Wilcox, Chicot, and Gulf Coast Aquifers; the Trinity, Kansas, Missouri, Mississippi, and Charles Rivers



Driving Question:

How can we better source our water?

Laura Raun – Stakeholder Outreach



- 20+ years of public relations experience in the water industry
- Focus on public outreach, stakeholder input and facilitation
- Stakeholder Outreach lead on 2016 Region K Plan and 2011 Region L Plan
- Live in Austin
- Hobbies: hiking, yoga, gardening, dominoes

Driving Question:

**How to communicate with stakeholders and the public
in an information-overloaded world?**



Mike Keester – Groundwater



19 Years of groundwater consulting experience

Current Hydrogeologist for:

Clearwater GCD

Lone Star GCD

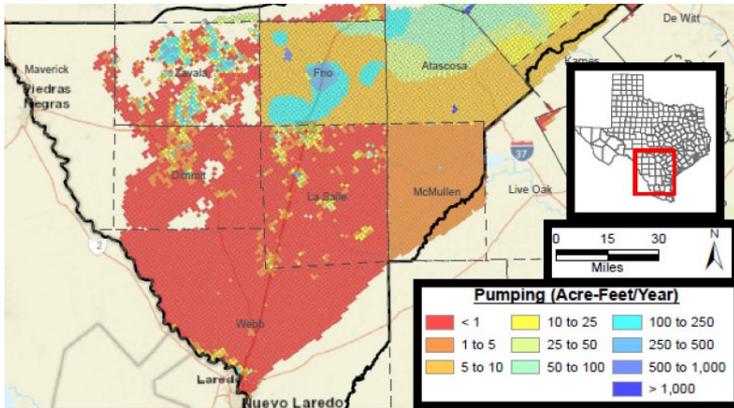
GMA-13

GMA-15

Leading LRE-TWDB-WSP Studies of
Pumping & Recharge in west TX Aquifers

Driving Question:

**Are DFCs and MAGs accurately represented
within RWPs?**



Other Team Members:



Micaela Pedrazas, EIT
All Facets of Planning
Getting married in
Bolivia



Jennifer Hererra
WSP Planning Lead
Process Oversight



Gary Gin, PG
ASR Specialist
LRE Water Leader
Phoenix, AZ



Andrew Feigenbaum
WSP Planner
Region J, E
Process Oversight



Lee Hamm, PE
LAN Planner
Cost Estimator

Team Advantages

- Energy – *we WANT to do this right and plan along with all WUGs and Brazos G Members*
- Experience – *we know the Brazos Basin, yet aren't hindered by past planning concepts*
- Enthusiasm – *we are fresh, excited to take on this challenge*

Our Commitment & Pledges



1. More Inclusive Planning

Use our established relationships in the Brazos Basin

- a. More frequent/Consistent Communication with WUGs & Planners
- b. Website Improvements for WUG Participation
- c. Greater Engagement - “Virtual Office Hours”

Goal: To get all WUGs included in the planning process

BROWN BAG ON THE BRAZOS

Join the Brazos River Authority for a Brown Bag on the Brazos.

The BRA is hosting a virtual public meeting to share insights, take questions and receive

The graphic features a dark background with a central image of a river winding through a green landscape. To the right of the river image is a brown paper bag with a Texas state flag logo. Below the main title, there is a section titled "You're Invited" with a small video thumbnail showing people in a meeting. The text below the title reads: "Join the Brazos River Authority for a Brown Bag on the Brazos." and "The BRA is hosting a virtual public meeting to share insights, take questions and receive".

Our Commitment & Pledges



2. More Efficient Planning Group Meetings
 - a. Meeting materials provided EARLIER to planning group
 - b. Agenda Tools:
 - i. Focus on Action Items
 - ii. Highlight revisions to published Agenda

October 28, 2020 – Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

Potential Action Items

Item 6.1 – Potential inclusion of Changes & Progress items in meeting discussions.

Relevant Meeting Packet Pages: Day-of Handouts

Item 6.2 – Possible action to support a Waiver of Consistency for the City of Riesel Arsenic Reduction Project.

Relevant Meeting Packet Pages: 33-37

Item 6.3 – Possible action to consider requests from various entities to participate in Flood Infrastructure Fund Category 1 Watershed Studies.

Relevant Meeting Packet Pages: 53-58

AGENDA

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. INVOCATION
3. NOTICE OF MEETING
4. ATTENDANCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
5. PUBLIC INPUT – Public questions and comments on agenda items or water planning issues (limited to 5 minutes each; public must fill out a 'Request to Speak' form prior to the discussion of the agenda item)

6. PROGRAM
 - 6.1. Changes & Progress Since Agenda Publication (5 Minutes) – LRE Water
 - i. Member vote on Changes & Progress Agenda Additions

“Our Preparation allows you time to prepare for Planning Group Meetings”

Our Commitment & Pledges



3. More Comprehensive Strategy Review

- Inclusion of current and developing WUG strategies
- Objective scrutiny of strategies & applications

Ongoing Studies:

Mining Water Use Study (BEG)

Reservoir Yield Uncertainty Study

(TWDB & AquaStrategies)

Safe Yield Push for Region K

(CTWC)

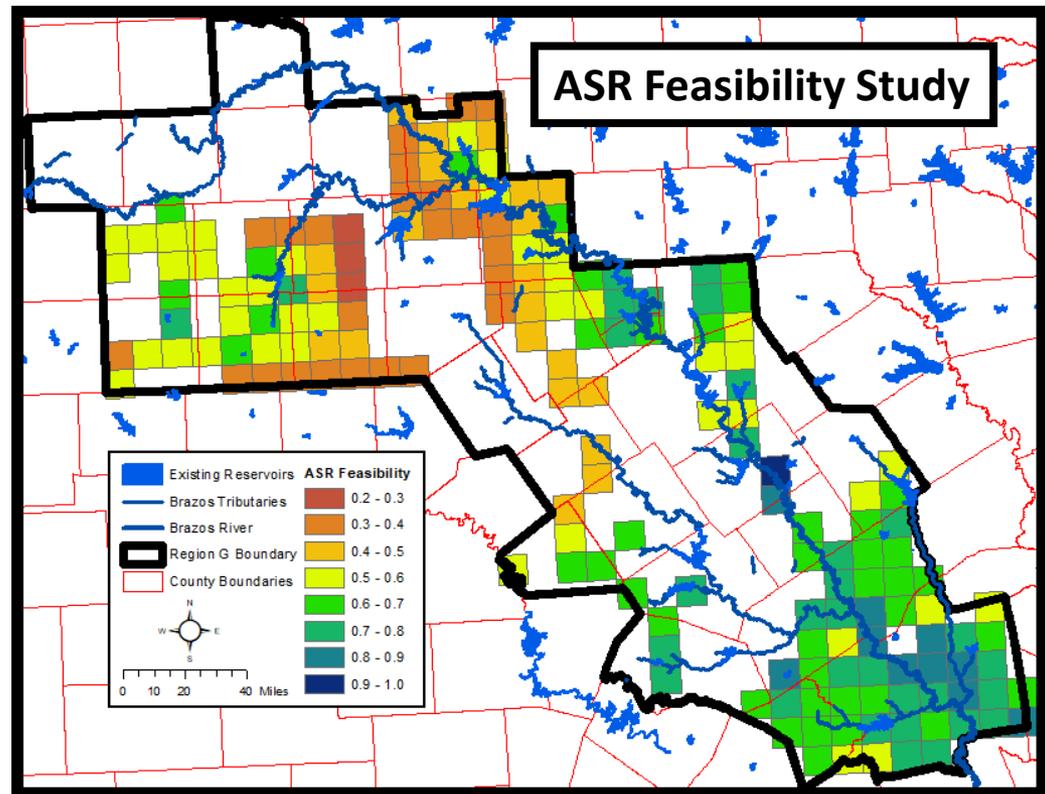
Bell County ASR Coalition

Imported Groundwater for WilCo

Conjunctive Use for McLennan Co.

City of Troy

City of Crawford



Key Takeaways

Fresh approach

+

Process improvements



Better 2026 Plan



Lockwood, Andrews & Newnam, Inc.

A LEO A DALY COMPANY



Climate crisis >



First-ever Colorado River water shortage is now almost certain, new projections show



Contact:

Jordan Furnans

Jordan.Furnans@LREWater.com

512-736-6485



6.4. Discussion and possible action on the recommendation for the sixth regional planning cycle technical consultant for Brazos G.

June 2, 2021 Brazos G Executive Committee Meeting

Action Summary

Agenda Item 6.4

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Executive Committee recommends to the members of the Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group the selection of Carollo Engineers, Inc. to serve as the Technical Consultant for the Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group for the sixth regional water planning cycle.



**7. DISCUSSION AND UPDATE ON BRAZOS G
VOTING AND NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP**

**8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE
RECOMMENDATION TO THE BRAZOS GROUP
ON FORUM AND FORMAT OF FUTURE BRAZOS
G MEETINGS**



City Manager's Office

Post Office Box 2570

Waco, Texas 76702-2570

254 / 750-5640

Fax: 254 / 750-5880

www.waco-texas.com

March 22, 2021

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2021

Mr. Wayne Wilson
Region G Chair
Brazos River Authority
4600 Cobbs Drive
Waco, TX 76710

GENERAL MANAGER

Mr. Wilson,

I hope 2021 has been good to both you and the BRA.

As you know, Mr. Wiley Stem III has recently retired from the City of Waco. Given Wiley's extensive knowledge of the City of Waco's water system, Lake Waco and its history as well as the water issues facing the region, I believe his continued representation of the City of Waco on the Board of the Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group is in the best interest of the City of Waco and Region G. Therefore, I ask that Wiley continue to serve on the Region G Board as the City of Waco's representative.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Bradley Ford
City Manager

cc: David Collinsworth, General Manager/CEO-BRA
Paul Cain, Assistant City Manager
Lisa Tyer, Director of Utilities/City of Waco
Mr. Wiley Stem III (via email)



**9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE
RECOMMENDATION ON UPDATING THE
POSTING OF NOTICES OF BRAZOS G
MEETINGS**

[<<Prev Rule](#)[Next Rule>>](#)

Texas Administrative Code

<u>TITLE 31</u>	NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION
<u>PART 10</u>	TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD
<u>CHAPTER 357</u>	REGIONAL WATER PLANNING
<u>SUBCHAPTER B</u>	GUIDANCE PRINCIPLES AND NOTICE REQUIREMENTS
RULE §357.21	Notice and Public Participation

(a) Each RWPG and any committee or subcommittee of an RWPG are subject to Chapters 551 and 552, Government Code. A copy of all materials presented or discussed at an open meeting shall be made available for public inspection prior to and following the meetings and shall meet the additional notice requirements when specifically referenced as required under other subsections. In accordance with Texas Water Code §16.053(r), certain information regarding water infrastructure facilities is excepted from the Public Information Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 552. In addition to the notice requirements of Chapter 551, Government Code, the following requirements apply to RWPGs.

(b) Each RWPG shall create and maintain a website that they will use to post public notices of all its full RWPG, committee, and subcommittee meetings and make available meeting agendas and related meeting materials for the public, in accordance with this section.

(c) Each RWPG shall provide a means by which it will accept written public comment prior to and after meetings. The RWPGs must also allow oral public comment during RWPG meetings and hearings.

(d) Each RWPG shall solicit interested parties from the public and maintain a list of emails of persons or entities who request to be notified electronically of RWPG activities.

(e) At a minimum, notices of all meetings, meeting materials, and meeting agendas shall be sent electronically, in accordance with the timelines and any additional notice requirements provided in subsections (g)(1) - (3) and (h) of this section or any additional notice requirements in the RWPG bylaws, to all voting and non-voting RWPG members and any person or entity who has requested notice of RWPG activities. Notice must also be provided to the following:

(1) if a recommended or Alternative WMS that is located outside of the RWPG is being considered, the RWPG where the recommended or Alternative WMS is located must also receive notice of any meeting or hearing where action or public input may be taken on the recommended or Alternative WMS.

(2) for hearings on declarations of intent to pursue simplified planning, if an RWPG shares a water supply source, WMS, or WMSP with another RWPG, the RWPG declaring intent to pursue simplified planning must notify the RWPG with shared source, WMS, or WMSP.

(3) each project sponsor of an infeasible WMS or WMSP must be provided notice of any meeting or hearing where action may be taken on the infeasible WMS or WMSP.

(f) At a minimum, all meeting and hearing notices must be posted to the RWPG website and on the secretary of state website and must include:

(1) the date, time, and location of the meeting;

(2) a summary of the proposed action(s) to be taken;

(3) the name, telephone number, email address, and physical address of a contact person to whom questions or requests for additional information may be submitted; and

(4) a statement of how and when comments will be received from the members and public.

(g) In addition to subsections (a) - (f) of this section, and the notice requirements of Chapter 551, Government Code, the following requirements apply:

(1) at a minimum, notice must be provided at least seven days prior to the meeting, and meeting materials must be made available on the RWPG website at least three days prior to and seven days following the meeting when the planning group will take the following actions:

(A) regular RWPG meetings and any RWPG committee or subcommittee meetings;

(B) approval of requests for funds from the Board;

(C) amendments to the scope of work or budget included in the regional water planning grant contract between the political subdivision and TWDB;

(D) approval of revision requests for draft population projections and Water Demand projections;

(E) adoption of the IPP;

(F) approval to submit a request to EA for approval of an Alternative WMS substitution or to request an EA determination of a minor amendment;

(G) declaration of implementation of simplified planning following public hearing on intent to pursue simplified planning;

(H) initiation of major amendments to RWPs and adoption of major amendments following a public hearing on the amendment;

(I) approval of replacement RWPG members to fill voting and non-voting position vacancies; and

(J) any other RWPG approvals required by the regional water planning grant contract between TWDB and the political subdivision.

(2) at a minimum, notice must be provided at least 14 days prior to the meeting, written comment must be accepted for 14 days prior to the meeting and considered by the RWPG members prior to taking the associated action, and meeting materials must be made available on the RWPG website for a minimum of seven days prior to and 14 days following the meeting, when the planning group will take the following actions:

(A) approval to submit revision requests to officially adopted Board population and Water Demand projections;

(B) approval of process of identifying potentially feasible WMSs and presentation of analysis of infeasible WMSs or WMSPs;

(C) approval to submit the Technical Memorandum;

(D) adoption of the final RWP;

(E) approval to substitute Alternative WMSs; and

(F) adoption of minor amendments to RWPs.

(3) at a minimum, notice must be provided at least 30 days prior to the hearing, written comment must be accepted for 30 days prior to and following the date of the hearing and considered by the RWPG members prior to taking the associated action, and meeting materials must be made available on the RWPG website for a

minimum of seven days prior to and 30 days following the hearing, when the planning group will receive input from the public on the following items:

- (A) declarations to pursue simplified planning; and
- (B) major amendments to RWPs.

(h) when holding pre-planning public meetings to obtain public input on development of the next RWP, holding hearings on the IPP, or making revisions to RWPs based on interregional conflict resolutions, in addition to the requirements of subsection (e) of this section, the following additional public notice and document provisions must be met per TWC §16.053(h):

(1) notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in each county located in whole or in part in the RWPA before the 30th day preceding the date of the public meeting or hearing.

(2) at a minimum, notice must be provided at least 30 days prior to the meeting or hearing.

(3) written comments to be accepted as follows:

(A) written comments submitted immediately following 30-day public notice posting and prior to and during meeting or hearing; and

(B) at least 60 days following the date of the public hearing on an IPP.

(4) if more than one hearing on the IPP is held, the notice and comment periods apply to the date of the first hearing.

(5) additional entities to be notified by mail under this subsection include:

(A) each adjacent RWPG;

(B) each mayor of a municipality, located in whole or in part in the RWPA, with a population of 1,000 or more or which is a county seat;

(C) each county judge of a county located in whole or in part in the RWPA;

(D) each special or general law district or river authority with responsibility to manage or supply water in the RWPA based upon lists of such water districts and river authorities obtained from the Commission; and

(E) each Retail Public Utility, defined as a community water system, that serves any part of the RWPA or receives water from the RWPA based upon lists of such entities obtained from the Commission; and

(F) each holder of record of a water right for the use of surface water the diversion of which occurs in the RWPA based upon lists of such water rights holders obtained from the Commission.

(6) the public hearings shall be conducted at a central location readily accessible to the public within the regional water planning area.

(7) RWPGs shall make copies of the IPP available for public inspection at least 30 days before the required public hearing by providing a copy of the IPP in at least one public library in each county and either the county courthouse's law library, the county clerk's office, or some other accessible place within the county courthouse of each county having land in the RWPA. The locations of such copies shall be included in the public hearing notice. For distribution of the IPP, the RWPG may consult and coordinate with county and local officials in determining the most appropriate public library and location in the county courthouse to ensure maximum accessibility to the public during business hours. According to the capabilities of the facility, the RWPG may provide the copy electronically, on electronic media, through an internet web link, or in hard copy. The RWPG

shall make an effort to ensure ease of access to the public, including where feasible, posting the IPP on websites and providing notice of such posting. The public inspection requirement in this subsection applies only to IPPs; adopted RWPs are only required to be submitted to the Board pursuant to Texas Water Code, §16.053(i).

(8) Any additional meeting materials associated with meetings in this subsection must be made available on the RWPG website for a minimum of seven days prior to and 30 days following the meeting or hearing.

(i) All notice periods given are based on calendar days.

(j) Each RWPG shall include a statement in their draft and final adopted RWPs regarding the RWPG's conformance with this section.

Source Note: The provisions of this §357.21 adopted to be effective August 12, 2012, 37 TexReg 5797; amended to be effective December 8, 2016, 41 TexReg 9589; amended to be effective April 11, 2018, 43 TexReg 2158; amended to be effective June 28, 2020, 45 TexReg 4211; amended to be effective May 27, 2021, 46 TexReg 3297

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