



PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, March 27, 2024

10:00 AM

Brazos River Authority

Lt. Gen. Phillip J. Ford Central Office

4600 Cobbs Dr. Waco, TX 76710



PUBLIC HEARING

- 1. Call Meeting to Order and Notice of Meeting**
- 2. Invocation**
- 3. Attendance and Announcements**



PUBLIC HEARING

4. Discussion on the report from the technical consultant

4.1. Major Amendment of the 2021 Brazos G Regional Water Plan

Brazos G Regional Water Planning

Public Hearing

Major Amendment of the 2021 Brazos G Regional Water Plan



WACO, TX MAR 27, 2024

Objectives

- Summarize proposed amendment.
- Hear public comments on proposed amendment.

Defining “Infeasible”

“[A] water management strategy or project **is considered infeasible if the proposed sponsor of the water management strategy or project has not taken an affirmative vote or other action to make expenditures necessary to construct or file applications for permits required in connection with the implementation of the water management strategy or project under federal or state law on a schedule that is consistent with the completion of the implementation of the water management strategy or project by the time the water management strategy or project is projected by the regional water plan or the state water plan to be needed.**

- **TWC §16.053(h)(10)**

Evaluation of Infeasible Water Management Strategies

- Per TAC §357.12(b), RWPG is responsible for performing analysis to identify infeasible Water Management Strategies (WMSs) or Water Management Strategy Projects (WMSPs) in 2021 Brazos G Plan.
- The Brazos G Scope of Work Committee met, developed, and recommended a list of identified infeasible WMSs and WMSPs from the 2021 Plan based on:
 - Project sponsor provided information
 - Local knowledge, as acquired through plan development activities such as surveys and by phone, and
 - Determined based on implementation schedules consistent with implementation by the project sponsors.
- List adopted by the Brazos G RWPG on February 13, 2024.
- Several of the identified infeasible strategies relate to major reservoir strategies, and thus qualify as a major amendment.
- RWPG thus also formally initiated major amendment process.

Infeasible Strategies Amendment

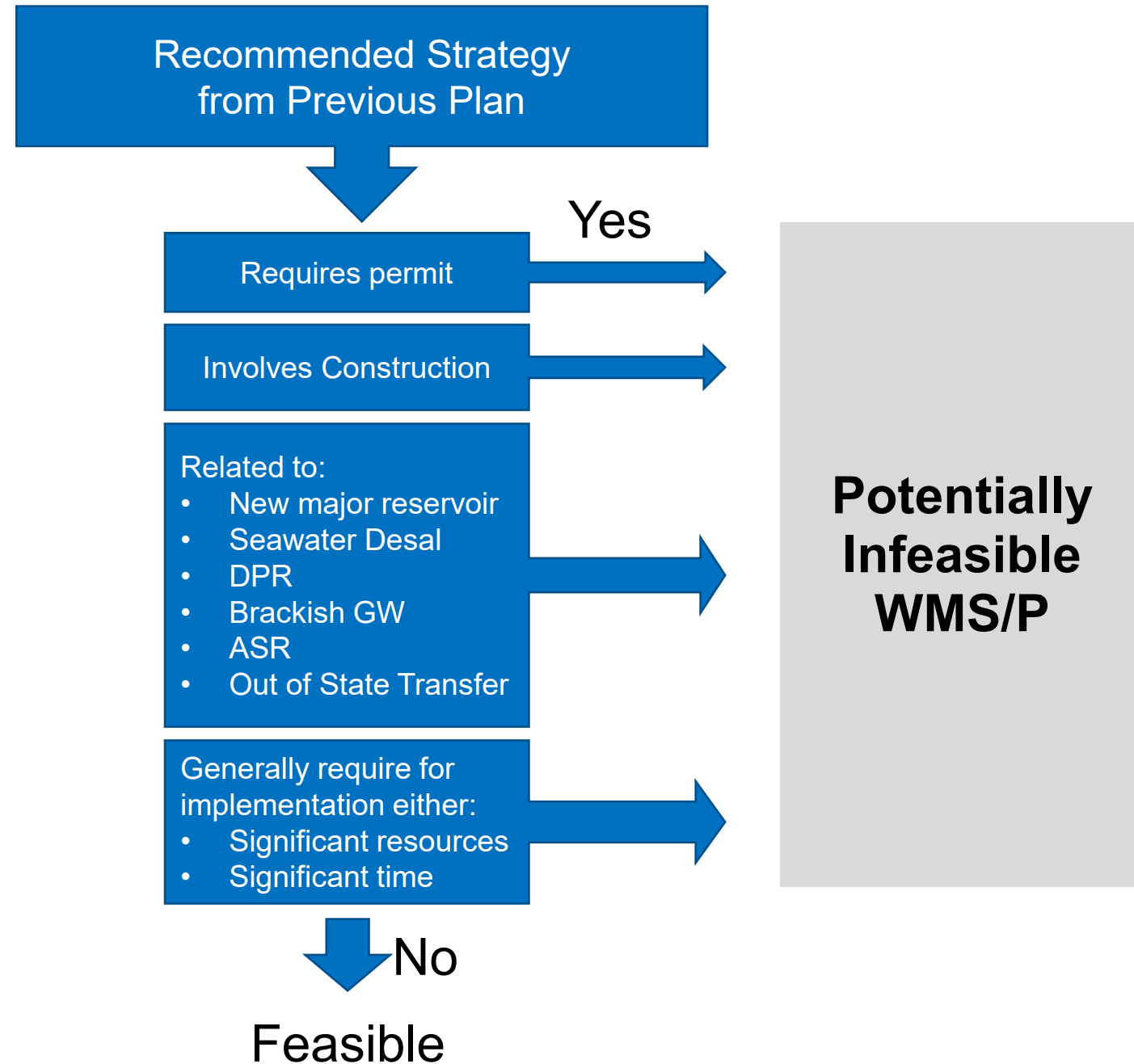
- Amend the previous RWP to modify and/or remove any infeasible WMS or WMSP in accordance with existing amendment procedures
- If applicable or required, identify and evaluate new WMSs or WMSPs that would be needed to meet need that had been met by infeasible WMS/WMSP
- Previous RWP may be amended to:
 - Remove infeasible WMS/WMSP
 - Revise infeasible WMS/WMSP to make it feasible
 - Incorporate a new WMS/WMSP to address the identified need.
- RWPG must submit the adopted amendments associated with this task to TWDB no later than three (3) months following March 4, 2024 (i.e., June 4, 2024).

Compilation of Required Information

- ✓ 1. A cover letter stating need for amendment and summarizing RWPG action taken.
 - ✓ 2. Documentation of what plan sections the amendment applies to and where changes would occur
 - ✓ 3. Demonstrate full evaluation of WMS/Ps.
 - ✓ 4. Summarize infeasible WMS/P components and why determined to be infeasible.
 - ✓ 5. Summarize changes to unmet needs and justifying increases if applicable.
 - ✓ 6. Relevant water availability modeling files, if applicable.
 - ✓ 7. Relevant data revisions for the regional water planning database.
-
- ✓ ▪ Submit draft packet for TWDB review.
 - Consider public input and comments.
 - Develop, adopt, and submit final amendment packet to TWDB after comment period.

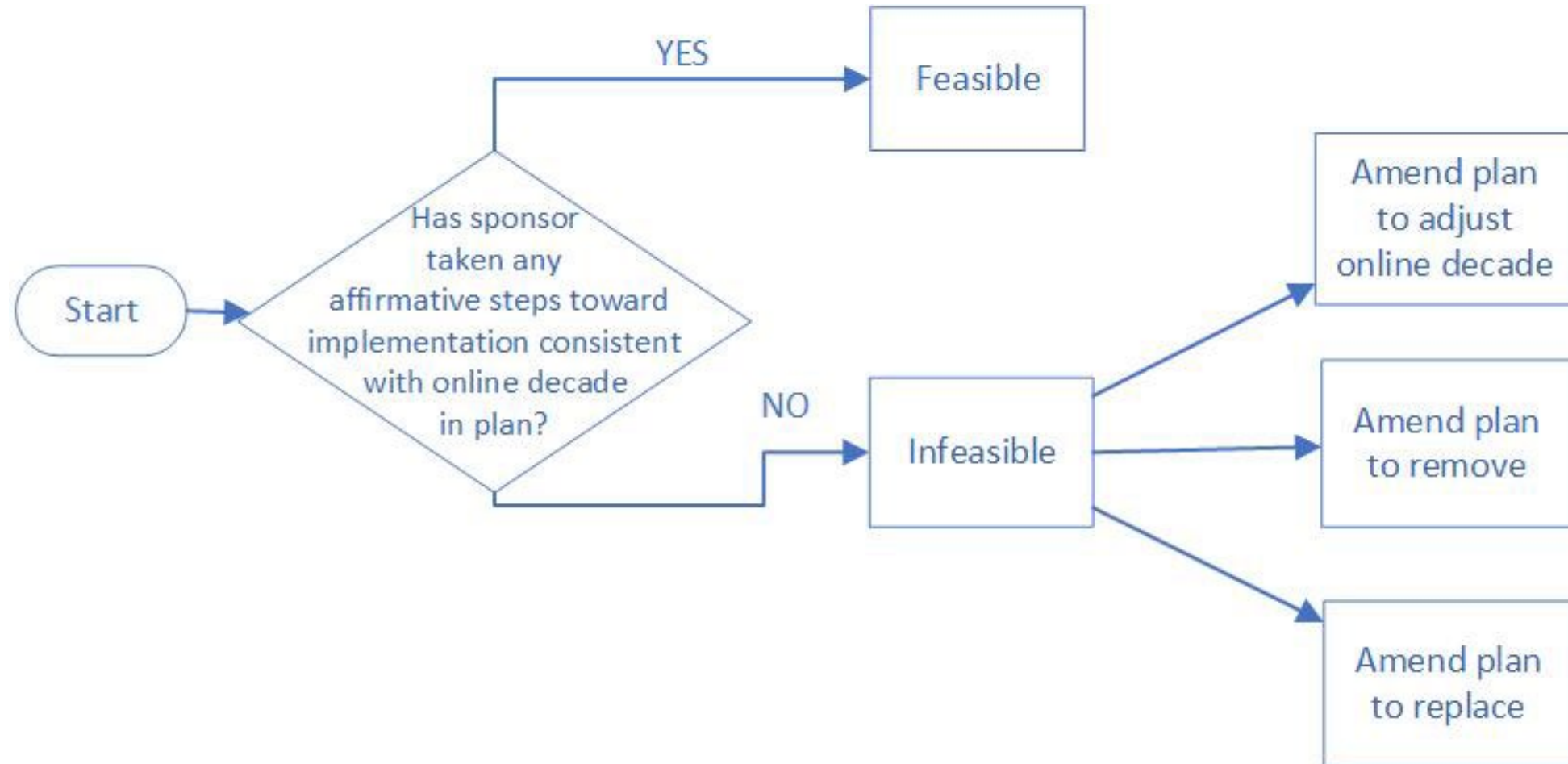
Infeasibility Process

Step 1: Identification of Potentially Infeasible WMS



Infeasibility Process (cont'd)

Apply the following steps to each identified, potentially infeasible WMS/WMSP:



Affirmative Steps

- Spending money on the strategy or project
- Voting to spend money on the strategy or project
- Applying for a federal or state permit for the strategy or project

Analysis of Potentially Infeasible WMS and WMSPs

- Preliminary list of potentially infeasible WMS and WMSPs from 2021 Plan provided by TWDB
- Engagement
 - Surveys
 - Phone
 - Letters
 - Invitations to attend SOW Committee meeting
- Input on alternatives
- Unmet needs
 - Needs would typically only be unmet should a drought of severity equivalent to the drought of record occur prior to strategies scheduled to be in place.

Type	Project	Sponsor	Online	Status
Groundwater	Trinity Aquifer Development	City of Godley	2020	Per Mr. Kevin Fregia (Dir. Pub. Works) – no affirmative steps, but plan would continue to be to construct in next 5 years if necessary. Recommend identify strategy as infeasible, defer to 2030 with unmet 2020 need.
	Trinity Aquifer Development	Johnson County SUD	2020	Sponsor (per Mr. Tyler Lyles, Water Operations Mgr.) indicates strategy no longer feasible, recently increased surface water agreement with City of Mansfield and negotiating revised contract with Brazos Regional PUA, per provided 2022 Water System Master Plan. Recommend identify strategy as infeasible and revise strategy to increase purchase from TRWD for 2020.
	Trinity Aquifer Development	Highland Park WSC	2020	Per Mr. David Posten (Operator and Dist. System Admin), no affirmative steps taken, but intends to implement when needed. Recommend identify strategy as infeasible, defer to 2030 with unmet 2020 need.
WTP	Jayton WTP New	Jayton	2020	Per Ms. Michelle Fager, (City Sec), project shortages due to TCEQ treatment constraint are no longer applicable, thus no shortage exists and WMS no longer necessary. Recommend identify strategy as infeasible, remove strategy and revise supply from 0 to groundwater well annual production capacity, as sufficient MAG is available.

Type	Project	Sponsor	Online	Status
Major Reservoir	Cedar Ridge Reservoir	Abilene	2030	Sponsor (per Mr. Rodney Taylor, City of Abilene, Director of Water Utilities) has taken affirmative steps. The City has submitted a surface water right permit application to the TCEQ and a permit application to the USACE. Each application remains active within its respective agency. The sponsor requests the online decade be changed to 2040.
				Recommend identifying WMS and associated WMSP as infeasible and moving online decade to 2040.
				Recommend identifying Sweetwater WMSP “Interconnect from Abilene to Sweetwater” as infeasible and moving online decade to 2040. This will affect two secondary customers to the City of Sweetwater.
				Recommend amending the recommended strategy for the City of Roscoe for purchase of 88 ac-ft/yr of supply in 2030 to 50 ac-ft/yr of supply from the City of Sweetwater, leaving an unmet municipal need in only the 2030 decade of 38 ac-ft/yr for the City of Roscoe.
				Recommend amending the recommended strategy for Nolan County Mining, delaying the onset of the purchase of additional supply from Sweetwater until 2040, leaving unmet mining needs in 2030 of 71 ac-ft/yr and in 2040 of 64 ac-ft/yr.
Major Reservoir	Lake Creek Reservoir	NCTMWA	2030	While sponsor has taken affirmative steps, with approx. \$500k expended to date on research/feasibility of project, no applications have been filed.
				Recommend identifying WMS and associated WMSP as infeasible and moving online decade to 2040.
				This will extend unmet needs to 2030 for the City of Haskell (473 ac-ft/yr), Knox City (214 ac-ft/yr), and Munday (229 ac-ft/yr).

Type	Project	Sponsor	Online	Status
Major Reservoir	New Throckmorton Reservoir	Graham and Throckmorton	2030	<p>No affirmative steps taken by sponsors (per Mr. Jimmy Collins, Public Works Director, City of Throckmorton). City of Throckmorton would plan to use existing water from lakes and/or increase contracted amount with the City of Graham. City of Graham (per Mr. Randall Dawson, Public Works Director) indicates no new reservoir project planned.</p> <p>Recommend identifying WMS and associated WMSP as infeasible and moving online decade to 2050.</p>
				<p>This will result in extending unmet needs to 2030 and 2040 for the City of Throckmorton (127 ac-ft/yr to 121 ac-ft/yr).</p>
				<p>This will result in extending unmet needs to 2030 and 2040 for the City of Graham (1,351 ac-ft/yr to 1,306 ac-ft/yr).</p>

Type	Project	Sponsor	Online	Status
Minor Reservoir	Coryell County OCR	Multi-County WSC	2030	<p>Sponsor (per Ms. Kate Timmons, Office Manager, Multi-County Water Supply Corporation) has not taken affirmative steps. No action has been taken to date except an agreement to be the representative of the project if it comes to fruition in the future. The WSC believes the project online decade would be 2050 or later. Discussion with City of Gatesville (per Mr. Scott Albert, GM) indicates strategy is still under consideration, although no affirmative steps have been taken, and not opposed to delaying strategy until 2050.</p> <p>Per 2021 Brazos G Plan "For the project to be economically feasible, an agreement with the Brazos River Authority (BRA) would be required to subordinate Lake Belton water rights to diversions from Cowhouse Creek for impoundment in the OCR. Without subordination, the unappropriated flows in Cowhouse Creek are not sufficient to maintain adequate water levels in the OCR. Currently, BRA indicates that no subordination agreement is likely to be possible."</p> <p>Recommend identifying WMS and associated WMSP as infeasible and moving online decade to 2050.</p> <p>This will result in unmet municipal needs for Flat WSC (2030 - 1 ac-ft/yr and 2040 - 3 ac-ft/yr),</p> <p>This will result in unmet municipal needs the City of Gatesville (2030 - 280 ac-ft/yr and 2040 - 543 ac-ft/yr). The 2021 Brazos G Plan already has an unmet municipal need in 2020 for the City of Gatesville of 1,041 ac-ft/yr.</p>

Address Previously Identified Corrections

- Correct capital cost for Williamson County groundwater WMS
- Correct typo on “Trinity Aquifer Development WMS - Palo Pinto County Irrigation”

Working Schedule

- February 13, 2024 - Brazos G RWPG meeting
 - Initiated major amendment to 2021 Brazos G Plan
- March 2024
 - **March 27 Public Hearing (today)**
- April 26, 2024
 - Last day for written comments
- Mid-May 2024 – Brazos G RWPG to adopt final amendment packet incorporating comments
- June 4, 2024 – Major amendment due



PUBLIC HEARING

- 5. Public Input - Public questions and comments on agenda items or water planning issues (limited to 5 minutes each)**



PUBLIC HEARING

6. Adjourn