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## Upstream Development Water Needs: Supply and Permitting Considerations

24th Annual Energy Law Institute South Texas College of Law August 31, 2011 Houston, Texas

(Revised 08-29-2011)

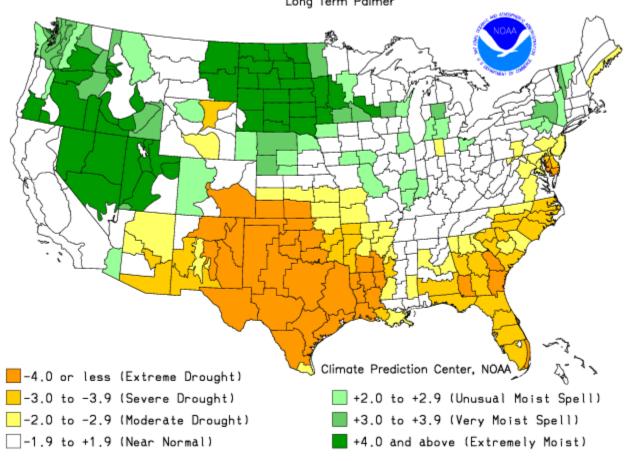


## Introduction

- Current Drought Conditions
- State Water Planning Process
- Oil & Gas Needs/Usage
- Water Supply Regulatory & Permitting
  - Surface Water
  - Groundwater
  - Reuse



#### Drought Severity Index by Division Weekly Value for Period Ending JUL 30, 2011 Long Term Palmer



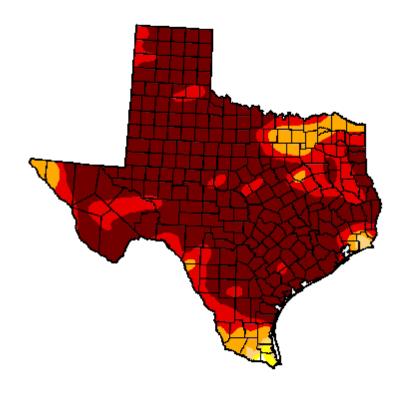
## U.S. Drought Monitor

August 2, 2011

#### Texas

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	Drought Conditions (Forcent Arcu)					
	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.07	99.93	99.48	98.67	91.73	73.49
Last Week (07/26/2011 map)	0.00	100.00	99.85	96.88	91.65	75.23
3 Months Ago (05/03/2011 map)	0.00	100.00	98.86	93.99	73.73	25.96
Start of Calendar Year (12/28/2010 map)	7.89	92.11	69.43	37.46	9.59	0.00
Start of Water Year (09/28/2010 map)	75.57	24.43	2.43	0.99	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago (07/27/2010 map)	89.01	10.99	2.74	0.44	0.00	0.00



#### Intensity:

D0 Abnormally Dry D1 Drought - Moderate D3 Drought - Extreme D4 Drought - Exceptional

D2 Drought - Severe

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

http://drought.unl.edu/dm







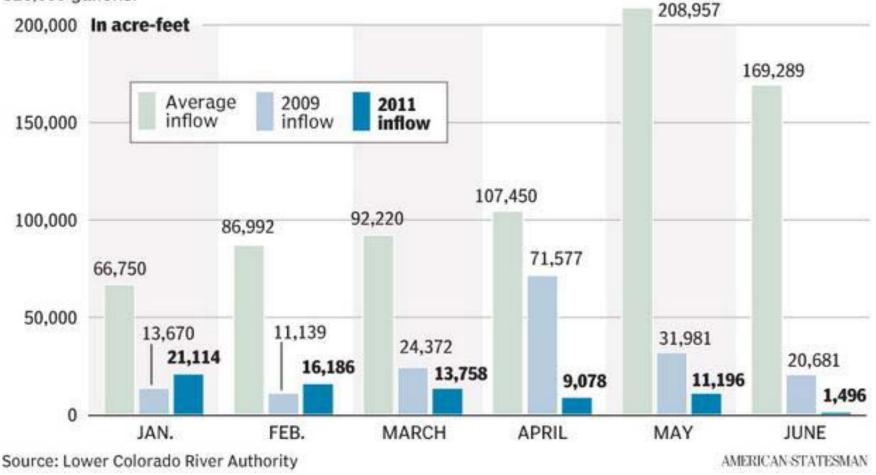


Released Thursday, August 4, 2011 Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture



#### Less water flowing into the Highland Lakes

The amount of water from rivers and streams flowing into the Highland Lakes, as measured in acre-feet, has been dropping in recent months. An acre-foot equals about 326,000 gallons.





#### **Surface Water Resources**

an important natural resource providing water for human use and a habitat for aquatic ecosystems

Surface Water Resources Home

**Evaporation Monitoring** 

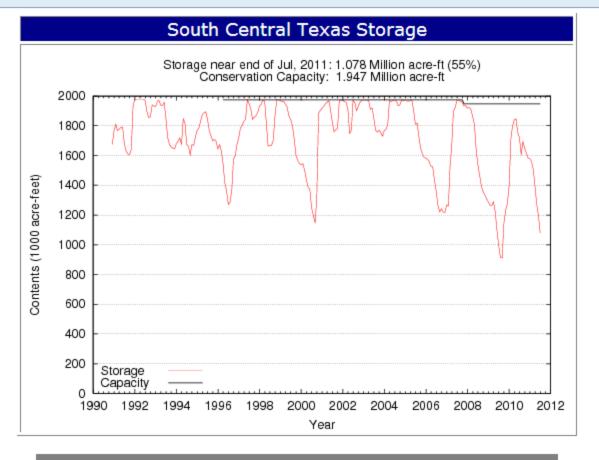
**Drought Summary** 

Reservoir-Map Tool

Texas Water Conditions

Location: TWDB Home » Water Science & Conservation » Surface Water Resources » Texas Water Conditions » South Central

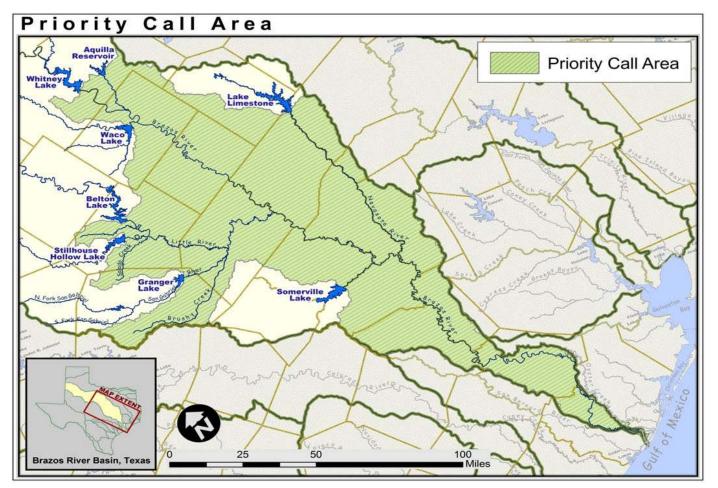
#### Reservoir Storage Regional Storage Map Reservoir Storage Map North Central Reservoirs State Total Regions: East Region Edwards Plateau High Plains Low Rolling Plains North Central Region South Central Region Southern Region Trans-Pecos Upper Coast





## Brazos River Priority Call Area

This map depicts the area of the Brazos River where <u>junior surface water</u> <u>rights</u> have been curtailed.

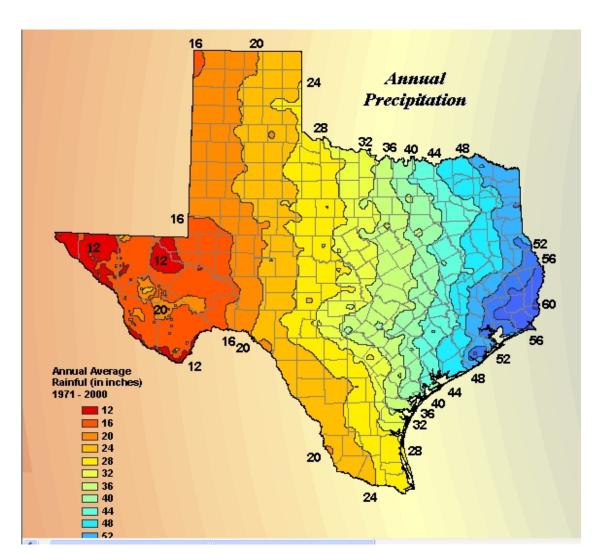


Source: TCEQ



# Where is Our Water Supply?

- •Scarce in West Texas
- •Abundant in East Texas
- •Nearly 3M acre ft/yr. Potential
- Development in Sabine and
- Neches Basins
- Limitation on New Interbasin Transfers

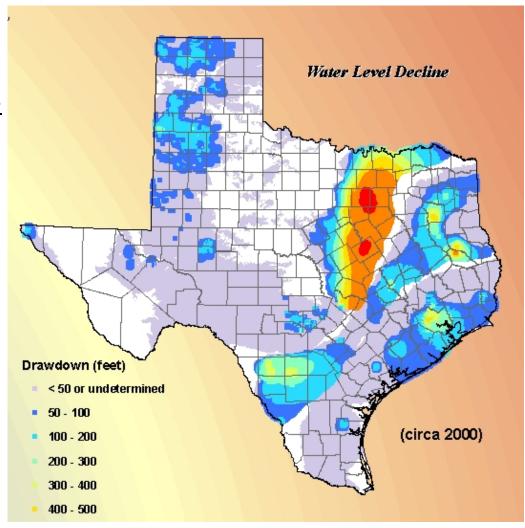


Source: TWDB



#### Groundwater Status

- Nearly 60% Current Water Use from Groundwater
- 100+ Groundwater Conservation Districts



Source: Texas Water Development

Board



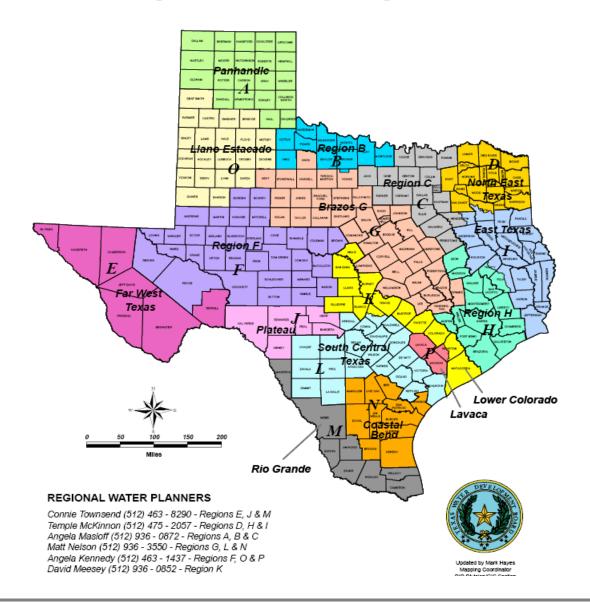
## State Water Plan 2012

- Planning Process Every 5 Years
- Locally Developed Regional Water Plans
- Total Texas 2060 Water Stats:
  - Supply = 15 million AcFt
  - Demand = 22 million AcFt
- Capital Cost \$53B to Meet Demand

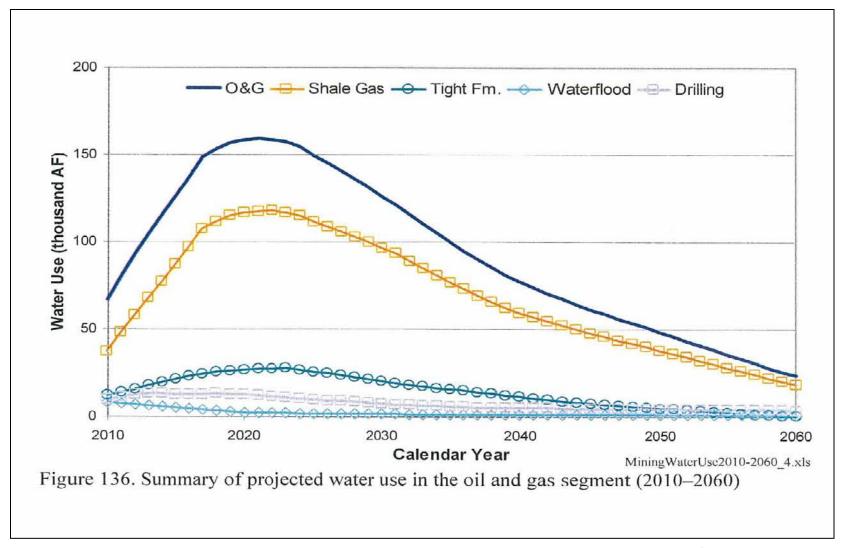
Source: Water for Texas: Summary of the 2011 Region Water Plans, Texas Water Development Board, January 2011.



#### Regional Water Planning Areas



### Projected O&G Sector Water Use

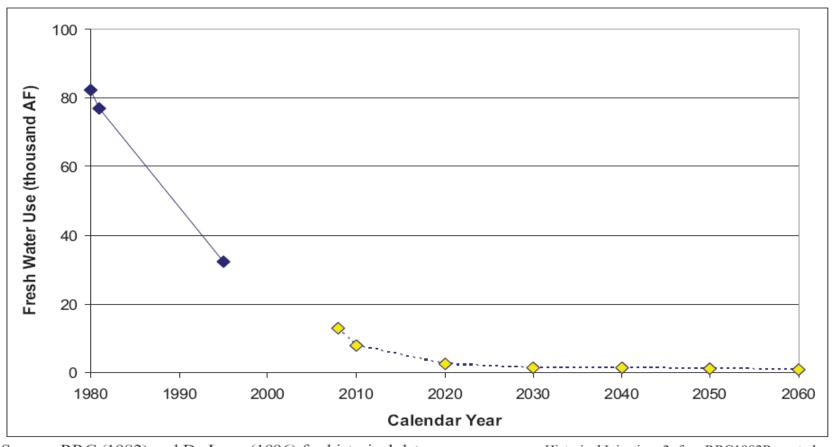


Source: BEG/TWDB June

2011



# Actual and Projected Water Use by O&G Secondary and Tertiary Recovery

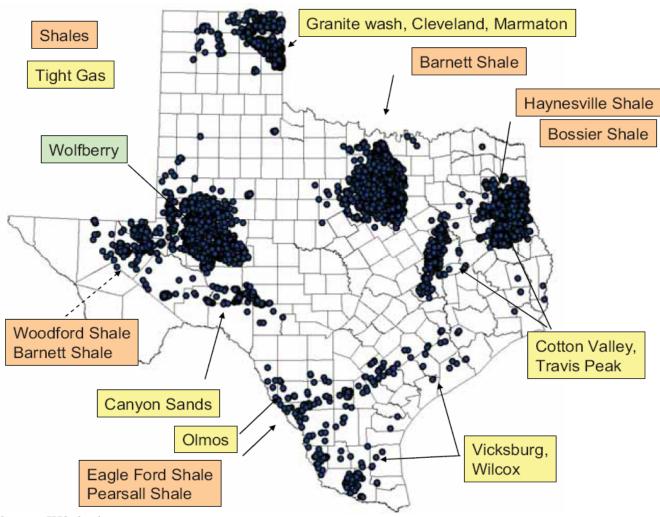


Source: RRC (1982) and De Leon (1996) for historical data

Historical Injection 2=fromRRC1982Report.xls



### Location of Frac Jobs (2005–2009)

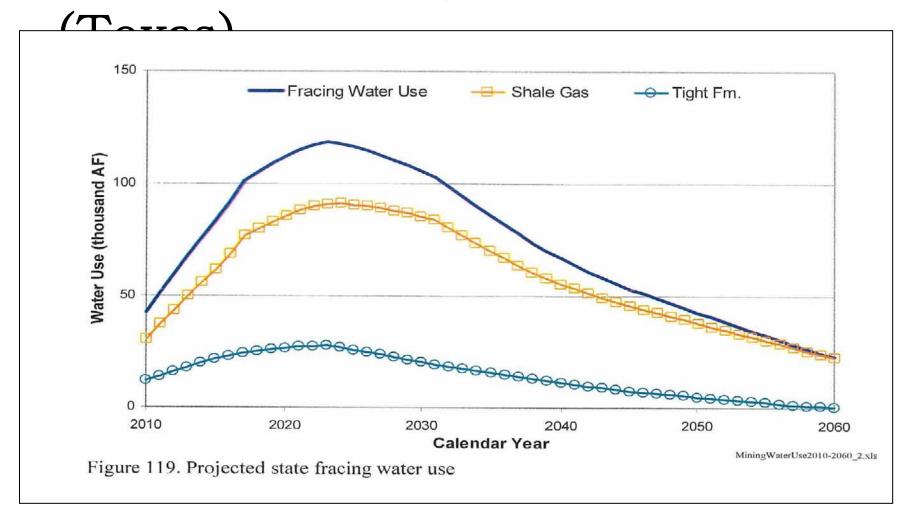


Source: IHS database

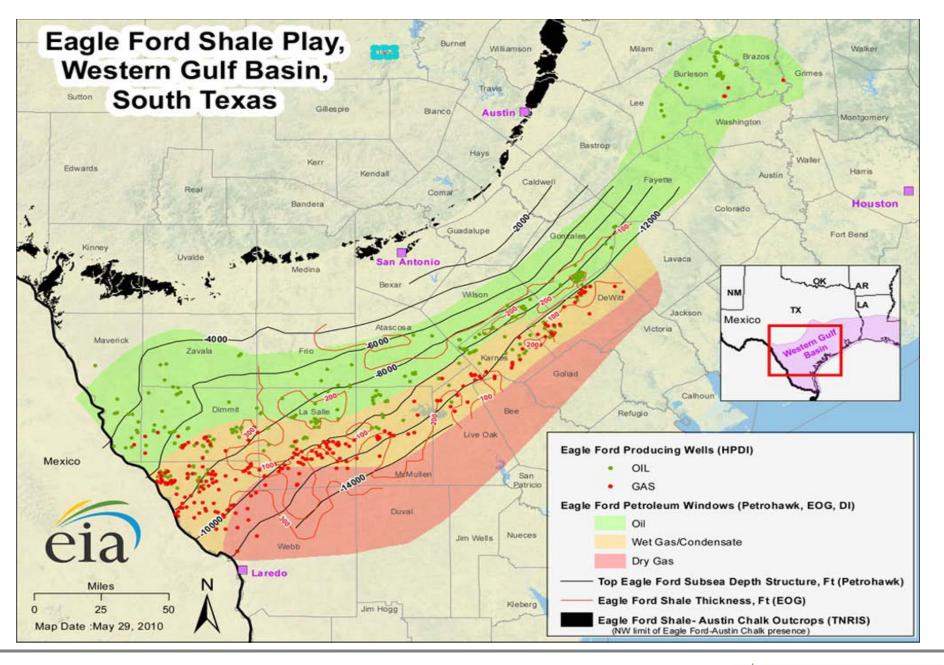
Figure 24. Map showing locations of all frac jobs 2005–2009, and main (mostly) gas plays

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## Projected Fracing Water Use









# Reported Average Frac Water Use (gallons/well)

• Barnett 2,300,000

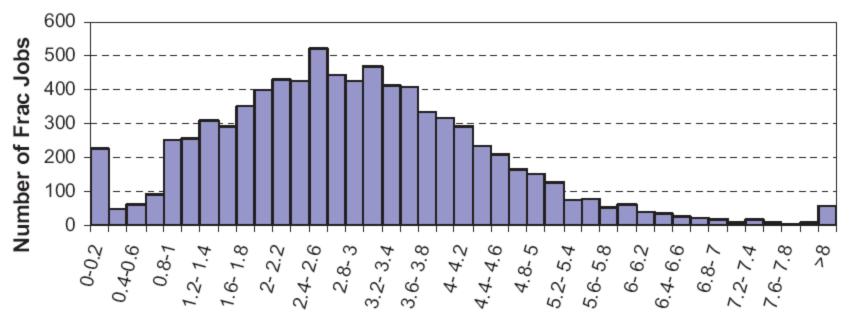
• Haynesville 2,700,000

• Marcellus (PA) 3,800,000

• Eagle Ford 6,000,000



# Barnett Shale - Frac Water Use (per Well)

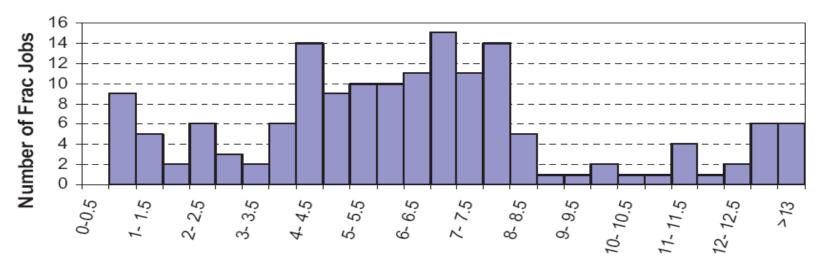


Horizontal Frac Water Volume (millions gallons)

Number of bins: 41; Bin size: 0.2; Number of data points: 8165



# <u>Eagle Ford – Frac Water Use</u> (per well)



E-F - Horizontal Frac Water Volume (millions gallons)

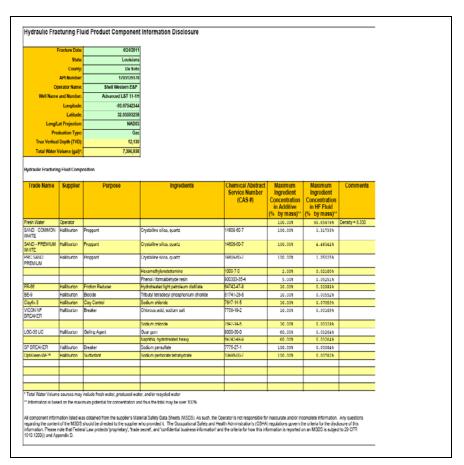
Number of bins: 27; Bin size: 0.5; Number of data points: 157





## FracFocus.Org







## Water Sources

#### Surface Water

- Owned by the State
- TCEQ Permit Needed to Appropriate
- Texas Water Code, Ch. 11

#### Groundwater

- Owned by Landowner (SB 332)
- Rule of Capture, Modified
- Local GW Conservation Districts (100+)

### Reuse/Recycling



## Surface Water Regulatory Definition



State Water – The water of the ordinary flow, underflow, and tides of <u>every</u> <u>flowing river</u>, <u>natural stream</u>, <u>and lake</u>... and the stormwater, floodwater, and rainwater of <u>every river</u>, <u>natural stream</u>, <u>and watercourse in the state</u>.

30 TAC § 297.1



## What is Not State Water?

- Diffuse Surface Water (Rainfall) Turner v. Big Lake Oil Co. (Tex. 1936).
- Groundwater Seepage and Springwater
- Certain Gulf of Mexico Water
- Developed Water
  - Reuse of privately owned groundwater
  - Water from interbasin transfers
  - Capture of diffused surface water



## Surface Water Issues

- Most Basins are Fully Appropriated
- Permitting Timeframe is Long
  - -Notice to Existing WR Holders
  - -Hearing
- New Permit Priority will be Junior to All Existing WR Holders
- Term Permit Option



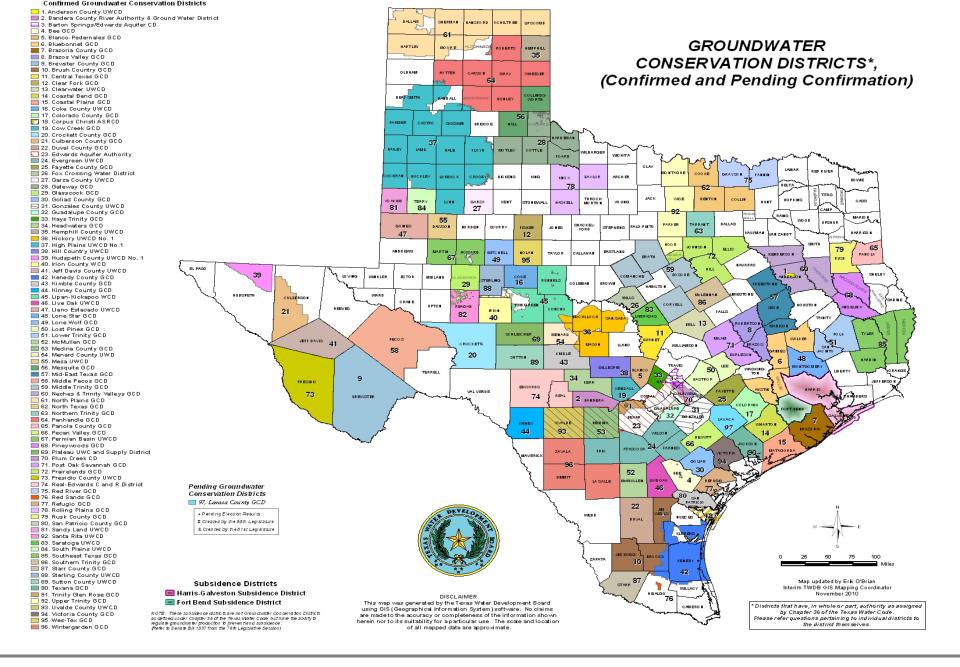
## Groundwater Regulation

### Locally Controlled GCDs

- -Elected Board
- -Preference for Regional GCDs

## Rules Vary by District

- -Permits for Drilling & Operating Wells
- -Spacing or Acreage Requirements
- -Transfer of Rights Between Wells
- -Transport Groundwater Out of





### Looming Groundwater Conflict

Landowner Rights v. GW Regulation

#### Desired Future Conditions

- DFC = Management Goal for Aquifer
- DFC's Due to TWDB by Sept. 2010
- TWDB Then Calculates MAG
- MAG Sets Permitting Target for GW

#### The Conflict

 MAG Will Limit Future Permits and GW Production



# O&G Groundwater Permit Exemption Water Code 36.117(b)(2)

A [groundwater conservation] district may not require any permit issued by the district for . . . the drilling of a water well used solely to supply water for a rig that is actively engaged in drilling or exploration operations for an oil or gas well permitted by the Railroad Commission of Texas provided that the person holding the permit is responsible for drilling and operating the water well and the well is located on the same lease or field associated with the

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## Purchasing Water

- Contract with WR Holder
  - -River Authorities
- Pricing and Terms Vary
  - -Colorado Basin = \$150/AcFt
  - -Guadalupe = \$110/AcFt
  - -Brazos = \$63/AcFt
- Drought and Population Growth are Increasing Demand

## Reclaimed Water

- WWTP Treated Effluent
- Recycled Frac Flowback



- Industrial Reclaimed Water
  - -Cooling Water Blowdown
  - -Washwater, Condensate
- TCEQ Regs at 30 TAC 210

## Cost of Frac Water (Large Frac)

#### Assume 10M Gal/Well

- \$0.70 per bbl = \$167,000
- \$3.00 per 1000gal =\$ 30,000
- \$100 per AcreFt =\$ 3,070



## QUESTIONS?

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