

**McMULLEN GROUNDWATER**

**CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**GROUNDWATER**

**DISTRICT MANAGEMENT**

**PLAN**

**McMullen GCD**

**PO Box 232**

**Tilden, TX 78072**

**[mcmullengcd@yahoo.com](mailto:mcmullengcd@yahoo.com)**

**361-449-7017**

**Lonnie Stewart, General Manager**

**MCMULLEN GROUNDWATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MANAGEMENT PLAN  
Adopted May 30, 2024**

**District Mission**

The McMullen Groundwater Conservation District will strive to develop, promote, and implement water conservation, augmentation, and management strategies to protect water resources for the benefit of the citizens, economy, and environment of the district.

**Time Period for This Plan**

This plan becomes effective upon approval by the Texas Water Development Board and remains in effect until a revised plan is approved. The planning period for the management plan is ten (10) years, but the plan must be updated and approved every five (5) years.

**Statement of Guiding Principles**

The district recognizes that the groundwater resources of the region are of vital importance. The preservation of this most valuable resource can be managed in a prudent and cost effective manner through regulation and permitting. This management document is intended as a tool to focus the thoughts and actions of those given the responsibility for the execution of district activities.

**General Description**

The District was created by the citizens of McMullen County through an election, January 2001. The current Board of Directors are Steven MaFrige - Chairman, Scott Dilworth - Vice-Chairman, David Longan – Secretary-Treasurer, Scott McClaughtery, and Michael Miles, McMullen Groundwater Conservation District (MGCD) has the same aerial extent as that of McMullen County. The county has a vibrant economy dominated by agriculture and petroleum. The agriculture income is derived primarily from McMullen County is cattle production, wheat, corn, sorghum, and some sheep and goat ranching.

**Location and Extent**

McMullen County, consisting of 1,159 square miles, is located in South Texas. The county is bounded on the east by Live Oak County, on the north by Atascosa County, on the west by La Salle County, and on the south by Duval County. Tilden, which is centrally located in the county, is the county seat.

## **Topography, Drainage and Groundwater Recharge**

McMullen County is on the Gulf Coastal Plain in southern Texas. Most the 1,159 square miles of the county are devoted to farming and ranching, which provide the principal income for the 851 inhabitants. The production of oil is also an important industry.

The principal water-bearing formations underlying the county are the Carrizo Sand, Oakville Sandstone, Lagarto Clay, and Goliad Sand, Queen City, and the Sparta Aquifers.

Some livestock supplies were obtained from surface-water sources. Most of McMullen County is rolling to moderately hilly, although some areas are nearly flat. The altitude ranges from about 460 feet in the southwestern part of the county to about 90 feet near the south end of the county. The county is drained by the Nueces River and the Frio River.

Recharge could be enhanced by several methods: brush control, more precipitation, and more tanks to catch runoff from excessive precipitation.

### **Surface Water Resources of McMullen County**

Limited surface water rights are available within the county, mainly on the Nueces and Frio Rivers. The remaining surface water is impounded in stock tanks for livestock and domestic use.

The following can be found in Appendix A: GAM run 21-021 MAG, GAM run 21-018 MAG, Estimated Historical Water Use/ 2022 State Water Plan, and GAM run 23-015.

The District rules are available at our website: [www.mcmullengcd.org](http://www.mcmullengcd.org).

The McMullen Groundwater Conservation District Management Plan data is provided in Appendix A.

### **Methodology for Tracking the District's Progress in Achieving Management Goals**

The District manager will prepare and present an annual report to the District Board of Directors on District performance in regards to achieving management goals and objectives. The presentation of the report will occur during the last monthly District Board of directors meeting each fiscal year. The report will include the number of instances in which each of the activities specified in the District's management objectives was engaged in during the fiscal year. The District Board will maintain the report on file, for public inspection at the District's offices upon adoption. This methodology will apply to all management goals contained within this plan.

## **Management of Groundwater Supplies**

The District will manage the supply of groundwater within the District in order to conserve the resource while seeking to maintain the economic viability of all resource user groups, public and private. In consideration of the economic and cultural activities occurring within the District, the District will identify and engage in such activities and practices that, if implemented, would result in a reduction of groundwater use. A monitor well observation network shall be established and maintained in order to evaluate changing conditions of groundwater supplies (water in storage) within the District. The District will make a regular assessment of water supply and groundwater storage conditions and will report those conditions to the Board and to the public. The District will undertake, as necessary and cooperate with investigations of the groundwater resources within the District and will make the results of investigations available to the public upon adoption by the District Board.

The District has adopted rules to regulate groundwater withdrawals by means of well spacing and production limits. The District may deny a well construction permit or limit groundwater withdrawals in accordance with the guidelines stated in the rules of the District. In making a determination to deny a permit or limit groundwater withdrawals, the District will consider the public benefit against individual hardship after considering all appropriate testimony.

In pursuit of the District's mission of protecting the resource, the District may require reduction of groundwater withdrawals to amounts, which will not cause harm to the aquifer. To achieve this purpose, the District may, at the District Board's discretion, amend or revoke any permits after notice and hearing. The determination to seek the amendment or revocation of a permit by the District will be based on aquifer conditions observed by the District. The District will enforce the terms and conditions of permits and the rules of the District by enjoining the permit holder in a court of competent jurisdiction as provided for in Texas Water Code (TWC) 36.102.

The District considered the water supply needs and the water management strategies included in the adopted State Water Plan. The District considered the water management strategies for all projects and determined that the projects were within the District rules and MAG.

## **Actions, Procedures, Performance and Avoidance for Plan Implementation**

The District will implement the provisions of this plan and will utilize the provisions of this plan as a guidepost for determining the direction or priority for all District activities. All operations of the District, all agreements entered into by the District and any additional planning efforts in which the District may participate will be consistent with the provisions of this plan.

The District adopted rules relating to the permitting of wells and the production of groundwater and are on the website [www.mcmullengcd.org](http://www.mcmullengcd.org). The rules adopted by the District shall be pursuant to TWC Chapter 36 and the provisions of this plan. All rules will be adhered to and enforced. The promulgation and enforcement of the rules will be based on the best technical evidence available. The District rules are available at our website: [www.mcmullengcd.org](http://www.mcmullengcd.org).

## **Water Management Strategies to Meet Water User Group Needs**

According to the State Water Plan, there are no water management strategies needs identified in the 2022 State Water Plan (Estimated Historical Water Use/2022 State Water Plan Report).

The estimated projected water management strategies are available in Appendix A.

## **Projected Water Supply Needs**

According to the State Water Plan, there are no water supply needs identified in the 2022 State Water Plan (Estimated Historical Water Use/2022 State Water Plan Report).

The estimated projected water supply needs are available in Appendix A.

# **McMULLEN GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MANAGEMENT PLAN**

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Bee Groundwater Water Conservation District is to protect and assure a sufficient quantity and quality of groundwater for our constituents use.

We value:

- \*Collection and maintenance of data on water quantity and quality
- \*Efficient use of groundwater
- \*Conjunctive water management issues
- \*Development and enforcement of water district rules concerning conservation of ground water.

## **Management Goals, Objectives, and Performance Standards**

### **Resource Goals**

#### **Goal 1.0: Addressing the most efficient use of groundwater**

##### **Management Objective:**

Each year the District will provide education materials concerning the efficient use of groundwater.

##### **Performance standard:**

Provide educational materials to at least one school annually.

#### **Goal 2.0: Addressing Controlling and preventing waste of groundwater**

##### **Management Objective:**

Measure water levels from the land surface on strategic wells on an annual basis and report waste to the District Board.

##### **Performance standard:**

(a) Report to the District Board annually the number of water level measurements.

(b) The District will investigate all reports of waste of groundwater within five working days. The number of reports of waste as well as the investigation findings will be reported to the District Board in the annual report.

### **Goal 3.0: Addressing Controlling and preventing subsidence**

The District has reviewed the report: Identification of the Vulnerability of the Major and Minor Aquifers in Texas to Subsidence with regard to Groundwater Pumping – TWDB Contract Number 1648302062 by LRE Water:

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/groundwater/models/research/subsidence/subsidence.asp>.

Figure 4.23 of the subsidence report illustrates that the major aquifer subsidence risk within the District boundaries ranges from low to the high range. Due to the amount of current pumping, subsidence is not expected to occur, but the District will monitor any potential pumping that may affect subsidence. This goal is currently not applicable.

### **Goal 4.0: Addressing Conjunctive surface water management issues**

#### **Management Objective:**

Each year, the District will participate in the regional planning process by attending the Region N regional water planning group meetings to encourage the development of surface water supplies to meet the needs of water user groups within the District. A representative of the District will attend, at least, one meeting of the Region N regional water planning group yearly.

#### **Performance Standard:**

The District will, in each annual report, document the participation of a district representative in Region N meetings and the number of meetings attended in the preceding calendar year.

### **Goal 5.0: Addressing Natural Resource Issues**

#### **Management Objective:**

The District will investigate issues related to environmental and other concerns that may be affected by a district's groundwater management plan and rules, such as impacts on endangered species, soils, oil and gas production, mining, air and water quality degradation, agriculture, and plant and animal life.

#### **Performance Standard:**

The District will investigate reports of any issues related to environmental and other concerns that may be affected by a district's groundwater management plan and rules, such as impacts on endangered species, soils, oil and gas production, mining, air and water quality degradation, agriculture, and plant and animal life within 120 days of receiving the report. Any reports will be presented to the board at the next scheduled meeting. The annual report will include the number of wells plugged.

## **Goal 6.0: Addressing Drought Conditions**

### **Management Objective:**

The District will monitor the Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI). The link to the Drought index is [www.waterdatafortexas.org/drought](http://www.waterdatafortexas.org/drought)

### **Performance Standard:**

A report of the U S Drought Monitor will be presented to the District board on an annual basis: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu> . This link and additional links to important information on drought can be accessed at the TWDB's Water Data for Texas website: [www.waterdatafortexas.org/drought](http://www.waterdatafortexas.org/drought)  
The District will cooperate with other interested parties and appropriate agencies to develop additional information on aquifer recharge.

## **Goal 7.0: Addressing Conservation**

### **Management Objective:**

Each year the District will make educational material to the public promoting conservation methods and concepts.

### **Performance Objective:**

The District will make at least one educational brochure available per year through service organizations, and on a continuing basis at the District office.

## **Goal 8.0: Addressing Precipitation Enhancement**

### **Management Objective:**

Each year, the District will attend a meeting of the South Texas Weather Modification Program.

### **Performance Standard:**

A district representative will attend a meeting of the South Texas Weather Modification Association annually and present the annual report by the South Texas Weather Modification Association to the board.

## **Goal 9.0: Addressing Recharge Enhancement**

This goal is not applicable to the District because, at the current time, it is cost prohibitive.



## **Goal 10.0: Addressing Rainwater Harvesting**

This goal is not applicable to the District because, at the current time, it is cost prohibitive for the District to participate. Information about rainwater harvesting is available at the following link:

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/innovativewater/rainwater/index.asp>

## **Goal 11.0: Addressing Brush Control**

This goal is not applicable to the District because, at the current time, it is cost prohibitive.

## **Goal 12.0: Addressing Desired future condition of the groundwater resource**

### **Management Objective:**

The District will review and calculate its permit and well registration totals in light of the Desired Future Conditions of the groundwater resources within the boundaries of the District to assess whether the District is on target to meet the Desired Future Conditions estimates submitted to the TWDB.

### **Performance Standard:**

The District's Annual Report will include a discussion of the District's permit and well registration totals and will evaluate the District's progress in achieving the Desired Future Conditions of the groundwater resources within the boundaries of the District and whether the District is on track to maintain the Desired Future Conditions estimates over the 50-year planning period.

### **Management Objective:**

The District will annually measure the water levels in at least three monitoring wells within the District and will determine the five-year water level averages based on the measures taken.

The District will compare the five-year water level averages to the corresponding five-year increment of its Desired Future Conditions in order to track its progress in achieving the Desired Future Conditions.

### **Performance Standard:**

The District's Annual Report will include the water level measure taken each year for the purpose of measuring water levels to assess the District's progress towards achieving its Desired Future Conditions. The District will include a discussion of its comparison of water level averages to the corresponding five-year increment of its Desired Future Conditions in order to track its progress in achieving its Desired Future Conditions. Any water measurements taken by the TWDB or USGS will, also, be considered.

# Appendix A

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**GAM RUN 21-018 MAG:  
MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE  
CARRIZO-WILCOX, QUEEN CITY, SPARTA, AND  
YEGUA-JACKSON AQUIFERS IN  
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 13**

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(512) 936-0883  
July 25, 2022



*Shirley C. Wade*  
7/25/22



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# **GAM RUN 21-018 MAG: MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE CARRIZO-WILCOX, QUEEN CITY, SPARTA, AND YEGUA-JACKSON AQUIFERS IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 13**

Shirley C. Wade, Ph.D., P.G.  
Texas Water Development Board  
Groundwater Division  
Groundwater Availability Modeling Department  
(512) 936-0883  
July 25, 2022

## ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:***

The modeled available groundwater for Groundwater Management Area 13 for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, Sparta, and Yegua-Jackson aquifers is summarized by decade for the groundwater conservation districts (Tables 1 through 4 respectively) and for use in the regional water planning process (Tables 5 through 8 respectively). The modeled available groundwater estimates for the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer range from approximately 470,000 acre-feet per year in 2020 to approximately 575,000 acre-feet per year in 2080 (Table 1). The modeled available groundwater estimates for the Queen City Aquifer range from approximately 23,000 acre-feet per year in 2020 to approximately 18,000 acre-feet per year in 2080 (Table 2). The modeled available groundwater estimates for the Sparta Aquifer range from approximately 6,000 acre-feet per year in 2020 to approximately 4,000 acre-feet per year in 2080 (Table 3). The estimates for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta Aquifers were extracted from the results of a model run using the groundwater availability model for the southern part of the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers (version 2.01). The modeled available groundwater estimates for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer are approximately 6,700 acre-feet per year from 2020 to 2080 (Table 4). The estimates for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer were extracted from the results of a model run using the groundwater availability model for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer (version 1.01). The explanatory report and other materials submitted to the TWDB were determined to be administratively complete on April 15, 2022.

## **REQUESTOR:**

Ms. Kelley Cochran, coordinator of Groundwater Management Area 13.

## **DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST:**

The desired future conditions for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers described in Resolution 21-02 from Groundwater Management Area 13, adopted November 19, 2021, are:

- *“The first desired future condition for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City and Sparta aquifers in Groundwater Management Area 13 is that 75 percent of the saturated thickness in the outcrop at the end of 2012 remains in 2080. Due to the limitations of the current Groundwater Availability Model, this desired future condition cannot be simulated as documented during 2016 Joint Planning in GMA 13 Technical Memorandum 16-08 (Hutchison, 2017a).”*
- *“In addition, a secondary proposed desired future condition for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers in Groundwater Management Area 13 is an average drawdown of 49 feet (+/- 5 feet) for all of GMA 13. The drawdown is calculated from the end of 2012 conditions to the year 2080. This desired future condition is consistent with simulation “GMA13\_2019\_001” summarized during a meeting of Groundwater Management Area 13 members on March 19, 2021.”*

The desired future conditions for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer described in Resolution 21-03 from Groundwater Management Area 13, adopted November 19, 2021 are:

- *“For Gonzales County, the average drawdown from 2010 to 2080 is 3 feet (+/- 1 foot).”*
- *“For Karnes County, the average drawdown from 2010 to 2080 is 1 foot (+/- 1 foot).”*
- *“For all other counties in GMA 13, the Yegua-Jackson is classified as not relevant for purposes of joint planning.”*

The Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone), Gulf Coast, and Trinity aquifers were declared not relevant for purposes of joint planning by Groundwater Management Area 13 in Resolution 21-01 (Groundwater Management Area 13 Joint Planning Committee and others, 2022; Appendix B).

On January 14, 2022, Dr. Jordan Furnans, on behalf of Groundwater Management Area 13, submitted the Desired Future Conditions Packet to the TWDB. TWDB staff reviewed the model files associated with the desired future conditions and received clarifications on procedures and assumptions from the Groundwater Management Area 13 Technical Coordinator on March 3, 2022, and on March 7, 2022. Groundwater Management Area 13 adopted two desired future conditions for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta Aquifers and they were not mutually compatible in the groundwater availability model. The

technical coordinator for the groundwater management area confirmed that their intention was for the modeled available groundwater values to be based on the secondary desired future condition and MODFLOW pumping simulation GMA13\_2019\_001 (Groundwater Management Area 13 Joint Planning Committee and others, 2022; Appendix 2). The first proposed desired future condition was not intended for the calculation of modeled available groundwater.

The model run pumping file, which meets the secondary desired future condition adopted by district representatives of Groundwater Management Area 13 for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta Aquifers, was submitted to the TWDB as supplemental information for the original submittal on February 9, 2022. The model run files, which meet the desired future conditions adopted by district representatives of Groundwater Management Area 13 for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer, were submitted to the TWDB on January 14, 2022, as part of the Desired Future Conditions Explanatory Report for Groundwater Management Area 13.

In an email dated March 3, 2022, the Technical Coordinator and consultant for Groundwater Management Area 13 confirmed that they intended to use the end of 2011 as the reference year for the drawdown calculations for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers and they intended to use the end of 2009 as the reference year for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer. In an email dated March 7, 2022, they also confirmed that the confining unit model layers representing the Reklaw and Weches formations should be included in the desired future condition calculation of average drawdown for the combined Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers.

All clarifications are included in the Parameters and Assumptions Section of this report.

### ***METHODS:***

The groundwater availability model for the southern part of the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers (Figures 1 through 3) was run using the model files submitted with the explanatory reports (Groundwater Management Area 13 Joint Planning Committee and others, 2022) on January 14 and February 9, 2022. Model-calculated water levels were extracted for the years 2011 (stress period 12) and 2080 (stress period 81). An overall drawdown average was calculated for the entire Groundwater Management Area 13 using all model layers in the average. As described in the Technical Memorandum submitted with the Explanatory Report on January 14, 2022 (Furnans, 2022) drawdowns for cells that became dry during the simulation (water level dropped below the base of the cell) were calculated as the reference year water level elevation minus the elevation of the model cell bottom. The calculated drawdown average was compared with the desired future condition of 49 feet to verify that the pumping scenario achieved the desired future conditions within the stated tolerance of five feet.



The groundwater availability model for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer (Figure 4) was run using the model files submitted on January 14, 2022. Model-calculated water levels were extracted for the years 2009 (stress period 39) and 2080 (stress period 110). County-wide average drawdowns were calculated for Gonzales and Karnes counties within Groundwater Management Area 13 by averaging the drawdown values for all model layers. There were no dry cells in Karnes County or Gonzales County, so no additional dry cell calculations were needed. The calculated drawdown averages were compared with the desired future conditions for Gonzales and Karnes counties to verify that the pumping scenario achieved the desired future conditions within the stated tolerance of one foot.

The modeled available groundwater values were determined by extracting pumping rates by decade from the model results using ZONEBUDGET Version 3.01 (Harbaugh, 2009). Annual pumping rates by aquifer are presented by county and groundwater conservation district, subtotaled by groundwater conservation district, and then summed for Groundwater Management Area 13 (Tables 1 through 4). Annual pumping rates by aquifer are also presented by county, river basin, and regional water planning area within Groundwater Management Area 13 (Tables 5 through 8) in order to be consistent with the format used in the regional water planning process.

### **Modeled Available Groundwater and Permitting**

As defined in Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code (2011), “modeled available groundwater” is the estimated average amount of water that may be produced annually to achieve a desired future condition. Groundwater conservation districts are required to consider modeled available groundwater, along with several other factors, when issuing permits in order to manage groundwater production to achieve the desired future condition(s). The other factors districts must consider include annual precipitation and production patterns, the estimated amount of pumping exempt from permitting, existing permits, and a reasonable estimate of actual groundwater production under existing permits.

### ***PARAMETERS AND ASSUMPTIONS:***

The parameters and assumptions for the modeled available groundwater estimates are described below:

### **Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers**

- We used Version 2.01 of the groundwater availability model for the southern part of the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers. See Deeds and others (2003) and Kelley and others (2004) for assumptions and limitations of the groundwater availability model for the southern part of the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers.
- This groundwater availability model includes eight layers, which generally represent the Sparta Aquifer (Layer 1), the Weches Confining Unit (Layer 2), the Queen City Aquifer (Layer 3), the Reklaw Confining Unit (Layer 4), the Carrizo (Layer 5), the Upper Wilcox (Layer 6), the Middle Wilcox (Layer 7), and the Lower Wilcox (Layer 8). Since the model extends beyond the official TWDB aquifer extents, please note that model layers 1 and 3 instead represent geologic units equivalent to the Sparta and Queen City aquifers, respectively, in those areas falling outside of the official aquifer extents.
- The model was run with MODFLOW-96 (Harbaugh and McDonald, 1996).
- Although the original groundwater availability model was only calibrated to 1999, an analysis during the second round of joint planning (Hutchison, 2017b) verified that the model satisfactorily matched measured water levels for the period from 1999 to 2011. For this reason, TWDB considers it acceptable to use the end of 2011 as the reference year for drawdown calculations.
- Drawdown averages and modeled available groundwater values were based on the TWDB defined aquifer boundaries rather than the model extent.
- Drawdowns for cells that became dry during the simulation (water level dropped below the base of the cell) were calculated as the reference year water level elevation minus the elevation of the model cell bottom. Pumping in dry cells was excluded from the modeled available groundwater calculations for the decades after the cell went dry.
- A tolerance of five feet was assumed when comparing desired future conditions to modeled drawdown results. This tolerance was specified by the GMA in their definition of the desired future conditions.
- Estimates of modeled available groundwater from the model simulation were rounded to the nearest whole number.
- The verification calculation for the desired future conditions is based on an average of all model layers (Layers 1 through 8). The modeled available groundwater

calculations are based on Layer 1 for the Sparta Aquifer, Layer 3 for the Queen City Aquifer, and the sum of Layers 5 through 8 for the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer.

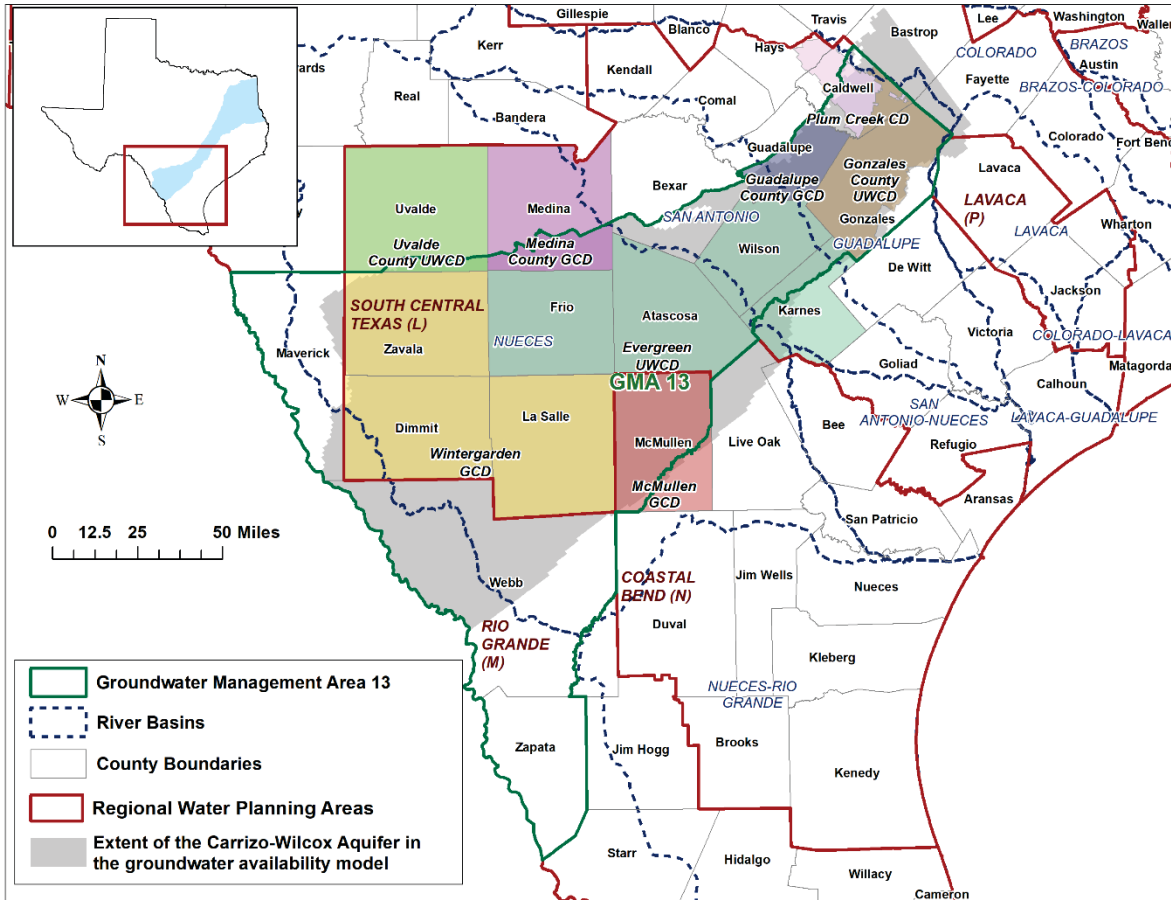
### **Yegua-Jackson Aquifer**

- We used version 1.01 of the groundwater availability model for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer. See Deeds and others (2010) for assumptions and limitations of the groundwater availability model.
- This groundwater availability model includes five layers which represent the outcrop of the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer and younger overlying units—the Catahoula Formation (Layer 1), the upper portion of the Jackson Group (Layer 2), the lower portion of the Jackson Group (Layer 3), the upper portion of the Yegua Group (Layer 4), and the lower portion of the Yegua Group (Layer 5).
- The model was run with MODFLOW-2000 (Harbaugh and others, 2000).
- Although the original groundwater availability model was only calibrated to 1997, a TWDB analysis (Oliver, 2010) verified that the model satisfactorily matched measured water levels for the period from 1997 to 2009. For this reason, TWDB considers it acceptable to use the end of 2009 as the reference year for drawdown calculations.
- Drawdown averages and modeled available groundwater values were based on the TWDB-defined aquifer boundaries rather than the model extent.
- No dry cells occurred in the simulation in Gonzales County or Karnes County. As these were the only counties with defined desired future conditions, no dry cell considerations were required during the verification calculation for the desired future conditions. Pumping in dry cells was excluded from the modeled available groundwater calculations for the decades after the cell went dry.
- A tolerance of one foot was assumed when comparing desired future conditions to modeled drawdown results. This tolerance was specified by the GMA in their definition of the desired future conditions.
- Estimates of modeled available groundwater from the model simulation were rounded to the nearest whole number.
- The verification calculation for the desired future conditions is based on an average of all model layers representing the Yegua or Jackson formations (Layers 1 through 5). The modeled available groundwater calculations are the sum of all model layers representing the Yegua or Jackson formations (Layers 1 through 5).

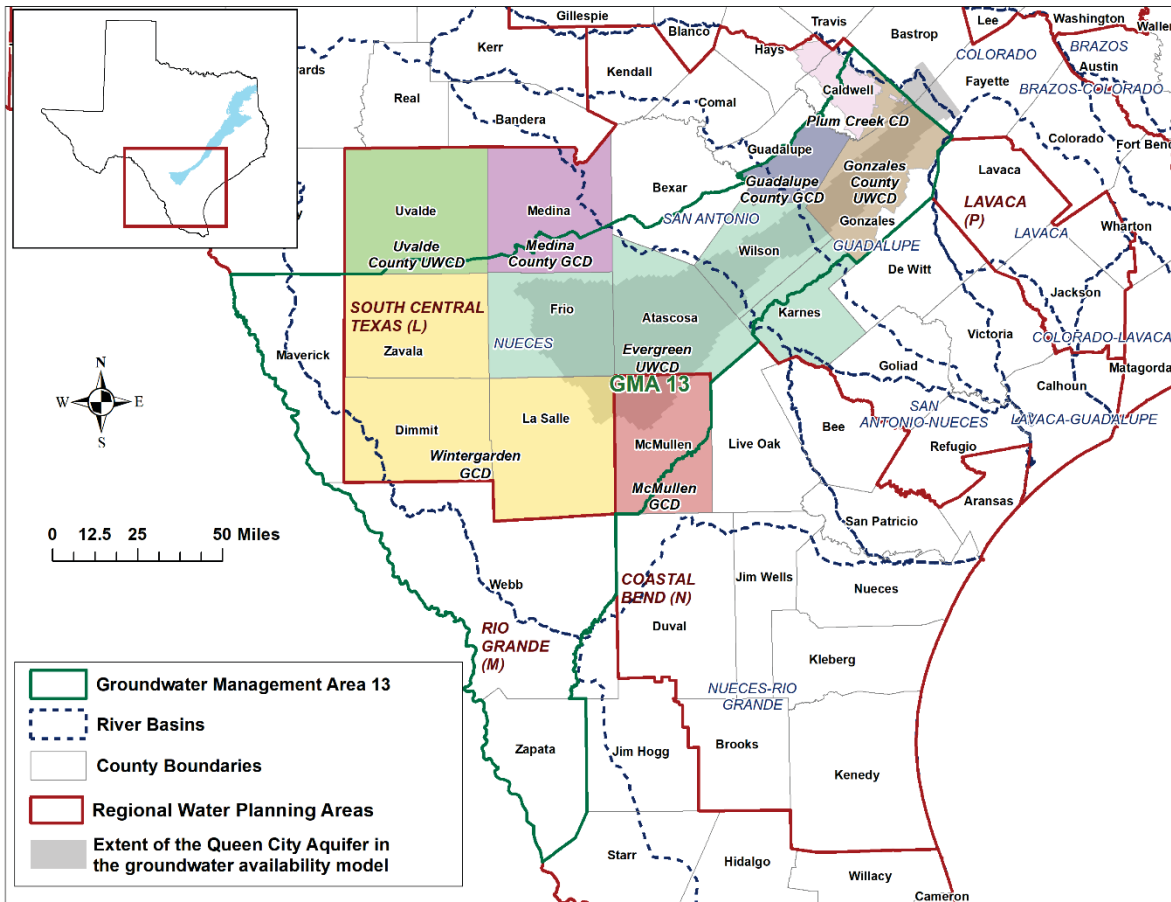
## **RESULTS:**

The modeled available groundwater estimates for the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer range from approximately 470,000 acre-feet per year in 2020 to approximately 575,000 acre-feet per year in 2080 (Table 1). The modeled available groundwater estimates for the Queen City Aquifer range from approximately 23,000 acre-feet per year in 2020 to approximately 18,000 acre-feet per year in 2080 (Table 2). The modeled available groundwater estimate for the Sparta Aquifer ranges from approximately 6,000 acre-feet per year in 2020 to approximately 4,000 acre-feet per year in 2080 (Table 3). The modeled available groundwater is summarized by groundwater conservation district and county for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers (Tables 1, 2, and 3 respectively). The modeled available groundwater has also been summarized by county, river basin, and regional water planning area for use in the regional water planning process for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers (Tables 5, 6, and 7 respectively). Small differences in values between table summaries are due to rounding.

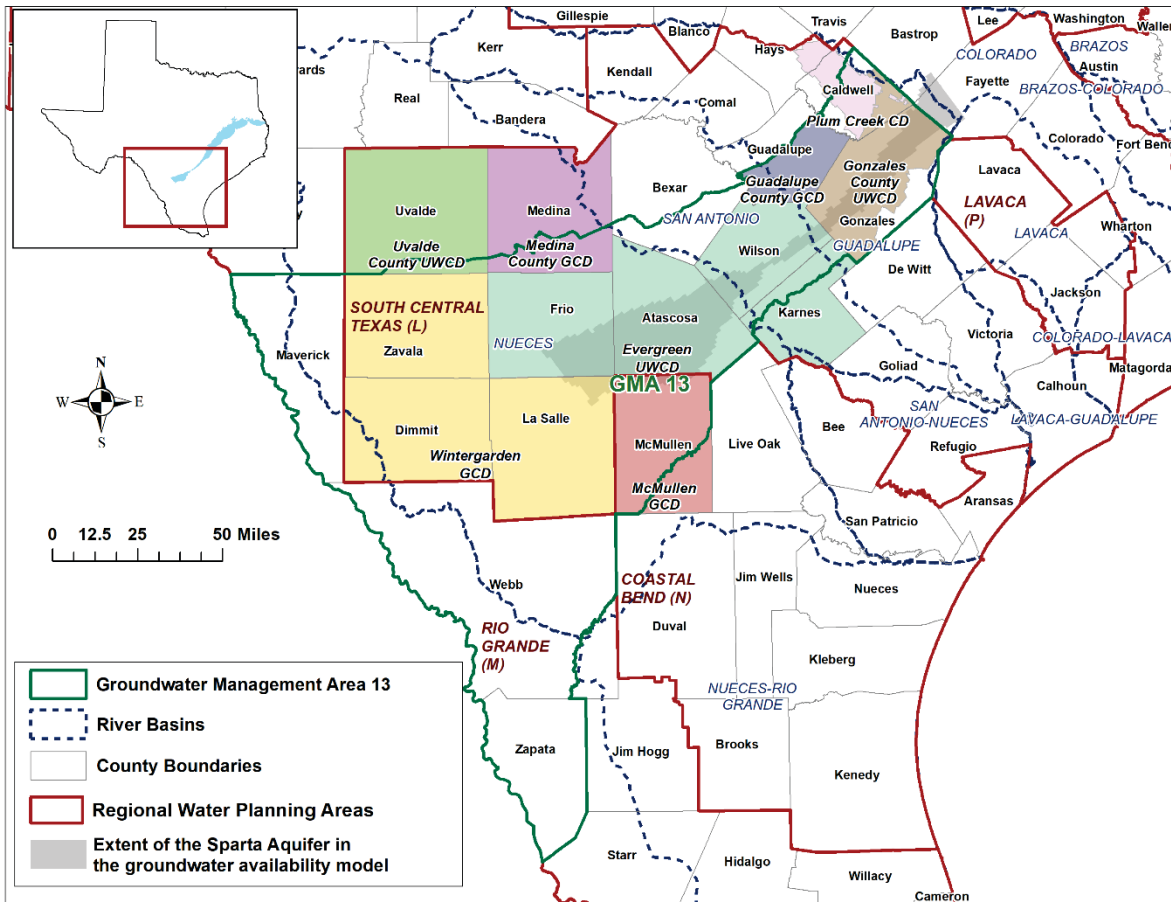
The modeled available groundwater estimate for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer is approximately 7,000 acre-feet per year from 2020 to 2080 (Table 4). The modeled available groundwater for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer is summarized by groundwater conservation district and county (Table 4) and by county, river basin, and regional water planning area for use in the regional water planning process (Table 8). Small differences of values between table summaries are due to rounding.



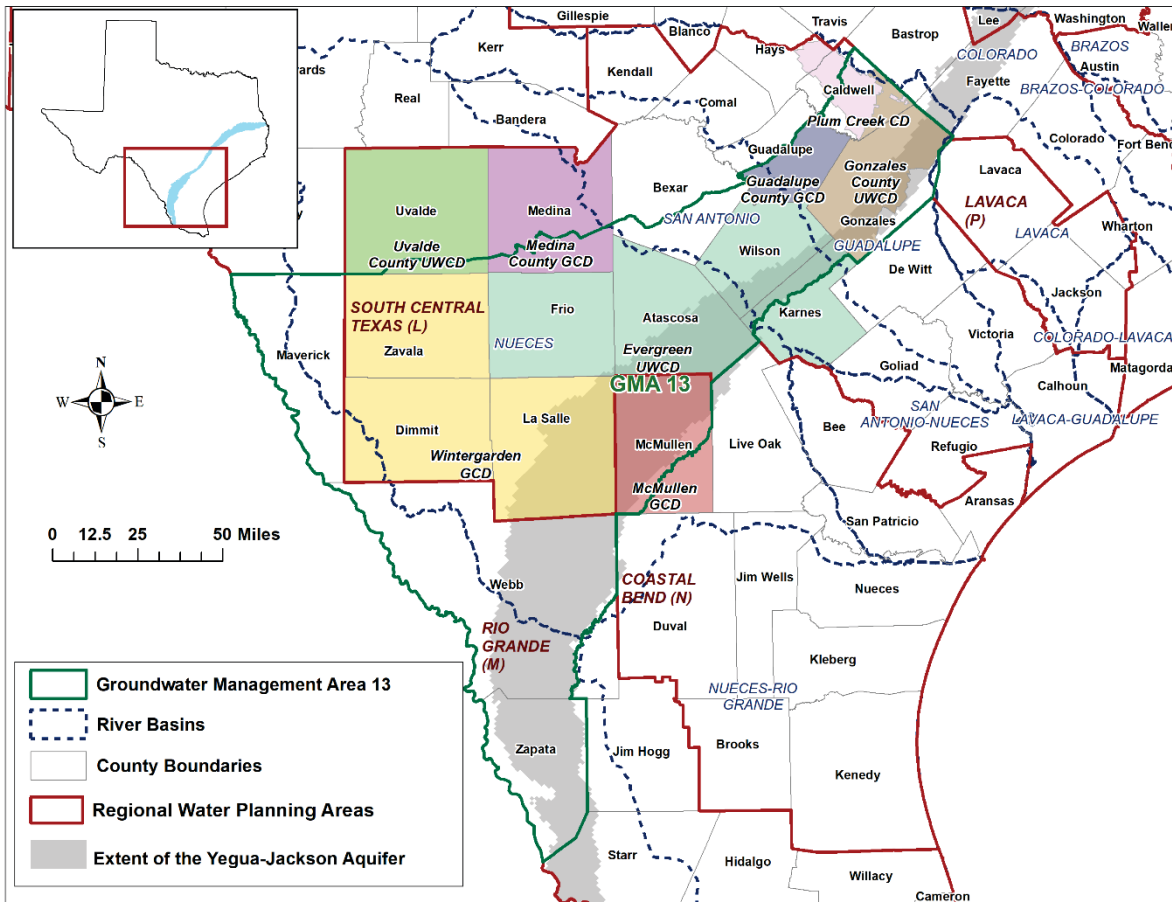
**FIGURE 1. GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA (GMA) 13 BOUNDARY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREAS (RWPAS), RIVER BASINS, GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS (GCDs), AND COUNTIES OVERLAIN ON THE EXTENT OF THE CARRIZO-WILCOX AQUIFER.**



**FIGURE 2. GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA (GMA) 13 BOUNDARY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREAS (RWPAS), RIVER BASINS, GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS (GCDs), AND COUNTIES OVERLAIN ON THE EXTENT OF THE QUEEN CITY AQUIFER.**



**FIGURE 3. GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA (GMA) 13 BOUNDARY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREAS (RWPAS), RIVER BASINS, GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS (GCDs), AND COUNTIES OVERLAIN ON THE EXTENT OF THE SPARTA AQUIFER.**



**FIGURE 4. GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA (GMA) 13 BOUNDARY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREAS (RWPAS), RIVER BASINS, GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS (GCDs), AND COUNTIES OVERLAIN ON THE EXTENT OF THE YEGUA-JACKSON AQUIFER.**



**TABLE 1. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE CARRIZO-WILCOX AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 13 SUMMARIZED BY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (GCD) AND COUNTY FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2020 AND 2080. VALUES ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

Groundwater Conservation District	County	Aquifer	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080
Evergreen UWCD	Atascosa	Carrizo-Wilcox	51,924	54,397	55,329	56,828	58,406	59,982	59,982
Evergreen UWCD	Frio	Carrizo-Wilcox	114,827	86,995	85,143	82,950	81,018	79,131	79,131
Evergreen UWCD	Karnes	Carrizo-Wilcox	693	758	843	931	1,001	1,043	1,043
Evergreen UWCD	Wilson	Carrizo-Wilcox	38,229	38,284	43,604	68,609	105,947	125,670	125,670
<b>Evergreen UWCD Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>205,673</b>	<b>180,434</b>	<b>184,919</b>	<b>209,318</b>	<b>246,372</b>	<b>265,826</b>	<b>265,826</b>
Gonzales County UWCD	Caldwell	Carrizo-Wilcox	468	9,472	16,401	25,510	30,087	30,087	30,087
Gonzales County UWCD	Gonzales	Carrizo-Wilcox	60,431	76,265	90,788	102,373	102,747	103,707	96,161
<b>Gonzales County UWCD Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>60,899</b>	<b>85,737</b>	<b>107,189</b>	<b>127,883</b>	<b>132,834</b>	<b>133,794</b>	<b>126,248</b>
Guadalupe County GCD	Guadalupe	Carrizo-Wilcox	55,637	39,563	41,668	43,315	42,118	42,199	41,659
McMullen GCD	McMullen	Carrizo-Wilcox	7,789	7,768	4,867	4,854	4,854	4,854	4,854
Medina County GCD	Medina	Carrizo-Wilcox	2,635	2,628	2,635	2,628	2,628	2,628	2,628
Plum Creek CD	Caldwell	Carrizo-Wilcox	17,673	15,366	16,335	16,965	15,562	19,509	19,468
Uvalde County UWCD	Uvalde	Carrizo-Wilcox	0 <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.

**TABLE 1 (CONTINUED)**

<b>Groundwater Conservation District</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Aquifer</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2050</b>	<b>2060</b>	<b>2070</b>	<b>2080</b>
Wintergarden GCD	Dimmit	Carrizo-Wilcox	3,895	3,885	3,895	3,885	3,885	3,885	3,885
Wintergarden GCD	La Salle	Carrizo-Wilcox	6,554	6,536	6,554	6,536	6,536	6,536	6,536
Wintergarden GCD	Zavala	Carrizo-Wilcox	38,303	36,675	35,399	35,204	35,006	34,831	34,540
<b>Wintergarden GCD Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>48,752</b>	<b>47,096</b>	<b>45,848</b>	<b>45,625</b>	<b>45,427</b>	<b>45,252</b>	<b>44,961</b>
No District-County	Bexar	Carrizo-Wilcox	69,727	68,451	68,928	68,739	67,653	67,849	67,849
No District-County	Caldwell	Carrizo-Wilcox	39	39	39	39	39	39	39
No District-County	Gonzales	Carrizo-Wilcox	0 <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0
No District-County	Maverick	Carrizo-Wilcox	547	545	547	545	545	276	276
No District-County	Webb	Carrizo-Wilcox	912	910	912	910	910	910	910
<b>No District-County Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>71,225</b>	<b>69,945</b>	<b>70,426</b>	<b>70,233</b>	<b>69,147</b>	<b>69,074</b>	<b>69,074</b>
<b>Total for GMA 13</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>470,283</b>	<b>448,537</b>	<b>473,887</b>	<b>520,821</b>	<b>558,942</b>	<b>583,136</b>	<b>574,718</b>

<sup>2</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.

**TABLE 2. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE QUEEN CITY AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 13 SUMMARIZED BY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (GCD) AND COUNTY FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2020 AND 2080. VALUES ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

<b>Groundwater Conservation District</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Aquifer</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2050</b>	<b>2060</b>	<b>2070</b>	<b>2080</b>
Evergreen UWCD	Atascosa	Queen City	4,070	4,525	4,537	4,495	4,390	4,285	4,285
Evergreen UWCD	Frio	Queen City	6,702	4,533	4,380	4,231	4,066	3,927	3,927
Evergreen UWCD	Wilson	Queen City	2,631	1,423	1,267	1,123	1,000	892	892
<b>Evergreen UWCD Total</b>		<b>Queen City</b>	<b>13,403</b>	<b>10,481</b>	<b>10,184</b>	<b>9,849</b>	<b>9,456</b>	<b>9,104</b>	<b>9,104</b>
<b>Gonzales County UWCD</b>	Caldwell	Queen City	4,842	4,829	4,557	4,545	4,545	3,977	3,977
<b>Gonzales County UWCD</b>	Gonzales	Queen City	4,973	4,960	4,973	4,960	4,960	4,500	4,500
<b>Gonzales County UWCD Total</b>		<b>Queen City</b>	<b>9,815</b>	<b>9,789</b>	<b>9,530</b>	<b>9,505</b>	<b>9,505</b>	<b>8,477</b>	<b>8,477</b>
<b>Guadalupe County GCD</b>	<b>Guadalupe</b>	<b>Queen City</b>	<b>0<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>McMullen GCD</b>	<b>McMullen</b>	<b>Queen City</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Plum Creek CD</b>	<b>Caldwell</b>	<b>Queen City</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Wintergarden GCD</b>	<b>La Salle</b>	<b>Queen City</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total for GMA 13</b>		<b>Queen City</b>	<b>23,222</b>	<b>20,274</b>	<b>19,718</b>	<b>19,358</b>	<b>18,965</b>	<b>17,585</b>	<b>17,585</b>

<sup>3</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.

**TABLE 3. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE SPARTA AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 13 SUMMARIZED BY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (GCD) AND COUNTY FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2020 AND 2080. VALUES ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

Groundwater Conservation District	County	Aquifer	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080
Evergreen UWCD	Atascosa	Sparta	1,218	1,187	1,043	998	961	932	932
Evergreen UWCD	Frio	Sparta	897	623	603	576	557	534	534
Evergreen UWCD	Wilson	Sparta	335	182	163	144	128	114	114
<b>Evergreen UWCD Total</b>		<b>Sparta</b>	<b>2,450</b>	<b>1,992</b>	<b>1,809</b>	<b>1,718</b>	<b>1,646</b>	<b>1,580</b>	<b>1,580</b>
Gonzales County UWCD	Gonzales	Sparta	3,524	2,451	2,457	2,451	2,451	2,451	2,451
McMullen GCD	McMullen	Sparta	0 <sup>4</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wintergarden GCD	La Salle	Sparta	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total for GMA 13</b>		<b>Sparta</b>	<b>5,974</b>	<b>4,443</b>	<b>4,266</b>	<b>4,169</b>	<b>4,097</b>	<b>4,031</b>	<b>4,031</b>

**TABLE 4. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE YEGUA-JACKSON AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 13 SUMMARIZED BY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (GCD) AND COUNTY FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2020 AND 2080. VALUES ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

Groundwater Conservation District	County	Aquifer	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080
Evergreen UWCD	Karnes	Yegua-Jackson	2,013	2,013	2,013	2,013	2,013	2,013	2,013
Gonzales County UWCD	Gonzales	Yegua-Jackson	4,155	4,155	4,155	4,155	4,155	4,155	4,155
No District-County	Gonzales	Yegua-Jackson	573	573	573	573	573	573	573
<b>Total for GMA 13</b>		<b>Yegua-Jackson</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>6,741</b>

<sup>4</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.

**TABLE 5. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER BY DECADE FOR THE CARRIZO-WILCOX AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 13. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR AND ARE SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), RIVER BASIN, AND AQUIFER.**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Aquifer	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080
Atascosa	L	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	54,310	55,241	56,739	58,316	59,890	59,890
Atascosa	L	San Antonio	Carrizo-Wilcox	87	88	89	90	92	92
Bexar	L	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	38,762	38,993	39,134	39,134	39,287	39,287
Bexar	L	San Antonio	Carrizo-Wilcox	29,689	29,935	29,605	28,519	28,562	28,562
Caldwell	L	Colorado	Carrizo-Wilcox	0 <sup>5</sup>	0	0	0	0	0
Caldwell	L	Guadalupe	Carrizo-Wilcox	24,877	32,775	42,514	45,688	49,635	49,594
Dimmit	L	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	3,765	3,775	3,765	3,765	3,765	3,765
Dimmit	L	Rio Grande	Carrizo-Wilcox	120	120	120	120	120	120
Frio	L	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	86,995	85,143	82,950	81,018	79,131	79,131
Gonzales	L	Guadalupe	Carrizo-Wilcox	76,265	90,788	102,373	102,747	103,707	96,161
Gonzales	L	Lavaca	Carrizo-Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0
Guadalupe	L	Guadalupe	Carrizo-Wilcox	32,400	34,200	35,631	34,655	34,736	34,345
Guadalupe	L	San Antonio	Carrizo-Wilcox	7,163	7,468	7,684	7,463	7,463	7,314
Karnes	L	Guadalupe	Carrizo-Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0
Karnes	L	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0
Karnes	L	San Antonio	Carrizo-Wilcox	758	843	931	1,001	1,043	1,043
La Salle	L	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	6,536	6,554	6,536	6,536	6,536	6,536
Medina	L	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	2,623	2,630	2,623	2,623	2,623	2,623

<sup>5</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.

**TABLE 5 (CONTINUED)**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Aquifer	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080
Medina	L	San Antonio	Carrizo-Wilcox	5	5	5	5	5	5
Uvalde	L	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	0 <sup>6</sup>	0	0	0	0	0
Wilson	L	Guadalupe	Carrizo-Wilcox	443	653	762	3,870	3,982	3,982
Wilson	L	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	10,774	11,171	11,578	12,027	12,546	12,546
Wilson	L	San Antonio	Carrizo-Wilcox	27,067	31,780	56,269	90,050	109,142	109,142
Zavala	L	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	36,675	35,399	35,204	35,006	34,831	34,540
Maverick	M	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	542	544	542	542	273	273
Maverick	M	Rio Grande	Carrizo-Wilcox	3	3	3	3	3	3
Webb	M	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	890	892	890	890	890	890
Webb	M	Rio Grande	Carrizo-Wilcox	20	20	20	20	20	20
McMullen	N	Nueces	Carrizo-Wilcox	7,768	4,867	4,854	4,854	4,854	4,854
<b>GMA 13 Total</b>			<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>448,537</b>	<b>473,887</b>	<b>520,821</b>	<b>558,942</b>	<b>583,136</b>	<b>574,718</b>

<sup>6</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.

**TABLE 6. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER BY DECADE FOR THE QUEEN CITY AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 13. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR AND ARE SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), RIVER BASIN, AND AQUIFER.**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Aquifer	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080
Atascosa	L	Nueces	Queen City	4,525	4,537	4,495	4,390	4,285	4,285
Caldwell	L	Guadalupe	Queen City	4,829	4,557	4,545	4,545	3,977	3,977
Frio	L	Nueces	Queen City	4,533	4,380	4,231	4,066	3,927	3,927
Gonzales	L	Guadalupe	Queen City	4,960	4,973	4,960	4,960	4,500	4,500
Guadalupe	L	Guadalupe	Queen City	0 <sup>7</sup>	0	0	0	0	0
La Salle	L	Nueces	Queen City	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wilson	L	Guadalupe	Queen City	106	95	84	75	67	67
Wilson	L	Nueces	Queen City	181	161	143	127	114	114
Wilson	L	San Antonio	Queen City	1,136	1,011	896	798	711	711
McMullen	N	Nueces	Queen City	3	3	3	3	3	3
<b>GMA 13 Total</b>			<b>Queen City</b>	<b>20,274</b>	<b>19,718</b>	<b>19,358</b>	<b>18,965</b>	<b>17,585</b>	<b>17,585</b>

<sup>7</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.

**TABLE 7. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER BY DECADE FOR THE SPARTA AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 13. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR AND ARE SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), RIVER BASIN, AND AQUIFER.**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Aquifer	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080
Atascosa	L	Nueces	Sparta	1,187	1,043	998	961	932	932
Frio	L	Nueces	Sparta	623	603	576	557	534	534
Gonzales	L	Guadalupe	Sparta	2,451	2,457	2,451	2,451	2,451	2,451
La Salle	L	Nueces	Sparta	0 <sup>8</sup>	0	0	0	0	0
Wilson	L	Guadalupe	Sparta	12	11	10	9	8	8
Wilson	L	Nueces	Sparta	19	17	15	13	12	12
Wilson	L	San Antonio	Sparta	151	135	119	106	94	94
McMullen	N	Nueces	Sparta	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>GMA 13 Total</b>			<b>Sparta</b>	<b>4,443</b>	<b>4,266</b>	<b>4,169</b>	<b>4,097</b>	<b>4,031</b>	<b>4,031</b>

<sup>8</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.



**TABLE 8. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER BY DECADE FOR THE YEGUA-JACKSON AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 13. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR AND ARE SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), RIVER BASIN, AND AQUIFER.**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Aquifer	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080
Atascosa	L	Nueces	Yegua-Jackson	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Frio	L	Nueces	Yegua-Jackson	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Gonzales	L	Guadalupe	Yegua-Jackson	4,709	4,709	4,709	4,709	4,709	4,709
Gonzales	L	Lavaca	Yegua-Jackson	19	19	19	19	19	19
Karnes	L	Guadalupe	Yegua-Jackson	292	292	292	292	292	292
Karnes	L	Nueces	Yegua-Jackson	91	91	91	91	91	91
Karnes	L	San Antonio	Yegua-Jackson	1,630	1,630	1,630	1,630	1,630	1,630
La Salle	L	Nueces	Yegua-Jackson	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Wilson	L	Guadalupe	Yegua-Jackson	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Wilson	L	Nueces	Yegua-Jackson	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Wilson	L	San Antonio	Yegua-Jackson	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Webb	M	Nueces	Yegua-Jackson	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Webb	M	Rio Grande	Yegua-Jackson	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
Zapata	M	Rio Grande	Yegua-Jackson	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
McMullen	N	Nueces	Yegua-Jackson	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
<b>GMA 13 Total</b>			<b>Yegua-Jackson</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>6,741</b>	<b>6,741</b>

NR: Groundwater Management Area 13 declared the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer not relevant in these areas.

### ***LIMITATIONS:***

The groundwater model used in completing this analysis is the best available scientific tool that can be used to meet the stated objectives. To the extent that this analysis will be used for planning purposes and/or regulatory purposes related to pumping in the past and into the future, it is important to recognize the assumptions and limitations associated with the use of the results. In reviewing the use of models in environmental regulatory decision making, the National Research Council (2007) noted:

“Models will always be constrained by computational limitations, assumptions, and knowledge gaps. They can best be viewed as tools to help inform decisions rather than as machines to generate truth or make decisions. Scientific advances will never make it possible to build a perfect model that accounts for every aspect of reality or to prove that a given model is correct in all respects for a particular regulatory application. These characteristics make evaluation of a regulatory model more complex than solely a comparison of measurement data with model results.”

A key aspect of using the groundwater model to evaluate historic groundwater flow conditions includes the assumptions about the location in the aquifer where historic pumping was placed. Understanding the amount and location of historic pumping is as important as evaluating the volume of groundwater flow into and out of the district, between aquifers within the district (as applicable), interactions with surface water (as applicable), recharge to the aquifer system (as applicable), and other metrics that describe the impacts of that pumping. In addition, assumptions regarding precipitation, recharge, and streamflow are specific to a particular historic time period.

Because the application of the groundwater model was designed to address regional scale questions, the results are most effective on a regional scale. The TWDB makes no warranties or representations relating to the actual conditions of any aquifer at a particular location or at a particular time.

It is important for groundwater conservation districts to monitor groundwater pumping and groundwater levels in the aquifer. Because of the limitations of the groundwater model and the assumptions in this analysis, it is important that the groundwater conservation districts work with the TWDB to refine this analysis in the future given the reality of how the aquifer responds to the actual amount and location of pumping now and in the future. Historic precipitation patterns also need to be placed in context as future climatic conditions, such as dry and wet year precipitation patterns, may differ and affect groundwater flow conditions.

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## ***APPENDIX A***

### ***Total Pumping Associated with Modeled Available Groundwater Run for the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer Split by Model Layers for Groundwater Management Area 13***

**TABLE A.1. TOTAL PUMPING SPLIT BY MODEL LAYERS FROM THE MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER RUN FOR THE CARRIZO-WILCOX AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 13. THE VALUES ARE SUMMARIZED BY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (GCD) AND COUNTY FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2020 AND 2080. VALUES ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

GCD	County	Aquifer	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080
Evergreen UWCD	Atascosa	Carrizo	50,266	52,745	53,671	55,176	56,754	58,330	58,330
Evergreen UWCD	Atascosa	Upper Wilcox	250	249	250	249	249	249	249
Evergreen UWCD	Atascosa	Middle Wilcox	224	223	224	223	223	223	223
Evergreen UWCD	Atascosa	Lower Wilcox	1,184	1,180	1,184	1,180	1,180	1,180	1,180
Evergreen UWCD	Frio	Carrizo	114,827	86,995	85,143	82,950	81,018	79,131	79,131
Evergreen UWCD	Frio	Upper Wilcox	0 <sup>9</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0
Evergreen UWCD	Frio	Middle Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Evergreen UWCD	Frio	Lower Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Evergreen UWCD	Karnes	Carrizo	693	758	843	931	1,001	1,043	1,043
Evergreen UWCD	Karnes	Upper Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Evergreen UWCD	Karnes	Middle Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Evergreen UWCD	Karnes	Lower Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Evergreen UWCD	Wilson	Carrizo	36,086	32,648	34,096	35,482	36,994	38,730	38,730
Evergreen UWCD	Wilson	Upper Wilcox	125	125	125	125	125	125	125
Evergreen UWCD	Wilson	Middle Wilcox	125	125	125	125	125	125	125
Evergreen UWCD	Wilson	Lower Wilcox	1,893	5,386	9,258	32,877	68,703	86,690	86,690
<b>Evergreen UWCD Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>205,673</b>	<b>180,434</b>	<b>184,919</b>	<b>209,318</b>	<b>246,372</b>	<b>265,826</b>	<b>265,826</b>

<sup>9</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.

**TABLE A.1. (CONTINUED)**

<b>GCD</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Aquifer</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2050</b>	<b>2060</b>	<b>2070</b>	<b>2080</b>
Gonzales County UWCD	Caldwell	Carrizo	453	9,457	16,386	25,495	30,072	30,072	30,072
Gonzales County UWCD	Caldwell	Upper Wilcox	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Gonzales County UWCD	Caldwell	Middle Wilcox	0 <sup>10</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gonzales County UWCD	Caldwell	Lower Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gonzales County UWCD	Gonzales	Carrizo	47,131	51,908	55,242	55,832	56,206	57,166	49,620
Gonzales County UWCD	Gonzales	Upper Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gonzales County UWCD	Gonzales	Middle Wilcox	11,096	15,563	20,114	24,556	24,556	24,556	24,556
Gonzales County UWCD	Gonzales	Lower Wilcox	2,204	8,794	15,432	21,985	21,985	21,985	21,985
<b>Gonzales County UWCD Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>60,899</b>	<b>85,737</b>	<b>107,189</b>	<b>127,883</b>	<b>132,834</b>	<b>133,794</b>	<b>126,248</b>
Guadalupe County GCD	Guadalupe	Carrizo	28,943	14,834	14,627	14,532	14,224	14,624	14,624
Guadalupe County GCD	Guadalupe	Upper Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>10</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.

**TABLE A.1 (CONTINUED)**

<b>GCD</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Aquifer</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2050</b>	<b>2060</b>	<b>2070</b>	<b>2080</b>
Guadalupe County GCD	Guadalupe	Middle Wilcox	6,609	6,373	7,926	9,428	9,207	9,075	8,986
Guadalupe County GCD	Guadalupe	Lower Wilcox	20,085	18,356	19,115	19,355	18,687	18,500	18,049
<b>Guadalupe County GCD Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>55,637</b>	<b>39,563</b>	<b>41,668</b>	<b>43,315</b>	<b>42,118</b>	<b>42,199</b>	<b>41,659</b>
McMullen County GCD	McMullen	Carrizo	7,789	7,768	4,867	4,854	4,854	4,854	4,854
McMullen County GCD	McMullen	Upper Wilcox	0 <sup>11</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0
McMullen County GCD	McMullen	Middle Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
McMullen County GCD	McMullen	Lower Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>McMullen County GCD Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>7,789</b>	<b>7,768</b>	<b>4,867</b>	<b>4,854</b>	<b>4,854</b>	<b>4,854</b>	<b>4,854</b>
Medina County GCD	Medina	Carrizo	517	515	517	515	515	515	515
Medina County GCD	Medina	Upper Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medina County GCD	Medina	Middle Wilcox	1,252	1,249	1,252	1,249	1,249	1,249	1,249
Medina County GCD	Medina	Lower Wilcox	866	864	866	864	864	864	864
<b>Medina County GCD Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>2,635</b>	<b>2,628</b>	<b>2,635</b>	<b>2,628</b>	<b>2,628</b>	<b>2,628</b>	<b>2,628</b>
Plum Creek CD	Caldwell	Carrizo	0	1,990	5,048	5,709	6,046	9,993	9,993
Plum Creek CD	Caldwell	Upper Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plum Creek CD	Caldwell	Middle Wilcox	5,733	5,717	5,733	5,717	3,977	3,977	3,936
Plum Creek CD	Caldwell	Lower Wilcox	11,940	7,659	5,554	5,539	5,539	5,539	5,539
<b>Plum Creek CD Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>17,673</b>	<b>15,366</b>	<b>16,335</b>	<b>16,965</b>	<b>15,562</b>	<b>19,509</b>	<b>19,468</b>

<sup>11</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.



**TABLE A.1 (CONTINUED)**

GCD	County	Aquifer	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080
Uvalde County GCD	Uvalde	Carrizo	0 <sup>12</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uvalde County GCD	Uvalde	Upper Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uvalde County GCD	Uvalde	Middle Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uvalde County GCD	Uvalde	Lower Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Uvalde County GCD Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Wintergarden GCD	Dimmit	Carrizo	2,722	2,715	2,722	2,715	2,715	2,715	2,715
Wintergarden GCD	Dimmit	Upper Wilcox	993	990	993	990	990	990	990
Wintergarden GCD	Dimmit	Middle Wilcox	142	142	142	142	142	142	142
Wintergarden GCD	Dimmit	Lower Wilcox	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Wintergarden GCD	La Salle	Carrizo	4,597	4,584	4,597	4,584	4,584	4,584	4,584
Wintergarden GCD	La Salle	Upper Wilcox	1,957	1,952	1,957	1,952	1,952	1,952	1,952
Wintergarden GCD	La Salle	Middle Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wintergarden GCD	La Salle	Lower Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wintergarden GCD	Zavala	Carrizo	27,969	26,368	25,065	24,897	24,699	24,524	24,233
Wintergarden GCD	Zavala	Upper Wilcox	6,329	6,312	6,329	6,312	6,312	6,312	6,312
Wintergarden GCD	Zavala	Middle Wilcox	3,683	3,673	3,683	3,673	3,673	3,673	3,673
Wintergarden GCD	Zavala	Lower Wilcox	322	322	322	322	322	322	322
<b>Wintergarden GCD Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>48,752</b>	<b>47,096</b>	<b>45,848</b>	<b>45,625</b>	<b>45,427</b>	<b>45,252</b>	<b>44,961</b>
No District-County	Bexar	Carrizo	43,057	42,939	43,346	43,227	43,227	43,423	43,423
No District-County	Bexar	Upper Wilcox	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
No District-County	Bexar	Middle Wilcox	58	58	58	58	58	58	58
No District-County	Bexar	Lower Wilcox	26,602	25,444	25,514	25,444	24,358	24,358	24,358

<sup>12</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.

**TABLE A.1 (CONTINUED)**

GCD	County	Aquifer	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080
No District-County	Caldwell	Carrizo	NP <sup>13</sup>	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
No District-County	Caldwell	Upper Wilcox	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP	NP
No District-County	Caldwell	Middle Wilcox	39	39	39	39	39	39	39
No District-County	Caldwell	Lower Wilcox	0 <sup>14</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0
No District-County	Gonzales	Carrizo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No District-County	Gonzales	Upper Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No District-County	Gonzales	Middle Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No District-County	Gonzales	Lower Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No District-County	Maverick	Carrizo	543	541	543	541	541	272	272
No District-County	Maverick	Upper Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No District-County	Maverick	Middle Wilcox	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
No District-County	Maverick	Lower Wilcox	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
No District-County	Web	Carrizo	898	896	898	896	896	896	896
No District-County	Web	Upper Wilcox	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
No District-County	Web	Middle Wilcox	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
No District-County	Web	Lower Wilcox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>No District-County Total</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>71,225</b>	<b>69,945</b>	<b>70,426</b>	<b>70,233</b>	<b>69,147</b>	<b>69,074</b>	<b>69,074</b>
<b>Total for GMA 13</b>		<b>Carrizo-Wilcox</b>	<b>470,283</b>	<b>448,537</b>	<b>473,887</b>	<b>520,821</b>	<b>558,942</b>	<b>583,136</b>	<b>574,718</b>

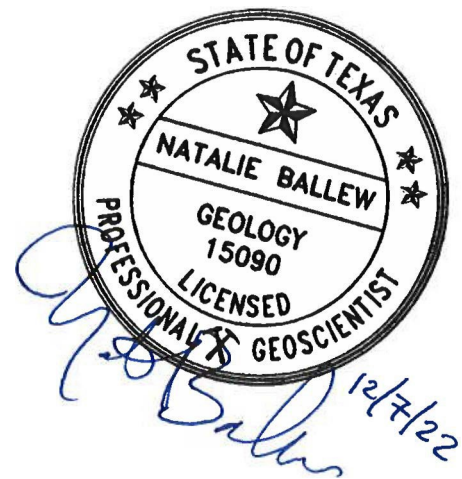
<sup>13</sup> NP: The aquifer is not present in this part of the county.

<sup>14</sup> A zero value indicates the groundwater availability model pumping scenario did not include any pumping in the aquifer.

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# **GAM RUN 21-021 MAG: MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE GULF COAST AQUIFER SYSTEM IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 16**

Ki Cha, Ph.D., EIT  
Texas Water Development Board  
Groundwater Division  
Groundwater Modeling Department  
512-463-5604  
October 31, 2022



*Natalie Ballew, P.G. 15090, is the Director of the Groundwater Division and is responsible for oversight of work performed by Ki Cha under her supervision.*

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# **GAM RUN 21-021 MAG: MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE GULF COAST AQUIFER SYSTEM IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 16**

Ki Cha, Ph.D., EIT  
Texas Water Development Board  
Groundwater Division  
Groundwater Modeling Department  
512-463-5604  
October 31, 2022

## ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:***

The modeled available groundwater for Groundwater Management Area 16 for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System is summarized by decade by groundwater conservation district and county (Table 1) and for use in the regional water planning process by county, regional water planning area, and river basin (Table 2). The modeled available groundwater estimates range from approximately 229,000 acre-feet per year in 2020 to approximately 294,000 acre-feet per year in 2080 (Tables 1 and 2). The estimates are based on the desired future conditions for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System adopted by groundwater conservation districts in Groundwater Management Area 16 on November 23, 2021 and re-adopted with minor clerical corrections on June 28, 2022. The explanatory report and other materials submitted to the TWDB were determined to be administratively complete on August 26, 2022.

## ***REQUESTOR:***

Mr. Scott Bledsoe, III, coordinator for Groundwater Management Area 16.

## ***DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST:***

In a letter dated January 22, 2022, Dr. Steve C. Young, consultant for Groundwater Management Area 16, provided the TWDB with the desired future conditions of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System adopted by the groundwater conservation district representatives in Groundwater Management Area 16. The Carrizo-Wilcox and Yegua-Jackson aquifers were declared non-relevant for joint planning purposes by Groundwater Management Area 16.

On June 2, 2022, TWDB requested clarifications about the wording of the desired future conditions, as some were unachievable based on TWDB analysis of the submitted model files during administrative review. In response, the Groundwater Management Area 16 consultant and groundwater conservation district representatives submitted an amended explanatory report (Young, 2022) on July 4, 2022. Groundwater Management Area 16

adopted a revised version of the desired future conditions for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System. The final desired future conditions adopted by the groundwater conservation district representatives in Groundwater Management Area 16 as described in Resolution No. 2022-01, on June 28, 2022 (Young, 2022; Appendix C), are presented below:

*“Groundwater Management Area 16 adopts Desired Future Conditions for each county within the groundwater management area (county-specific DFC’s) and adopts a Desired Future Condition for the counties in the groundwater management area (gma-specific DFC’s). The Desired Future Condition for the counties in the groundwater management area shall not exceed an average drawdown of 78 feet for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System at December 2080. Desired Future Conditions for each county within the groundwater management area (county-specific DFC’s) shall not exceed the values specified in Scenario 2 at December 2080.*

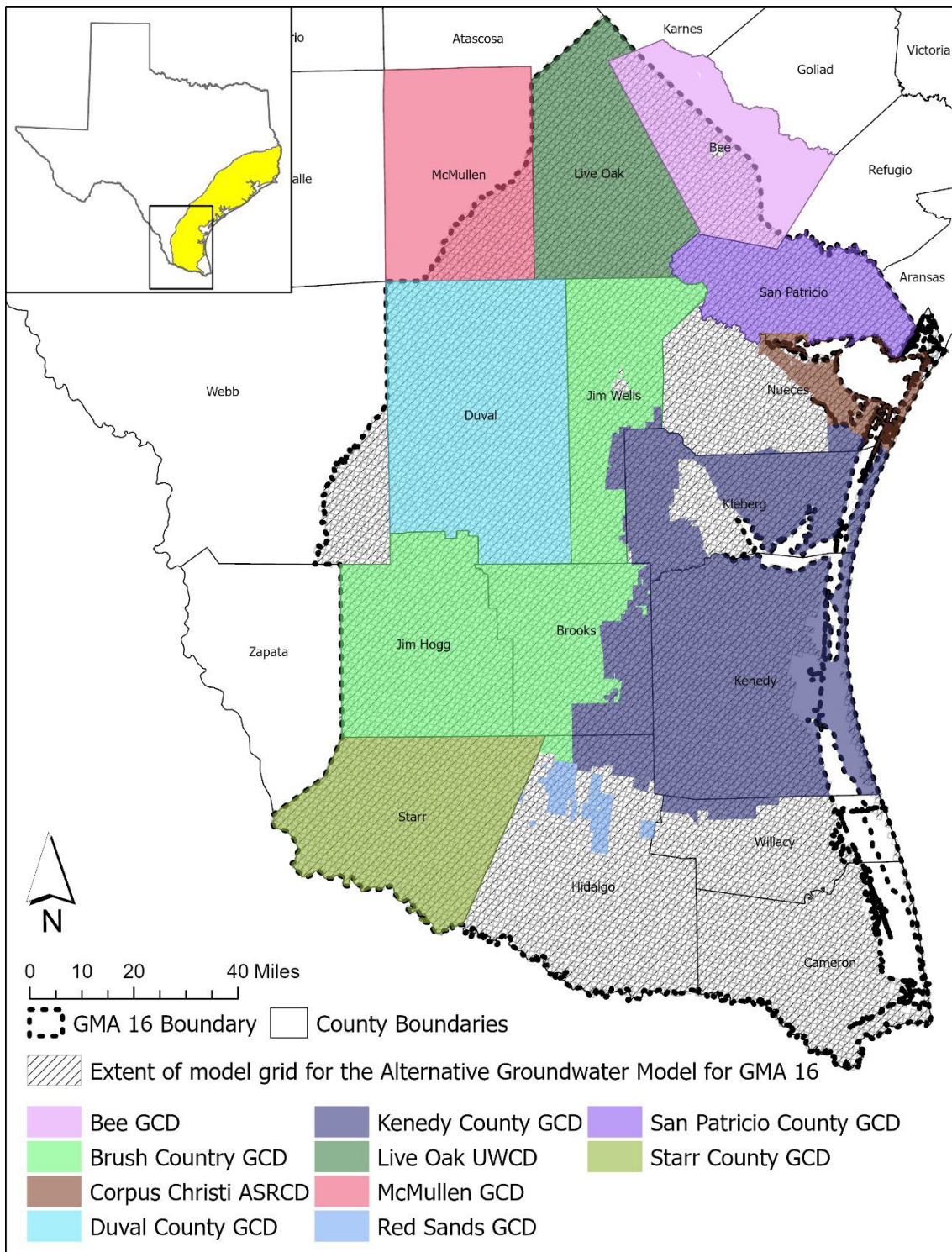
*Table A-1: Desired Future Conditions for GMA 16 expressed as an Average Drawdown between January 2010 and December 2079.*

*Bee GCD: 93 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*Live Oak UWCD: 45 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*McMullen GCD: 12 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*Red Sands GCD: 60 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*Kenedy County GCD: 27 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*Brush Country GCD: 89 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*Duval County GCD: 137 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*San Patricio County GCD: 69 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*Starr County GCD: 94 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*Cameron: 119 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*Hidalgo: 138 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*Kleberg: 21 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*Nueces: 26 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*Webb: 161 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System;*  
*Willacy: 44 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.”*

## ***METHODS:***

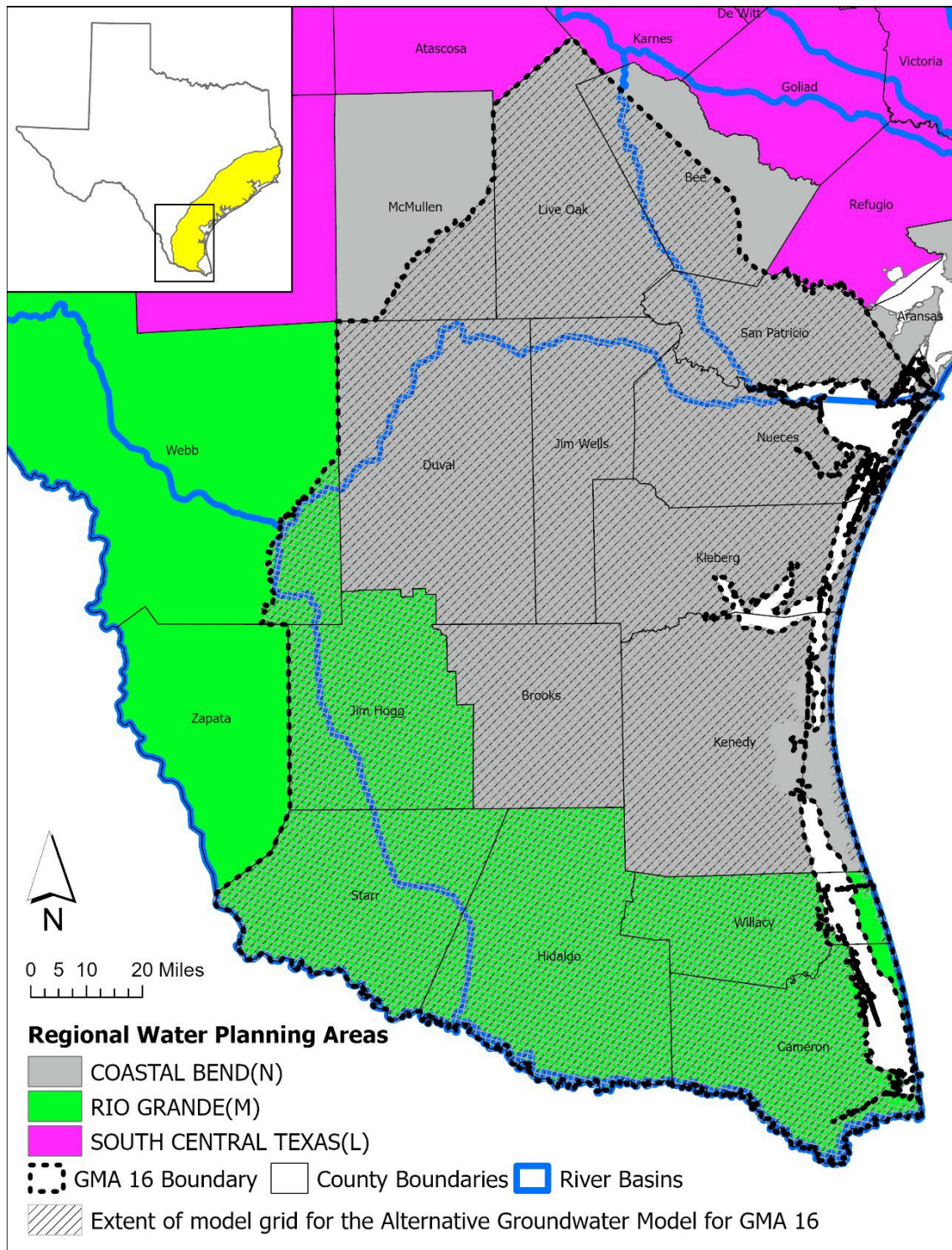
The alternative groundwater availability model for Groundwater Management Area 16 (version 1.01; Hutchison and others, 2011) was run using the predictive model files ("Pumping Scenario #2") submitted with the desired future condition explanatory report (Young, 2022). Model-calculated water levels were extracted for January 2010 (stress period 11) and December 2079 (stress period 81), and drawdown was calculated as the difference between these water levels. Drawdown averages were calculated for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System by county, groundwater conservation district, and the entire groundwater management area. The calculated drawdown averages were compared with the desired future conditions to verify that the submitted pumping scenario can achieve the desired future conditions within the three-foot tolerance specified by Groundwater Management Area 16.

The modeled available groundwater values were determined by extracting pumping rates by decade from the model results using ZONEBUDGET Version 3.01 (Harbaugh, 2009). The modeled available groundwater can be presented by groundwater conservation district and county within Groundwater Management Area 16 (Figure 1) and by county, regional water planning area, and river basin within Groundwater Management Area 16 (Figure 2)



**FIGURE 1. MAP SHOWING GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS (GCDs) AND COUNTIES IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 16, OVERLAIN ON THE EXTENT OF THE ALTERNATIVE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 16.**





**FIGURE 2. MAP SHOWING THE REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREAS, COUNTIES, AND RIVER BASINS IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 16, OVERLAIN ON THE EXTENT OF THE ALTERNATIVE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 16.**

## **Modeled Available Groundwater and Permitting**

As defined in Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code (2011), “modeled available groundwater” is the estimated average amount of water that may be produced annually to achieve a desired future condition. Groundwater conservation districts must consider modeled available groundwater when issuing permits in order to manage groundwater production to achieve the desired future condition(s). Districts must also consider annual precipitation and production patterns, the estimated amount of pumping exempt from permitting, existing permits, and a reasonable estimate of actual groundwater production under existing permits.

### ***PARAMETERS AND ASSUMPTIONS:***

The parameters and assumptions for the modeled available groundwater estimates are described below:

- Version 1.01 of the alternate groundwater availability model for Groundwater Management Area 16 was the base model for this analysis. See Hutchison and others (2011) for assumptions and limitations of the model. Groundwater Management Area 16 constructed a predictive model simulation to extend the base model to 2080 for planning purposes. See Young (2022) for the assumptions of this predictive model simulation.
- The model has six layers that represent the Chicot aquifer (Layer 1), the Evangeline aquifer (Layer 2), the Burkeville confining unit (Layer 3), the Jasper aquifer (Layer 4), the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer (Layer 5), and the Queen-City, Sparta and Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer System (Layer 6). Layers 1 through 4 were lumped to calculate modeled available groundwater for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.
- The model was run with MODFLOW-2000 (Harbaugh and others, 2000).
- To be consistent with Groundwater Management Area 16, the TWDB model grid file dated May 1, 2014 (alt1\_gma16) was used to determine model cell entity assignment (county, groundwater management area, groundwater conservation district, river basin, regional water planning area).
- Although the original groundwater availability model was only calibrated to the end of 1999, an analysis during the previous round of joint planning verified that the measured water levels did not change significantly for the period from 2000 to 2010 (Goswami, 2017). For this reason, TWDB considers it acceptable to use 2010 as the reference year for drawdown calculations.
- Drawdown averages and modeled available groundwater values are based on the official TWDB boundary for the groundwater conservation district, county, regional water planning area, river basin, and Regional Water Planning Areas within Groundwater Management Area 16 (Figures 1 and 2).

- Drawdown values for cells with water levels below the base elevation of the cell (“dry” cells) were included in the average drawdown calculations. The groundwater availability model for Groundwater Management Area 16 was constructed using the confined aquifer assumption (and LAYCON=0 option), meaning the transmissivity of “dry” cells remains constant and pumping from those cells continues. The desired future conditions adopted by Groundwater Management Area 16 are based on the average drawdowns that include “dry” cells. Therefore, pumping values from “dry” cells were also included in the calculation of modeled available groundwater. Please note that the confined aquifer assumption may also lead to physically unrealistic conditions, with pumping in a model cell continuing even when water levels have dropped below the base of the model cell.
- Drawdown was calculated as the difference in modeled water levels between the baseline date January 2010 (stress period 11) and the final date December 2079 (stress period 81). Average drawdowns were calculated as the sum of drawdowns for all model cells within a specified area divided by the number of cells in that specified area.
- Estimates of modeled available groundwater from the model simulation were rounded to whole numbers.

## ***RESULTS:***

The modeled available groundwater for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System that achieves the desired future conditions adopted by Groundwater Management Area 16 increases from approximately 229,000 acre-feet per year in 2020 to 294,000 acre-feet per year in 2080. The modeled available groundwater is summarized by groundwater conservation district and county (Table 1) and by county, regional water planning area, and river basin (Table 2) for use in the regional water planning process.

**TABLE 1. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE GULF COAST AQUIFER SYSTEM IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 16 SUMMARIZED BY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (GCD) AND COUNTY FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2020 AND 2080. VALUES ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

<b>Groundwater Conservation District (GCD)</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2050</b>	<b>2060</b>	<b>2070</b>	<b>2080</b>
<b>Bee GCD</b>	<b>Bee</b>	10,338	11,849	12,593	12,944	13,146	13,146	13,146
Brush Country GCD	Brooks	3,660	3,660	3,660	3,660	3,660	4,205	4,205
Brush Country GCD	Hidalgo	131	131	131	131	131	150	150
Brush Country GCD	Jim Hogg	6,167	6,167	6,167	6,167	6,167	7,084	7,084
Brush Country GCD	Jim Wells	8,701	9,065	9,393	9,758	10,050	11,544	11,544
<b>Brush Country GCD Total</b>		<b>18,659</b>	<b>19,023</b>	<b>19,351</b>	<b>19,716</b>	<b>20,008</b>	<b>22,983</b>	<b>22,983</b>
<b>Duval County GCD</b>	<b>Duval</b>	<b>20,571</b>	<b>22,169</b>	<b>23,764</b>	<b>25,363</b>	<b>26,963</b>	<b>26,963</b>	<b>26,963</b>
Kenedy County GCD	Brooks	1,308	1,463	1,693	1,847	2,078	2,232	2,232
Kenedy County GCD	Hidalgo	412	460	534	582	654	703	703
Kenedy County GCD	Jim Wells	296	330	383	417	469	505	505
Kenedy County GCD	Kenedy	9,040	10,104	11,698	12,762	14,358	15,421	15,421
Kenedy County GCD	Kleberg	4,291	4,796	5,553	6,058	6,815	7,320	7,320
Kenedy County GCD	Nueces	171	191	221	241	271	291	291
Kenedy County GCD	Willacy	328	365	424	462	520	558	558
<b>Kenedy County GCD Total</b>		<b>15,846</b>	<b>17,709</b>	<b>20,506</b>	<b>22,369</b>	<b>25,165</b>	<b>27,030</b>	<b>27,030</b>
<b>Live Oak UWCD</b>	<b>Live Oak</b>	<b>10,169</b>	<b>11,394</b>	<b>10,444</b>	<b>10,294</b>	<b>10,294</b>	<b>10,294</b>	<b>10,294</b>
<b>McMullen GCD</b>	<b>McMullen</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>510</b>
<b>Red Sands GCD</b>	<b>Hidalgo</b>	<b>1,667</b>	<b>1,966</b>	<b>2,265</b>	<b>2,563</b>	<b>2,863</b>	<b>2,863</b>	<b>2,863</b>
<b>San Patricio County GCD</b>	<b>San Patricio</b>	<b>43,611</b>	<b>45,016</b>	<b>46,422</b>	<b>47,828</b>	<b>49,234</b>	<b>49,234</b>	<b>49,234</b>
<b>Starr County GCD</b>	<b>Starr</b>	<b>3,798</b>	<b>4,797</b>	<b>5,797</b>	<b>6,794</b>	<b>7,795</b>	<b>7,795</b>	<b>7,795</b>

**TABLE 1. CONTINUED**

<b>Groundwater Conservation District (GCD)</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2050</b>	<b>2060</b>	<b>2070</b>	<b>2080</b>
No District-Cameron	Cameron	6,688	7,999	9,311	10,620	11,932	11,932	11,932
No District-Hidalgo	Hidalgo	85,634	90,905	96,175	101,445	106,715	106,715	106,715
No District-Kleberg	Kleberg	4,051	4,243	4,436	4,629	4,822	4,822	4,822
No District-Nueces	Nueces	6,339	6,596	6,857	7,115	7,372	7,372	7,372
No District-Webb	Webb	620	789	959	1,129	1,299	1,299	1,299
No District-Willacy	Willacy	664	785	905	1,024	1,145	1,145	1,145
<b>No District-Total</b>		<b>103,996</b>	<b>111,317</b>	<b>118,643</b>	<b>125,962</b>	<b>133,285</b>	<b>133,285</b>	<b>133,285</b>
<b>GMA 16 Total</b>		<b>229,165</b>	<b>245,750</b>	<b>260,295</b>	<b>274,343</b>	<b>289,263</b>	<b>294,103</b>	<b>294,103</b>

**TABLE 2. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE GULF COAST AQUIFER SYSTEM IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 16. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR AND ARE SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), AND RIVER BASIN FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2030 AND 2080.**

County	RWPA	River Basin	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070	2080
Bee	N	Nueces	981	1,043	1,072	1,089	1,089	1,089
Bee	N	San Antonio-Nueces	10,868	11,550	11,872	12,057	12,057	12,057
Brooks	N	Nueces-Rio Grande	5,123	5,353	5,507	5,738	6,437	6,437
Cameron	M	Nueces-Rio Grande	7,536	8,771	10,005	11,241	11,241	11,241
Cameron	M	Rio Grande	463	540	615	691	691	691
Duval	N	Nueces	351	376	401	428	428	428
Duval	N	Nueces-Rio Grande	21,818	23,388	24,962	26,535	26,535	26,535
Hidalgo	M	Nueces-Rio Grande	91,421	96,658	101,867	107,103	107,171	107,171
Hidalgo	M	Rio Grande	2,041	2,447	2,854	3,260	3,260	3,260
Jim Hogg	M	Nueces-Rio Grande	5,230	5,230	5,230	5,230	6,008	6,008
Jim Hogg	M	Rio Grande	937	937	937	937	1,076	1,076
Jim Wells	N	Nueces	593	593	593	593	681	681
Jim Wells	N	Nueces-Rio Grande	8,802	9,183	9,582	9,926	11,368	11,368
Kenedy	N	Nueces-Rio Grande	10,104	11,698	12,762	14,358	15,421	15,421
Kleberg	N	Nueces-Rio Grande	9,039	9,989	10,687	11,637	12,142	12,142
Live Oak	N	Nueces	11,326	10,382	10,233	10,233	10,233	10,233
Live Oak	N	San Antonio-Nueces	68	62	61	61	61	61
McMullen	N	Nueces	510	510	510	510	510	510
Nueces	N	Nueces	756	787	816	845	845	845
Nueces	N	Nueces-Rio Grande	6,031	6,291	6,540	6,798	6,818	6,818
San Patricio	N	Nueces	4,502	4,874	5,247	5,619	5,619	5,619
San Patricio	N	San Antonio-Nueces	40,514	41,548	42,581	43,615	43,615	43,615

**TABLE 2. CONTINUED**

<b>County</b>	<b>RWPA</b>	<b>River Basin</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2050</b>	<b>2060</b>	<b>2070</b>	<b>2080</b>
Starr	M	Nueces-Rio Grande	1,958	2,366	2,772	3,180	3,180	3,180
Starr	M	Rio Grande	2,839	3,431	4,022	4,615	4,615	4,615
Webb	M	Nueces	22	27	32	37	37	37
Webb	M	Nueces-Rio Grande	642	780	918	1,056	1,056	1,056
Webb	M	Rio Grande	125	152	179	206	206	206
Willacy	M	Nueces-Rio Grande	1,150	1,329	1,486	1,665	1,703	1,703
<b>GMA 16 Total</b>			<b>245,750</b>	<b>260,295</b>	<b>274,343</b>	<b>289,263</b>	<b>294,103</b>	<b>294,103</b>

\*GCAS: Gulf Coast Aquifer System

### ***LIMITATIONS:***

The groundwater model used in completing this analysis is the best available scientific tool that can be used to meet the stated objectives. To the extent that this analysis will be used for planning purposes and/or regulatory purposes related to pumping in the past and into the future, it is important to recognize the assumptions and limitations associated with the use of the results. In reviewing the use of models in environmental regulatory decision making, the National Research Council (2007) noted:

*“Models will always be constrained by computational limitations, assumptions, and knowledge gaps. They can best be viewed as tools to help inform decisions rather than as machines to generate truth or make decisions. Scientific advances will never make it possible to build a perfect model that accounts for every aspect of reality or to prove that a given model is correct in all respects for a particular regulatory application. These characteristics make evaluation of a regulatory model more complex than solely a comparison of measurement data with model results.”*

A key aspect of using the groundwater model to evaluate historic groundwater flow conditions includes the assumptions about the location in the aquifer where historic pumping was placed. Understanding the amount and location of historic pumping is as important as evaluating the volume of groundwater flow into and out of the district, between aquifers within the district (as applicable), interactions with surface water (as applicable), recharge to the aquifer system (as applicable), and other metrics that describe the impacts of that pumping. In addition, assumptions regarding precipitation, recharge, and streamflow are specific to a particular historic time period.

Because the application of the groundwater model was designed to address regional scale questions, the results are most effective on a regional scale. The TWDB makes no warranties or representations relating to the actual conditions of any aquifer at a particular location or at a particular time.

It is important for groundwater conservation districts to monitor groundwater pumping and groundwater levels in the aquifer. Because of the limitations of the groundwater model and the assumptions in this analysis, it is important that the groundwater conservation districts work with the TWDB to refine this analysis in the future given the reality of how the aquifer responds to the actual amount and location of pumping now and in the future. Historic precipitation patterns also need to be placed in context as future climatic conditions, such as dry and wet year precipitation patterns, may differ and affect groundwater flow conditions.



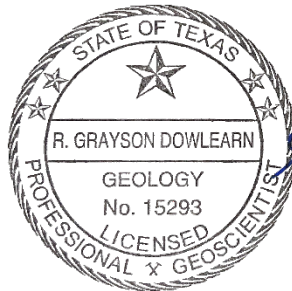
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# GAM RUN 23-015: McMULLEN GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Micaela Pedrazas, GIT and Grayson Dowlearn, P.G.  
Texas Water Development Board  
Groundwater Division  
Groundwater Modeling Department  
512-463-3075  
July 28, 2023



*Grayson Dowlearn*  
7/28/2023

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# GAM RUN 23-015: McMULLEN GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Micaela Pedrazas, GIT and Grayson Dowlearn, P.G.  
Texas Water Development Board  
Groundwater Division  
Groundwater Modeling Department  
512-463-3075  
July 28, 2023

## ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:***

Texas Water Code §36.1071 (h), states that, in developing its groundwater management plan, a groundwater conservation district shall use groundwater availability modeling information provided by the Executive Administrator of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) in conjunction with any available site-specific information provided by the district for review and comment to the Executive Administrator.

The TWDB provides data and information to the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District in two parts. Part 1 is the Estimated Historical Water Use/State Water Plan dataset report, which will be provided to you separately by the TWDB Groundwater Technical Assistance Department. Please direct questions about the water data report to Mr. Stephen Allen at 512-463-7317 or [stephen.allen@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:stephen.allen@twdb.texas.gov). Part 2 is the required groundwater availability modeling information, which includes:

1. the annual amount of recharge from precipitation, if any, to the groundwater resources within the district;
2. the annual volume of water that discharges from the aquifer to springs and any surface-water bodies, including lakes, streams, and rivers, for each aquifer within the district; and
3. the annual volume of flow into and out of the district within each aquifer and between aquifers in the district.

The groundwater management plan for the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District should be adopted by the district on or before October 6, 2023 and submitted to the executive administrator of the TWDB on or before November 5, 2023. The current management plan for the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District expires on January 4, 2024.

The management plan information for the aquifers within McMullen Groundwater Conservation District was extracted from three groundwater availability models. We used the groundwater availability model for the southern portion of the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers (Panday and others, 2023) to estimate management plan information for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers. We used the groundwater availability model for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer (Deeds and others, 2010) to estimate management plan information for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer. We used the groundwater availability model for the central and southern portions of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System (Shi and Boghici, 2023) to estimate the management plan information for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.

This report replaces the results of GAM Run 17-011 (Shi, 2017). Values may differ from the previous report as a result of using updated groundwater availability models and routine updates to the spatial grid file used to define county, groundwater conservation district, and aquifer boundaries, which can impact the calculated water budget values. Additionally, the approach used for analyzing model results is reviewed during each update and may have been refined to better delineate groundwater flows. Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 summarize the groundwater availability model data required by statute. Figures 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9 show the area of the model from which the values in Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 were extracted. Figures 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 provide a generalized diagram of the groundwater flow components provided in Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. If the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District determines that the district boundaries used in the assessment do not reflect current conditions after reviewing the figures, please notify the TWDB Groundwater Modeling Department at your earliest convenience.

The flow components presented in this report do not represent the full groundwater budget. If additional inflow and outflow information would be helpful for planning purposes, the district may submit a request in writing to the TWDB Groundwater Modeling Department for the full groundwater budget.

## ***METHODS:***

In accordance with the provisions of the Texas Water Code § 36.1071 (h), the groundwater availability models mentioned above were used to estimate information for the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District management plan. Water budgets were extracted for the historical calibration period for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers (1981 through 2017) using ZONEBUDGET for MODFLOW 6 (Langevin and others, 2021). Water budgets were extracted for the historical calibration period for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer (1980 through 1997) using ZONEBUDGET Version 3.01 (Harbaugh, 2009). Water budgets were extracted for the historical calibration period for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System (1981 through 2015) using ZONEBUDGET for MODFLOW USG Version 1.0 (Panday and others, 2013). The average annual water budget values for recharge, surface-water outflow, inflow to the district, outflow from the district, and the flow between aquifers within the district are summarized in this report.

## ***PARAMETERS AND ASSUMPTIONS:***

### ***Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers***

- We used version 3.01 of the groundwater availability model for the southern portion of the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers (Panday and others, 2023) to analyze the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City and Sparta aquifers. See Panday and others (2023) for assumptions and limitations of the model.
- The groundwater availability model for the southern portion of the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers contains nine layers:
  - Layer 1 represents Quaternary Alluvium
  - Layer 2 represents Younger units
  - Layer 3 represents the Sparta Aquifer and equivalent units
  - Layer 4 represents the Weches Formation (confining unit)
  - Layer 5 represents the Queen City Aquifer and equivalent units
  - Layer 6 represents the Reklaw Formation (confining unit)
  - Layers 7 through 9 represent the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer and equivalent units

- Water budget values for the district were determined for the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer (Layer 7 through 9, collectively), the Queen City Aquifer (Layer 5), and the Sparta Aquifer (Layer 3).
- Water budget terms were averaged for the historical calibration period 1981 through 2017 (stress periods 3 through 39).
- The model was run with MODFLOW-6 (Langevin and others, 2017).

### ***Yegua-Jackson Aquifer***

- We used version 1.01 of the groundwater availability model for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer (Deeds and others, 2010) to analyze the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer. See Deeds and others (2010) for assumptions and limitations of the model.
- The groundwater availability model for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer contains five layers:
  - Layer 1 represents the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer outcrop, the Catahoula Formation, and other younger overlying units
  - Layer 2 represents the upper portion of the Jackson Group
  - Layer 3 represents the lower portion of the Jackson Group
  - Layer 4 represents the upper portion of the Yegua Group
  - Layer 5 represents the lower portion of the Yegua Group
- An overall water budget for the district was determined for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer (Layers 1 through 5, collectively).
- The Frio Formation of the Catahoula Group separates the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer from the Gulf Coast Aquifer System within the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District. This separation prevents direct exchange between the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer and the Gulf Coast Aquifer System within the district.
- Water budget terms were averaged for the period 1980 through 1997 (stress periods 10 through 27).
- The model was run with MODFLOW-2000 (Harbaugh and others, 2000).

### ***Gulf Coast Aquifer System***

- We used version 1.01 of the groundwater availability model for the central and southern portions of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System (Shi and Boghici, 2023) to analyze the Gulf Coast Aquifer System. See Shi and Boghici (2023) for assumptions and limitations of the model.
- The groundwater availability model for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System contains four layers:
  - Layer 1 represents the Chicot Aquifer and younger overlying units
  - Layer 2 represents the Evangeline Aquifer
  - Layer 3 represents the Burkeville confining unit
  - Layer 4 represents the Jasper Aquifer and the upper sandy portion of the Catahoula Formation in direct hydrologic communication with the Jasper Aquifer
- Water budgets for the district were determined for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System (Layers 1 through 4, collectively).
- Water budget terms were averaged for the period 1981 through 2015 (stress periods 2 through 36).
- The model was run with MODFLOW-USG (Panday and others, 2013).



## ***RESULTS:***

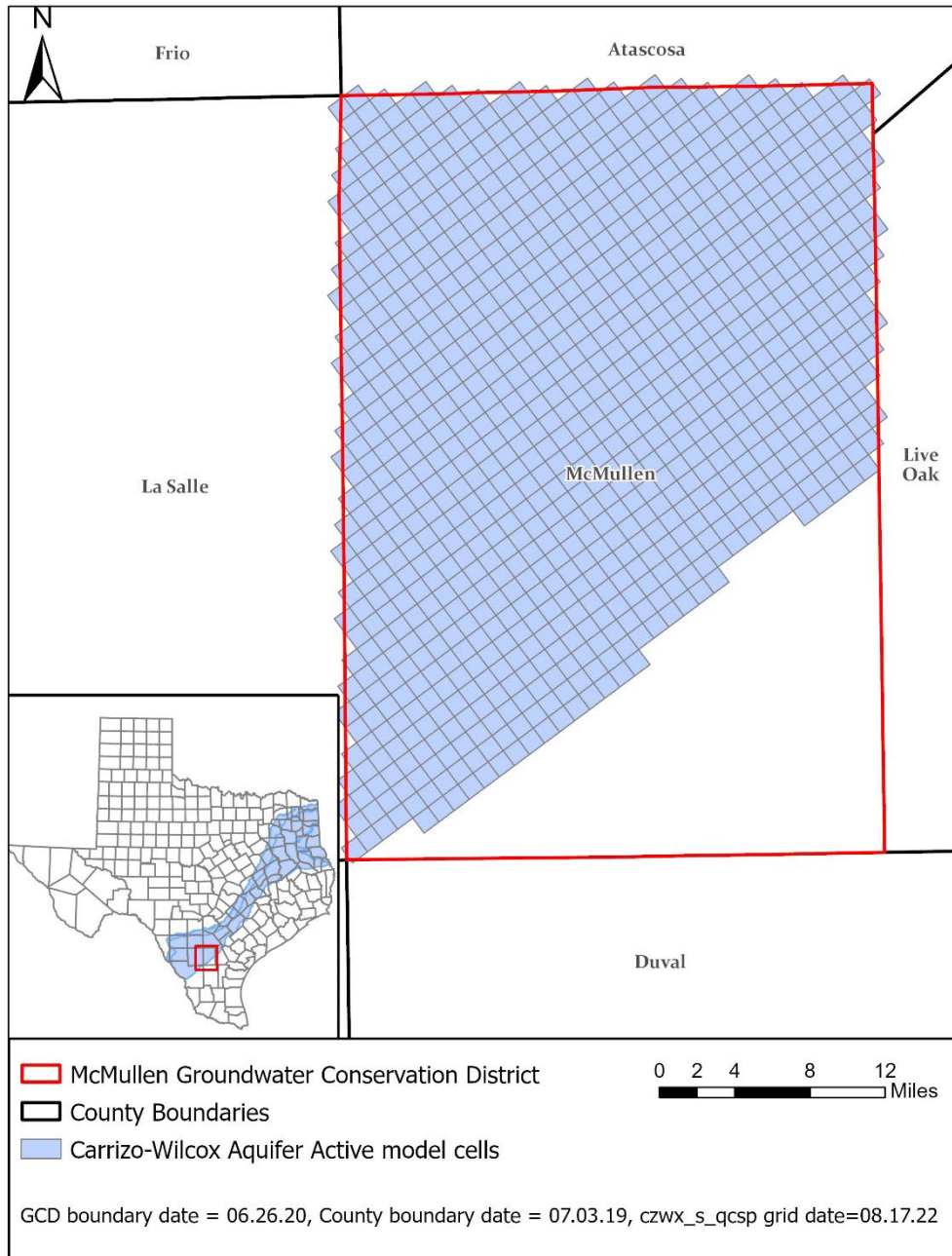
A groundwater budget summarizes the amount of water entering and leaving the aquifer according to the groundwater availability model. Selected groundwater budget components listed below were extracted from the groundwater availability model results for the aquifers located within McMullen Groundwater Conservation District and averaged over the historical calibration period, as shown in Tables 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

1. Precipitation recharge—the areally distributed recharge sourced from precipitation falling on the outcrop areas of the aquifers (where the aquifer is exposed at land surface) within the district.
2. Surface-water outflow—the total water discharging from the aquifer (outflow) to surface-water features such as streams, reservoirs, and springs.
3. Flow into and out of district—the lateral flow within the aquifer between the district and adjacent counties.
4. Flow between aquifers—the net vertical flow between the aquifer and adjacent aquifers or confining units. This flow is controlled by the relative water levels in each aquifer and aquifer properties of each aquifer or confining unit that define the amount of leakage that occurs.

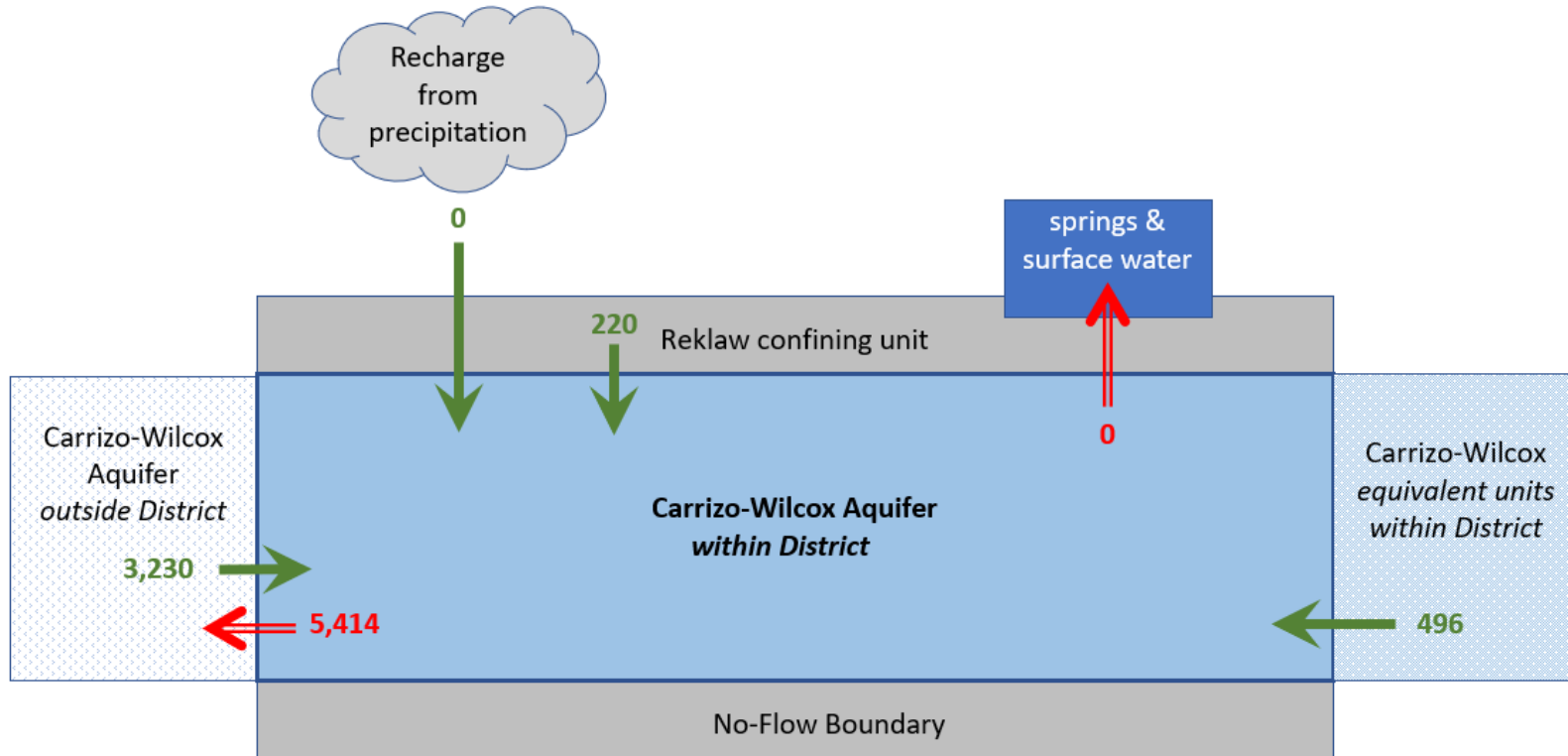
The information needed for the district's management plan is summarized in Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Figures 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9 show the area of the model from which the values in Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 were extracted. Figures 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 provide a generalized diagram of the groundwater flow components provided in Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. It is important to note that sub-regional water budgets are not exact. This is due to the size of the model cells and the approach used to extract data from the model. To avoid double accounting, a model cell that straddles a political boundary, such as a district or county boundary, is assigned to one side of the boundary based on the location of the centroid of the model cell. For example, if a cell contains two counties, the cell is assigned to the county where the centroid of the cell is located.

**Table 1: Summarized information for the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer for the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District groundwater management plan. All values are reported in acre-feet per year and rounded to the nearest 1 acre-foot.**

Management plan requirement	Aquifer or confining unit	Results
Estimated annual amount of recharge from precipitation to the district	Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer	0
Estimated annual volume of water that discharges from the aquifer to springs and any surface water body including lakes, streams, and rivers	Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer	0
Estimated annual volume of flow into the district within each aquifer in the district	Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer	3,230
Estimated annual volume of flow out of the district within each aquifer in the district	Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer	5,414
Estimated net annual volume of flow between each aquifer in the district	To Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer from Carrizo-Wilcox equivalent units	496
	To Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer from Reklaw confining unit	220



**Figure 1: Area of the groundwater availability model for the southern portion of the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers from which the information in Table 1 was extracted (the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer extent within the district boundary).**

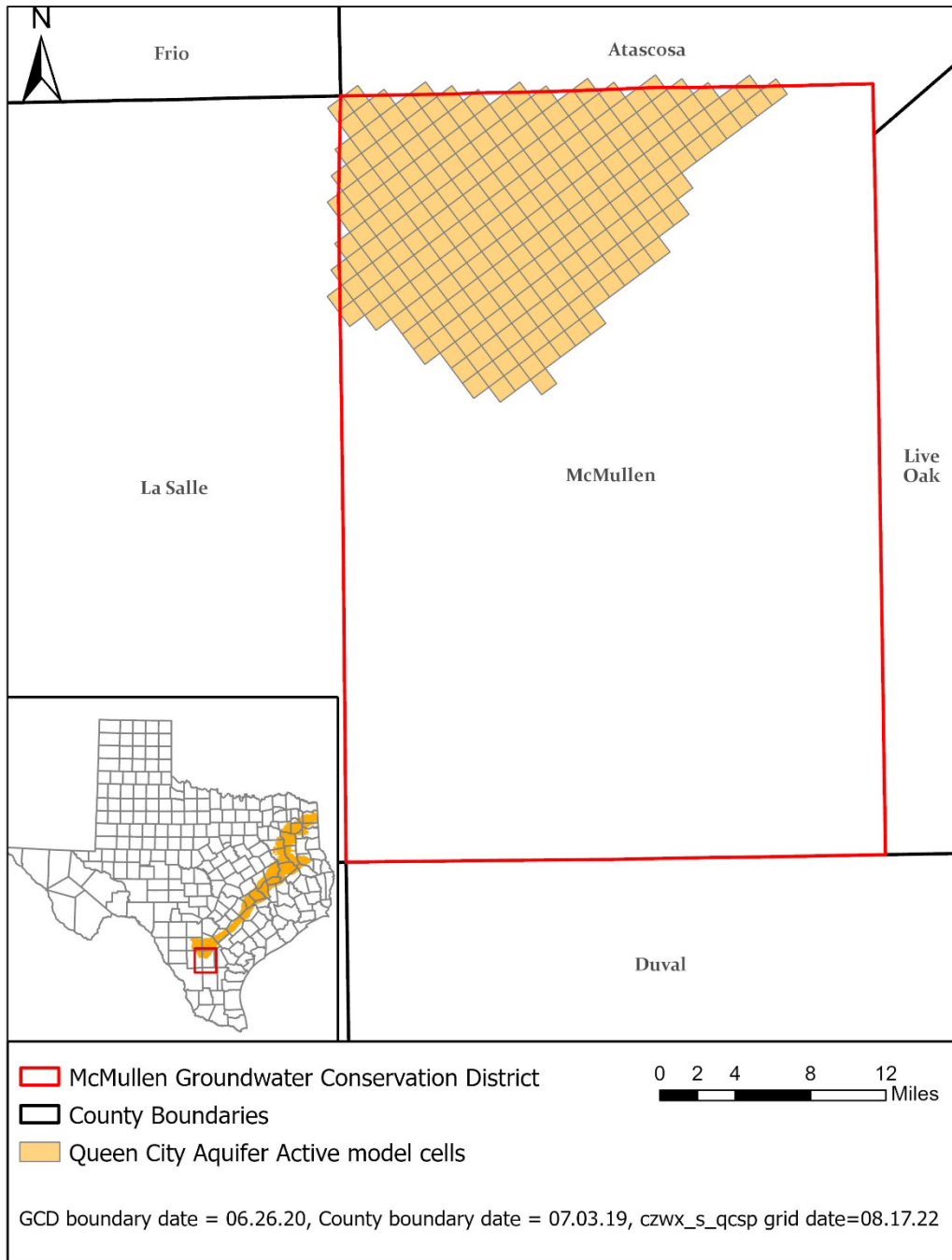


*Caveat: This diagram only includes the water budget items provided in Table 1. A complete water budget would include additional inflows and outflows. For a full groundwater budget, please submit a request in writing to the Groundwater Modeling Department.*

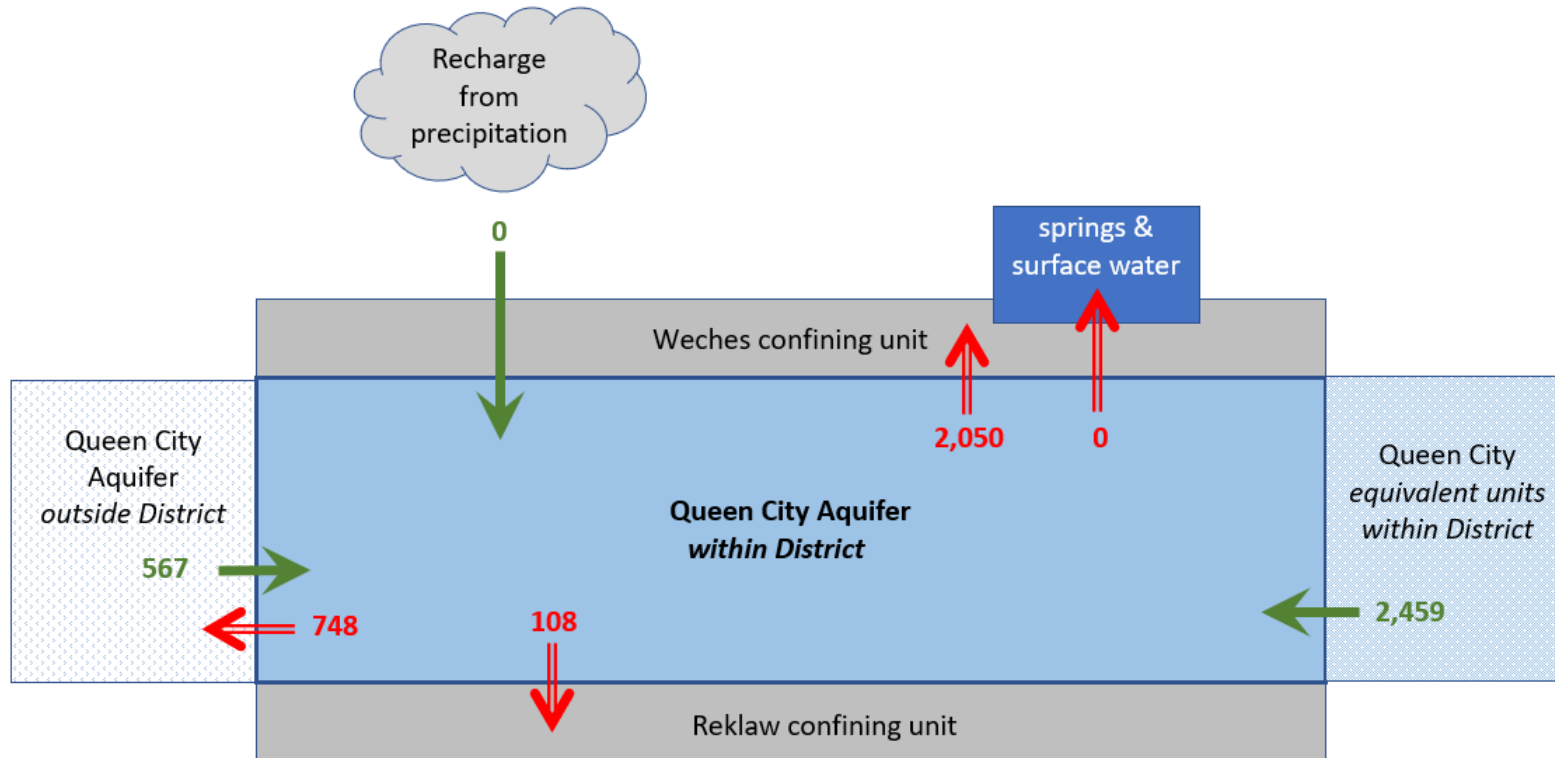
**Figure 2: Generalized diagram of the summarized budget information from Table 1, representing directions of flow for the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer within the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District. Flow values are expressed in acre-feet per year.**

**Table 2: Summarized information for the Queen City Aquifer for the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District groundwater management plan. All values are reported in acre-feet per year and rounded to the nearest 1 acre-foot.**

Management plan requirement	Aquifer or confining unit	Results
Estimated annual amount of recharge from precipitation to the district	Queen City Aquifer	0
Estimated annual volume of water that discharges from the aquifer to springs and any surface water body including lakes, streams, and rivers	Queen City Aquifer	0
Estimated annual volume of flow into the district within each aquifer in the district	Queen City Aquifer	567
Estimated annual volume of flow out of the district within each aquifer in the district	Queen City Aquifer	748
Estimated net annual volume of flow between each aquifer in the district	To Queen City Aquifer from Queen City equivalent units	2,459
	From Queen City Aquifer to Weches confining unit	2,050
	From Queen City Aquifer to Reklaw confining unit	108



**Figure 3: Area of the groundwater availability model for the southern portion of the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers from which the information in Table 2 was extracted (the Queen City Aquifer extent within the district boundary).**



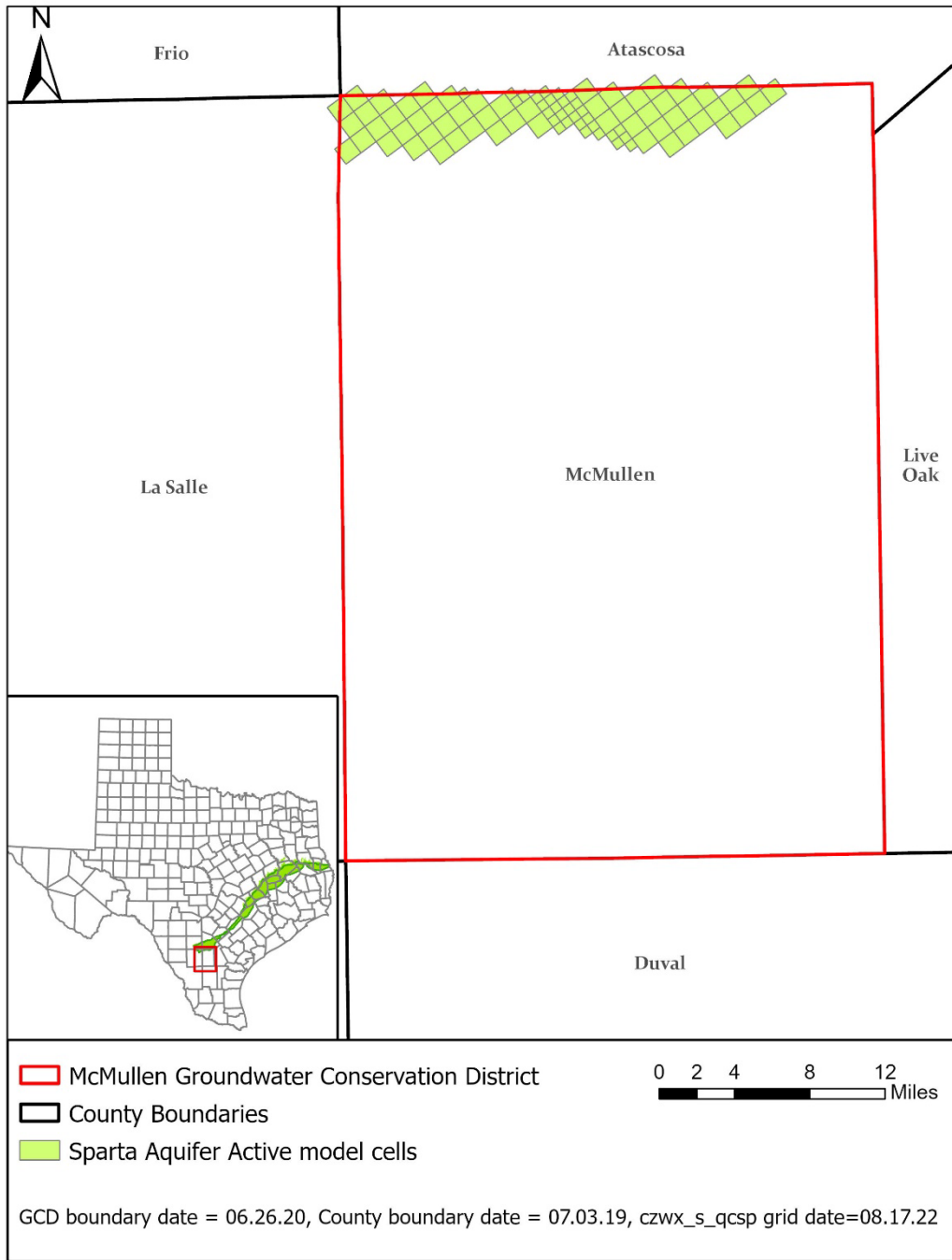
*Caveat: This diagram only includes the water budget items provided in Table 2. A complete water budget would include additional inflows and outflows. For a full groundwater budget, please submit a request in writing to the Groundwater Modeling Department.*

**Figure 4: Generalized diagram of the summarized budget information from Table 2, representing directions of flow for Queen City Aquifer within McMullen Groundwater Conservation District. Flow values are expressed in acre-feet per year.**

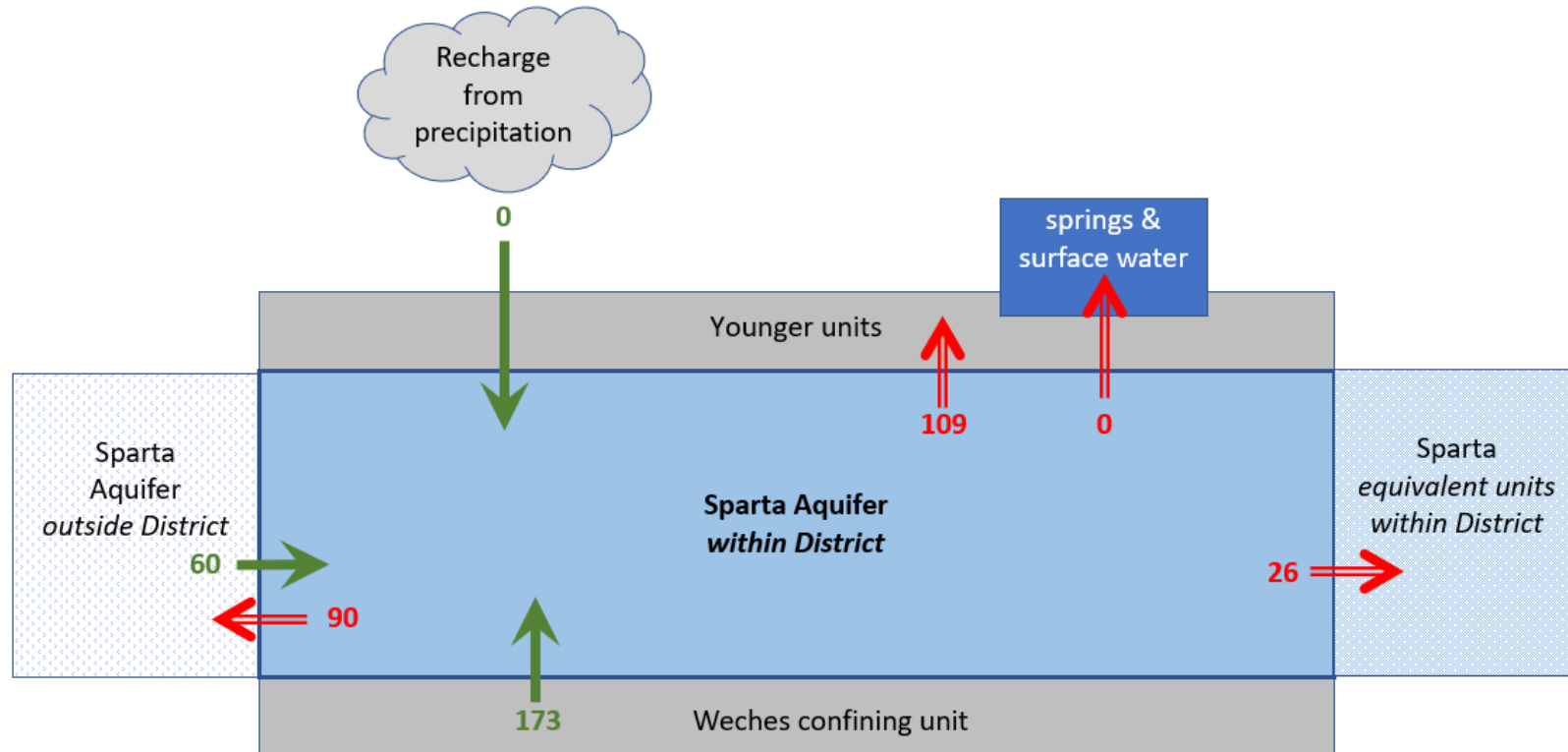
**Table 3: Summarized information for the Sparta Aquifer for the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District groundwater management plan. All values are reported in acre-feet per year and rounded to the nearest 1 acre-foot.**

Management plan requirement	Aquifer or confining unit	Results
Estimated annual amount of recharge from precipitation to the district	Sparta Aquifer	0
Estimated annual volume of water that discharges from the aquifer to springs and any surface water body including lakes, streams, and rivers	Sparta Aquifer	0
Estimated annual volume of flow into the district within each aquifer in the district	Sparta Aquifer	60
Estimated annual volume of flow out of the district within each aquifer in the district	Sparta Aquifer	90
Estimated net annual volume of flow between each aquifer in the district	From Sparta Aquifer to Sparta equivalent units	26
	From Sparta Aquifer to Younger units	109
	To Sparta Aquifer from Weches confining unit	173





**Figure 5: Area of the groundwater availability model for the southern portion of the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers from which the information in Table 3 was extracted (the Sparta Aquifer extent within the district boundary).**

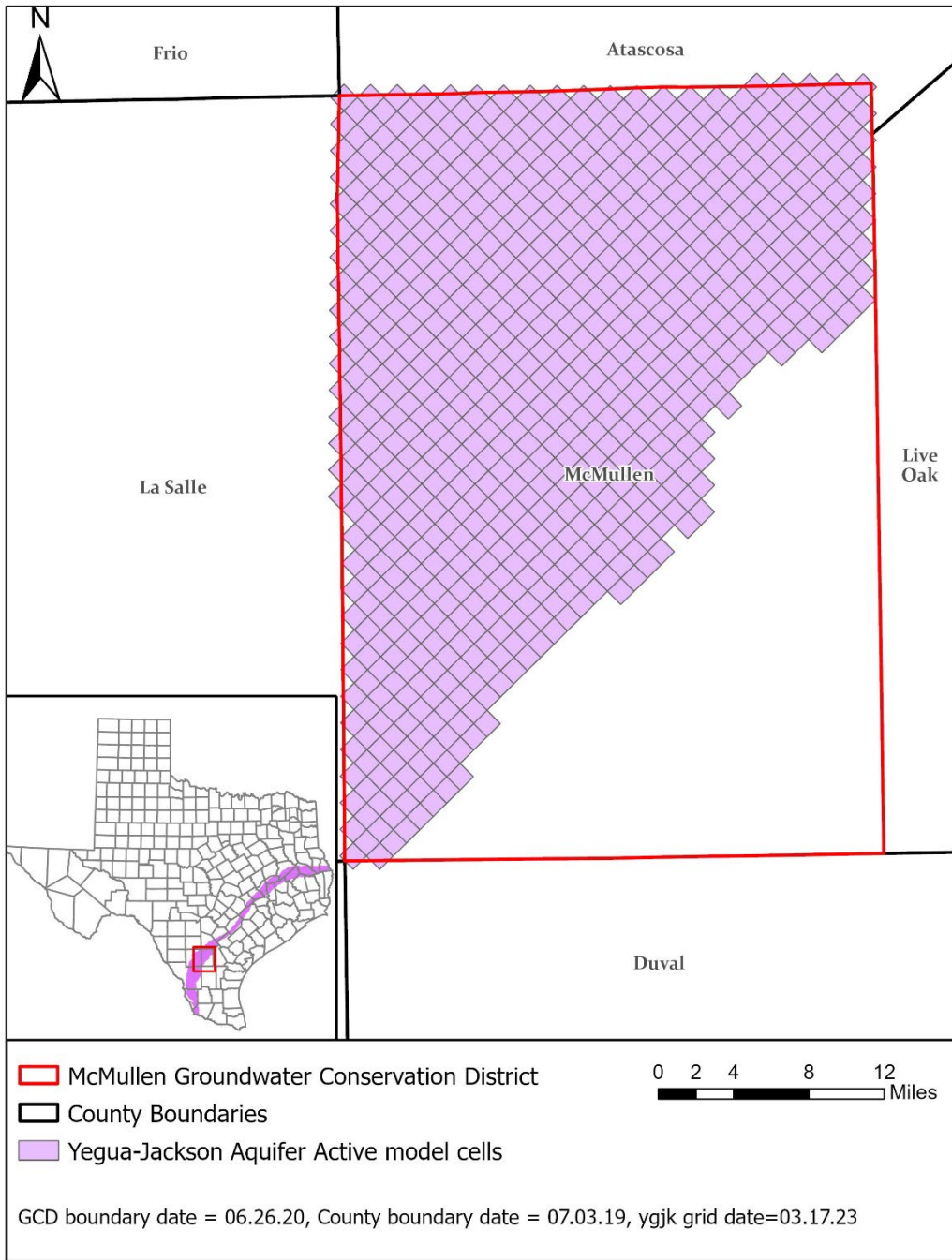


*Caveat: This diagram only includes the water budget items provided in Table 3. A complete water budget would include additional inflows and outflows. For a full groundwater budget, please submit a request in writing to the Groundwater Modeling Department.*

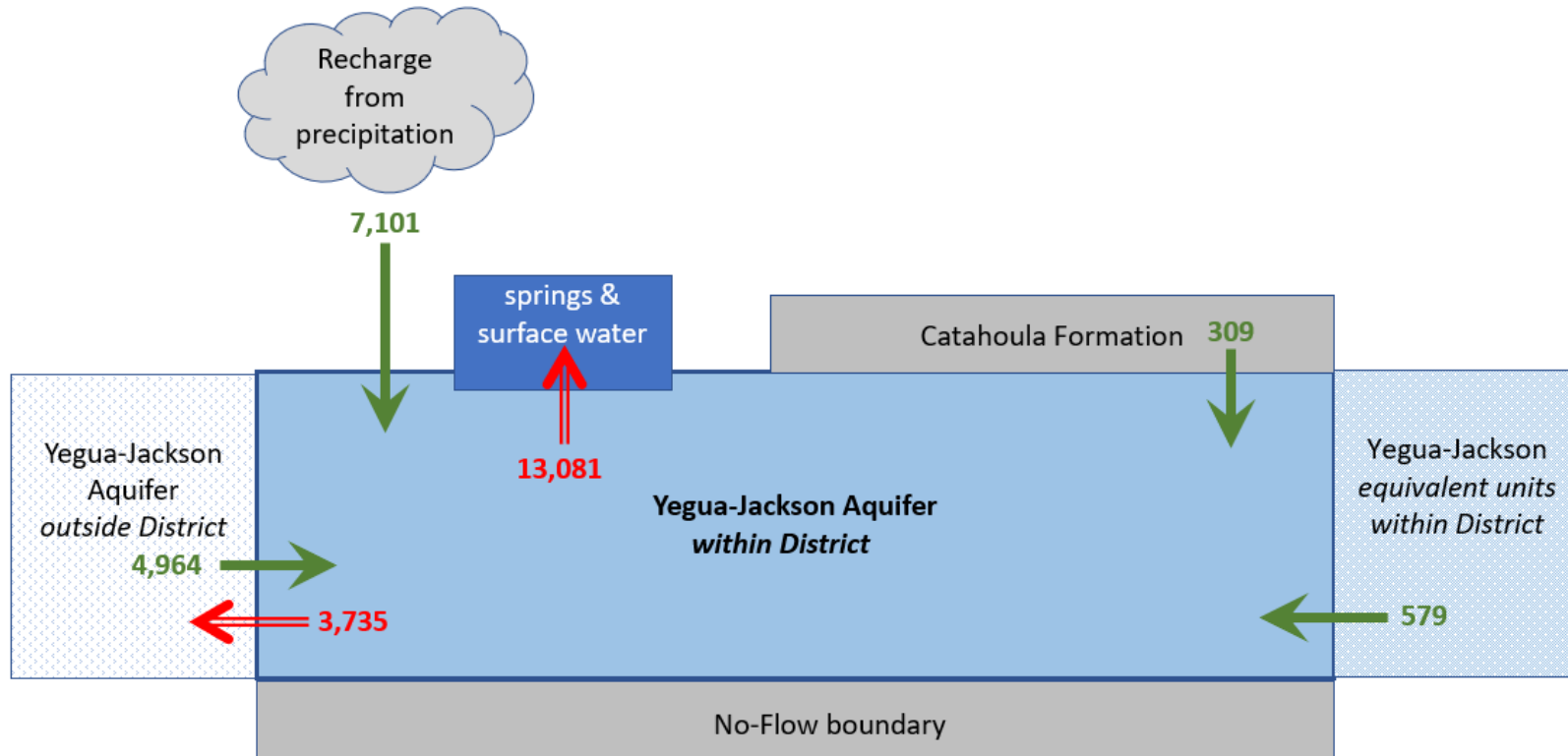
**Figure 6: Generalized diagram of the summarized budget information from Table 3, representing directions of flow for the Sparta Aquifer within the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District. Flow values are expressed in acre-feet per year.**

**Table 4: Summarized information for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer for the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District groundwater management plan. All values are reported in acre-feet per year and rounded to the nearest 1 acre-foot.**

Management plan requirement	Aquifer or confining unit	Results
Estimated annual amount of recharge from precipitation to the district	Yegua-Jackson Aquifer	7,101
Estimated annual volume of water that discharges from the aquifer to springs and any surface water body including lakes, streams, and rivers	Yegua-Jackson Aquifer	13,081
Estimated annual volume of flow into the district within each aquifer in the district	Yegua-Jackson Aquifer	4,964
Estimated annual volume of flow out of the district within each aquifer in the district	Yegua-Jackson Aquifer	3,735
Estimated net annual volume of flow between each aquifer in the district	To Yegua-Jackson Aquifer from Yegua-Jackson equivalent units	579
	To Yegua-Jackson Aquifer from Catahoula Formation	309



**Figure 7: Area of the groundwater availability model for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer from which the information in Table 4 was extracted (the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer extent within the district boundary).**

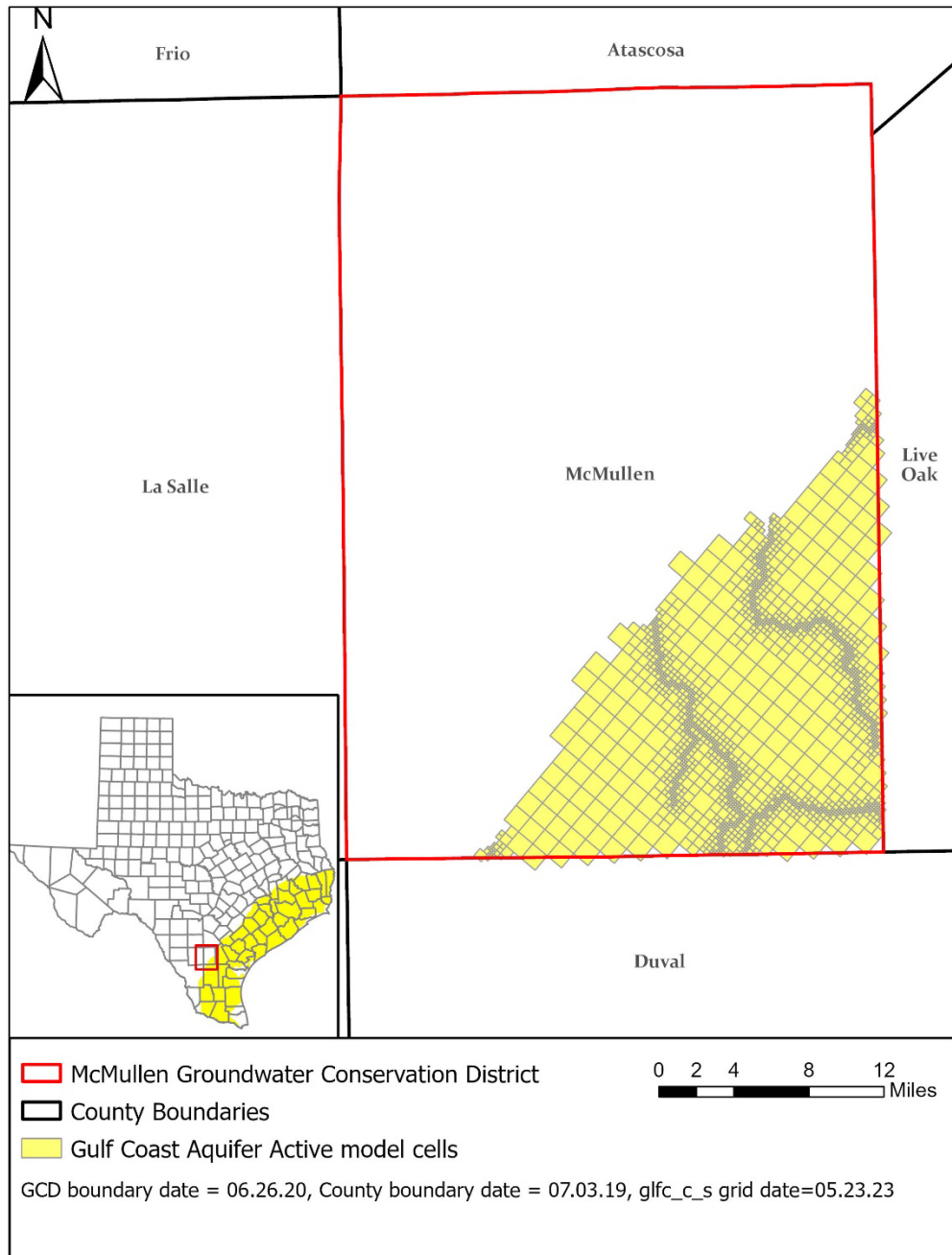


*Caveat: This diagram only includes the water budget items provided in Table 4. A complete water budget would include additional inflows and outflows. For a full groundwater budget, please submit a request in writing to the Groundwater Modeling Department.*

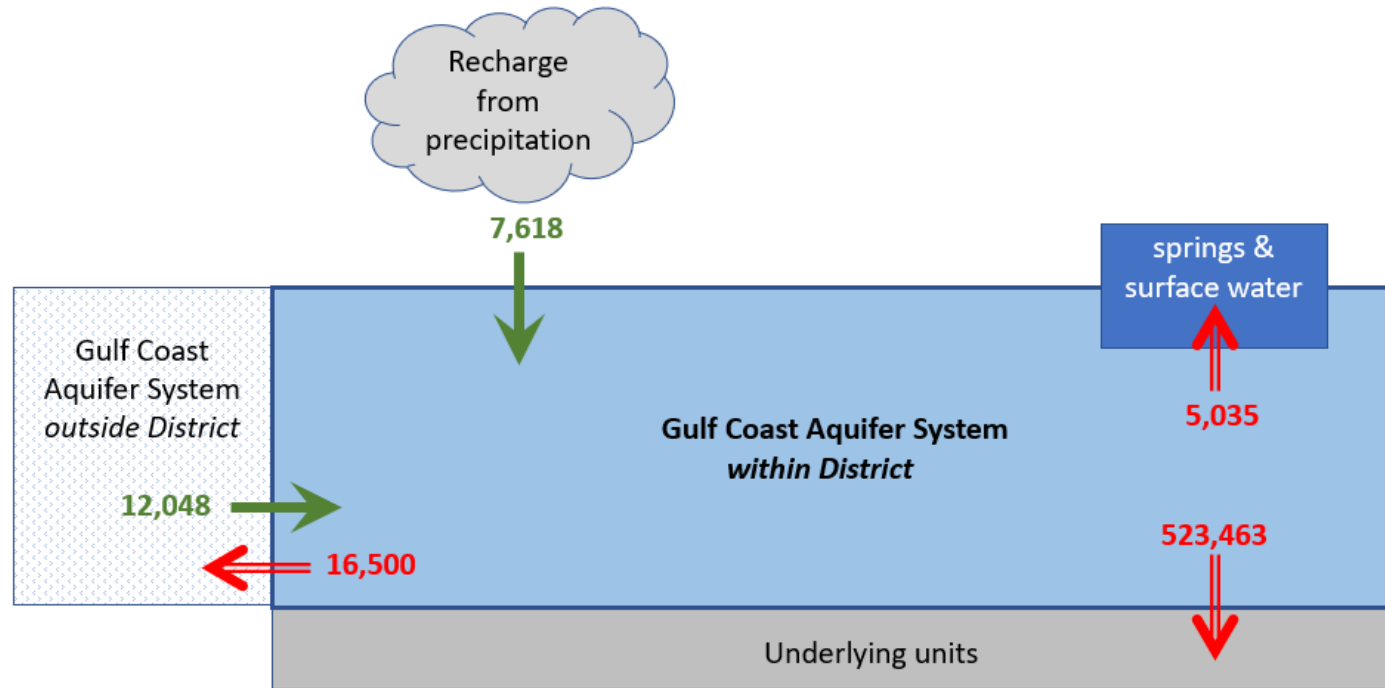
**Figure 8: Generalized diagram of the summarized budget information from Table 4, representing directions of flow for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer within the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District. Flow values are expressed in acre-feet per year.**

**Table 5: Summarized information for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System for the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District groundwater management plan. All values are reported in acre-feet per year and rounded to the nearest 1 acre-foot.**

Management plan requirement	Aquifer or confining unit	Results
Estimated annual amount of recharge from precipitation to the district	Gulf Coast Aquifer System	7,618
Estimated annual volume of water that discharges from the aquifer to springs and any surface water body including lakes, streams, and rivers	Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5,035
Estimated annual volume of flow into the district within each aquifer in the district	Gulf Coast Aquifer System	12,048
Estimated annual volume of flow out of the district within each aquifer in the district	Gulf Coast Aquifer System	16,500
Estimated net annual volume of flow between each aquifer in the district	From Gulf Coast Aquifer System to underlying units	523,463



**Figure 9: Area of the groundwater availability model for the central and southern portions of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System from which the information in Table 5 was extracted (the Gulf Coast Aquifer System extent with the district boundary).**



*Caveat: This diagram only includes the water budget items provided in Table 5. A complete water budget would include additional inflows and outflows. For a full groundwater budget, please submit a request in writing to the Groundwater Modeling Department.*

**Figure 10: Generalized diagram of the summarized budget information from Table 5, representing directions of flow for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System within the McMullen Groundwater Conservation District. Flow values are expressed in acre-feet per year.**



## ***LIMITATIONS:***

The groundwater models used in completing this analysis are the best available scientific tools that can be used to meet the stated objectives. To the extent that this analysis will be used for planning purposes and/or regulatory purposes related to pumping in the past and into the future, it is important to recognize the assumptions and limitations associated with the use of the results. In reviewing the use of models in environmental regulatory decision making, the National Research Council (2007) noted:

*“Models will always be constrained by computational limitations, assumptions, and knowledge gaps. They can best be viewed as tools to help inform decisions rather than as machines to generate truth or make decisions. Scientific advances will never make it possible to build a perfect model that accounts for every aspect of reality or to prove that a given model is correct in all respects for a particular regulatory application. These characteristics make evaluation of a regulatory model more complex than solely a comparison of measurement data with model results.”*

A key aspect of using the groundwater model to evaluate historic groundwater flow conditions includes the assumptions about the location in the aquifer where historic pumping was placed. Understanding the amount and location of historical pumping is as important as evaluating the volume of groundwater flow into and out of the district, between aquifers within the district (as applicable), interactions with surface water (as applicable), recharge to the aquifer system (as applicable), and other metrics that describe the impacts of that pumping. In addition, assumptions regarding precipitation, recharge, and interaction with streams are specific to particular historic time periods.

Because the application of the groundwater models was designed to address regional scale questions, the results are most effective on a regional scale. The TWDB makes no warranties or representations related to the actual conditions of any aquifer at a particular location or at a particular time.

It is important for groundwater conservation districts to monitor groundwater pumping and overall conditions of the aquifer. Because of the limitations of the groundwater model and the assumptions in this analysis, it is important that the groundwater conservation districts work with the TWDB to refine this analysis in the future given the reality of how the aquifer responds to the actual amount and location of pumping now and in the future. Historic precipitation patterns also need to be placed in context as future climatic conditions, such as dry and wet year precipitation patterns, may differ and affect groundwater flow conditions.

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Texas Water Code § 36.1071

# Estimated Historical Groundwater Use And 2022 State Water Plan Datasets:

McMullen Groundwater Conservation District

Texas Water Development Board  
Groundwater Division  
Groundwater Technical Assistance Section  
stephen.allen@twdb.texas.gov  
(512) 463-7317  
March 11, 2024

## ***GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN DATA:***

This package of water data reports (part 1 of a 2-part package of information) is being provided to groundwater conservation districts to help them meet the requirements for approval of their five-year groundwater management plan. Each report in the package addresses a specific numbered requirement in the Texas Water Development Board's groundwater management plan checklist. The checklist can be viewed and downloaded from this web address:

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/groundwater/docs/GCD/GMPChecklist0113.pdf>

The five reports included in this part are:

1. Estimated Historical Groundwater Use (checklist item 2)  
*from the TWDB Historical Water Use Survey (WUS)*
2. Projected Surface Water Supplies (checklist item 6)
3. Projected Water Demands (checklist item 7)
4. Projected Water Supply Needs (checklist item 8)
5. Projected Water Management Strategies (checklist item 9)  
*from the 2022 Texas State Water Plan (SWP)*

Part 2 of the 2-part package is the groundwater availability model (GAM) report for the District (checklist items 3 through 5). The District should have received, or will receive, this report from the Groundwater Availability Modeling Section. Questions about the GAM can be directed to Grayson Dowlearn, Grayson.dowlearn@twdb.texas.gov, (512) 475-1552.

## ***DISCLAIMER:***

The data presented in this report represents the most up to date WUS and 2022 SWP data available as of 3/11/2024. Although it does not happen frequently, either of these datasets are subject to change pending the availability of more accurate WUS data or an amendment to the 2022 SWP. District personnel must review these datasets and correct any discrepancies to ensure approval of their groundwater management plan.

The WUS dataset can be verified at this web address:

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/waterusesurvey/estimates/>

The 2022 SWP dataset can be verified by contacting Sabrina Anderson (sabrina.anderson@twdb.texas.gov or 512-936-0886).

The values presented in the data tables of this report are county based. In cases where groundwater conservation districts cover only a portion of one or more counties the data values are modified with an apportioning multiplier to create new values that more accurately represent conditions within district boundaries. The multiplier used in the following formula is a land area ratio:  $(\text{data value} * (\text{land area of district in county} / \text{land area of county}))$ . For two of the four SWP tables (Projected Surface Water Supplies and Projected Water Demands) only the county-wide water user group (WUG) data values (county other, manufacturing, steam electric power, irrigation, mining and livestock) are modified using the multiplier. WUG values for municipalities, water supply corporations, and utility districts are not apportioned; instead, their full values are retained when they are located within the district, and eliminated when they are located outside (we ask each district to identify these entity locations).

The remaining SWP tables (Projected Water Supply Needs and Projected Water Management Strategies) are not modified because district-specific values are not statutorily required. Each district needs only "consider" the county values in these tables by discussing them in the plan.

In the WUS table every category of water use (including municipal) is apportioned. Staff determined that breaking down the annual municipal values into individual WUGs was too complex.

TWDB recognizes that the apportioning formula used is not ideal but it is the best available process with respect to time and staffing constraints. If a district believes it has data that is more accurate it can add those data to the plan with an explanation of how the data were derived. Apportioning percentages that the TWDB used are listed above each applicable table.

For additional questions regarding this data, please contact Stephen Allen (stephen.allen@twdb.texas.gov or 512-463-7317).

# Estimated Historical Water Use

## TWDB Historical Water Use Survey (WUS) Data

Groundwater and surface water historical use estimates are currently unavailable for calendar year 2020. TWDB staff anticipates the calculation and posting of these estimates at a later date.

### **MCMULLEN COUNTY**

*100% (multiplier)*

All values are in acre-feet

<b>Year</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Municipal</b>	<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>Mining</b>	<b>Steam Electric</b>	<b>Irrigation</b>	<b>Livestock</b>	<b>Total</b>
2019	GW	133	5	4,402	0	120	57	4,717
	SW	0	0	489	0	0	227	716
2018	GW	134	34	3,971	0	0	57	4,196
	SW	0	0	441	0	0	227	668
2017	GW	138	270	2,604	0	0	54	3,066
	SW	0	0	289	0	0	216	505
2016	GW	142	200	2,769	0	0	56	3,167
	SW	0	0	308	0	0	222	530
2015	GW	147	269	4,254	0	0	55	4,725
	SW	0	0	473	0	0	218	691
2014	GW	145	168	6,380	0	0	54	6,747
	SW	0	0	709	0	0	215	924
2013	GW	149	218	5,735	0	0	54	6,156
	SW	0	0	637	0	0	216	853
2012	GW	160	219	2,292	0	0	64	2,735
	SW	0	0	255	0	0	254	509
2011	GW	159	219	1,432	0	0	71	1,881
	SW	0	0	159	0	0	285	444
2010	GW	156	219	330	0	0	93	798
	SW	0	0	110	0	0	371	481
2009	GW	164	0	417	0	0	82	663
	SW	0	0	66	0	0	329	395
2008	GW	173	0	286	0	0	79	538
	SW	0	0	22	0	0	316	338
2007	GW	167	0	219	0	0	89	475
	SW	0	0	0	0	0	357	357
2006	GW	178	0	219	0	0	89	486
	SW	0	0	0	0	0	357	357
2005	GW	166	0	219	0	0	93	478
	SW	0	0	0	0	0	370	370
2004	GW	275	0	219	0	0	48	542
	SW	0	0	0	0	0	431	431

# Projected Surface Water Supplies

## TWDB 2022 State Water Plan Data

**MCMULLEN COUNTY**

*100% (multiplier)*

All values are in acre-feet

<b>RWPG</b>	<b>WUG</b>	<b>WUG Basin</b>	<b>Source Name</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2050</b>	<b>2060</b>	<b>2070</b>
N	Livestock, McMullen	Nueces	Nueces Livestock Local Supply	279	279	295	295	295	295
<b>Sum of Projected Surface Water Supplies (acre-feet)</b>				<b>279</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>295</b>

# Projected Water Demands

## TWDB 2022 State Water Plan Data

Please note that the demand numbers presented here include the plumbing code savings found in the Regional and State Water Plans.

### **MCMULLEN COUNTY**

*100% (multiplier)*

All values are in acre-feet

<b>RWPG</b>	<b>WUG</b>	<b>WUG Basin</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2050</b>	<b>2060</b>	<b>2070</b>
N	County-Other, McMullen	Nueces	97	94	91	89	89	89
N	Livestock, McMullen	Nueces	335	335	335	335	335	335
N	Manufacturing, McMullen	Nueces	219	249	249	249	249	249
N	Mining, McMullen	Nueces	4,268	4,804	4,754	2,622	1,850	1,305
<b>Sum of Projected Water Demands (acre-feet)</b>			<b>4,919</b>	<b>5,482</b>	<b>5,429</b>	<b>3,295</b>	<b>2,523</b>	<b>1,978</b>



# Projected Water Supply Needs

## TWDB 2022 State Water Plan Data

Negative values (in red) reflect a projected water supply need, positive values a surplus.

### **MCMULLEN COUNTY**

All values are in acre-feet

<b>RWPG</b>	<b>WUG</b>	<b>WUG Basin</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2050</b>	<b>2060</b>	<b>2070</b>
N	County-Other, McMullen	Nueces	0	0	0	0	0	0
N	Livestock, McMullen	Nueces	0	0	0	0	0	0
N	Manufacturing, McMullen	Nueces	0	0	0	0	0	0
N	Mining, McMullen	Nueces	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Sum of Projected Water Supply Needs (acre-feet)</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

# Projected Water Management Strategies

## TWDB 2022 State Water Plan Data