






Region C Water Planning Group

March 21, 2011





Action Items

- A. Consider Authorization of Public Meeting to Receive Input on Fourth Round of Planning
- B. Consider Authorization for NTMWD to Submit Grant Application
- C. Consider Authorization for NTMWD to Contract with TWDB




Action Items

- D. Consider Approval of Consultant Selection
- E. Consider Authorization for NTMWD to Contract With Selected Consultant





Authorization of Public Meeting to Receive Input on Fourth Round of Planning

Jim Parks




Proposed Dates

- Must be held prior to August 31, 2011
- April 25th - This would allow time for the 30 day notification process



Authorization for NTMWD to Submit Grant Application To TWDB

Jim Parks



Important Dates

- Prior to April 8, 2011 - public notification must be made by NTMWD announcing their grant application submittal
- April 8, 2011 – Grant application due to TWDB



Authorization for NTMWD to Contract With TWDB

Jim Parks



Consider Approval of Consultant Selection

Jim Parks



Consultant Selection

- One SOQ was received
 - Freese and Nichols, Inc.
 - Region C consultant for the last two planning cycles



Authorization for NTMWD to Contract With Selected Consultant


Jim Parks



Discussion Items



- Timeline for Fourth Cycle of Regional Water Planning
- TWDB Budget Allocation for Fourth Cycle of Regional Water Planning
- 2010 Census Data
- Comments on Cycle Four by TWDB






Discussion Items

- E. Comments on Cycle Four by State Agencies
- F. Consider Any Needed Organizational Changes to RCWPG for Cycle Four


Timeline for Cycle Four

Jim Parks




Schedule

- April 8, 2011 – Deadline for Regional Water Planning Grant Applications
- June 22, 2011 – TWDB staff request for Board authorization to negotiate and execute regional planning contracts
- Prior to August 31, 2011 – RCWPG hold public meeting to receive comments regarding the scope of work and regional planning activities for the entire planning cycle (*Proposed date: April 25*)




Schedule

- June – August 31, 2011 – Negotiate and execute Cycle Four water planning contracts
- Summer 2011 – RCWPG meeting to discuss grant approval, contracts, notice to proceed, etc.
- Late 2011, Early 2012 – Meeting to present population and demand projections
- Hold RCWPG meetings every 6-8 weeks for the initial planning stages

Budget for Cycle Four


Jim Parks



Funding Allocations for Last Three Cycles

Planning Cycle	Total Initial Funding	Task						Percent Change in Total Initial Funding
		1	2	3	4	5-9	10	
Second	\$1,966,300	\$39,440	\$151,015	\$232,760	\$856,370	\$248,675	\$438,040	
Third*	\$1,833,910	\$40,300	\$125,620	\$249,380	\$930,190	\$112,200	\$376,220	-7%
Fourth	\$542,297	TBD	\$88,304	\$101,814	\$250,365	TBD	\$101,814	-70%

- Cycle Three also included \$1.25 million in special studies.
- Tasks 4D and 10 of Cycle Four are only partially funded. When additional appropriations become available, contracts will be amended to add funds through a future Request for Applications.
- If additional \$6.3 million is granted and funding percentages to each Region are similar to what they are now, Region C will receive an additional \$1 million.





Census Data

Tom Gooch



Region C Population by County

Geographic area	2010 Population		Difference	Percent Difference
	2011 Region C Plan Estimate	Census		
Collin County	790,648	782,341	8,307	1.05%
Cooke County	40,674	38,437	2,237	5.50%
Dallas County	2,512,352	2,368,139	144,213	5.74%
Denton County	674,322	662,614	11,708	1.74%
Ellis County	169,514	149,610	19,904	11.74%
Fannin County	38,129	33,915	4,214	11.05%
Freestone County	19,701	19,816	-115	-0.58%
Grayson County	126,099	120,877	5,222	4.14%



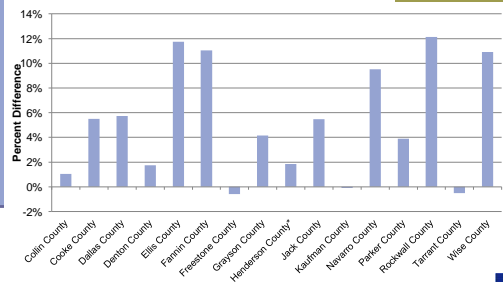
Region C Population by County, Continued

Geographic area	2010 Population		Difference	Percent Difference
	2011 Region C Plan Estimate	Census		
Henderson County*	80,019	78,532	1,487	1.86%
Jack County	9,567	9,044	523	5.47%
Kaufman County	103,249	103,350	-101	-0.10%
Navarro County	52,752	47,735	5,017	9.51%
Parker County	121,653	116,927	4,726	3.88%
Rockwall County	89,144	78,337	10,807	12.12%
Tarrant County	1,800,069	1,809,034	-8,965	-0.50%
Wise County	66,366	59,127	7,239	10.91%
Total	6,694,258	6,477,835	216,423	3.23%

*Region C value includes Region C and Region D estimate



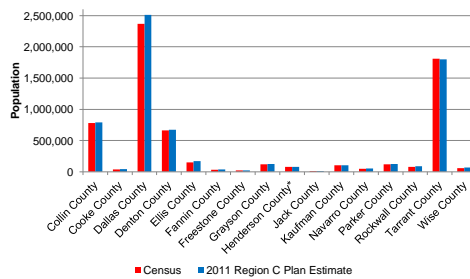
Percent Difference in 2011 Region C Plan vs 2010 Census Data



* Region C value includes Region C and Region D estimates



2011 Region C Plan vs 2010 Census Data



* Region C value includes Region C and Region D estimates



Comments on Cycle Four

Angela Kennedy (TWDB)



4th Cycle (2011 – 2015) Regional Water Planning

- Executive Administrator of TWDB published request on February 4, 2011 for Regional Water Planning Grant applications.
- Amount of funding for all regions is not-to-exceed \$3,320,492.
- Additional funding of \$6.3 million requested to the 82nd Texas Legislature by TWDB for FY 12-13.
- Applications due to TWDB by April 8, 2011.
- Applications considered at TWDB Board Meeting on June 22, 2011.



4th Cycle Regional Water Planning

- Grant Application Process
 - Group Authorizes NTMWD to provide **public notice** and submit grant application to TWDB for 4th cycle regional water planning grant funding.
 - Group Authorizes NTMWD to provide **public notice** and schedule a **public meeting** for input on 4th cycle regional water planning activities.
 - Proof of notices included in Grant application.



TWDB - Sunset Commission Recommendations

- Recommendations adopted by Sunset Commission and included in Bills to Leg.
 - Development Fund Bond Authority
 - GMA representation in RWPG
 - Desired Future Conditions (MAG process)
 - TNRIS & Geographic Information Systems
 - Water Conservation
 - Board Statute Language



TWDB Rule Revisions

- Consider Rule Revisions - Fall 2011
- Pending water planning budget - rules may be amended
 - No Funding: Simplified planning or to opt out
 - 10 year cycles with reduced funding



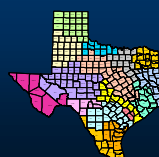
Comments on Cycle Four by State Agencies



March 2011



TPWD and Region C



Adam Whisenant

Importance of Aquatic Ecosystems

- 191,000 miles of rivers and streams in Texas provide habitat for 255 species of fishes
- With over 150 species of native freshwater fishes, Texas ranks among the most biologically diverse states
- Texas ranks 2nd nationally in terms of angler days and the amount of money spent on fishing
- Sportsmen spend \$6.6 billion per year in Texas
- 91% of Texans polled felt protecting state's water resources "very important"

TPWD's Role

- TPWD has a responsibility to protect fish and wildlife resources in Texas
- Senate Bill 1 passed in 1997 to promote water management strategies that are cost effective and environmentally sensitive
- Senate Bill 1 requires consideration of environmental water needs when planning for future water needs
- Senate Bill 1 requires TPWD representative to serve as a non voting member of each regional water planning group
- TPWD also has a role in reviewing and approving population and water demand projections.

TPWD's Role

- TPWD has a responsibility to review regional and state water plans and to provide information and assistance upon request to identify potential impacts in order to avoid and minimize impacts to fish and wildlife
- TWDB must coordinate with TPWD in developing guidance principles for the state water plan and receive input from TPWD in reviewing and updating the guidance principles.
- While TPWD has been a nonvoting member since SB1 became law, our role has "evolved" over time

Round 1: Regional Planning

- Not all planning groups embraced environmental issues.
- TPWD nonvoting members present but not vocal
- TPWD 2000 comment letter "... As a whole the plans fall short of assessing the impact of water management strategies on the natural resources – fish, wildlife and the habitat resources upon which they depend – that are vital to the ecological health of Texas ecosystems."

Round 2: Regional Planning

- Planning rules amended to require RWPGs perform a "quantitative reporting of environmental factors including effects on environmental water needs, wildlife habitat, cultural resources, and the effect of upstream development on bays and estuaries."
- TPWD nonvoting members more engaged, more requests from planning groups for presentations from TPWD.
- TPWD 2005 comment letter "A number of positive steps have been taken since the first planning cycle to advance the issue of environmental protection."

Round 3: Regional Planning

- Legislature passes SB3, recognizing importance of environmental flows. New process to identify and protect environmental flows begins.
- TPWD 2010 IPP comment letter focused on specific questions regarding quantification of impacts, threats to and protection of natural resources, water conservation and nomination of ecologically unique stream segments.
- Region C Final Plan addressed each question/concern raised by TPWD.

TPWD Review of 2010 Draft Region C Plan

TPWD Question: Does the draft plan include a quantitative reporting of environmental impacts?

Region C Response: Qualitative impacts of strategies on natural resources are presented. Where available, quantitative data was used to determine those qualitative impacts.



TPWD Review of 2010 Draft Region C Plan

TPWD Question: Does the draft plan include a description of natural resources, how the plan is consistent with protection of natural resources and how threats to natural resources will be addressed?

Region C Response: Yes, Chapter 7 presents in general terms description of natural resources, how the plan is consistent with protection of natural resources. No detailed information provided on how threats are to be addressed.



Rob McCorkle, © Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

TPWD Review of 2010 Draft Region C Plan

TPWD Question: Does the draft plan include water conservation? Reuse?

Region C Response: Conservation and reuse strategies account for 28% of the future demand of Region C. Water Conservation strategies were recommended for every municipal water user and for many of the non-municipal users.



Chase Fountain, © Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

TPWD Review of 2010 Draft Region C Plan

TPWD Question: Does the draft plan include recommendations to protect ecologically significant streams?

Region C Response: No, but Region C recommends the formation of an interagency Work Group to further clarify unresolved issues surrounding unique stream segments.



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TPWD Review of 2010 Draft Region C Plan

TPWD Question: Does the draft plan include Responses to issues raised in TPWD's 2005 letter?

Region C Response: no, only issues raised in 2011 plan.

Other concerns raised by TPWD in 2010 letter were also raised in 2005 letter (impacts from Marvin Nichols Reservoir and surplus supply).



Chase Fountain, © Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

TPWD Review of 2010 Draft Region C Plan

New issue raised by TPWD in 2010 comments: transport of invasive species and toxic algae should be included as a threat to natural resources. Golden alga and zebra mussels occur in Lake Texoma. Recommend developing strategies to avoid spread of these and other invasives.

Region C Response: A discussion of invasive species has been added.



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Round 4: Regional Planning

New Population and Demand Projections

Budget Challenges

TPWD is (still) here to help!

- SB2/SB3 Environmental Flows
- Reservoir impact minimization and mitigation
- Strategies to control invasive species
- Texas Water Conservation Advisory Council tools and BMPs



Consider Any Needed Organizational Changes to RCWPG for Cycle Four

Rachel Ickert



Feedback and Ideas

- Planning Process
- RCWPG Meetings
- Region C Report
- Suggested Additions
- Positive Feedback



Ideas for Improving the Planning Process

- Create Water Conservation Advisory Board
- Create Subcommittees or Workgroups
 - Demands/Conservation
 - Water Management Strategies
 - Inter-Regional Coordination
 - Environment
- Work on moving strategies toward implementation (permitting and funding)



Ideas for Improving the Planning Process, Continued

- Work to involve the larger community
 - North Texas Commission
 - NCTCOG
 - Business Community
- Hold meetings early in the process with larger WWPs to coordinate on large WMSs
- Continue and improve on communicating the Region C perspective on media coverage



Ideas for Improving the Planning Process, Continued

- Hold feedback meetings regularly
- Encourage more cooperation between water suppliers (not just larger suppliers)
- Put more emphasis on economic impact of not meeting water demands



Ideas for Improving Meetings

- Big-picture, less technical discussions
- Open discussions on topics of interest
- More discussion on water management strategies
- Rotate meeting location around the region
- Schedule breaks during meetings



Ideas for Improving the Region C Report

- Add a primer to explain how to use the Region C Water Plan
 - Keep smaller water users in mind
 - May add to "Letter to the Reader"
- Add a summary of major changes from the previous Plan to the current Plan
- Add tabs for each county in Section 4F
- Include as many alternate strategies as possible



Suggested Additions

- Single message of conservation across Region C
- Regional/collaborative approach to water pricing/rates
- Further study on gas drilling water use
- Special study topic on recycling oil field water
- Emergency interconnects
- Watershed protection studies



Positive Feedback

- Process promotes coordination & communication
- More positive movement with each round of planning
- Region C newsletters
 - Members enjoy reading
 - Newsletters are timely and well written
- RCWPG, NTMWD, and Consultants work well together



Positive Feedback

- Meetings are well planned & organized.
 - Compressed presentations given
 - Technical information required
 - TWDB requirements
- Region C is a strong region, and the Planning Group has done a great job.





Other Discussion

Jim Parks




Other Discussion

- Updates from the Chair
- Report from Regional Liaisons
- Report from GMA 8 Liaisons
- Report on Trinity-San Jacinto-Galveston Bay Stakeholders Committee
- Report on Sabine-Neches-Sabine Lake Bay and Bay Area Stakeholders Committee



Other Discussion

- Report from Texas Water Development Board
- Report from Texas Department of Agriculture
- Report from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Confirm Date and Location of Next Meeting
- Public Comments



Thank you for attending.

Materials are available at
www.regioncwater.org

