

**Agreement Resolving the Declared Conflict  
Between the Region C and Region D 2026 Initially Prepared Water Plans**

On June 26, 2025, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) found that an interregional conflict existed between the 2026 Region C and Region D Initially Prepared Plans and invited the regional water planning groups to engage in mediation to attempt to resolve the conflict.

On July 25, 28, 29, 30, and 31, 2025, the undersigned representatives of the regions met in mediation and discussed the issues related to the current conflict in their regional water plans relating to the proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir.

The undersigned representatives of Region C and Region D agree to resolve the conflict that the TWDB found between their Initially Prepared Plans as follows:


1. Region C will make Toledo Bend a Recommended Strategy (alongside Marvin Nichols Reservoir) so both can be explored.
  - a. Region C will advance the Marvin Nichols project to 2070 and include Toledo Bend as a recommended water management strategy in the current round of planning.
  - b. Region C will seek funding from TWDB to facilitate and conduct an “Apples-to-Apples” monetary and non-monetary comparison of the Marvin Nichols and Toledo Bend projects. Study is to be conducted by firm(s) that can provide a fresh assessment, commence by March 2026, and be completed by July 2027.
  - c. Neither Region will protest either regional plan; and, each Region’s board and board members will serve as representatives of this agreement, refraining from activities whose aim is to adversely impact the examination of the Marvin Nichols project prior to 2030. Members may continue to express their personal preferences and opinions regarding the proposed project but agree to honor the process outlined in this agreement.
  - d. No application for permitting would occur for Marvin Nichols prior to 2030.
2. Regions C and D will support an independent study to address the potential benefits and impacts of Marvin Nichols and the anticipated associated mitigation land acquisition on the economic, agricultural, and natural resources of Regions C and D.
  - a. Regions C and D will jointly pursue immediate funding through TWDB with the intent to initiate the study no later than March 2026. The study must be completed by July 2027. Should state resources not be allocated, Regions C and D would work to advance this study and agree to equally share the costs of the study (not to exceed \$250,000 each, unless subsequently agreed upon).
  - b. Regions C and D will each identify up to 5 members to participate in an interregional working group to cooperatively participate in interregional activities related to the independent study and seek opportunities to jointly communicate about the study scoping, progress, and conclusions.


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- c. The study will include consideration of economic, agricultural, and natural resource impacts in Regions C and D, including monetary and non-monetary factors, such as: water affordability, private property rights, community impacts; mitigation land scenarios (including assessment of compensation strategies for impacted landowners and industries); and unexplored economic opportunities to Region D associated with Marvin Nichols implementation.
  - d. Results of the study should be included in the September 2028 Technical Memoranda along with acknowledgements from Regions C and D of their participation in the study scoping and selection of the contractor(s).
3. Regions C and D will jointly seek state financial support for alternatives to Marvin Nichols that are more costly, to resolve this ongoing conflict.
  4. Regions C and D will engage in a joint informational campaign to convey information considered in, and resulting from, this negotiated agreement, including: 1) a shared statement on the outcome of mediation and what is going into the Initially Prepared Plans as a result, and 2) mutually agreed upon facts from the Initially Prepared Plans that influenced the resolution of the interregional conflict.


The undersigned representatives agree to transmit this agreement to the Texas Water Development Board and further agree (1) to seek ratification of this agreement by their respective regional water planning groups, and (2) to seek inclusion of the language relating to the terms of the agreement in their region's adopted 2026 regional water plans.

**For Region C**

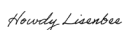
  
Dan Buhman (Aug 5, 2025 09:46:14 CDT)  
Dan Buhman Date: 01/08/25


  
Jenna Covington (Jul 31, 2025 18:26:57 CDT)  
Jenna Covington Date: 31/07/25


  
Larry N Patterson (Jul 31, 2025 19:35:12 CDT)  
Larry Patterson Date: 31/07/25


  
Sarah Standifer (Jul 31, 2025 18:26:57 CDT)  
Sarah Standifer Date: 31/07/25

**For Region D**

  
Howdy Lisenbee (Jul 31, 2025 20:18:37 CDT)  
Howdy Lisenbee Date: 31/07/25

  
Fred Milton (Jul 31, 2025 20:28:02 CDT)  
Fred Milton Date: 31/07/25

  
Travis Ransom (Jul 31, 2025 20:18:37 CDT)  
Travis Ransom Date: 31/07/25

  
Jim Thompson (Aug 1, 2025 08:06:10 CDT)  
Jim Thompson Date: 01/08/25