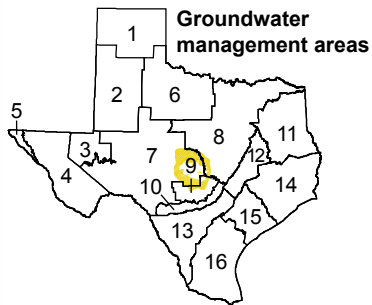
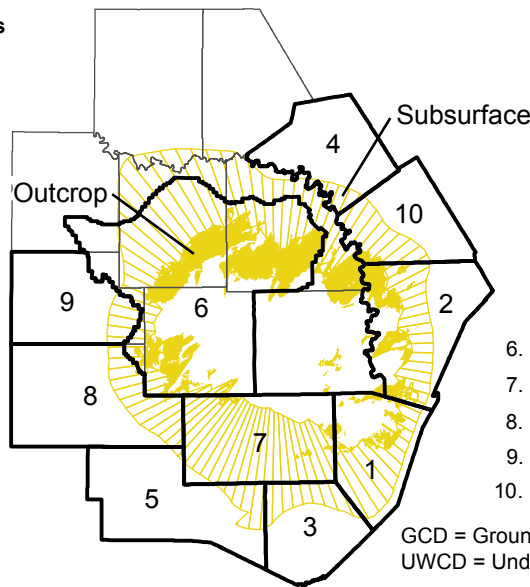


Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer

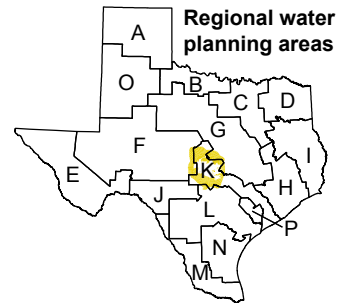


1. Blanco-Pedernales GCD
2. Central Texas GCD
3. Cow Creek GCD
4. Fox Crossing Water District
5. Headwaters GCD



6. Hickory UWCD No. 1
7. Hill Country UWCD
8. Kimble County GCD
9. Menard County UWCD
10. Saratoga UWCD

GCD = Groundwater Conservation District
 UWCD = Underground Water Conservation District



The Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer is a minor aquifer that is found in parts of 15 counties in the Llano Uplift area of Central Texas. The aquifer consists of the Tanyard, Gorman, and Honeycut formations of the Ellenburger Group and the San Saba Limestone Member of the Wilberns Formation. The aquifer consists of a sequence of limestone and dolomite that crop out in a circular pattern around the Llano Uplift and dip radially into the subsurface away from the center of the uplift to depths of approximately 3,000 feet. Regional block faulting has significantly compartmentalized the aquifer. The maximum thickness of the aquifer is about 2,700 feet. Water is held in fractures, cavities, and solution channels and is commonly under confined conditions. The aquifer is highly permeable in places, as indicated by wells that yield as much as 1,000 gallons per minute and springs that issue from the aquifer, maintaining the base flow of streams in the area. Water produced from the aquifer is inherently hard and usually has less than 1,000 milligrams per liter of total dissolved solids. Fresh to slightly saline water extends downdip to depths of approximately 3,000 feet. Elevated concentrations of radium and radon also occur in the aquifer. The majority of groundwater is used for municipal uses, with the remainder for irrigation and livestock. A large portion of water flowing from San Saba Springs, which is the water supply for the city of San Saba, is believed to be from the Ellenburger-San Saba and Marble Falls aquifers. The planning groups recommend several water management strategies that use the Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer, including the development of a new well field in Llano County to supply the City of Llano, additional pumping from existing wells, temporary overdrafts, and the reallocation of supplies from users with surpluses to users with needs.

Aquifer characteristics

- Area of outcrop: 1,147 square miles
- Area in subsurface: 4,262 square miles
- Availability: 45,672 acre-feet per year (2010 to 2060)
- Well yield: generally 100 to 600 gallons per minute, some as much as 1,000 gallons per minute
- Proportion of aquifer with groundwater conservation districts: 84 percent
- Number of counties containing the aquifer: 16

Groundwater supplies with implementation of water management strategies

