GAM Run 16-023 MAG: Modeled Available Groundwater for the Aquifers in Groundwater Management Area 9

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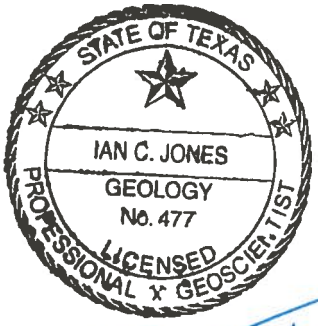
Texas Water Development Board
Groundwater Division
Groundwater Availability Modeling Section
(512) 463-6641
February 28, 2017



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

We have prepared estimates of the modeled available groundwater for the relevant aquifers of Groundwater Management Area 9—the Trinity, Edwards Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Ellenburger-San Saba, and Hickory aquifers. The estimates are based on the desired future conditions for these aquifers adopted by the groundwater conservation districts in Groundwater Management Area 9 on April 28, 2016. The explanatory report and other materials submitted to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) were determined to be administratively complete on November 23, 2016.

The modeled available groundwater values are summarized by decade for the groundwater conservation districts (Tables 1, 3, 5, and 7) and for use in the regional water planning process (Tables 2, 4, 6, and 8). The modeled available groundwater estimates are 2,208 acre-feet per year in the Edwards Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer, up to 75 acre-feet per year in the Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer, 140 acre-feet per year in the Hickory Aquifer, and range from approximately 93,000 acre-feet per year in 2010 to about 90,500 acre-feet per year in 2060 in the Trinity Aquifer. Please note that the Trinity Aquifer includes both the Trinity Aquifer as defined by the TWDB and the Trinity Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer. The modeled available groundwater estimates were extracted from results of model runs using the groundwater availability models for the Hill Country portion of the Trinity Aquifer version 2.01 (Jones and others, 2011), and the minor aquifers of the Llano Uplift Area (Shi and others, 2016).

REQUESTOR:

Mr. Ronald Fieseler, chair of Groundwater Management Area 9 districts.

DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST:

In a letter dated April 25, 2016, Mr. Ronald Fieseler provided the TWDB with the desired future conditions of the Trinity, Edwards Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Ellenburger-San Saba, and Hickory aquifers in Groundwater Management Area 9. Mr.

Fieseler provided additional clarifications for baseline years for each desired future condition, areas not covered by the models, assumed climatic conditions, and spatial pumping distributions through emails to the TWDB on June 8, 2016, August 15, 2016 and September 9, 2016. Mr. Fieseler also clarified the water level drawdown for the Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer in Kendall County in a letter dated October 19, 2016.

The final adopted desired future conditions for the aquifers in Groundwater Management Area 9 are:

- Trinity Aquifer *[Upper, Middle, and Lower undifferentiated]* - Allow for an increase in average drawdown of approximately 30 feet through 2060 (throughout GMA-9) consistent with "Scenario 6" in TWDB GAM Task 10-005.
- Edwards Group of Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) *[Aquifer]* in Kendall and Bandera counties - Allow for no net increase in average drawdown in Bandera and Kendall counties through 2070.
- Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer in Kendall County - Allow for an increase in average drawdown of no less than 7 feet in Kendall County through 2070.
- Hickory Aquifer in Kendall County - Allow for an increase in average drawdown of no more than 7 Feet in Kendall County through 2070.

The Trinity Aquifer includes both the Trinity Aquifer as defined by the TWDB and the Trinity Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer.

Additionally, districts in Groundwater Management Area 9 voted to declare that the following aquifers or parts of aquifers be classified as non-relevant for the purposes of joint planning:

- Edwards Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer in Kerr and Blanco counties.
- Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer in Blanco and Kerr counties.
- Hickory Aquifer in Blanco, Hays, Kerr, and Travis counties.
- Marble Falls Aquifer in Blanco County.
- Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) Aquifer in Bexar, Comal, Hays, and Travis counties.

METHODS:

As defined in Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code, "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.

The desired future condition for the Trinity Aquifer is identical to the one adopted in 2010 and the associated modeled available groundwater is based on a specific model run and scenario—Scenario 6 in GAM Task 10-005 (Hutchison, 2010) and GAM Task 10-050 (Hassan, 2012). Trinity Aquifer water-level drawdown is based on 2008 water levels.

For other relevant aquifers—the Edwards Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Ellenburger-San Saba, and Hickory aquifers—the groundwater availability models for the Hill Country portion of the Trinity Aquifer version 2.01 (Jones and others, 2011), and the minor aquifers of the Llano Uplift Area (Shi and others, 2016) were used to simulate the desired future conditions outlined in the explanatory report (GMA 9 and others, 2016) and further clarified as noted in the previous section. Water level drawdown calculations were based on the water levels simulated in final years of the historical versions of the respective models. These final years are 1997 in the groundwater availability model for the Hill Country portion of the Trinity Aquifer and 2010 in the groundwater availability model for the minor aquifers of the Llano Uplift Area. The predictive model runs retain pumping rates from the historic period—1980 through 1997—except in the aquifer or area of interest. In those areas, pumping rates are varied such that they produce the desired future average water level drawdown conditions. Pumping rates were reported on 10-year intervals from 2010 through 2060 (for the Trinity Aquifer) and 2010 through 2070 (for all other relevant aquifers). The groundwater availability estimates for 2070 for the Trinity Aquifer will be determined by the regional water planning groups.

Water level drawdown averages were calculated for the relevant portions of each aquifer. Drawdown for model cells which became dry during the simulation (water level dropped below the base of the cell) were excluded from the averaging. Estimates of modeled available groundwater therefore decrease over time as continued simulated pumping predicts the development of dry model cells in areas of Hays, Kerr, and Travis counties. The calculated water-level drawdown averages were compared with the desired future conditions to verify that the pumping scenario achieved the desired future conditions.

Modeled available groundwater values for the Trinity Aquifer and the Edwards Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer were determined by extracting pumping rates by decade from the model results using ZONEBUDGET Version 3.01 (Harbaugh, 2009). For the Ellenburger-San Saba and Hickory aquifers, modeled available groundwater values were determined by extracting pumping rates by decade from the model results using ZONBUDUSG Version 1.01 (Panday and others, 2013).

PARAMETERS AND ASSUMPTIONS:

Trinity and Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifers

We used the groundwater availability model (version 2.01) for the Hill Country portion of the Trinity Aquifer developed by Jones and others (2009) to determine modeled available groundwater in the Trinity Aquifer and the Edwards Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer. See Jones and others (2009) for details on model construction, recharge, discharge, assumptions, and limitations. The parameters and assumptions for the groundwater availability model for the Hill Country portion of the Trinity Aquifer are described below:

- The model has four layers:
    - Layer 1 represents mostly the Edwards Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer and larger portions of the Edwards Group not classified as an aquifer,
    - Layer 2 represents the Upper Trinity Aquifer,
    - Layer 3 represents the Middle Trinity Aquifer, and
    - Layer 4 represents the Lower Trinity Aquifer.
- The model was run with MODFLOW-96 (Harbaugh and McDonald, 1996).
- Parts of Bandera, Blanco, and Kerr counties are not included in the model and consequently are not included in the modeled available groundwater calculations.
- Drawdown for cells with water levels below the base elevation of the cell ("dry" cells) were excluded from calculation of average drawdown and the modeled available groundwater values.
- In separate model runs, modeled available groundwater was calculated for the Trinity Aquifer and the Edwards Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer. The Trinity Aquifer is defined as the Trinity Group occurring within Groundwater Management Area 9, irrespective of whether it forms part of the Trinity Aquifer or Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer.
- The results for the Trinity Aquifer presented in this report are based on Scenario 6 of GAM Task 10-005 (Hutchison, 2010). See Hutchison (2010) for a full description of the methods, assumptions, and results of the model simulations. Each scenario in GAM Task 10-005 consisted of a series of 387 separate 50-year

model simulations, each with a different recharge configuration. Though the pumping input to the model was the same for each of the 387 simulations, the pumping output differed depending on the occurrence of inactive (or dry) cells. Because the analysis was statistical any baseline year may be assumed, therefore average drawdown is based on 2008 conditions as noted in the Groundwater Management Area 9 explanatory report.

- The results for the Edwards Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer are based on a single model run using historic pumping rates in all parts of the model area except the Edwards Group of Kendall and Bandera counties and average recharge from GAM Task 10-005. Recharge used in this model run represents the average recharge taken from the 387 simulations (Run 169) used in Trinity Aquifer model runs. Average drawdown was calculated based on the last historic stress period (1997).

Minor aquifers of the Llano Uplift Area

We used version 1.01 of the groundwater availability model for the minor aquifers in the Llano Uplift Area. See Shi and others (2016) for assumptions and limitations of the model. The parameters and assumptions for the groundwater availability model for the minor aquifers of the Llano Uplift Area are described below:

- The model contains eight layers:
  - Layer 1 (the Trinity Aquifer, Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer, and younger alluvium deposits),
  - Layer 2 (confining units),
  - Layer 3 (the Marble Falls Aquifer and equivalent units),
  - Layer 4 (confining units),
  - Layer 5 (Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer and equivalent units),
  - Layer 6 (confining units),
  - Layer 7 (the Hickory Aquifer and equivalent units), and
  - Layer 8 (Precambrian units).
- The model was run with MODFLOW-USG beta (development) version (Panday and others, 2013).

- Perennial rivers and reservoirs were simulated using the MODFLOW-USG river package. Springs were simulated using the MODFLOW-USG drain package.

- There is no historic pumping information available for the Ellenburger-San Saba and Hickory aquifers of Kendall County. Consequently, we used uniformly distributed pumping to simulate the desired future condition and determine the modeled available groundwater.

RESULTS:

The modeled available groundwater for the Trinity Aquifer that achieves the desired future conditions adopted by districts in Groundwater Management Area 9 decreases from 93,052 to 90,503 acre-feet per year between 2010 and 2060 (Tables 1 and 2). This decline is attributable to the occurrence of increasing numbers of dry model cells over time in parts of Hays, Kerr, and Travis counties. The modeled available groundwater for the Edwards Group of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Ellenburger-San Saba, and Hickory aquifers are 2,208, 75, and 140 acre-feet per year, respectively (Tables 3 through 8). The modeled available groundwater for the respective aquifers has been summarized by aquifer, county, and groundwater conservation district (Tables 1, 3, 5, and 7). The modeled available groundwater is also summarized by county, regional water planning area, river basin, and aquifer for use in the regional water planning process (Tables 2, 4, 6, and 8).

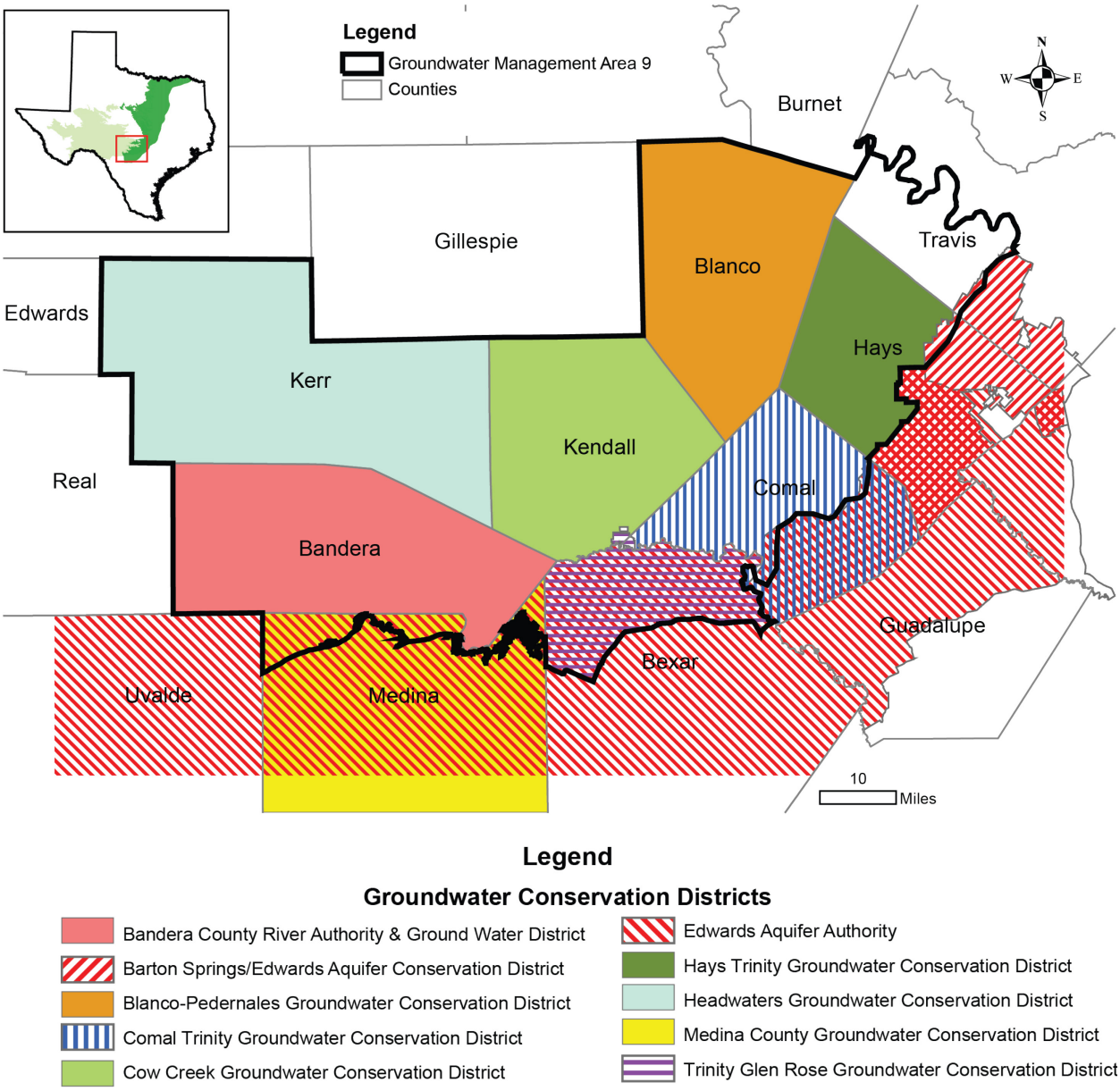

FIGURE 1. MAP SHOWING THE GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9. NOTE: THE BOUNDARIES OF THE EDWARDS AQUIFER AUTHORITY OVERLAP WITH THE MEDINA COUNTY, TRINITY GLEN ROSE, AND COMAL TRINITY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS AND THE BARTON SPRINGS/EDWARDS AQUIFER CONSERVATION DISTRICT.

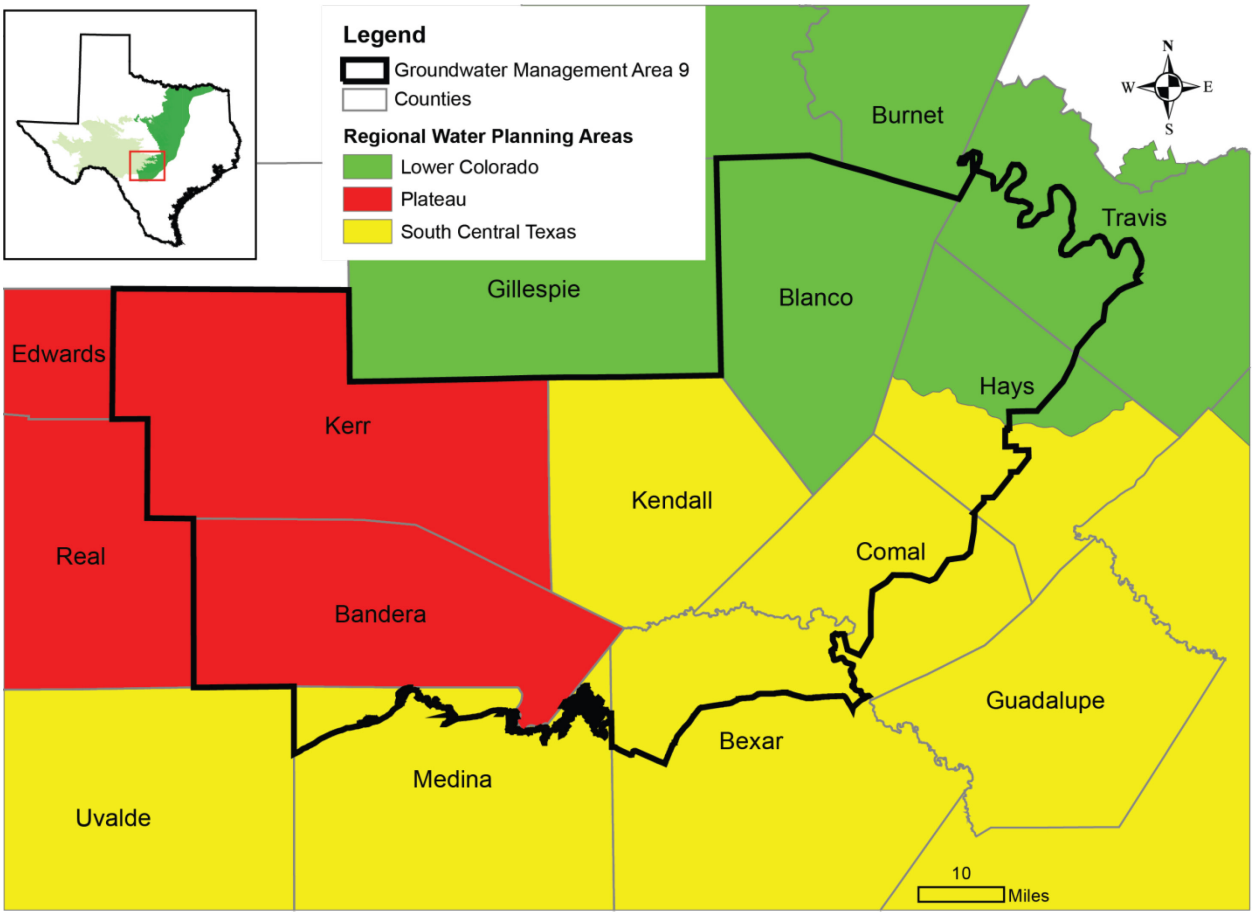

FIGURE 2. MAP SHOWING REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREAS IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9.

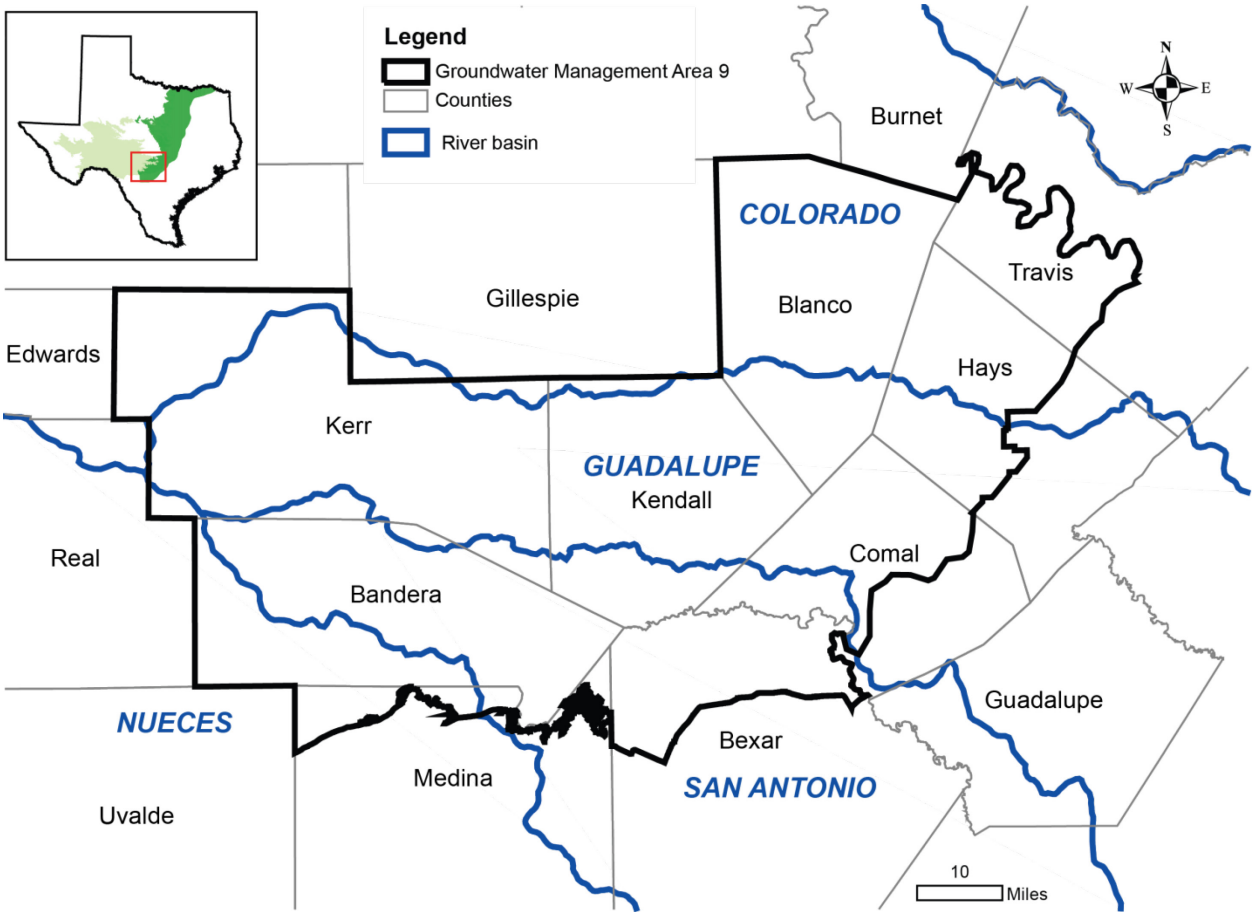

FIGURE 3. MAP SHOWING RIVER BASINS IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9. THESE INCLUDE PARTS OF THE COLORADO, GUADALUPE, SAN ANTONIO, AND NUECES RIVER BASINS.

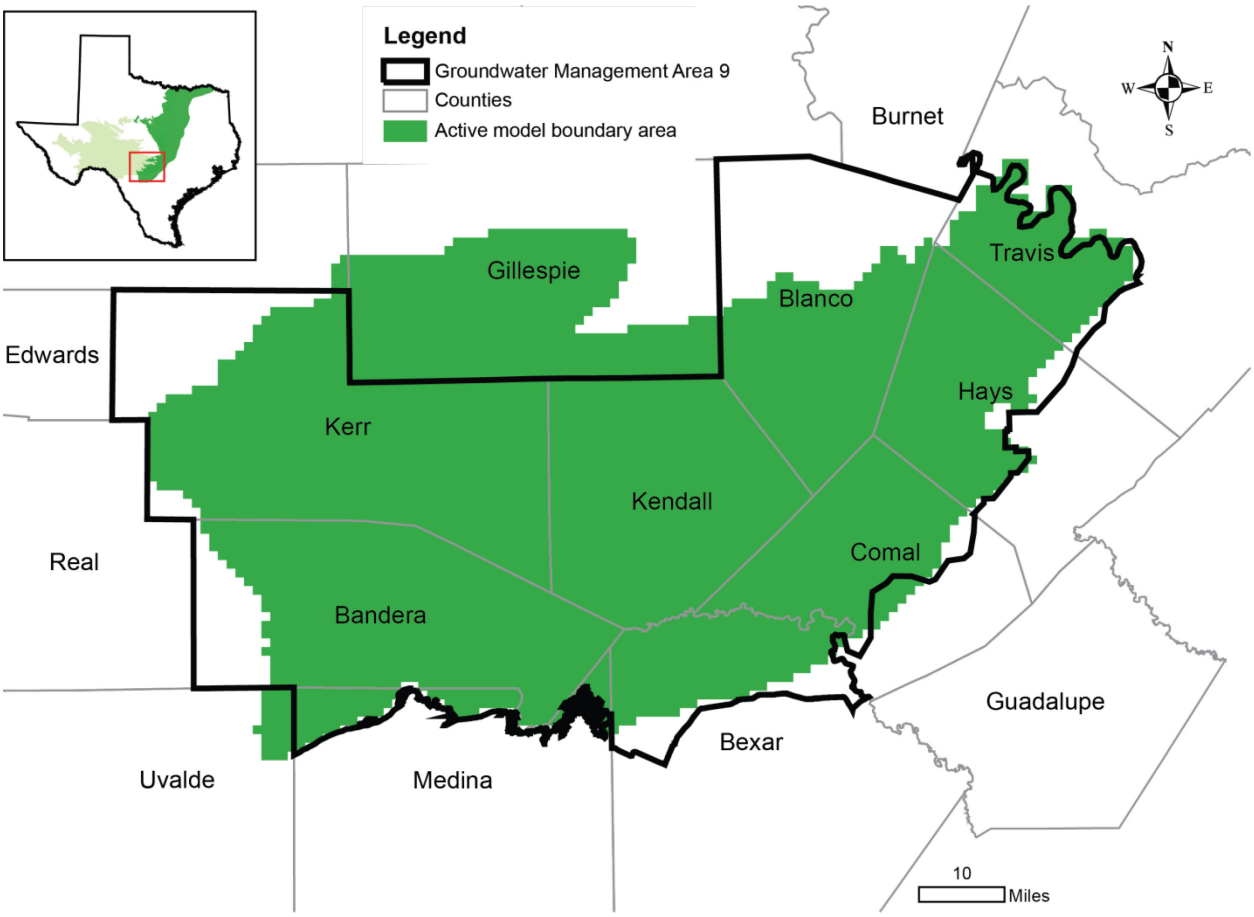

FIGURE 4. MAP SHOWING THE AREAS COVERED BY THE TRINITY AQUIFER IN THE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR THE HILL COUNTRY PORTION OF THE TRINITY AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9.

TABLE 1. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE TRINITY AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9 SUMMARIZED BY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND COUNTY FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2010 AND 2060. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.

District	County	Year					
		2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060
Bandera County River Authority & Groundwater District Total	Bandera	7,284	7,284	7,284	7,284	7,284	7,284
Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District Total	Hays	22	22	22	22	22	22
Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District Total	Blanco	2,573	2,573	2,573	2,573	2,573	2,573
Comal Trinity Groundwater Conservation District Total	Comal	10,076	10,076	10,076	10,076	10,076	10,076
Cow Creek Groundwater Conservation District Total	Kendall	10,622	10,622	10,622	10,622	10,622	10,622
Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District Total	Hays	9,109	9,098	9,095	9,094	9,094	9,094
Headwaters Groundwater Conservation District Total	Kerr	16,435	14,918	14,845	14,556	14,239	14,223
Medina County Groundwater Conservation District Total	Medina	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500

TABLE 1. CONTINUED.

District	County	Year					
		2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060
Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District	Bexar	24,856	24,856	24,856	24,856	24,856	24,856
Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District	Comal	138	138	138	138	138	138
Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District	Kendall	517	517	517	517	517	517
Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District Total		**25,511**	**25,511**	**25,511**	**25,511**	**25,511**	**25,511**
No district Total	**Travis**	**8,920**	**8,672**	**8,655**	**8,643**	**8,627**	**8,598**
GMA 9	**Total**	**93,052**	**91,276**	**91,183**	**90,881**	**90,548**	**90,503**

TABLE 2. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE TRINITY AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9 SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), AND RIVER BASIN FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2010 AND 2060. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year					
			2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060
Bandera	J	Guadalupe	76	76	76	76	76	76
		Nueces	903	903	903	903	903	903
		San Antonio	6,305	6,305	6,305	6,305	6,305	6,305
		Total	**7,284**	**7,284**	**7,284**	**7,284**	**7,284**	**7,284**
Bexar	L	San Antonio	24,856	24,856	24,856	24,856	24,856	24,856
		Total	**24,856**	**24,856**	**24,856**	**24,856**	**24,856**	**24,856**
Blanco	K	Colorado	1,322	1,322	1,322	1,322	1,322	1,322
		Guadalupe	1,251	1,251	1,251	1,251	1,251	1,251
		Total	**2,573**	**2,573**	**2,573**	**2,573**	**2,573**	**2,573**
Comal	L	Guadalupe	6,906	6,906	6,906	6,906	6,906	6,906
		San Antonio	3,308	3,308	3,308	3,308	3,308	3,308
		Total	**10,214**	**10,214**	**10,214**	**10,214**	**10,214**	**10,214**

TABLE 2. CONTINUED.

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year					
			2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060
Hays	K	Colorado	4,721	4,710	4,707	4,706	4,706	4,706
	L	Guadalupe	4,410	4,410	4,410	4,410	4,410	4,410
		Total	**9,131**	**9,120**	**9,117**	**9,116**	**9,116**	**9,116**
Kendall	L	Colorado	135	135	135	135	135	135
		Guadalupe	6,028	6,028	6,028	6,028	6,028	6,028
		San Antonio	4,976	4,976	4,976	4,976	4,976	4,976
		Total	**11,139**	**11,139**	**11,139**	**11,139**	**11,139**	**11,139**
Kerr	J	Colorado	318	318	318	318	318	318
		Guadalupe	15,646	14,129	14,056	13,767	13,450	13,434
		San Antonio	471	471	471	471	471	471
		Total	**16,435**	**14,918**	**14,845**	**14,556**	**14,239**	**14,223**
Medina	L	Nueces	1,575	1,575	1,575	1,575	1,575	1,575
		San Antonio	925	925	925	925	925	925
		Total	**2,500**	**2,500**	**2,500**	**2,500**	**2,500**	**2,500**

TABLE 2. CONTINUED.

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year					
			2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060
Travis	K	**Colorado (Total)**	**8,920**	**8,672**	**8,655**	**8,643**	**8,627**	**8,598**
GMA 9			**93,052**	**91,276**	**91,183**	**90,881**	**90,548**	**90,503**

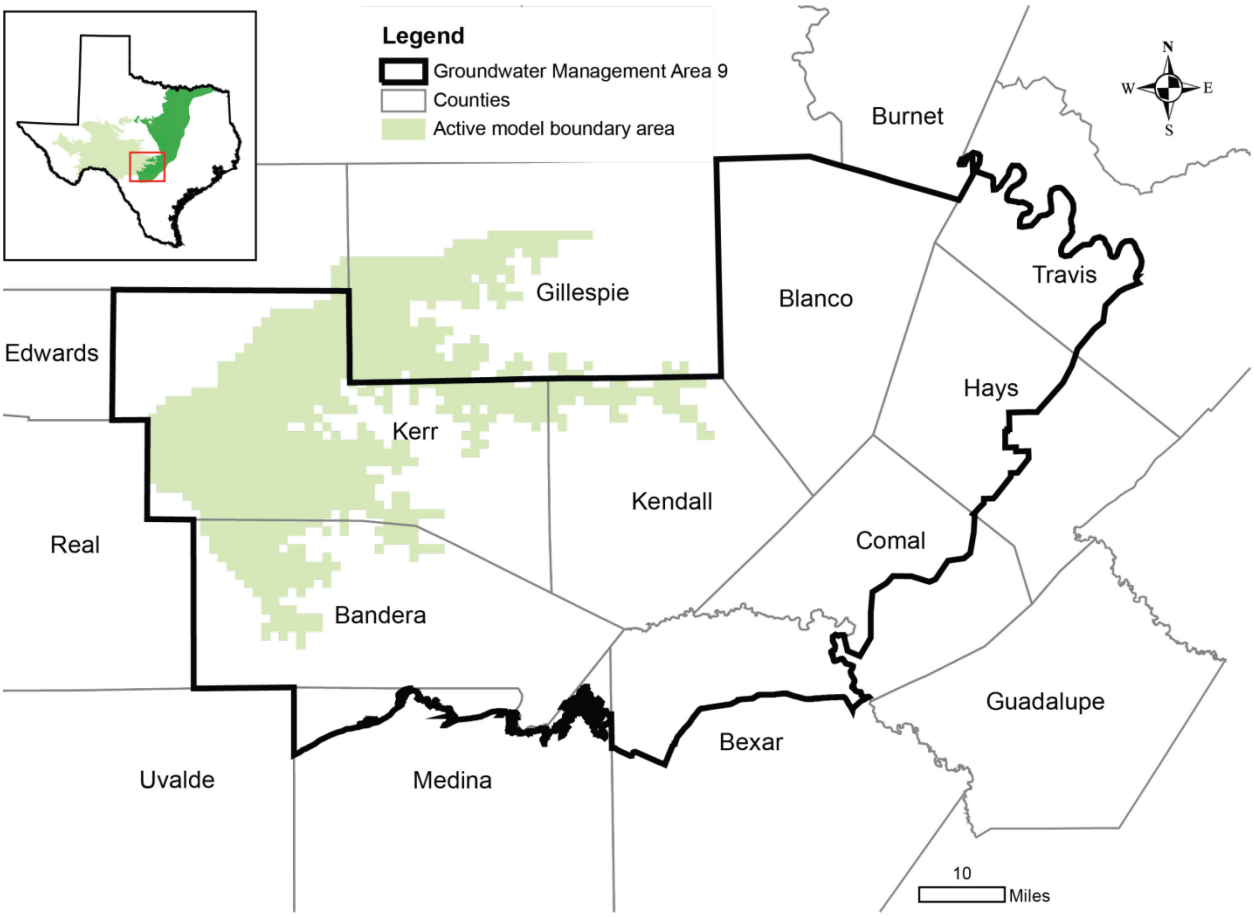

FIGURE 5. MAP SHOWING THE AREAS COVERED BY THE EDWARDS GROUP OF THE EDWARDS-TRINITY (PLATEAU) AQUIFER IN THE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR THE HILL COUNTRY PORTION OF THE TRINITY AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9.

TABLE 3. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE EDWARDS GROUP OF THE EDWARDS-TRINITY (PLATEAU) AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9 SUMMARIZED BY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND COUNTY, FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2010 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.

District	County	Year						
		2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Bandera County River Authority & Groundwater District Total	Bandera	2,009	2,009	2,009	2,009	2,009	2,009	2,009
Cow Creek Groundwater Conservation District Total	Kendall	199	199	199	199	199	199	199
Grand Total		2,208	2,208	2,208	2,208	2,208	2,208	2,208

TABLE 4. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER BY DECADE FOR THE EDWARDS GROUP OF THE EDWARDS-TRINITY (PLATEAU) AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9 SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), AND RIVER BASIN FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2010 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year						
			2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Bandera	Plateau (J)	Guadalupe	81	81	81	81	81	81	81
		Nueces	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
		San Antonio	1,890	1,890	1,890	1,890	1,890	1,890	1,890
		Total	**2,009**	**2,009**	**2,009**	**2,009**	**2,009**	**2,009**	**2,009**
Kendall	South Central Texas (L)	Colorado	69	69	69	69	69	69	69
		Guadalupe	130	130	130	130	130	130	130
		Total	**199**	**199**	**199**	**199**	**199**	**199**	**199**
Grand Total			**2,208**	**2,208**	**2,208**	**2,208**	**2,208**	**2,208**	**2,208**

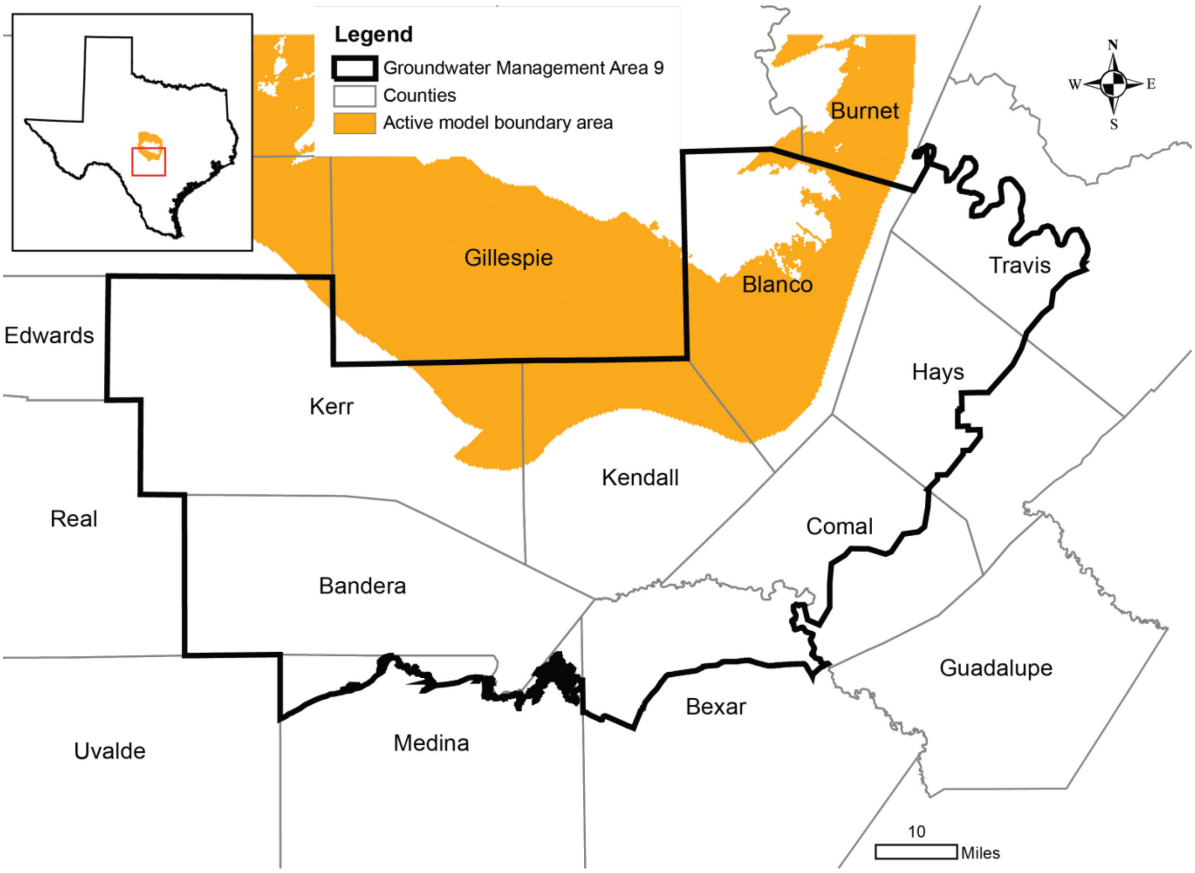

FIGURE 6. MAP SHOWING THE AREAS COVERED BY THE ELLENBURGER-SAN SABA AQUIFER IN THE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR THE MINOR AQUIFERS OF THE LLANO UPLIFT AREA IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9.

TABLE 5. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE ELLENBURGER-SAN SABA AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9 SUMMARIZED BY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND COUNTY FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2010 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.

District	County	Year						
		2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Cow Creek Groundwater Conservation District Total	**Kendall**	**75**	**75**	**75**	**75**	**75**	**75**	**75**

TABLE 6. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE ELLENBURGER-SAN SABA AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9 SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), AND RIVER BASIN FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2010 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year						
			2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Kendall	South Central Texas (L)	Colorado	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
		Guadalupe	64	64	64	64	64	64	64
		Total	**75**	**75**	**75**	**75**	**75**	**75**	**75**

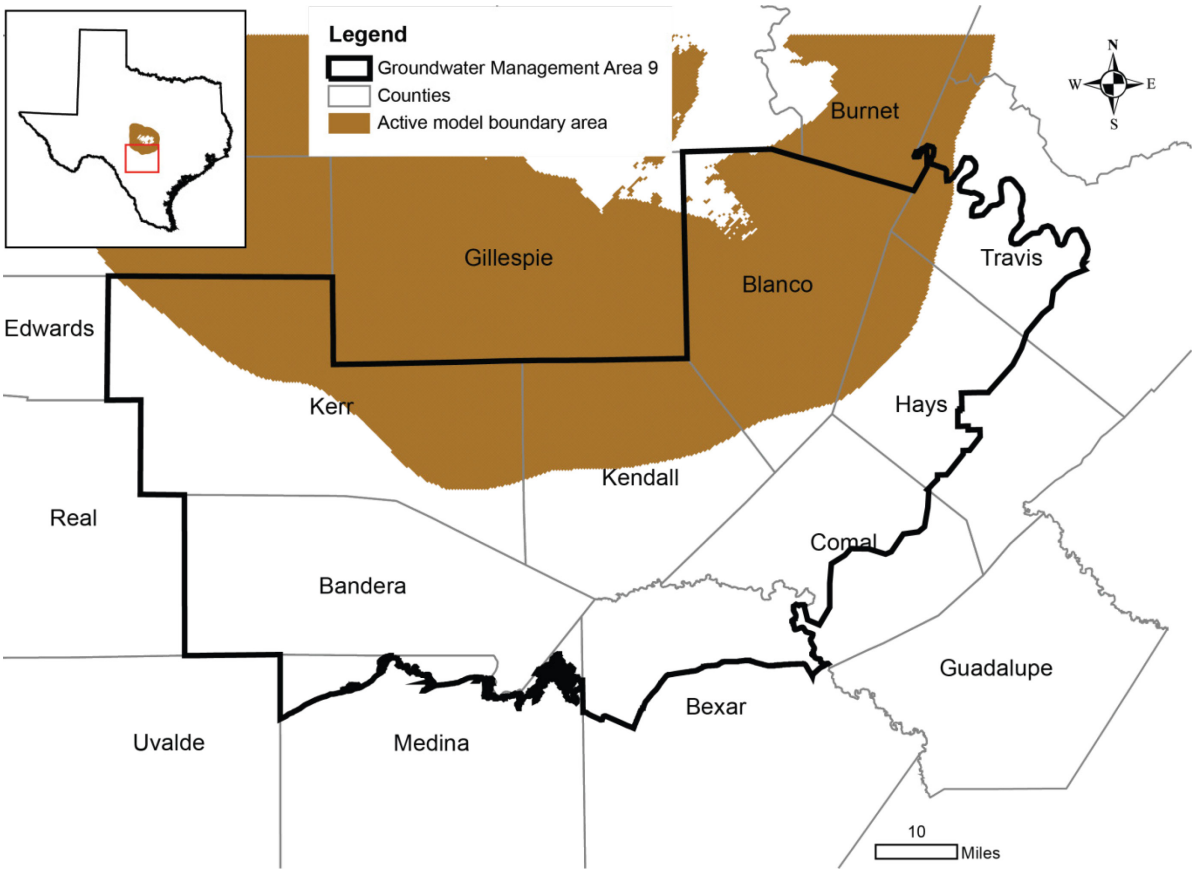

FIGURE 7. MAP SHOWING AREAS COVERED BY THE HICKORY AQUIFER IN THE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR THE MINOR AQUIFERS OF THE LLANO UPLIFT AREA IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9.

TABLE 7. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE HICKORY AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9 SUMMARIZED BY DISTRICT AND COUNTY FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2010 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.

District	County	Year						
		2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Cow Creek Groundwater Conservation District Total	**Kendall**	**140**	**140**	**140**	**140**	**140**	**140**	**140**

TABLE 8. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE HICKORY AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 9 SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), AND RIVER BASIN FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2010 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.

County	RPWA	River Basin	Year						
			2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Kendall	South Central Texas (L)	Colorado	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
		Guadalupe	128	128	128	128	128	128	128
		Total	**140**	**140**	**140**	**140**	**140**	**140**	**140**

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.

Model "Dry" Cells

The predictive model run for this analysis results in water levels in some model cells dropping below the base elevation of the cell during the simulation. In terms of water level,

the cells have gone dry. However, as noted in the model assumptions the transmissivity of the cell remains constant and will produce water.

A total of 18 cells out of 23,805 active cells simulating the Trinity Aquifer cells go "dry" during the predictive period through 2060. These dry cells are located in western Travis County, central Hays County and Kerr County. These dry cells are associated either with areas of high pumping or thin parts of the Trinity Aquifer.

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