## 2022 State Water Plan

# Water — *for* — Texas



#### **Texas Water Development Board Members**

Brooke T. Paup, *Chairwoman*Kathleen Jackson, *Board member* 

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#### **Our Mission**

To lead the state's efforts in ensuring a secure water future for Texas and its citizens.



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#### **Dear Fellow Texans:**

On behalf of my fellow Board member, Kathleen Jackson, I am honored to deliver to you the 2022 State Water Plan. Adoption of this plan marks the fifth state water plan created through a near quarter century of successful implementation of Texas' widely recognized regional water planning process. This transparent process continues to evolve and provide Texas with a clear and credible path to providing water to protect its growing economy and the more than 50 million Texans anticipated to be here by 2070.

Developing the state water plan is only possible through the support of our sister agencies, regional water planning group sponsors and their staff, and many technical consultants, along with input from water providers, water districts, and professionals representing a wide variety of relevant interest groups. I am impressed by the dedication of the more than 480 regional water planning group members who volunteered their time and sustained their focus throughout the process to ensure water is available for Texans in the years to come. I am also deeply grateful to every stakeholder, especially the general public, who offered their own time and energy to improve our regional and state water plans as part of this bottom-up process.

Texas' visionary water planning approach is founded on extensive data and science and guided by a robust framework that requires all 16 regional planning groups to address their water supply needs openly and genuinely. The resulting regional and state water plans set forth thousands of specific, actionable strategies and projects—costs and sponsors included—that clearly demonstrate how Texas will be able to withstand future droughts. No other state delivers this level of specificity and credibility in its water plan.

We do not, in other words, just plan for the sake of planning. Through vision and foresight and a commitment and endorsement by the legislature and citizens of Texas, those strategies and projects are being implemented to ensure a secure water future for Texas. Our agency is committed to continually improve data collection, water science, and other tools in support of better planning that will result in projects with tangible benefits for the state.

Since establishing the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) funding program in 2015, the Texas Water Development Board has, through its innovative structure and efficient subsidies, helped finance the implementation of more than 50 recommended state water plan projects that will provide about 1.5 million acre-feet per year of additional water supply—a clear testament to the state's wisdom and commitment to protect Texans and our economy. SWIFT has already funded, among many other projects, the construction of Texas' first new major reservoirs in decades and one of the largest active water treatment plant construction projects in the country.

I cannot thank enough the hundreds of water planning stakeholders who poured thousands of hours of effort into this process. I also want to acknowledge that developing these robust state water plans would be impossible without our statutory planning framework and the substantial support we consistently receive from the Texas Legislature.

Brooke T. Paup, Chairwoman

## **Acknowledgments**

The 2022 State Water Plan would not have been possible without the time, dedication, guidance, and expertise of numerous people and organizations throughout Texas. The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) would like to extend its sincere gratitude and appreciation to everyone who participated in developing the 16 regional water plans and this state water plan: the more than 480 regional water planning group voting members (listed below), their consultants, and their administrative agents (also listed below); staff of

the TWDB, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Department of Agriculture, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, and other state and federal agencies; and the individuals and organizations that provided public input throughout the planning process.

The TWDB would also like to thank the leadership of the State of Texas for their continued support of the state's water planning process.

#### **Regional Water Planning Group Voting Members**

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- E Rio Grande Council of Governments
- F Colorado River Municipal Water District
- G Brazos River Authority
- H San Jacinto River Authority
- I City of Nacogdoches

- J Upper Guadalupe River Authority
- K Lower Colorado River Authority
- L San Antonio River Authority
- M Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council
- N Nueces River Authority

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- O South Plains Association of Governments and High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1
- P Lavaca-Navidad River Authority

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