

Item 12c | Simsboro Mitigation Management Depletion Zone | August 2024 Update

Currently, 446 Simsboro water wells have been visited, verified as screening the Simsboro Aquifer, measurements and location data collected and placed on the UW Brazos Valley Farms LLC mitigation list. An additional 73 wells are on the mitigation list but yet to be visited. New wells are continuously being added as a well-by-well, log-by-log search is done by District staff.

With the advent of Simsboro wells associated with several new transport permit applications, it seemed prudent and necessary to reach beyond the area originally seen as possibly being impacted by the water production associated with the UW transport permit totaling 49,999 ac-ft/year and collect data. A search was conducted for all designated Simsboro wells currently in the District database finding an additional 230 ± domestic/livestock wells and 104 ± rig supply wells.

District staff began the process of vetting each of the wells to verify which screen the Simsboro and those that do not during February. Most of the rig supply wells have been measured and an ASL (above sea level) for Simsboro and Calvert Bluff wells determined in the expanded area. We will likely expand the rig supply well search as measurements have shown a need for more ground-proofing. New monitoring wells have been added in this area. I foresee others will be added as we move through the verification process.

It has become clear that many of the measured rig supply wells are screening both the Simsboro and Calvert Bluff aquifers. They are being added to the mitigation list because each screens the Simsboro at some depth.

The area around Lake Limestone had very few registered wells prior to the canvassing process. What we found is most of the homeowners in the subdivisions adjacent to lake have a water well or share a well. Property owners are being contacted, water levels measured, aquifers designated and registration of the wells for property rights protection is occurring.

We are currently working in the outer edges of the area moving NE to SW and N to S. The objective is to touch every suspected Simsboro well north of Highway 7 and north of the Walnut Creek mine site by October 15, 2024. We will then canvas the area from Highway 7 south toward the intersection of FM 979 and FM 2293. The final area will be the Petteway community and all areas NE, N & NW.

The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2024.