

## **Item 6c | GMA 12 DFC Planning Update | December 2020**

The GMA 12 representatives met virtually on December 10, 2020 to continue the quest of adopting Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) for the 2021 planning cycle. Items on the agenda included:

- Presentation by Environmental Stewardship detailing their position of creating a DFC for surface water flow created by groundwater interaction
- Presentation by Steve Young relating to the proposed revision of the updated Groundwater Availability Model and its status at TWDB
- Declaration by each GMA member of how DFCs will be expressed in final adoption for their GCD
- Discussion of the need to have any further GAM runs executed

The Environmental Stewardship representative, Steve Box, gave a lengthy presentation advocating that GMA 12 develop a DFC for both the Colorado and Brazos rivers due to the interaction between the rivers and aquifers. The interaction occurs as rivers intersect the outcrops of the aquifers. This will be one of the comments that BVGCD will consider at the time of DFC adoption.

TWDB staff has received comments from stakeholders associated with the proposed revision of the current Queen City/Sparta/Carrizo-Wilcox GAM. The comments have been considered and have not resulted in any change of the TWDB recommendation to adopt the revision as presented. Although the revision has not been officially adopted by the three (3) TWDB directors, GMA 12 is moving forward using the proposed revision for any future GAM runs. All of the representatives have agreed to use the S7 run as a starting place for any further model runs. Post Oak Savannah GCD and possibly Lost Pines GCD will likely request additional runs for both the Carrizo and Simsboro layers.

Each of the member districts stated their intended method of expressing their DFCs. We made everyone aware of our intent to use the timeline of 2000-2070 for all DFCs except the Brazos River Alluvium and Yegua-Jackson aquifers. Lost Pines GCD will use a designated zone beginning at the outcrop of each aquifer and encompasses most of the exempt wells in that aquifer. Post Oak Savannah GCD will modify their DFC expression to “Above Sea Level” rather than “feet below land surface”.

I broached the subject of adopting a variance to be used once the final GAM has been run, DFCs adopted, and the information has been submitted to TWDB for assessment of feasibility. The variance is only used to allow for small differences between what TWDB inputs into the model and that which is input by our GMA consultants. The

information will differ and, therefore, results in a need for a variance to reconcile those small differences. This is one of the actionable items listed on the next GMA 12 agenda.

The next meeting on January 15, 2021 should result in a more focused approach to accomplishing the DFC adoption task. Deadline for DFC adoption by GMA 12 is May 1, 2021 with several hurdles remaining to be cleared.