

Texas Groundwater Protection Committee
Groundwater Issues Subcommittee
FISCAL YEAR 2018 – 2019 ACTIVITY PLAN

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1. Introduction

This Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Groundwater Issues (GWI) Subcommittee Activity Plan will be in effect on September 1, 2017. It will then be reviewed, updated, and replaced by a new edition of the Activity Plan to be in effect on September 1, 2019. Activity Plans approved by the TGPC will be posted on the TGPC GWI Subcommittee webpage¹.

2. White Papers

Using the outline posted on the TGPC GWI Subcommittee webpage, develop white papers on one or more of the following topics:

- Water Supply Enhancement Program;
- Hydraulic Fracturing;
- Freshwater Mussels;
- Emerging Contaminants;
- Saline Groundwater Trends and Impacts in Texas;
- Agricultural Chemicals;
- Priority Groundwater Management Areas;
- Border Groundwater;
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR);
- Abandoned Water Wells;
- Failing Septic Systems; and,
- Others.

White papers will:

- Summarize and review the best available scientific data;
- Identify areas where there is insufficient scientific data to thoroughly assess groundwater contaminant fate and transport;
- Evaluate regulatory effectiveness and develop recommendations for regulatory programs; and,
- Provide recommendations regarding potential contaminants or constituents of concern.

White papers approved by the TGPC will be posted on the TGPC GWI Subcommittee webpage. Recommendations and/or policy options (including the pros and cons for each option) in approved TGPC GWI Subcommittee white papers may be included in future TGPC legislative reports and/or issued by the TGPC as policy statements. The TGPC GWI Subcommittee may request assistance from the TGPC Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee in disseminating white paper information to the public.

3. Status Reports

At every TGPC GWI Subcommittee quarterly meeting, report and discuss the status of:

- The TGPC GWI Subcommittee Agricultural Chemicals Task Force; and,
- TGPC publications.

The current version of each status report will be posted on the TGPC GWI Subcommittee webpage.

The TGPC GWI Subcommittee Agricultural Chemicals Task Force Status Report will include updates on:

- Cooperative groundwater monitoring for pesticides;
- Pesticide management plans²; and,
- The Interagency Pesticide Database (IPD)³.

The TGPC Publications Status Report will include updates on the:

- Biennial Groundwater Assessment for the *Texas Integrated Report for Clean Water Act Sections 305(b) and 303(d)* (“*Texas Integrated Report*”) ⁴;
- *Annual Joint Groundwater Monitoring and Contamination Report – 20nn* (“*Joint Report*”), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) publication number SFR-056⁵;
- *Biennial Activities and Recommendations of the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee: Report to the nnth Legislature* (“*Legislative Report*”), TCEQ SFR-047⁶;
- *Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy* (“*Strategy*”), TCEQ AS-188⁷;
- *Landowner’s Guide to Plugging Abandoned Water Wells* (“*Plugging document*”), TCEQ RG-347⁸; and,
- *Texas Groundwater Protection Committee* (TGPC trifold brochure), TCEQ GI-088⁹.

4. Annual Report

Review the TGPC GWI Subcommittee Annual Report at the First Quarter meeting of each Fiscal Year. After the Annual Report is approved by the Subcommittee, it will be presented to the TGPC at their next meeting. Annual Reports will be posted on the TGPC GWI Subcommittee webpage.

5. Subcommittee Charge

Review the TGPC GWI Subcommittee Charge¹⁰ at the Fourth Quarter meeting of each Fiscal Year. After any proposed updates to the Charge are approved by the Subcommittee, they will be presented to the TGPC for approval at their next meeting. For example, Co-Chairs serve for the biennium, and the TGPC may elect to rotate Co-Chairs among member agencies in order to appropriately focus on changing groundwater issues.

6. *Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy* Update

Develop the next edition of the *Strategy* during the First and Second Quarter meetings of Fiscal Year 2018. The updated *Strategy* is envisioned to be a dynamic document modeled around the topics being discussed in the TGPC GWI Subcommittee. This procedural document would not only identify and evaluate groundwater issues, but it would also outline the processes by which information is exchanged and recommendations are made in order to protect the groundwater resources in the state. After the next edition of the *Strategy* is approved by the Subcommittee at their Third Quarter meeting of Fiscal Year 2018, it will be presented to the TGPC for approval at their next meeting. The TGPC GWI Subcommittee may request assistance from the TGPC POE Subcommittee in disseminating information about the updated *Strategy* to the public.

7. Activity Plan Update

Begin work on the next edition of the Activity Plan at the Second Quarter meeting of Fiscal Year 2019 so that it will be in effect as of September 1, 2019. After the updated Activity Plan is approved by the Subcommittee at their Fourth Quarter meeting of Fiscal Year 2019, it will be presented to the TGPC for approval at their next meeting.

8. Schedule

	1QFY 2018	2QFY 2018	3QFY 2018	4QFY 2018	1QFY 2019	2QFY 2019	3QFY 2019	4QFY 2019
	Sept 2017	Dec 2017	Mar 2018	June 2018	Sept 2018	Dec 2018	Mar 2019	June 2019
GWI Subcommittee Activity								
Develop and approve white papers to be presented to the TGPC for approval at their next meeting	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Report and discuss the status of the TGPC Agricultural Chemicals Task Force and TGPC publications	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Review and approve the Annual Report to be presented to the TGPC at their next meeting	X				X			
Review and approve any proposed updates to the Charge to be presented to the TGPC for approval at their next meeting				X				X
Develop the next edition of the <i>Strategy</i>	X	X						
Review and approve the next edition of the <i>Strategy</i> to be presented to the TGPC for approval at their next meeting			X					
Develop the next edition of the Activity Plan						X	X	
Review and approve the next edition of the Activity Plan to be presented to the TGPC for approval at their next meeting								X

9. References

¹ TGPC GWI Subcommittee webpage,

<http://tgpc.state.tx.us/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-groundwater-issues-subcommittee/>

² *Texas State Management Plan for Prevention of Pesticide Contamination of Groundwater*, TCEQ SFR-070,

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/comm_exec/pubs/sfr/070_01.pdf

³ IPD, <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/groundwater/pesticides.html>

⁴ Current *Texas Integrated Report*,

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/waterquality/swqm/assess/14txir/2014_groundwater.pdf

⁵ Current *Joint Report*, <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/sfr/056>

⁶ Current *Legislative Report*,

https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/comm_exec/pubs/sfr/047-16.pdf

⁷ *Strategy*, https://www.tceq.texas.gov/assets/public/comm_exec/pubs/as/188.pdf

⁸ Plugging document, <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/rg/rg-347.html>

⁹ TGPC trifold brochure, <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/gi/gi-088.html>

¹⁰ TGPC GWI Subcommittee Charge,

http://tgpc.state.tx.us/wp-content/themes/responsive/subcommittees/gwissues/GWI_SubComm_Charge22Apr2015.pdf