

What is the State Water Plan ?

In response to the drought of the 1950s and in recognition of the need to plan for the future, the Texas Legislature created the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to develop water supplies and prepare plans to meet the state's future water needs.

TWDB published *State Water Plans* in 1968, 1984, 1990, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007, and 2012. In 1997 with the passage of Senate Bill 1, the Texas Legislature established a new water planning process, based on a "bottom-up," consensus-driven approach. Coordinating this water planning process are 16 Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPGs), one for each regional water planning area. The planning groups, each made up of about 20 members, represent a variety of interests, including agriculture, industry, environment, public, municipalities, business, water districts, river authorities, water utilities, counties, and power generation.

The *State Water Plan* is a dynamic document that anticipates the changing water conditions and needs in Texas 50 years into the future. The *Plan* incorporates information provided by the RWPGs. TWDB is required to review and update the planning area boundaries at least once every five years.

The *State Water Plan* includes information about:

- Regional water plans;
- Water planning in Texas;
- Population and water demand projections;
- Climate of Texas;
- Surface and groundwater resources;
- Water reuse;
- Water supply needs;
- Water management strategies;
- Plan implementation funding;
- Challenges and uncertainties in water supply planning; and,
- Planning group policy recommendations.

Additional information about the 2012 *State Water Plan* and previous Texas State Water Plans can be found at:

- State Water Plans, <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/swp/index.asp>
- Regional Water Planning Areas Map, <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/mapping/maps.asp> (under the "Administrative Boundaries" heading)
- TWDB Regional Water Planning webpage, <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/index.asp>
- *What is a Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) ?* Frequently Asked Question (FAQ), <http://tgpc.state.tx.us/frequently-asked-questions-faqs/#administrative>
- *What Planning Activities are Conducted by Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPGs) ?* FAQ, <http://tgpc.state.tx.us/frequently-asked-questions-faqs/#administrative>

- *What is the Status of the Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) Process ?* FAQ, <http://tgpc.state.tx.us/frequently-asked-questions-faqs/#administrative>
- *What Does It Cost to Conduct Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) Activities ?* FAQ, <http://tgpc.state.tx.us/frequently-asked-questions-faqs/#administrative>

For additional Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) related to groundwater quantity, groundwater quality, septic systems, water wells, administrative entities, and publications, visit the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee's FAQ webpage at <http://tgpc.state.tx.us/frequently-asked-questions-faqs/>.