

# GMA 7

## The State of Groundwater Management Area 7



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## ABOUT GMA #7

Groundwater Management Area 7 (GMA 7), consisting of twenty groundwater conservation districts, was legislatively established to manage essential groundwater resources and reports continued progress and effective planning of Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) in 15 shared aquifers. GMA 7 is required by statute to develop DFCs for each managed aquifer at least once every five years, with the next DFCs to be adopted by January 5, 2022.

## R W P G R E P S

Region F: Rhett Yanez (Glasscock GCD)

Region G: Dale Adams (Wes-Tex GCD)

Region J: Genell Hobbs (Kinney Co. GCD)

Region K: Paul Tybor (Hill Country UWCD)

Region L: Vic Hilderbran (Uvalde Co. UWCD)

## 2 0 1 6 D F C S U M M A R I E S

[Summary of Desired Future Conditions for GMA 7](#)

[Summary of Modeled Available Groundwater for GMA 7 by Groundwater Conservation District](#)

[Summary of Modeled Available Groundwater for GMA 7 by County](#)

[Additional 2016 Joint Planning Documents](#)

## A Q U I F E R S (either partially or completely included)

### M A J O R A Q U I F E R S

- [Edwards-Trinity \(Plateau\)](#)
- [Ogallala](#)
- [Pecos Valley](#)
- [Seymour](#)
- [Trinity](#)

### M I N O R A Q U I F E R S

- [Blaine](#)
- [Capitan Reef Complex](#)
- [Dockum](#)
- [Ellenburger-San Saba](#)
- [Hickory](#)
- [Igneous](#)
- [Lipan](#)
- [Marble Falls](#)
- [Rustler](#)
- [Cross Timbers \(recently added\)](#)

## About GMA 7

Groundwater Management Area 7 (GMA 7) consists of twenty groundwater conservation districts (GCDs) and was established by the Texas Legislature to coordinate the effective planning for the Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) in 15 shared aquifers. GMA 7 covers the portion of central-west Texas that is underlain by the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer, spanning 45,946 square miles. For reference, the GMA could fit 6 U.S. States inside its boundaries. Our largest county, Pecos County, is about the same size as Connecticut alone. The aquifers in GMA 7 are predominantly limestone and sand formations.

## History of GMA 7's Joint Planning Efforts

GMA 7 is a unique GMA when considering the enormous geographic size, and coordination needed between 20 separate Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs). Despite this, GMA 7 has successfully navigated two (2) previous planning cycles and is currently in the third round of joint planning, with the next set of DFCs due January 5, 2022. The diligence and regard to public involvement by GMA 7 members has resulted in harmonious and positive results.

GMA 7 adopted DFCs after deliberative consideration and collaborative interaction with our local active public. GMA 7 has received comments from landowners, conservancy groups, neighboring GMAs, state and county officials, hydrologists, area attorneys, and incorporated those comments into policy decisions. Each of these stakeholders play an important role in bringing different views and demonstrating various functions that rely on the water resources being managed. The process is transparent and embraces public comment input from all stakeholders at every step of the process.

The first Desired Future Condition (DFC) was adopted by the District in 2011. GMA 7 relied on scientific models provided by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to guide decision making for these DFCs.

The Desired Future Condition adopted by the GMA in 2016 for the Edwards-Trinity Aquifer is a total net drawdown not to exceed an average of eight (8) feet in 2070, as compared with 2010 aquifer levels, with average flow consideration for two locally significant groundwater sourced springs. Specific district drawdowns differ for a myriad of reasons, including localized pumping effect, proximity of pumping, amount of groundwater withdrawal, transmissivity (ease of movement of the water through the aquifer); geologic factors including surface water interaction, environmental impacts and aquifer thickness; and the balance of mandatory consideration of feasibility of achieving the desired future condition and interests and rights of private property. Many of these considerations are formed through the process of considering the 9 factors outlined by Senate Bill 660 adopted by the legislature in 2011.

As we work through the third round of the joint planning process, this cooperative group of members commit to a transparent, honest, open minded process that will uphold our duty to conserve, preserve, and protect the aquifers while allowing property owners the ability to access and beneficially use their groundwater resources.

## Use of Best Science:

During the 2011-2016 joint planning cycle, Groundwater Availability Models (GAMs) were created for the Capitan Reef, Dockum, Ogallala, Llano Uplift, and Rustler aquifers, and adapted from a Val Verde County model. The additions of these GAMs improved the knowledge of the GMA and helped to formulate decisions in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of joint planning. In the past 2 cycles of DFC planning, individual GCDs within GMA 7 have invested over \$75,000 to the joint planning effort. The members of GMA 7 agree to use best available science when planning for future groundwater supplies and stream flow.

In addition to models, groundwater levels are routinely monitored by the GCDs and by TWDB in GMA 7. Evaluating the monitoring data is a routine task for the GCDs, and the comparison of these data with the model results that were used are presented in each GCDs management plan. These comparisons will be useful to guide the update of the DFCs that are required every five (5) years.

## Benefits of Joint Planning for GMA 7:

The benefits of the current joint planning process and the regional planning allows for flexibility to accommodate the vast differences in the 16 GMAs and their regions. Where some GMAs have few districts with a lot of water, GMA 7 covers an enormous region with 20 districts, 15 aquifers, and comparatively less water availability. The current joint planning process, although flexible to differences in hydrogeologic considerations, encourages communication between GCDs, stakeholders, and the TWDB. This communicative collaboration protects private property interest, environmental concerns, and socio-economic impacts.

## Hurdles of Joint Planning for GMA 7:

The biggest hurdle members of GMA 7 face are incorporating highly significant areas in terms of water planning that do not have a groundwater district. With no district, there are no local management strategies, research, or monitoring of local water resources. Without local management strategies, it is difficult for GMA 7 to accurately assess hydrologic conditions and examine the effects of the set DFC on the area. To combat this, each GCD contributes money to cover the costs of hydrologists and administrative fees for the areas of GMA 7 that do not have a local groundwater conservation district.

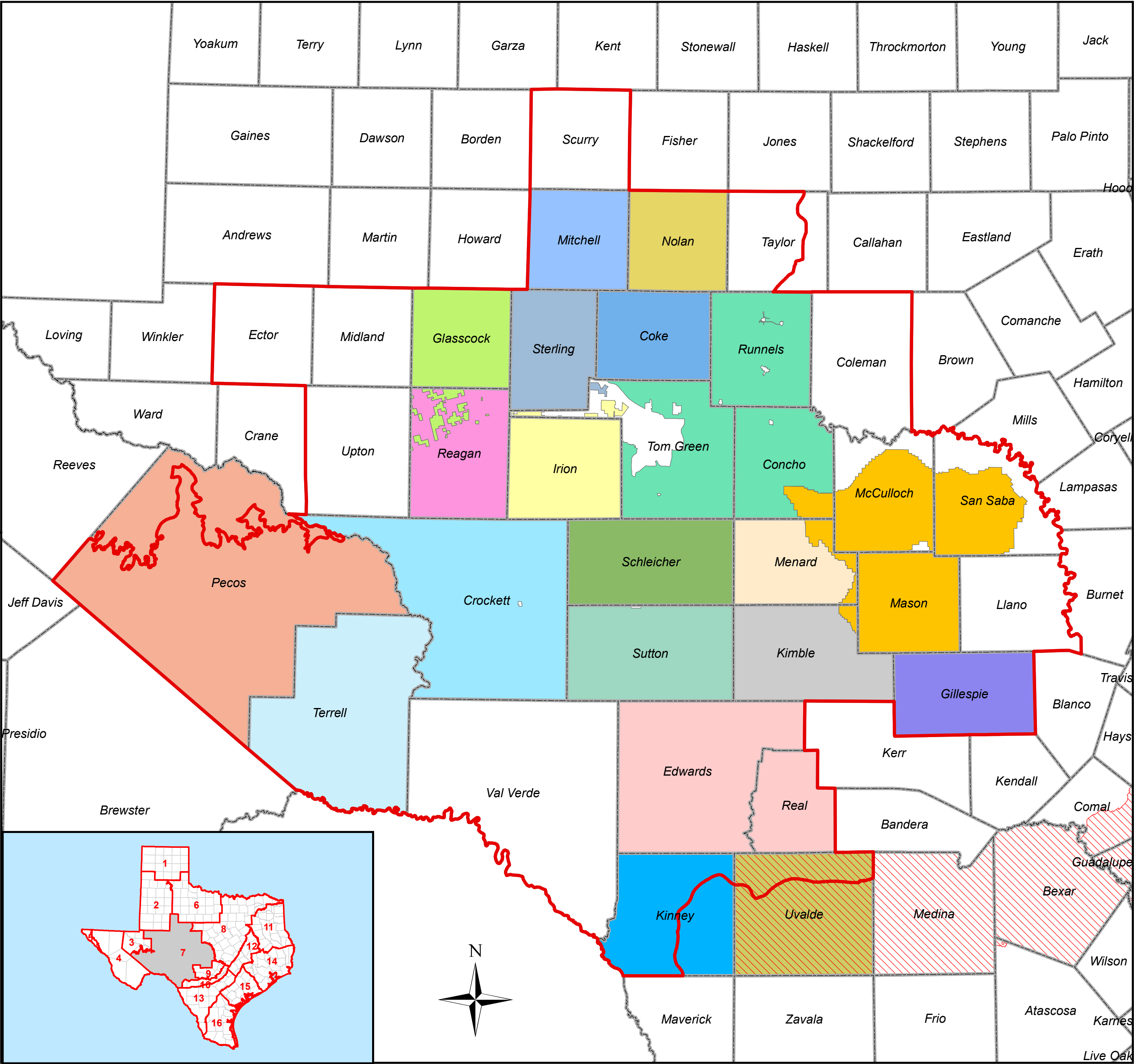
## GMA 7 Commitment

We, the members of GMA 7, pledge to continue to serve our stakeholders with honesty and transparency while upholding our duty to conserve, preserve, and protect the aquifers, keeping in mind the nine important factors and their impact on our most valuable resource.

## GMA 7 Contact List

<p>Winton Milliff Coke County Underground Water Conservation District P.O. Box 1110 Robert Lee, TX 76945 ccuwcd@wcc.net 325-453-2232</p>	<p>Slate Williams Crockett County Groundwater Conservation District P.O. Box 1458 Ozona, Texas 76943 crockettcountygcd@gmail.com 325-392-5156</p>	<p>Rhetta Yanez Glasscock Groundwater Conservation District P.O. Box 208 Garden City, TX 79739 glasscockgroundwater@yahoo.com 432-354-2430</p>
<p>David Huie Hickory Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 P.O. Box 1214 Brady, TX 76825 hickoryuwcd@yahoo.com 325-597-2785</p>	<p>Paul Tybor Hill Country Underground Water Conservation District 508 S. Washington Fredericksburg, Texas 78624 ptybor@gmail.com 830-997-4472</p>	<p>Diana Thomas Irion County Water Conservation District P.O. Box 10 Mertzon, Texas 76941 icwcd@verizon.net 325-835-2015</p>
<p>Jerry Kirby Kimble County Groundwater Conservation District P.O. Box 31 Junction, Texas 76849 kcwd31@outlook.com 325-446-4826</p>	<p>Genell Hobbs Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District P.O. Box 369 Brackettville, Texas 78832 kinneyh2o@att.net 830-563-9699</p>	<p>Leon Braden Lipan-Kickapoo Water Conservation District P.O. Box 67 Vancourt, Texas 76955 lkwcd@centex.net 325-469-3988</p>
<p>Sue Young Lone Wolf Groundwater Conservation District P.O. Box 1001 Colorado City, Texas 78512 sueyoung@lwgcd.org 325-728-2027</p>	<p>Tami Russell Menard County Underground Water District P.O. Box 1215 Menard, Texas 76859 manager@menardcountyuwd.org 325-396-3670</p>	<p>Ty Edwards Middle Pecos Groundwater Conservation District P.O. Box 1644 Ft. Stockton, Texas 79735 mpgcd@mpgcd.net 432-336-0698</p>
<p>Jon Cartwright Plateau Underground Water Conservation And Supply District P.O. Box 324 Eldorado, Texas 76936 jonc@plateauuwcsd.com 325-853-2121</p>	<p>Tooter Trees Real-Edwards Conservation And Reclamation District P.O. Box 1208 Leakey, Texas 78873 manager@recrd.org 830-232-5733</p>	<p>Regina Gomez Santa Rita Underground Water Conservation District P.O. Box 849 Big Lake, Texas 76932 srwcdist@verizon.net 325-884-2893</p>
<p>Diana Thomas Sterling County Underground Water Conservation District P.O. Box 873 Sterling City, Texas 76951 scuwcd@verizon.net 325-378-2704</p>	<p>Meredith Allen Sutton County Underground Water Conservation District 301 S. Crockett Ave Sonora, Texas 76950 manager@suttoncountyuwcd.org 325-387-2369</p>	<p>Debbie Deaton Terrell County Groundwater Conservation District P.O. Box 927 Sanderson, Texas 79848 debbiedeaton@hotmail.com 972-345-7895</p>
<p>Vic Hilderbran Uvalde County Underground Water Conservation District 200 E. Nopal, Suite 203 Uvalde, Texas 78801 ucuwcd@sbcglobal.net 830-278-8242</p>	<p>Dale Adams Wes-Tex Groundwater Conservation District 100 E. 3rd St, STE 305B Sweetwater, Texas 79556 dale.adams@co.nolan.tx.us 325-236-6033</p>	

# Groundwater Management Area 7



### MAP LEGEND

Groundwater Management Area 7

Counties

#### Groundwater Conservation Districts

Coke County UWCD

Crockett County GCD

Edwards Aquifer Authority

Glasscock GCD

Hickory UWCD No. 1

Hill Country UWCD

Irion County WCD

Kimble County GCD

Kinney County GCD

Lipan-Kickapoo WCD

Lone Wolf GCD

Menard County UWCD

Middle Pecos GCD

Plateau UWC and Supply District

Real-Edwards C and R District

Santa Rita UWCD

Sterling County UWCD

Sutton County UWCD

Terrell County GCD

Uvalde County UWCD

Wes-Tex GCD

DISCLAIMER

This map was generated by the Texas Water Development Board. No claims are made to the accuracy or completeness of the information shown herein nor to its suitability for a particular use. The scale and location of all mapped data are approximate. Boundaries for groundwater conservation districts are approximate and may not accurately depict legal descriptions.

Updated 8/26/2015

0 100 200 400 600 800

Miles

1 in = 23 miles