

INITIAL - GMA 1 Joint-Planning Timeline

The following proposed timeline for the ongoing joint-planning efforts in Groundwater Management Area 1 (GMA 1) is based on close coordination with the High Plains Aquifer System Groundwater Availability Model (HPAS GAM) project currently ongoing by the Texas Water Development Board. The proposed meeting goals are designed to maximize progress throughout this effort and minimize or eliminate duplicative efforts. Based on the passage of Senate Bill 1282 and Texas Water Code Section 16.053(e)(2-a), there are two primary dates critical to the joint-planning process:

- May 1, 2016 – deadline for all GMAs to formally propose DFCs for all relevant aquifers,
- November 2016* - deadline for final adoption of DFCs and submission of Explanatory Report, including the statement of adopted DFCs to the TWDB. (*This date is based on historical practice of the TWDB formally adopting the State Water Plan in November prior to the statutory deadline of January 5, 2017, for the current planning cycle).

The proposed timeline includes a sequencing of the nine factors to be considered in the joint-planning process as described in Texas Water Code Section 36.108(d)(1-9).

GMA 1 Meeting #1 – January 2014

Goal of meeting

- Discussion on cooperative agreement between District Representatives (including execution of predictive simulations).
- Discuss use of current DFCs and existing estimates of Modeled Available Groundwater during “Considerations” process included in Texas Water Code Section 36.108 (d)(1-9). Due to the timing of the ongoing HPAS GAM project, it will be necessary for GMA 1 District Representatives to agree conceptually to an approach for addressing required “considerations” before the updated model is available for predictive simulations.

- Discuss process and approach for developing pumping scenarios to be utilized in predictive simulations.

GMA 1 Meeting #2 – April 2014

Goal of meeting

- Presentation on the draft HPAS Conceptual Model Report.
- Consideration of aquifer use in GMA 1, including conditions that differ substantially from one geographic area to another.
- Consideration of water supply needs and water management strategies (WMS) included in the 2012 State Water Plan.
- Discuss/review possible approach for developing pumping scenarios to be utilized in predictive simulations.

GMA 1 Meeting #3 – July 2014

Goal of meeting

- Approval of meeting minutes from Meeting #2 regarding considerations.
- Consideration of proposed DFCs on environmental impacts, including impacts on spring flow and other interactions between groundwater and surface water.
- Consideration of impacts of proposed DFCs on subsidence.
- Consideration of the socioeconomic impacts reasonably expected to occur as a result of the proposed DFC.

GMA 1 Meeting #4 – October 2014

Goal of meeting

- Approval of meeting minutes from Meeting #3 regarding considerations.

- Consideration of the impacts of proposed DFCs on the interests and rights in private property, including ownership and the rights of landowners and their lessees and assigns in groundwater.
- Consideration of the feasibility of achieving the proposed DFCs.
- Discuss annual joint-planning tasks outlined in Texas Water Code Section 36.108(c).

GMA 1 Meeting #5 – January 2015

Goal of meeting

- Approval of meeting minutes from Meeting #4 regarding considerations.
- Presentation on the HPAS GAM project.
- Consideration and agreement on approach for developing pumping scenario package(s) for predictive simulations.
- Consideration of hydrological conditions, including for each aquifer in GMA 1, the total estimated recoverable storage as provided by the TWDB Executive Administrator, and the average annual recharge, inflows, and discharge.

GMA 1 Meeting #6 – April 2015

Goal of meeting

- Approval of meeting minutes from Meeting #5 regarding considerations.
- Presentation on results of predictive simulations.
- Discussion on need for and identification of additional predictive simulations and other analysis necessary prior to adoption of proposed DFCs.

GMA 1 Meeting #7 - #9 – April, July, and October 2015

Goal of meetings

- Approval of meeting minutes.
- These three meetings are reserved for completing all necessary efforts prior to the adoption of proposed DFCs. If one or more of these meetings are determined to be unnecessary, then the schedule will simply be accelerated.
- Discuss annual joint-planning tasks outlined in Texas Water Code Section 36.108(c).

GMA 1 Meeting #10 – January 2016

Goal of meeting

- Adoption of proposed DFCs and draft Explanatory Report for distribution to all groundwater conservation districts (GCDs) in GMA 1 for a 90 day public comment period including required public hearings.

GMA 1 Meeting #11 – 12 May – August 2016

Goal of meetings

- Approval of meeting minutes.
- After the 90 day public comment period ends and GCDs hold the required public hearing, the GCDs are then to submit to GMA 1 a summary of relevant comments received, any suggested revisions to the proposed DFCs, and the basis for the revisions. At this meeting(s), district representatives are to consider comments and suggestions received and finally adopt the DFCs.
- Review and adopt Explanatory Report (containing statement of DFCs) for submission to the TWDB.
- Discuss annual joint-planning tasks outlined in Texas Water Code Section 36.108(c).