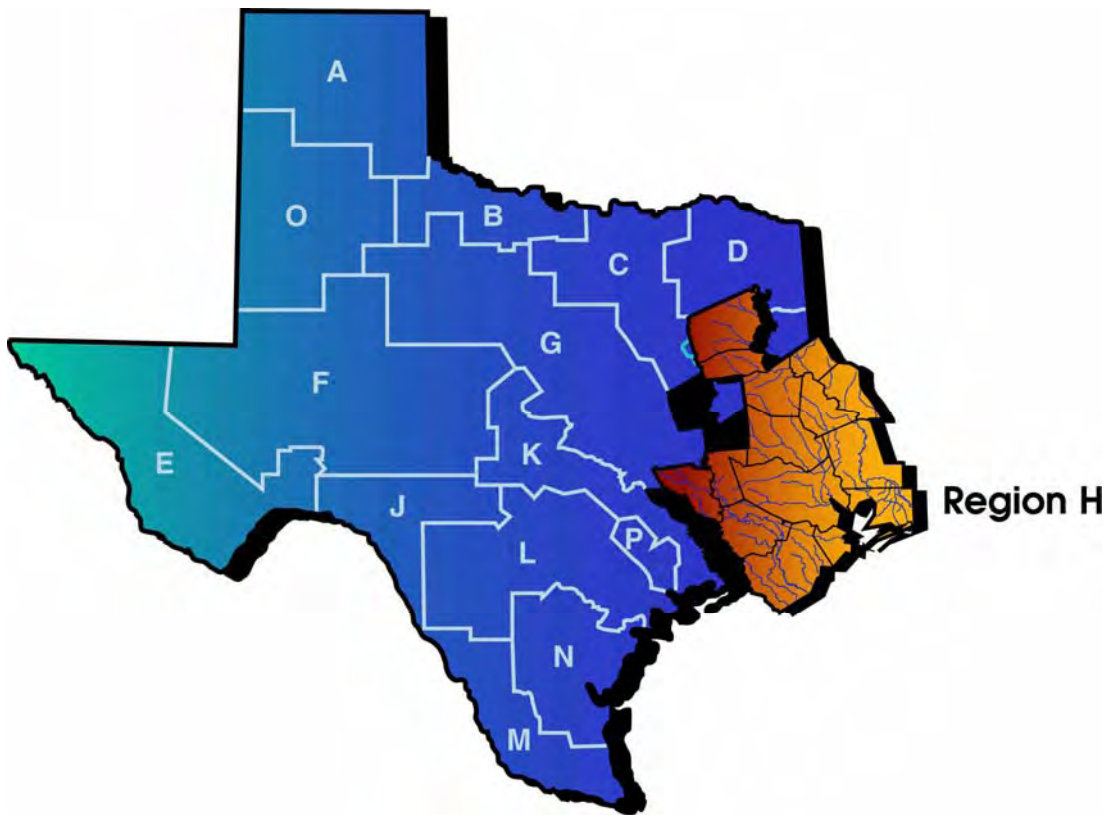


REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP



MEETING MATERIALS
November 5, 2008

Region H Water Planning Group
10:00 AM Wednesday
November 5, 2008
San Jacinto River Authority Office
Lake Conroe Dam
1577 Dam Site Rd.
Conroe, Texas

Agenda

1. Introductions.
2. Review and approve minutes of August 6, 2008 meeting.
3. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items 4 through 18. (Public comments to be limited to 3 minutes per speaker).
4. Accept the resignation of Jeff Taylor as a voting member and Chair of the Region H Regional Water Planning Group representing municipalities.
5. Consider and take action on the selection of Jun Chang (Interim Deputy Director of Utilities for the City of Houston) as a voting member of the Region H Regional Water Planning Group representing municipalities.
6. Receive presentation from Consultant on the status of negotiations for the scope of work for the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan.
7. Consider authorizing the San Jacinto River Authority to negotiate and execute the Texas Water Development Board contract for completion of the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan.
8. Consider authorizing the San Jacinto River Authority to execute contract with Consultant for completion of the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan.
9. Receive presentation from Consultant on the results of the Drought Management Study Draft Report.
10. Receive presentation from Consultant on the results of the Interruptible Supply Study Draft Report.
11. Consider and take action authorizing San Jacinto River Authority to request a scope amendment from the TWDB related to the Interruptible Supply Study allowing the removal of certain scope items from the scope of work.
12. Receive public comments on Items 9, 10, and 11.
13. Consider authorizing Consultant to submit Draft Drought Management and Draft Interruptible Supply Study Reports to TWDB on or before December 31, 2008.
14. Receive presentation from Consultant on the current status and progress of regional water planning.
15. Consider and take action authorizing SJRA to request a contract amendment from the TWDB to extend the submittal date for the Draft Environmental Flows Study from December 31, 2008 to March 31, 2009.
16. Consider authorizing a letter responding to requests for information from the Texas Water Conservation Advisory Council regarding water conservation management strategies in Region H.
17. Consider and take action on a proposed Consistency Waiver requested by the North Fort Bend Water Authority.
18. Receive update from Pudge Willcox, General Manager, Chambers Liberty County Navigation District, on status of current activities related to development of a proposed surface water treatment plant in West Chambers County and a proposed plan amendment to the 2006 Region H RWP.
19. Consider and take action, if needed, on the proposed plan amendment related to Item 17 above.
20. Receive updates by local water agencies or other interested parties regarding any water related initiatives or projects currently underway or planned.
21. General public comments. (Public comments to be limited to 3 minutes per speaker)
22. Agency communications.
23. Next Meeting: TBD
24. Adjourn.

Agenda Item 2

Review and approve minutes of August 6, 2008 meeting.

**MINUTES
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING
10:00 A.M.
AUGUST 8, 2008
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY OFFICE
LAKE CONROE DAM
1577 DAM SITE ROAD
CONROE, TEXAS**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roosevelt Alexander, John Baker, John R. Bartos, John Blount, Robert Bruner, Reed Eichelberger, Mark Evans, Robert Istre, Ronald Neighbors, Jimmie Schindewolf, Jeff Taylor, William Teer, Danny Vance, and Pudge Willcox.

DESIGNATED ALTERNATES: Tom Michel for Marvin Marcell, Glynn Leiper for James Murray, Gena' Leathers for Mike Uhl, Jace Houston for Jack Harris, and D'Neal Krisch for Bob Hebert.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jason Fluharty, Jack Harris, Bob Hebert, John Howard, Marvin Marcell, James Morrison, James Murray, Steve Tyler, Mike Uhl, and C. Harold Wallace.

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Matt Nelson for Temple McKinnon.

PRESIDING: Mark Evans, Vice-Chair

CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC MEETING AT 10:12 A.M.

MINUTES OF MAY 28, 2008 MEETING

A motion was made by Ron Neighbors to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2008 meeting; seconded by Danny Vance. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS 4 – 13

No public comments.

Jeff Taylor now presiding.

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF JAMES MURRAY AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP REPRESENTING INDUSTRIES

A motion was made by Danny Vance to accept the resignation of James Murray; seconded by Robert Bruner. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE NOMINATION OF MS. GLYNNA LEIPER TO SERVE AS A VOTING MEMBER ON THE REGION H REGIONAL WATER

PLANNING GROUP REPRESENTING INDUSTRIES AND REPLACING JAMES MURRAY

After a brief introduction of Glynn Leiper, motion was made by Ron Neighbors on the nomination of Glynn Leiper to serve as a voting member on the Region H Regional Water Planning Group representing industries; seconded by Danny Vance. The motion carried unanimously.

ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF JASON FLUHARTY AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP REPRESENTING ELECTRIC GENERATING UTILITIES

Motion was made by John Baker to accept the resignation of Jason Fluharty as a voting member of the Region H Regional Water Planning Group; seconded by Danny Vance. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE NOMINATION OF MR. TED LONG TO SERVE AS A VOTING MEMBER ON THE REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP REPRESENTING ELECTRIC GENERATING UTILITIES AND REPLACING JASON FLUHARTY

After a brief introduction of Ted Long, Danny Vance made a motion to accept the nomination of Ted Long to serve as a voting member on the Region H Regional Water Planning Group representing electric generating utilities; seconded by Ron Neighbors. The motion carried unanimously.

RECEIVE PRESENTATION BY PUDGE WILLCOX, GENERAL MANAGER, CHAMBERS LIBERTY COUNTY NAVIGATION DISTRICT, ON STATUS OF CURRENT ACTIVITIES RELATED TO DEVELOPMENT OF A PROPOSED SURFACE WATER TREATMENT PLANT IN WEST CHAMBERS COUNTY AND THE PROPOSED PLAN AMENDMENT TO THE 2006 REGION H RWP

Pudge Willcox gave an overview of Chambers Liberty County Navigation District's covered areas and functions. He discussed the project to develop a regional surface water treatment plant and the necessity to amend the 2006 Region H Plan.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION, IF NEEDED, ON THE PROPOSED PLAN AMENDMENT RELATED TO ITEM ABOVE

A brief discussion ensued on the procedure for requesting a plan amendment. Matt Nelson with the Texas Water Development Board and Mike Reedy with TCB outlined the amendment procedure. Discussion continued on who is responsible for the costs related to the preparation of the amendment request. It was determined that Pudge Willcox will get with the Chambers Liberty County Navigation District to conclude whether or not they will fund the preparation of the amendment. Danny Vance moved to table this item until the funding can be determined; seconded by Ron Neighbors. The motion carried unanimously.

RECEIVE PRESENTATION BY MELINDA SILVA WITH BROWN & GAY ENGINEERS ON THE STATUS OF CURRENT AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE NORTH FORT BEND WATER AUTHORITY

Melinda Silva with Brown & Gay Engineers gave a presentation on the status of current and planned activities associated with the North Fort Bend Water Authority. Her presentation included an overview of the North Fort Bend Water Authority and the surface water conversion scheduled for 2013 and funding for same. She then received questions regarding the project and a brief discussion followed.

RECEIVE UPDATE FROM MATT NELSON WITH THE TWDB ON THE STATUS OF ONGOING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE BOARD'S DRAFT REPORT "WATER DEMAND PROJECTIONS FOR POWER GENERATION IN TEXAS"

Matt Nelson gave a presentation regarding the water demand projections for power generation in Texas. Discussion followed regarding potential plants, the availability of water resources, and the costs related to same.

RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM CONSULTANT ON THE CURRENT STATUS AND PROGRESS OF REGIONAL WATER PLANNING

Mike Reedy with TCB began with an administrative update on the status and progress of regional water planning. This included an update on the grant for the 2011 plan preparation, which was submitted on June 13, 2008 to Texas Water Development Board. Matt Nelson with TWDB gave a brief update on the review status for all regional planning grant applications. Mike Reedy continued with an update on the status of the Bay and Estuary Study and the Instream Flows Study. He discussed the development of critical stream segments for field study and the study methodology and goals of the study. Mr. Reedy presented field observations collected at selected locations and graphs showing potential impacts of Region H management strategies on stream flows in selected stream segments. Mike Personett with KBR continued with an update on the Drought Management Study. This included an overview of the proposed study, a summary of the scope of work, and the concept of drought management and the impacts that droughts have on water suppliers. He presented the initial observations and results of the study.

RECEIVE UPDATES BY LOCAL WATER AGENCIES OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES REGARDING ANY WATER RELATED INITIATIVES OR PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY OR PLANNED

Mike Reedy gave an update on the Environment Flows Advisory Group, which included the adoption of boundaries for the bay/basin areas, the adoption of the statewide Science Advisory Committee, the adoption of the stakeholder groups for the Trinity and San Jacinto rivers/Galveston Bay and Sabine and Neches rivers/Sabine Lake area, and the adjustments made to the timelines for the environmental flows process.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

None

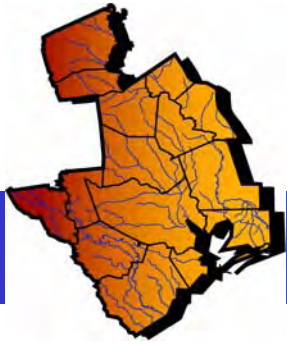
NEXT MEETING

November 5, 2008
San Jacinto River Authority
Lake Conroe Dam
1577 Dam Site Road
Conroe, Texas 77304

ADJOURNED AT 1:35 P.M.

Agenda Item 6

Receive presentation from Consultant on the status of negotiations for the scope of work for the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan.

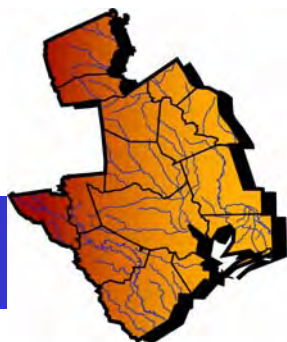


*Region H
Water Planning Group*

**TWDB Approved SOW
2011 Planning Round
Second Biennium**

Region H Water Plan

November 5, 2008

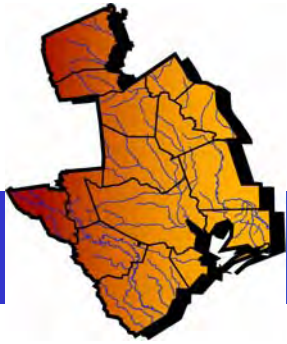


Region H
Water Planning Group

Approved Funding

Summary of Submitted vs. TWDB Approved Funds

Task		Submitted	Approved	% Funded
0	Scope of Work Development	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	100%
1	Planning Area Description	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	100%
2	Population and Water Demands	\$ 138,200	\$ 82,300	60%
3	Water Supply Analysis	\$ 192,600	\$ 192,600	100%
4	Identification, Evaluation, And Selection Of Water Management Strategies Based On Needs	\$ 437,000	\$ 346,400	79%
5	Impacts Of Selected Water Management Strategies On Key Parameters Of Water Quality And Impacts Of Moving Water From Rural And Agricultural Areas	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000	100%
6	Water Conservation And Drought Management Recommendations	\$ 73,500	\$ 73,500	100%
7	Description Of How The Regional Water Plan Is Consistent With Long-Term Protection Of The State'S Water Resources And Natural Resources	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	100%
8	Unique Stream Segments / Reservoir Sites / Legislative Recommendations	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	100%
9	Report To Legislature On Water Infrastructure Funding Recommendations	\$ 58,000	\$ 58,000	100%
10	Adoption of Plan	\$ 254,800	\$ 254,800	100%
Total Funds		\$ 1,231,100	\$ 1,084,600	88%

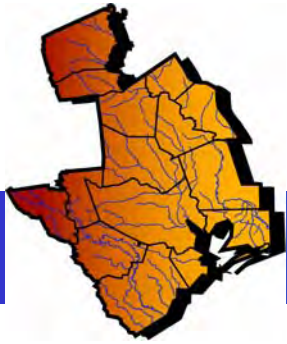


*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Approved Funding

Summary of Amendments

- Some tasks to be performed by TWDB
- Revised approach to some tasks
- No funding for environmental flows coordination

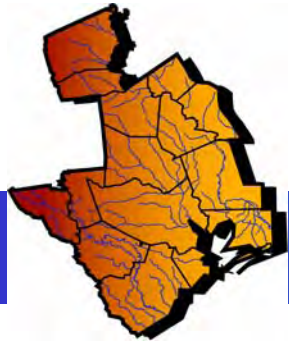


*Region H
Water Planning Group*

2nd Biennium Tasks

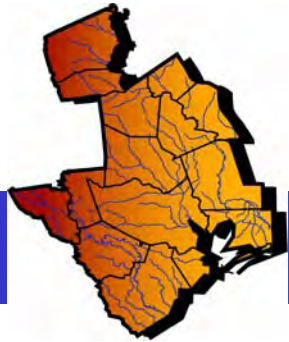
Task 1 – Description of Region

- General information about the Region
- Descriptions of new WUG's
- Fully Funded



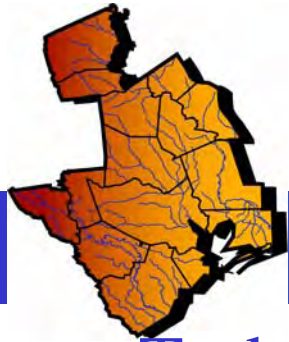
Task 2 – Population Projections and Water Demands

- **Revise Population Projections**
 - Incorporate mid-census data to revise WUG and County populations as necessary
 - Incorporate stakeholder studies
 - TWDB to provide demands based on revised population projections
 - Reduced budget due to tasks performed by TWDB
- **Send correspondence to all WUGs concerning demands**
- **Incorporate revised Steam Electric demands**
- **Funded at \$82,300**



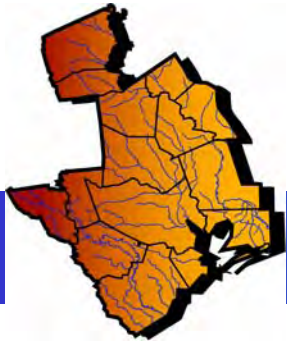
Task 3 – Water Supply Analysis

- Update groundwater availability
 - Partially contingent upon MAG availability
- Water right/contract revisions
- Update firm yield surface water supply
 - Supplemental funding to address firm yield on a less than annual basis
 - Coordinate with Region C on re return flow estimates
- Fully Funded (pending MAG availability)



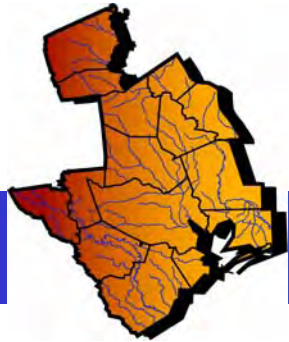
Task 4 – Water Management Strategies

- Select new strategies for identified shortages
- Incorporate results from 1st Biennium studies
- Changed conditions for strategies
 - SRA System Ops
 - Montgomery County
 - Luce Bayou
 - Other raw and treated water projects
- Decadal Environmental Flows study
 - TWDB will provide base models for upstream impacts
 - Reduced budget due to tasks performed by TWDB
- Environmental Flows coordination declined
- Alternative Strategy study
- **Funded at \$346,400**



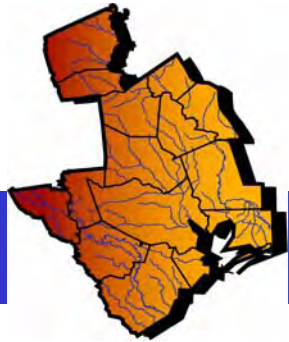
Task 5 – Water Management Strategy Impacts

- Update management strategy impacts with information gained since the 2006 RWP
 - Water quality impacts
 - Impacts of moving water from rural and agricultural areas
- Fully Funded



Task 6 – Water Conservation and Drought Management

- WUG Survey
- Water Conservation Evaluation
 - Review submitted water conservation plans
 - Review water conservation plan efficacy
 - Adjust conservation strategies accordingly
- Incorporate 1st Biennium Drought Contingency Study
- Fully Funded

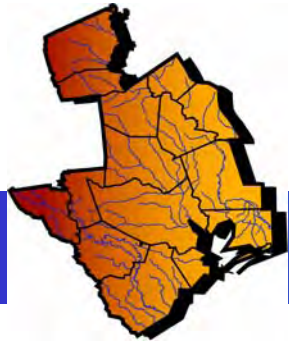


Task 7 – Plan Consistency with Long-term Protection of State’s Natural Resources

- Update descriptions of water management strategies and alternative strategies identified this round
- Fully Funded

Task 8 – Unique Stream Segments / Reservoir Sites / Legislative Recommendations

- Review designations and recommendations from 2006 RWP
- Identify changes in reservoir projects and stream segment classifications
- Fully Funded

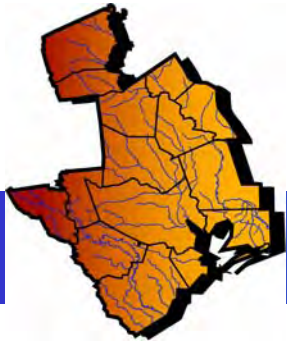


Task 9 – Water Infrastructure Funding

- Contact individual WUGs regarding possible funding requests
- Tabulate needs as reported by individual WUGs including project costs
- **Fully Funded**

Task 10 – Adoption of Plan

- Support for Planning Group meetings including public notices
- Administrative support of planning process
- **Fully Funded**



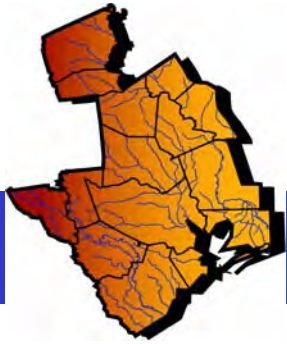
*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Timeline

- 11/05/08 – Presentation of Draft Drought Management and Interruptible Supply Reports
- 11/23/08 – Deadline for SJRA to execute contract with TWDB
- 02/04/08 – Planning Group Meeting
- 03/31/08 – Deadline to submit draft Environmental Flows report to TWDB (pending further discussion and approval)
- 04/30/08 – Deadline to submit final reports for special studies
- 05/06/08 – Planning Group Meeting (proposed)
- 08/05/08 – Planning Group Meeting (proposed)
- 10/07/08 – Planning Group Meeting (proposed)
- 03/01/10 – Submit IPP to TWDB
- 09/01/10 – Submit Adopted RWP to TWDB

Agenda Item 9

Receive presentation from Consultant on the results of the Drought Management Study Draft Report.



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

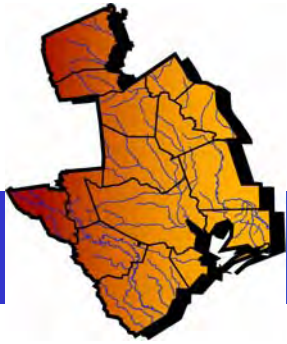
Task 2 – Impact of Drought Management Strategies on Surface Water Reservoirs in Region H

Presented to:

Region H Water Planning Group

November 5, 2008

Task 2 – Impact of Drought Management Strategies



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

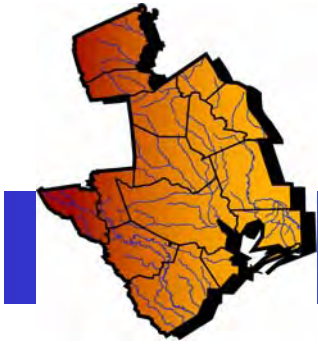
Key Question:

Can a strategy of implementing drought response measures (e.g., staged curtailment of water demands) within Region H during critical drought periods be used in lieu of recommended water management strategies to meet projected needs?

Scope of Work:

- A. Assess the scope and efficacy of drought contingency planning within Region H
- B. Evaluate the relative impact of drought management strategies on existing and future water supplies in Region H

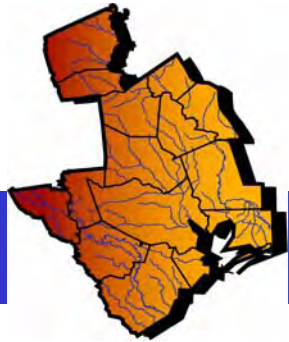
Task 2 – Impact of Drought Management Strategies



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Evaluation of Impacts of Drought and Drought Response Measures on Region H Water Supplies

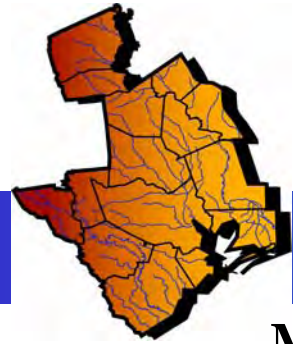
Evaluation of Impacts of Drought Response Measures



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Methodology:

- TCEQ Water Availability Models were used to evaluate the potential impacts of drought response measures on:
 - Lake Livingston
 - Lake Houston
 - Lake Conroe
 - Proposed Allens Creek Reservoir
- Analysis was conducted for:
 - Base case (no drought response measures)
 - With application of drought response measures
 - Quantify the difference
- Focused on critical drought period for each reservoir (i.e., drought-of-record)



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Evaluation of Impacts of Drought Response Measures

Methodology:

- Required definition of drought contingency plan scenarios:
 - Trigger conditions
 - Demand reduction target for each stage
- Hypothetical “typical” municipal drought contingency plan scenario analyzed for each reservoir
- Also analyzed scenarios with triggers and demand reduction goals from existing drought contingency plans:
 - Trinity River Authority (Lake Livingston)
 - San Jacinto River Authority (Lake Conroe)
 - Brazos River Authority (Allens Creek Reservoir)
- Other “special” DCP scenarios
 - Agricultural dry-year option DCP for Lake Livingston
 - Hypothetical DCP to eliminate shortage for Lake Conroe



Hypothetical “Typical” Drought Contingency Plan Scenario

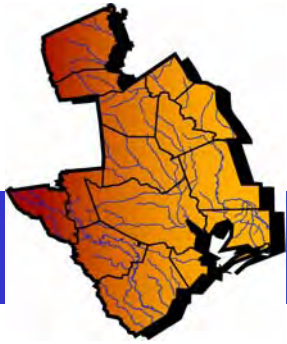
Stage	Trigger	Demand Reduction Goal
1	70% Storage Capacity	5%
2	60% Storage Capacity	10%
3	50% Storage Capacity	20%
4	40% Storage Capacity	30%

Also considered seasonality of demand reductions:

Example: 20% demand reduction goal

Case 1: 20% reduction May – September
0% reduction October – March

Case 2: 20% reduction May – September
10% reduction October – March



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Existing Drought Contingency Plans

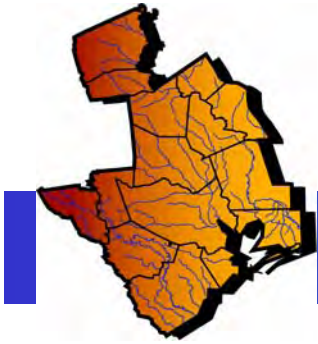
DCPs specify different:

- Types of trigger conditions
- Demand reduction targets

WWP	Stage	Trigger	Reduction Target
TRA	1	<126.50 ft	5%
	2	<124.00 ft	15%
	3	<121.40 ft	25%
SJRA	1	<194.00 ft	10%
	2	<190.00 ft	15%
	3	<185.00 ft	20%
COH	1	Hydrological Conditions	10%
	2	24 Months Supply	10%
	3	18 Months Supply	15%
	4	12 Months Supply	20%
BRA ¹	1	20% freq	Raise Awareness
	2	10% freq	3%
	3	5% freq	7%

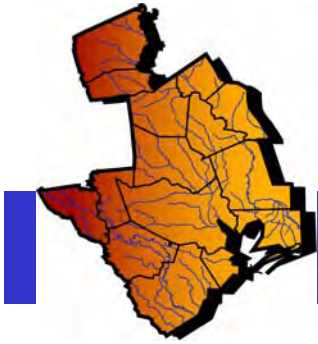
Note 1: Taken from BRA DCP, typical of most reservoirs in BRA System

Task 2 – Impact of Drought Management Strategies



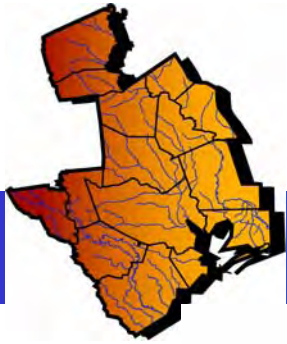
*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Lake Livingston



Modeling Scenarios:

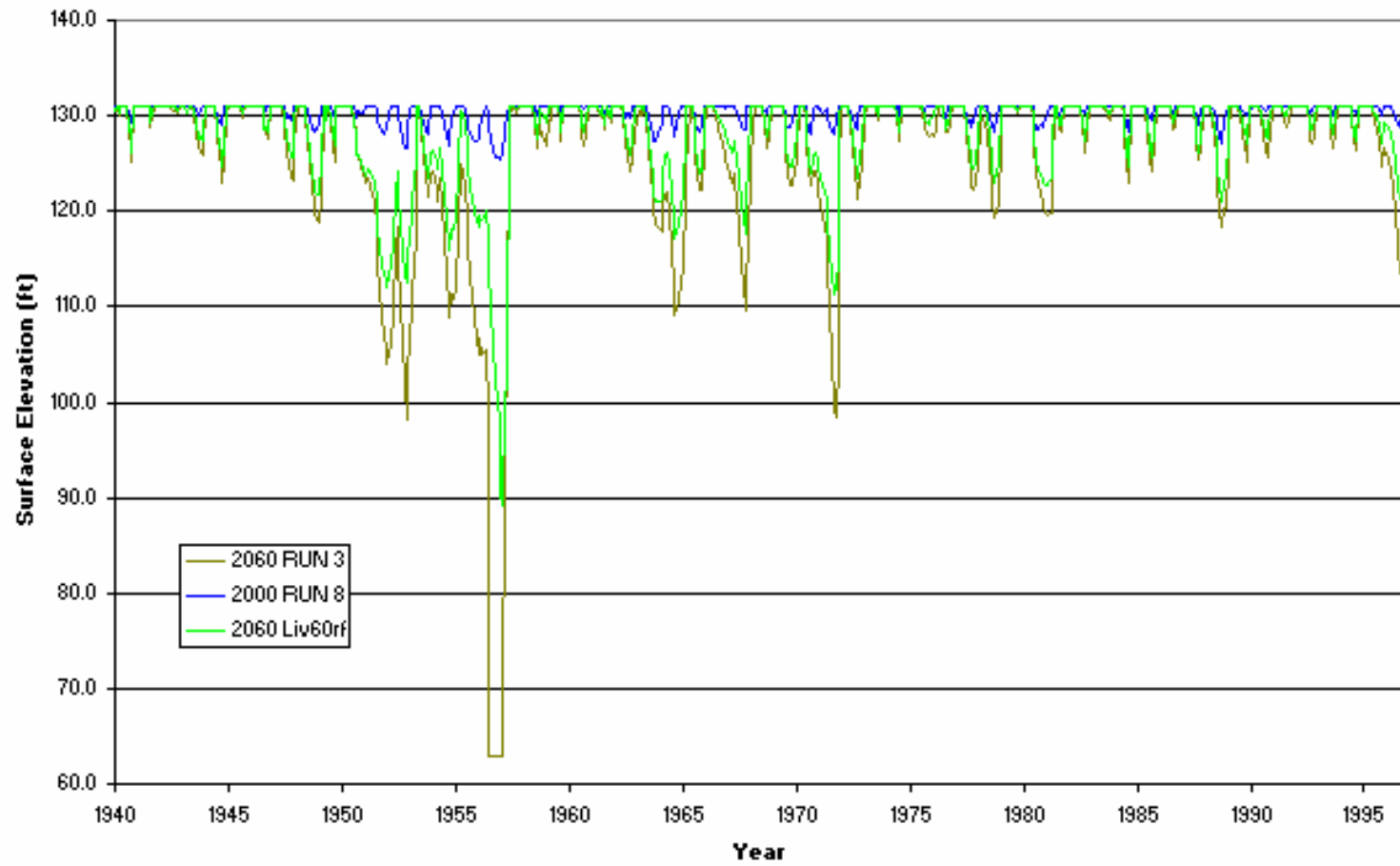
- “Base case” for:
 - WAM Run 8 - “current conditions” with year 2000 area-capacity curve
 - Hybrid WAM Run (Liv60RF) - used for 2006 Region H Plan, full authorized diversions with “some” return flow; year 2060 area-capacity curve
 - WAM Run 3 - full authorized diversions with no return flows; year 2060 area-capacity curve
- Trinity River Authority DCP applied to all municipal demands
- Hypothetical “typical” municipal DCP
- Add agricultural “dry-year option” to “typical” DCP

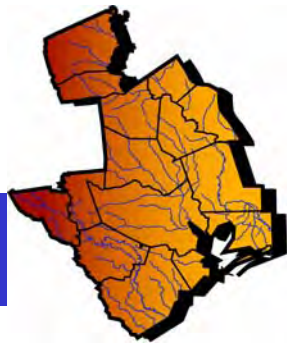


Region H
Water Planning Group

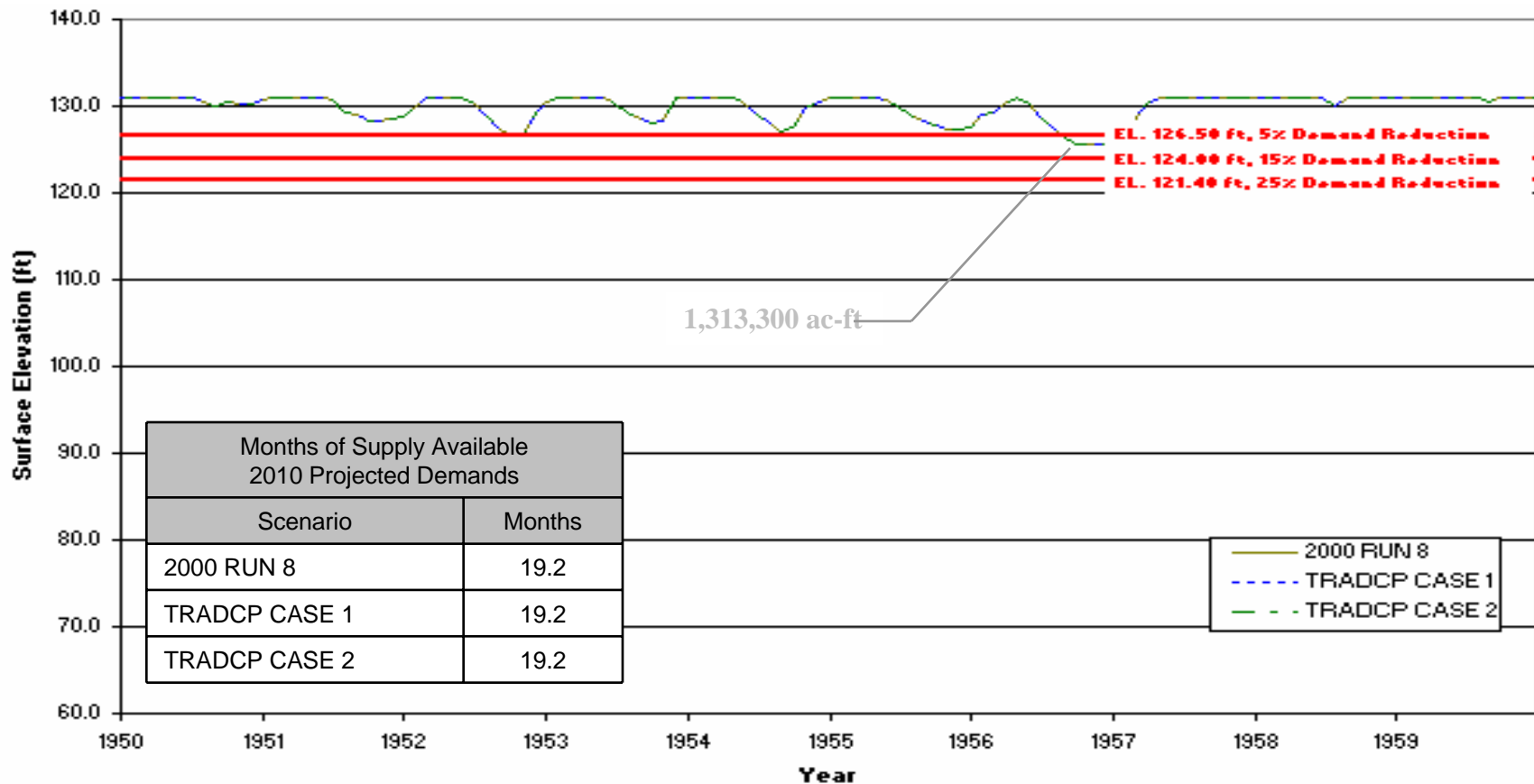
Lake Livingston

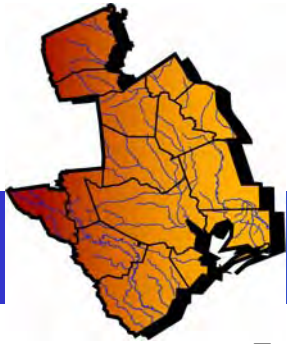
Lake Livingston Elevations – Baseline Conditions



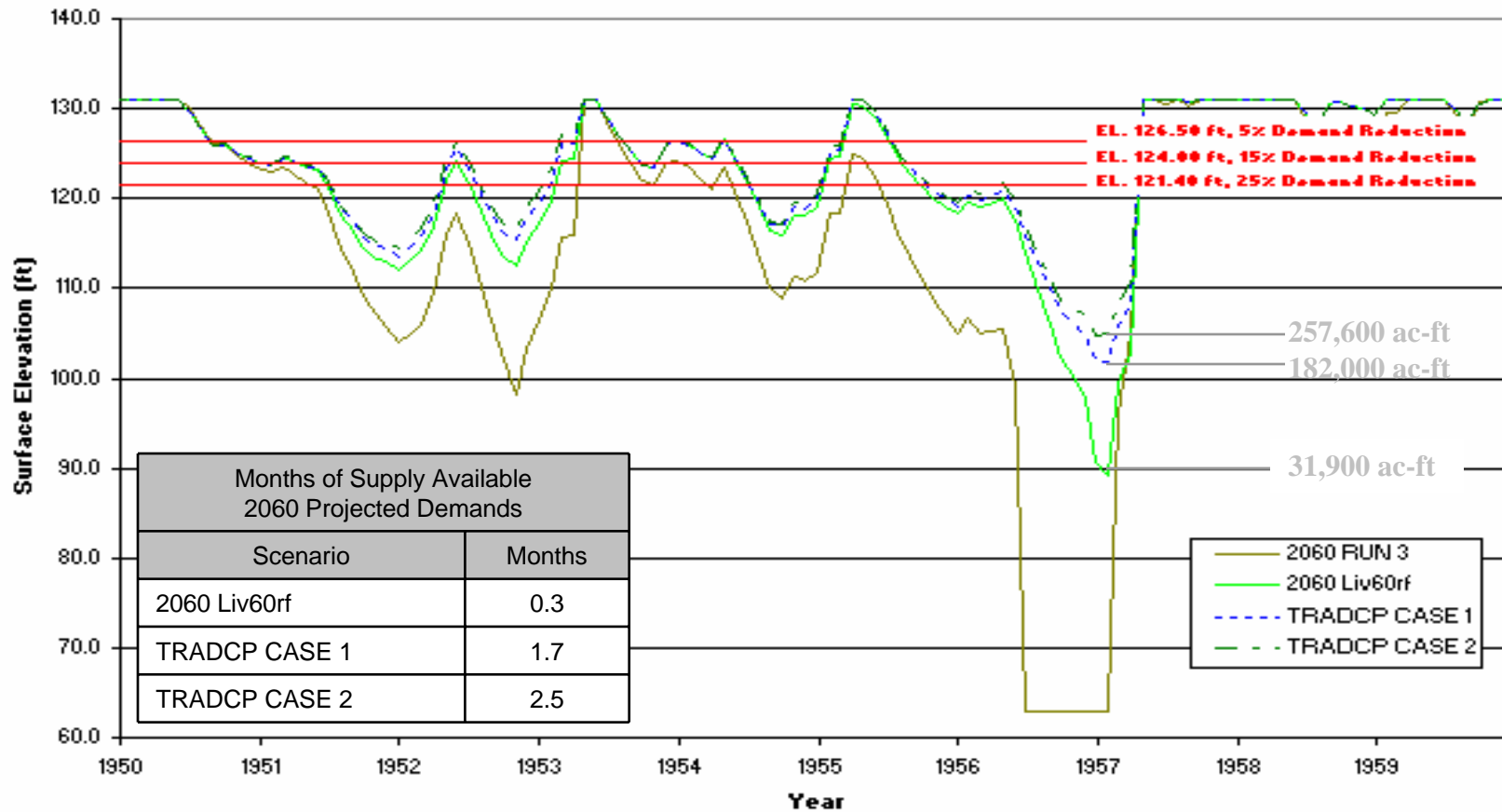


Lake Livingston Elevations – TRA DCP (Run 8)



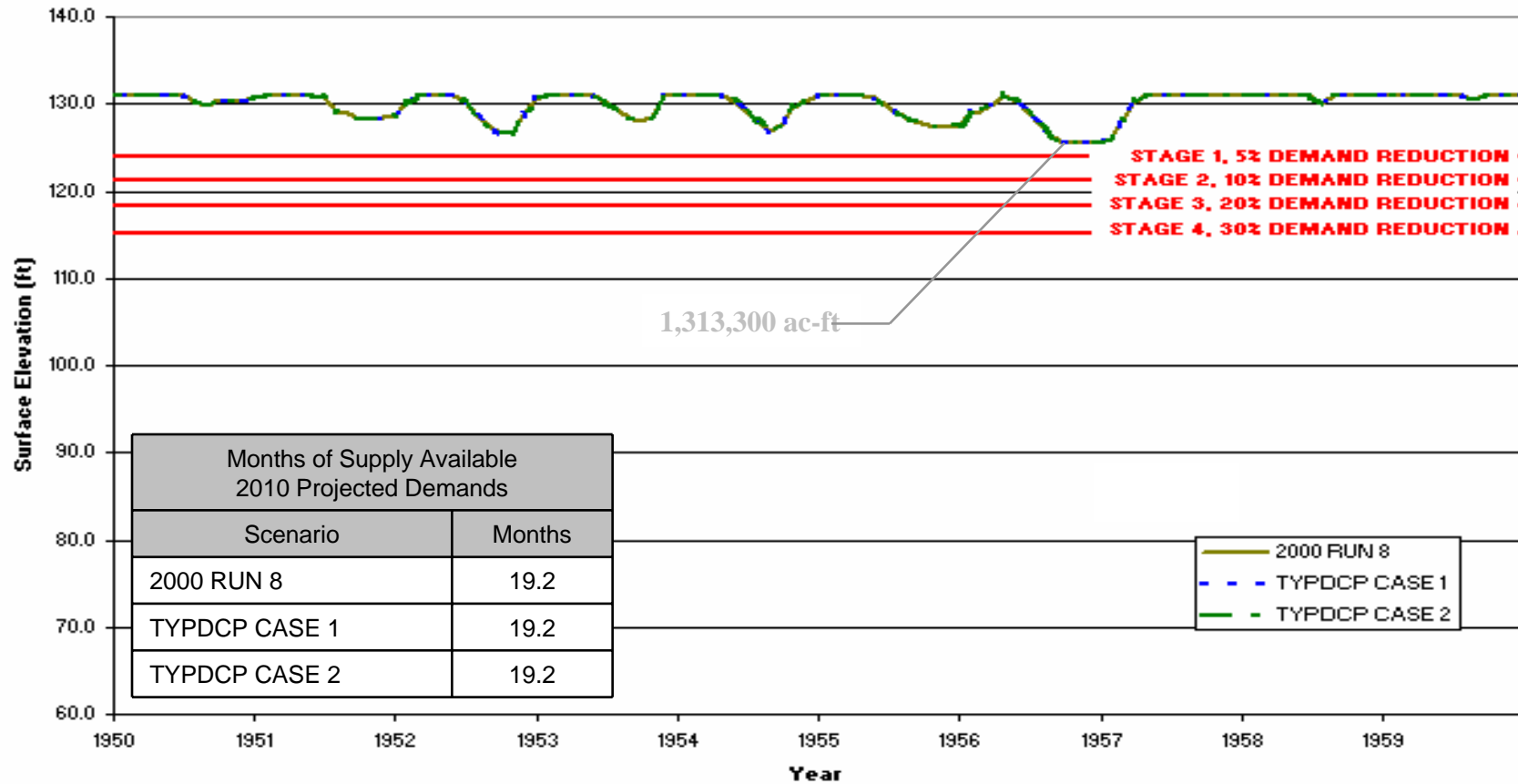


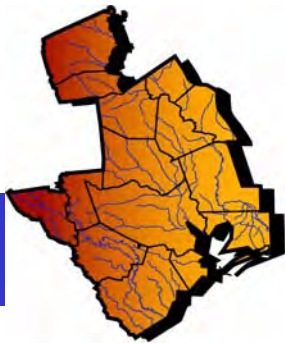
Lake Livingston Elevations – TRA DCP (Run 3 and Run Liv60rf)



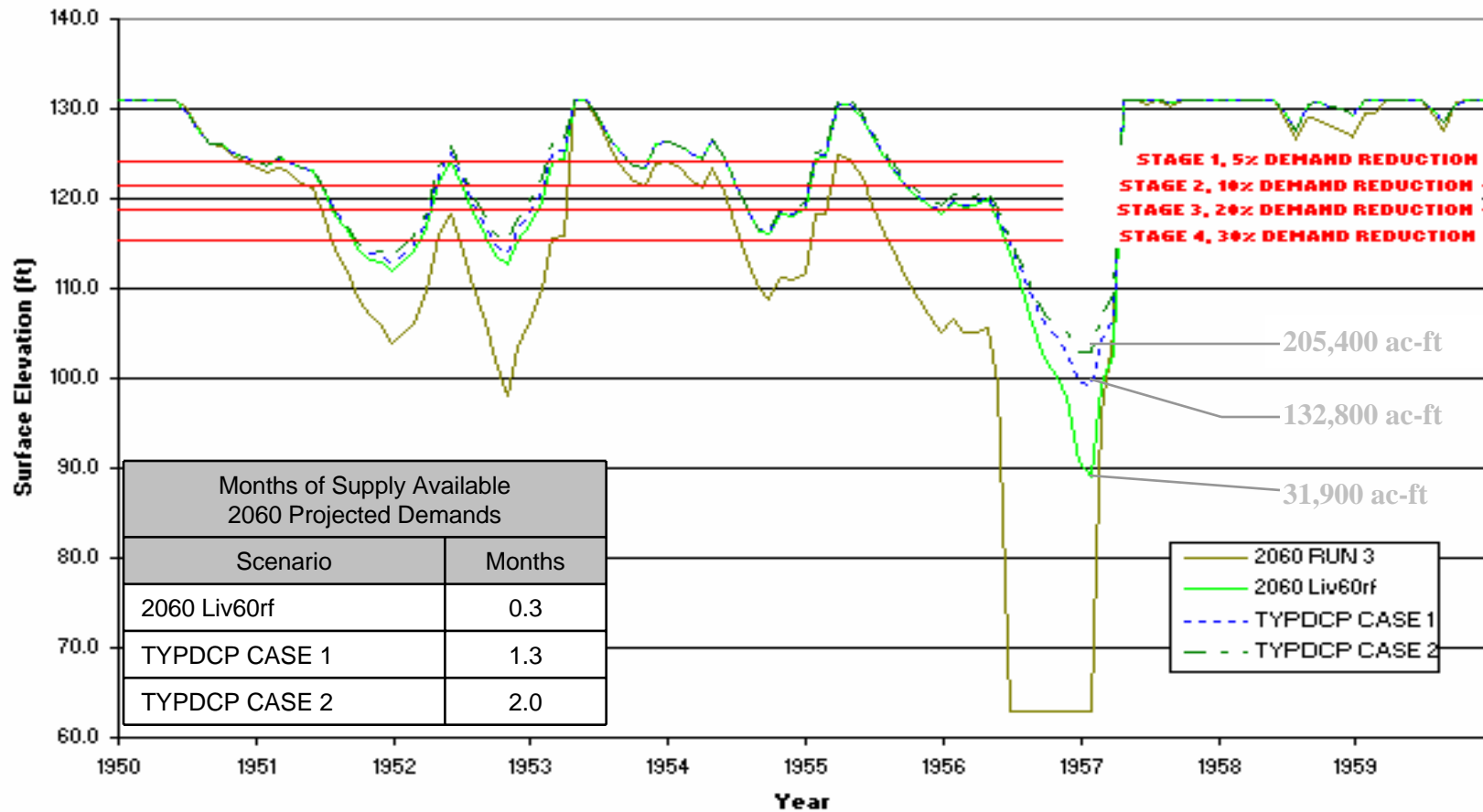


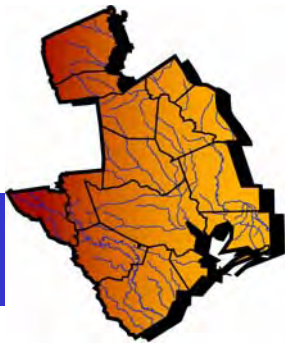
Lake Livingston Elevations – Hypothetical “Typical” DCP



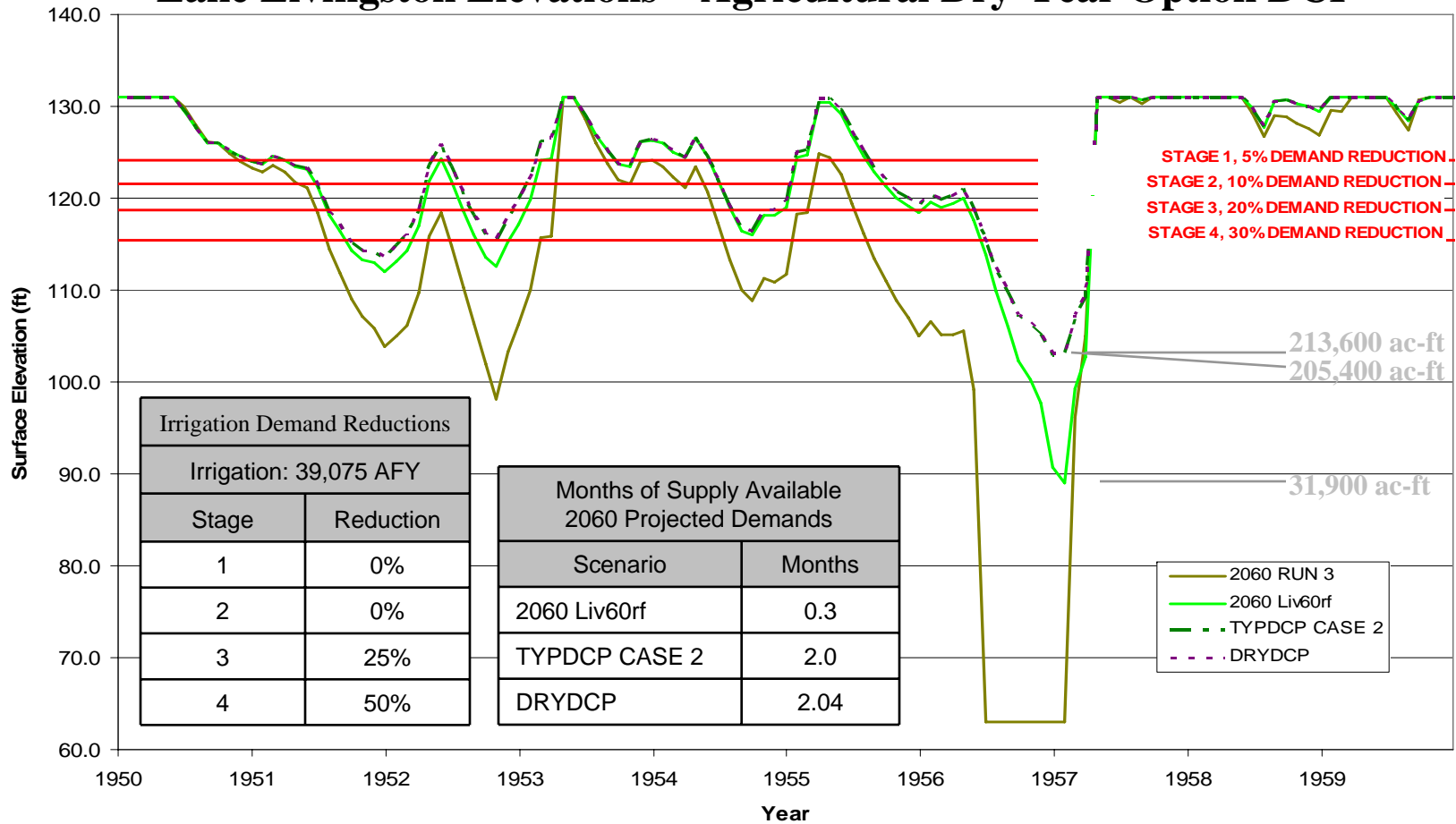


Lake Livingston Elevations – Hypothetical “Typical” DCP

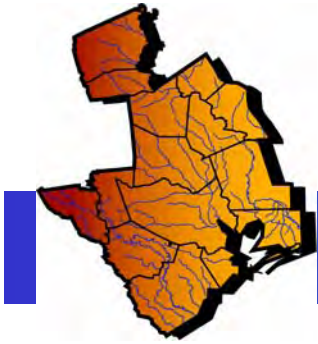




Lake Livingston Elevations – Agricultural Dry-Year Option DCP

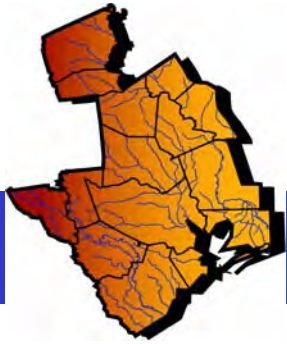


Task 2 – Impact of Drought Management Strategies



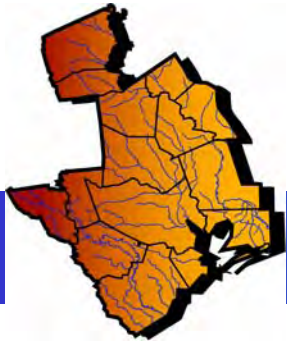
*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Lake Conroe



Modeling Scenarios:

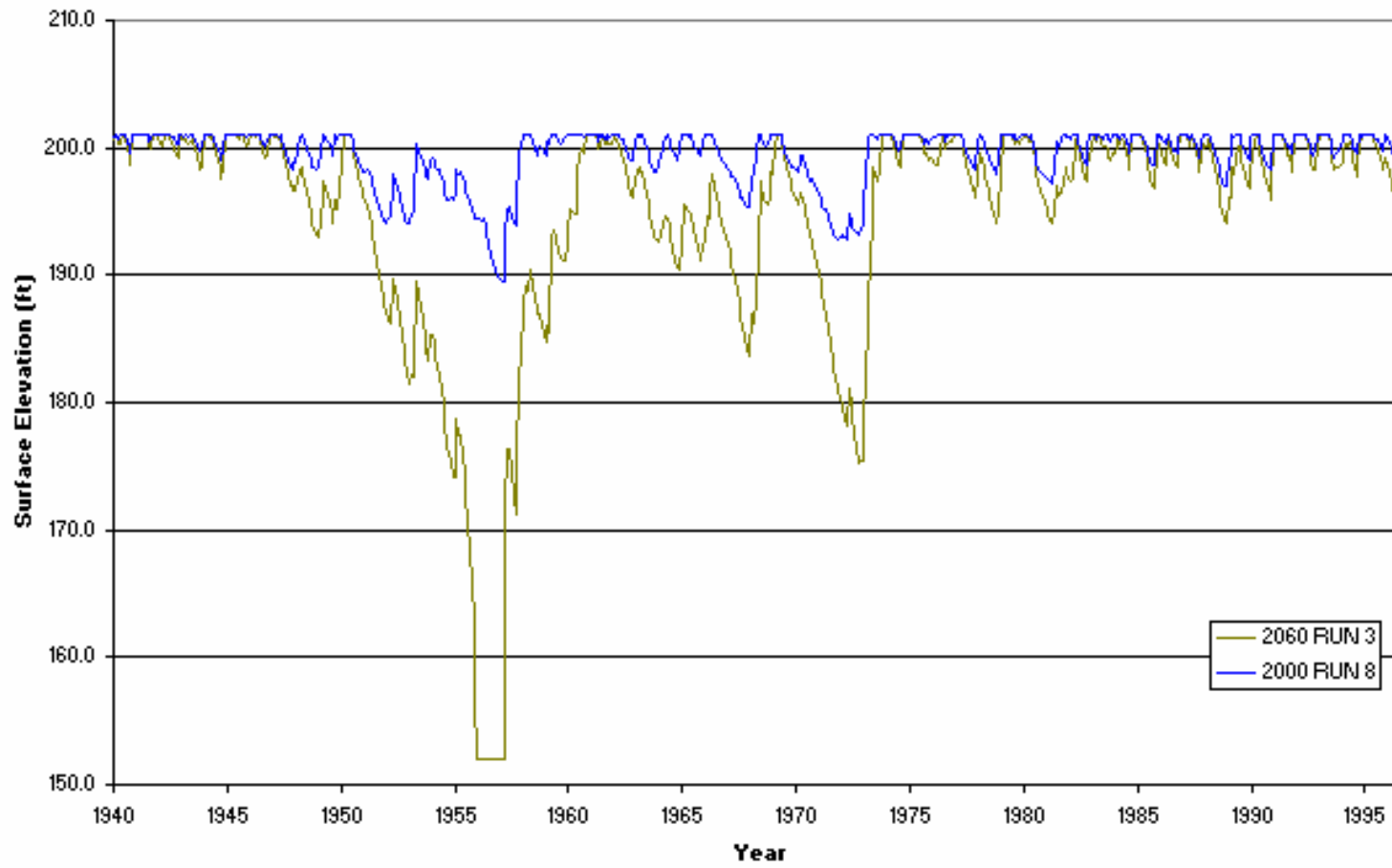
- “Base case” for:
 - WAM Run 8 - “current conditions” with year 2000 area-capacity curve
 - WAM Run 3 - full authorized diversions with no return flows; year 2060 area-capacity curve
- San Jacinto River Authority DCP applied to all municipal demands
- Hypothetical “typical” municipal DCP
- Additional hypothetical DCP to eliminate shortage

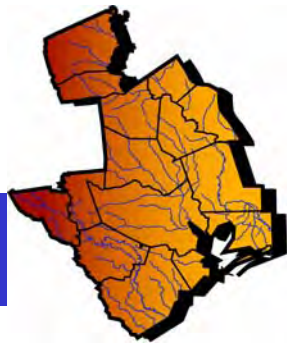


Region H
Water Planning Group

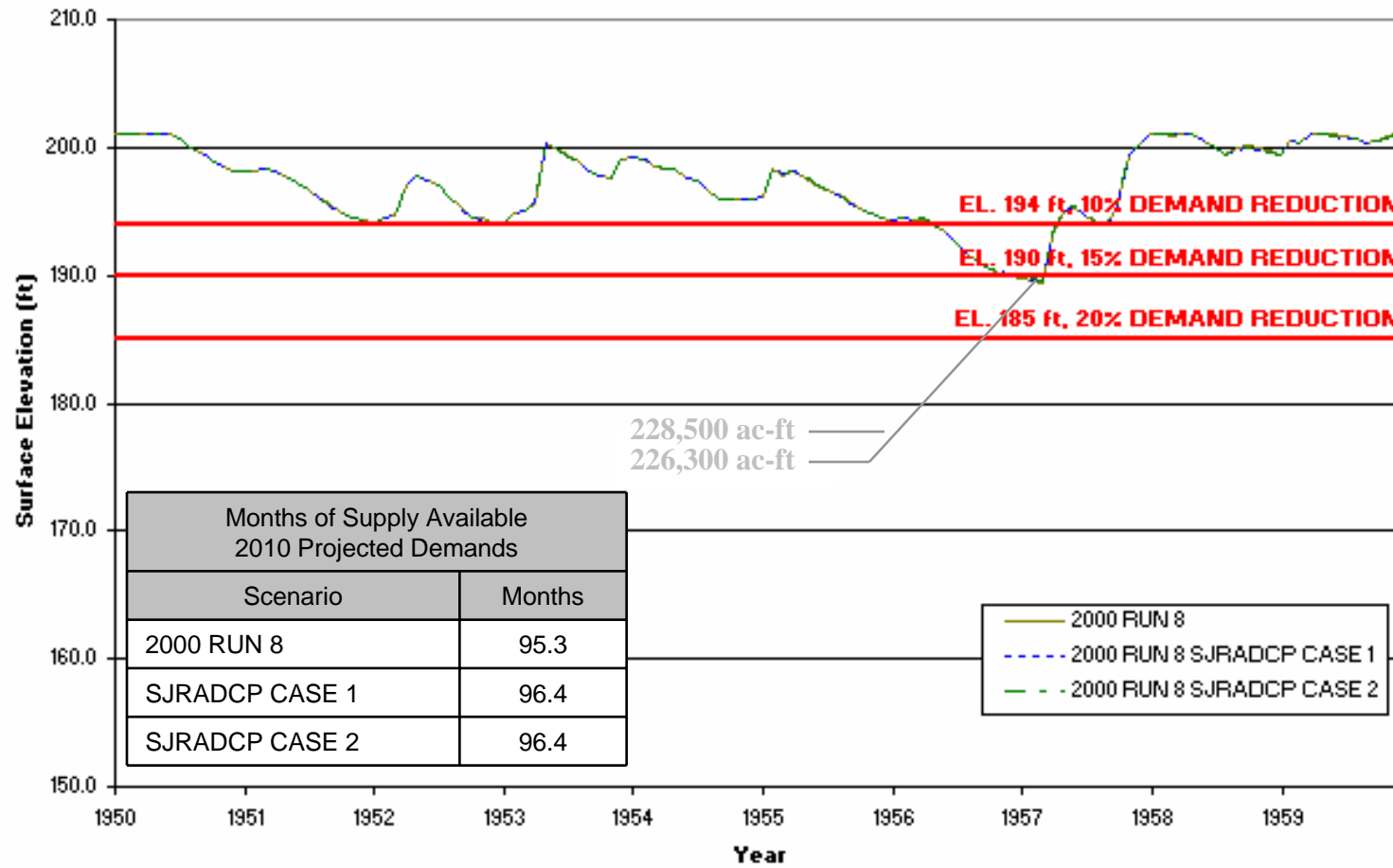
Lake Conroe

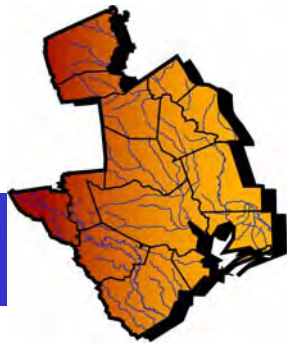
Lake Conroe Elevations – Baseline Conditions





Lake Conroe Elevations – SJRA DCP (Run 8)

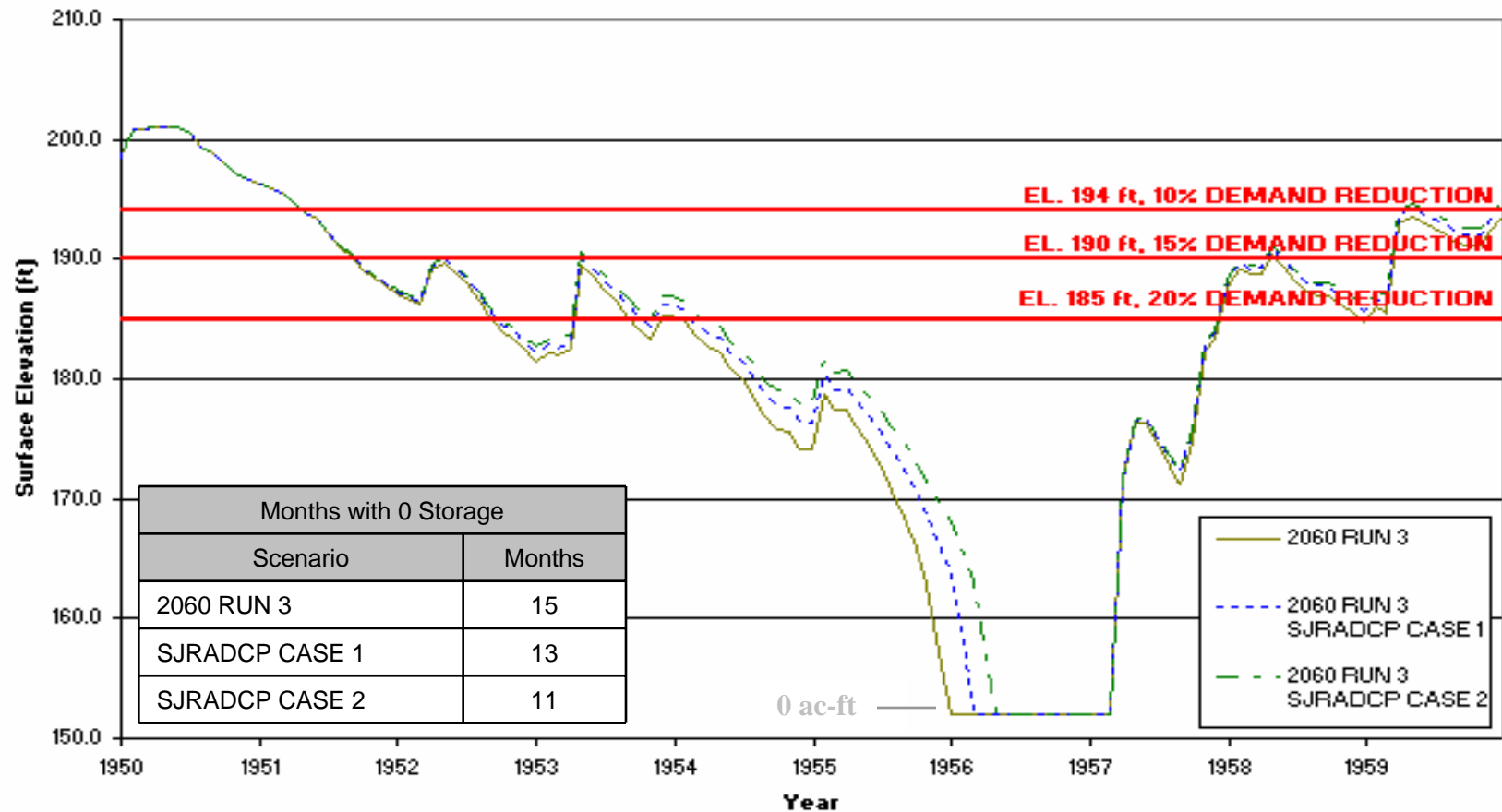


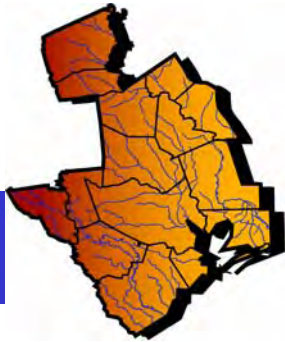


Region H
Water Planning Group

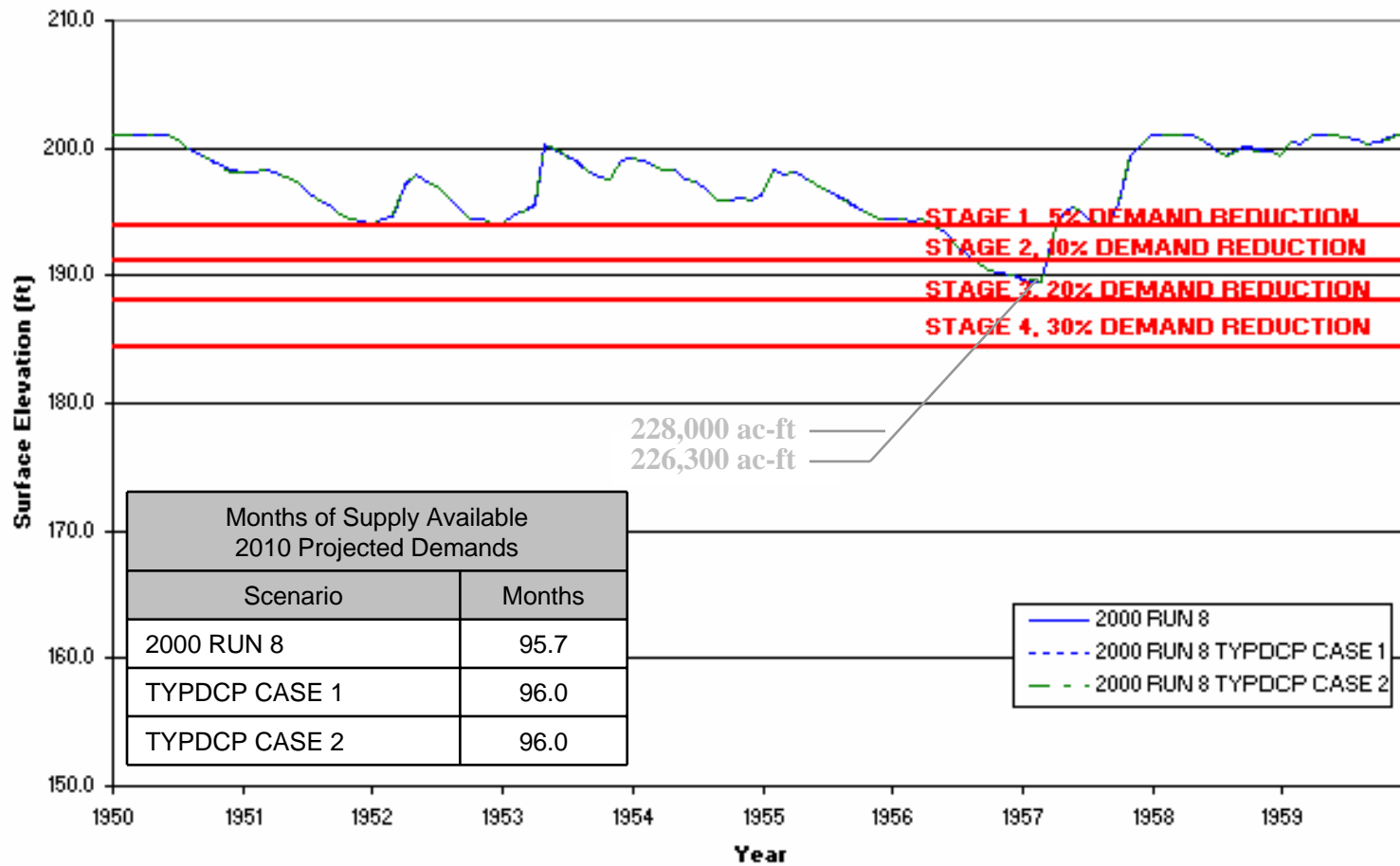
Lake Conroe

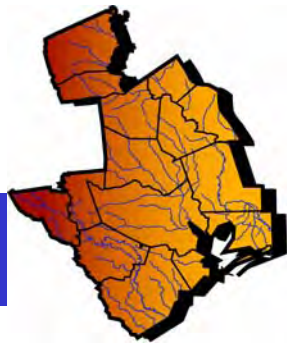
Lake Conroe Elevations – SJRA DCP (Run 3)



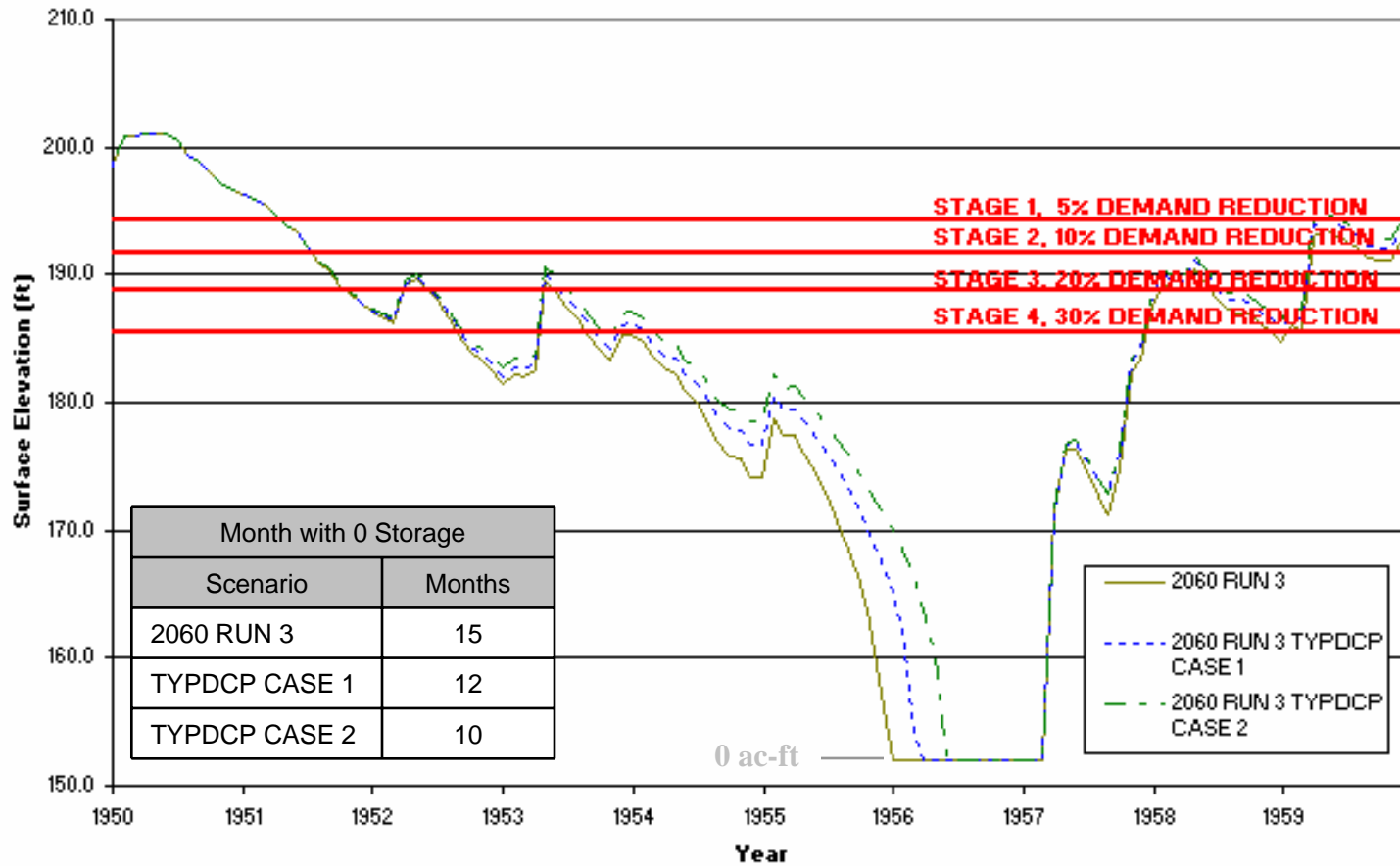


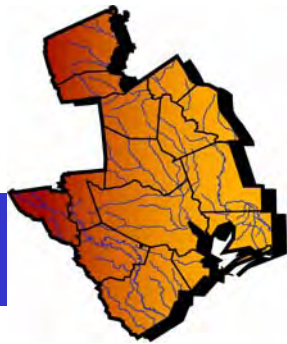
Lake Conroe Elevations – Hypothetical “Typical” DCP (Run 8)



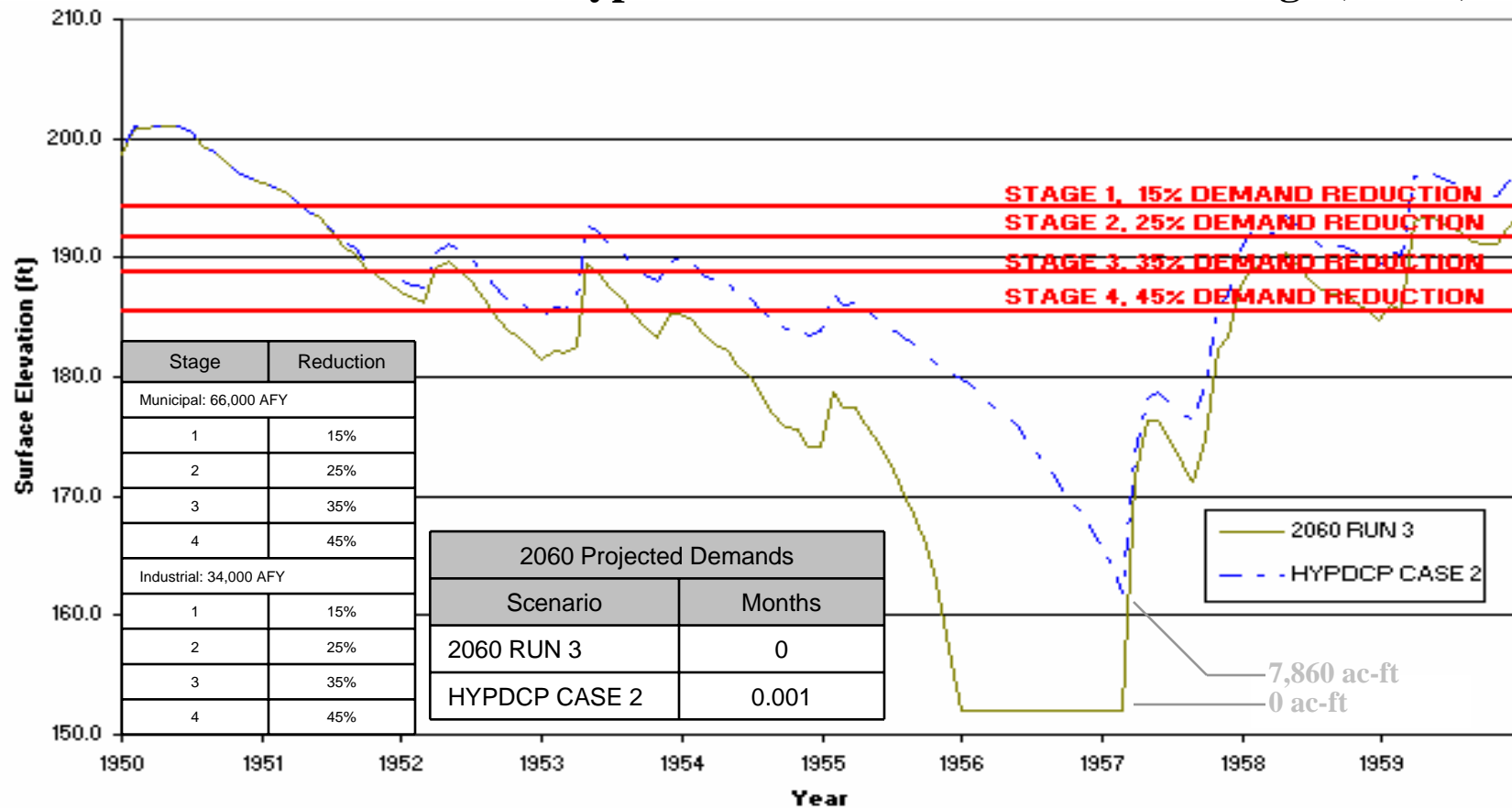


Lake Conroe Elevations – Hypothetical “Typical” DCP (Run 3)

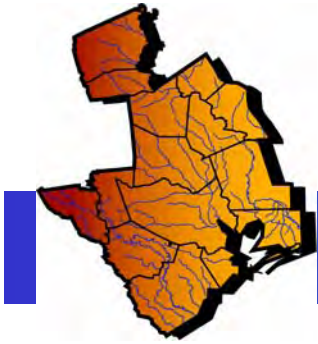




Lake Conroe Elevations – Hypothetical DCP to Eliminate Shortage (Run 3)

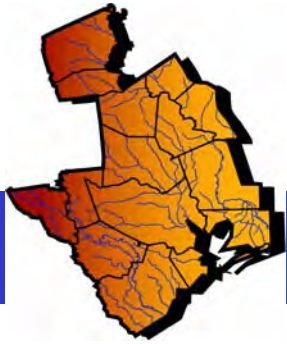


Task 2 – Impact of Drought Management Strategies



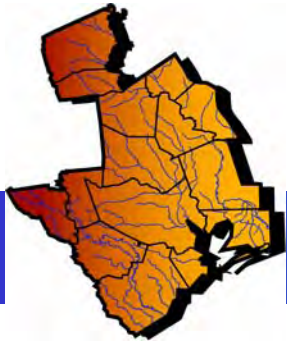
*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Lake Houston



Modeling Scenarios:

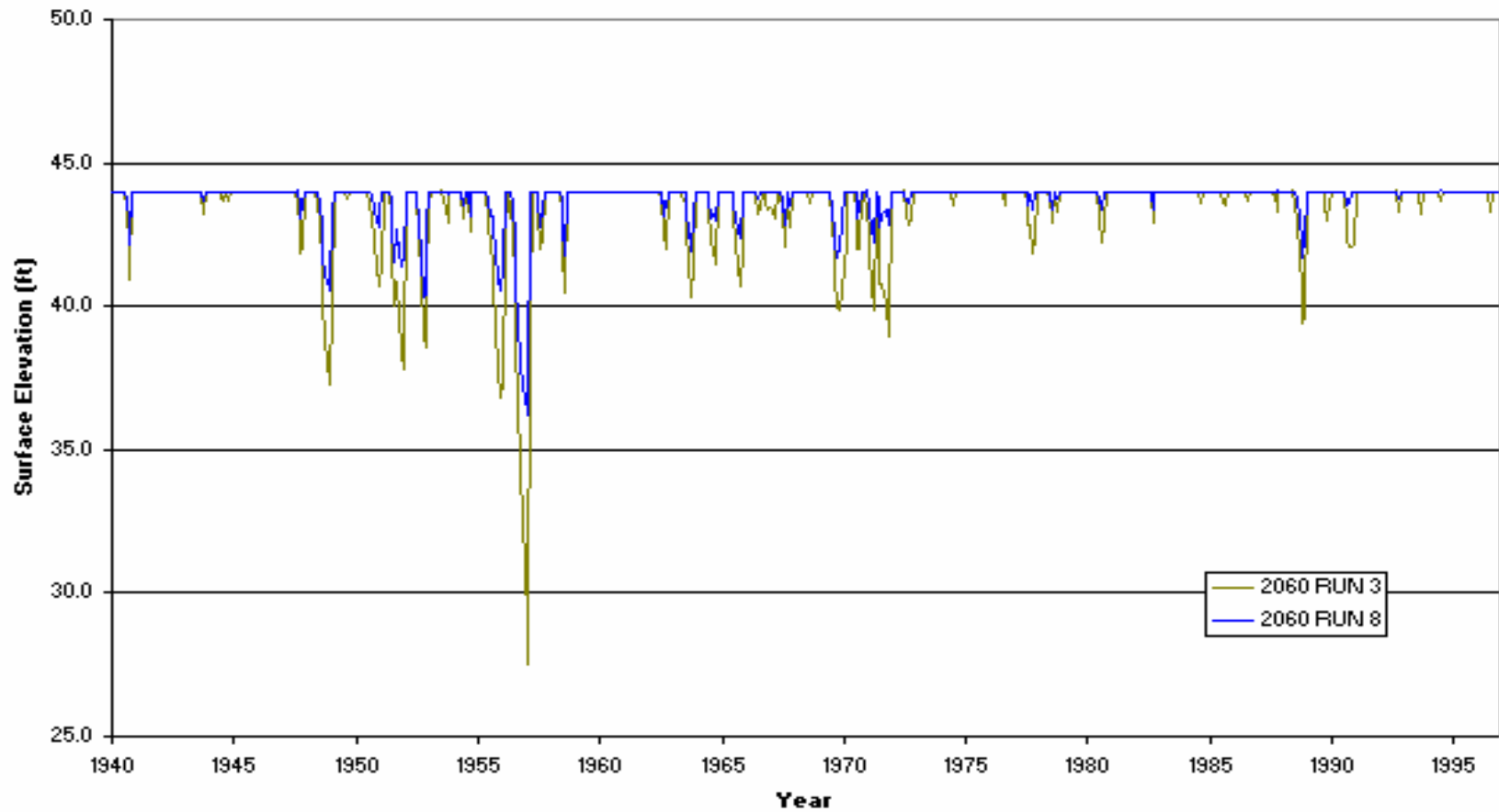
- “Base case” for:
 - WAM Run 8 - “current conditions” with year 2000 area-capacity curve
 - WAM Run 3 - full authorized diversions with no return flows; year 2060 area-capacity curve
- Hypothetical “typical” municipal DCP

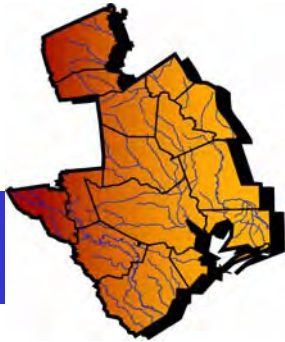


Region H
Water Planning Group

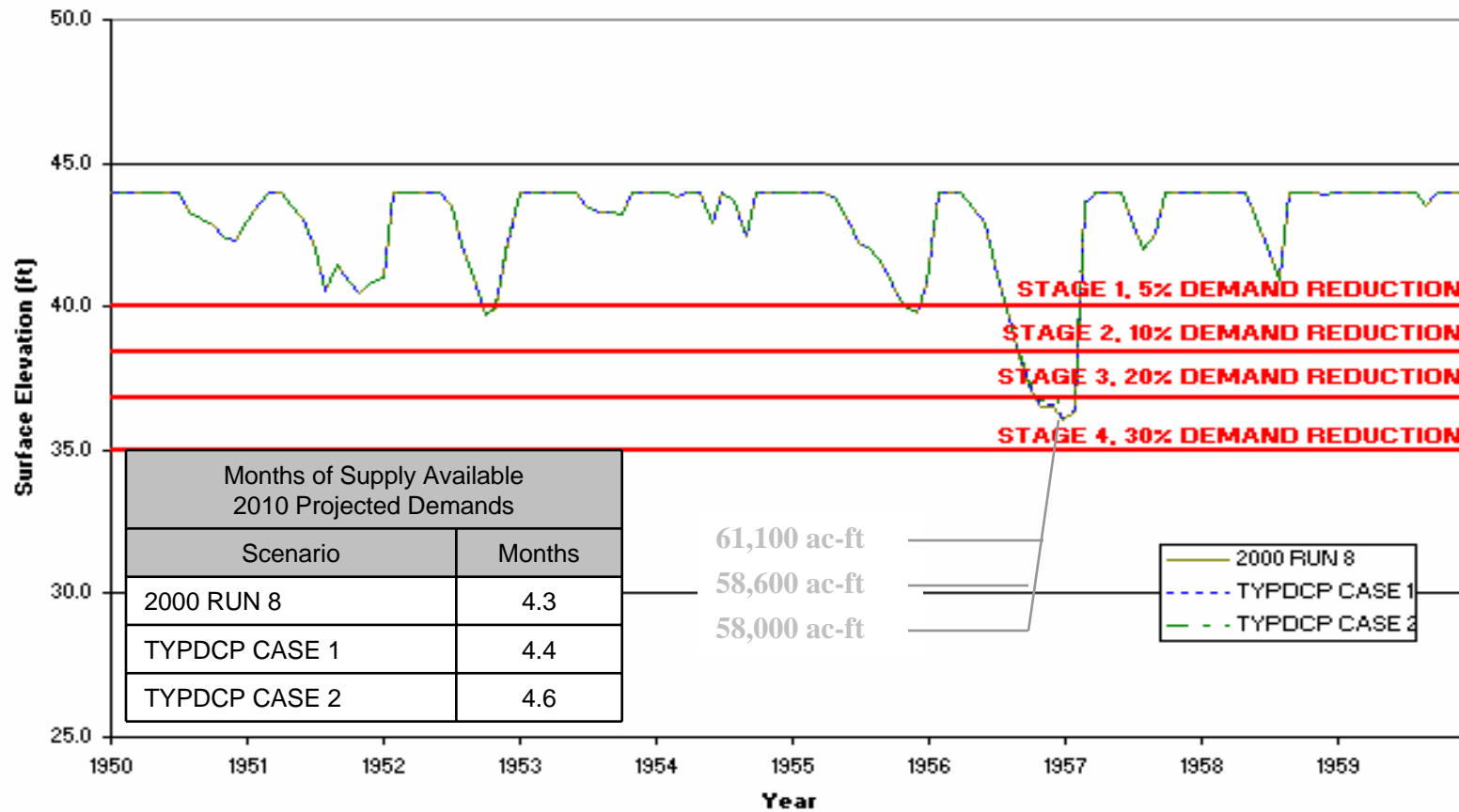
Lake Houston

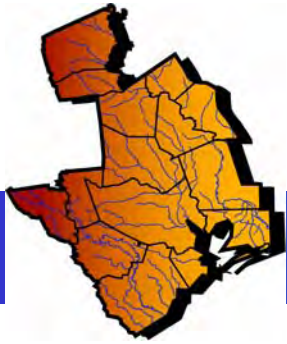
Lake Houston Elevations – Baseline Conditions



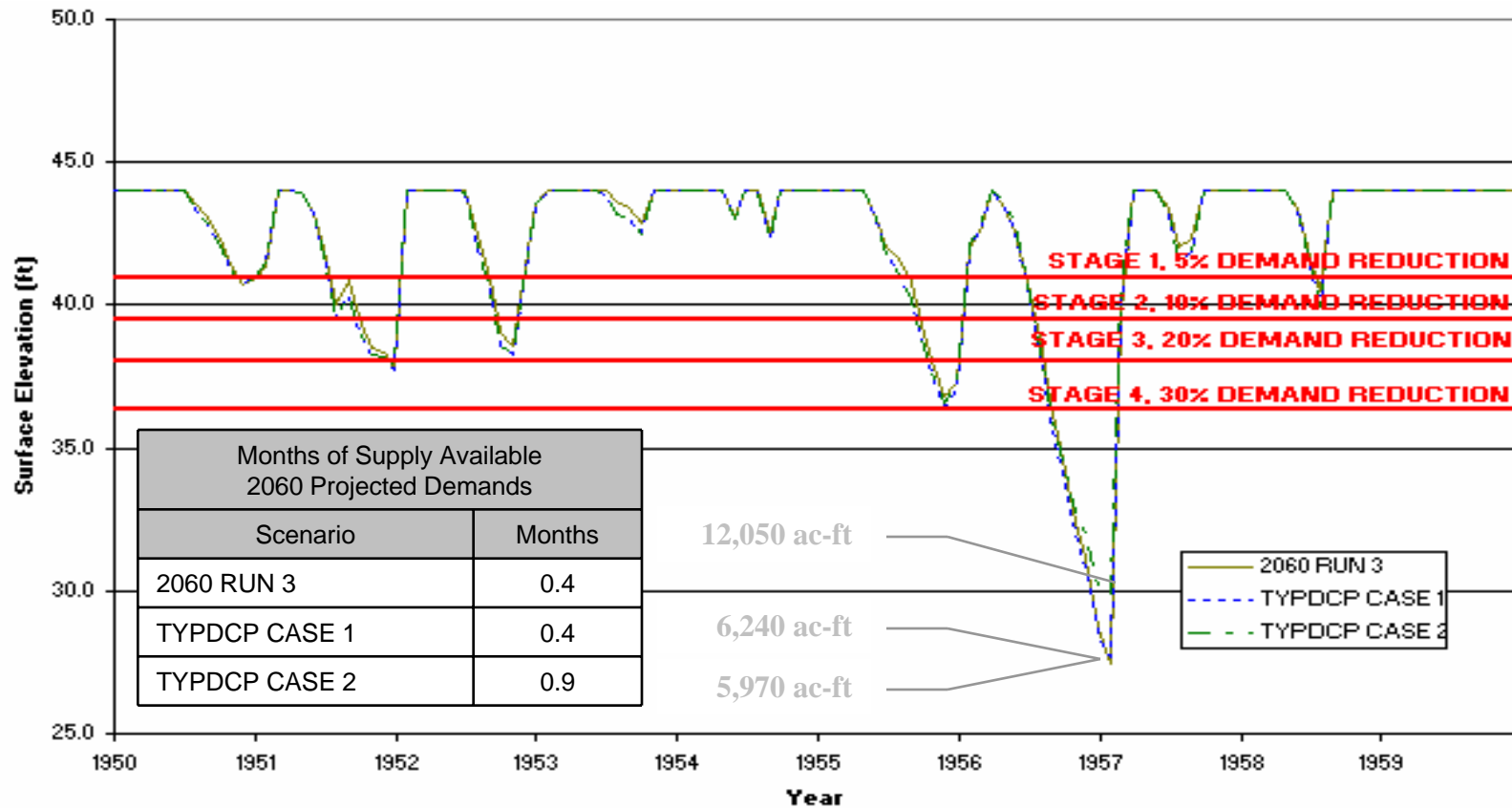


Lake Houston Elevations – Hypothetical “Typical” DCP (Run 8)

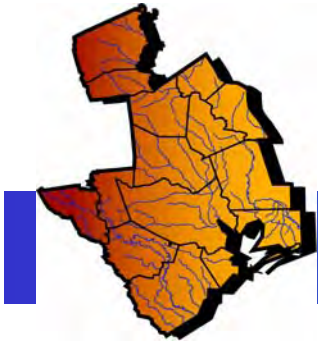




Lake Houston Elevations – Hypothetical “Typical” DCP (Run 3)

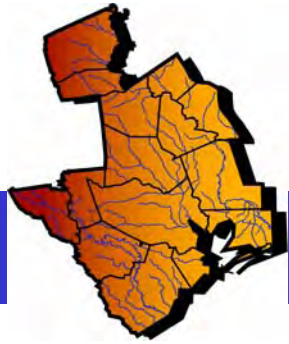


Task 2 – Impact of Drought Management Strategies



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Allens Creek Reservoir

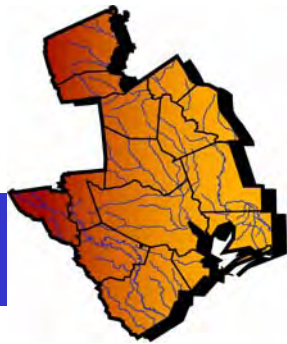


*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Allens Creek Reservoir

Modeling Scenarios:

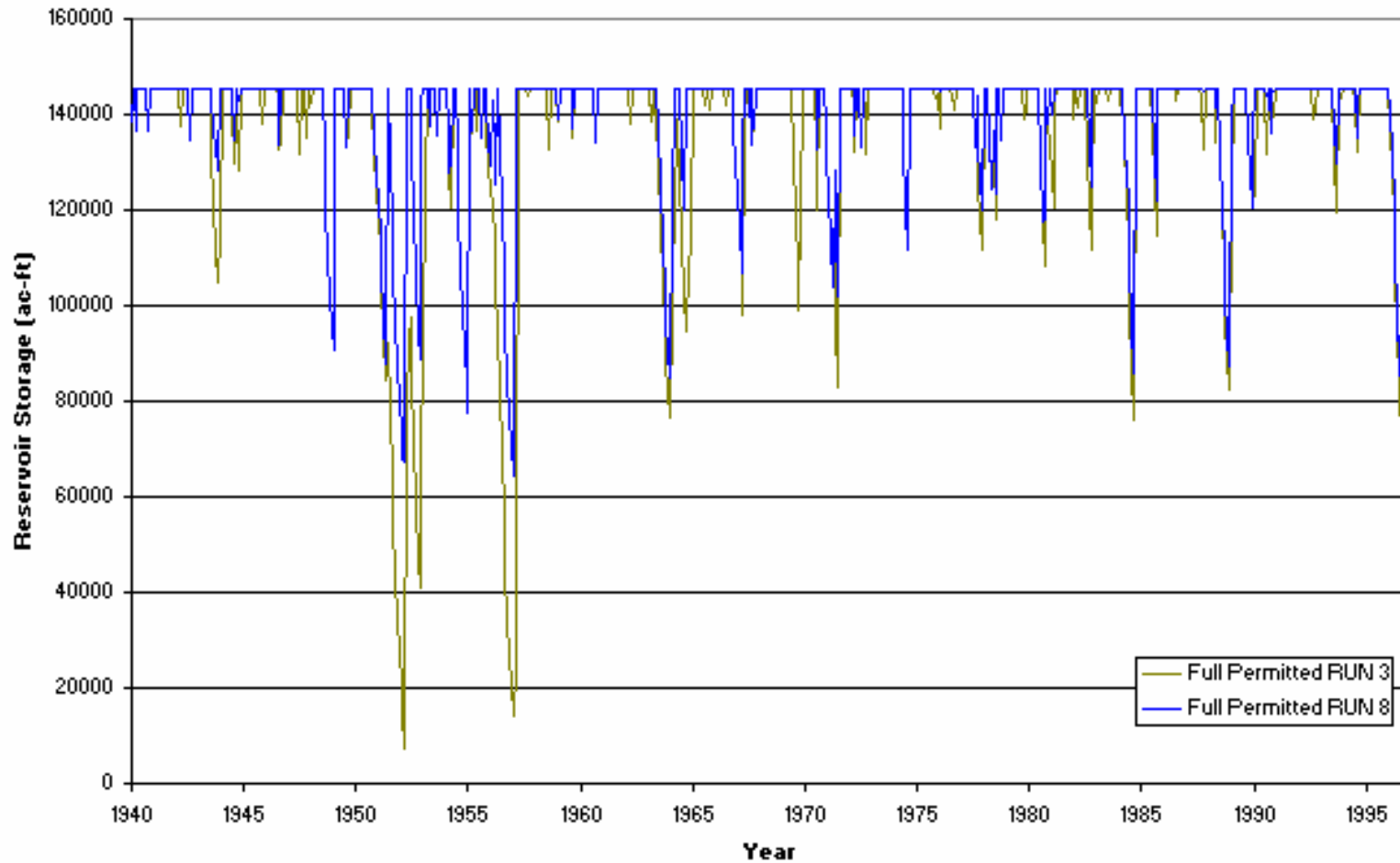
- “Base case” for:
 - WAM Run 3 - full authorized diversions with no return flows; year 2000 area-capacity curve
- Brazos River Authority DCP
- Hypothetical “typical” municipal DCP

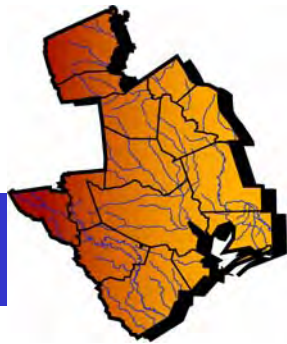


Region H
Water Planning Group

Allens Creek Reservoir

Allens Creek Reservoir Elevations – Baseline Conditions

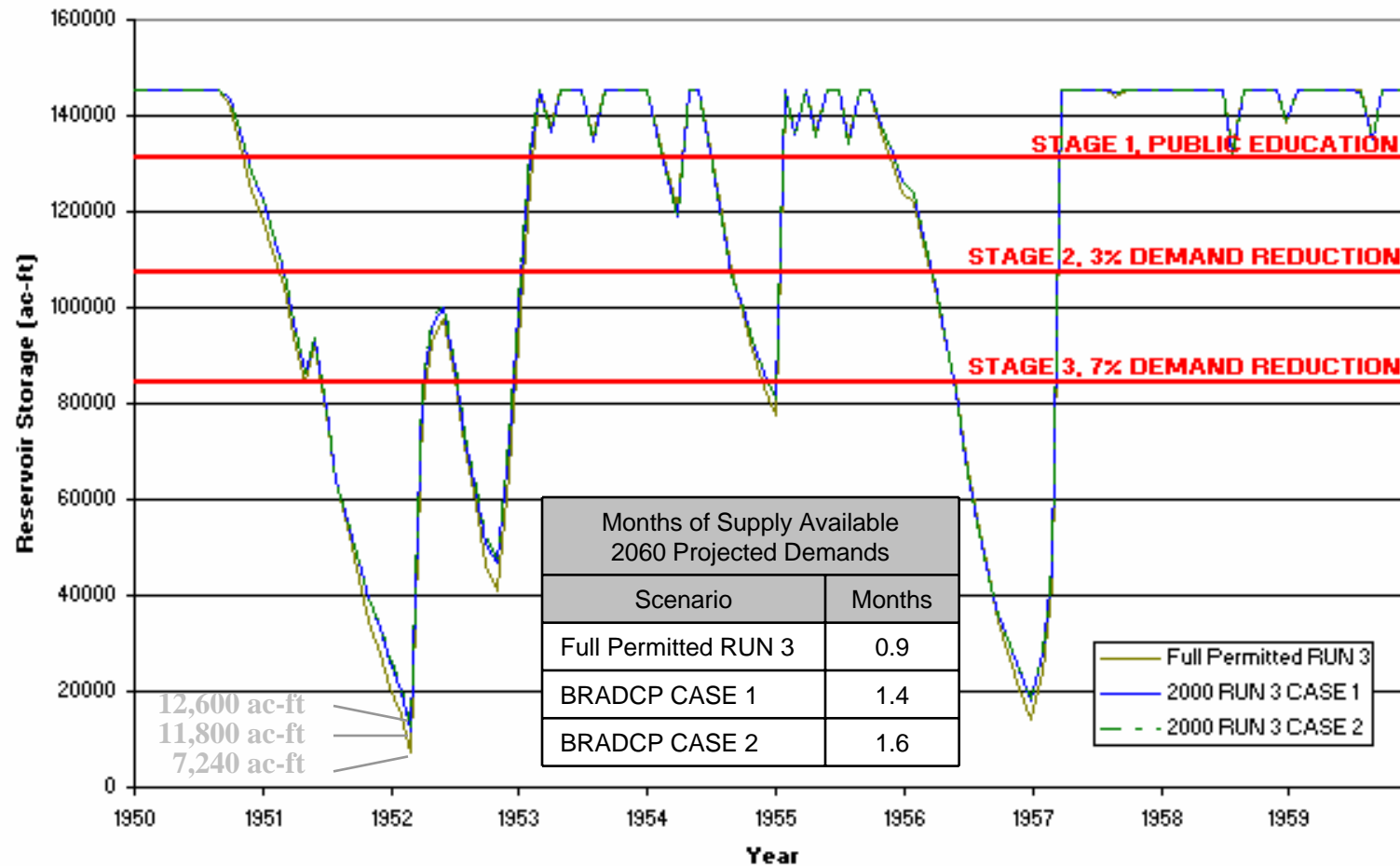


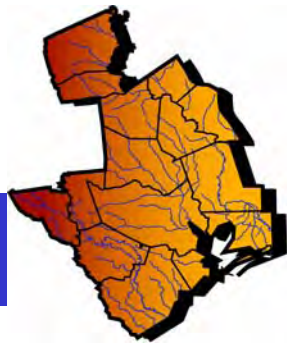


Region H
Water Planning Group

Allens Creek Reservoir

Allens Creek Reservoir – BRA DCP (Run 3)

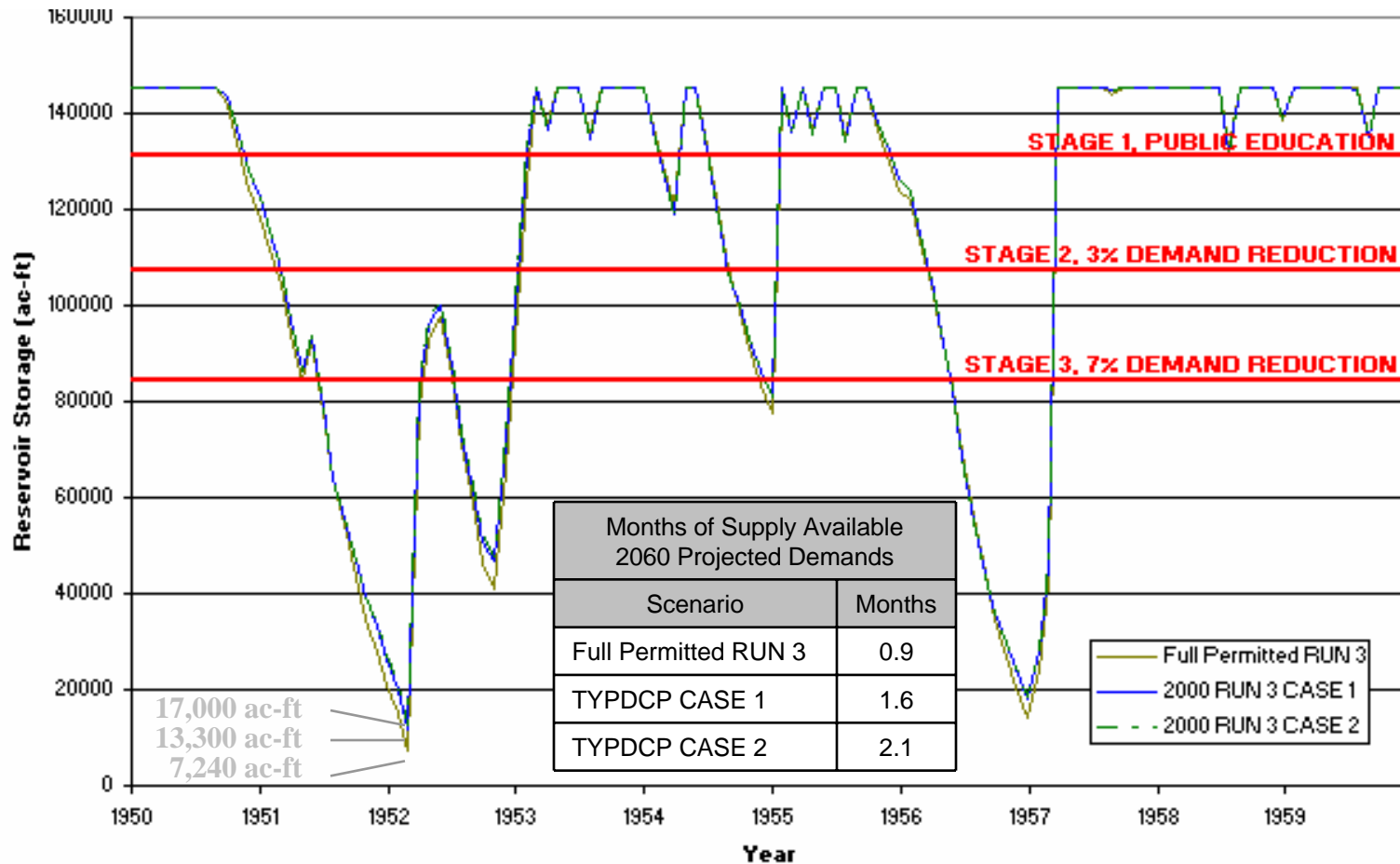




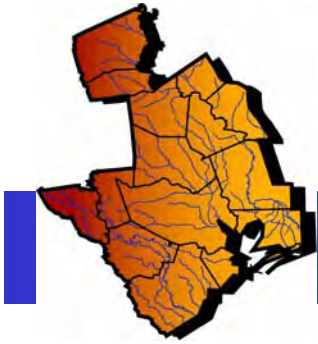
Region H
Water Planning Group

Allens Creek Reservoir

Allens Creek Reservoir – Hypothetical “Typical” DCP (Run 3)

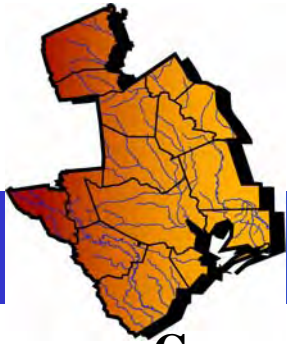


Task 2 – Impact of Drought Management Strategies



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Key Findings and Conclusions

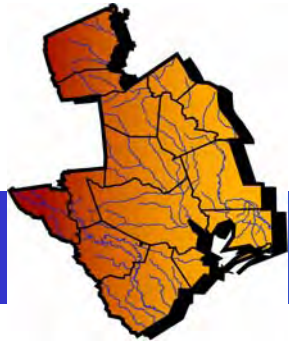


Common Elements of Drought Contingency Plans:

- Criteria and procedures for triggering and terminating drought response measures
- Successive stages of drought response (3-4 is typical)
- Predetermined drought response measures:
 - Supply management (e.g., temporary use of alternative source)
 - Demand management (e.g., restrictions on non-essential water uses)
- Procedures for plan implementation and enforcement
- Public information (notification) and education

Commonly Used Drought Response Measures:

- Prescriptive restrictions or bans on non-essential water uses and waste:
 - Voluntary/mandatory restrictions on landscape irrigation, car washing, ornamental fountains, etc.
 - Prohibitions on waste
- Pricing to penalize excessive water use
- Rationing – per capita or household allocations
- Supply management (e.g., temporary use of alternative source)

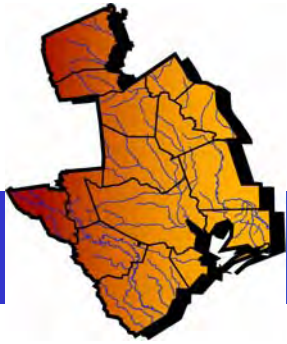


Drought Contingency Planning within Region H:

- 133 public water suppliers have been on the TCEQ drought impact list one or more times between 1996 and 2008
- Majority of systems are located in Harris (24%) and Montgomery (32%) counties
- Most systems are very small – 74% serve less than 1,000 connections
- Majority of systems (79%) are groundwater supplied
- Based on TCEQ classifications, most utilities only required voluntary measures (35%) or mild “rationing” (47%); some (16%) were classified as having implemented severe ‘rationing’

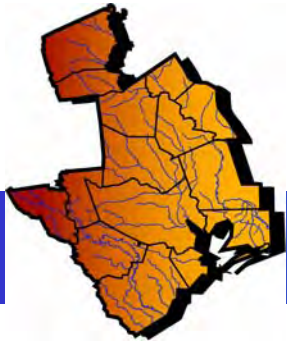
Key Finding:

- There is no indication that any Region H public water systems have experienced an “actual” water shortage situation
- Available information indicates that the reason these systems were on the TCEQ list was because of water production and/or distribution infrastructure limitations relative to high seasonal peak water demands



Effectiveness of Drought Response Measures:

- There is very little “good” empirical research to quantify the effectiveness of drought response measures
- Most water suppliers that have implemented DCPs have not evaluated effects
- “Post-event” analyses typically only report “gross” changes in water demand, most commonly expressed as a percentage reduction
- Most DCPs specify multiple measures for each stage (e.g., restrictions, education, pricing)
 - Synergistic rather than additive effects
 - Difficult to isolate the discrete effects of specific measures
- Most DCPs in Texas are focused on seasonal peaking problems rather than actual water shortage
- Peak shaving is the most common objective of DCPs in Texas

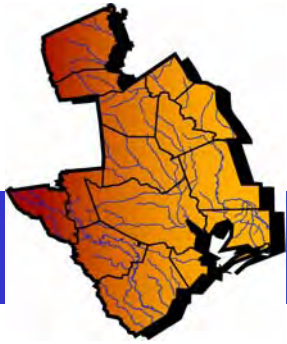


Effectiveness of Drought Response Measures:

- Water use is highly variable within and among communities due to climatic, demographic, and socioeconomic differences:
 - DCPs typically focus on reductions in seasonal water demand, which varies widely even within the same community or region
 - Effectiveness of drought response measures will be less in communities with relatively low seasonal water demand
- Drought response in a municipal setting is largely behavioral and is often influenced by:
 - Degree to which the public believes there is a problem
 - Perceptions about and degree of enforcement affect compliance

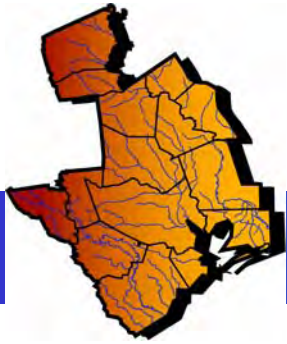
Key Finding:

- Valid quantitative generalizations about the effectiveness of demand-side drought response measures cannot be made
- Appropriate demand reduction targets, and the associated drought response measures, are best developed on a case-by-case basis in consideration of each community's unique water use, demographic, and socioeconomic factors



Impact of Drought Contingency Plans on Region H Reservoirs:

- DCPs have little near-term efficacy as current water demands are low relative to available supply
- Efficacy of drought contingency planning will increase as demands on each source approach full permitted authorizations and/or the firm yield of the source
- In general, implementation of DCPs could minimize the drawdown of Region H reservoirs and shorten the duration of impacts on lake levels during a repeat of drought-of-record conditions
- DCP for Lake Conroe will need to be modified in the future to allow utilization of the full authorized diversion of 100,000 afy, which exceeds the estimated firm yield of 74,300 afy

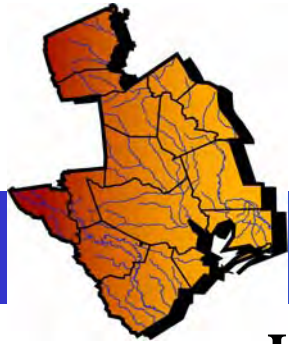


*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Key Findings and Conclusions

Impact of Drought Contingency Plans on Water Management Strategies:

- Additional Lake Conroe Yield: 25,700 afy would require:
 - Modification of existing DCP to utilize 100,000 afy during normal hydrologic cycles and possible conjunctive use of groundwater during drought conditions as an alternative supply for municipal demands.
- Effects on Water Management Strategies:
 - TRA to SJRA (H23-TRAXF2)
 - Transfer of 50,000 afy of supplies from Lake Livingston to meet remaining Montgomery County demands in the 2050 and 2060 decades
- Full Utilization of supplies in Lake Conroe could impact the magnitude of the proposed TRA-SJRA transfer, but not eliminate it.



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

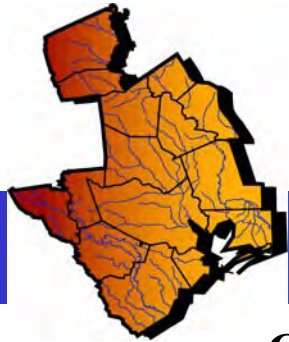
Key Findings and Conclusions

Key Question:

Can a strategy of implementing drought response measures (e.g., staged curtailment of water demands) within Region H during critical drought periods be used in lieu of recommended water management strategies to meet projected needs?

Answer – No

1. According to the current Region H Plan, there are no unmet water supply needs associated with existing reservoirs
2. The current Region H Plan therefore does not include water management strategies that would be affected by demand curtailment during drought
3. Implementation of DCPs would not “free up” water supply for use by others because the demand reduction would only occur during critical drought – demand curtailment is not the same as water conservation!
4. During “normal” conditions, water supply would be needed to meet full unconstrained demand
5. Current TWDB policy for regional water supply planning requires that all identified water supply needs, based on drought-of-record conditions, be satisfied except in cases where there are no feasible strategies



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Key Findings and Conclusions

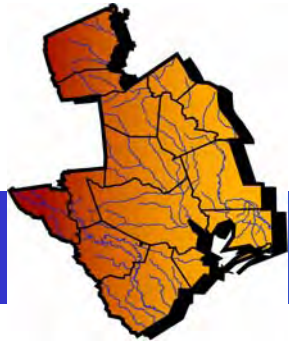
Observations:

The basic purpose of a DCP is to “avoid, minimize, or mitigate the risks and impacts of water shortages and other drought-related water supply emergencies.”

Accordingly, drought contingency planning is best thought of as a “risk management” strategy rather than a water management strategy.

There is always some residual risk of water supply shortage in that there is always the possibility that a future drought will be worse than the drought-of-record.

It follows then, that the timely implementation of drought response measures can provide an additional safety margin should a future drought be worse than what we’ve based our planning on.



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Task 2 – Impact of Drought Management Strategies

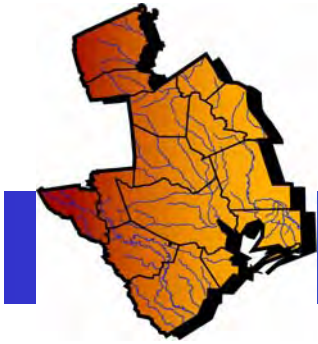
Questions

Report available at:

<http://www.regionhwater.org>

Agenda Item 10

Receive presentation from Consultant on the results of the Interruptible Supply Study Draft Report.



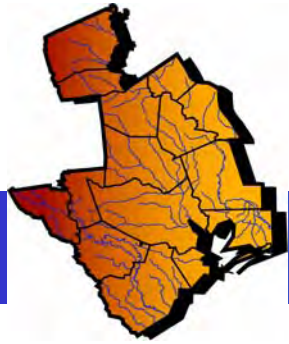
*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Region H Water Planning Group

Consultants Report

Interruptible Water Supply Study

November 5, 2008



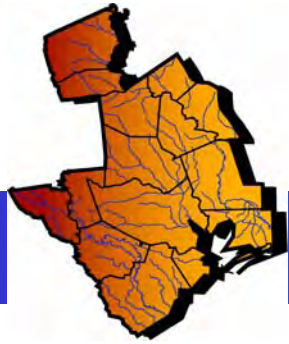
*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Task 3 - Interruptible Supplies

***Key Question** - Can a strategy of substituting permitted or unpermitted interruptible (a.k.a. non-firm) surface water supplies for use in irrigated agricultural (or other appropriate uses) for permitted firm surface water supplies that are currently allocated to irrigated agricultural be employed to increase the availability of firm surface water supplies for municipal or industrial use?*

***Interruptible Water Supply** – 75% of the water must be available 75% of the time measured as:*

- 75% of the water must be available in 75% of the years over the period of record; or*
- 100% of the water must be available 75% of the months over the period of record*

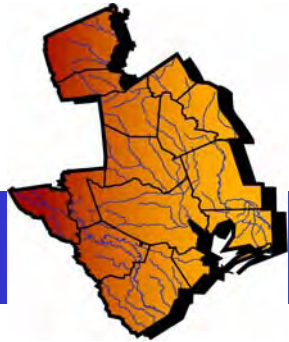


Phase 1 - Hydrologic Viability Analysis

- **Available interruptible water supply in proximity to irrigation demands:**
 - **Un-permitted supplies**
 - **Existing permitted interruptible water to “trade”**
- **Firm irrigation supplies in proximity to or otherwise reasonably accessible by M&I users**

Phase 2 – Policy Analysis

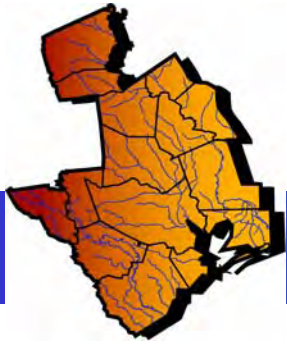
- **Evaluate economic impacts and legal, regulatory, and institutional feasibility**
- **Proceed if Phase 1 indicates hydrologic feasibility**



Viable Interruptible Supply Strategy Requires:

- Available interruptible water supply in proximity to irrigation demands:
 - Quantify *existing permitted* supplies
 - Quantify *new un-permitted interruptible supplies* – with and without environmental flows
 - Evaluate *potential uses* for interruptible water supplies
 - Compare *amounts and locations* of interruptible supplies and location of irrigation supplies to evaluate viability of interruptible supply use
- Firm irrigation supplies in proximity to or otherwise reasonably accessible by M&I users
 - Quantify *additional firm yield supplies* made available for M&I use

Task 3 Interruptible Supplies Irrigation Demands



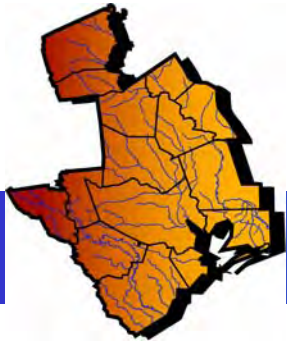
*Region H
Water Planning Group*

“Quantify potential uses for interruptible water supplies”

Regional Crop Types:

- In 2002, rice production accounted for approximately 72% of irrigated acreage in Region H counties
- Relatively small amount of irrigated acreage in corn, sorghum, cotton, hay
- In 2002 approximately 21% of irrigation was supplied from groundwater (Region H weighted average)
- Total irrigation demand has decreased by more than 50% from 1987 to 2002
- Further decreases from 464,300 acre-feet/year to 430,930 acre-feet per year in 2060

Task 3 Interruptible Supplies Un-Permitted Calculations



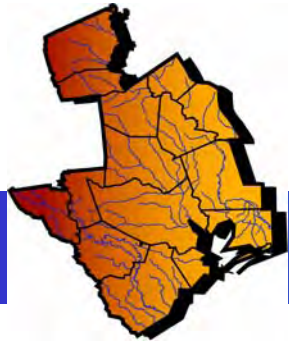
Region H
Water Planning Group

“Compare amounts and locations of interruptible supplies and demands”

Availability of Un-Permitted Interruptible Supply With and Without Environmental Flow Requirements

Basin	Without Environmental Flow Requirement	With Environmental Flow Requirement
Brazos	0	0
Colorado - Brazos	<700 ac-ft/yr in one location	0
Neches - Trinity	75 to 530 ac-ft/yr in four locations	0
San Jacinto	0	0
San Jacinto - Brazos	2,200 to 15,000 ac-ft/yr in 11 locations (max 20,000 total)	0
Trinity	0	0
Trinity - San Jacinto	0	0

Task 3 Interruptible Supplies: Summary

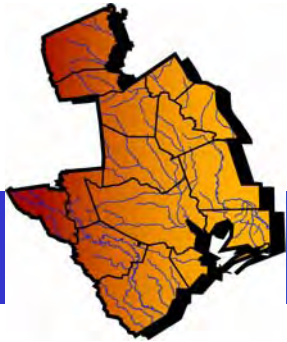


*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Available Interruptible Water Near Irrigation Demands:

- San Jacinto - Brazos has some (between 2,200 and 15,000 ac-ft/yr) unpermitted supply available on interruptible basis at 11 existing demand locations.
 - Maximum potential total water WITHOUT environmental flow constraints is 20,000 acre-ft/yr
 - Maximum potential total water WITH environmental flow constraints is (0) acre-ft/yr
- San Jacinto Basin has 0 acre-ft unpermitted interruptible supply at existing irrigation demands – all of the 247,000 supply is at the downstream extreme of the basin and subject to pending permit applications
- In the Brazos Basin, existing permitted supplies have large interruptible component and there are no un-permitted supplies
- In other basins, existing demand locations do not match location of un-permitted flows.

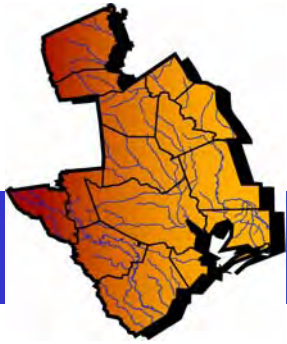
Task 3 Interruptible Supplies: Summary



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Firm Irrigation Supplies in Proximity to or Otherwise Reasonably Accessible by M&I Users:

- Trinity Basin:
 - Most of Region H permitted firm irrigation supply but little interruptible supplies
 - Some firm irrigation supplies have been purchased and/or type of use modified to allow municipal and industrial use.
- Brazos Basin:
 - Purchase and re-designation of authorized use of Chocolate Bayou water rights has made available 63,812 ac-ft of firm irrigation supply for municipal and industrial use
 - Transfer did not provide interruptible supplies to compensate for municipal use of Chocolate Bayou supplies
- San Jacinto Basin has large un-permitted interruptible supply (permit applications pending) but no firm irrigation supplies for which to trade
- San Jacinto – Brazos Basin has 8,729 ac-ft/yr firm irrigation supply owned by private irrigators near the GCWA canal system.

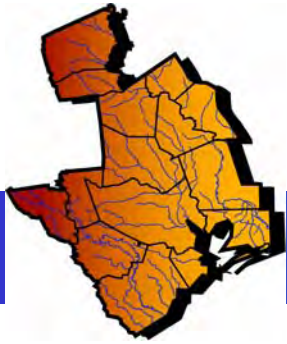


*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Task 3 Interruptible Supplies: Conclusions

Conclusions:

- Permitted interruptible rights held by municipal users and firm irrigation water rights are not “aligned” with respect to amounts and locations for a viable “trade”
- Unpermitted interruptible supplies:
 - Very little potential for use of currently unpermitted interruptible supplies for irrigation; and
 - Application of environmental flow constraints eliminates availability of unpermitted interruptible supplies
- Interbasin transfers of interruptible supplies are not practical - supplies and demands must be in the same basin and utilize existing infrastructure.
- Continuation of “market” trend of reallocation of irrigation supplies to municipal-industrial use is likely through:
 - Sale of irrigation water rights; or
 - Change of authorized purpose of use from irrigation to municipal-industrial use by local water providers



*Region H
Water Planning Group*

Task 3 Interruptible Supplies: Conclusions

Questions

Report available at:

<http://www.regionhwater.org>

Agenda Item 11

Consider and take action authorizing San Jacinto River Authority to request a scope amendment from the TWDB related to the Interruptible Supply Study allowing the removal of certain scope items from the scope of work.



Region H
Water Planning Group

Interruptible Supplies Study

Scope of Work and Revisions

- A. Evaluate existing permitted interruptible supplies using the 75-75 rule.
- B. Evaluate existing permitted interruptible supplies using the TCEQ WAMs.
- C. Evaluate new unpermitted interruptible supplies using the TCEQ WAMs.
- D. Evaluate and quantify potential uses for interruptible water supplies within Region H.
 - 1. Evaluate predominant regional crop types and seasonal irrigation requirements and patterns.
 - ~~2. Survey agricultural users in the region.~~
- E. Compare available interruptible supplies and demands to evaluate the feasibility of use.
- ~~F. Identify and assess regulatory and institutional issues associated with this strategy.~~
- G. Evaluate firm yield supplies made available as a result of implementing this strategy.
- H. Evaluate the impacts on other water management.
- ~~I. Determine if the impacts are reasonable and consistent with the protection of environmental flows and other factors.~~
- ~~J. Evaluate and quantify the economic impacts of this strategy.~~
- ~~K. Develop a water policy for curtailing interruptible supplies in time of drought.~~
- L. Prepare a summary report.

Agenda Item 16

Consider authorizing a letter responding to requests for information from the Texas Water Conservation Advisory Council regarding water conservation management strategies in Region H.



REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP

Senate Bill 1 - Texas Water Development Board

c/o San Jacinto River Authority

P. O. Box 329, Conroe, Texas 77305

Telephone 936-588-1111 Facsimile 936-588-3043

September 30, 2008

Agricultural

Robert Bruner
Pudge Wilcox

Mr. J. Kevin Ward
Executive Administrator
Texas Water Development Board
1700 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78711-3231

Counties

John Blount
Judge Mark Evans, Vice Chair
Commissioner Jack Harris

Subject: Monitoring Water Conservation Strategy Implementation
Response from Region H Planning Group

Electric Generating Utilities

Ted Long

Dear Mr. Ward:

Environmental

John R. Bartos

The Region H Planning Group was contacted in a letter from Mr. C.E. Williams of the Texas Water Conservation Advisory Council dated June 3, 2008 regarding water conservation efforts within Region H. Demand management through conservation has been and will continue to be a focus of the Region H Planning Group as a means to reduce the demand for development of new water supplies. Please see the responses to Mr. Williams' request below. Specifically, the requested information is as follows:

Industries

Glynnia Leiper
Mike Uhl

1. A list of the conservation strategies included in the Region's current Water Plan.

Municipalities

Jeff Taylor, Chair
Robert Istre

Conservation, as recommended in the 2006 Region H Regional Water Plan (RHRWP) is composed of one Water Management Strategy (WMS) targeting municipal water usage and another that recommends conservation for irrigation usage. Details of these strategies can be found in *Appendix 4B* of the 2006 RHRWP.

Public

Roosevelt Alexander

Irrigation conservation is intended to address shortages through demand reduction in Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Liberty, and Waller Counties beginning immediately. The magnitude of the conservation practices is recommended to be almost 78,000 ac-ft per year and is anticipated from the implementation of several Best Management Practices (BMPs) from TWDB Report 362 – Water Conservation Best Management Practices Guide and James W. Stansel's "Potential Rice Irrigation Water Conservation Measures, Water Planning Group – Region H." These methods include on-farm conservation practices such as land leveling, lining of on-farm ditches, and the use of multiple irrigation inlets among others. Off-farm practices such as the lining of irrigation district canals and the replacement of these conveyances with pipelines. The potential savings from and the costs associated with these BMPs was computed based on known irrigated acreage in each county.

River Authorities

John Baker
Danny F. Vance
Reed Eichelberger

Municipal conservation in the 2006 RHRWP was developed separately for WUGs of various sizes. It was recognized that communities of differing sizes have the capability of implementing different strategies. For instance, a community with a population greater than 10,000 may have the capability of realizing benefit from instituting pool and fountain audits. However, this same potential is not as likely to be an alternative for small communities of only a few thousand. For the purpose of the RHRWP, municipal WUGs were divided into the following categories:

Small Businesses

Judge Bob Hebert
John Howard
Steve Tyler

- Small WUGs (Population < 3,301)
- Medium WUGs (3,300 < Population < 10,001)
- Large WUGs (Population > 10,000)

Water Districts

Marvin Marcell
Ron Neighbors, Secretary
Jimmy Schindewolf

Water Utilities

James Morrison
William Teer
C. Harold Wallace

TWDB Liaison

Temple McKinnon

Information from the City of Houston (COH) was used to develop a list of alternative conservation practices for municipalities. These potential strategies were provided in a survey to WUGs and the results were then used to develop a list of suitable strategies for each of the three municipality sizes.

2. The expected water savings on an annual basis for each conservation strategy listed in number one above.

Irrigation conservation savings were estimated to be 1.4 Acre-Feet per Acre for all counties considered for the strategy. Maximum municipal conservation rates varied between 5.55% of the total water demand for Small WUGs to 6.90% of the total water demand for large WUGs. The actual volume of conservation applied to each WUG depended on the shortage experienced and conservation was not applied in excess of each WUG shortage.

3. A list by water user of the amount of water saved on an annual basis by each conservation strategy implemented.

The attached *Table 1* lists the volume of conservation applied to each WUG in Region H.

4. A list of additional conservation strategies being considered by [the] Region.

In addition to the municipal and irrigation conservation strategies implemented in the 2006 RHRWP, industrial conservation was also considered. This strategy consists of a number of potential strategies. However, as no implemented conservation plans were known of at the time, the Region H Planning Group did not opt to include industrial conservation as a strategy. Additional information regarding this strategy and why it was not made part of the Plan can be found in *Appendix 4B* of the 2006 RHRWP.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input regarding conservation policy planning in the State of Texas. Please feel free to consult with me for any additional information you may require on this matter.

Sincerely,

Mark Evans
Region H Vice-Chair
Trinity County Judge

Attachments:

Table 1 – Water Conservation by WUG

CC: C.E. Williams
Chairman, Texas Water Conservation Advisory Council

Agenda Item17

Consider and take action on a proposed Consistency Waiver requested by the North Fort Bend Water Authority.

10/30/2008

Message

From: msilva@browngay.com

Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2008 3:39 PM

To: Reedy, Mike; jhouston@sjra.net

Cc: dscholler@browngay.com; doliver@abhr.com; jcherne@abhr.com

Subject: Region H Agenda Item Request

Please add an agenda item to the November 5th Region H meeting regarding seeking an Consistency Waiver for NFBWA to the Region H Plan. North Fort Bend Water Authority (NFBWA) is seeking a TWDB Pre-design loan for their infrastructure expenses. The Region H plan currently does not show source water from the Trinity basin coming into Fort Bend County. The NFBWA is purchasing water from the COH to meet its alternate water needs. The Authority needs to be consistent with the Region H plan to receive TWDB loan funds.

Please advise me as to what additional information is required to be added to the agenda. Thanks

Melinda Silva, P.E.

Brown & Gay Engineers, Inc
10777 Westheimer, Suite 400
Houston, Texas 77042

Direct 713-488-8289
Fax 713-488-8250

Agenda Item 21

General public comments.

**ARTHUR M. HENSON****MADISON COUNTY JUDGE**

101 West Main • Suite 110 • Madisonville, Texas 77864-1990
(936) 348-2670 • FAX (936) 348-2690 • art.henson@madisoncountytexas.org



June 17, 2008

Mr. Jeff Taylor; Chairman
Region H Water Planning Group
San Jacinto River Authority Office
Lake Conroe Dam
P.O. Box 329
Conroe, Texas 77305

Dear Mr. Taylor,

At the last meeting of Region H Water Planning Group a motion was made and passed to authorize the Region H Water Planning Group Scoping Committee to finalize and approve a planning grant application for development of the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan and submit it to the TWDB on behalf of the Region H Water Planning Group.

As far as I can determine from the time the Region H Water Planning Group was organized, Madison County has not had a member of this group on the Board of Directors strictly representing Madison County.

Since Madison County and the proposed Bedias Creek Reservoir are included in previous studies and legislation, and seems to be an integral part of any water plan, we should have a voting representative from Madison County on the board. Since a new study is planned if this grant is secured this would be a good time to include a Madison County representative on the Region H Water Planning Group Board.

As stated in the last meeting I am formally requesting that the Region H Water Planning Group Board include a Madison County Representative.

Thank you for your consideration and I will be looking forward to a favorable resolution of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arthur M. Henson".

Arthur M. Henson
Madison County Judge

AMH:dl

P.O. Box 753
Madisonville, Texas 77864-0753
June 18, 2008

To: Jace A. Houston
San Jacinto River Authority

Members of the Region H Planning Water Group
P.O. Box 329
Conroe, Texas 77305

Dear Members:

The undersigned would like to nominate Jeff A. Farris of Madison County, Texas for voting membership in the Region H Water Planning Group. His mailing address is P.O. Box 1742, Madisonville, Texas 77864. He can be reached by telephone at 936-348-2480.

His career in the field of agriculture includes teaching as well as practical application in ranching on his own family owned acreage in Madison County, Texas. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Education as well as a Master of Education Degree from Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas. His teaching career in agricultural science spans a 32 year period during which he touched the lives of many young people.

Since retirement from the teaching field, he has been active in the community as follows:

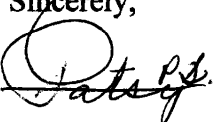
Farm Service Agency-served on the Farm Service Committee-2 terms

Member of the Madison County Appraisal Board for the Madison County Appraisal District-served 2 terms

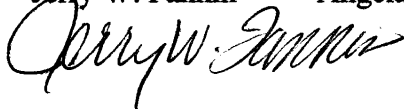
Participant in the Natural Resource Conservation Service program for soil conservation

We feel that Jeff would make a significant contribution as a representative from our county and recommend him for membership in this group.

Sincerely,



Jerry W. Fannin



Angela Fannin

Charles Strawther

Patsy Strawther

Brazosport Facts

Opinion: Surfside Beach Water

July 13, 2008

Hopefully, the village leaders of Surfside Beach will learn something about the seriousness of coastal subsidence due to groundwater extraction from the Brazoria County commissioner's court workshop held on July 8, 2008. (The Facts, July 13, 2008)

In the July 8, 2008 Surfside city council meeting, without prior public input, the council approved the purchase of land and funding to drill yet another well to supplement our existing wells that are contaminated with saltwater and high arsenic levels.

The mayor's designation of the decision to drill a new well as an "emergency" is a stretch at best: This "emergency" situation certainly didn't happen overnight. The city should have adopted a state mandated moratorium (§212.131) on development years ago when we first encountered problems with our water supply, quality, and distribution systems.

Surfside has seven neighboring communities and two TDCJ units that have seen the wisdom in contracting with Brazosport Water Authority to supply surface water and avoid many of the pitfalls associated with state regulations. Simply said; "If you fail to plan, you plan to fail."

Gary McBeth
610 Seashell, Surfside
979-233-3500



TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD



James E. Herring, *Chairman*
Lewis H. McMahan, *Member*
Edward G. Vaughan, *Member*

J. Kevin Ward
Executive Administrator

Jack Hunt, *Vice Chairman*
Thomas Weir Labatt III, *Member*
Joe M. Crutcher, *Member*

July 29, 2008

Mr. Gary McBeth
610 Seashell Drive
Surfside Beach, Texas 77541

Re: Public Water Supply in Surfside Beach

Dear Mr. McBeth:

We received your e-mail correspondence July 21, 2008 concerning the adequacy of Surfside Beach's water supply and drinking water quality. You stated that you believe the city does not have an adequate comprehensive plan for water supply infrastructure development and concluded that your community could use assistance in developing a comprehensive water management strategy that will carry well into the future.

The Texas Water Development Board's regional water planning process is the proper venue to obtain assistance for developing water management strategies for your community. Surfside Beach is part of the Region H Regional Water Planning Group, which has been charged by the State Legislature to develop a regional water plan for Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Montgomery, Polk (partial), San Jacinto, Trinity (partial), Waller, and Walker counties. The next Region H Planning Group meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am, August 6, 2008 at the offices of the San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA). The SJRA is the political subdivision that handles contracts and other administrative matters for Region H. Their address is 105 Damsite Road, Conroe, Texas 77304. You are encouraged to contact Region H to address the concerns you have for the Surfside Beach community. Contact information for Region H is as follows:

- Website address: <http://regionhwater.org/>
- Email address: info@regionhwater.org
- SJRA's fax #: 936-588-3043

Regional water plans are the result of grass roots efforts that depend on public participation in this ongoing water planning process in order to succeed.

Thank you for your interest in water issues and sharing your concerns with us. If you need additional information, please contact the Region H Project Manager Temple McKinnon at (512) 475-2057.

Sincerely,

J. Kevin Ward
Executive Administrator

Our Mission

To provide leadership, planning, financial assistance, information, and education for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas.

P.O. Box 13231 • 1700 N. Congress Avenue • Austin, Texas 78711-3231
Telephone (512) 463-7847 • Fax (512) 475-2053 • 1-800-RELAYTX (for the hearing impaired)
www.twdb.state.tx.us • info@twdb.state.tx.us

TNRIS - Texas Natural Resources Information System • www.tnris.state.tx.us
A Member of the Texas Geographic Information Council (TGIC)



Agenda Item 22

Agency communications.



REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP

Senate Bill 1 - Texas Water Development Board

c/o San Jacinto River Authority

P. O. Box 329, Conroe, Texas 77305

Telephone 936-588-1111 Facsimile 936-588-3043

Agricultural

Robert Bruner
Pudge Wilcox

Counties

John Blount
Judge Mark Evans, Vice Chair
Commissioner Jack Harris

Electric Generating Utilities

Ted Long

Environmental

John R. Bartos

Industries

Glynnia Leiper
Mike Uhl

Municipalities

Jeff Taylor, Chair
Robert Istre

Public

Roosevelt Alexander

River Authorities

John Baker
Danny F. Vance
Reed Eichelberger

Small Businesses

Judge Bob Hebert
John Howard
Steve Tyler

Water Districts

Marvin Marcell
Ron Neighbors, Secretary
Jimmy Schindewolf

Water Utilities

James Morrison
William Teer
C. Harold Wallace

TWDB Liaison

Temple McKinnon

Mr. Yaewon Kang

Research Analyst

Research and Analysis Division

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

LBJ Building, Room 507

Austin, Texas 78774

10/24/2008

On behalf of the Region H Regional Water Planning Group (WPG), I am pleased to provide the State Comptroller's Office with information addressing the successes achieved and challenges facing our region related to water funding.

The Region H WPG has consistently supported the State's water funding initiatives and applauds the steps made during the last legislative session to expand the funding available to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). For the first time, the legislature funded the TWDB Water Infrastructure Fund (WIF) while also continuing the funding of other important and creative funding vehicles such as the TWDB State Participation loan program. These are important and significant strides made in support of water funding in Texas and Region H continues to support these efforts.

Our region has many successes that I would like to point out for your consideration. A cornerstone water project for our region, the Luce Bayou Interbasin Transfer Project, has been approved for a WIF loan in the amount of \$28 million for planning, permitting, and design. This project will ultimately provide 400 million gallons per day of water to users in Harris, Fort Bend, and possibly Montgomery County over the next 60 years and is key to the long-term success of the Region H Regional Water Plan. Furthermore, it is currently anticipated that a State Participation loan will be sought in the future for the construction of this \$250 million project.

The San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA) has recently submitted and has received staff approval for a \$20.5 million WIF loan from the TWDB. This loan will be used to finance the planning, permitting, and preliminary design of water infrastructure required to implement a surface water conversion program in response to groundwater reduction rules established by the local groundwater conservation district in Montgomery County.



REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP

Senate Bill 1 - Texas Water Development Board

c/o San Jacinto River Authority

P. O. Box 329, Conroe, Texas 77305

Telephone 936-588-1111 Facsimile 936-588-3043

The Central Harris County Regional Water Authority (CHCRWA) has been approved for a \$20 million WIF loan from the TWDB. This loan will be used to finance the planning, permitting, and design of water infrastructure required to implement a surface water conversion program to respond to mandated groundwater reduction requirements established by the Harris Galveston Subsidence District.

The North Fort Bend Water Authority (NFBWA) is proposing to apply to the TWDB for a \$145 million Development Fund loan this year. This loan will be used for the permitting, design, and construction of infrastructure to implement a surface water conversion program in Fort Bend County in response to groundwater reduction requirements established by the Fort Bend Subsidence District.

The above projects are just a few good examples of the successes we have had in obtaining needed funding to develop critical water projects for our region. While we are appreciative of these successes, there are still monumental challenges facing our region. The water needs within Region H are largely driven by the need to convert from groundwater to surface water sources to respond to mandated rules established by our local subsidence districts and/or groundwater conservation districts.

It is projected that in excess of \$1 billion will be spent within Region H between now and the year 2020 on water infrastructure required for this conversion to happen. It is expected that many of our municipalities and water agencies within Region H will explore State funding for these projects. With the current state of the private financial markets, it is more critical than ever that creative funding vehicles such as the TWDB WIF and State Participation loans be made available to the various municipalities and water agencies in Region H. Only by making these funding programs available from the TWDB and by ensuring that the programs are adequately funded by the legislature, can we be confident that funding will be available for the critical water development projects we need in Region H.

I want to thank you for this opportunity to provide input to your office on this important matter. If you need anything else from the Region H WPG, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Mark Evans
Region H Vice-Chair
Trinity County Judge

Service Request # 08-00253540

Activity:

Image Type: External file

Details: 1

Vintage Development Group

DEDICATED and COMMITTED to EXCELLENCE

August 21, 2008

To: Mayor Bill White
City Hall
901 Bagby
Houston, Texas 77002
832-393-1000
832-393-1084

Fr: Moniza Walton
Project Manager - Team Houston
Vintage Development Group, LLC
6060 Richmond Avenue
Houston, Texas 77057
832-387-7533
713-354-2005

Re: Water Desalination Project

Hello Mayor, Bill White

We are in the planning stages in the development of a 350 Million GPD Seawater Desalination Plant to be located in Freeport, Texas. We are contacting you regarding the City of Houston's current water supply. We would like to know if the City of Houston would like to discuss the possibility of bringing a pipeline of a new water supply to Houston.

This letter of intent is an expression of Developers interest in developing the project mentioned above. Nothing contained herein will be deemed to create any legally binding obligation on party, such obligations to be created and embodied only in, and subject to, and the execution of any contracts or agreements by both, The City of Houston, Texas and Vintage Development Group, LLC

If the project mentioned above is acceptable to you, please execute a copy of this letter of intent. Upon acceptance and return of this letter of intent, Vintage Development Group will commence preparation of a definitive development plan.

Sincerely,

SUBMITTED BY:

 Date: 8/21/08
Monica Walton
Project Manager
Vintage Development Group, LLC

ACCEPTED BY:

Date: _____
Mayor Bill White
City of Houston



CITY OF HOUSTON
Department of Public Works and Engineering

Bill White

Mayor

Michael S. Marcotte, P.E., DEE
Director
P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251-1562

F. 713 837-0464
www.houstontx.gov

September 2, 2008

Ms. Monica Walton
Project Manager
Vintage Development Group, LLC
6060 Richmond Avenue
Houston, Texas 77057

Subject: Water Desalination Project

Dear Ms. Walton:

This is in response to your letter to Mayor Bill White dated Aug. 21, 2008 regarding the above-referenced subject. The City of Houston currently has adequate water rights to meet the need for the Greater Houston area and the surrounding counties until at least 2050. We are, however, open to other options to secure more water supply sources for the future. Desalination is one of the alternatives that we have evaluated previously. We have determined then that desalination was not the most cost effective way to increase City's water supply. We recognize that the desalination technology has improved and the cost of desalination has come down over time. If you would provide more detailed information regarding the schedule and cost estimate on the subject project, we will be interested in reviewing the feasibility of the project.

Thank you for your inquiry. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jun Chang, P.E.
Senior Assistant Director
713-837-0433
Jun.chang@cityofhouston.net

c: Mayor Bill White
Michael S. Marcotte, P.E., DEE
Andrew F. Icken
Susan Bandy
Jeff Taylor

