

REGION H
Water Planning Group

**2026 Region H Initially Prepared
Regional Water Plan
Public Hearing Materials**

May 2025

Hearing Notice, Agenda, and General References

PUBLIC NOTICE

To All Interested Parties:

The Region H Water Planning Group area includes all or part of the following counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, Walker, and Waller.

Notice is hereby given that the Region H Water Planning Group (RHWPG) is requesting public review and comment on an Initially Prepared 2026 Region H Water Plan (the IPP).

A summary of the content of the Draft Initially Prepared Plan: The *Initially Prepared Plan (IPP)* updates the 2021 Region H Water Plan that was included in the 2022 State Water Plan prepared by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). The 2026 IPP addresses the following topics:

- Projected population and water demands
- Existing water supply sources
- Analysis of needs
- Recommended water management strategies for meeting any identified water shortages
- Water conservation recommendations
- Impacts of the Regional Water Plan
- Drought response
- Regulatory, Administrative and Legislative Recommendations
- Comparison to previous regional planning

Public Comment: Public hearings to receive public comment on the IPP will be held at the following dates and locations:

May 8, 6:00 p.m.

Houston-Galveston Area Council
Conference Rooms A,B,C
3555 Timmons Lane
Houston, Texas 77027

May 13, 6:00 p.m.

San Jacinto River Authority Boardroom
1577 Dam Site Road
Conroe, Texas 77304

May 15, 6:00 p.m.

City of Madisonville, Texas - Truman Kimbro Center
111 West Trinity Street
Madisonville, Texas 77864

The Agenda for each public hearing will consist of (1) brief introductions on behalf of the RHWPG, (2) a summary of the planning effort and the IPP given by the consulting team, and (3) individual comments of members of the public.

The RHWPG will accept written comments upon posting of this notice until 5:00 p.m. CST July 18, 2025. Written comments should be provided to:

Mark Evans, Chair, RHWPG
c/o San Jacinto River Authority
P.O. Box 329
Conroe, Texas 77305-0329

Written comments without attachments also may be emailed to info@regionhwater.org.

Questions or requests for additional information may be submitted to: Aubrey Spear, General Manager, San Jacinto River Authority, P.O. Box 329, Conroe, TX 77305-0329, telephone 936-588-3111. The San Jacinto River Authority is the Administrator for the RHWPG.

A copy of the Initially Prepared Plan for 2026 is available at the County Clerk's office and at a depository library in each county in Region H. A list of depositories and a copy of the IPP are available on the RHWPG website at www.regionhwater.org. A copy of the IPP also is at <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/plans/2026/index.asp>.

Common Region H Terms and Conversion Factors

List of Abbreviations

CRU	Collective Reporting Unit
DCP	Drought Contingency Plan
DFC	Desired Future Condition
DOR	Drought of Record
EA	Executive Administrator
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FWSD	Fresh Water Supply District
GAM	Groundwater Availability Model
GCD	Groundwater Conservation District
GMA	Groundwater Management Area
GPCD	Gallons Per Capita Per Day
GRP	Groundwater Reduction Plan
IFR	Infrastructure Finance Report
IPP	Initially Prepared Plan
MAG	Modeled Available Groundwater
MPC	Master Planned Community
MUD	Municipal Utility District
MWP	Major Water Provider
PDSI	Palmer Drought Severity Index
PWS	Public Water Supply
RFPG	Regional Flood Planning Group
RHWPG	Region H Water Planning Group
ROR	Run-of-River
RWP	Regional Water Plan
RWPA	Regional Water Planning Area
RWPG	Regional Water Planning Group
SWIFT	State Water Implementation Fund for Texas
SWP	State Water Plan
TAC	Texas Administrative Code
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
TPWD	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
TWC	Texas Water Code
TWDB	Texas Water Development Board
UCM	Unified Costing Model
URS	Unique Reservoir Site
USS	Unique Stream Segment
WAM	Water Availability Model
WCID	Water Control and Improvement District
WCP	Water Conservation Plan
WMS	Water Management Strategy
WRAP	Water Rights Analysis Package
WUD	Water Utility Database
WUG	Water User Group
WWP	Wholesale Water Provider

Water Measurements

1 acre-foot (AF) = 43,560 cubic feet = 325,851 gallons

1 acre-foot per year (ac-ft/yr) = 325,851 gallons per year = 893 gallons per day

1 gallon per minute (gpm) = 1,440 gallons per day = 1.6 ac-ft/yr

1 million gallons per day (mgd) = 1,000,000 gallons per day = 1,120 ac-ft/yr

Presentation Slides

REGION H

Water Planning Group



2026 REGION H INITIALLY PREPARED REGIONAL WATER PLAN

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 08 May 2025
- 13 May 2025
- 15 May 2025

Freeze and Nichols, Inc. | INTERA Inc.

Water Planning in Texas



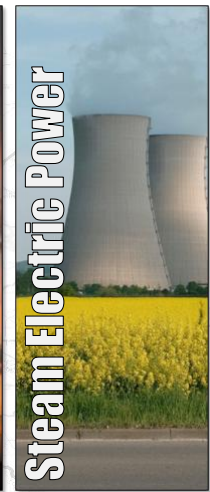
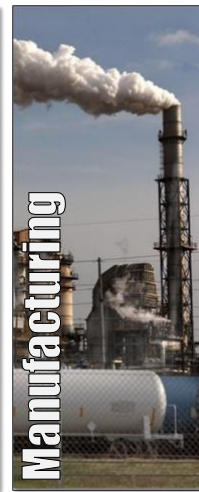
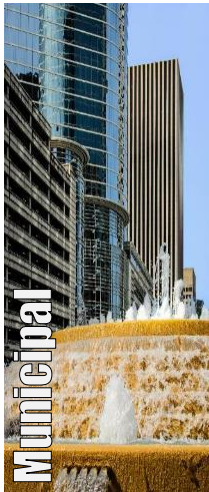
Regional Water Plans

- 16 regions based on natural and political boundaries
- Volunteer planning groups of diverse interests
- 50-year horizon, 10-year intervals
- Five-year cycle
- Compiled into State Water Plan



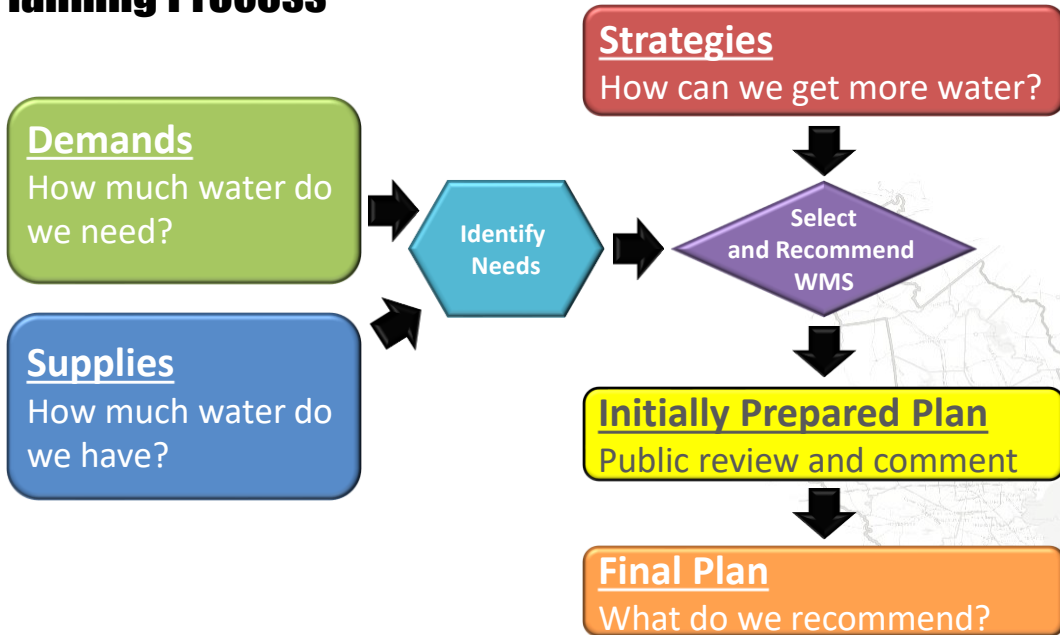
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The Planning Process

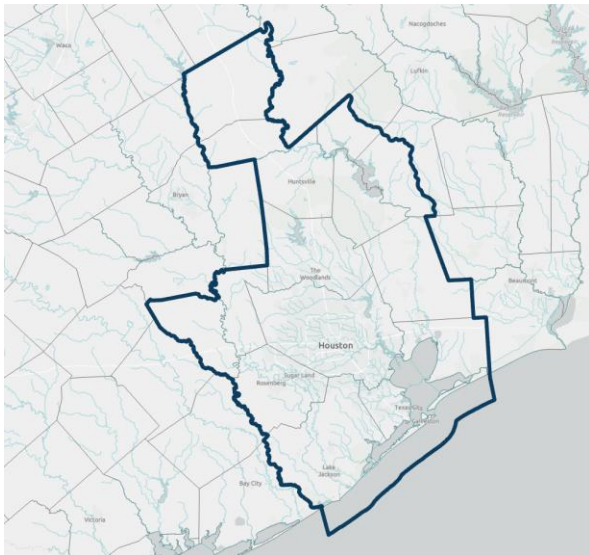


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The Planning Process



About Region H



Extends over 15 counties



Two major and four minor aquifers

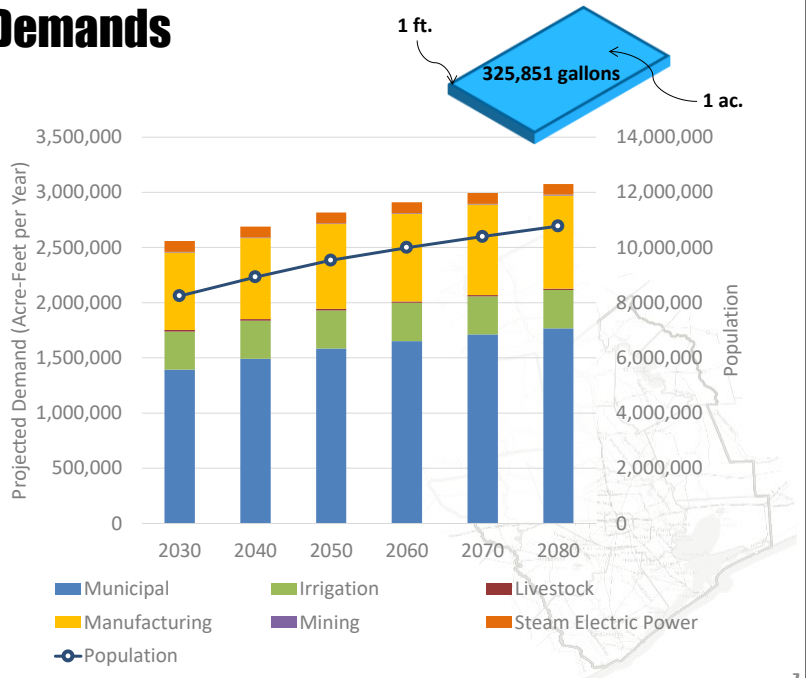
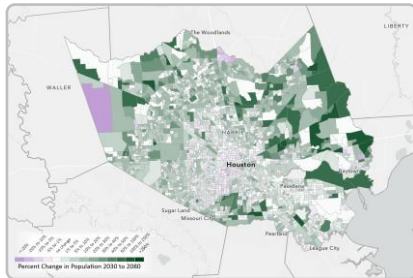
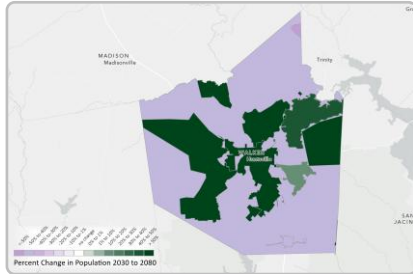


Three river basins and three major reservoirs



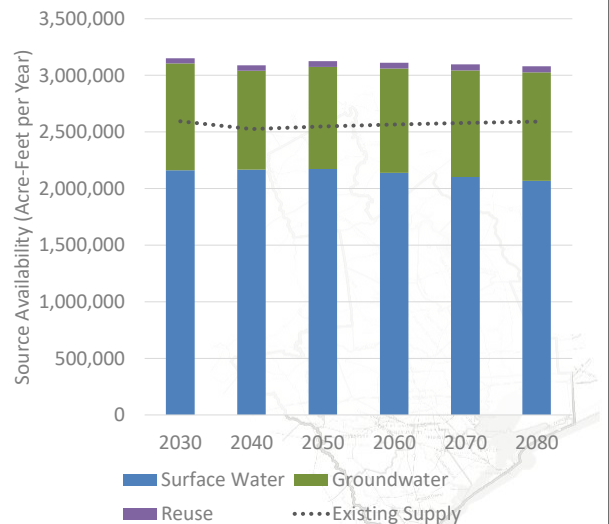
26 volunteer Planning Group members

Population and Water Demands

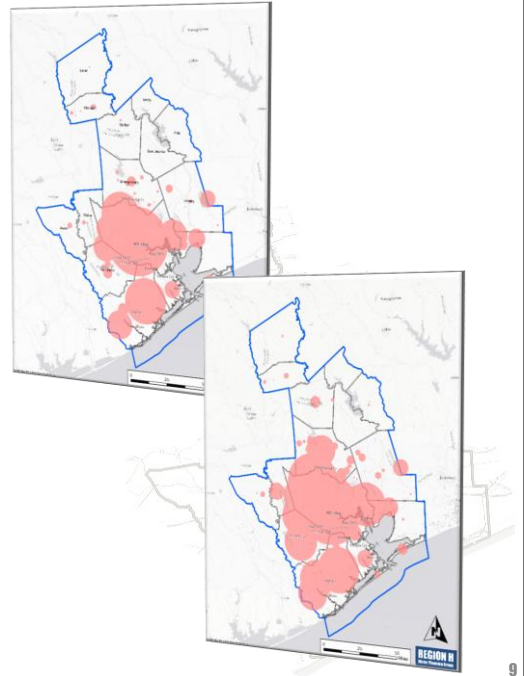
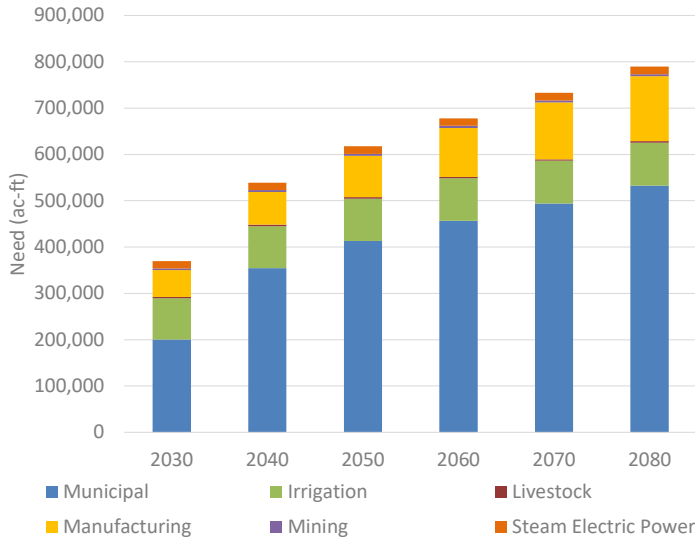


Available Supplies

- Surface Water
 - Drought-of-record
 - TCEQ Water Availability Model
- Groundwater
 - Groundwater Management Area Process
 - GMAs 11, 12, and 14
- Reuse

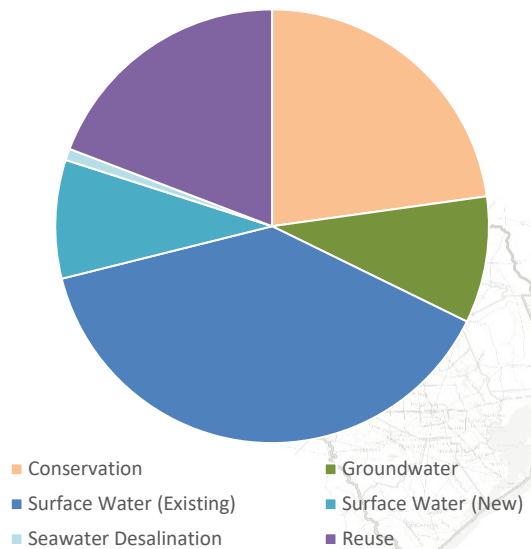


Projected Needs (Shortages)



Water Management Strategies and Projects

- 60 Water Management Strategies
 - Missouri City GRP
 - New/Expanded Contract with BRA
- 885 Projects
 - Allens Creek Reservoir
 - Northeast WPP Expansion



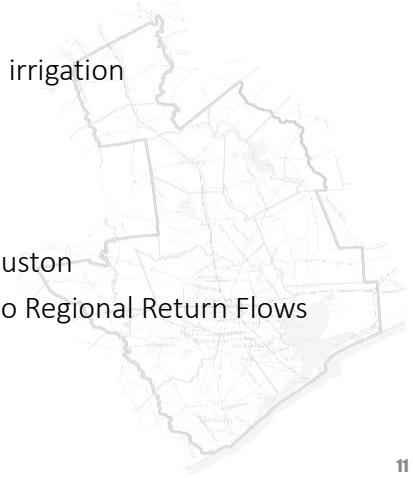
Key Projects

Conservation

- Municipal
 - Baseline
 - Advanced
 - Water Loss Reduction
- Irrigation
 - Rice
- Industrial
 - Facility processes and practices

Reuse

- Direct
 - Municipal irrigation
 - Industry
- Indirect
 - City of Houston
 - San Jacinto Regional Return Flows



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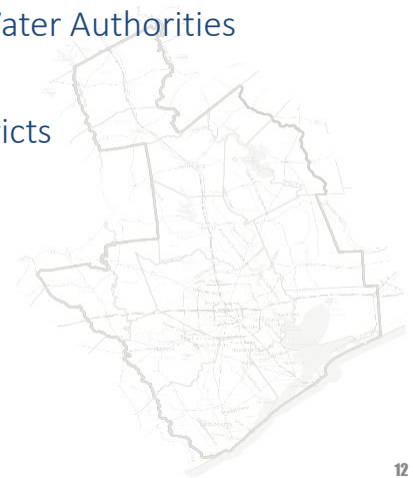
Key Projects

Groundwater Development

- Brackish Groundwater Development
- Expanded Use of Groundwater
- Other groundwater projects

Groundwater Reduction Plans

- Regional Water Authorities
- Cities
- Utility Districts



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Key Projects

Conveyance

- GRP transmission and distribution
- Other major water authorities
- Interbasin transfers
 - East Texas
 - LNVA

Treatment

- Brazosport Water Authority
- City of Baytown
- City of Houston
- City of Pearland
- Gulf Coast Water Authority
- Other smaller projects



Key Projects

Surface Water

- Reservoir
 - Allens Creek
 - Harris Reservoir
- Desalination
 - GCWA Coastal Desalination

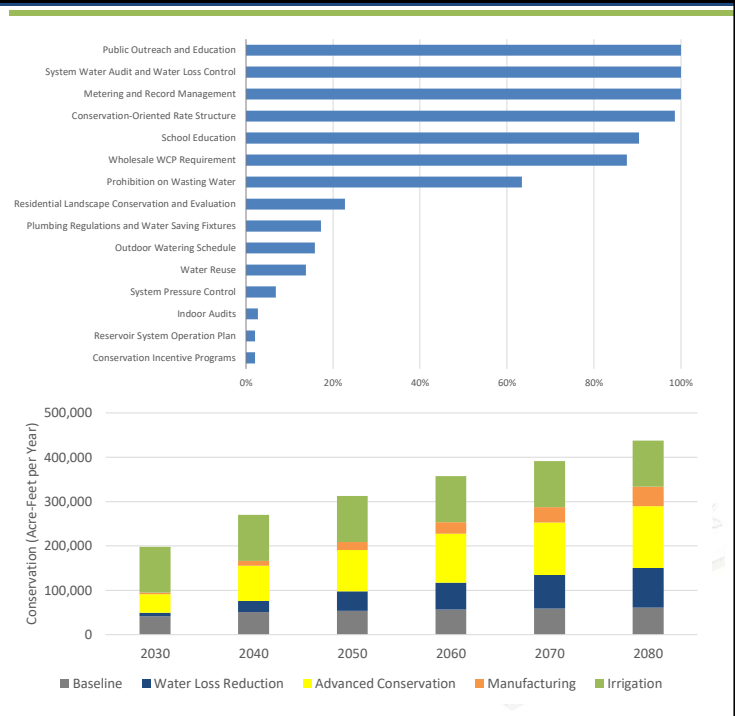
Other

- Canal lining and loss mitigation
- Pump station expansion
- Pump station relocation
- Saltwater barriers



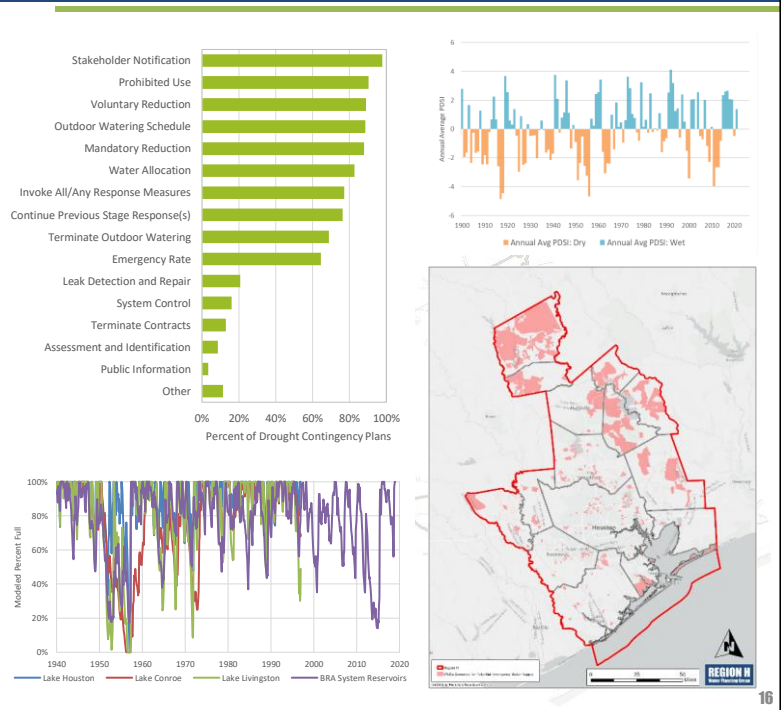
Water Conservation

- Current planning
- Critical role
- Recommendations
- Resources



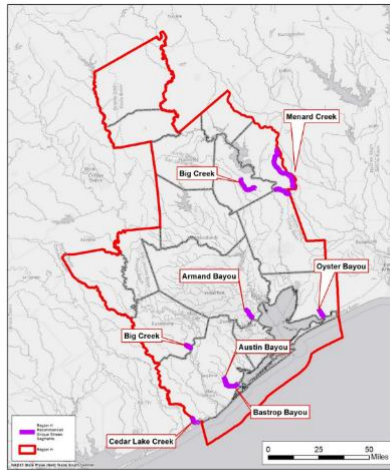
Drought Response

- Drought of Record
- Drought Preparations
- Emergency Responses
- Drought Recommendations

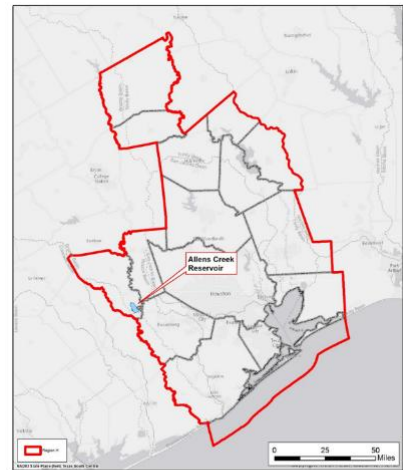


Recommendations

- Unique Stream Segments
- Unique Reservoir Sites
- Other
 - Administrative
 - Legislative
 - Funding



Recommended Unique Stream Segments

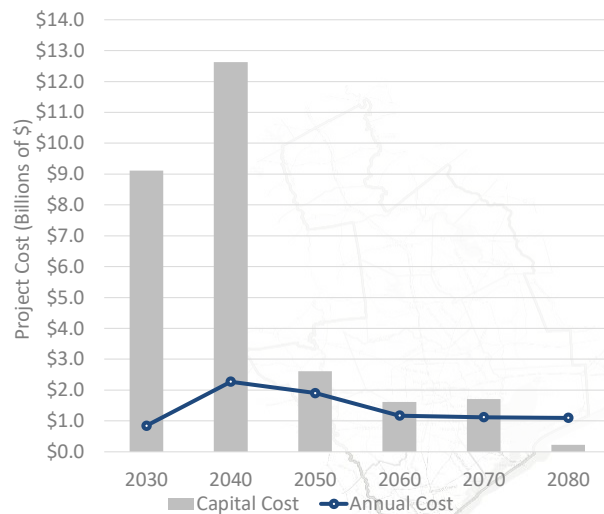


Recommended Unique Reservoir Sites



Project Finance

- ≈ \$27.9 billion capital cost
- TWDB Infrastructure Finance Survey following IPP
- RWP criterion for some project financing mechanisms



IPP Public Process

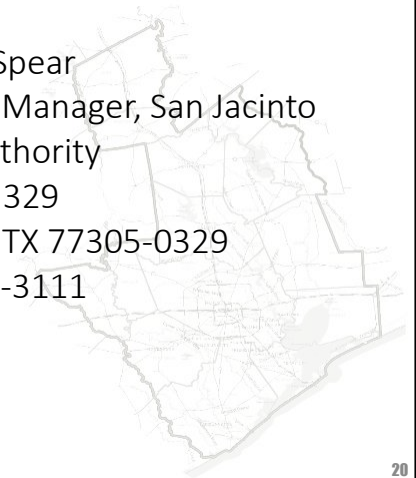
- Initially Prepared Plan Available
 - www.regionhwater.org
 - www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/plans/2026/index.asp
 - Office of the County Clerk in each county
 - Depository library in each county
- Public Hearing process
- Deadline for Public Comments
 - 5:00 PM on July 18, 2025



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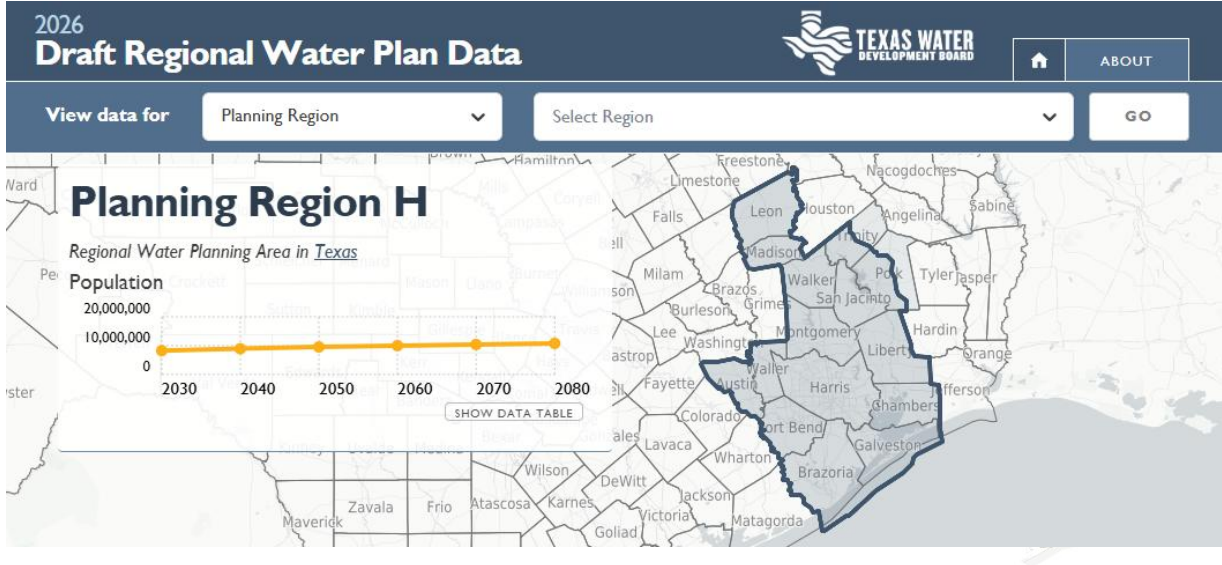
IPP Public Process

- To Submit Comments
 - Hon. Mark Evans
Chair, Region H Water Planning Group
c/o San Jacinto River Authority
P.O. Box 329
Conroe, TX 77305-0329
 - info@regionhwater.org
- Questions and Info Request
 - Aubrey Spear
General Manager, San Jacinto River Authority
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936-588-3111



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DRAFT Interactive Plan Site



REGION H Water Planning Group

