

SUTTON COUNTY

**Underground Water
Conservation District**

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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Purpose and Scope:

This Annual Report on the Sutton County Underground Water Conservation District's (District or SCUWCD) is on achieving its management goals and objectives for the year 2020. It is presented to the Board of Directors of the District (the Board) in accordance with the District's Management Plan (Methodology for Tracking Progress, pg. 18) Texas Water Code, Chapter 36.1071. The original Management Plan for the District was adopted in 2004. It has been amended and readopted, every five years, November 13, 2019 is the latest revision.

The Sutton County Underground Water Conservation District (the District) was created by the 69th Texas Legislature (1985) under the authority of Section 59, Article XVI, of the Texas Constitution, and in accordance with Chapter 51 and 52 of the Texas Water Code. Note, in 1995, by Acts of the 74th Legislature, Chapter 52 of the Texas Water Code was repealed and replaced with Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code effective September 1, 1995. The District, a local government agency, provides for the conservation, preservation, protection, recharge and prevention of waste of the underground water reservoir, Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer, located under the District; by consistently adhering to Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code (TWC). The District conducts administrative and technical activities and programs to achieve these purposes by collecting, archiving and analyzing water well and aquifer data. It regulates water well drilling and production of permitted, non-exempt wells, promoting the capping or plugging of abandoned wells. The District also provides information and educational material to local property owners, interacting with other governmental or organizational entities, and undertaking other groundwater-related activities that may help meet the purposes of the District. The District also strives to maintain groundwater ownership and rights of the landowners as provided in the TWC §36.002.

District Board Meetings for Year 2020

January 14, 2020	Board Meeting / Quarterly Reports
February 11, 2020	Board Meeting / Review of Financial Audit
March 10, 2020	Board Meeting
April 14, 2020	No meeting due to COVID
May 12, 2020	No meeting due to COVID
June 17, 2020	Board Meeting / Quarterly Reports
July 14, 2020	No meeting due to COVID
August 11, 2020	Budget Meeting / Quarterly Reports
September 8, 2020	Board Meeting / Public Hearing on Budget / Public Hearing on Tax Rate
October 13, 2020	Board Meeting / Quarterly Reports / New phone system
October 21, 2020	Specially Called Meeting / Hired Sophia Galindo
November 10, 2020	No meeting due to COVID
December 8, 2020	Board Meeting

*Due to COVID-19, the Board of Directors moved to a virtual platform, in accordance with Governor Abbot's declaration of the COVID-19 public health threat and action to temporarily suspend certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act. All virtual meetings were held using GoToMeetings.com

Requirements of District Management Plan:

Goal 1.0 – Provide for the Efficient Use of Groundwater (36.1071(a)(1))

The District, through programs and its rules, strives to ensure the most efficient use of groundwater in order to sustain available resources for the future while maintaining the economic growth and respecting private property rights of the District.

Management Objective 1.1

The District will require that all wells be registered in accordance with its current rules.

Grid	Owner Name	Well Address	Use	Latitude	Longitude	Drill Date	Depth (ft.)	Drilling Company
55-45-2	Ernie Blackmon	N.W. New well, Sonora, 76950	Wild Life	30.3500000	-100.4255560	12/3/2020	380	Abel Water Systems
55-45-2	J & N Ranch Holdings	SCR 320 Nineteen miles from Sonora, Sonora,	Wild Life	30.3610690	-100.4406000	12/7/2020	405	Abel Water Systems
55-20-7	Don Plummer	6.27 miles N of Sonora, Sonora	Domestic	30.6556060	-100.6188780	11/10/2020	400	Woehl Drilling & Service
55-31-1	Samuel Cardenas & Juan Muniz	From Sonora go down 864 turn down 2596 go 3 miles to green gate on right.	Domestic	30.6241640	-100.2365780	9/30/2020	390	Allison Well Service
55-34-7	KATHY MCBEAL	3.67 MILES EAST OF, SUTTON COUNTY	Domestic	30.3997220	-100.8738890	7/20/2020	440	LANGE DRILLING CO
55-28-5	RANDY KNIGHT	Ranch Road 864, SUTTON COUNTY, 76841	Stock	30.5761110	-100.5725000	7/7/2020	360	LANGE DRILLING CO
55-46-3	Greg Gentry	1349 PR 3394, Sonora, 76950	Domestic	30.3557500	-100.2593330	8/18/2020	320	Hill Country Well Service
55-33-8	JOE FRIEND	1.3 MILES WEST OF cr 410, SUTTON COUNTY	Stock	30.4044440	-100.9577780	6/23/2020	220	LANGE DRILLING CO
55-35-3	GARRETT WRIGHT	EAST HWY 277, SUTTON COUNTY	Stock	30.4938890	-100.6275000	5/25/2020	360	LANGE DRILLING CO

55-33-7	CLAYTON FRIEND	OFF CR 411, SUTTON COUNTY	Stock	30.4102780	-100.9588890	5/19/2020	320	LANGE DRILLING CO
55-47-1	Sally Hurd	3479 Private Rd 3397, Sonora, 76950	Domestic	30.3647220	-100.2385560	6/12/2020	260	Hill Country Well Service
55-19-6	Ismael Avila	CR 2202, Sonora, 76950	Domestic	30.6680280	-100.6339170	5/11/2020	385	Abel Water Systems
55-31-9	Edward Carmichael	Mansfield Subdivision on River Road 1 1/2 miles from gate 2502 on the left	Domestic	30.5195940	-100.1414320	6/11/2020	285	Allison Well Service
55-29-8	Tom & Laura Hudgins	7318 RR 3130, Junction, Texas, 76846	Domestic	30.5350000	-100.4449900	4/24/2020	380	Allison Well Service
55-20-4	Steve Tuzzio	10 mi S, Eldorado, 76936	Stock	30.6944440	-100.6097220	3/3/2020	320	Lange Drilling
55-20-4	Edgar Perdomo	Oak Hollow Ranch 8 Miles N. Of Sonora,	Domestic	30.6669430	-100.6001130	4/21/2020	365	Abel Water Systems
55-20-8	Melissa Sanchez	1461 PR 2227, Sonora, 76950	Stock	30.6478610	-100.5766110	5/6/2020	350	Abel Water Systems

Plugged Well Reports:

Grid	Owner Name	Location	Use	Latitude	Longitude	Drill Date	Depth	Drilling Company	Plugging Report
55-31-6	BILLY SAWYER	7.87 MILES NORTH OF IH-10, SUTOTN COUNTY	Stock	30.5744440	-100.1569440	6/13/2020	400	LANGE DRILLING CO	201095

Goal 2.0 - Control and Prevent Waste of Groundwater (36.1071(a)(2))

An important goal of the District is to implement strategies that will control and prevent the waste of groundwater. The District believes education to its citizens is the best way to prevent waste of groundwater in the District.

Management Objective 2.1

The District will annually provide at least one printed publication, and one public speaking event to provide educational leadership on eliminating and reducing wasteful practices in the use of groundwater.

Due to COVID-19, no public speaking events took place in 2020 to provide educational leadership on eliminating and reducing wasteful practices in the use of groundwater. The District did provide rainfall measurements weekly to the Devil's River News for publication and distributed brochures with educational material during 2020. The District hopes to get back to public events for 2021. These brochures are available on our website, and in our office. The District also provided maps of Groundwater Conservation Districts, and major and minor aquifers in Texas to our County Judge for display in the County Annex Building.

Management Objective 2.2

The District will minimize the potential contamination of groundwater by monitoring the spacing and completion of wells.

All wells drilled in 2020 were in accordance with the spacing and completion rules of the Sutton County UWCD.

Goal 3.0 - Natural Resource Issues (36.1071(a)(5))

The District understands that the groundwater is a natural resource that must be maintained and researched. The District is committed to continuously learn more about our Edwards-Trinity Aquifer.

Management Objective 3.1

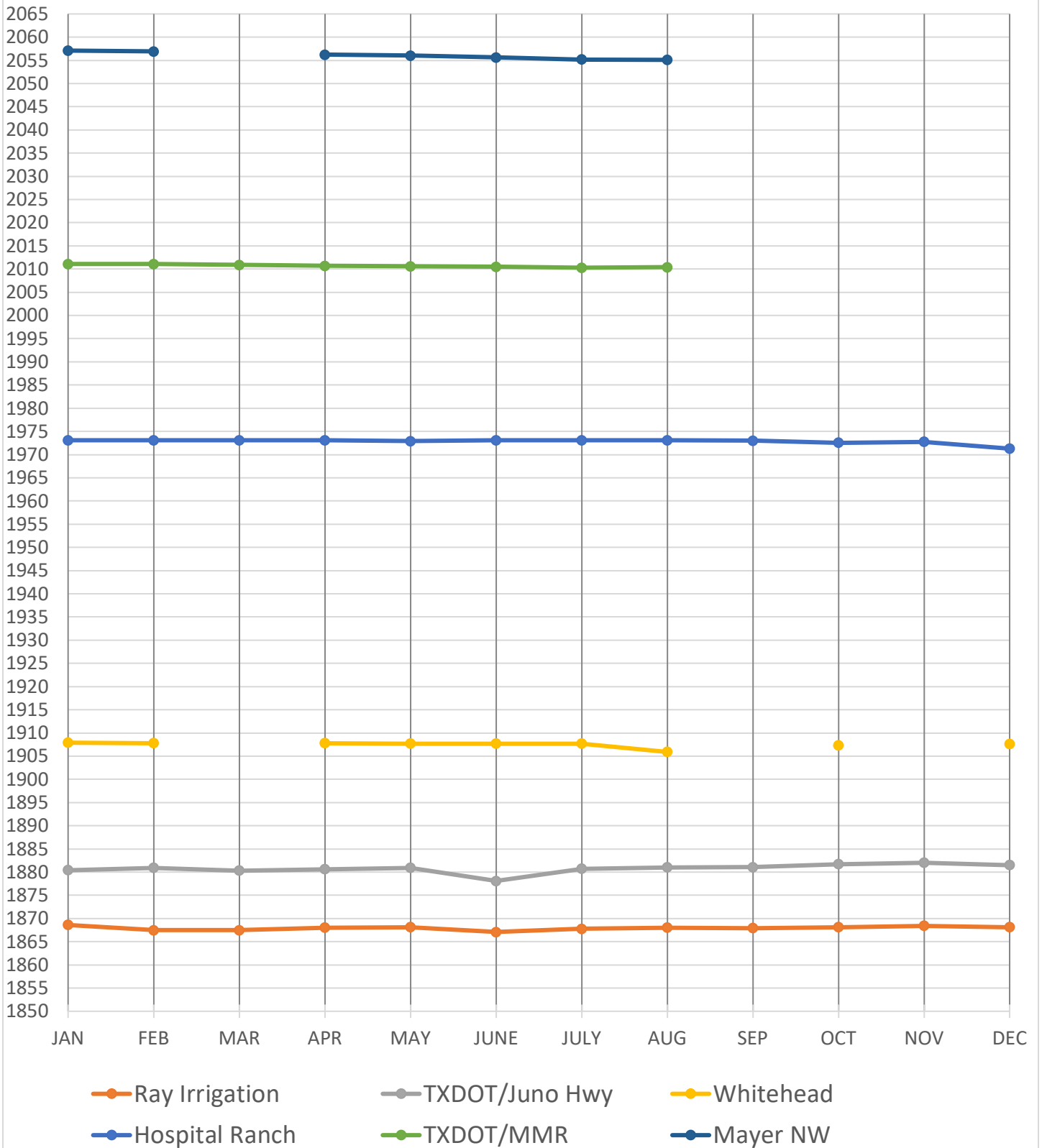
The District will measure monthly wells within the water level monitoring network through steel tape, and electronic sensors.

OWNER	WELL #	Elev.	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Archer	55-29-810	2332.0	268	269.2	-	270.2	271.4	273.4	273.1	273.8	-	269.8	271.2	276.4
Co. Cemetery	55-27-615	2143.7	156.3	157.1	-	159.3	160.5	162.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Teaff	55-27-616	2253.4	246.8	247.5	248.5	249.3	249.5	249.6	254.4	-	253.84	251.4	251.4	251.7
Crites	55-27-622	2133.4	150.2	151.2	-	153.1	157.2	155.5	156.9	157.7	-	155	154.7	155.5
Ray Irrigation	55-42-502	2087.6	219	220.1	220.1	219.6	219.5	220.5	219.8	219.6	219.69	219.5	219.2	219.5
Huddleston	55-35-210	2059.2	-	142.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	155.2	-	150.0
TXDOT/Juno Hwy	55-43-205	2083.0	202.6	202.1	202.7	202.4	202.1	204.9	202.3	202	201.94	201.3	201.0	201.5
Whitehead	55-25-902	2040.6	132.7	132.8	-	132.8	132.9	132.9	132.9	134.7	-	133.3	-	133.0
Hospital Ranch	55-25-406	2213.6	240.5	240.5	240.5	240.5	240.7	240.5	240.5	240.5	240.61	241.1	240.9	242.3
Brockman	55-45-305	2265.2	261.7	268.7	269.3	269.5	260.2	260.9	261.9	262.1	261.09	268.8	260.6	261.3
Ross House	55-38-402	2207.2	184.4	185.6	-	184.9	185.8	186.4	187.3	187.3	-	184.9	-	-
Robert Pfluger	55-37-705	2288.6	311.1	309.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glen Fisher	55-28-302	2365.0	277.3	277.5	278.4	278.5	278.5	278.9	278.9	279.2	279.13	279.8	280.1	279.8
Bill Stewart	55-20-904	2367.3	218	218.3	-	218.4	218.5	218.8	215.6	218.9	218.7	218.6	218.6	219.0
Dick Street	55-22-901	2456.3	265.4	266	-	265.5	265.5	266.2	265.7	265.6	-	265.0	266.5	273.7
Bill Tittle	55-19-903	2205.6	194.7	195.3	-	197.1	197.8	198.4	199.2	-	-	-	-	-
Jones, Claire	55-27-909	2099.6	134.4	135	135.1	136.2	137.1	138.5	139.9	140.2	136.54	136.8	136.2	-
TXDOT/MMR	55-18-715	2158.7	147.6	147.6	147.8	148	148.1	148.2	148.4	148.3	-	147.9	-	-
Mayer NW	55-17-504	2233.6	176.5	176.7	-	177.4	177.6	178	178.4	178.5	-	-	-	-
Hardgrave	55-30-604	2371.0	146.9	147.4	-	148	148.3	148.8	148.9	149.1	-	149.8	154.6	155.0
Condra	55-29-607	2300.7	190.9	191.5	191.8	193.3	194.1	194.9	195.4	196	185.23	193.4	195.1	-
Ross	55-38-405	2323.0	262.3	263	263.1	263	263.4	263.5	264.2	264.7	261.61	263.0	263.1	263.9
TXDOT/427	55-39-406	2191.6	157.9	155.9	156.3	155.8	155.8	156.1	156.8	156.8	157.23	157.4	-	-
Hightmount	55-27-223	2328.5	330.2	330.7	330.5	331.1	331.1	331.1	331.2	311.1	311.3	311.2	311.3	311.7
Fisher-Fawcett	55-26-905	2170.8	262.5	262.9	263.5	276.8	276.7	278.8	277	276	276.1	275.9	275.9	275.9
City Well #3	55-27-603	2260.0	267	267.5	267.7	288.8	288.7	288.5	289	289.7	288.9	285.5	285.8	286.6
SUTUWCD DCW	55-27-322	2146.0	151.6	152.3	153.4	154.7	155.9	157.3	158.9	159.8	158.7	156.1	156.7	157.2
Nolan Ryan	55-39-505	2148.0	-	-	-	161.5	-	179.1	-	183.4	-	182.7	177.1	177.9

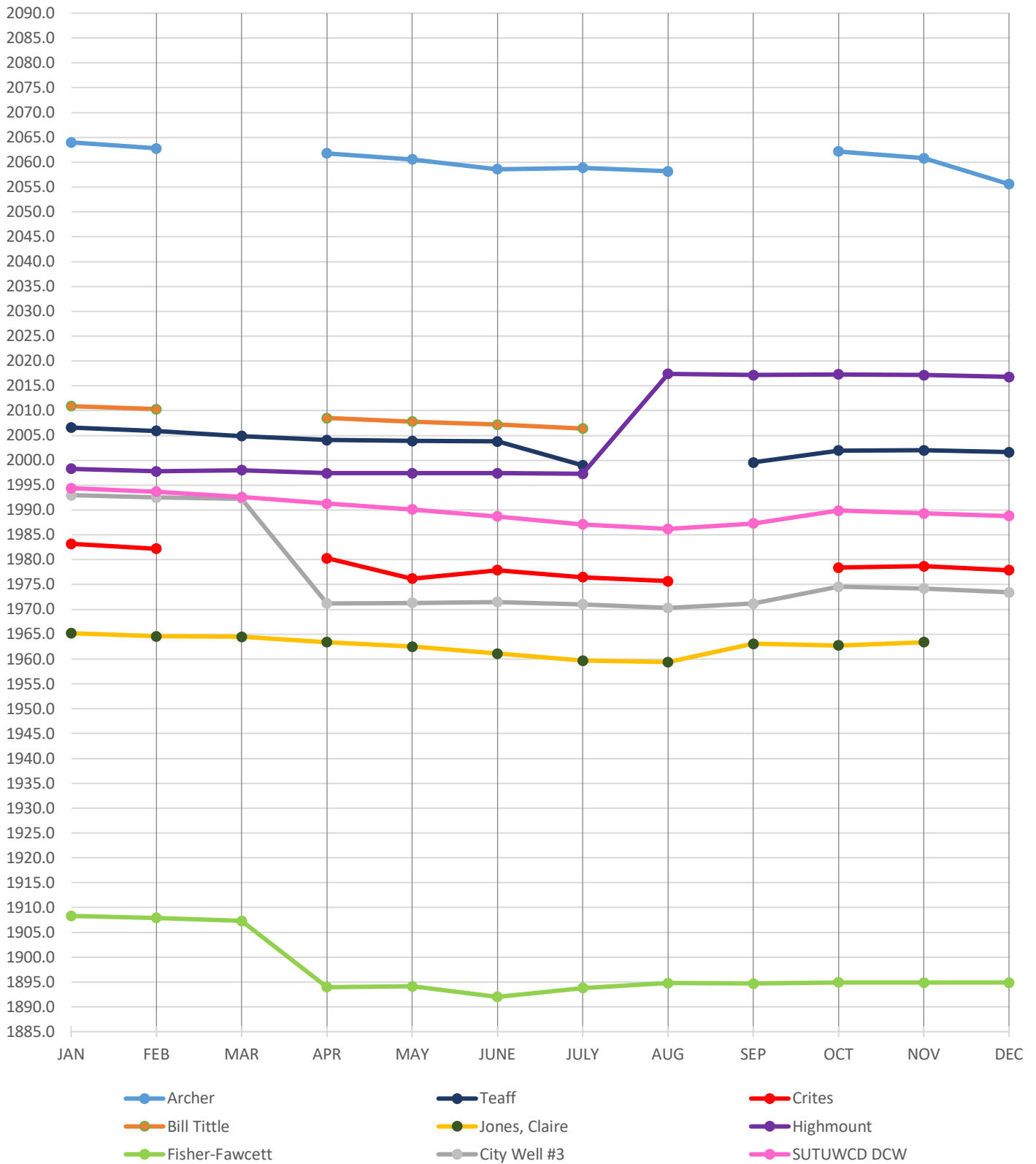
*measurements in feet below ground level

**Certain weather and well conditions inhibit the District's ability to collect data and therefore are blank

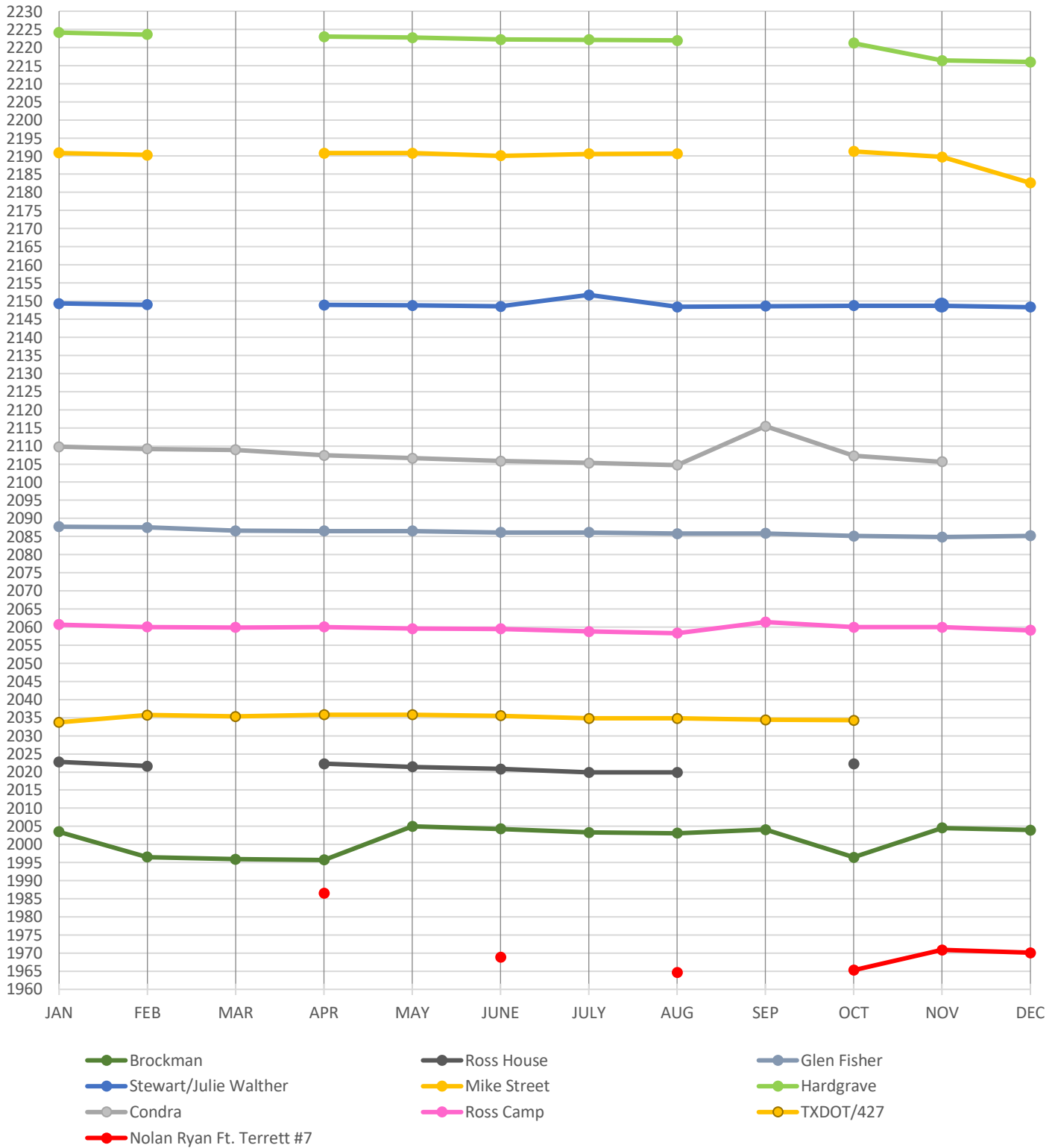
Western Section of Sutton County Water Level Monitoring Wells 2020



Central Section of Sutton County Water Level Monitoring Wells 2020



Eastern Section of Sutton County Water Level Monitoring Wells 2020



**Due to weather and/or measurement error, certain wells were not measured every month. For more details check in District files for specific well dates that are not filled.

Goal 4.0 – Addressing Drought Conditions (36.1071(a)(6))

Groundwater in the District is very affected by drought, and therefore one of the District’s main concerns. The Texas Water Development Board provides a very useful website for information on drought called “Water Data for Texas”, which can be found here: waterdatafortexas.org/drought.

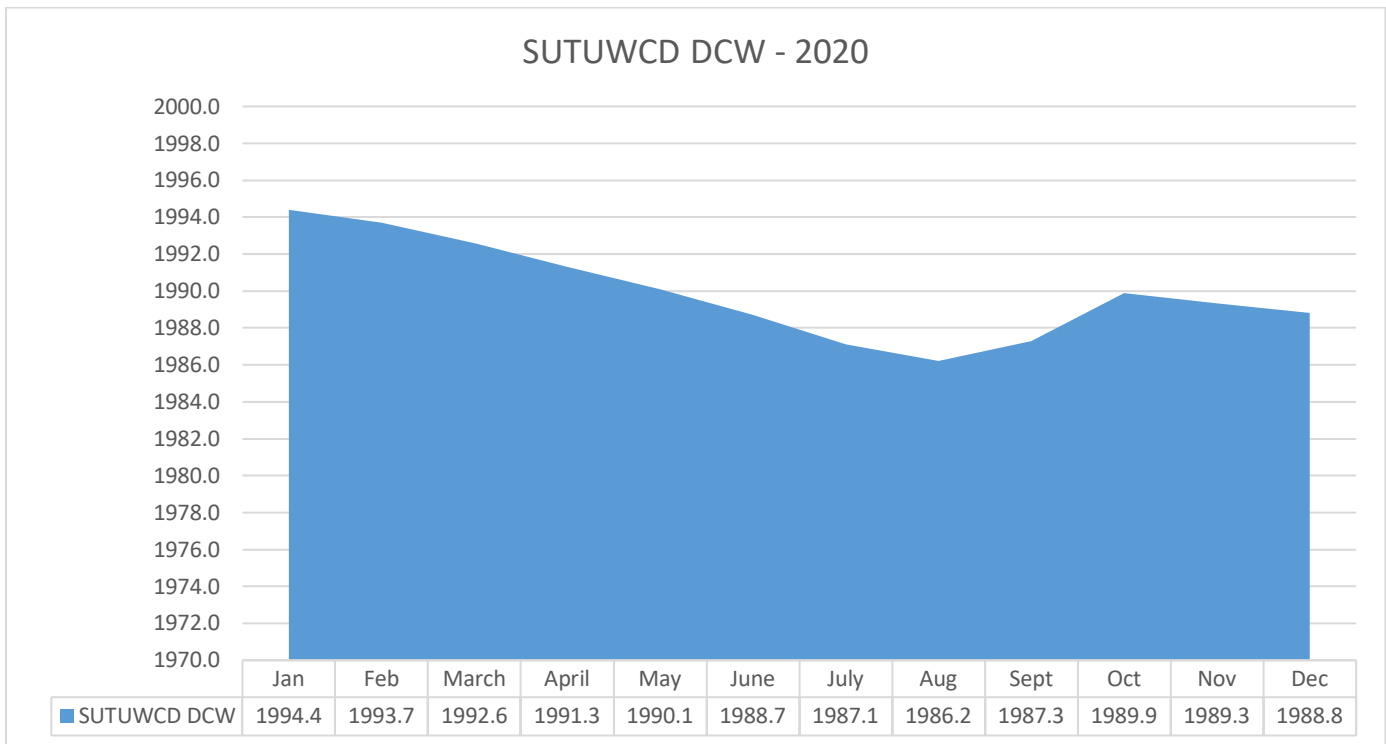
Management Objective 4.1

The District has an approved Drought Contingency Plan compliant with TCEQ standards, it also has a drought index well with trigger levels referenced in the plan.

The approved Drought Contingency Plan is accessible to the public through the District’s website and in the District’s office.

Management Objective 4.2

The District will measure its drought index well at least quarterly to monitor drought conditions in Sutton County



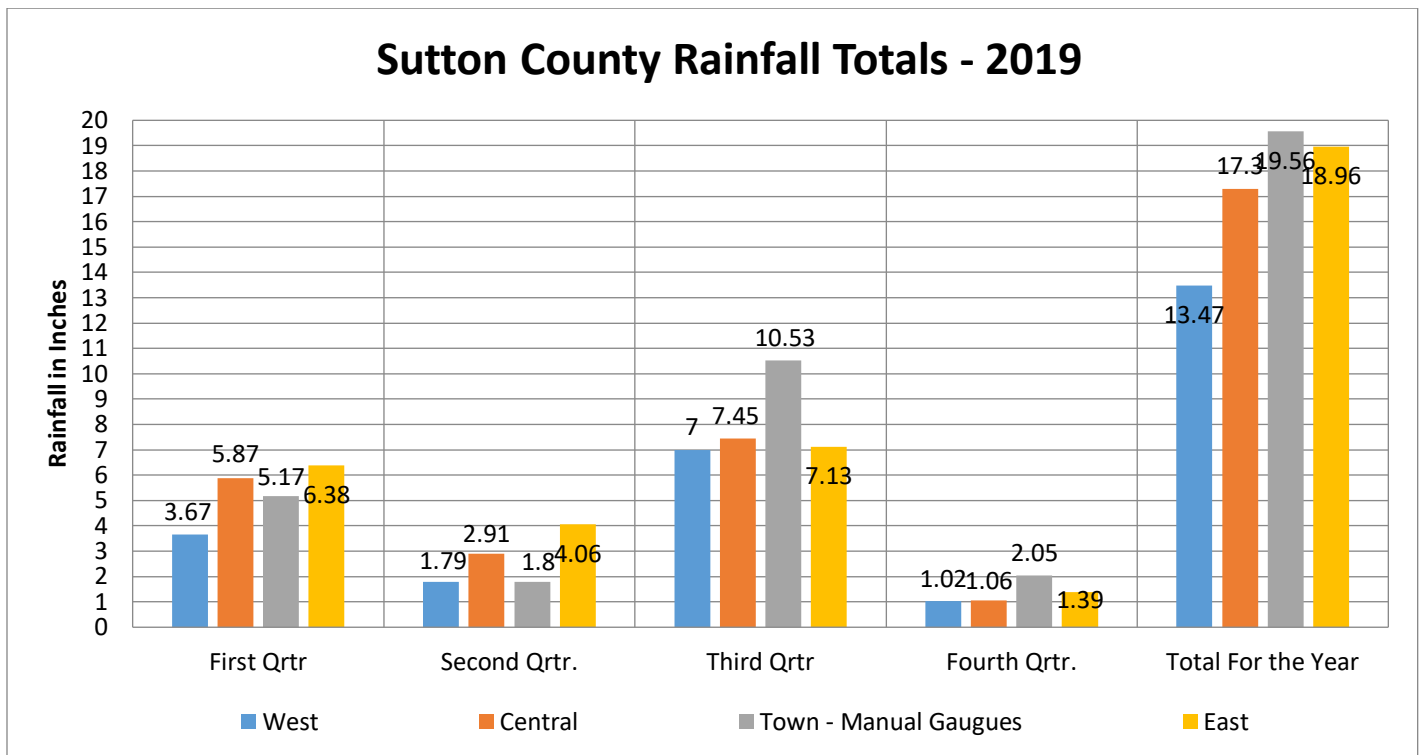
This graph illustrates the water levels, over time, in the aquifer at the Drought Index Well decreased 5.6 feet during 2020. This is more than likely due to the flood that Sutton County experienced on September 21, 2018. Citizens in Sutton County, especially in the northern section of the County, reported rainfall totals up to 10 inches in 4 hours that Friday. Rainfall continued more frequently but in less quantities for the rest of the year. The average water level in 2018 was 1986.7 ft above sea level, the average water level in 2019 was 2000.0 feet above sea level (demonstrating the spike from the flood) and the 2020 average water level was 1990.0. Water levels show to be an average of 3.3 feet higher than pre-flood levels.

GOAL 5.0 - Addressing Conservation and Precipitation Enhancement (36.1071(A)(7))

The District will continue to be a source for available informational materials and programs to improve public awareness of efficient use, wasteful practices and conservation measures including the water conservation best management practices guide presented by the Water Conservation Advisory Council: <http://www.savetexaswater.org/bmp/>.

Management Objective 5.1

The District will maintain a district-wide rainfall event network using voluntary monitors and automatic digital rainfall collectors to help evaluate recharge.



The District reports the monthly rainfall results on each rain gauge, then graphs this information quarterly, as shown in the figure above. This data includes the manual rain gauges collected each rain event around the City of Sonora, and automatic rain gauges, which are measured the third week of the month.

Management Objective 5.2

The District will continue to participate in the West Texas Weather Modification Association.

The District participated in the West Texas Weather Modification Association throughout 2020. The WTWMA annual report is available on their website and in the District office.

Management Objective 5.3

Promote public awareness of the need for water conservation. Present a minimum of one public water conservation show, demonstration, event, or educational talk each year.

DATE:	TITLE	PUBLICATION:
March 5, 2020	SEDC and SUTUWCD Work Together to Prevent Aquifer Contamination	Devils River News

Goal 6.0 – Addressing the Desired Future Conditions Established Under §36.108

(36.1071(a)(8))

The District covers part of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer and is within Groundwater Management Area (GMA) 7. The Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer is the largest aquifer not subdivided into multiple GMAs.

Total net drawdown for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau)/ Pecos Valley Alluvium Aquifers are not to exceed an average of eight (8) feet in 2070, as compared with 2010 aquifer levels. Specifically, for Sutton County, drawdown is not to exceed an average of six (6) feet.

Management Objective 6.1

The District has an ongoing program using its drought contingency well and monitoring network of water wells to assess groundwater resources; then analyzing changes in the potentiometric surface of the aquifer.

There were no triggers or changes that warranted actions to restrict water usage in Year 2020. The graph found in Goal 4.2 illustrates the water levels, over time, in the aquifer at the Drought Index Well decreased 5.6 feet during 2020. This is more than likely due to the flood that Sutton County experienced on September 21, 2018. The Drought Index Well showed an increase of 20.2 feet in 2018. Therefore, a drop in water level of 12.8 feet over 2 years is not a concern and keeps the Drought Index Well above the drought triggers by 3+ feet.

Groundwater Management Area 7:

Groundwater Management Area 7: Meetings

DATE:	LOCATION:	PURPOSE:
January 16, 2020	San Angelo, Texas	Joint Planning – Non-Relevant Aquifers
July 16, 2020	Virtual	Joint Planning – Management Plan Reviews
September 16, 2020	Sonora, Texas	Joint Planning – Capitan Reef and Rustler Aquifers

Groundwater Management Area 7: Desired Future Conditions (DFC)

The District shall participate in the joint planning process in Groundwater Management Area (GMA) 7 as defined per TWC § 36.108, including establishment of Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) for management areas within the District. In its evaluation of potential DFCs, the District shall consider results from groundwater availability models, scientific reports, and the conditions of the aquifer.

Edwards-Trinity (Plateau)/ Pecos Valley Alluvium Aquifers:

Total net drawdown not to exceed an average of eight (8) feet in 2070, as compared with 2010 aquifer levels, with specific county drawdowns as follows:

COUNTY	GCD	DRAWDOWN (feet)
Coke	Coke County UWCD	0
Crockett	Crockett County GCD	10
Ector	-	8
Edwards	Real-Edwards C&RD	2
Gillespie	Hill Country UWCD	5
Glasscock	Glasscock GCD	40
Irion	Irion County WCD	10
Kimble	Kimble County GCD	1
Menard	Menard County UWD	1
Midland	-	12
Pecos	Middle Pecos GCD	12
Reagan	Santa Rita UWCD	42
Real	Real-Edwards C&RD	4
Schleicher	Plateau UC&SCD	8
Sterling	Sterling County UWCD	7
Sutton	Sutton County UWCD	6
Taylor	-	0
Terrell	Terrell County UWCD	2
Upton	-	16
Uvalde	Uvalde County UWCD	2

Financial Reports and Annual Financial Audit:

Financial reports are given at each meeting of the District's Board of Directors. The Financial Audit of the District for FY 2018-2019 was presented to the Board at the February 2020 Board meeting. A copy of the Financial Audit can be found at the District Office. The FY 2020-2021 Budget is allocated as follows:

