

**Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC)**  
**Groundwater Issues (GWI) Subcommittee Annual Report**  
**October 9, 2024**

This Annual Report is provided as per the TGPC GWI Subcommittee (“Subcommittee”) *Charge*.

Fiscal Year 2024 Results

- The Subcommittee met<sup>1,2</sup> four times during Fiscal Year 2024:
  - September 13, 2023;
  - December 13, 2023;
  - March 20, 2024; and,
  - June 5, 2024.
- At these meetings, the Subcommittee received reports from its Agricultural Chemicals Task Force, tracked the status of both TGPC and groundwater-related TCEQ publications, and discussed the following groundwater-related issues:
  - Oil and Gas Produced Water;
  - Emerging Chemical and Biological Contaminants;
  - Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR);
  - Abandoned Water Wells;
  - Environmental Justice and Groundwater Access and Quality;
  - Groundwater Quality Monitoring;
  - Brackish Groundwater;
  - Evapotranspiration Networks; and,
  - Others:
    - § Funding for Economically Distressed Areas Program (EDAP) studies, manganese sampling in Public Water Systems (PWSs);
    - § The development of a tool to anticipate when PWSs might run out of water during drought conditions and potential solutions;
    - § A petition for adding two blind catfish found in the Edwards Aquifer and two freshwater mussels found in six counties along the Rio Grande Vally to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Threatened and Endangered Species List;

- § A company in south Texas had renewed its 10-year permit for uranium mining using In-Situ Recovery (ISR) technology;
  - § A new report from The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment about springs in Texas, and how the recent wildfires in the Texas panhandle had the potential to impact groundwater quality; and,
  - § A U.S. FWS press release regarding seven central Texas freshwater mussels that were now classified under the Endangered Species Act.
- As per its TGPC GWI Subcommittee Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 *Activity Plan*<sup>3</sup>, the Subcommittee reviewed its *Charge*<sup>4</sup> during its fourth quarter meeting and did not have any changes to recommend to the TGPC.

### Fiscal Year 2025 Plans

- During Fiscal Year 2025, the Subcommittee will continue developing white papers on various topics, including:
  - *Children's Health and Groundwater Quality at Child Care Operations Using Private Water Wells.*
- During Fiscal Year 2025, the Subcommittee will develop its TGPC GWI Subcommittee Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027 *Activity Plan*.

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<sup>1</sup> The TGPC approves all Subcommittee products and designated TGPC members who attended these Subcommittee meetings participated as an employee or representative of their agency or organization, not as a designated TGPC member. Therefore, these Subcommittee meetings were not subject to the Open Meetings Act and they were held 100% virtually. The public was also able to attend these meetings via videoconference or teleconference at no cost.

<sup>2</sup> <https://tgpc.texas.gov/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-groundwater-issues-subcommittee/meeting-records-of-the-tgpc-groundwater-issues-subcommittee/>

<sup>3</sup>

[https://tgpc.texas.gov/gwissues/activity\\_plans/TGPC\\_GWI\\_FY2024\\_2025\\_ActivityPlan\\_12Jul2023.pdf](https://tgpc.texas.gov/gwissues/activity_plans/TGPC_GWI_FY2024_2025_ActivityPlan_12Jul2023.pdf)

<sup>4</sup>

[https://tgpc.texas.gov/wp-content/themes/responsive/subcommittees/gwissues/GWI\\_SubComm\\_Charge12Jul2023.pdf](https://tgpc.texas.gov/wp-content/themes/responsive/subcommittees/gwissues/GWI_SubComm_Charge12Jul2023.pdf)