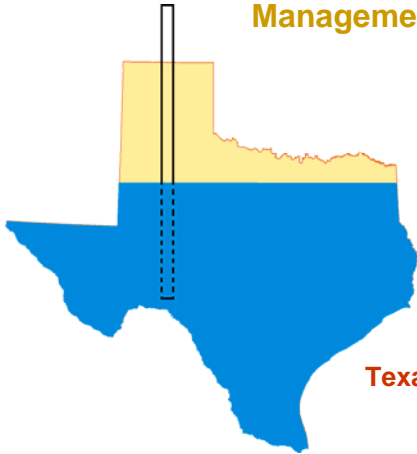


## Groundwater Availability in Texas:

**The Past** (2002 State Water Plan and before),  
**the Present** (2006 Regional Water Plans), and  
**the Future** (Joint Planning in Groundwater  
Management Areas)



**Robert E. Mace**

Texas Water Development Board  
Texas Groundwater Protection Committee  
April 20, 2006

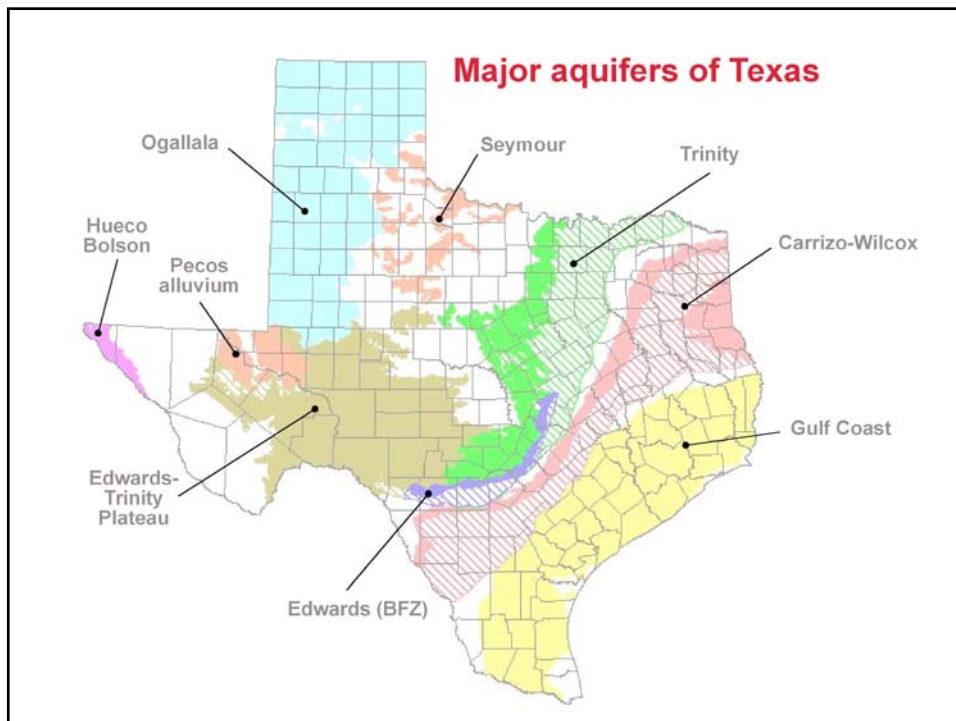
## Texas Water Development Board

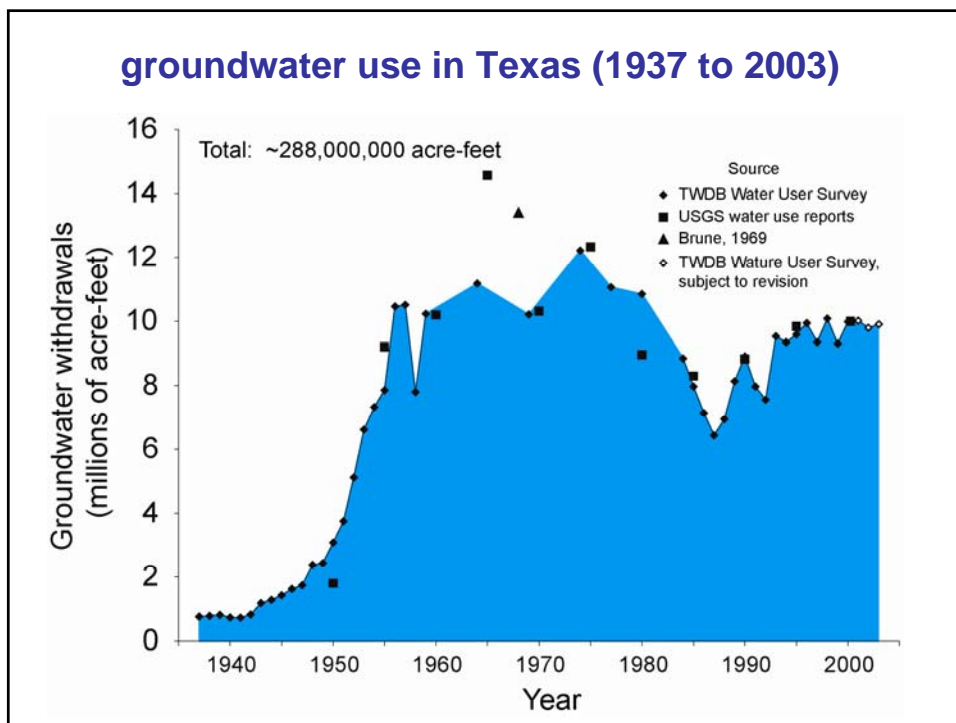
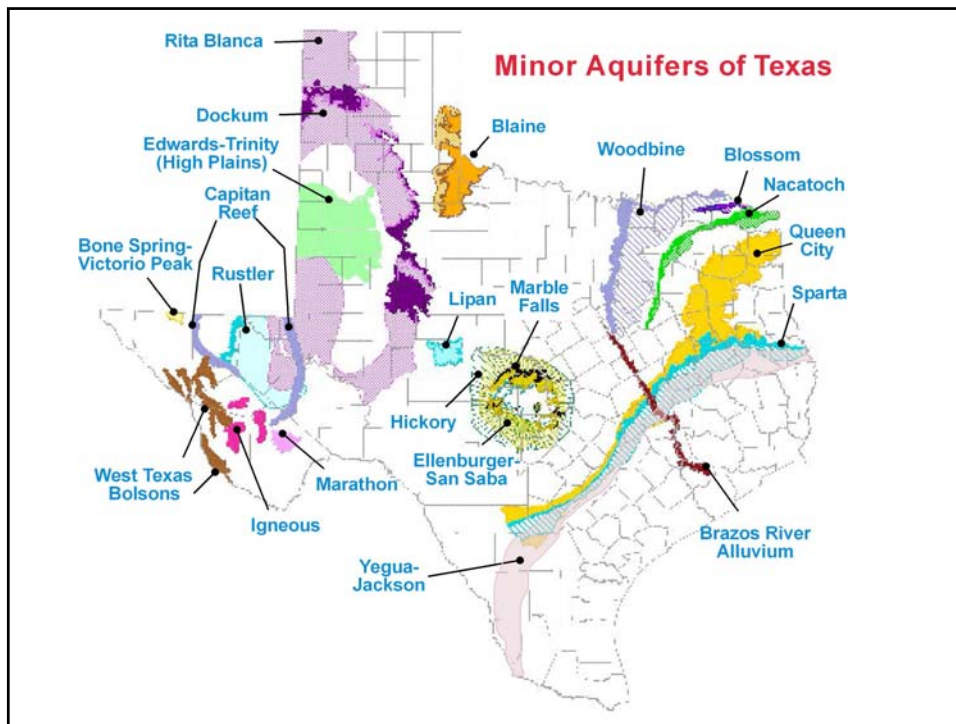
*Mission:*

“Sustainable, affordable,  
quality water for Texans, our  
economy, and our  
environment.”

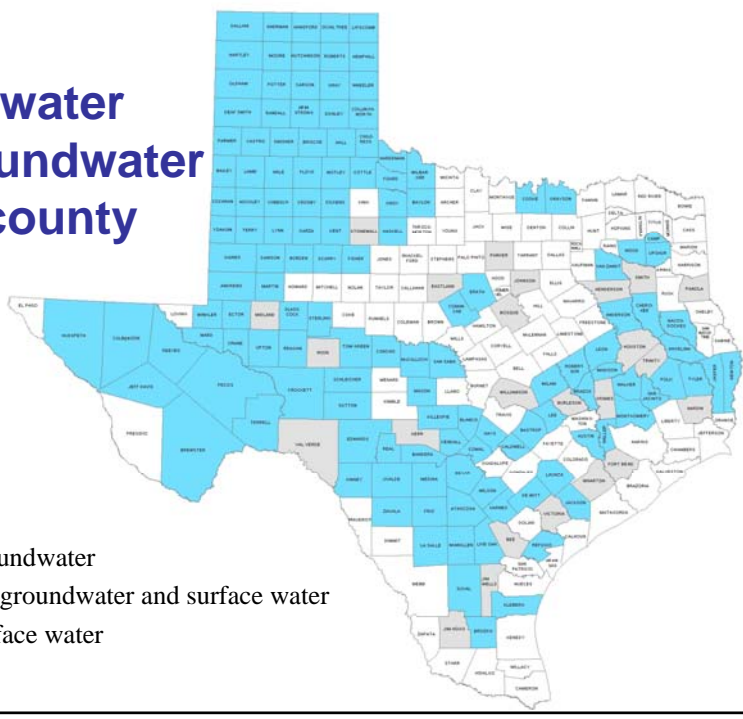
## groundwater and Texas

- 60 percent of the 16.6 million acre-feet of water used in 1999
- 81 percent of groundwater is used for irrigation
- groundwater provides 39 percent of water to cities
- tastes good when yer thirsty

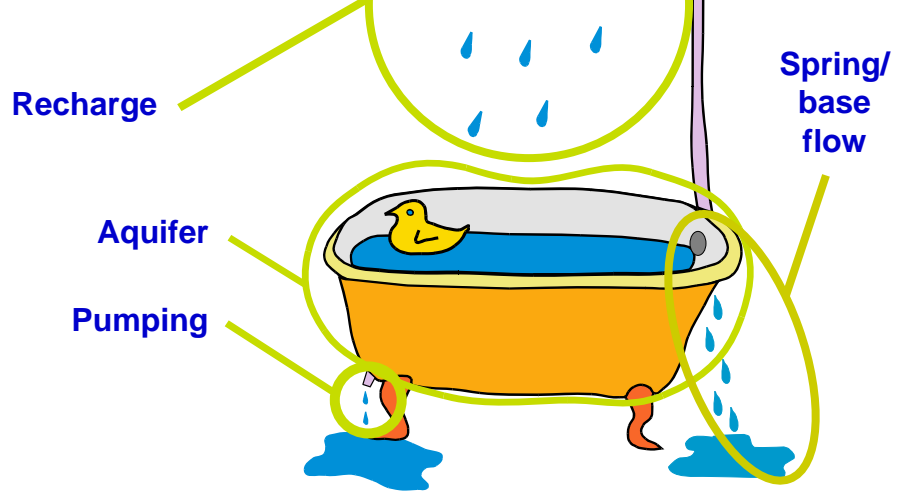




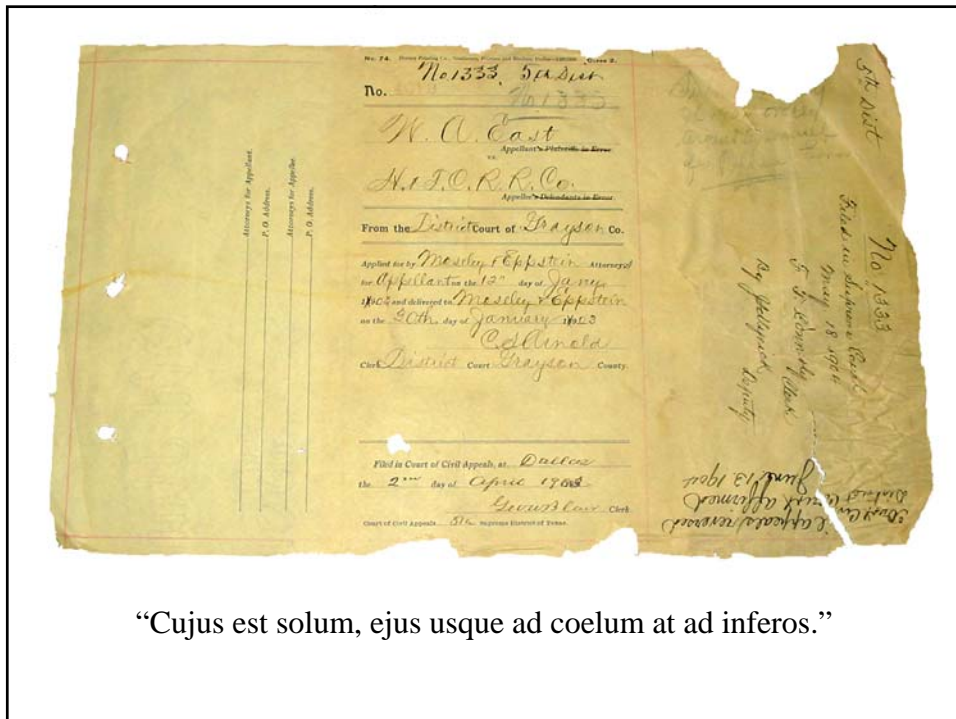
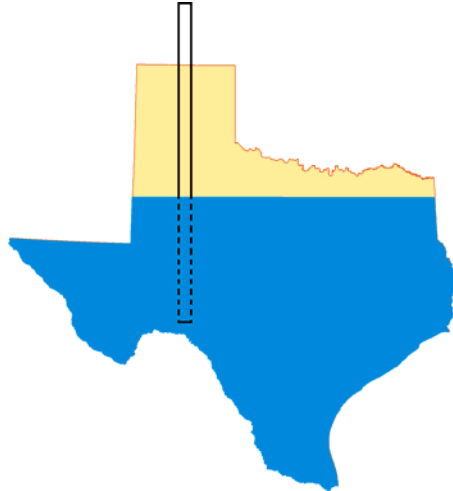
# surface water and groundwater use by county



# Your aquifer as a bathtub

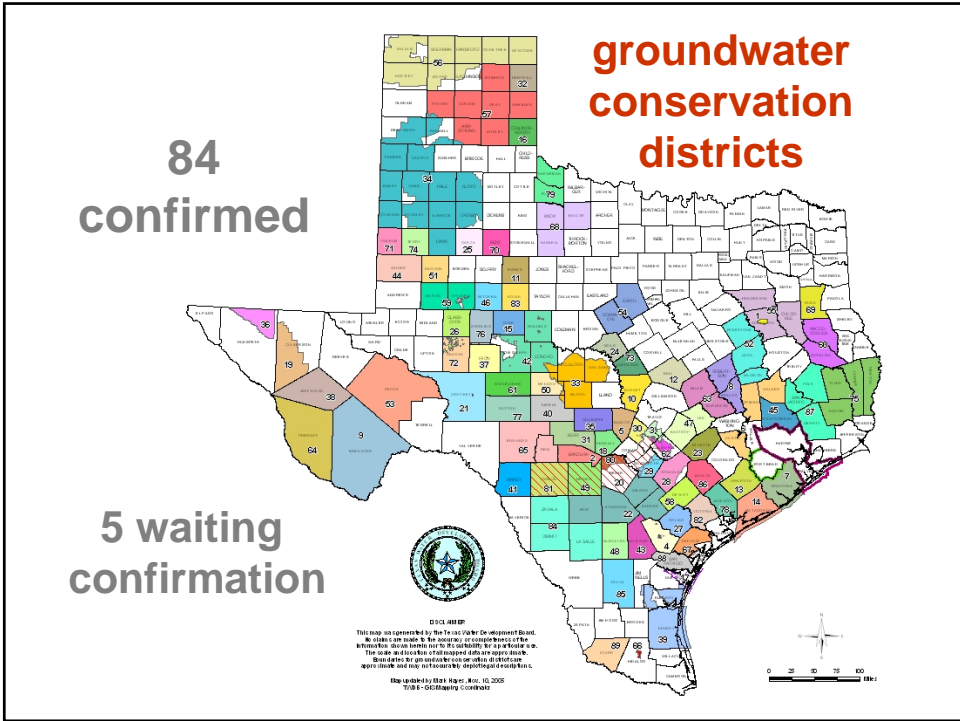


# Groundwater Availability in Texas: The Past 2002 State Water Plan and before



“Cujus est solum, ejus usque ad coelum at ad inferos.”





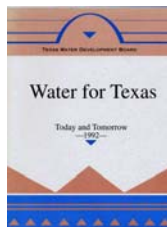
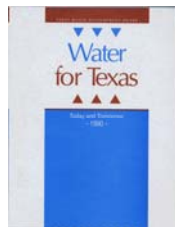
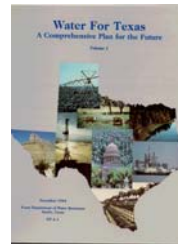
like beauty,  
groundwater availability  
is in the eye  
of the beholder

0



groundwater availability...

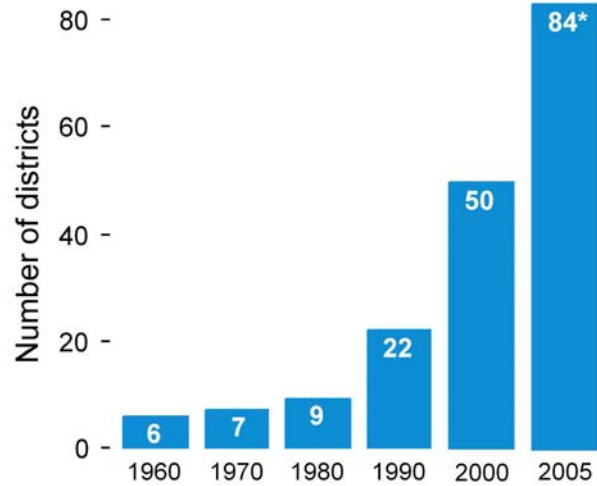
## State Water Planning



1961, 1968, 1984, 1990, 1992, 1997

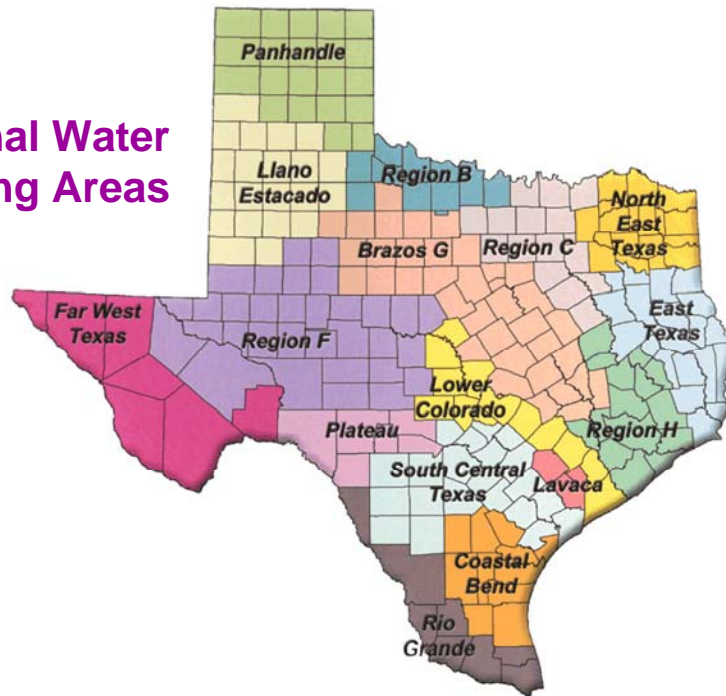


### Number of Confirmed Groundwater Conservation Districts



\* 5 additional districts waiting for confirmation as of 4/06  
twdb2005-001

### Regional Water Planning Areas



the  
bureaucrat



VS.

the  
regions

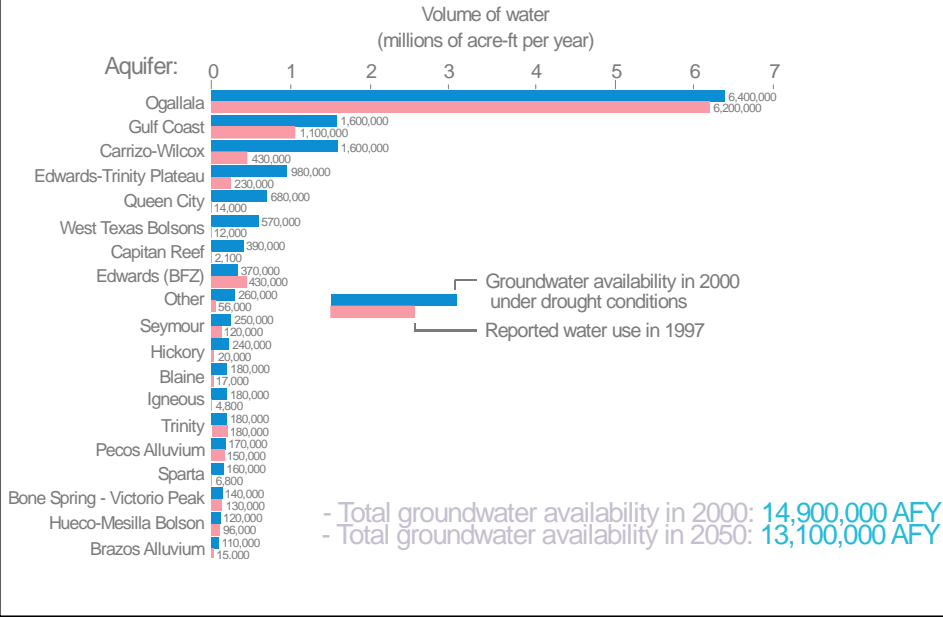


*Water for Texas – 2002*

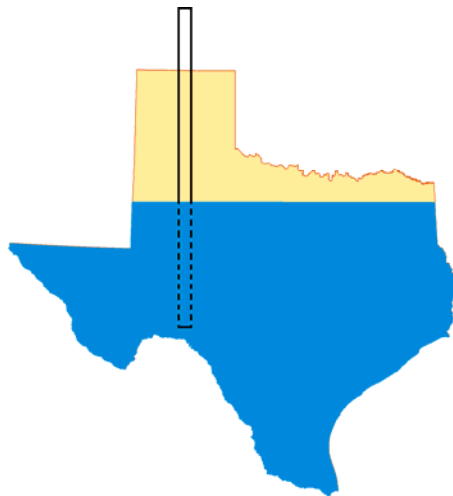


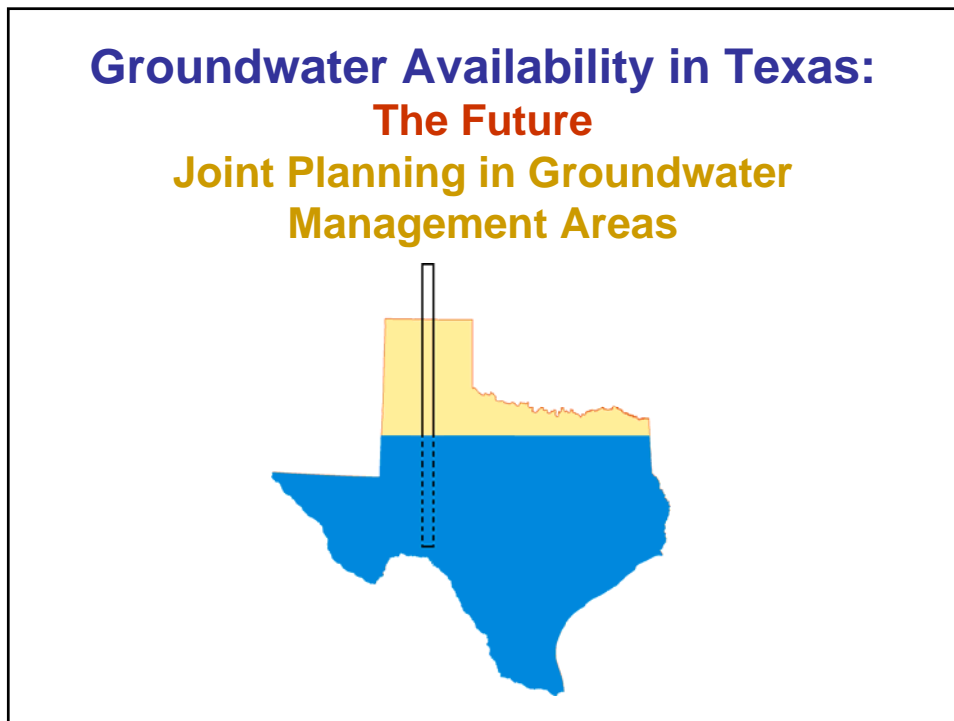
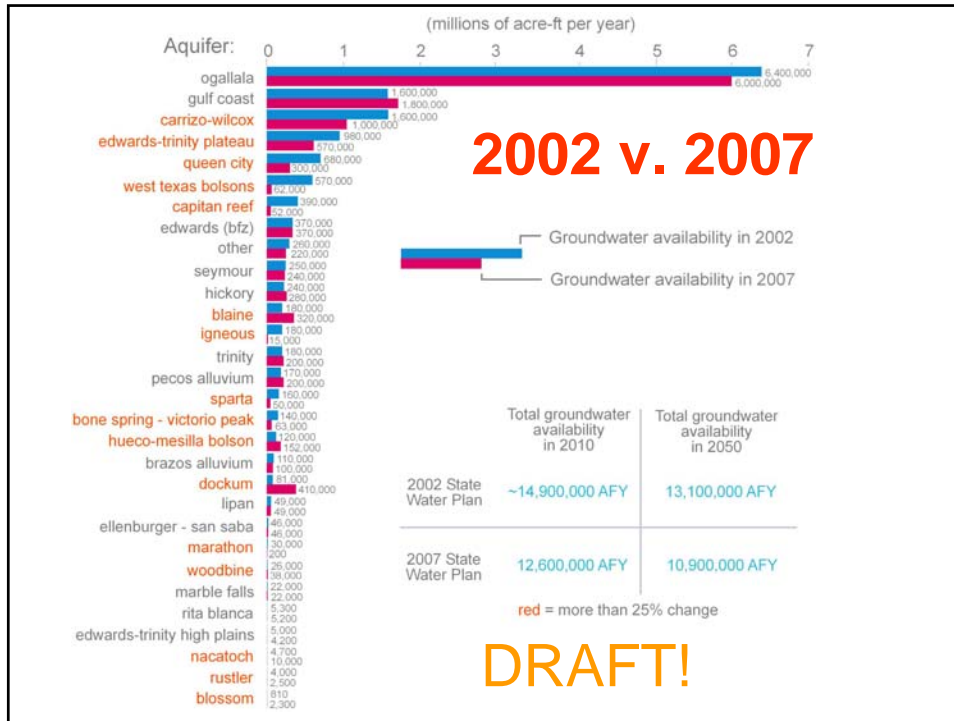
*Texas Water Development Board  
January 2002*

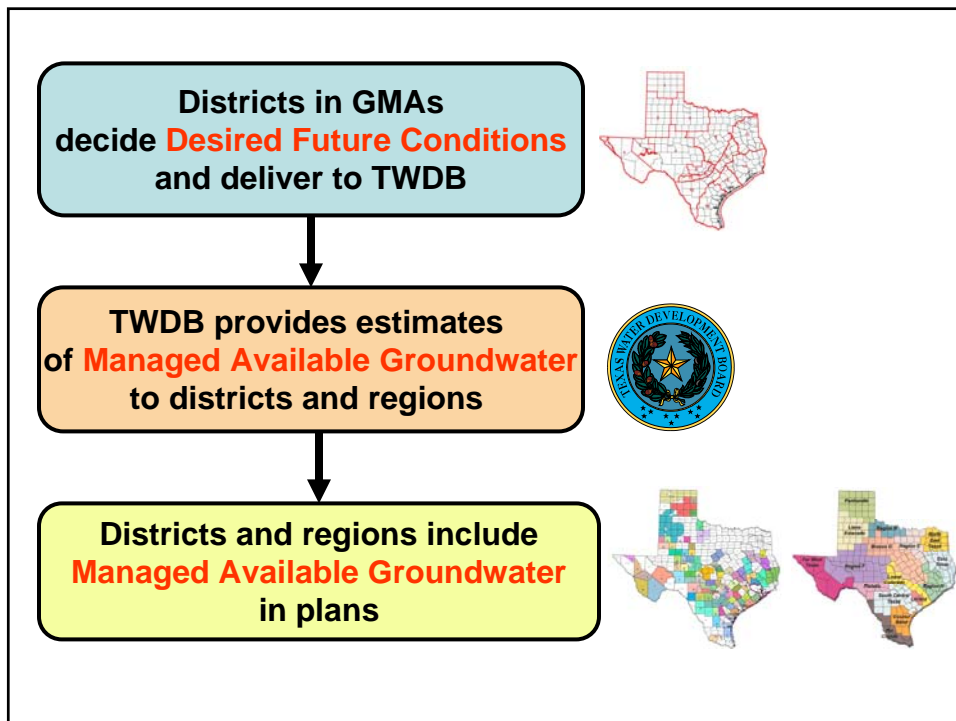
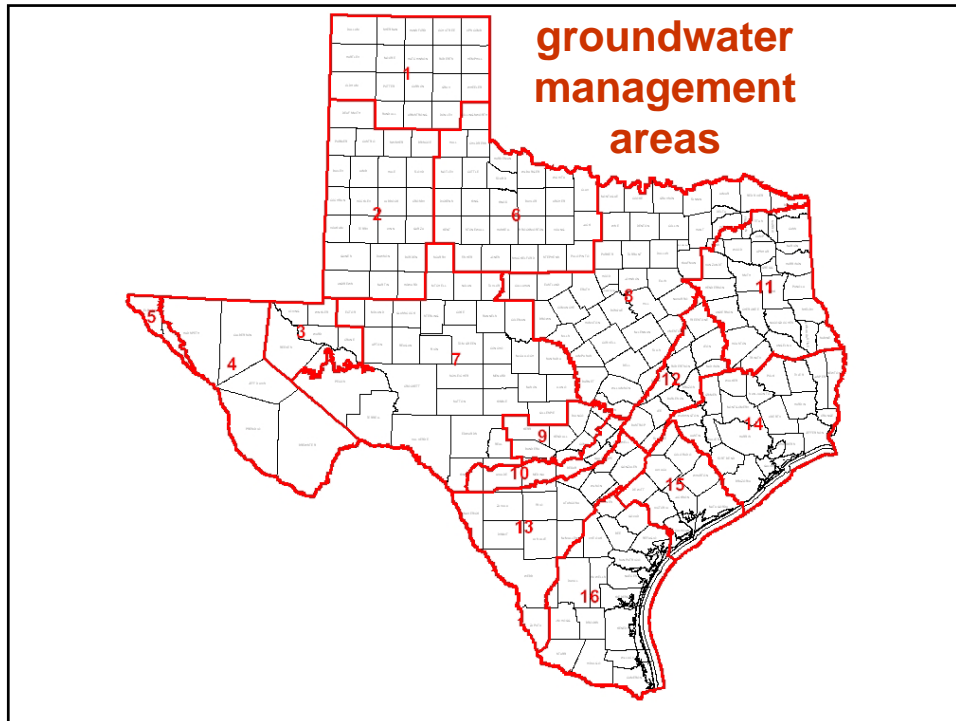
# availability and use

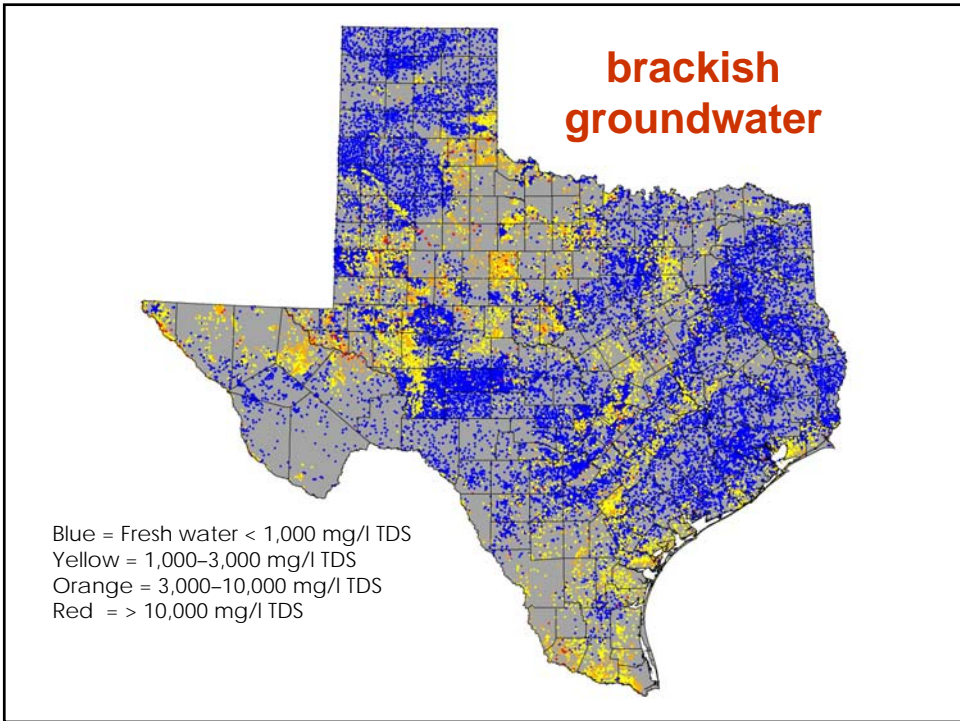


## Groundwater Availability in Texas: The Present 2006 Regional Water Plans









## Take home points

- Groundwater availability is in the eye of the beholder
- Changes in groundwater availability in the 2007 state water plan
- Big changes anticipated in future due to joint planning in groundwater management areas
- “Desired future conditions” and “managed available groundwater”

## More about groundwater in Texas



### Groundwater in Texas:

[www.twdb.state.tx.us/groundwater](http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/groundwater)

- **Robert Mace:**  
(512) 936-0861

