

State Water Planning: We Get By with a Little Help from our Friends

May 31, 2018



American Rivers
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The Struggle is Real



Agriculture

- Global economics are tough
- Urban landscapes grow onto agricultural lands
- Municipalities and industry buy agricultural water
- Environmental concerns and regulations restrict agriculture
- Everyone thinks they should get agricultural water
- Not enough money



Municipalities

- Permitting is horribly difficult
- Continued growth means more water is needed, but nobody wants it to come from them
- Everyone thinks conservation can solve all municipal use, but people need green space and outdoor use is only about 2% of all water use in Colorado
- Raising rates is often not feasible



Environment

- Everyone wants more water, and that takes away from the environment
- Municipalities and agriculture are resistant to solutions that would benefit the environment
- The environment hasn't had nearly the history of understanding it's water needs that ag and municipalities do
- Not enough money

National Perspective

29 US states (mostly western states) have developed formal water plans

Alabama	Georgia	Missouri	North Dakota	South Dakota
Arizona	Hawaii	Montana	Oklahoma	Texas
Arkansas	Idaho	Nevada	Oregon	Utah
California	Iowa	New Hampshire*	Pennsylvania	Virginia
Colorado	Kansas	New Jersey	Rhode Island	West Virginia
Florida	Minnesota	New Mexico	South Carolina	Wyoming

*currently in the process

Who's doing it well?



Colorado

The Challenge

- 💧 increasing gaps between water supplies and water demands
- 💧 the trend of permanent buying and drying of productive agricultural lands in order to meet growing municipal demands
- 💧 greater uncertainty due to drought, climate change, and more.

Executive Order Values (2013)

- 💧 A productive economy that supports cities, agriculture, recreation and tourism
- 💧 efficient and effective water infrastructure
- 💧 a strong natural environment including healthy watersheds, rivers, streams and wildlife

Basin Roundtables

- 💧 Colorado's Water Plan is a grassroots effort.
- 💧 Role of the Basin Roundtables- map out their own basin's needs and water future, to engage in facilitated discussions on water issues, and to develop locally-driven, collaborative solutions.
- 💧 Each Basin Roundtable developed its own plan. These Basin Implementation Plans (BIPs) identify:
 - 💧 the specific challenges to a secure water future that each basin faces
 - 💧 the strategies it will pursue to address those challenges
 - 💧 and the projects and methods that the basin may implement to meet its water needs

Will Colorado's Water Plan interfere with local control and authority?

No. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions.

How will Colorado's Water Plan address the quality of the state's rivers and streams?

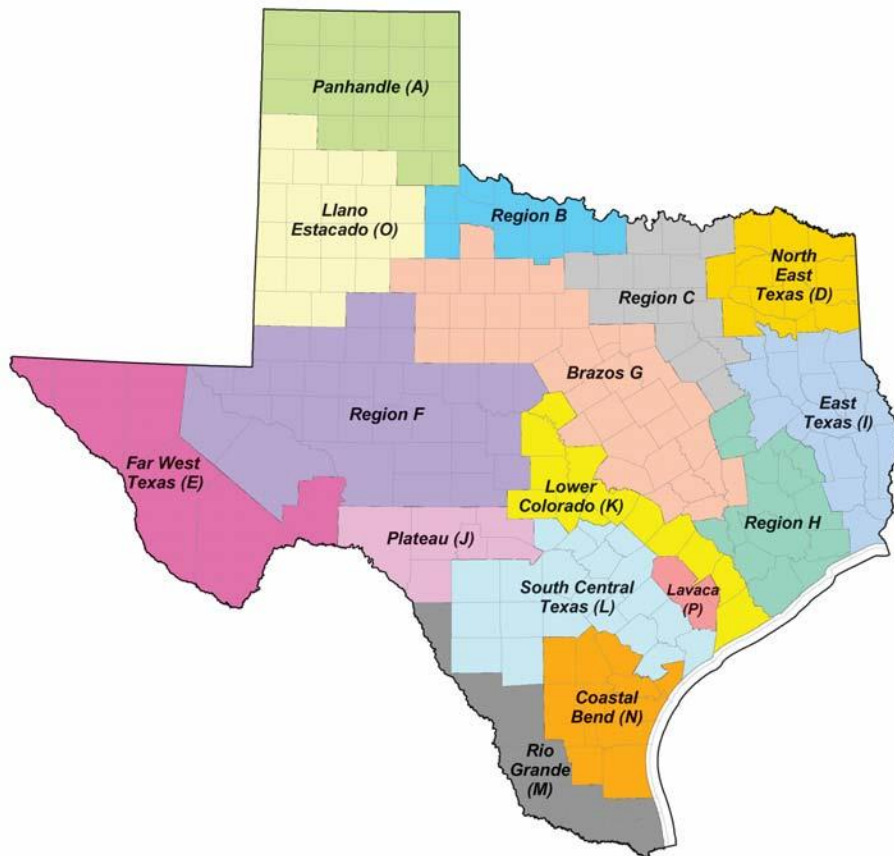
- 💧 The Governor's Executive Order spelled out fundamental values, including an environment that includes healthy watersheds, rivers and streams, and wildlife. Colorado's Water Plan will incentivize water development that honors Colorado's commitment to its wildlife and environment. The CWCB maintains tools that are helpful in protecting and improving the health of our rivers and streams.



Texas Water Planning: Legislative Response to Drought

- History
 - 1950s– Drought of Record
 - 1957: Creation of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
 - 1997 SB 1 established a new water planning process based in a “bottom-up” consensus-driven approach
- Meet drought of record water needs
- 50 year planning horizon, 5-year planning cycle
- 6 water use categories which are planned for: municipal, manufacturing, irrigation, steam electric power generation, mining, and livestock

16 Regional Water Planning Areas



Voting Member Categories:

- Public
- Counties Municipalities
- Industry
- Agriculture
- Environment
- Small Business
- Electric-generating utilities
- River authorities
- Water Districts
- Water Utilities
- Groundwater Mgmt. Areas

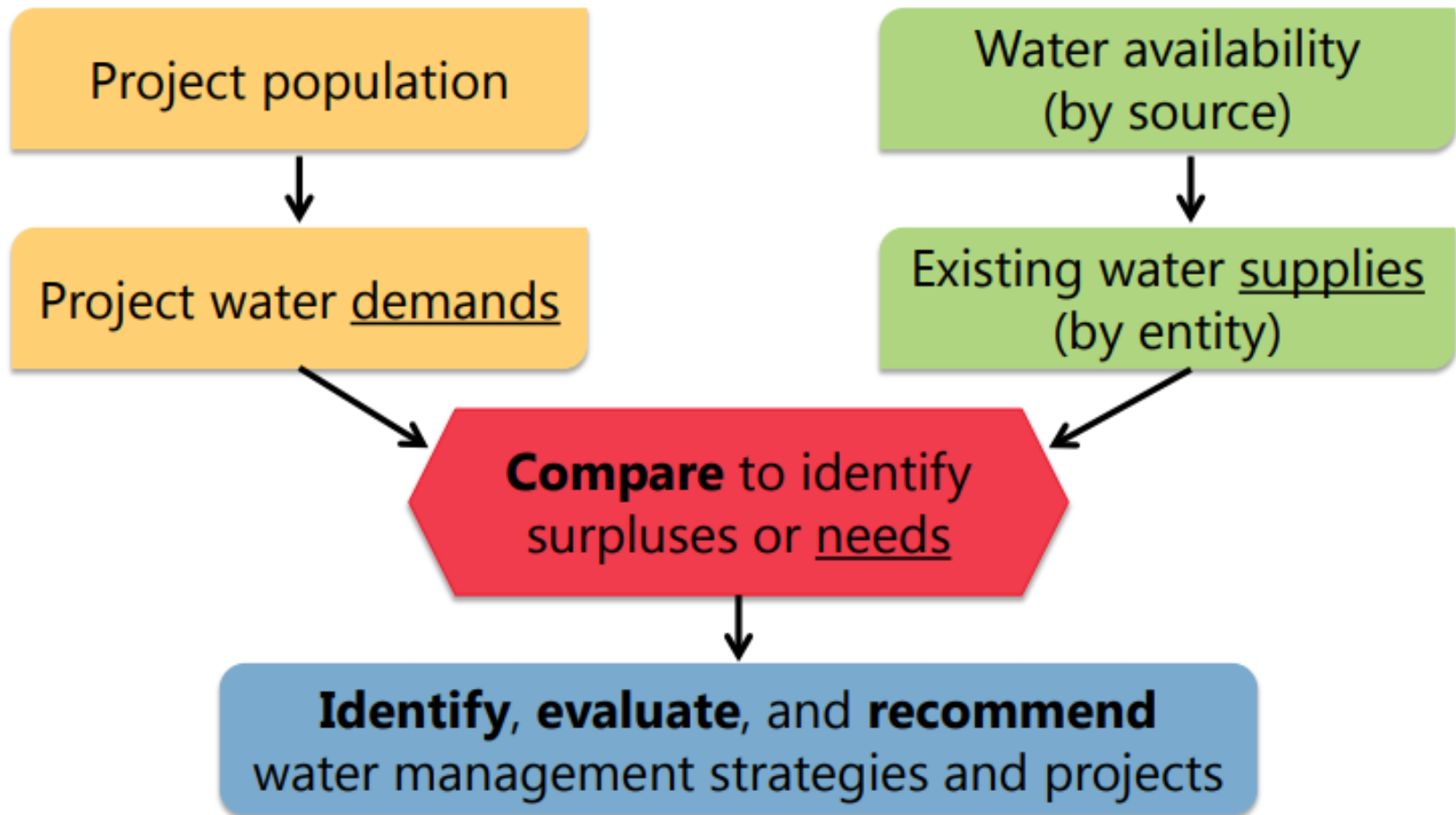
Key Responsibilities of Planning Group Members

- 💧 Represent interest category and region
- 💧 Develop a plan that serves region and state
- 💧 Consider local water plans
- 💧 Ensure adoption of a regional water plan by the statutory deadline that meets all requirements

Water User Groups in the 2016 Regional Water Plans

Demand Category	Number of WUGs
<i>Municipal WUGs</i>	
Cities & Utilities	1,364
County-Other	254
<i>Non-municipal WUGs</i>	
Manufacturing	183
Mining	228
Steam-Electric Power	85
Irrigation	241
Livestock	254
Total number of WUGs	2,609

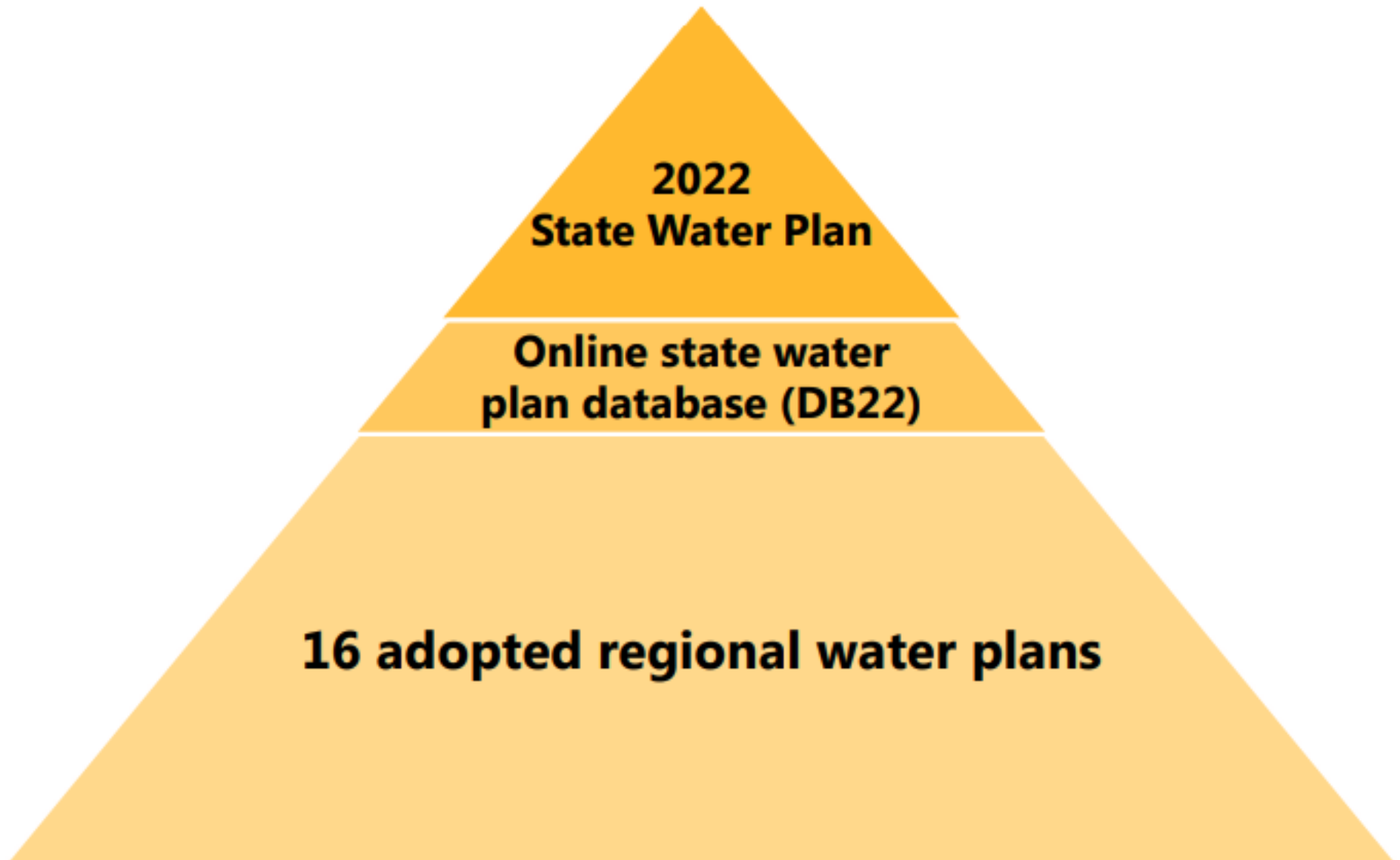
Water Planning Basics



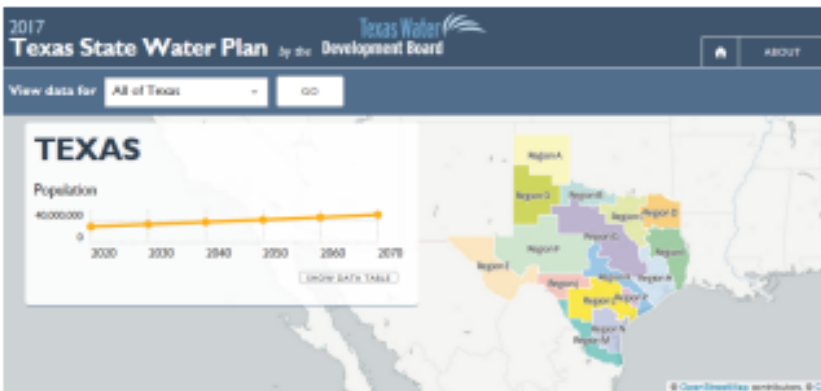
How are conservation strategies promoted or funded by the TWDB?

The TWDB supports conservation efforts and will continue to make an effort to disseminate relevant conservation information to planning groups for their consideration. TWDB rules (31 TAC § 357.34(g)) **require that RWPGs consider water conservation practices, including best management practices, for each identified water need**. If water conservation strategies are not recommended to meet an identified need, the planning group shall document the reason in the regional water plan. RWPGs are required to meet the planning requirements in statute, rule, and by contract and, in doing so, the decision whether to recommend conservation strategies is the responsibility of the planning group.

Bottom Up Approach



The State Water Plan is Online and Interactive

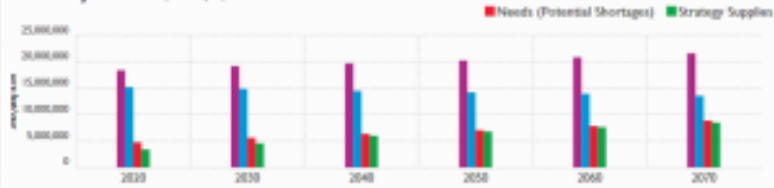


Development of the state water plan is central to the mission of the Texas Water Development Board. Based on 16 regional water plans, the plan addresses the needs of all water user groups in the state – municipal, irrigation, manufacturing, livestock, mining, and steam-electric power – during a repeat of the drought of record that the state suffered in the 1950s. The regional and state water plans consider a 50-year planning horizon: 2020 through 2070.

This website lets water users statewide take an up-close look at data in the 2017 State Water Plan and how water needs change over time by showing:

- projected water demands,
- existing water supplies,
- the relative severity and projected water needs (potential shortages),
- the water management strategies recommended to address potential shortages, and
- recommended capital projects and their sponsors.

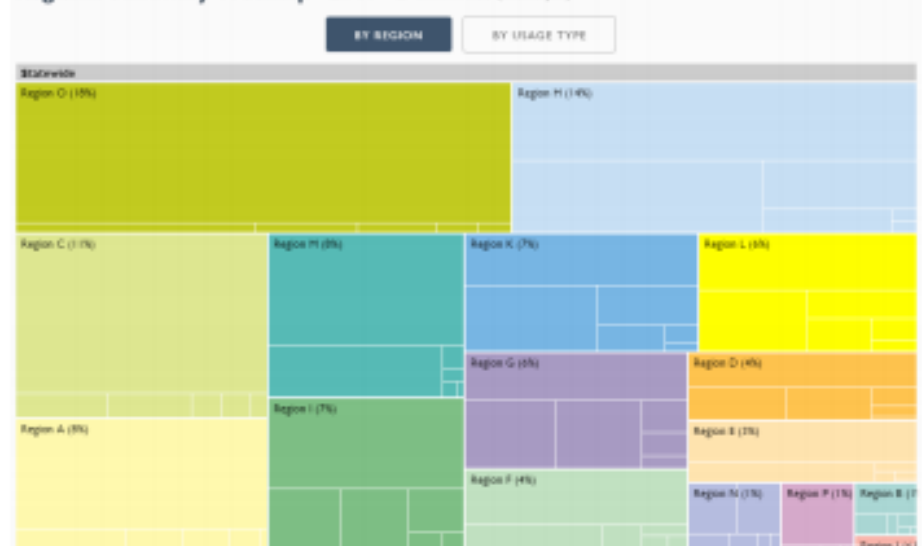
Totals by Decade (ac-ft/year)



Needs (Potential Shortages) by Usage Type (ac-ft/year)



Regional Summary Treemap - 2040 - Demands (ac-ft/year)



<http://texasstatewaterplan.org>

Questions



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