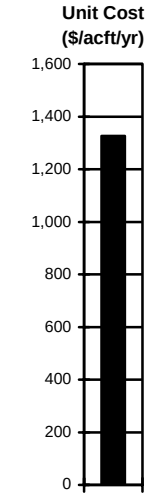
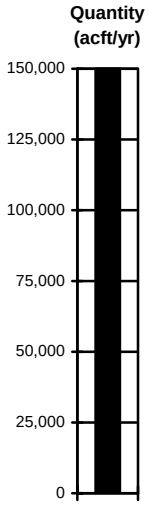
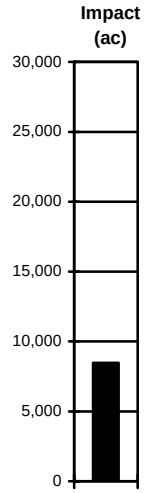
2006 South Central Texas Regional Water Plan
Water Management Strategy Summary Sheet







Name: **LCRA-SAWS Water Project (LSWP) – Bay City to Bexar County**

Description: This management strategy is based on a Definitive Agreement between SAWS and LCRA, signed in 2002, for the purchase of up to 150,000 acft/yr of surface water from the Lower Colorado River Basin. The amount of water delivered from Bay City to Bexar County is assumed to be 150,000 acft/yr. Facilities include intakes, pump stations, off-channel storage facility of 250,000 acft; a primary intake and pump station; an 90-inch 161-mile transmission pipeline to the Twin Oaks WTP with 4 booster stations; a water treatment plant (expansion or new) at the Twin Oaks property in Southern Bexar County; and system improvements for integration of the additional supply. Facility locations are subject to change.

***Decade Needed*:** 2040 – 2050

Cost, Quantity of Water, and Land Impacted

Unit Cost of Water:	**$1,326**	**$/acft/yr**	**Treated Water Delivered**
Quantity of Water:	**150,000**	**acft/yr**	**Reliability = Firm**
Land Impacted:	**8,468**	**acres**	

Additional Considerations per Regional Water Planning Guidelines

Environmental Factors:

Potential concerns with endangered species, habitat, cultural resources, and TPWD Ecologically Unique Stream Segments. Endangered species include the Attwater's Prairie Chicken, Eskimo Curlew, Jaguarundi, & Ocelot. Pipeline could come in close proximity to a Bald Eagle rookery in Jackson County.

Impacts on Water Resources:

Reductions in freshwater inflows to Matagorda Bay associated with greater utilization of existing water rights and new appropriation. Potential effects of these reductions are being studied by LCRA & SAWS. Significant additional groundwater production for agricultural use and associated reductions in local and regional groundwater levels.

Impacts on Agricultural & Natural Resources:

There are potential increases in reliable water supply for irrigation and improved irrigation efficiency in Region K. Off-channel reservoirs will inundate approximately 6,750 acres in Matagorda County.

Other Relevant Factors per SCTRWPG:

Encourages beneficial use of available rights. Protects instream flows and recreational opportunities through lower basin diversion. Equitable cost sharing for development of water supplies in Region K and Region L. Point of diversion is the subject of on-going studies, however, the Bay City diversion point used in the 2001 South Central Texas Regional Water Plan has been assumed for cost estimation purposes. Allocation of the full projected 150,000 acft/yr to this potential diversion location does not preclude development of an upstream alternative or additional diversion location.

Comparison of Strategies to Meet Needs:

Moderate to high unit cost. No conflicts with other recommended water management strategies.

Interbasin Transfer Issues:

An amendment to the existing LCRA permits for the interbasin transfer of this water would be required. Environmental flow constraints limiting diversions under the existing water rights may be added during the amendment process thereby reducing the dependable supply and increasing the unit cost of water.

Third-Party Impacts of Voluntary Transfers:

Potential benefits to Lower Colorado River Basin irrigation interests in Region K.

Regional Efficiency:

Shared pipeline alignment with other recommended water management strategies. Potential for shared water treatment and balancing storage facilities in Bexar County.

Water Quality Considerations:

None of significant concern.