



## REGIONAL WATER ALLIANCE

### Executive Committee

Chairman  
Allen Cockerell

Vice Chairman  
John Larrison

Secretary  
Humberto Ramos

Member-at-large  
Pat Allen

Member-at-large  
Darren Thompson

### Alliance Members

Atascosa Rural WSC

BexarMet Water District

Canyon Regional Water  
Authority

City of Alamo Heights

City of Cibolo

City of Elmendorf

City of La Vernia

City of Live Oak

City of Marion

City of Natalia

City of Schertz

City of Selma

City of Shavano Park

City of Universal City

East Central SUD

Green Valley SUD

SS WSC

San Antonio River  
Authority

San Antonio Water  
System

Schertz-Seguin LGC

Springs Hill WSC

Date: February 6, 2008

To: Members of the South Central Texas  
Regional Planning Group

From: Allen Cockerell, Chairman  
Regional Water Alliance

Re: Texas Water Development Board, Water Needs Assessment

Recognizing the efforts of the Region L planning group to identify future water needs and the extensive list of potential water projects for the region, as well as the identified local regional needs of 84,687 acre-feet of new supplies by 2010 and 266,690 acre-feet by 2060, area water purveyors and regional water entities joined together to form the Regional Water Alliance. (Please see attachment)

The Alliance members, twenty-one to date, executed an interlocal agreement for the purpose of promoting and facilitating the sharing of ideas, knowledge, experience and resources in order to seek and implement collaborative solutions to effectively meet the region's diverse water needs.

The Alliance has conducted or has in progress studies addressing water system interconnections, regional brackish groundwater desalination availability, and a review of the Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) Water Needs Assessment. In fact, five Alliance members will submit a grant application to the TWDB at the end of this month to study the feasibility of developing a brackish groundwater desalination water supply based upon the data gained from the Regional Brackish Groundwater Desalination Availability Study.

As mentioned above, the Alliance commissioned a study to review the TWDB Water Needs Assessment and Population Projections. The study reviewed the population and growth rates from 1990 to 2000 and compared them to the 2000 to 2005 growth rates. The study then reviewed annual water use data that was collected from each utility. From this data and the population data, an annual per capita use rate was determined. These per capita rates were then compared to the per capita water use rates used by the TWDB in developing water demand projections for the 2006 regional water plan. The data was also compared to the per capita water use rates recommended in the Water Conservation water management strategy in the 2006 regional water plan.

The results of this study indicate some Alliance members meet the TWDB criteria for population and/or water demand projection revisions. The results of the study, when finalized, will be forwarded to the Region L planning group by the Regional Water Alliance on behalf of its members. The study is expected to be finalized by the end of this month.

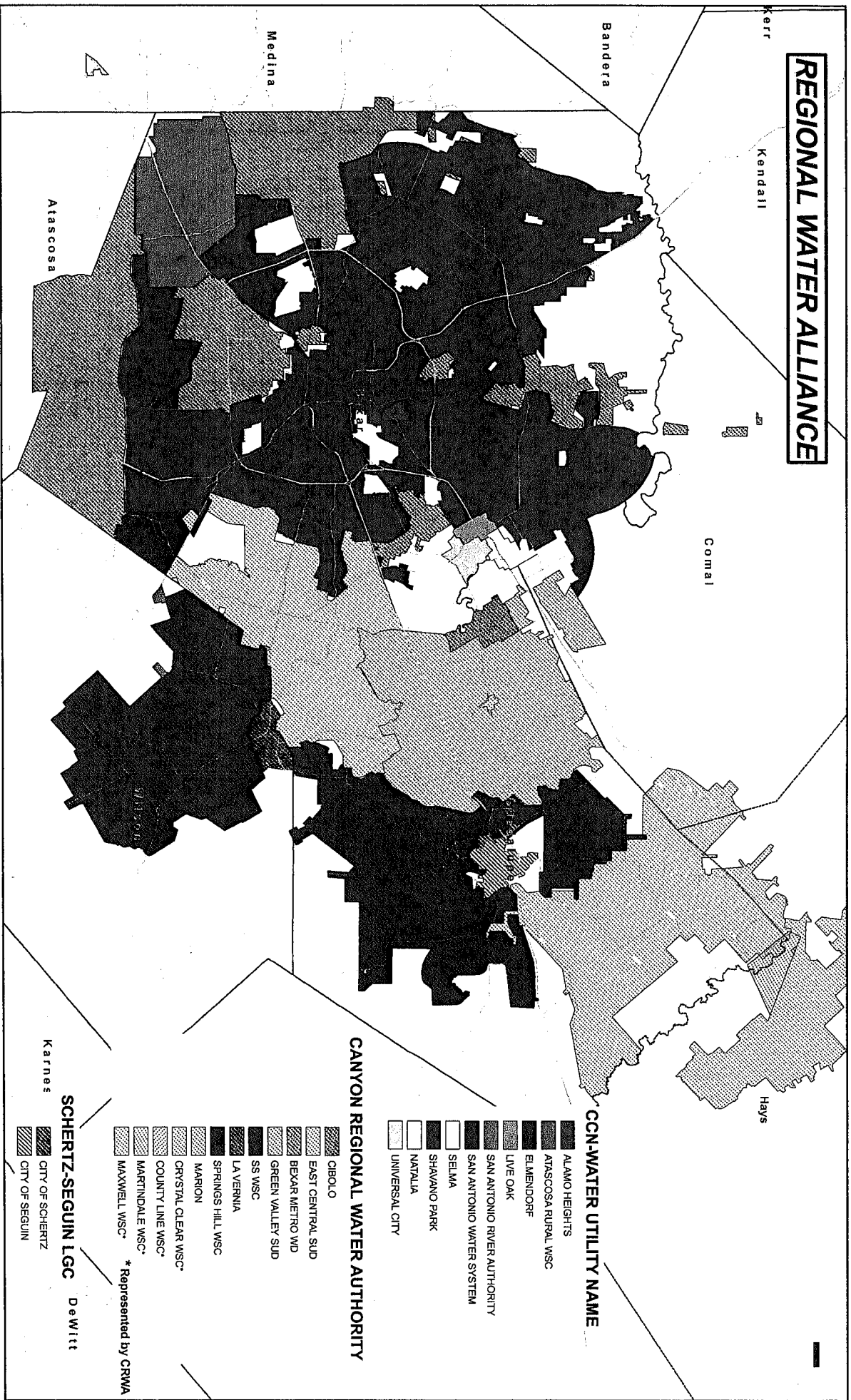
Thank you for your time and for your efforts. If the Alliance can assist Region L in its planning efforts, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Attachment

P.O. Box 839980 • San Antonio, TX 78283-9980 • [www.rwa-tx.org](http://www.rwa-tx.org)  
210-227-1373 • 866-345-7272 • Fax 210-227-4323

Administrator: San Antonio River Authority

# REGIONAL WATER ALLIANCE



## CAN- WATER UTILITY NAME

- ALAMO HEIGHTS
- ATASCOSA RURAL WSC
- ELMENDORF
- LIVE OAK
- SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY
- SAN ANTONIO WATER SYSTEM
- SELMA
- SHAWANO PARK
- NATALIA
- UNIVERSAL CITY

## CANYON REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

- CIBOLO
- EAST CENTRAL SUD
- BEXAR METRO WD
- GREEN VALLEY SUD
- SS WSC
- L.A. VERNIA
- SPRINGS HILL WSC
- MARION
- CRYSTAL CLEAR WSC\*
- COUNTY LINE WSC\*
- MARTINDALE WSC\*
- MAXWELL WSC\*

\* Represented by CRWA

## SCHERTZ-SEGUN LGC DeWitt

- Karnes
- CITY OF SCHERTZ
- CITY OF SEGUIN

**From:** Kirk Holland  
**Sent:** Friday, January 25, 2008 3:08 PM  
**To:** 'lauraraun@raunpr.com'  
**Cc:** Kirk Holland; 'hgrubb@hdrinc.com'; John Dupnik  
**Subject:** Region L Planning Group Meeting, 2/7

Hi, Laura!

As I think you are aware, the BSEACD is going to be taking a more proactive interest in Region L water planning than it has heretofore. The primary reason for that is the suburban growth of our permittees' service areas is now substantial in Region L, whereas before it was more a de minimis situation. Would you send me the agenda and, if/when available, the info packet for the February 7th meeting, and also put me on the standard email distribution list for Region L activities? John Dupnik and/or I will be attending Region L meetings in the future as an interested party, and perhaps later on as a member, alternate, working subgroup member, or some such.

I am going to kill two birds with one stone (email) here. Attached is a summary breakdown of the groundwater supply from various management units in Regions K and L that would be available from BSEACD in a recurrence of a drought of record. I promised Herb Grubb at the recent Texas Water Law Conference that I would send this info to him. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss these data with the Region L Planning Group at some future meeting, and also, if of interest, how we go about managing groundwater during an extreme drought event. Laura, let us know if that would work for a discussion topic. And Herb, please forward the attachment to any others that you think might be interested.

Regards,

Kirk Holland, P.G.  
General Manager  
Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District  
1124 Regal Row  
Austin, TX 78748  
Tel. 512.282.8441  
Fax 512.282.7016  
[kholland@bseacd.org](mailto:kholland@bseacd.org)

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## Summary of Allocated Groundwater Usage Between Planning Regions K and L

Using Total Edwards Authorized Historical Usage of 7392.4 AF/Yr (10.2 cfs) in FY 2008

	Edwards		Trinity		Other	Total	Comments
	(Acre-Feet)	(cfs)	(Acre-Feet)	(cfs)	(Acre-Feet)	(Acre-Feet)	
Region K - Historical (Hays)	3096	4.28					
Region K - Extreme Drought (Hays)	2167	2.99	110.65	0.15		2278	
Region K - Conditional NDU (Hays)	20	0.03				20	
Region K - Cond. NDU, Drought (Hays)	10	0.01				10	
Region K - Historical (Travis)	2009	2.78				2009	
Region K - Extreme Drought (Travis)	1406	1.94	24.55	0.03		1431	
Region K - Conditional NDU (Travis)	13	0.02				13	
Region K - Cond. NDU, Drought (Travis)	6	0.01				6	
Region K - Exempt (Hays)	310	0.43	11.07	0.02		321	
Region K - Exempt (Travis)	201	0.28	2.46	0.00		203	
Region K - Allocated Residual	150	0.21				150	
<i>Region K - Subtotal</i>	4251	5.87	148.72	0.21		4399	
Region L - Historical (Hays)	2287	3.16				2287	
Region L - Extreme Drought(Hays)	1601	2.21				1601	
Region L - Conditional NDU (Hays)	0	0.00					
Region L - Exempt (Hays)	229	0.32	8.18	0.01		237	
Region L - Allocated Residual	67	0.09				67	
<i>Region L - Subtotal</i>	1897	2.62	8.18			1905	
<b>Total Current Withdrawals During DOR</b>	<b>6147</b>	<b>8.49</b>	<b>156.90</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>6304</b>	Excludes effects of further potential curtailments for commercial, industrial and non-ag irrigation
<b>Total Authorized During DOR</b>	<b>6153</b>	8.50					
Springflow Environmental Reserve	6	0.01					If positive, this is incremental "new" surface water potentially available in Colorado R basin below Barton Springs at Austin

1.00 cfs = 724 Acre-Feet per Year

To: Members of South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group  
From: Tyson Broad, Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club  
Date: January 31, 2008

Dear Planning Group Members:

The Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club appreciates the efforts taken by the Planning Group to analyze Drought Management as a water management strategy. We also greatly appreciate the opportunity to interact with the consultants and Planning Group members regarding these efforts. In this regard, we offer comments on the *Technical Evaluation of Drought Management as a Water Management Strategy (Preliminary Draft)*.

We understand the necessity for the Planning Group to utilize a methodology for evaluating Drought Management that is readily applicable to all municipal water user groups. However, we have two initial concerns associated with the proposed methodology that, we feel, greatly overestimates the projected costs associated with adopting Drought Management as a water management strategy.

The first concern relates to the determination of the Risk Factor. (The Risk Factor is one of three multiples used by the methodology to estimate the annual cost of drought management; the other two are Demand and Impact Factor.) The Risk Factor is determined from a Risk Curve that is calculated using variations in annual per capita water use from 1964-2005.

We feel that utilizing such historical per capita water use may unnecessarily bias the Risk Curve. In more recent years, the variances in per capita water use have declined with the increased awareness and implementation of water conservation activities. Such decreases in variance should lessen the slope of the Risk Curve, and consequently, diminish the Risk Factor.

Our second concern relates to the determination of the Impact Factor. This Factor is obtained from the Texas Water Development Board's and is used by the Board for calculating the economic impacts of not meeting water needs. The use of this Factor is inappropriate to determining the costs related Drought Management.

Drought Management efforts focus on directing available supplies from nonessential uses to more critical uses during times of shortage. The calculations used by the Board include factors such as lost sales for manufacturing. It is not reasonable to assume that the economic impacts of having water unavailable temporarily to fill a fountain, keep a lawn green, or wash a car are the same as having water unavailable to run a manufacturing line. In fact, most drought management plans have nothing to with reducing the amount of water available for manufacturing.

We encourage the Planning Group to reevaluate this proposed methodology. We agree that there are some economic impacts associated with drought management, but they are not as large as those estimated by the methodology.

In 2005, the Sierra Club worked with Chris Brown Consulting to prepare, *Alternative Water Management Strategies for the 2006 South Central Texas Regional Water Plan*. This publication includes a discussion of Drought Management. In addition, the San Antonio Water System and other water suppliers throughout the state implemented drought management plans during 2006. We encourage the Planning Group to consider these sources of information in their evaluation of Drought Management as a water management strategy.

Thank you for considering this matter.