

Technical Memorandum

To: Groundwater Management Area 13
From: Jordan Furnans, PhD, PE, PG
Date: January 14, 2022
Project: 2021 Joint Planning
Subject: Groundwater Availability Modeling Technical Elements



The purpose of this memo is to meet the requirements of “Desired Future Condition Submission Packet Checklist - Groundwater Availability Modeling Technical Elements (part 4)” checklist. All modeling was conducted at the direction of Groundwater Management Area (GMA) 13 members.

Description of Desired Future Condition (DFC) - Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta Aquifers

As described in Section 2 of the Explanatory Report, for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta Aquifers two desired future conditions were proposed. The primary desired future condition is that 75 percent of the saturated thickness in the outcrop at the end of 2012 remains at the end of 2080. The secondary desired future condition is that the average drawdown of 49 feet (+/- 5 feet) be achieved for all of Groundwater Management Area 13, as calculated for the entire period from 2012 through 2080.

Modeling Approach

GAM version: The Southern Portion of the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers as represented in Kelley and others (2004).

Stress periods: 81 stress periods of 365.25 days each. The first stress period begins on January 1, 2000 and the last stress period (81) ends on December 31, 2080. The first stress period corresponds to the end of the calibration period.

Recharge: Average recharge applied throughout the predictive period

Predictive pumping: Details on the modifications to the predictive pumping are documented in the technical memorandums in Appendix 4 of the Explanatory Report.

Version of TWDB “model grid” file: “qcsp_s_grid05132019.csv” available at http://www.twdb.texas.gov/groundwater/models/gam/gam_grids/qcsp_s.zip as of the date of this technical memorandum.

Evaluation method: To extract data from the model and calculate average drawdown we used a script written using the Julia programming language available at <https://julialang.org/>. The script is named “Calc_avg_dd_GMA13_2019_001.jl” and is included with the modeling files. We calculated average drawdown for GMA 13 as a whole with the following assumptions:

- Calculations only occur within the active aquifer footprint as defined in the “model grid” file ($AQ_Active[\#] == 1$; where $[\#]$ is the layer number)
- Drawdown = starting head – head for the stress period of interest
 - For the DFCs, the stress period of interest = 81
 - Starting head = simulated head at the end of the calibration period (12/31/1999)
 - If a cell goes dry, drawdown = starting head – bottom of the aquifer
- Average drawdown = sum of drawdown in each model cell within area of interest divided by the number of model cells within the area of interest

Results: Summarized below. Also, see Appendix 4.5 in Explanatory Report.

Table 2. Calculated simulated average drawdown from January 1, 2000 through December 31, 2080.

Current Draft Average Drawdown from 12/31/2012, Feet							
	Layer	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Districts in GMA 13	Sparta	3	6	8	11	13	15
	Queen City	3	7	11	15	18	22
	Carrizo	13	27	39	51	61	72
	Upper Wilcox	12	27	38	50	60	71
	Middle Wilcox	3	11	21	32	43	55
	Lower Wilcox	3	12	22	36	50	73
	Total	7	18	28	39	50	63
All of GMA 13	Sparta	3	6	8	11	13	15
	Queen City	3	7	11	15	18	22
	Carrizo	11	22	32	41	50	59
	Upper Wilcox	10	22	31	41	50	58
	Middle Wilcox	2	9	17	27	36	46
	Lower Wilcox	3	11	19	31	43	62
	Total	6	15	23	33	42	53

Description of Desired Future Condition (DFC) - Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta Aquifers

As described in Section 2 of the Explanatory Report, for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer, relevancy was established only for Gonzales and Karnes Counties. The desired future conditions determined for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer are:

- Gonzales County: Average drawdown from the end of 2010 through 2080 is 3 feet (+/- 1 foot).
- Karnes County: Average drawdown from the end of 2010 through 2080 is 1 foot (+/- 1 foot).

Modeling Approach

GAM version: The Yegua-Jackson Aquifer as represented in Deeds and others (2010).

Stress periods: 81 stress periods of 365.25 days each. The first stress period begins on January 1, 2000 and the last stress period (81) ends on December 31, 2080. The first stress period corresponds to the end of the calibration period.

Recharge: Average recharge applied throughout the predictive period

Predictive pumping: Details on the modifications to the predictive pumping are documented in the technical memorandums in Appendix 4 of the Explanatory Report.

Version of TWDB “model grid” file: “ygjk_grid_poly070920.csv” available at http://www.twdb.texas.gov/groundwater/models/gam/gam_grids/ygjk.zip as of the date of this technical memorandum.

Evaluation method: To extract data from the model and calculate average drawdown we used a script written using the Julia programming language available at <https://julialang.org/>. The script is named “Calc_avg_dd_GMA13_YJ_2020_001.jl” and is included with the modeling files. We calculated average drawdown for Gonzales County and Karnes County within GMA-13 with the following assumptions:

- Calculations only occur within the active aquifer footprint as defined in the “model grid” file ($AQ_Active[\#] == 1$; where [#] is the layer number)
- Drawdown = starting head – head for the stress period of interest
 - For the DFCs, the stress period of interest = 81
 - Starting head = simulated head at the end of the calibration period (12/31/1999)
 - If a cell goes dry, drawdown = starting head – bottom of the aquifer
- Average drawdown = sum of drawdown in each model cell within area of interest divided by the number of model cells within the area of interest

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**Modeling was performed by Mike Keester prior to his resignation on 12/30/2021. As of 1/14/2022, Mr. Keester may be contacted at:

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