

SAWDF Update – November 14, 2025

URGENT – Letters of support to GMA-12 to maintain current Desired Future Conditions

SAWDF urges you to write your GCD general manager and tell them that you support keeping the current DFCs for your GCD and the use of GAM run PS4-2 by GMA-12 to support that decision.

Groundwater Management Area 12 [GMA-12] will meet on Thursday, November 20 and conduct joint planning on proposed Desired Future Conditions [DFCs] for the five groundwater districts that comprise GMA-12; Mid-East Texas GCD, Brazos Valley GCD, Post Oak Savannah GCD, Fayette County GCD, and Lost Pines GCD. The DFCs establish a 50-year view of aquifer conditions. The current DFCs are expressed as maximum drawdown in artesian pressure in an aquifer formation averaged over the groundwater district and/or county. Current DFCs are:

Table 2-1 Adopted DFCs for the Sparta, Queen City, Carrizo, Calvert Bluff, Simsboro, and Hooper Aquifers

GCD or County	Average Aquifer Drawdown (ft) measured from January 2011 through December 2070					
	Sparta	Queen City	Carrizo	Calvert Bluff	Simsboro	Hooper
Brazos Valley GCD	53	44	84	111	262	167
Fayette County GCD	43*	73*	140*	--	--	--
Lost Pines GCD	22	28	134	132	240	138
Mid-East Texas GCD	25	20	48	57	76	69
Post Oak Savannah GCD	32	30	146	156	278	178
Falls County	--	--	--	--	7	3
Limestone County	--	--	--	2	3	3
Navarro County	--	--	--	0	1	0
Williamson County	--	--	--	25	31	24

* Fayette County GCD DFCs are for all of Fayette County.
Brazos Valley GCD DFCs are for 2000 through 2070

Table 2-2 Adopted DFCs for the Yegua and Jackson Aquifers

GCD	Average Aquifer Drawdown (ft) measured from January 2010 through December 2069
	Yegua-Jackson
Brazos Valley GCD	67
Fayette County GCD	81
Lost Pines GCD	--
Mid-East Texas GCD	8
Post Oak Savannah GCD	61

Agenda items 9 thru 11 include discussion and possible action on re-adopting the current DFCs and the model run(s) of the Groundwater Availability Model [GAM] that support the adopted DFCs. At this time model run PS4-2 supports re-adopting the current DFCs for the Sparta, Queen City, and Carrizo-Wilcox [Carrizo, Calvert Bluff, Simsboro & Hooper formations]. SAWDF supports maintaining the current DFCs.

SAWDF believes each GCD now has the tools to manage groundwater production if/when drawdown approaches the Desired Future Condition in an aquifer/formation, including curtailment of permitted production, if necessary. **Allowing for deeper drawdown in the DFCs may damage hundreds more wells within GMA-12.**

Despite voting earlier this year to re-adopt the current DFCs, Brazos Valley GCD is proposing to significantly increase their DFC in the Simsboro formation to 329 feet of average drawdown. BVGCD has permitted more than 300,000 acre-feet per year [AFY] in the Simsboro formation, much of it for export to Williamson County. Many of the recent permits were challenged in district court because of board irregularities. A settlement agreement requires BVGCD to advocate for a DFC of 329 feet of average drawdown in the Simsboro thru 2070.

329 feet of average drawdown will not only impact hundreds of domestic/livestock wells in Robertson & Brazos counties, but in Milam and Burleson counties, too! At the GMA-12 meeting, BVGCD will propose a new GAM run that shows the greater Simsboro drawdown. In addition, **BVGCD has mounted a campaign urging permittees to send letters supporting a new GAM run and deeper drawdown. Many of these letters reference the water needs identified in the State Water Plan.**

In response, SAWDF urges you to write your GCD general manager. Tell him that you support keeping the current DFCs and the use of model run PS4-2 by GMA-12. Some talking points:

- Keep the current DFCs in this round of GMA-12 joint planning.
- Use PS4-2 model run to support adoption of the current DFCs.
- Protect domestic/livestock well owners; we comprise more than 90% of water wells in the District.
- Brazos Valley GCD's legal problems are not a reason for GMA-12 to adopt new DFCs.
- Texas Water Code requires a GMA to review water needs identified in the State Water Plan, but the GMA is NOT required to fulfill those needs at the cost of harming local wells.

IMPORTANT! Email your letter by Wednesday, November 19, 2025

METGCD – David Bailey david_metgcd@att.net

BVGCD -Alan Day aday@brazosvalleygcd.org

POSGCD – Gary Westbrook Gwestbrook@posgcd.org

FCGCD – David Van Dresar david@fayettecountygroundwater.com

LPGCD – Elvis Hernandez elvis@lostpineswater.org

Copy GMA-12 chair at: gwestbrook@posgcd.org

[Documentary on East Texas Groundwater Project includes SAWDF supporters](#)

A film crew from the non-profit newsroom More Perfect Union visited with wells owners in the Lexington area whose wells were impacted by the Vista Ridge project. The filmmakers wanted to

show the possible problems that come with large-scale high-capacity groundwater projects.

Watch our brief cameos here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RfzwLtWkVjg>

Note: John DeGomez, Lee County landowner, is mis-identified as Lee County landowner Mike Orosco.

This large-scale project in East Texas is now mired in new lawsuits. SAWDF's take-away is that next year's interim hearings by the legislature will open Pandora's box of water law and joint planning, including a discussion of the "rule of capture," limits on exports, and sustainable production of groundwater. Both committee chairs have demonstrated their commitment to conserving and preserving our state's aquifers. **They and their committees will need your input and support to tackle these topics. SAWDF will let you know ASAP when hearings and agendas are posted.**

Drop us an email at info@simsborowaterdefensefund.org if you would like to participate in a small group discussion(s) on how we can improve Texas Water law. Protection of our groundwater rights and the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer begin with us making time to "be informed and get involved."

Meetings of Interest: [in person or online, see agenda for links]

[FCGCD](#) Board Meeting; Dec..1, 2025, 9:30am, 255 Svoboda Lane, Room 115, La Grange, TX

[BVGCD](#) no meeting in December

[POSGCD](#) Board Meeting; November 18, 2025, 5:30pm, 310 East Ave C, Milano, TX [online/in-person]

[LPGCD](#) Board Meeting; November 19, 3:30pm; 317 E Hempstead ST; Giddings, TX [online/in-person]

[GMA-12](#) meeting; November 20, 2025, 10am, 310 East Ave C, Milano, TX [online/in-person]

Thank you for all your support.