

GROUNDWATER RELATED ACRONYMS

DFC - Desired Future Condition:

Physical aquifer conditions that are to be achieved or maintained over a 50 year period.

GAM – Groundwater Availability Model:

A computer model used to simulate an aquifer. By allowing specific input and output data we can view projected/simulated effects on the aquifer.

GCD – Groundwater Conservation District:

A local government agency responsible for preserving, conserving, protecting and preventing waste of groundwater resources. This is accomplished by management activities such as scientific studies, education and regulation.

GMA – Groundwater Management Area:

One of sixteen regions in the state based on major aquifer boundaries. GMAs allow for regional planning based on shared aquifers. Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) are set within the confines of the GMAs; each Groundwater Conservation District (GCD) within a GMA is a voting member of that GMA board.

MAG – Modeled Available Groundwater:

Estimate by the Texas Water Development Board of the amount of groundwater available for use consistent with the Desired Future Conditions (DFCs).

RWPG – Regional Water Planning Group

A group of individuals representing a variety of interests that prepares the Regional Water Plan. The Texas Water Development Board then takes all of the region plans and incorporates them into one State Water Plan.

TCEQ – Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

The environmental protection agency of the state.

TWDB – Texas Water Development Board

The state agency responsible for developing and implementing the State Water Plan.

OTHER USEFUL TERMS

Acre feet – One acre foot of water is 12 inches of water over one acre of land and is equal to 325,851 gallons.

Exempt well – A well which the District is prohibited or has chosen not to require a permit for. These wells are typically domestic, small agriculture and livestock wells and wells used in the exploration of hydrocarbons.

Non-exempt well – A well that must be permitted. These are typically water supply corporations, city water utilities, MUDs, industrial and commercial wells.