



# DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS COUNCIL

RICK PERRY  
Governor

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W. NIM KIDD  
Council Chairperson

**July 16, 2014**

**TO:** The Honorable Rick Perry, Governor, State of Texas  
The Honorable David Dewhurst, Lieutenant Governor, State of Texas  
Mr. John Steen, Secretary of State, State of Texas  
The Honorable Leticia R. Van de Putte, President Pro-Tempore of the Senate, State of Texas  
The Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, State of Texas  
The Honorable Tommy Williams, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee, State of Texas  
The Honorable Troy Fraser, Chairman, Senate Natural Resources Committee, State of Texas  
The Honorable Craig Estes, Chairman, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Rural Affairs & Homeland Security, State of Texas  
The Honorable Joseph Pickett, Chairman, House Committee on Homeland Security & Public Safety, State of Texas  
The Honorable Jim Pitts, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee, State of Texas  
The Honorable Allan Ritter, Chairman, House Natural Resources Committee, State of Texas  
The Honorable Tracy O. King, Chairman, House Agriculture & Livestock Committee, State of Texas  
The Honorable Abel Herrero, Chairman, House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, State of Texas  
Mr. Jeff Boyd, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor  
Mr. Steven McCraw, Director, Texas Department of Public Safety

**FROM:** Assistant Director Nim Kidd, Texas Division of Emergency Management

**SUBJECT:** Statewide Drought Situation Report

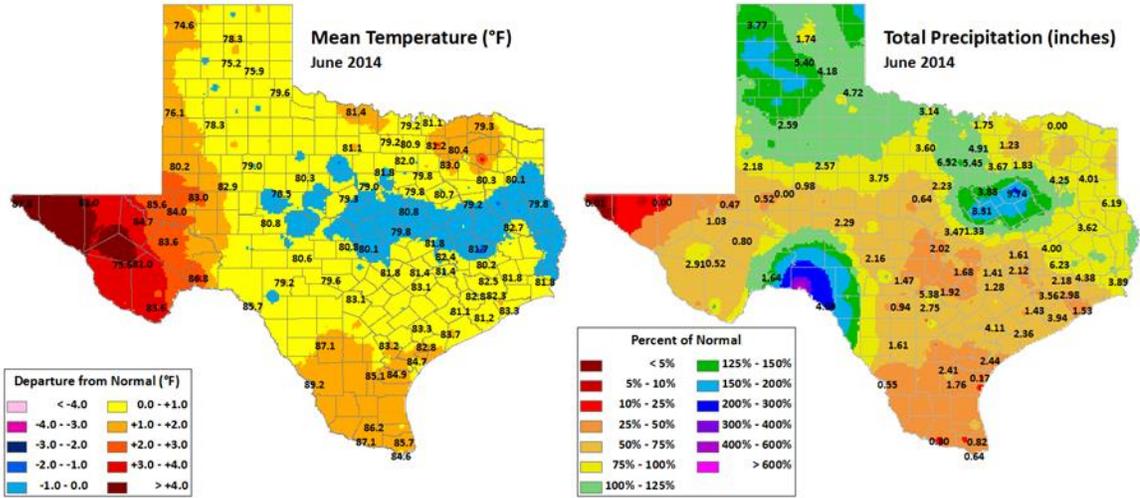
Nim Kidd, Chairman Texas Division of Emergency Mgmt	Sam Hermitte, Member Texas Water Development Board	Steven Bednarz, Member State Soil & Water Conservation Board
Lance Williams, Member Texas Department of Agriculture	Dr. Travis Miller, Member Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service	David Bradsby, Member Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Gilbert Jordan, Member Texas Department of Transportation	David A. Van Dresar, Member Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts	Priscilla Boston, Member Texas Department of State Health Services
Chris Loft, Member Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	Mark Ellison, Member Office of the Governor Economic Development & Tourism	Dr. John W. Nielsen-Gammon, Member Office of the State Climatologist
Michael Dunivan, Member Texas A&M Forest Service	Regina Erasles, Member Public Utility Commission of Texas	Marisa Callan, Member Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
Kent Saathoff, Member Electric Reliability Council of Texas		Oscar Fogle, Member William Masterson, Member Thomas M. Martine, Member

**1. Next Council Meeting**

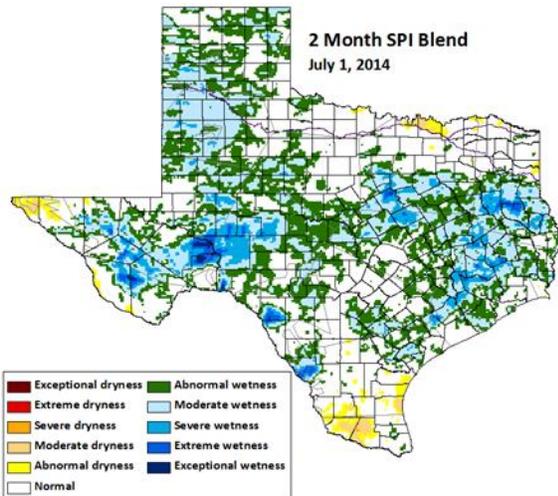
August 14, 2014 at 2:00pm

**2. General Conditions**

June temperatures were mild throughout for most of the central and eastern parts of the state due to several slow moving frontal passages; most of these regions saw temperatures slightly above or below normal on average. North central Texas along the Red River, southern Texas, and far west Texas however were warmer than average, with the latter being much warmer than normal. Precipitation accumulations matched the temperature pattern for the most part, with above normal precipitation occurring along the Rio Grande around Big Bend, across much of east Texas, and in the High Plains. The Trans-Pecos region was quite dry as was southern and central Texas, though some data coverage issues along the Rio Grande near Laredo caused accumulations to appear worse than what actually occurred.

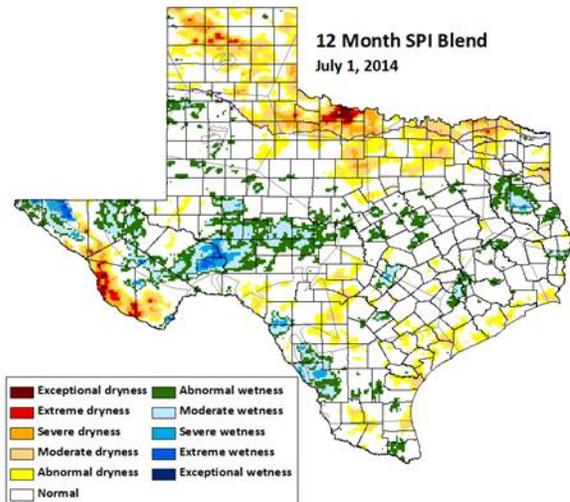
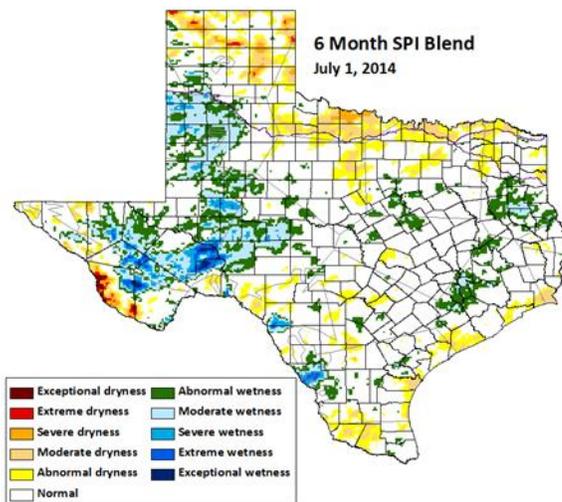


Much of Texas is still doing quite well in the short term, though there are a few exceptions. North central Texas was near normal in terms of precipitation for June, though the dry several months that came previously meant that impacts were not significant. Northeast Texas saw little rainfall this month which, combined with less runoff upriver, has the Red River at record low streamflow for this time of year. Deep south Texas, after a wet May, was dry for June, and high temperatures and low relative humidities are fueling rapid evaporation in the region. Soil moisture in all of these regions declined during June, though north central Texas is the worst off currently.



For the rest of the state, despite the moderately wet last two months, hydrological improvement has been moderate at best. Reservoirs at the end of June ended at 67.5 percent, no longer at record low for this time of year, but not much above it. Temperatures have not been excessively above normal thus far this year, helping prevent major evaporation, but municipal areas such as Dallas/Fort Worth, Wichita Falls, Austin, El Paso, and San Antonio are all dealing with low water situations, either due to near or below record low reservoirs levels or low aquifer

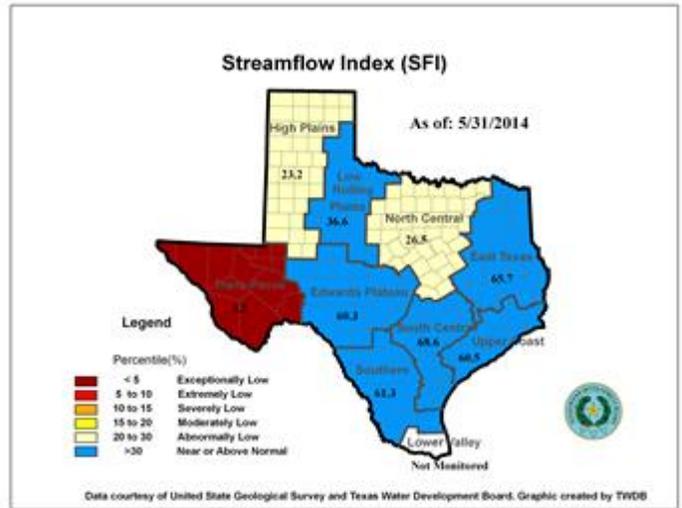
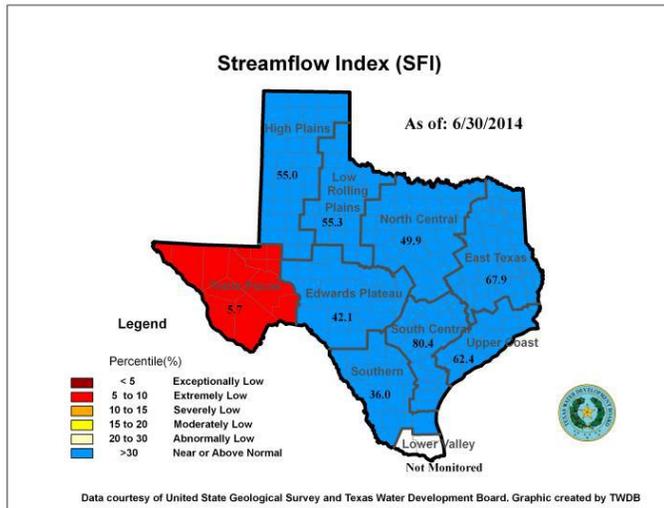
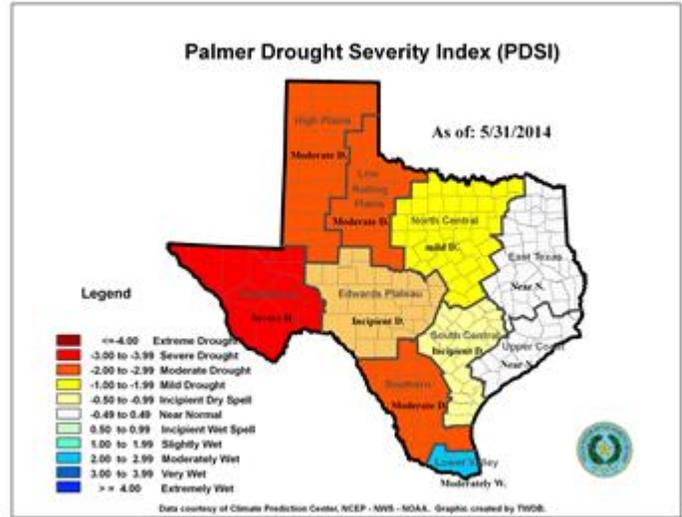
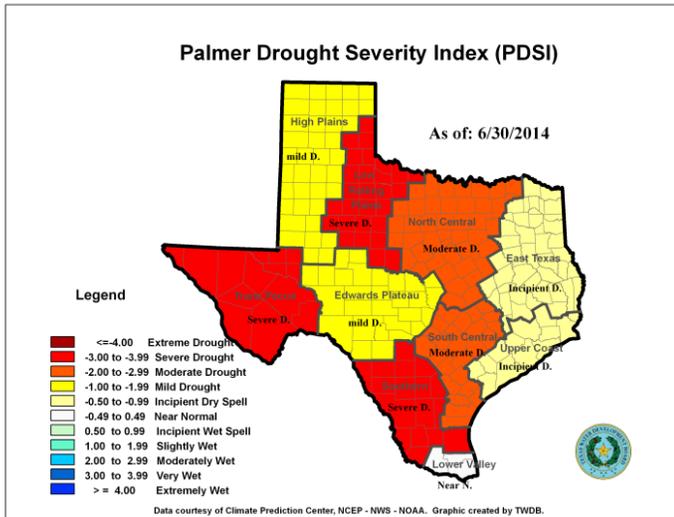
levels. River streamflow is holding up for now, but gauge measurements across the state are declining.



Temperature and precipitation outlooks for July are middling. The Texas/New Mexico border has a greater chance of being cooler than normal, while the rest of the state has no pronounced trend. Similarly for precipitation, the eastern Panhandle has a slightly higher chance of being wetter than normal while the rest of the state has no pronounced trend, though operational models predict little rainfall for the state for the first week or so. For longer-term trends, the ONI was positive for the first time since December 2012 and the CPC predicts that a positive phase ENSO is 80% likely by the end of November.

### 3. Statewide Drought Conditions Update

#### Selected Drought Index Maps

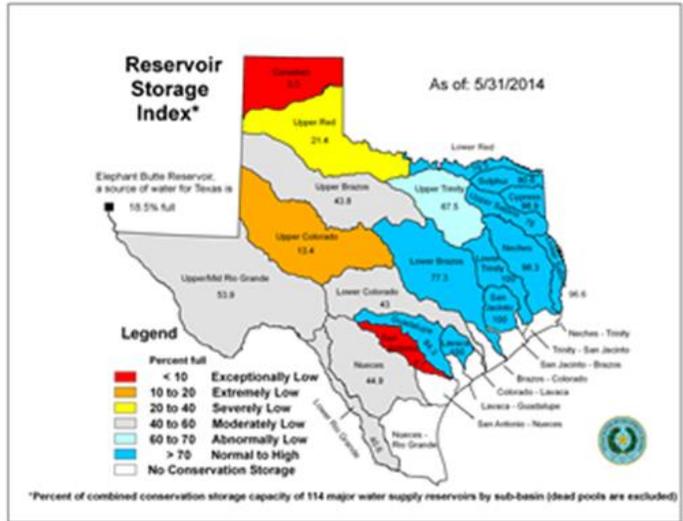
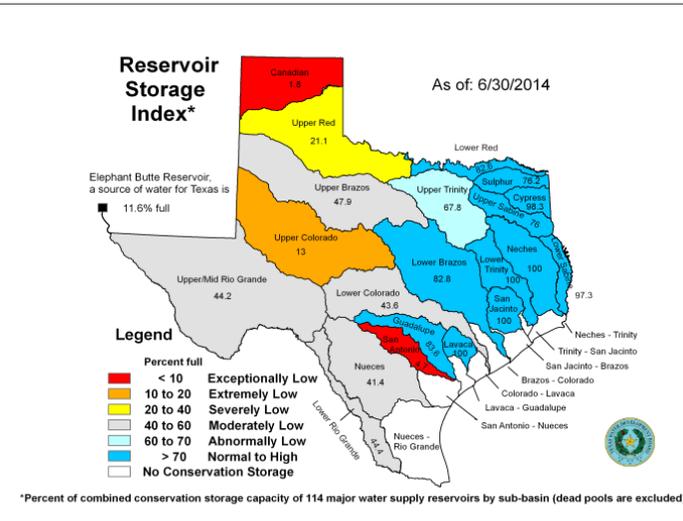
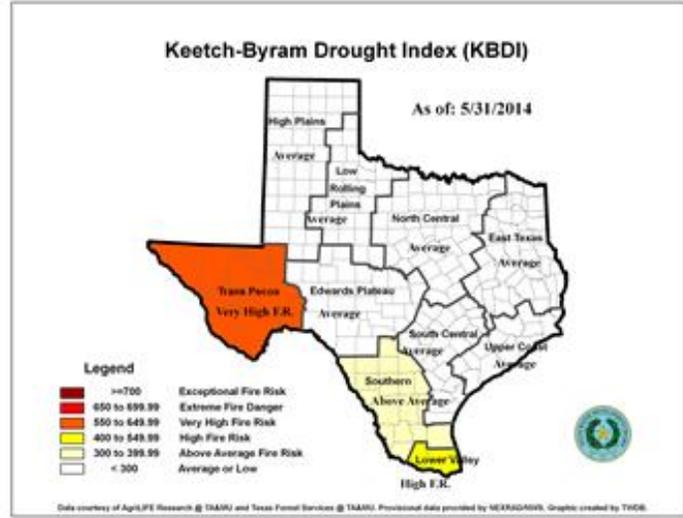
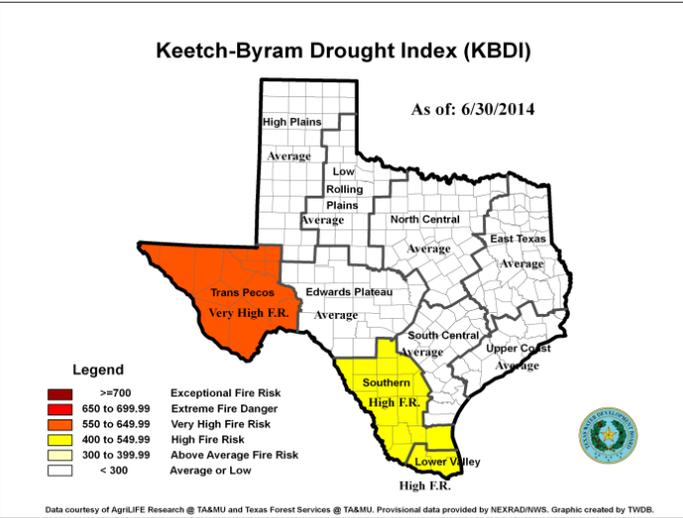
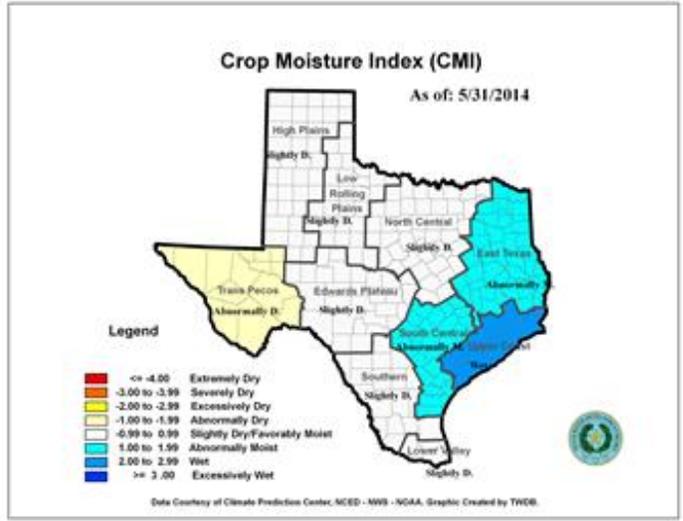
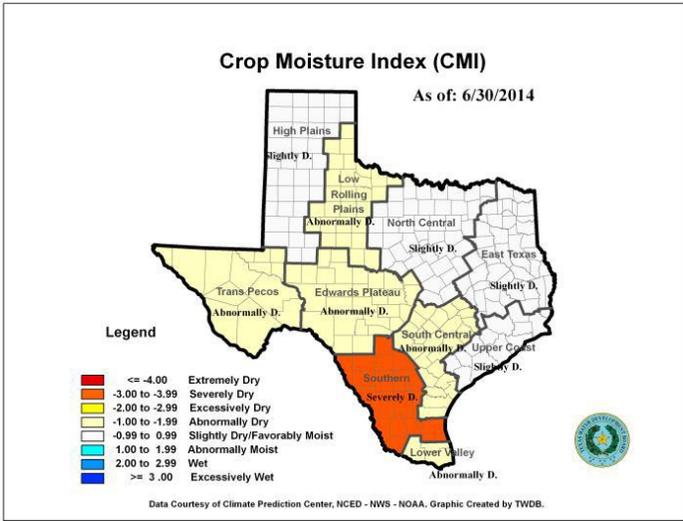


**Standardized Precipitation Index**

**Data not available at time of report**

**Standardized Precipitation Index**

**Data not available at time of report**



## Drought Status Summary

Texas is in drought now as indicated by the Palmer Drought Severity Index.

### Number of Regions In Drought Category

Drought Index	High Drought			Lower Drought		Not in Drought
	Exceptional Dry / Drought ----- Exceptional High Fire Risk	Extreme Dry / Drought ----- Extreme High Fire Risk	Severe Dry / Drought ----- Very High Fire Risk	Moderate or Excessive Dry / Drought ----- High Fire Risk	Abnormal or Mild Dry / Drought ----- Above Average Fire Risk	Near or Above Normal Condition
PDSI (10)	N/A	0	3	2	2	3
SFI (9)	1	1	0	0	0	8
6 Month SPI (10)	N/A	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
CMI (10)	N/A	0	1	0	5	4
KBDI (10)	0	0	1	2	0	7
Number of River Basins / Sub-Basins In Drought Category						
RSI (21)	2	1	1	5	1	11

Region ID	Region Name	Crop Moisture Index	Palmer Drought Severity Index	Standardized Precipitation Index	Keetch-Byram Drought Index	Reservoir Storage Index	Streamflow Index
1	High Plains	0.00	-1.95	No data	194	2.20	55.00
2	Low Rolling Plains	-1.37	-3.08	No data	198	21.10	55.30
3	North Central	-0.67	-2.27	No data	216	68.90	49.90
4	East Texas	-0.20	-0.56	No data	247	97.50	67.90
5	Trans Pecos	-1.36	-3.42	No data	562	44.20	5.70
6	Edwards Plateau	-1.35	-1.14	No data	252	38.50	42.10
7	South Central	-1.18	-2.15	No data	286	48.30	80.40
8	Upper Coast	0.14	-0.79	No data	242	100.00	62.40
9	Southern	-3.43	-3.07	No data	431	35.50	36.00
10	Lower Valley	-1.22	0.14	No data	507	No Data	No Data

## Drought Index Data

The comparison of index values with last month is summarized below:

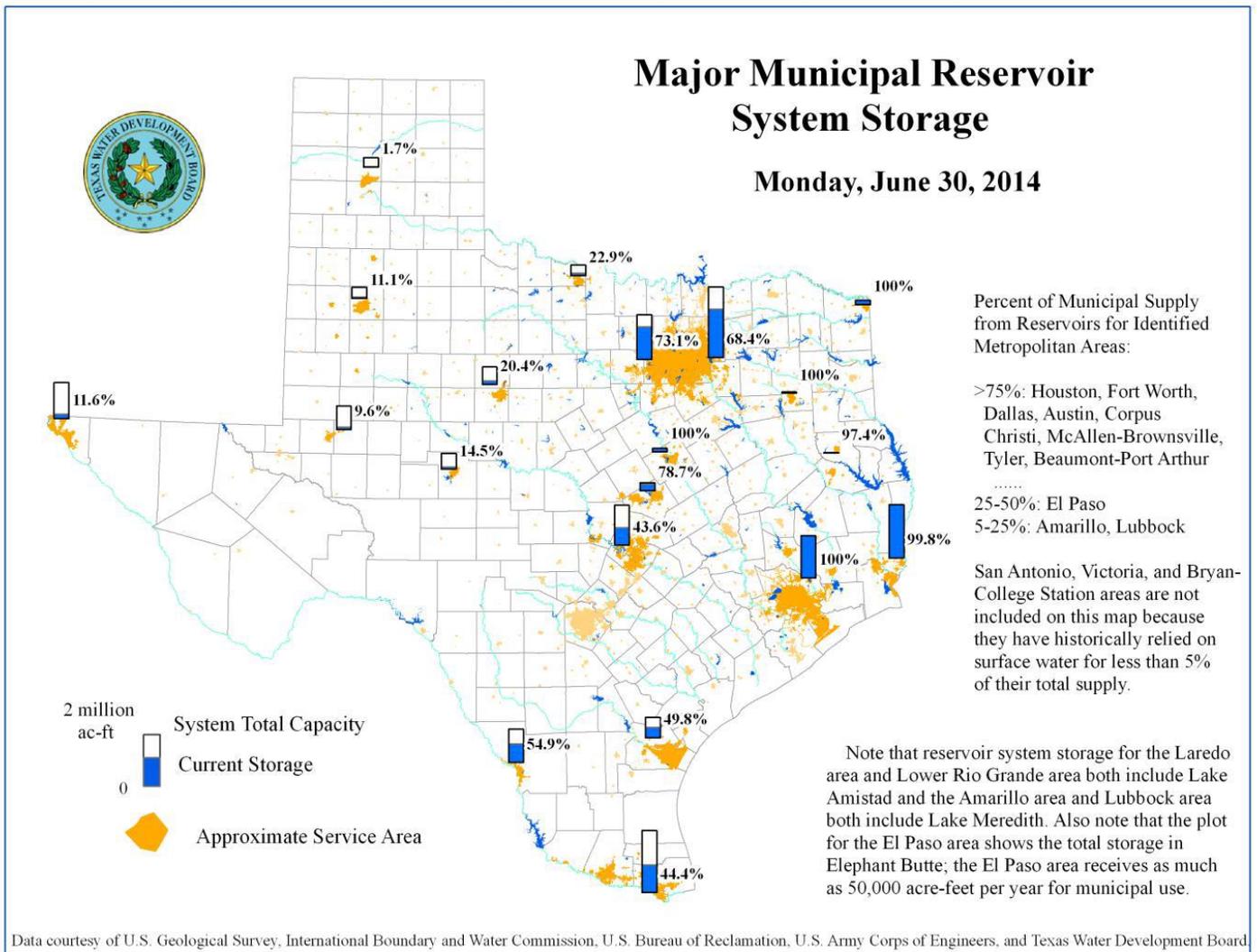
Drought Index	Index Value Improved in # Regions (Bold in table above)	Index Value Deteriorated in # Regions (Italic in table above)	Index Value Unchanged in # Regions
<b>PDSI (10)</b>	1	9	0
<b>SFI (9)</b>	7	2	0
<b>SPI (10)</b>			
<b>CMI (10)</b>	2	8	0
<b>KBDI (10)</b>	7	3	0
<b>RSI (21)</b>	9	8	4

## Reservoir Storage Condition

Water storage conditions are summarized below by river basins for the 114 of Texas major reservoirs at the end of the month:

- The statewide combined storage was 68% full at 21.24 million acft in total combined storage. This is 241,166 acre-feet more than a month ago.
- By the river basins, storage was lower than normal in 10 basin or sub-basins but Near or Above Normal in all other 11 basin or sub-basins,
- Exceptionally low in Canadian River basin and San Antonio sub-basins,
- Extremely low in Upper Colorado sub-basin basin,
- Severely low in Upper Red River sub-basin,
- Moderately low in and Upper Brazos and Lower Colorado sub-basins, as well as in Rio Grande and Nueces river basins,
- Abnormally low in Upper Trinity sub-basin,
- Near or above Normal in all other 11 basins or sub-basins.

The elephant Butte Reservoir held 229,122 acft of water, at 12% full by the month end.

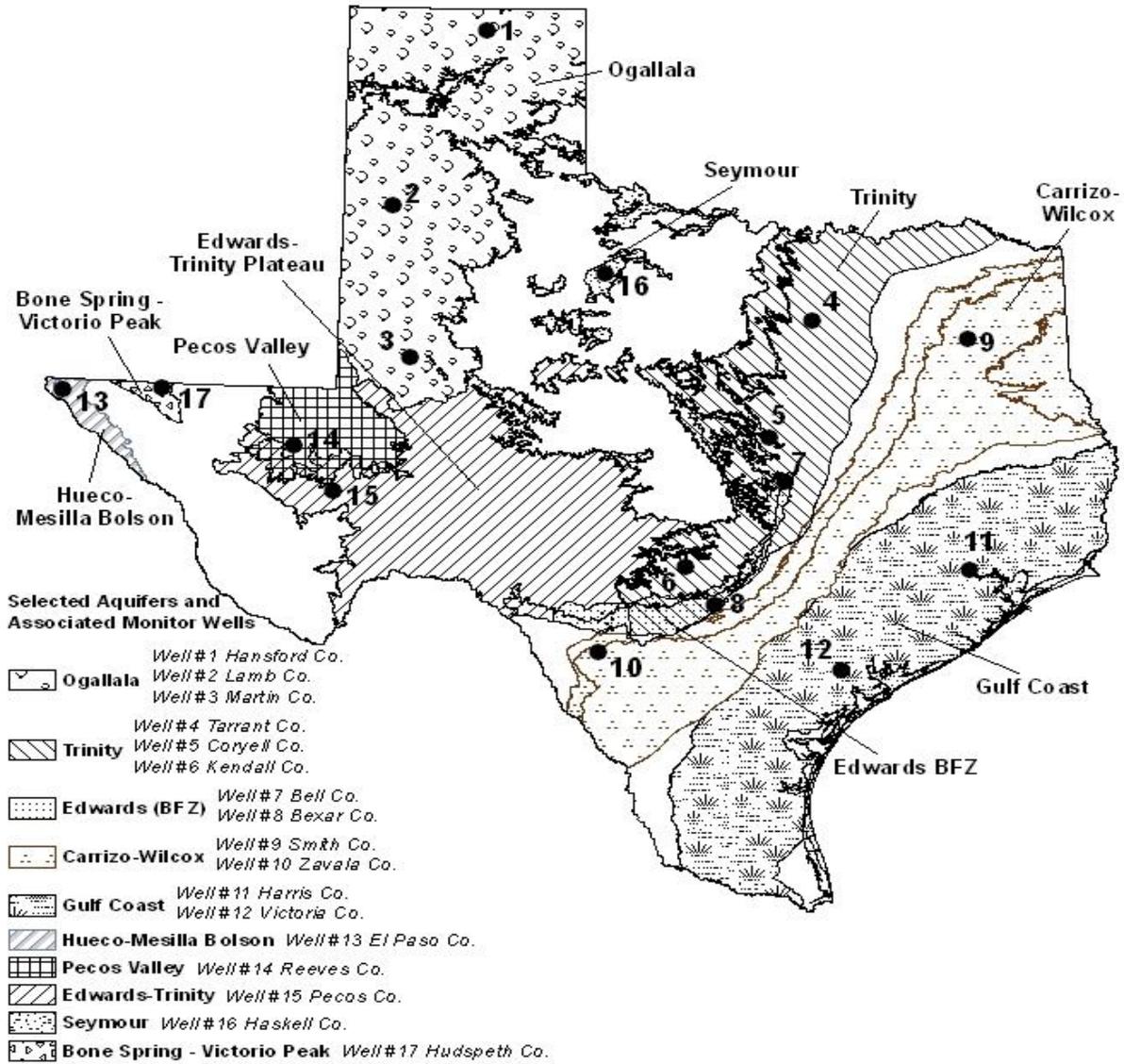


## Groundwater Conditions

- Water level measurements were available from all 17 key monitoring wells in the state.
- Water levels rose in four of the monitoring wells since the beginning of June, ranging from 0.42 feet in the El Paso County Hueco-Mesilla Bolson Aquifer well (well #13) to 1.74 feet in the Coryell County Trinity Aquifer well (well #5).
- Water levels declined in twelve monitoring wells, ranging from 0.04 feet in the Lamb County Ogallala Aquifer well (well #2) to 5.95 feet in the Pecos County Edwards-Trinity Aquifer well (well #15).
- The J-17 well in San Antonio recorded a water level of 90.91 feet below land surface or 640.09 feet above mean sea level. This water level is 0.09 feet above the Stage III critical management level in that segment of the Edwards Aquifer.

Monitoring Well	May	April	Month change	Year change	Historical change
(1) Hansford 0354301	<b>155.05</b>	<b>154.93</b>	<b>-0.12</b>	<b>-1.05</b>	<b>-84.93</b>
(2) Lamb 1053602	<b>144.38</b>	<b>144.34</b>	<b>-0.04</b>	<b>-0.88</b>	<b>-116.23</b>
(3) Martin 2739903	<b>NA</b>	<b>142.57</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>-37.68</b>
(4) Dallas 3319101	<b>487.23</b>	<b>487.66</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>0.82</b>	<b>-265.23</b>
(5) Coryell 4035404	<b>501.57</b>	<b>503.31</b>	<b>1.74</b>	<b>2.03</b>	<b>-209.57</b>
(6) Kendall 6802609	<b>137.08</b>	<b>135.7</b>	<b>-1.38</b>	<b>9.43</b>	<b>-77.08</b>
(7) Bell 5804816	<b>125.88</b>	<b>125.7</b>	<b>-0.18</b>	<b>3.13</b>	<b>-2.75</b>
(8) Bexar 6837203	<b>90.91</b>	<b>88.01</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>-4.05</b>	<b>-44.27</b>
(9) Smith 3430907	<b>437.93</b>	<b>437.93</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.73</b>	<b>-71.93</b>
(10) La Salle 738103	<b>491.02</b>	<b>491.46</b>	<b>0.44</b>	<b>-13.92</b>	<b>-237.95</b>
(11) Harris 6514409	<b>192.6</b>	<b>190.89</b>	<b>-1.71</b>	<b>0.23</b>	<b>-57.7</b>
(12) Victoria 017502	<b>35.55</b>	<b>34.57</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>-0.66</b>	<b>-1.55</b>
(13) El Paso 913301	<b>295.9</b>	<b>296.32</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>-2.05</b>	<b>-64</b>
(14) Reeves 644501	<b>161.52</b>	<b>160.18</b>	<b>-1.34</b>	<b>-4.73</b>	<b>-69.43</b>
(15) Pecos 5216802	<b>232.5</b>	<b>226.55</b>	<b>-5.95</b>	<b>-5.23</b>	<b>14.38</b>
(16) Haskell 2135748	<b>48.79</b>	<b>48.73</b>	<b>-0.06</b>	<b>-0.89</b>	<b>-7.46</b>
(17) Hudspeth 4807516	<b>150.49</b>	<b>147.09</b>	<b>-3.4</b>	<b>-3.04</b>	<b>-46.57</b>

## Groundwater Observation Wells Location Map



## 6. Water Utility Status

Overall, there are **1,173** water systems that are asking their customers to restrict water use, compared with **1,171** a month ago. Of these systems, **782** are asking customers to follow a mandatory watering schedule and **391** are asking customers to follow a voluntary watering schedule. There are currently **60** PWSs that have prohibited all outside watering by their customers. A total of **1,599** water systems have reported to the TCEQ regarding their status using the online form on the TCEQ public website. Drought conditions will likely persist and/or intensify for most areas of the state. Drought development is likely in the southern most and southeast portions of the state. No drought conditions are forecast for the far west or very most northeast portions of the state.

## 7. Water Rights – Statewide

New temporary water use permit applications are being reviewed on a site-specific basis and issued if there is sufficient surplus water at the requested source. The number of applications for new water use permits and amendments to existing permits was normal for the month.

The availability of unappropriated water for new water use permits continues to be limited in all river basins in the State, and the search for long-term, dependable alternate sources of water remains a high priority issue.

## 8. Water Rights – Lower Rio Grande / Rio Grande Watermaster (RGWM)

**Current Conditions:** June 21, 2014, the U.S. combined ownership at Amistad/Falcon stood at 41.80% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 1,417,932 acre-feet, up from 33.72% (1,143,912 AF) of normal conservation a year ago at this time. Overall the system is holding 34.26% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 2,029,207 acre-feet with Amistad at 39.35% of conservation capacity, impounding 1,289,029 acre-feet and Falcon at 27.96% of conservation capacity, impounding 740,178 acre-feet. Mexico has 24.16% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 611,275 acre-feet at Amistad/Falcon.

**Allocations:** As of printing of the May 2014 ownership report, 174,154.0496 acre-feet to Class A & B water rights have been allocated this year, which include irrigation, mining and recreation.

**Storage & Loss Amistad vs. Falcon:** The U.S. is currently storing approximately 1,004,000 acre-feet at Amistad (54.6%); and approximately 413,000 acre-feet (26.7%) of normal conservation capacity at Falcon. Evaporation and seepage losses at Amistad as of 6/14/14, are 86,234 acre-feet. For the same period, the U.S. has lost 70,379 acre-feet at Falcon.

**Releases to meet demands:** In 2014, (through 6/14/14), Mexico has released 402,287 acre-feet from Amistad and 516,160 acre-feet from Falcon for Mexico needs. The U.S. has released 361,136 acre-feet from Falcon and 272,363 acre-feet from Amistad for U.S. needs. Combined with gains between Amistad and Falcon, U.S. inflows to Falcon have totaled 233,402 acre-feet. The U.S. demand in the lower Rio Grande has been met at a rate of 89% by direct Rio Grande inflows and Amistad releases this year.

**Upper Rio Grande (New Mexico):** Currently, Elephant Butte in New Mexico is storing 244,834 (12.10%) acre-feet and Caballo Dam in New Mexico, downstream of Elephant Butte is storing 29,996 (13.21%) acre-feet. This water storage in part is used to meet water needs in the El Paso area.

**Outlook:** 44% of all accounts began 2014 at 0% water available, 27% of all accounts began 2014 with 0-50% of their usable balance and only 29% of all accounts began 2014 with 50-100% of their usable balance available. The National Weather Service continues to report that moderate to abnormally dry conditions with a few areas still under severe to extreme drought conditions are affecting parts of Rio Grande Basin counties.

## 9. River Basin Reports

Stream flow conditions vary widely across the state. When considering drought conditions, United State Geological Survey (USGS) streamflow data are commonly used as a metric for comparison. This report uses monthly mean river flows in cubic feet per second (cfs) to represent average monthly conditions within each river basin. The historical median flow value for the month (the discharge which is equaled or exceeded 50% of the time) is used to prevent the inclusion of high flow values that would skew the data.

## Red River Basin:

### **Streamflow Conditions:**

Site	June mean (cfs)	June historical median (cfs)
Red River near Burkburnett	1,076	783
Red River near De Kalb	5,413	11,4000

**Drought Condition:** As of June 24, 97% of the Red River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 26% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

**Drought Restrictions:** Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

## Sulphur River Basin:

### **Streamflow Conditions:**

Site	June mean (cfs)	June historical median (cfs)
Sulphur River near Talco	217	94

**Drought Conditions:** As of June 24, 32% of the Sulphur River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

**Drought Restrictions:** Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

## Cypress Creek Basin:

### **Streamflow Conditions:**

Site	June mean (cfs)	June historical median (cfs)
Little Cypress Creek near Jefferson	169	130

**Drought Conditions:** As of June 24, 0% of the Cypress Creek Basin is experiencing moderate drought conditions.

**Drought Restrictions:** Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

## **Sabine River Basin:**

### **Streamflow Conditions:**

<b>Site</b>	<b>June mean (cfs)</b>	<b>June historical median (cfs)</b>
Sabine River near Beckville	623	1,040
Sabine River near Ruliff	6,225	4,310

**Drought Conditions:** As of June 24, 30% of the Sabine River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

**Drought Restrictions:** Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

## **Neches River Basin:**

### **Streamflow Conditions:**

<b>Site</b>	<b>June mean (cfs)</b>	<b>June historical median (cfs)</b>
Angelina River near Alto	917	275
Neches River at Evadale	4,517	3,660

**Drought Conditions:** As of June 24, 11% of the Neches River Basin is experiencing moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

**Drought Restrictions:** Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

## **Trinity River Basin:**

### **Streamflow Conditions:**

<b>Site</b>	<b>June mean (cfs)</b>	<b>June historical median (cfs)</b>
Trinity River at Dallas	993	606
Trinity River near Oakwood	2,122	2,870
Trinity River at Romayor	3,672	4,970

**Drought Conditions:** : As of June 24, 74% of the Trinity River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 2% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

**Drought Restrictions:** Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

**Brazos River Basin:**

**Streamflow Conditions:**

Site	June mean (cfs)	June historical median (cfs)
Double Mountain Fork Brazos River near Aspermont	35	28
Brazos River near Glen Rose	225	625
Little River at Cameron	325	929
Navasota near Easterly	201	30
Brazos near Hempstead	2,644	4,580
Brazos near Rosharon	4,094	3,960

**Drought Conditions:** As of June 24, 91% of the Brazos River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; with 3% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

**Drought Restrictions:** Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits.

**Colorado River Basin:**

**Streamflow Conditions:**

Site	June mean (cfs)	June historical median (cfs)
Colorado River at Ballinger	2	30
San Saba River at San Saba	112	83
Llano River at Llano	91	133
Pedernales River near Johnson City	38	59
Colorado River at Columbus	775	2,315

**Drought Conditions:** As of June 24, 91% of the Colorado River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions.



**Drought Restrictions:** Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits; however, in the Concho Watermaster Area, the Concho Watermaster continues to monitor the streamflow conditions and modify diversion requests as needed.

**Guadalupe River Basin:**

**Streamflow Conditions:**

Site	June mean (cfs)	June historical median (cfs)
Guadalupe River near Spring Branch	62	167
San Marcos River at Luling	202	235
Guadalupe River at Cuero	593	1,240
Guadalupe River at Victoria	666	1,180

**Drought Conditions:** As of June 24, 65% of the Guadalupe River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

**Drought Restrictions:** Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits; however, some water rights in the upper Guadalupe River Basin can only divert on a limited schedule. The South Texas Watermaster continues to monitor the streamflow conditions and modify diversion requests as needed. All temporary permits are being reviewed on a case by case basis.

**San Antonio River Basin:**

**Streamflow Conditions:**

Site	June mean (cfs)	June historical median (cfs)
San Antonio River at Falls City	427	253
Cibolo Creek at Falls City	52	32

**Drought Conditions:** As of June 24, 70% of the San Antonio River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

**Drought Restrictions:** Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits; however, the South Texas Watermaster continues to monitor the streamflows conditions and modify diversion requests as needed. All temporary permits are being reviewed on a case by case basis.

**Nueces River Basin:**

**Streamflow Conditions:**

<b>Site</b>	<b>June mean (cfs)</b>	<b>June historical median (cfs)</b>
Nueces river at Tilden	3	20
Frio River near Derby	0	2
Atascosa River at Whitsett	97	11

**Drought Conditions:** As of June 24, 34% of the Nueces River Basin is experiencing at least moderate drought conditions; however, 0% of the basin experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

**Drought Restrictions:** Water rights in this area are eligible to impound or divert according to the terms of their permits; however, the South Texas Watermaster continues to monitor the streamflow conditions and modify diversion requests as needed. All temporary permits are being reviewed on a case by case basis.

## Statewide Rainfall Totals

June 1- 30, 2014

City/Station	Rainfall Totals (in)
<b>Brazos River Basin</b>	
Lubbock	2.59
Abilene	3.75
Waco	8.31
College Station	1.61
<b>Colorado River Basin</b>	
Midland	0.48
San Angelo	2.29
Austin Mabry	3.08
Austin Bergstrom	1.68
<b>Neches River Basin</b>	
Tyler	4.25
Lufkin	3.62
<b>Sabine River Basin</b>	
Longview	4.01
<b>Trinity River Basin</b>	
Dallas/ Fort Worth	3.26

## **10. Agriculture**

Information unavailable at time of report.

**The Drought Preparedness Council is comprised of state agencies concerned with the effects of drought and fire on the citizens of the State of Texas.**

The attached information was compiled and provided by representatives listed below. Points of contact, telephone numbers, and web site addresses are also provided.

Nim Kidd, Texas Division of Emergency Management, (512) 424-2436, fax (512) 424-2444, website: <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem>

Brenner Brown, Texas Water Development Board, (512) 475-1128, fax (512) 475-2053, website: <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/>

Chris Loft, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, (512) 239- 4715, fax (512) 239-4770, website: <http://www.tceq.state.tx.us>

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