



DROUGHT PREPAREDNESS COUNCIL

RICK PERRY
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W. NIM KIDD
Council Chairperson

March 16, 2012

TO: The Honorable Rick Perry, Governor, State of Texas
The Honorable David Dewhurst, Lieutenant Governor, State of Texas
Ms. Esperanza Andrade, Secretary of State, State of Texas
The Honorable Steve Ogden, President Pro-Tempore of the Senate, State of Texas
The Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, State of Texas
The Honorable Steve Ogden, Chairman, Senate Finance Committee, State of Texas
The Honorable Troy Fraser, Chairman, Senate Natural Resources Committee, State of Texas
The Honorable Tommy Williams, Chairman, Senate Committee on Transportation & Homeland Security, 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 Rick Hardcastle, Chairman, House Agriculture & Livestock Committee, State of Texas
The Honorable Pete Gallego, 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

Brenner Brown, Member
Texas Water Development Board

Richard Egg, Member
State Soil & Water Conservation Board

Lance Williams, Member
Texas Department of Agriculture

Dr. Travis Miller, Member
Texas 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

Suzanne Burnham, Member
Texas Department of State Health Services

Chris Loft, Member
Texas Commission on Environmental
Quality

Tad Curtis, Member
Office of the Governor
Economic Development & Tourism

Dr. John W. Nielsen-Gammon, Member
Office of the State Climatologist

Michael Dunivan, Member
Texas Forest Service

Marisa Callan, Member
Texas Department of Housing and
Community Affairs

1. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

March 22, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. - City of San Angelo, Office of Emergency Management

2. GENERAL CONDITIONS

February 2012 brought continued relief from drought conditions in the eastern half of Texas, while most of western Texas saw very little precipitation and a worsening of drought conditions during the month. Excluding Trans Pecos and High Plains regions, the U.S. Drought Monitor (USDM) has seen improvement across the state over the last two months. On the January 31st USDM, 27.36% of the state was in exceptional drought (D4) conditions with a decrease to 14.75% of the state by February 28th. The Edwards Plateau and South Central Texas saw a general 1-category improvement and the Brazos Valley saw a 2-category improvement during February. In the eastern half of the state, only a few counties near Corpus Christi were designated D4 on the January 31st USDM, with areas of the Trans Pecos, High Plains, Low Rolling Plains also receiving D4 designation.

In general, February precipitation totals across the state increased with proximity to the Gulf Coast, with the largest totals in the Upper Gulf Coast and Brazos Valley region. In addition to the Upper Gulf Coast and Brazos Valley, areas of the northern Panhandle, Edwards Plateau, and Lower Valley had greater than 200% of their normal February precipitation. College Station set a new 24-hour precipitation record for February when 6.26" of rain fell from the evening of the 3rd through the morning of the 4th. In contrast, the Low Rolling Plains, the Trans Pecos, and a region of South Central Texas near the Rio Grande saw very little February precipitation.

As the rains fell across the state, reservoirs and stock ponds saw drastic improvements in water levels during February, with all the drainage basins in the state seeing an increase in water level and percent capacity. According to the Texas Water Development Board, the Brazos River Basin increased from 74.0% capacity to 81.4% capacity in February. Elsewhere, the Colorado River Basin has been slower to recharge and was at 30.26% capacity by the end of February.

According the Climate Prediction Center, some improvement in drought during the spring of 2012 is possible in East Texas, but the drought is expected to persist and possibly worsen in the all other areas of the state currently experiencing drought conditions. There is a 33-40% probability of below normal March through May (MAM) precipitation across most of the state, with a 40-50% probability in the Trans Pecos, and equal chances of above, near, or below normal MAM precipitation in North Central and East Texas. The current La Niña is forecasted to transition to ENSO-neutral (El Niño-Southern Oscillation) conditions by the end of April 2012. Fire activity over the next few months is not expected to be as widespread or severe as in 2011, but days with high winds and low humidity will lead to an elevated fire risk across the western third of Texas.

3. OVERALL STATEWIDE DROUGHT CONDITIONS

Cooler temperatures and recent rain continued to reduce drought severity in Texas.

- Palmer Drought Severity Index (PDSI):

Based on this index, only one Texas climate region was in Extreme Dry, one in Severe Dry, five in Mild Dry, and two regions were in Incipient Dry. The North Central region was in Moderately Wet condition.

- Crop Moisture Index (CMI)

Based on this index, three regions were in Abnormally Moist condition and all others were in Slightly Dry or Favorably Moist condition.

- Standardized Precipitation Index (SPI)

Based on this index, one of the ten Texas regions was in Extreme Dry, one in Severe Dry, two in Moderately Dry, and the rest were all near Normal.

- Stream Flow Index (SFI)

Streams were exceptionally low in Trans-Pecos region, extremely low in Southern region, moderately low in Low Rolling Plains, and abnormally low in Edwards Plateau and High Plains regions. The remaining four regions were all in near or above normal condition. No flow data is collected in Lower Valley region.

- Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI)

Based on this index, Trans-Pecos was in Very High fire risk, High Plains and Lower Valley regions were in High fire risk, Low Rolling Plains and Southern regions were in Above Average fire risk, and rest of the regions were at average condition.

4. WATER UTILITY STATUS

There are 1,009 water systems that are asking their customers to restrict water use, compared with 1,011 a month ago. Of these systems, 638 are asking customers to follow a mandatory watering schedule and 371 are asking customers to follow a voluntary watering schedule. There are currently 49 PWSs that have prohibited all outside watering by their customers. A total of 1,161 water systems have reported to the TCEQ regarding their status using the online form on the TCEQ public website. Recent rains in parts of the state have allowed some water systems to relax their water use restrictions however, the seasonal forecasts are for the drought to persist or intensify in many areas of the state during the spring and summer months.

5. WATER RIGHTS – STATEWIDE

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

There is limited unappropriated water available for new water use permits in many river basins in the State, and the search for long-term, dependable alternate sources of water remains a high priority issue.

6. WATER RIGHTS – LOWER RIO GRANDE / RIO GRANDE WATERMASTER (RGWM)

Current Conditions: On February 25, 2012, the U.S. combined ownership at Amistad/Falcon stood at 62.60% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 2,123,249 acre-feet, down from 96.96% (3,398,496 AF) of temporary conservation a year ago at this time. Overall the system is holding 58.12% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 3,442,275 acre-feet with Amistad at 69.45% of conservation capacity, impounding 2,274,852 acre-feet and Falcon at 44.11% of conservation capacity, impounding 1,167,422 acre-feet. Mexico has 52.13% of normal conservation capacity, impounding 1,319,025 acre-feet at Amistad/Falcon.

Allocations: As of printing of the January ownership report, the U.S. has allocated 571,765.853 acre-feet to Class A & B water rights, which include irrigation, mining and recreation.

Storage & Loss Amistad vs. Falcon: The U.S. is currently storing approximately 1.410 million acre-feet at Amistad (76.9%); and approximately 708 thousand acre-feet (45.6%) of normal conservation capacity at Falcon. Evaporation and seepage losses at Amistad, as of 02/25/12, are 43,905 acre-feet. For the same period, the U.S. has lost 42,680 acre-feet at Falcon.

Releases to meet demands: Through February 25, 2012, Mexico has released 402,716 acre-feet from Amistad and 270,519 acre-feet from Falcon for Mexico's needs. The U.S. has released 146,043 acre-feet from Falcon and 142,245 acre-feet from Amistad for U.S. needs. Combined with the gains between Amistad and Falcon, U.S. inflows to Falcon have totaled 153,430 acre-feet. The U.S. demand in the lower Rio Grande has been met at a rate of 105% by direct Rio Grande inflows and Amistad releases this year.

Upper Rio Grande (New Mexico): Currently, Elephant Butte in New Mexico is storing 360,765 (17.83%) acre feet and Caballo Dam in New Mexico, downstream of Elephant Butte is storing 16,214 (7.14%) acre-feet. This storage is used in part, to meet water needs in the El Paso area.

Outlook: 71% of all accounts began 2012 with 100% of their usable balance and 29% of all accounts began 2012 less than 100% of their usable balance of water available. The National Weather Service continues to report that the drought conditions are affecting 100% of counties in the basin and while temperatures have cooled down there has been very little rain to ease the drought conditions.

7. 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	February mean (cfs)	February historical median (cfs)
Red River near Burkburnett	69	288
Red River near De Kalb	9,176	8,640

Drought Condition: As of February 28, 87% of the Red River Basin is experiencing drought conditions; 11% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Most water rights in this area are eligible to divert at this time. There are no additional drought restrictions.

Sulphur River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	February mean (cfs)	February historical median (cfs)
Sulphur River near Talco	608	206

Drought Conditions: As of February 28, 66% of the Sulphur River Basin is experiencing drought conditions; 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Most water rights in this area are eligible to divert at this time. There are no additional drought restrictions.

Cypress Creek Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	February mean (cfs)	February historical median (cfs)
Little Cypress Creek near Jefferson	496	709

Drought Conditions: As of February 28, 100% of the Cypress Creek Basin is experiencing drought conditions; 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Most water rights in this area are eligible to divert at this time. There are no additional drought restrictions.

Sabine River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	February mean (cfs)	February historical median (cfs)
Sabine River near Beckville	1,811	2,740
Sabine River near Ruliff	7,698	13,000

Drought Conditions: As of February 28, 93% of the Sabine River Basin is experiencing drought conditions; 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Most water rights in this area are eligible to divert at this time. Most temporary water rights have been suspended

Neches River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	February mean (cfs)	February historical median (cfs)
Angelina River near Alto	666	1,050
Neches River at Evadale	5,939	8,440

Drought Conditions: As of February 28, 100% of the Neches River Basin is experiencing drought conditions; 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Water right holders above B.A. Steinhagen and Sam Rayburn reservoirs junior to November 12, 1963 and to which LNVA is not subordinate, and water rights above the saltwater barrier and junior to July 3, 2001 are still suspended. All term and temporary permits also remain suspended.

Trinity River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	February mean (cfs)	February historical median (cfs)
Trinity River at Dallas	2,232	492
Trinity River near Oakwood	6,607	2,610
Trinity River at Romayor	16,507	5,620

Drought Conditions: As of February 28, 62% of the Trinity River Basin is experiencing drought conditions; 0% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions

Drought Restrictions: Most water rights in this area are eligible to divert at this time. There are no additional drought restrictions.

Brazos River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	February mean (cfs)	February historical median (cfs)
Double Mountain Fork Brazos River near Aspermont	2.0	4.8
Brazos River near Glen Rose	833	223
Little River at Cameron	1,762	585
Navasota near Easterly	310	75
Brazos near Hempstead	9,585	4,080
Brazos near Rosharon	11,860	6,325

Drought Conditions: As of February 28, 93% of the Brazos River Basin is experiencing drought conditions; 12% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Most water rights in this area are eligible to divert at this time. There are no additional drought restrictions.

Colorado River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	February mean (cfs)	February historical median (cfs)
Colorado River at Ballinger	0.5	11
San Saba River at San Saba	159	104
Llano River at Llano	298	183
Pedernales River near Johnson City	62	74
Colorado River at Columbus	2,401	1,080

Drought Conditions: As of March 6th, 97% of the Colorado River Basin is experiencing drought conditions; 11% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Most water rights in this area are eligible to divert at this time. There are no additional drought restrictions.

Guadalupe River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	February mean (cfs)	February historical median (cfs)
Guadalupe River near Spring Branch	87	185
San Marcos River at Luling	387	238
Guadalupe River at Cuero	1,954	1,185
Guadalupe River at Victoria	1,888	1,130

Drought Conditions: As of February 28, 100% of the Guadalupe River Basin is experiencing drought conditions; 0% of the basin is experiencing some exceptional drought conditions

Drought Restrictions: Currently all water right permits are able to divert, although some permits can only divert on a limited schedule. All temporary permits above Canyon Lake are still suspended and reviewed on a case by case basis.

San Antonio River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	February mean (cfs)	February historical median (cfs)
San Antonio River at Falls City	799	296
Cibolo Creek at Falls City	255	35

Drought Conditions: As of February 28, 100% of the San Antonio River Basin is experiencing drought conditions; 1% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Currently all water rights are able to divert, although some permits can only divert on a limited schedule. All temporary water permits above Lake Medina are still suspended and reviewed on a case by case basis.

Nueces River Basin:

Streamflow Conditions:

Site	February mean (cfs)	February historical median (cfs)
Nueces river at Tilden	0	1.4
Frio River near Derby	0	11
Atascosa River at Whitsett	6.5	13

Drought Conditions: As of February 28, 100% of the Nueces River Basin is experiencing drought conditions; 4% of the basin is experiencing exceptional drought conditions.

Drought Restrictions: Currently all water rights are able to divert, although some permits can only divert on a limited schedule. All temporary permits in the area are currently suspended.

Statewide Rainfall Totals
February 1 - 29, 2012

City/Station	Rainfall Totals (in)
Brazos River Basin	
Lubbock	.57
Abilene	1.70
Waco	1.88
College Station	9.30
Colorado River Basin	
Midland	0.19
San Angelo	2.70
Austin Mabry	3.04
Austin Bergstrom	3.86
Neches River Basin	
Tyler	2.90
Lufkin	3.40
Sabine River Basin	
Longview	3.68
Trinity River Basin	
Dallas/ Fort Worth	1.88

9. WILDLIFE CONCERNS

No information was received by the time of this report.

10. AGRICULTURE CONCERNS

Much of the state has benefited from significant rainfall or snow over the last one to two months. Central, North and East Texas received abundant rain over the last three weeks which has been of great benefit to wheat crops. Rainfall amounts were quite variable. However, concerning Texas agriculture, immediate concern on the crops ledger, is the Texas winter wheat crop. The Panhandle, High Plains and western Rolling Plains account for more than 60% of the planted acres of wheat, and most of this crop was late to emerge due to a dry fall and the majority is in either poor or very poor conditions. Overall, 67% of the crop is rated very poor to fair, with the crop index rated at 53, compared to a 41 at this time in 2011. Dryland crop prospects do not look good in this region of the state. Cotton planting is 1.5 to 2 months away, but soil profiles are very dry. With more than 60% of the crop lost last year due to drought, the major cotton producing region of the state is at significant risk as they approach May.

Corn and sorghum planting is active in South and Central Texas and the Gulf Coast as many farmers have been delayed by rains, which are giving good planting moisture but increasing risk of production due to a delayed planting date. The southern and western regions of the panhandle have received little benefit from rains and most of this region remains in exceptional drought.

The wheat crop in the Blacklands and eastern Rolling plains is mostly in good or excellent conditions due to October rains which got crop up and going and subsequent rains which added to soil moisture and improved crop conditions. The south Texas crop was damaged by a dry fall but prospects have improved due to recent rains.

The rains also improved conditions for livestock, with stock tanks catching water and moisture coupled with warm weather has significantly improved winter forages. Some Central Texas ranchers have begun the process of restocking as pastures are improving and stock tanks have filled. Ranchers should be cautious in restocking, allowing pastures to fill in before significant grazing pressure is placed on them.

The following summaries of agricultural conditions are from AgriLife Extension district reporters for the week ending March 9, 2012:

Central: The region received substantial rains with more in the forecast. Crops were growing well thanks to the rains. Pastures were greening up. Lake and pond levels were rising with each rain. Corn planting was slowed by the rains but was expected to resume soon. In some areas, most corn was already planted. Oat bird cherry aphid numbers were high, and some producers were applying pesticides. Wheat and oats were two to three weeks ahead of normal maturity, largely due to warm winter weather.

Coastal Bend: Some light rain fell. Spring planting of corn, sorghum and some rice was under way. Pastures responded well to the moisture. Warm-season grasses were

slowly coming on, along with lots of broadleaf weeds. Many ranchers were able to slow feeding of hay and supplements.

East: Warmer-than-normal temperatures continued until a cold front pushed through, bringing a good rain with it. Cherokee County reported as much as 7 inches of rain in some areas. Water levels in ponds and lakes improved with the recent showers. Winter pastures greened up and made good growth. Warmer-than-normal temperatures continued until a cold front pushed through the region.

Far West: Warm temperatures early in the reporting period yielded to an icy blast of cold air, with high winds of up to 40-50 mph in the northern and central parts of region. Small amounts of moisture were received, but more was needed as the region is still under drought conditions. Lawns, road ditches and pastures greened up, and many trees put on leaves. However, ranchers continued to supplement cattle because either the warm, windy weather dried out pastures or the green up was mostly weeds. Farmers began preparing cotton land for planting. Irrigated crops were doing well. Alfalfa fields were fertilized and watered, with early cuttings expected in some areas. Stocker cattle were doing fairly well but were not gaining weight as rapidly as normal. Heavy winds and low humidity brought dangerous wildfire conditions back to Presidio County. Grazing there was nearly non-existent and remaining cattle were on supplemental feed and consuming large amounts of mineral. In El Paso County, only 6 acre-inches of irrigation water were allocated for the rest of the year on cotton. The allocation will be distributed in late-May/early-June to carry the crop to first square set, but cotton farmers may not be able to complete the crop and losses could be heavy if they don't receive additional allocations or rain.

North: Received from 1 inch to 4 inches of rain, which benefited crops and pastures. Farmers started planting corn, but were slowed by the rain. Winter-annual pastures and small grains continued to do very well. Warm-season forages were coming out of dormancy. Livestock were in good to fair condition. Feral hogs were still a major problem in some counties.

Panhandle: Temperatures were near to above average for most of the week, but turned colder by the weekend. Some much-needed moisture accompanied the cooler weather, but a good rain was still needed in most of the region. Soil-moisture levels were mostly very short. Wheat was in very poor to fair condition, with most counties reporting poor to very poor. Producers continued to try to stem soil erosion. Field preparation continued, and irrigation on winter wheat was still active. Rangeland varied from being in very poor to fair condition, with most counties reporting very poor to poor. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued.

Rolling Plains: The region received anywhere from a trace of rain in some areas to 3 to 4 inches in others. Pastures were looking better with the grown winter annuals. Bermuda-grass pastures, hay meadows and native grasses started to show some green as well. In areas that did not receive rain, warm, windy days stressed wheat. Producers were scouting fields for insects. There were some reports of greenbugs and cherry-oat aphids. In many fields the insect counts were below the economic threshold; other producers were spraying. Livestock were generally in fair condition. Producers continued to de-stock herds due to high cattle prices and help pastures recover. Hay

was still being fed, but less was being consumed due to winter annuals coming on. Peach trees were nearly in full bloom.

South: Rainfall amounts varied, with some areas getting as much as 2 inches. Coupled with mild temperatures, the rains improved rangeland and pastures throughout most of the region. Cattle body-condition scores have slightly improved. Soil moisture ranged from adequate in almost all of the northern, eastern and western counties except for Webb, Kleberg, Kennedy and Jim Hogg counties, where it was short. In the more southern counties, soil moisture was reported as being short to very short except for Hidalgo County, where it was 50 percent adequate. In McMullen County, winter-annual grasses and forbs provided good grazing for livestock, but forage supplies remained short. In Atascosa County, most of the corn crop was already planted. In Frio County, potatoes were flowering. In Jim Wells County, field activity increased and planting was in full swing. While some cornfields had already emerged in that county, producers were planting other fields in corn, expecting a good season. With good rainfall in Zavala County, dryland wheat and oats were making seed heads. Also in that area, spinach and cabbage harvesting was very active, onions made good progress, and corn and sorghum planting began. In Cameron County, row-crop planting was under way, sorghum planting continued, and onions and melon crops progressed well. In Hidalgo County, cold and wet conditions put a halt on planting. In Starr County, farmers were preparing to harvest onions.

South Plains: The region received some light precipitation in the form of rain, mist, sleet and snow. Accumulations were generally less than 1 inch. Before the moisture arrived, there were warm days with high winds. Winds were blowing dust during the wintery mix precipitation. Producers were pre-watering fields and applying herbicides in preparation for spring planting. Top soils remained very dry throughout the region. Much more precipitation will be needed for spring planting of cotton. Winter wheat was struggling, and rangeland and pastures were in fair to poor condition. Livestock producers were still providing cattle with supplemental feed.

Southeast: The region had warm temperatures and varying amounts of rain, with at least 2.5 inches in parts of Liberty County. Winter feeding of livestock continued. Except for very large private containments, ponds and lakes were full. Livestock were in fair condition. Land preparation for spring planting was delayed due to the wet conditions.

Southwest: Precipitation ranged from 0.4 inch to 2 inches, providing a much-needed boost to spring green-up, with an abundance of cool weather forbs and weeds. Overall, pasture conditions remained fair to good. Livestock further improved, though bloat continued to be a threat in areas with an overabundance of clover. Spring lambing and kidding continued. Corn planting was under way, and wheat crops looked good.

West Central: A cold front brought low temperatures, high winds and scattered showers. Freezing rain and hail was reported in some areas. Small grain crops continued to do very well. Farmers were preparing fields for spring planting, cultivating, spraying weeds and servicing equipment. Rangeland and pastures further improved with green-up of cool-season grasses and winter weeds. Ranchers decreased supplemental feeding of livestock due to better grazing.

12. WILDFIRE CONCERNS

The Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) is used to help determine the potential for fire risk. It is a numerical index where each number is an estimate of the amount of precipitation, in 100ths of an inch, needed to bring the soil back to saturation. The index ranges from 0 to 800, with 0 representing a saturated soil, and 800 a completely dry soil. The relationship of the KBDI to fire danger is, as the index increases, the vegetation is subjected to increased moisture stress. KBDI levels and their relationship to expected fire potential are reflected in the following:

KBDI = 0 – 200: Soil moisture and large class fuel moistures are high and do not contribute much to fire intensity. This is typical of the spring dormant season following winter precipitation.

KBDI = 201 – 400: Typical of late spring and early growing season. Lower litter and duff layers are drying and beginning to contribute to fire intensity.

KBDI = 401 – 600: Typical of late summer and early fall. Lower litter and duff layers contribute to fire intensity and will burn actively.

KBDI = 601 – 800: Often associated with more severe drought and increased wildfire occurrence. Intense, deep-burning fires with significant downwind spotting can be expected. Live fuels can also be expected to burn actively at these levels.

As of February 28, 2012, there were 99 counties (illustrated in Attachment 2) with KBDI values in excess of 400. The values indicate areas within these counties are beginning to experience or sustain dry conditions which could result in an increased fire risk potential.

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.state.tx.us>

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

Richard Egg, Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board, (254) 773-2250, fax (254) 773-3311, website: <http://www.tsswcb.state.tx.us>

Lance Williams, Texas Department of Agriculture, (512) 463-3285, fax (800) 835-2981, website: <http://agr.state.tx.us>

Dr. Travis Miller, Texas AgriLife Extension Service, (979) 845-4808, fax (979) 845-0456, website: <http://texasextension.tamu.edu>

David Bradsby, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, (512) 912-7015, fax (512) 707-1358, website: <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us>

Gilbert Jordan, Texas Department of Transportation, (512) 416-3270, fax (512) 416-2941, website: <http://www.txdot.state.tx.us>

Michael Dunivan, Texas Forest Service, (830) 997-5426, website: <http://txforests.service.tamu.edu>

Suzanne Burnham, Texas Department of State Health Services, (512) 801-9816, fax (512) 458-7111, website: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/>

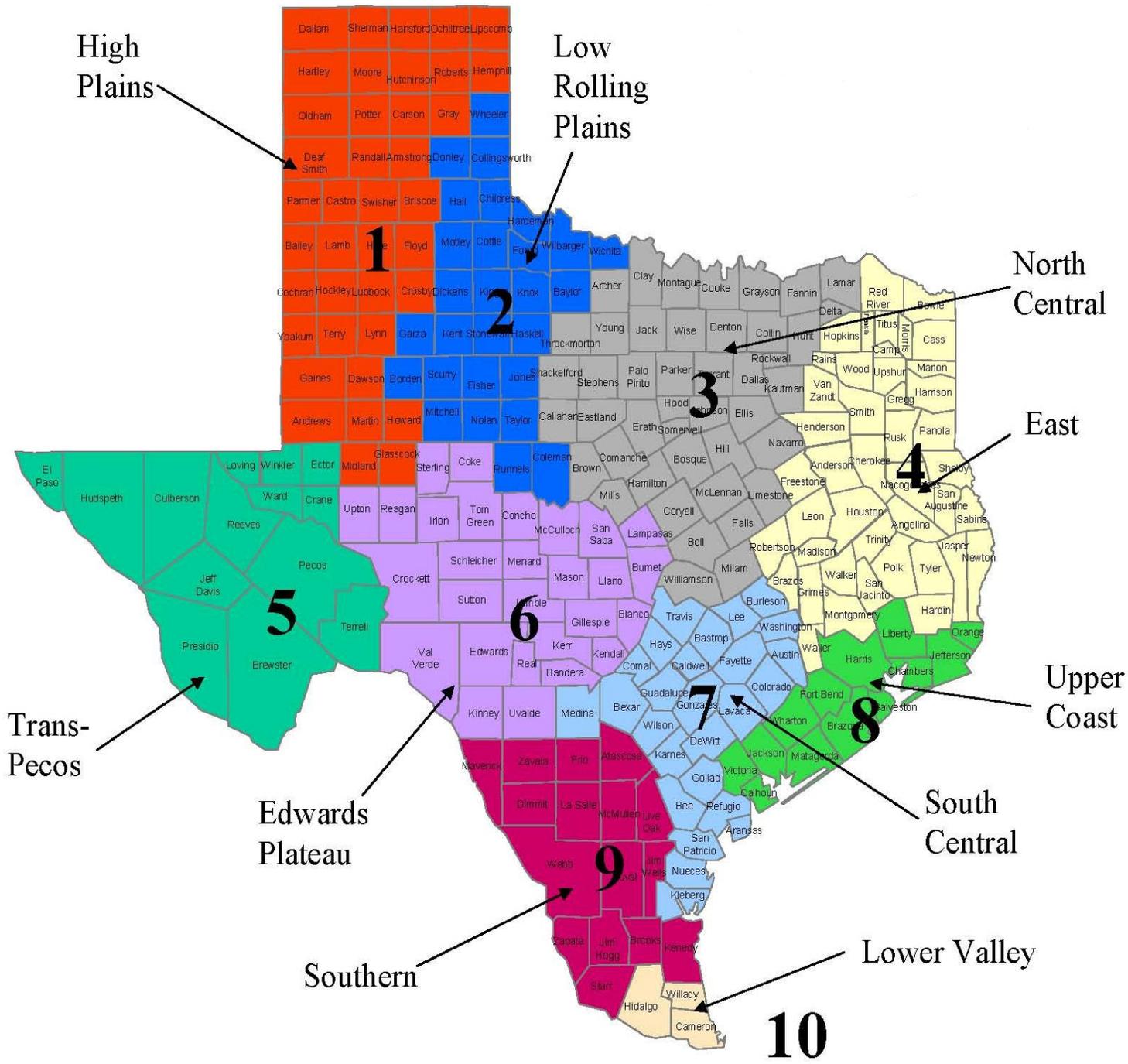
Tad Curtis, Office of the Governor, Economic Development & Tourism, (512) 936-0047, website: <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/ecodev>

David A. Van Dresar, Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts, (979) 968-3135, fax (979) 968-3194, website: <http://www.texasgroundwater.org/>

Dr. John W. Nielsen-Gammon, Office of the State Climatologist, (979) 862-2248, fax (979) 862-4466, website: <http://www.met.tamu.edu/osc/>

Marisa Callan, Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, (512) 475-3964, website: <http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us>

Attachment 1 Climatic Regions



Attachment 2

Counties with Extreme to High Fire Danger

