New GCD requirements post-89th Legislative Session

management plans and DFCs

Groundwater Management Area 14

November 19, 2025

TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD

New Management Plan Requirements

SB 1583 (89R) → TWC 36.1071

- Include the most recently approved DFCs and associated MAGs
- Amend plan within 2 years of DFC adoption
  - *Note: this was already a requirement under a TCEQ inquiry*
- Include status of any petition challenging the the reasonableness of a DFCs

New Management Plan Requirements

HB 2078 (89R) → TWC 36.1071

- ***Plain language*** explanation of how the district:
  - Monitors and tracks progress towards DFCs, and
  - Has performed in achieving the DFCs during the preceding five-year joint planning period

Note: these explanations are different than the DFC goal, which is more forward-looking

New GMA Meeting Requirements

HB 2078 (89R) → TWC 36.108

- Review groundwater management plans at least once every 5 years
- How **each district** is achieving the DFCs through management plan and rules

New GMA DFC Requirements

HB 2078 (89R) → TWC 36.108

- Adopt DFCs for each 50-year planning period, aligned with state and regional water plans.
  - **2026 GMA Joint Planning = 2032 SWP (2030 to 2080)**
  - **2031 GMA Joint Planning = 2037 SWP (2040 to 2090)**
- Identify interim values for DFCs in ≤10-year increments to help districts monitor

New Explanatory Report Requirements

HB 2078 (89R) → TWC 36.108

- Explain in **plain language** why a DFC was changed from the previous planning period
- Include a summary of each district's progress toward achieving DFCs

Plain Language?

- Texas Administrative Code §2001.023(d) relating to state rules
  - "A summary is written in **plain language** if it uses language the general public, including individuals with limited English proficiency, can readily understand because the language is concise and well-organized."

- Using Plain Language Webinar

Management Plan Recap

- Include current DFCs
- Amend plan before within 2 years of DFC adoption
- Explain how the district monitors and tracks DFC progress
- Explain how the district performed in meeting DFCs over the past five years.

GMA Recap

- Review management plans at least every 5 years
- Review how GCDs are achieving DFCs – rules & plans

- Adopt DFCs for through 2080
- Interim DFCs ≤10-year increments
- Explanation of changes from previous DFCs
- Summary of progress achieving DFCs

Other Items

- GCD Grant Funding
- New management plan checklist to be released
- 2023 Water Use Estimates now available
- Stay tuned for rule updates
- New TWDB Board Members

Groundwater Contacts

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General groundwater questions

Groundwater data requests

Groundwater availability certification report submission

gwmplans@twdb.texas.gov

GCD management plan submission and questions

gam@twdb.texas.gov

Groundwater availability modeling questions

Thank You!

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