

# Watermaster Programs



# Texas Watermaster Areas



# Watermaster Programs

- Funded with annual fees paid by the water right holders within the program jurisdiction.
  - Annual fees/budget must be reviewed by Watermaster Advisory Committee and approved by the Commission.
- Hands-on monitoring of surface water rights
  - Active Water right holders must install a measuring device and get it certified by the Watermaster Program.
- Ability to enforce priority system of surface water rights resulting in protection of domestic and livestock rights and senior water rights.
- Ability to quickly respond to complaints and inquiries.
- Ability to facilitate negotiations between concerned parties to ensure equitable distribution of water (Run of the River systems).

# Compliance with the Rules

- ❖ Enforcement authority

- ❖ Notices of Violation

- ❖ Notices of Enforcement

- ❖ Field Citations

- ❖ *Statute:* Texas Water Code, Chapter 11

- ❖ *Rules:* 30 TAC Chapter 304

# Brazos Watermaster Program

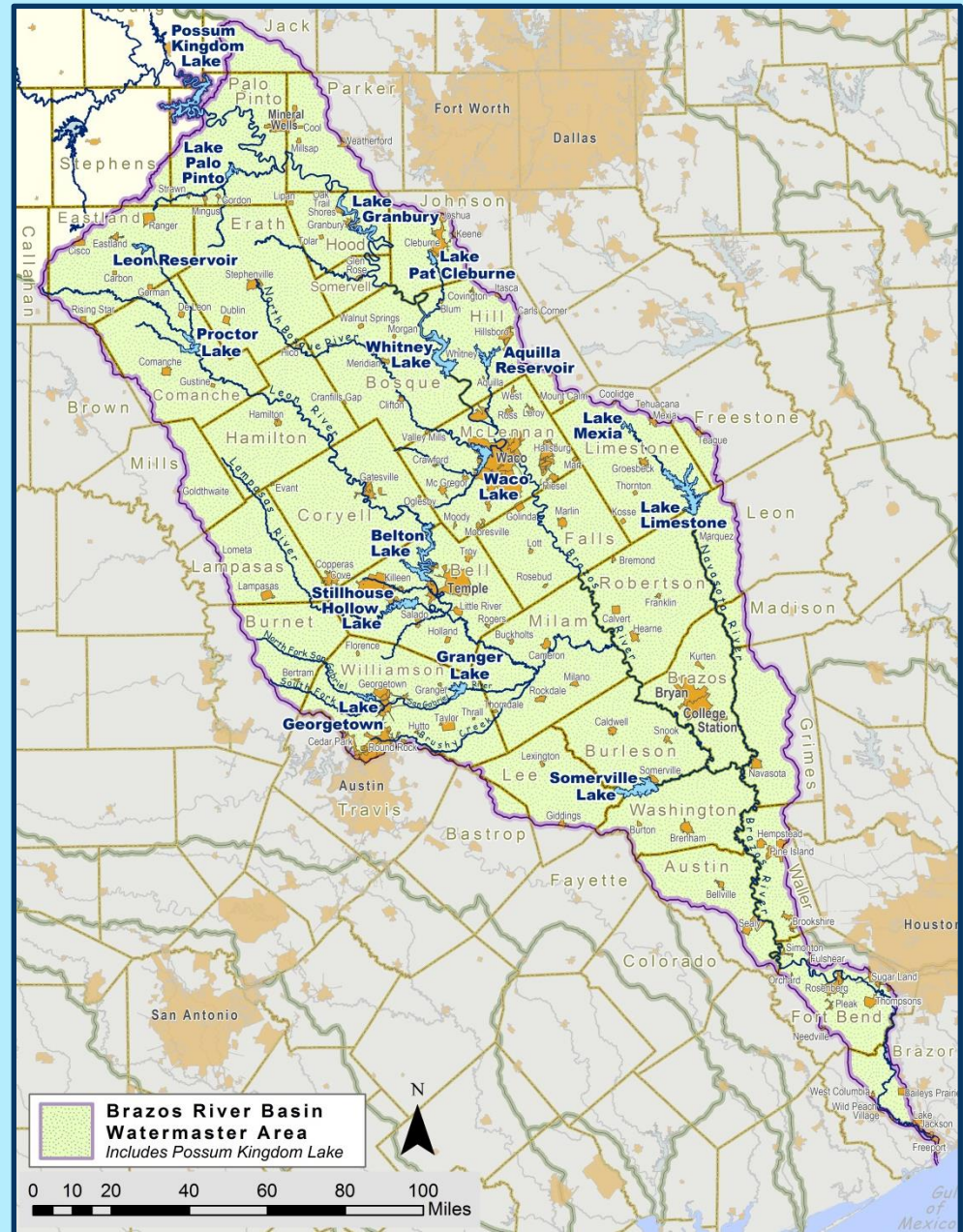
# History of the Brazos Watermaster Program

- In **January 2013** – 37 water right holders on the Brazos River petitioned TCEQ asking for the appointment of a Watermaster.
- In **February 2013** – TCEQ referred the petition to the State Office of Administrative Hearings for a complete administrative hearing and recommendation to the Commissioners for consideration.
- SOAH hearing was completed in **late 2013**.
- In **April 2014** – TCEQ Commissioners issued an order to implement a watermaster program Brazos River Basin below and including Lake Possum Kingdom.
- Full implementation on **June 1, 2015**.

# Brazos Watermaster Area Map

## Counties included:

Archer, Austin, Bastrop, Bell, Bosque, Brazoria, Brazos, Brown, Burleson, Burnet, Callahan, Comanche, Coryell, Eastland, Erath, Falls, Fayette, Fort Bend, Freestone, Grimes, Hale, Hamilton, Hill, Hood, Jack, Johnson, Lampasas, Lee, Leon, Limestone, Madison, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Mitchell, Palo Pinto, Parker, Robertson, Somervell, Stephens, Travis, Waller, Washington, and Williamson





## ❖ Stephenville – Regional Office

- ❖ One Watermaster Deputy

## ❖ Waco – Regional Office

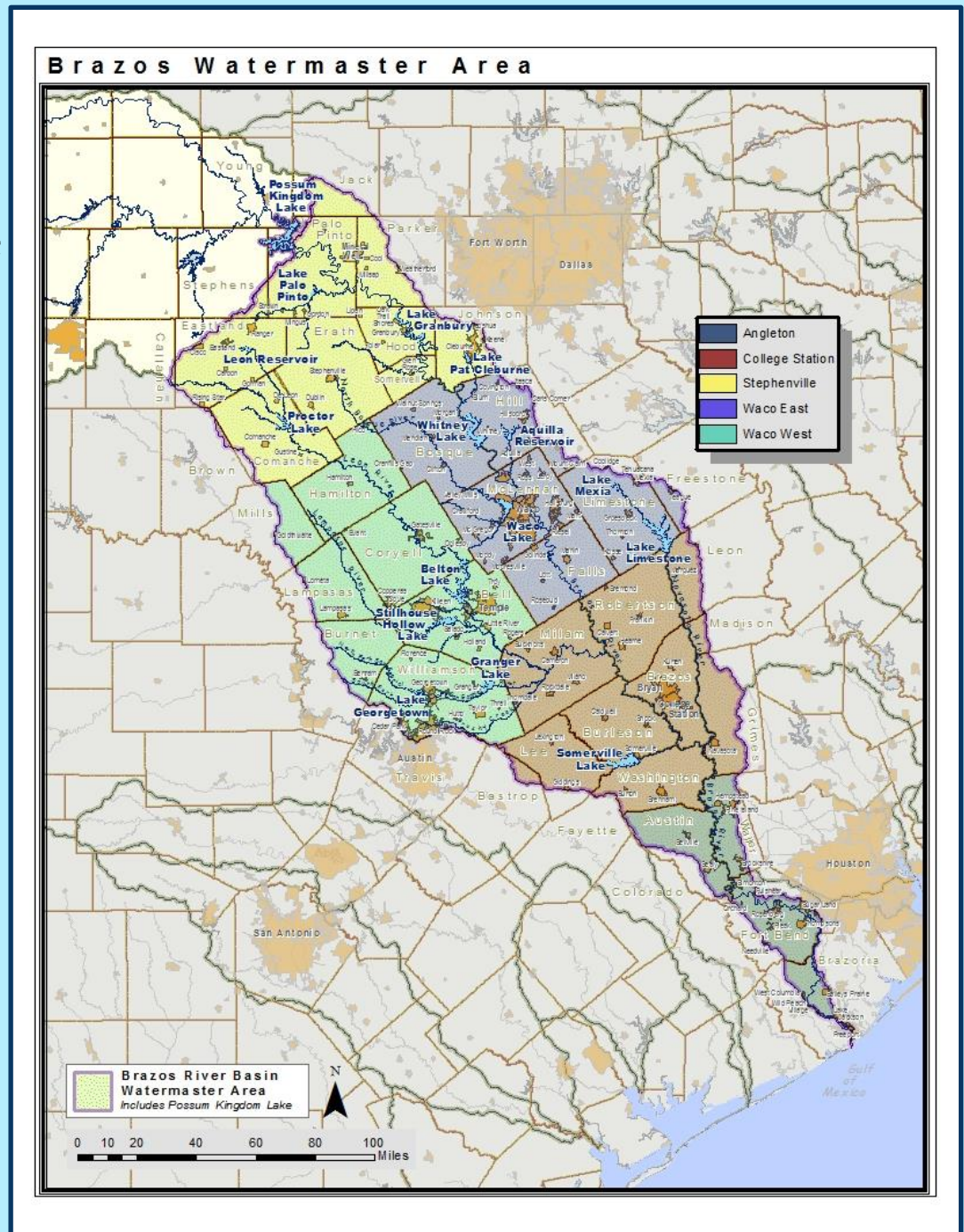
- ❖ Watermaster
- ❖ Administrative Assistant
- ❖ Two Watermaster Deputies

## ❖ College Station – Field Office

- ❖ One Watermaster Deputy

## ❖ Angleton – Satellite Office

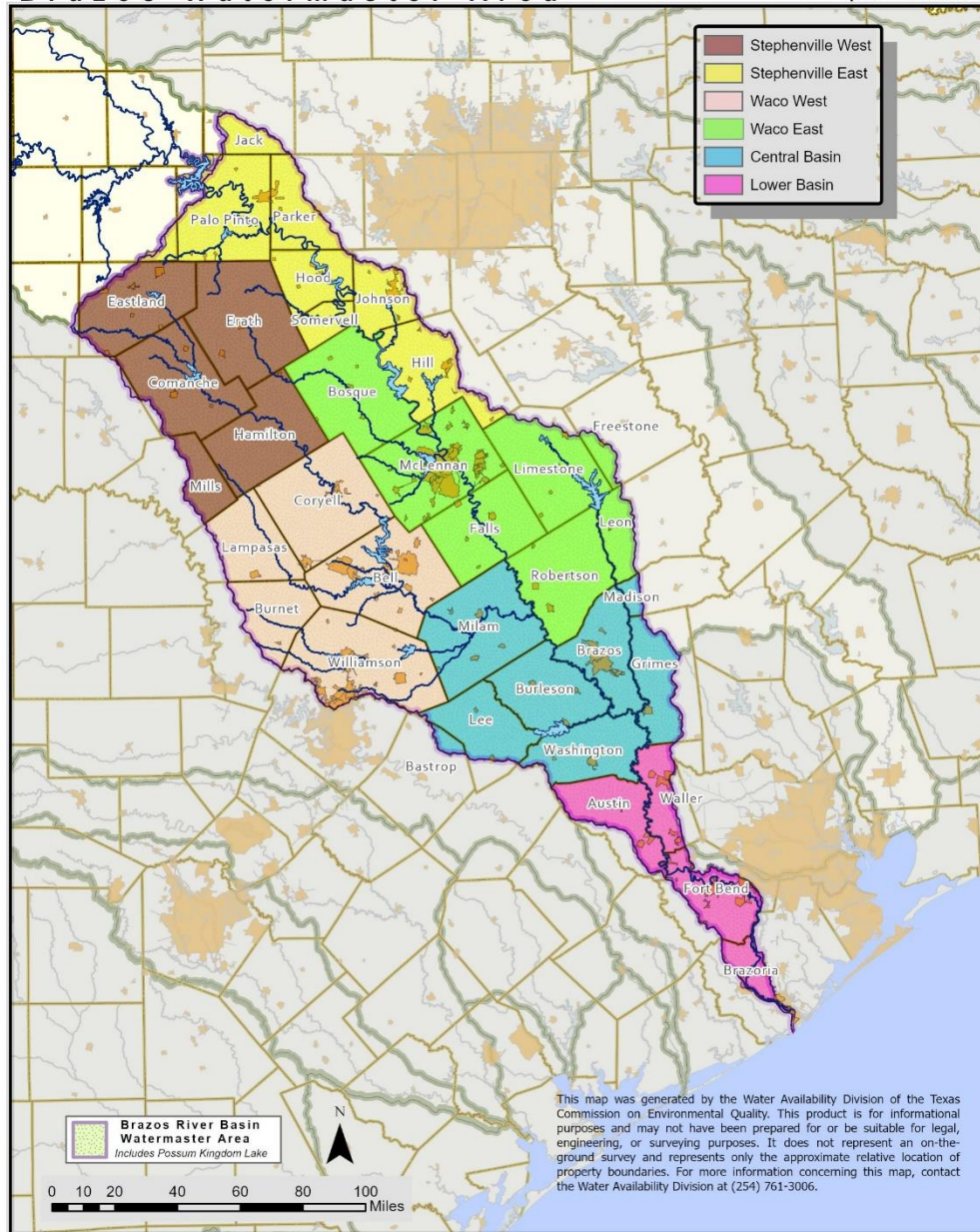
- ❖ One Watermaster Deputy





## Brazos Watermaster Area

Updated 05/22/2020



## ❖ DFW Regional Office

- ❖ One Watermaster Deputy

## ❖ Stephenville – Regional Office

- ❖ One Watermaster Deputy

## ❖ Waco – Regional Office

- ❖ Watermaster
- ❖ Assistant Watermaster
- ❖ Administrative Assistant
- ❖ Two Watermaster Deputies

## ❖ College Station – Field Office

- ❖ One Watermaster Deputy

## ❖ Angleton – Satellite Office

- ❖ One Watermaster Deputy

# Budget

## Texas Water Code §11.329

States that water right holders within the jurisdiction of a Watermaster program must reimburse the Commission for the expenses of the watermaster operations.

## 30 Texas Administrative Code §304.61

Each assessment account shall have a base fee plus a use fee or storage fee or both.

## §304.62

$$\text{Municipal Assessment Rate} = \frac{I-M(N)}{(RF_3)(AF_3) + (AF_1) + (RF_2)(AF_2) + (RF_3)(AF_3) \dots (RF_n)(AF_n)}$$

I : Income needed to meet the adopted budget  
M : Base charge per account  
N : Total number of accounts to be assessed in the water division  
n, s : Code number corresponding to a category or type of use  
RF<sub>n</sub>, RF<sub>s</sub> : Rate factor for each of the following categories of use:

municipal and domestic.....	RF <sub>1</sub> = 1.00
industrial - consumptive .....	RF <sub>2</sub> = 1.00
irrigation.....	RF <sub>3</sub> = 0.80
mining - consumptive .....	RF <sub>4</sub> = 1.00
recreation and pleasure - consumptive.....	RF <sub>5</sub> = 1.00
non-consumptive (industrial, mining, recreation) .....	RF <sub>6</sub> = 0.20
hydroelectric - priority.....	RF <sub>7</sub> = 0.20
hydroelectric - non-priority.....	RF <sub>8</sub> = 0.05
recharge for underground storage.....	RF <sub>9</sub> = 0.50
salt water .....	RF <sub>10</sub> = 0.05
spreaders dam diversion.....	RF <sub>11</sub> = 0.40
secondary use.....	RF <sub>12</sub> = 0.50
on-channel storage.....	RF <sub>13</sub> = 0.40
stock raising.....	RF <sub>14</sub> = 1.00
game preserves .....	RF <sub>15</sub> = 1.00
ag-wetland .....	RF <sub>16</sub> = 0.80
reuse .....	RF <sub>17</sub> = 0.50
public parks .....	RF <sub>18</sub> = 0.80
multi-use .....	RF <sub>19</sub> = 1.00
bed and banks.....	RF <sub>20</sub> = 0.05
other.....	RF <sub>21</sub> = 1.00

## Brazos River Authority Assessments

2021	2020	2019	2018
\$428,448.66	\$425,929.11	\$416,534.37	\$420,539.31

29-May-20

### Brazos Watermaster Operations

#### Annual Appropriation Information

Fund Balance as of 9/1/19: 276,408.99

#### FY20 Assessment Compared to Proposed FY21 Assessment

Budget Categories	FY20 Assessment	Proposed FY21 Assessment	Difference between FY21 to FY20
Salaries	\$448,001.00	\$446,926.21	(\$2,074.79)
Longevity	\$8,559.00	\$8,202.40	(\$356.60)
Salary Enhancements	(1) \$15,761.00	\$15,995.25	\$234.25
Fringe	(2) \$165,050.00	\$150,093.00	(\$15,057.00)
Additional Insurance and Retirement	(3) \$6,076.00	\$7,419.00	\$1,343.00
SORM	(4) \$740.00	\$825.00	\$85.00
SWCAP	(5) \$6,737.00	\$3,552.00	(\$3,185.00)
LAR Capital	(6) \$0.00	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00
Professional/Temp Services	(7) \$56,072.00	\$55,937.00	(\$135.00)
Travel In-State	(8) \$20,000.00	\$20,500.00	\$500.00
Travel Out-of-State	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Training	\$2,650.00	\$2,650.00	\$0.00
Rent - Building	(9) \$33,704.00	\$33,704.00	\$0.00
Postage	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$0.00
Phone/Utilities	\$11,604.00	\$11,604.00	\$0.00
Supplies - Consumables	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Other Operating Expenses	(10) \$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$0.00
Fuels/Lubricants	\$20,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$5,000.00
Rent - Machine & Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Facilities, Furniture & Equip	(11) \$24,021.00	\$15,000.00	(\$9,021.00)
Capital Equipment - Non LAR	(12) \$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 829,555.00</b>	<b>\$846,587.86</b>	<b>\$19,032.86</b>

#### FY21 Proposed Assessment Calculation

FY21 Operating Budget Needs:	\$846,587.86
Assessment Needed Based on 98.5% Collection Rate:	\$861,510.52

#### Historical Assessment Comparison

	FY19	FY20	FY21
Total Assessment:	\$833,864.95	\$855,211.54	\$861,510.52
Municipal Rate (per A-F):	\$0.1591	\$0.1628	\$0.1640

# Watermaster Advisory Committee

- **Texas Water Code 11.3261**
  - Consists of 9 to 15 members
  - Serve 2-year appointments
  - Must meet every July for review of proposed budget
- **Brazos Watermaster Advisory Committee**
  - 13 Members
    - Chair – David Sauer with Gulf Coast Water Authority
    - Vice Chair – Brad Brunett with Brazos River Authority
    - Secretary – Tim Finley with Dow Chemical



# Meters





# Streamflow Measurements and Markers





# Lake Leon's Morning Glory





# Obstacles





# Logjam



# Contact Information

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