



For Immediate Release

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**TESTING OF LOW FLOW GATES WILL TEMPORARILY CHANGE
ENVIRONMENTAL FLOW RELEASE AT THE DECORDOVA BEND DAM**

February 14, 2014 – Waco, TX – On Tuesday, February 18, the Brazos River Authority (BRA) will begin a 30-day period of testing the low-flow gates at the DeCordova Bend dam at Lake Granbury. The gates have undergone a long-term refurbishment process. Daily release rates and volumes will vary during the testing; however, over the 30 day test period, the volume of water released will equal the amount normally released during regular environmental low flow. The lake level will not be adversely impacted.

The Brazos River Authority has maintained a small release from Lake Granbury through the low flow gates for environmental purposes downstream of the dam since the mid-1980s. Historically, a continuous release of about 28 cubic feet per second (cfs) was maintained at the dam, which equaled about 56 acre-feet of water per day. During construction on the refurbished low flow gates, the BRA has made regular daily releases of approximately 50 – 60 acre-feet by opening one flood gate for about 90 minutes.

With completion of work on the refurbished low flow gates, it will no longer be necessary to release the daily environmental flow through the flood gates and a constant low flow is expected to resume. The BRA maintains environmental flow releases from both Possum Kingdom Lake and Lake Granbury.

About the Brazos River Authority

The Brazos River Authority, with headquarters in Waco, is the oldest river authority in Texas. Created by the Texas Legislature in 1929, the Authority's 42,000 square-mile territory includes all or part of 70 counties; extending from the Texas-New Mexico border west of Lubbock to the Gulf of Mexico near Freeport.

The BRA built, owns, and operates three reservoirs (Lakes Possum Kingdom, Granbury, and Limestone). In addition to these water supply reservoirs, the Authority contracts with the Corps of Engineers for the water supply storage space at eight federal multi-purpose flood control and water conservation reservoirs (Lakes Whitney, Belton, Proctor, Somerville, Stillhouse Hollow, Granger, Georgetown and Aquilla).

The Brazos River Authority operates a regional wastewater system for the cities of Temple-Belton and the Brushy Creek Regional Wastewater System for the City of Round Rock. The Authority also operates wastewater treatment plants for the cities of Dime Box, Clute-Richwood, Sugar Land, Hutto and Liberty Hill.

The BRA owns and operates the East Williamson County Regional Water System for the City of Taylor. The BRA also operates potable water treatment plant for the cities of Dime Box and Leander.

The Authority engages in water quality monitoring activities throughout the Brazos River basin. As a member of the Texas Clean River Program, the Authority samples and tests water from 141 locations throughout the basin on either a monthly, quarterly or annual basis.

For further information on the Brazos River Authority, please contact Judi Pierce, Public Information Officer at 254-761-3103.