



Aqua Strategies Contract Phase II

***Presented By
Tiffany Malzahn
Environmental and Compliance Manager***



System Operation (SYSOP) Permit

- **Water Use Permit granting BRA right to use:**
 - **106,031 acre-feet of long-term, firm water**
- **Project to obtain permit approved by BRA Board of Directors in April 2003**
- **Permit issued by TCEQ in November 2016**
- **Permit ruled incontestable in September 2018**
- **System revenue potential approximately \$7.3 million per year at FY 2021 rates**



Water Management Plan (WMP)

- **Required by SYSOP Permit**
- **Road map of how we operate and use the water granted in the permit**
- **WMP must be updated at a minimum, every ten years after the issued date of the SYSOP permit**
 - **Applications for reconsideration or amendment subject to state public notice and contested case procedures**
 - **First update of the WMP is due to TCEQ in November 2026**
- **WMP must include:**
 - **Accounting and Delivery Plan**
 - **Environmental Flow Conditions that comply with TCEQ adopted Environmental Flow Standards**
 - **Maximum diversion rates for diversions**
 - **Method to determine the amount of firm and non-firm water available at any location**



Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 2011 Memorandum of Understanding

- **TPWD and BRA agree to work together to protect and maintain environmental health of the basin**
- **Development of draft environmental flow provisions for SYSOP permit**
- **TPWD agrees to support the environmental flow requirements in the SYSOP Permit**



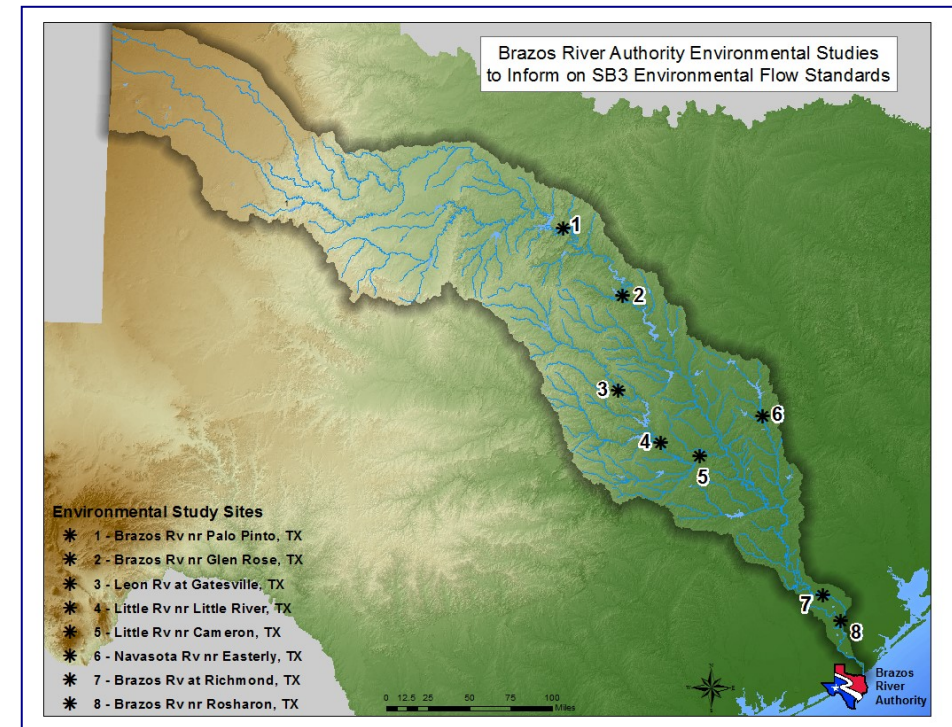
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 2014 Memorandum of Understanding

- **TCEQ adopts Environmental Flow (E-flow) Standards in 2014**
 - **Negates some of the items agreed to in SYSOP permit as a result of 2011 TPWD MOU**
 - **E-flow standard require periodic adaptive management reviews**
- **2014 MOU responds to these changes**
 - **BRA will perform baseline environmental studies at 8 locations in the basin with E-flow standards and Aquilla Creek**
 - **TPWD may perform studies at 7 locations in the basin not included in the E-flow standards**



2014 TPWD MOU – BRA Baseline Studies

- Flow specific to baseline flows in E-flow standards
- 15 macroinvertebrate, mussel, and fish assessments, and instream habitat mapping
- 5 riparian tree surveys, channel cross-section surveys, and sediment sample collection and analysis





Aqua Strategies Contract

- **Executed in FY 2016**
- **Two-phase contract**
- **Support to Environmental Services regarding the long-term implementation of environmental flow initiatives related to the**
 - **System Operation Permit,**
 - **Water Management Plan**
 - **2014 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD).**



Phase 1

- **Completed within budget**
- **Tasks**
 - **Development of environmental flows achievement report methodology**
 - **Assist Environmental Services with:**
 - **Develop baseline environmental flow study protocols**
 - **Completing baseline environmental flow studies at nine locations in Brazos Basin**





Baseline Assessment Events Completed to Date

Site	Required		Completed	
	Riparian	Instream	Riparian	Instream
Brazos River near Palo Pinto	5	15	5	16
Brazos River near Glen Rose	5	15	5	7
Brazos River near Richmond	5	15	3	5
Brazos River near Rosharon	5	15	4	5
Aquilla Creek	5	15	5	14
Navasota River near Easterly	5	15	2	8
Leon River near Gatesville	5	15		2
Little River near Little River Academy	5	15		
Little River near Cameron	5	15		



Phase 2 Tasks

- **Continued assistance with baseline instream flow study data collection, analysis and reporting**
- **Training staff to complete Environmental Flows Achievement Report**
- **Analysis and response coordination**
 - **Senate Bill 3 Environmental Flow Standards Revisions**
 - **Water Management Plan application for reconsideration**



Contract Budget

- **Phase 1 - \$675,000**
- **Phase 2 - \$950,000**
 - **Multiyear Contract Term FY 2021 - 2030**
 - **Necessary for long-term maintenance of SYSOPs permit and associated water contracts**
 - **Defined task expenses to be similar to Phase 1**
 - **Remaining \$275,000 only if necessary**
 - **E-flow adaptive management review**
 - **WMP reconsideration**
- **Total - \$1,625,000**



BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Brazos River Authority hereby authorizes the General Manager/CEO to execute an amendment(s) authorizing Phase Two of the Aqua Strategies, Inc. contract for *Support for Environmental Flow Initiatives Related to the System Operation Permit and Water Management Plan.*



Brazos River Authority



Brazos

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RIVER AUTHORITY