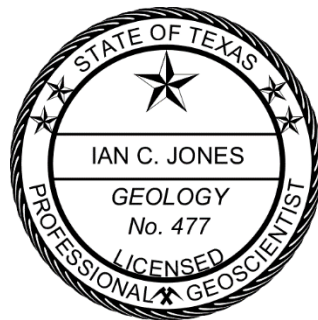


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# **GAM RUN 21-012 MAG: MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE AQUIFERS IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7**

Ian C. Jones, Ph.D., P.G.  
Texas Water Development Board  
Groundwater Division  
Groundwater Modeling Department  
512-463-6641  
August 12, 2022



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## ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:***

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) has prepared estimates of the modeled available groundwater for the relevant aquifers of Groundwater Management Area 7—the Capitan Reef Complex, Dockum, Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Ellenburger-San Saba, Hickory, Ogallala, Pecos Valley, Rustler, and Trinity aquifers. The estimates are based on the desired future conditions for these aquifers adopted by the groundwater conservation districts in Groundwater Management Area 7 on August 19, 2021. The explanatory reports and other materials submitted to the TWDB were determined to be administratively complete on February 23, 2022.

The modeled available groundwater values are summarized by decade for the groundwater conservation districts (Tables 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13) and for use in the regional water planning process (Tables 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14). The modeled available groundwater estimates for each decade from 2020 through 2070 are:

- 26,164 acre-feet per year in the Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer,
- 2,324 acre-feet per year in the Dockum Aquifer,
- 6,570 to 7,925 acre-feet per year in the Ogallala Aquifer,
- 479,063 acre-feet per year in the undifferentiated Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity aquifers,
- 22,616 acre-feet per year in the Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer,
- 49,936 acre-feet per year in the Hickory Aquifer, and
- 7,040 acre-feet per year in the Rustler Aquifer.

The modeled available groundwater estimates were extracted from results of model runs using the groundwater availability models for the Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer [Version

1.01] (Jones, 2016) for the Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer; the High Plains Aquifer System [Version 1.01] (Deeds and Jigmond, 2015) for the Dockum and Ogallala aquifers; the minor aquifers of the Llano Uplift Area [Version 1.01] (Shi and others, 2016) for the Ellenburger-San Saba and Hickory aquifers, and the Rustler Aquifer [Version 1.01] (Ewing and others, 2012) for the Rustler Aquifer. In addition, the alternative 1-layer model for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity aquifers (Hutchison and others, 2011a) was used for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity aquifers, except for Kinney and Val Verde counties. In these two counties, the alternative Kinney County model (Hutchison and others, 2011b) and the model associated with a hydrogeological study for Val Verde County and the City of Del Rio (EcoKai and Hutchison, 2014), respectively, were used to estimate modeled available groundwater.

***REQUESTOR:***

Ms. Meredith Allen, coordinator of Groundwater Management Area 7 districts.

***DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST:***

In an email dated August 28, 2021, Dr. William Hutchison on behalf of Groundwater Management Area 7 provided the TWDB with the desired future conditions for the Capitan, Dockum, Ellenburger-San Saba, Hickory, Ogallala, and Rustler aquifers, as well as for the undifferentiated Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley and Trinity aquifers, in Groundwater Management Area 7. Groundwater Management Area 7 provided additional clarifications through an email to the TWDB on November 12, 2021, for the assumptions and model files to be used to calculate modeled available groundwater.

The final adopted desired future conditions as stated in signed resolutions for the aquifers in Groundwater Management Area 7 are as follows:

**Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer** (*Resolution #08-19-2021-2*)

- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Total net drawdown of the Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer not to exceed 56 feet in Pecos County (Middle Pecos GCD) in 2070 as compared with 2006 aquifer levels.<br/><i>*(Reference: Scenario 4, GMA 7 Technical Memorandum 16-03)</i></li><li>b) The Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer is not relevant for joint planning purposes in all other areas of GMA 7.</li></ul> |
|---|

**Dockum and Ogallala aquifers (Resolution #08-19-2021-5)**

Ogallala Aquifer:

- a) Total net drawdown of the Ogallala Aquifer not to exceed **6 feet in Glasscock County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.

Dockum Aquifer:

- b) Total net drawdown of the Dockum Aquifer not to exceed **52 feet in Pecos County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- c) Total net drawdown of the Dockum Aquifer not to exceed **14 feet in Reagan County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.

*\*(Reference items a) through c): Scenario 17, GMA 7 Technical Memorandum 16-01)*

- d) The Ogallala and Dockum Aquifers are not relevant for joint planning purposes in all other areas of GMA 7.



**Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity aquifers (Resolution #08-19-2021-3)**

- a) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **0 feet in Coke County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- b) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **10 feet in Crockett County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- c) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **4 feet in Ector County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- d) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **2 feet in Edwards County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- e) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **5 feet in Gillespie County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- f) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **42 feet in Glasscock County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- g) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **10 feet in Irion County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- h) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **1 foot in Kimble County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- i) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **1 foot in Menard County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- j) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **12 feet in Midland County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- k) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **14 feet in Pecos County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- l) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **42 feet in Reagan County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- m) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **4 feet in Real County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- n) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **8 feet in Schleicher County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- o) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **7 feet in Sterling County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- p) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **6 feet in Sutton County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- q) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **0 feet in Taylor County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- r) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **2 feet in Terrell County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- s) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **20 feet in Upton County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- t) Total net drawdown of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers not to exceed **2 feet in Uvalde County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.

\*(Reference items a) through t): GMA 7 Technical Memorandum 18-01)

**Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity aquifers (continued)**

- u) Total net drawdown in **Kinney County** in 2070, as compared with 2010 aquifer levels, shall be consistent with maintenance of an annual average flow of 23.9 cfs and an annual median flow of **23.9 cfs at Las Moras Springs**.  
*\*(Reference: Groundwater Flow Model of the Kinney County Area by W.R. Hutchison and others, 2011).*
- v) Total net drawdown in **Val Verde County** in 2070, as compared with 2010 aquifer levels, shall be consistent with maintenance of an average annual flow of **73-75 mgd at San Felipe Springs**.  
*\*(Reference: EcoKai, 2014)*
- w) The Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers are not relevant for joint planning purposes in all other areas of GMA 7.

**Minor Aquifers of the Llano Uplift Area (Resolution #08-19-2021-4)**

**Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer:**

- a) Total net drawdown of the Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer not to exceed **8 feet in Gillespie County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- b) Total net drawdown of the Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer not to exceed **18 foot in Kimble County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- c) Total net drawdown of the Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer not to exceed **14 foot in Mason County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- d) Total net drawdown of the Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer not to exceed **29 feet in McCulloch County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- e) Total net drawdown of the Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer not to exceed **46 feet in Menard County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- f) Total net drawdown of the Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer not to exceed **5 feet in San Saba County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.

**Hickory Aquifer:**

- g) Total net drawdown of the Hickory Aquifer not to exceed **53 feet in Concho County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- h) Total net drawdown of the Hickory Aquifer not to exceed **9 feet in Gillespie County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- i) Total net drawdown of the Hickory Aquifer not to exceed **18 feet in Kimble County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- j) Total net drawdown of the Hickory Aquifer not to exceed **17 feet in Mason County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.



**Minor Aquifers of the Llano Uplift Area (continued)**

- k) Total net drawdown of the Hickory Aquifer not to exceed **29 feet in McCulloch County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- l) Total net drawdown of the Hickory Aquifer not to exceed **46 feet in Menard County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.
- m) Total net drawdown of the Hickory Aquifer not to exceed **6 feet in San Saba County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.  
*\*(Reference items a) through m): Scenario 3, GMA 7 Technical Memorandum 16-02)*
- n) The Llano Uplift Region (Ellenburger-San Saba, Hickory, Marble Falls) Aquifers are not relevant for joint planning purposes in all other areas of GMA 7.

**Rustler Aquifer (Resolution #08-19-2021-6)**

- a) Total net drawdown of the Rustler Aquifer not to exceed **94 feet in Pecos County** in 2070 as compared with 2010 aquifer levels.  
*\*(Reference: Scenario 4, GMA 7 Technical Memorandum 15-05)*
- b) The Rustler Aquifer not relevant for joint planning purposes in all other areas of GMA 7.

In addition to the non-relevant statements provided above in the individual resolutions, Groundwater Management Area 7 also provided additional non-relevant documentation dated August 27, 2021 and January 20, 2022 as part of their submittal to TWDB. The following aquifers or parts of aquifers are non-relevant for the purposes of joint planning:

- The entirety of the Blaine, Cross Timbers, Igneous, Lipan, Marble Falls, and Seymour aquifers.
- The Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer outside of the boundaries of the Middle Pecos Groundwater Conservation District.
- The Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer in Concho, Mason, McCulloch, Nolan, and Tom Green counties.
- The Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer in Coleman, Concho, and Mason counties.
- The Hickory Aquifer in Coleman and Llano counties.
- The Dockum Aquifer outside of Reagan and Pecos counties.
- The Ogallala Aquifer outside of Glasscock County.



## **CLARIFICATIONS:**

In response to a request for clarifications from the TWDB in 2021, the Groundwater Management Area 7 Chair, Ms. Meredith Allen, and Groundwater Management Area 7 consultant, Dr. William R. Hutchison, provided the following clarifications regarding the definition of the desired future conditions. These clarifications were necessary for verifying that the desired future conditions of the aquifers were attainable and for confirming approval of the TWDB methodology to calculate modeled available groundwater volumes in Groundwater Management Area 7:

### **Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer**

- The calculated modeled available groundwater values are based on the official TWDB aquifer boundary.
- The modeled available groundwater calculations are based on the desired future conditions with a one-foot tolerance (that is, modeled drawdown verifications within one foot of the desired future conditions are acceptable).
- Drawdown calculations used to define the desired future conditions value take into consideration the occurrence of “dry” cells, where water levels are below the base of the aquifer.

### **Dockum Aquifer**

- The calculated modeled available groundwater values are based on the spatial extent of the Dockum Formation, as represented in the groundwater availability model for the High Plains Aquifer System, rather than the official TWDB aquifer boundary.
- Modeled available groundwater analysis excludes model pass-through cells.
- The modeled available groundwater calculations are based on the desired future conditions with a one-foot tolerance (that is, modeled drawdown verifications within one foot of the desired future conditions are acceptable).

### **Ogallala Aquifer**

- The calculated modeled available groundwater values are based on the official TWDB aquifer boundary and use the same model assumptions used in Groundwater Management Area 7 Technical Memorandum 16-01 (Hutchison, 2016c).
- Drawdown calculations used to define the desired future conditions do not take into consideration the occurrence of “dry” cells, where water levels are below the base of the aquifer.

- The modeled available groundwater calculations are based on the desired future conditions with a one-foot tolerance (that is, modeled drawdown verifications within one foot of the desired future conditions are acceptable).

### **Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity aquifers**

- The calculated modeled available groundwater values are based on the official TWDB aquifer boundaries.
- The modeled available groundwater calculations are based on the desired future conditions with a one-foot tolerance (that is, modeled drawdown verifications within one foot of the desired future conditions value are acceptable).
- Drawdown calculations used to define the desired future conditions include drawdowns for cells with water levels below the base elevation of the cell (“dry” cells).

### ***Kinney County***

- The modeled available groundwater values, model assumptions, and simulated springflow are from GAM Run 10-043 MAG Version 2 (Shi, 2012).

### ***Val Verde County***

- There is no associated drawdown as a desired future condition. The desired future condition is based solely on simulated spring flow conditions at San Felipe Spring of 73 to 75 million gallons per day. Pumping scenarios—50,000 acre-feet per year—in three well field locations and monthly hydrologic conditions for the historic period 1969 to 2012 meet the desired future conditions set by Groundwater Management Area 7 (EcoKai and Hutchison, 2014; Hutchison 2021).

### **Minor Aquifers of the Llano Uplift Area**

- The calculated modeled available groundwater values are based on the full spatial extent of the Ellenburger-San Saba and Hickory formations in the groundwater availability model for the aquifers of the Llano Uplift Area rather than the official TWDB aquifer boundaries and use the same model assumptions used in Groundwater Management Area 7 Technical Memorandum 16-02 (Hutchison 2016b).
- The modeled available groundwater calculations are based on the desired future conditions with a one-foot tolerance (that is, modeled drawdown verifications within one foot of the desired future conditions value are acceptable).

- The drawdown calculations used to define desired future conditions did not include “dry” cells, where water levels are below the base of the aquifer.

### **Rustler Aquifer**

- The model used to define desired future conditions and calculate modeled available groundwater assumes that the initial model heads represent the heads at the end of 2008 (the baseline for calculating desired future conditions drawdown values).
- Calculated modeled available groundwater values are based on the full spatial extent of the Rustler Formation, as represented in the groundwater availability model for the Rustler Aquifer, rather than the official TWDB aquifer boundary.
- The predictive model used to define desired future conditions and calculate modeled available groundwater uses the same model assumptions used in Groundwater Management Area 7 Technical Memorandum 15-05 (Hutchison, 2016d).
- The modeled available groundwater calculations are based on the desired future conditions with a one-foot tolerance (that is, modeled drawdown verifications within one foot of the desired future conditions value are acceptable).

## **METHODS:**

As defined in Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code (TWC, 2011), “modeled available groundwater” is the estimated average amount of water that may be produced annually to achieve a desired future condition. Groundwater conservation districts are required to consider modeled available groundwater, along with several other factors, when issuing permits to manage groundwater production to achieve the desired future condition(s). The other factors districts must consider include annual precipitation and production patterns, the estimated amount of pumping exempt from permitting, existing permits, and a reasonable estimate of actual groundwater production under existing permits.

For relevant aquifers with desired future conditions based on water-level drawdown, water levels simulated at the end of the predictive simulations were compared to the water levels in the baseline year. These baseline years are 2005 in the groundwater availability model for the Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer and the alternative model for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) and Pecos Valley aquifers, 2012 in the groundwater availability model for the High Plains Aquifer System, 2010 in the groundwater availability model for the minor aquifers of the Llano Uplift Area, and 2008 in the groundwater availability model for the Rustler Aquifer. The predictive model runs used average pumping rates from the historical period for the respective model except in the aquifer or area of interest. In those areas, pumping rates are varied until they produce drawdowns consistent with the adopted desired future conditions. In most cases, these model runs were supplied by Groundwater Management Area 7 for review by TWDB staff before they were used to calculate the modeled available groundwater. Pumping rates or modeled available groundwater are reported in 10-year intervals.

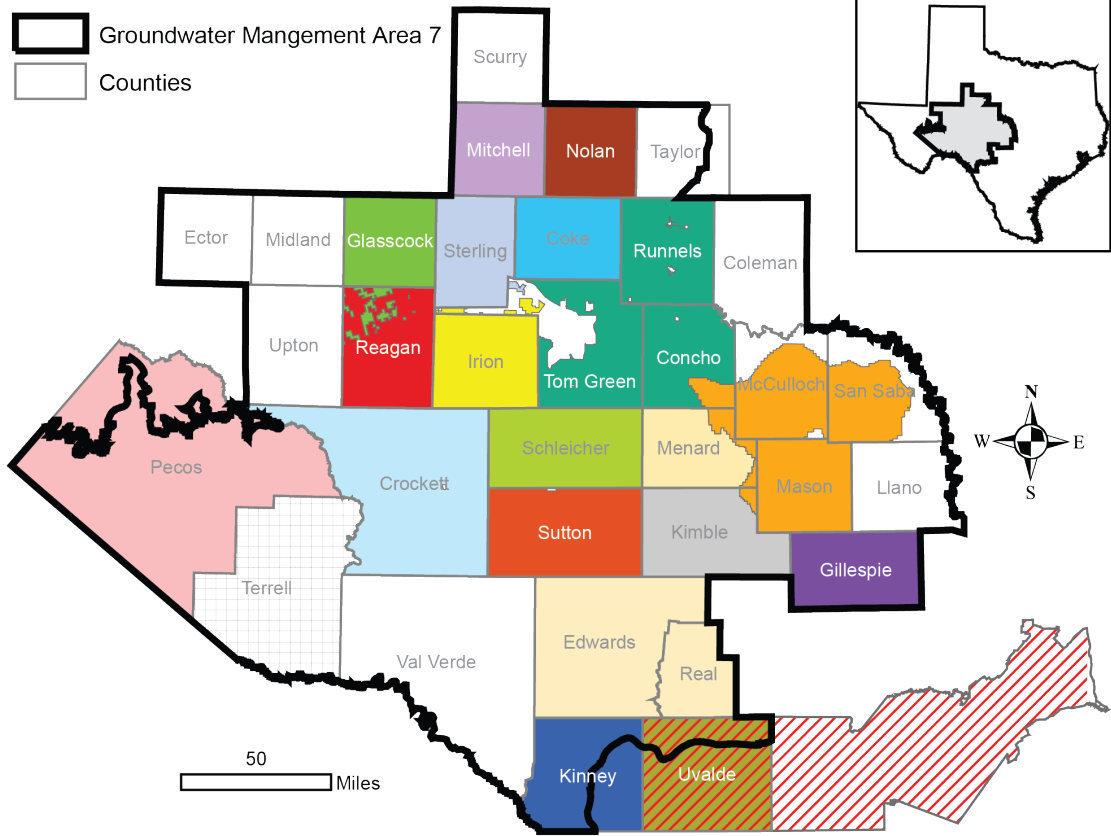
Water-level drawdown averages were calculated for the relevant portions of each aquifer. Drawdown for model cells that became dry during the simulation—when the water level dropped below the base of the cell—were excluded from the averaging. In Groundwater Management Area 7, dry cells only occur during the predictive period in the Ogallala Aquifer of Glasscock County. Consequently, estimates of modeled available groundwater decrease over time as continued simulated pumping predicts the development of increasing numbers of dry model cells in areas of the Ogallala Aquifer in Glasscock County. The calculated water-level drawdown averages for all aquifers were compared with the desired future conditions to verify that the pumping scenario achieved the desired future conditions.

In Kinney and Val Verde counties, the desired future conditions are based on discharge from selected springs. In these cases, spring discharge was estimated based on simulated average spring discharge over a historical period, maintaining all historical hydrologic conditions—such as recharge and river stage—except pumping. In other words, we

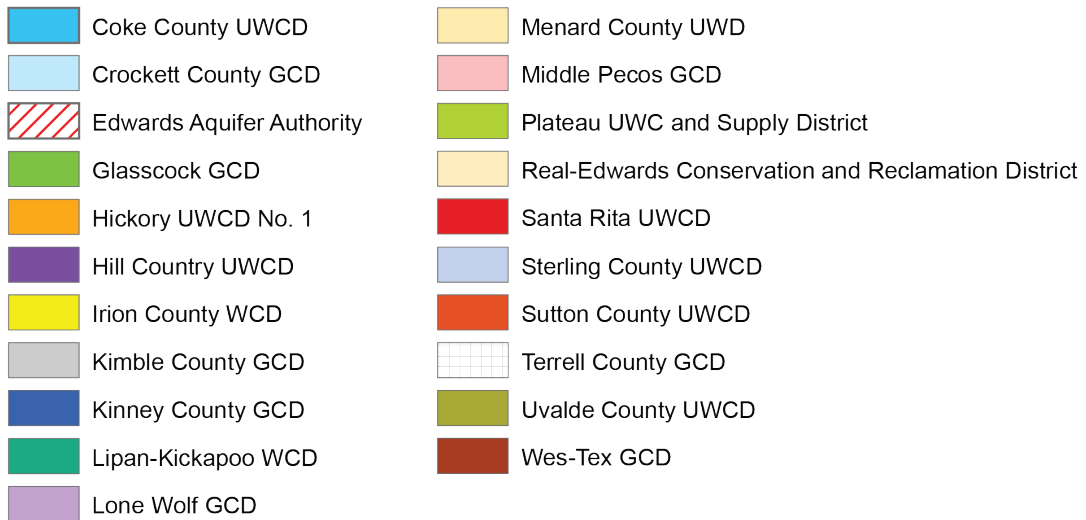


assume that past average hydrologic conditions—the range of fluctuation—will continue in the future. In the cases of Kinney and Val Verde counties, simulated spring discharge was based on hydrologic variations that took place over the periods 1950 through 2005 and 1968 through 2013, respectively. The desired future condition for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer in Kinney County is similar to the one adopted in 2010 and the associated modeled available groundwater is based on a specific model run—GAM Run 10-043 (Shi, 2012).

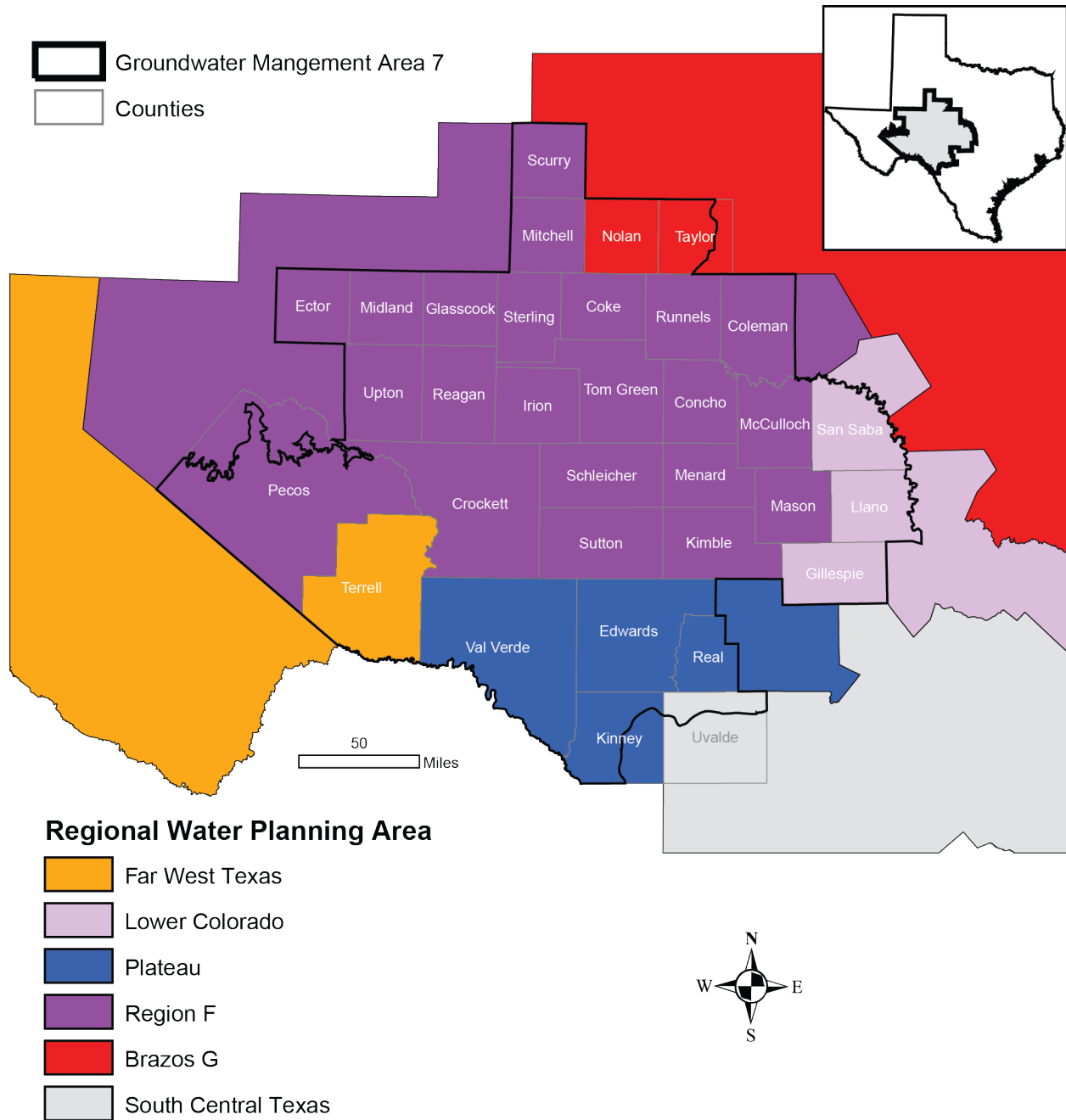
Modeled available groundwater values for the Ellenburger-San Saba and Hickory aquifers were determined by extracting pumping rates by decade from the model results using ZONBUDUSG Version 1.01 (Panday and others, 2013). For the remaining relevant aquifers in Groundwater Management Area 7 modeled available groundwater values were determined by extracting pumping rates by decade from the model results using ZONEBUDGET Version 3.01 (Harbaugh, 2009). Decadal modeled available groundwater for the relevant aquifers is reported by groundwater conservation district and county (Figure 1; Tables 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13), and by county, regional water planning area, and river basin (Figures 2 and 3; Tables 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14).



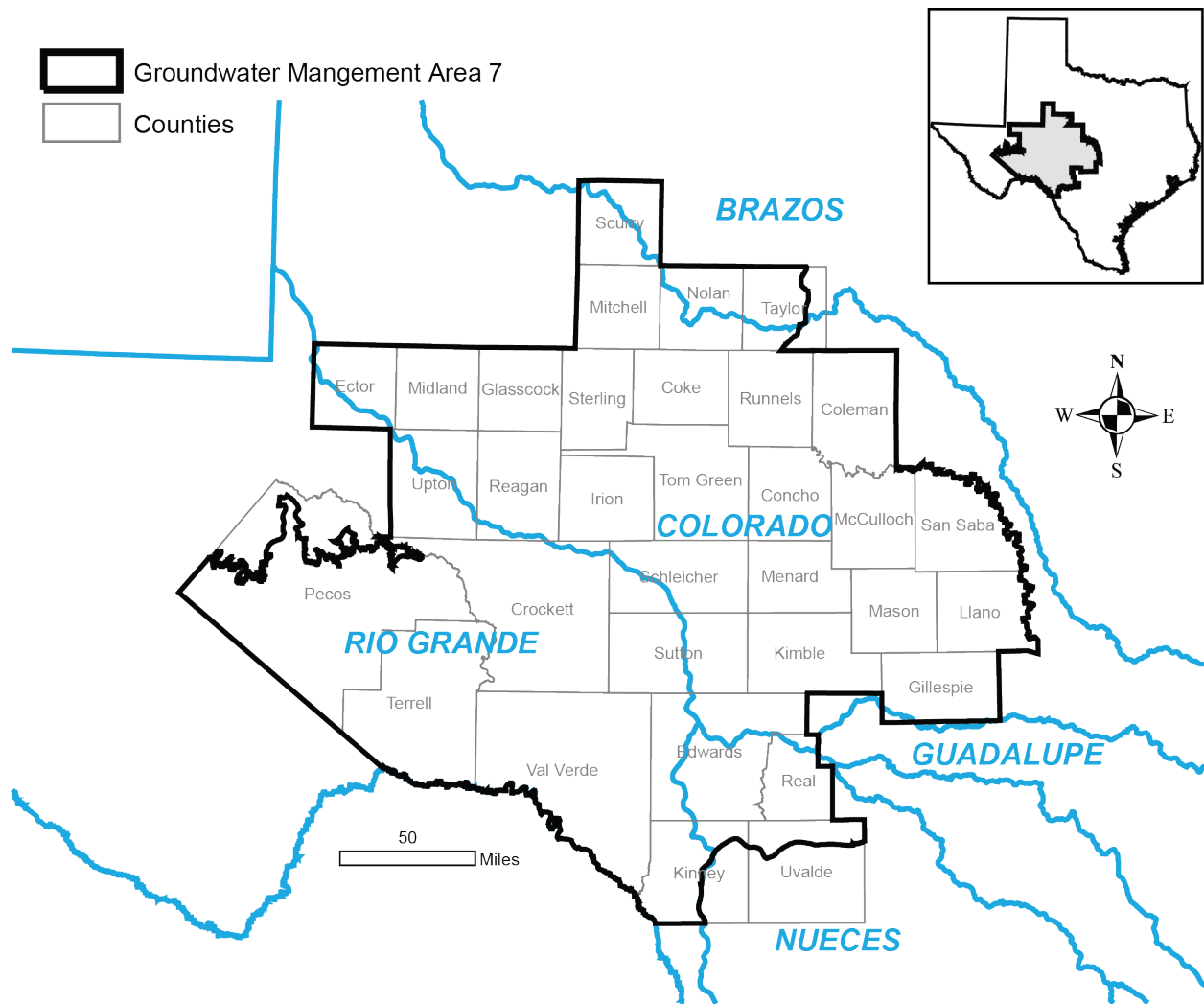
**Groundwater Conservation Districts**



**FIGURE 1. MAP SHOWING THE GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS (GCD) IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7. NOTE: THE BOUNDARIES OF THE EDWARDS AQUIFER AUTHORITY OVERLAP WITH THE UVALDE COUNTY UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (UWCN).**



**FIGURE 2. MAP SHOWING REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREAS IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7.**



**FIGURE 3. MAP SHOWING RIVER BASINS IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7. THESE INCLUDE PARTS OF THE BRAZOS, COLORADO, GUADALUPE, NUECES, AND RIO GRANDE RIVER BASINS.**



## **PARAMETERS AND ASSUMPTIONS:**

### **Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer**

- Version 1.01 of the groundwater availability model of the eastern arm of the Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer was used. See Jones (2016) for assumptions and limitations of the groundwater availability model. See Hutchison (2016a) for details on the assumptions used for predictive simulations.
- The model has five layers: Layer 1, the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) and Pecos Valley aquifers; Layer 2, the Dockum Aquifer and the Dewey Lake Formation; Layer 3, the Rustler Aquifer; Layer 4, a confining unit made up of the Salado and Castile formations, and the overlying portion of the Artesia Group; and Layer 5, the Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer, part of the Artesia Group, and the Delaware Mountain Group. Layers 1 through 4 are intended to act solely as boundary conditions facilitating groundwater inflow and outflow relative to the Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer (Layer 5).
- The model was run with MODFLOW-2000 (Harbaugh and others, 2000).
- The model was run for the interval 2006 through 2070 for a 64-year predictive simulation. Drawdowns were calculated by subtracting 2006 simulated water levels from 2070 simulated water levels, which were then averaged over the portion of the aquifer in Groundwater Management Area 7.
- During predictive simulations, there were no cells where water levels were below the base elevation of the cell ("dry" cells). Therefore, all drawdowns were included in the averaging.
- Drawdown averages and modeled available groundwater volumes are based on the official TWDB aquifer boundary within Groundwater Management Area 7.

### **Dockum and Ogallala Aquifers**

- Version 1.01 of the groundwater availability model for the High Plains Aquifer System by Deeds and Jigmond (2015) was used to construct the predictive model simulation for this analysis. See Hutchison (2016c) for details of the initial assumptions.
- The model has four layers which represent the Ogallala and Pecos Valley Alluvium aquifers (Layer 1), the Edwards-Trinity (High Plains) and Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) aquifers (Layer 2), the Upper Dockum Aquifer (Layer 3), and the Lower Dockum Aquifer (Layer 4). Pass-through cells exist in layers 2 and 3 to hydraulically connect the Ogallala Aquifer to the Lower Dockum where the Edwards-Trinity (High Plains)

and Upper Dockum aquifers are absent. These pass-through cells were excluded from the calculations of drawdowns and modeled available groundwater.

- The model was run with MODFLOW-NWT (Niswonger and others, 2011). The model uses the Newton formulation and the upstream weighting package, which automatically reduces pumping as heads drop in a particular cell, as defined by the user. This feature may simulate the declining production of a well as saturated thickness decreases. Deeds and Jigmond (2015) modified the MODFLOW-NWT code to use a saturated thickness of 30 feet as the threshold—instead of percent of the saturated thickness—when pumping reductions occur during a simulation. Therefore, the groundwater management area should be aware that the modeled available groundwater values will be less than pumping input values if the modeled saturated thickness drops below that threshold.
- The model was run for the interval 2013 through 2070 for a 58-year predictive simulation. Drawdowns were calculated by subtracting initial water levels from 2070 simulated water levels, which were then averaged over the portion of the aquifer in Groundwater Management Area 7.
- During predictive simulations, there were no cells in the Dockum Aquifer where water levels were below the base elevation of the cell (“dry” cells). Therefore, all drawdowns were included in the averaging. However, in the Ogallala Aquifer, dry cells occurred during the predictive simulation. These dry cells were excluded from the modeled available groundwater calculations.
- Drawdown averages and modeled available groundwater volumes are based on the model boundary within Groundwater Management Area 7 for the Dockum Aquifer and the official TWDB aquifer boundary for the Ogallala Aquifer.

### **Pecos Valley, Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) and Trinity Aquifers**

- The single-layer alternative groundwater flow model for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) and Pecos Valley aquifers was used for this analysis. This model is an update to the previously developed groundwater availability model documented in Anaya and Jones (2009). See Hutchison and others (2011a) and Anaya and Jones (2009) for assumptions and limitations of the model. See Hutchison (2016e; 2018) for details on the assumptions used for predictive simulations.
- The groundwater model has one layer representing the Pecos Valley Aquifer and the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer. In the relatively narrow area where both aquifers are present, the model is a lumped representation of both aquifers.
- The model was run with MODFLOW-2000 (Harbaugh and others, 2000).

- The model was run for the interval 2006 through 2070 for a 65-year predictive simulation. Drawdowns were calculated by subtracting 2010 simulated water levels from 2070 simulated water levels, which were then averaged over the portion of the aquifer in Groundwater Management Area 7.
- Because simulated water levels for the baseline year (2010) are not included in the original calibrated historical model, these water levels had to be verified against measured water levels to confirm that the predictive model satisfactorily matched real-world conditions. Comparison of 2010 simulated and measured water levels indicated a root mean squared error of 100 feet or 4 percent of the range in water-level elevations, which is within acceptable limits. Based on these results, we consider the predictive model an appropriate tool for evaluating the attainability of desired future conditions and for calculating modeled available groundwater.
- Drawdowns for cells with water levels below the base elevation of the cell (“dry” cells) were included in the averaging.
- Drawdown averages and modeled available groundwater volumes are based on the official TWDB aquifer boundaries within Groundwater Management Area 7.

### **Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer of Kinney County**

- All parameters and assumptions for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer of Kinney County in Groundwater Management Area 7 are described in GAM Run 10-043 MAG Version 2 (Shi, 2012). This report assumes a planning period from 2010 to 2070.
- The Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District model developed by Hutchison and others (2011b) was used for this analysis. The model was calibrated to water level and spring flux collected from 1950 to 2005.
- The model has four layers representing the following hydrogeologic units (from top to bottom): Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer (Layer 1), Upper Cretaceous Unit (Layer 2), Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) Aquifer/Edwards portion of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer (Layer 3), and Trinity portion of the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer (Layer 4).
- The model was run with MODFLOW-2000 (Harbaugh and others, 2000).
- The model was run for 56 annual stress periods under the conditions set in Scenario 3 in Task 10-027 (Hutchison, 2011).
- Modeled available groundwater volumes are based on the official TWDB aquifer boundary within Groundwater Management Area 7 in Kinney County.

### **Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer of Val Verde County**

- The single-layer numerical groundwater flow model for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer of Val Verde County was used for this analysis. This model is based on the previously developed alternative groundwater model of the Kinney County area documented in Hutchison and others (2011b). See EcoKai and Hutchison (2014) for assumptions and limitations of the model. See Hutchison (2016e; 2021) for details on the assumptions used for predictive simulations, including recharge and pumping assumptions.
- The groundwater model has one layer representing the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer of Val Verde County.
- The model was run with MODFLOW-2005 (Harbaugh, 2005).
- The model was run for a 45-year predictive simulation representing hydrologic conditions of the interval 1968 through 2013. Simulated spring discharge from San Felipe Springs was averaged over duration of the simulation. The resultant pumping rate that met the desired future conditions was applied to the predictive period—2010 through 2070—based on the assumption that average conditions over the predictive period are the same as those over the historic period represented by the model run.
- Modeled available groundwater volumes are based on the official TWDB aquifer boundary within Groundwater Management Area 7 in Val Verde County.

### **Minor aquifers of the Llano Uplift Area**

- We used version 1.01 of the groundwater availability model for the minor aquifers in the Llano Uplift Area. See Shi and others (2016) for assumptions and limitations of the model. See Hutchison (2016b) for details of the initial assumptions.
- The model contains eight layers: Trinity Aquifer, Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifer, and younger alluvium deposits (Layer 1), confining units (Layer 2), Marble Falls Aquifer and equivalent units (Layer 3), confining units (Layer 4), Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer and equivalent units (Layer 5), confining units (Layer 6), Hickory Aquifer and equivalent units (Layer 7), and Precambrian units (Layer 8).
- The model was run with MODFLOW-USG beta (development) version (Panday and others, 2013). Perennial rivers and reservoirs were simulated using the MODFLOW-USG river package. Springs were simulated using the MODFLOW-USG drain package.
- The model was run for the interval 2011 through 2070 for a 60-year predictive simulation. Drawdowns were calculated by subtracting initial water levels from 2070 simulated water levels, which were then averaged over the portion of the



aquifer in Groundwater Management Area 7. During predictive simulations, there were no cells where water levels were below the base elevation of the cell (“dry” cells). Therefore, all drawdowns were included in the averaging.

- Drawdown averages and modeled available groundwater volumes are based on the model boundaries within Groundwater Management Area 7.

### **Rustler Aquifer**

- Version 1.01 of the groundwater availability model for the Rustler Aquifer by Ewing and others (2012) was used to construct the predictive model simulation for this analysis. See Hutchison (2016d) for details of the initial assumptions, including recharge conditions.
- The model has two layers, the top one representing the Rustler Aquifer, and the other representing the Dewey Lake Formation and the Dockum Aquifer.
- The model was run with MODFLOW-NWT (Niswonger and others, 2011).
- The model was run for the interval 2009 through 2070 for a 61-year predictive simulation. Drawdowns were calculated by subtracting 2009 simulated water levels from 2070 simulated water levels, which were then averaged over the portion of the aquifer in Groundwater Management Area 7.
- The predictive model used to define desired future conditions uses 2008 recharge conditions throughout the predictive period.
- The predictive model used to define desired future conditions has general-head boundary heads that decline at a rate of 1.5 feet per year.
- During predictive simulations, there were no cells where water levels were below the base elevation of the cell (“dry” cells). Therefore, all drawdowns were included in the averaging.
- Drawdown averages and modeled available groundwater volumes are based on the model boundaries within Groundwater Management Area 7.

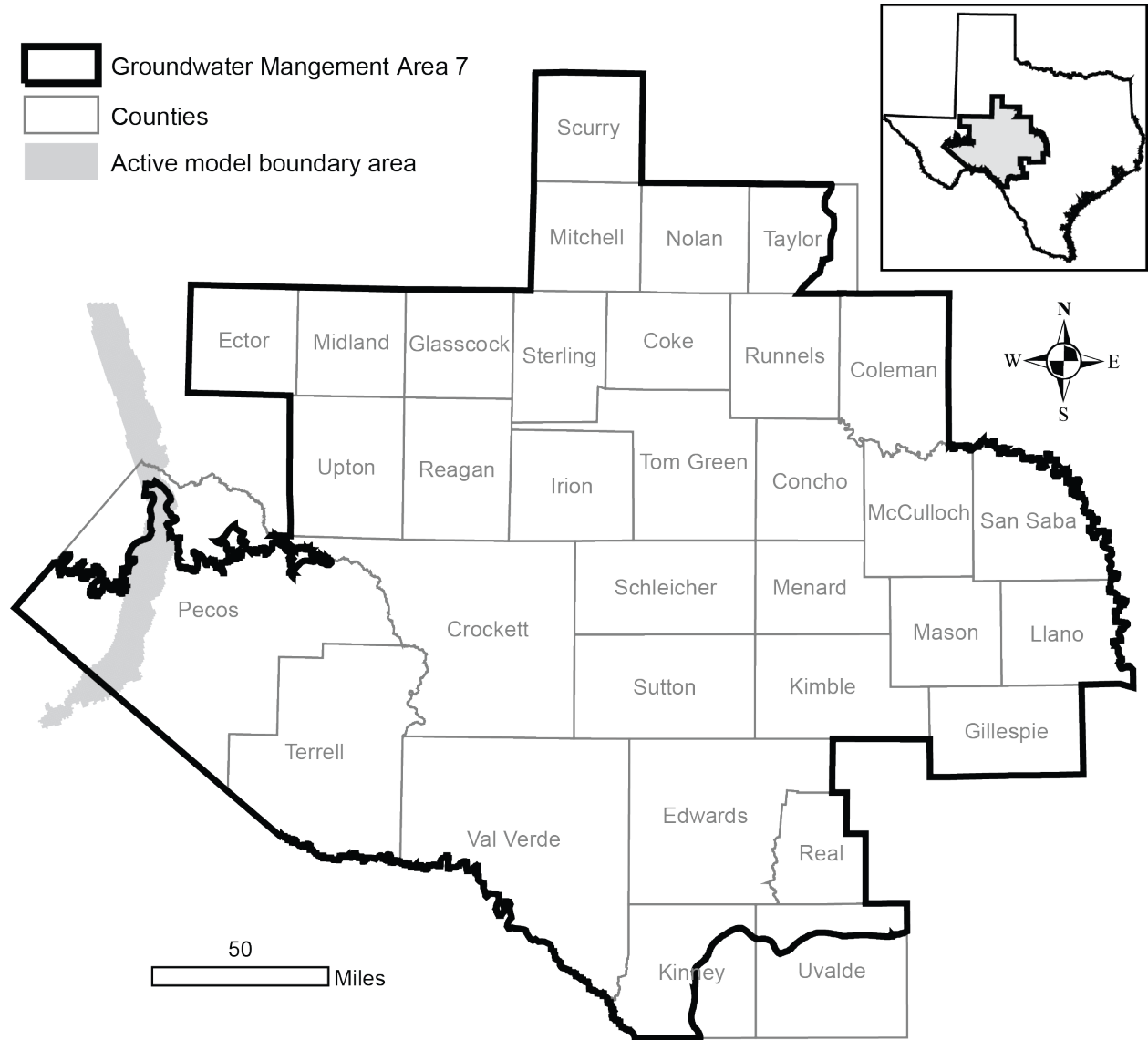
### **RESULTS:**

The modeled available groundwater estimates for each decade from 2020 through 2070 are:

- 26,164 acre-feet per year in the Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer,
- 2,324 acre-feet per year in the Dockum Aquifer,
- 6,570 to 7,925 acre-feet per year in the Ogallala Aquifer,

- 479,063 acre-feet per year in the undifferentiated Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity aquifers,
- 22,616 acre-feet per year in the Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer,
- 49,936 acre-feet per year in the Hickory Aquifer, and
- 7,040 acre-feet per year in the Rustler Aquifer.

The modeled available groundwater for the respective aquifers has been summarized by aquifer, county, and groundwater conservation district (Tables 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 13). The modeled available groundwater is also summarized by county, regional water planning area, river basin, and aquifer for use in the regional water planning process (Tables 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14). The modeled available groundwater for the Ogallala Aquifer that achieves the desired future conditions adopted by districts in Groundwater Management Area 7 decreases from 7,925 to 6,570 acre-feet per year between 2020 and 2070 (Tables 5 and 6). This decline is attributable to the occurrence of increasing numbers of cells where water levels were below the base elevation of the cell (“dry” cells) in parts of Glasscock County. Please note that MODFLOW-NWT automatically reduces pumping as water levels decline.



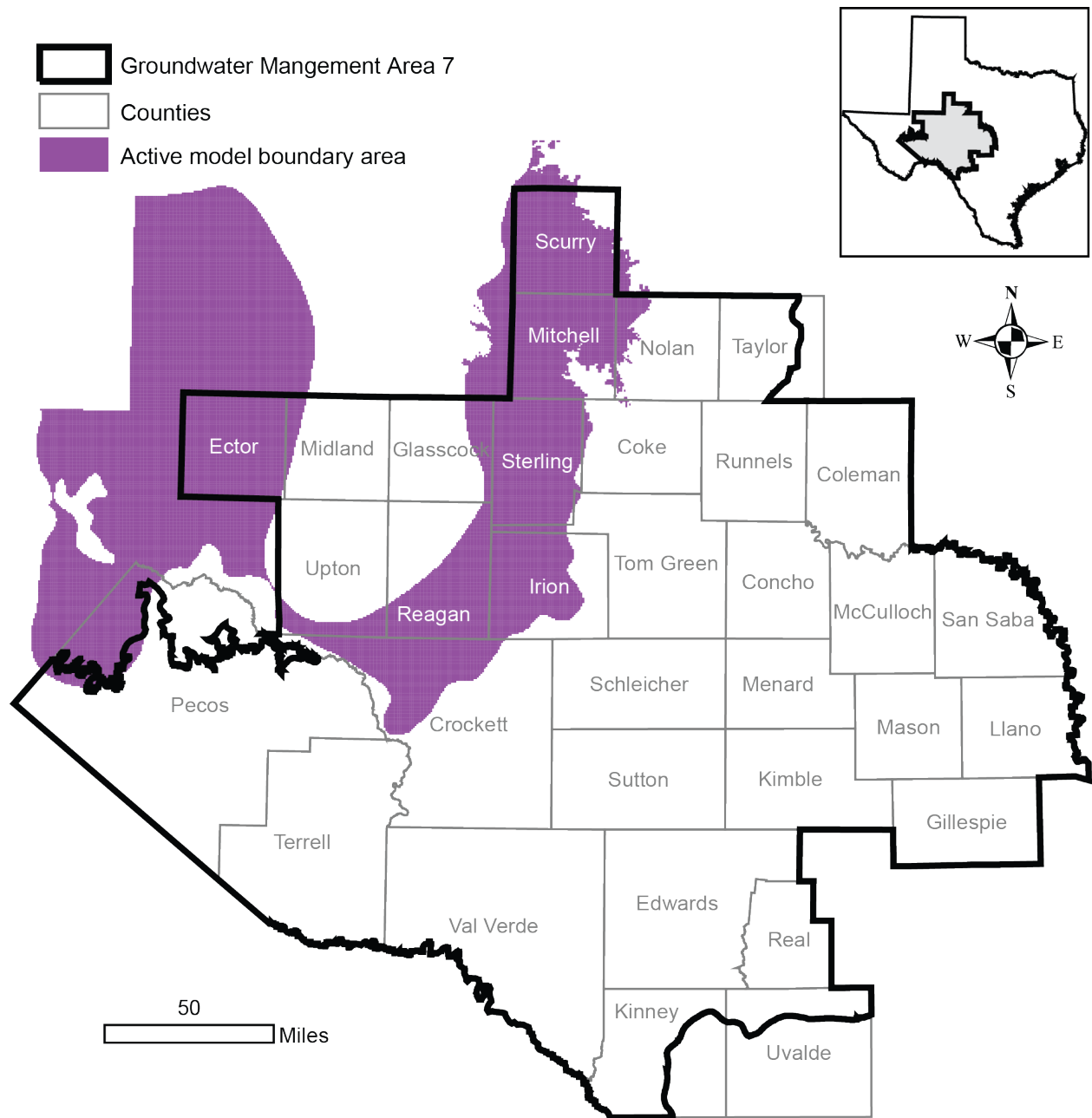
**FIGURE 4. MAP SHOWING THE AREAS COVERED BY THE CAPITAN REEF COMPLEX AQUIFER IN THE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR THE EASTERN ARM OF THE CAPITAN REEF COMPLEX AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7.**





**TABLE 2. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE CAPITAN REEF COMPLEX AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7 SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), AND RIVER BASIN FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2030 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year				
			2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Pecos	F	Rio Grande	26,164	26,164	26,164	26,164	26,164
		<b>Total</b>	<b>26,164</b>	<b>26,164</b>	<b>26,164</b>	<b>26,164</b>	<b>26,164</b>
<b>GMA 7</b>			<b>26,164</b>	<b>26,164</b>	<b>26,164</b>	<b>26,164</b>	<b>26,164</b>



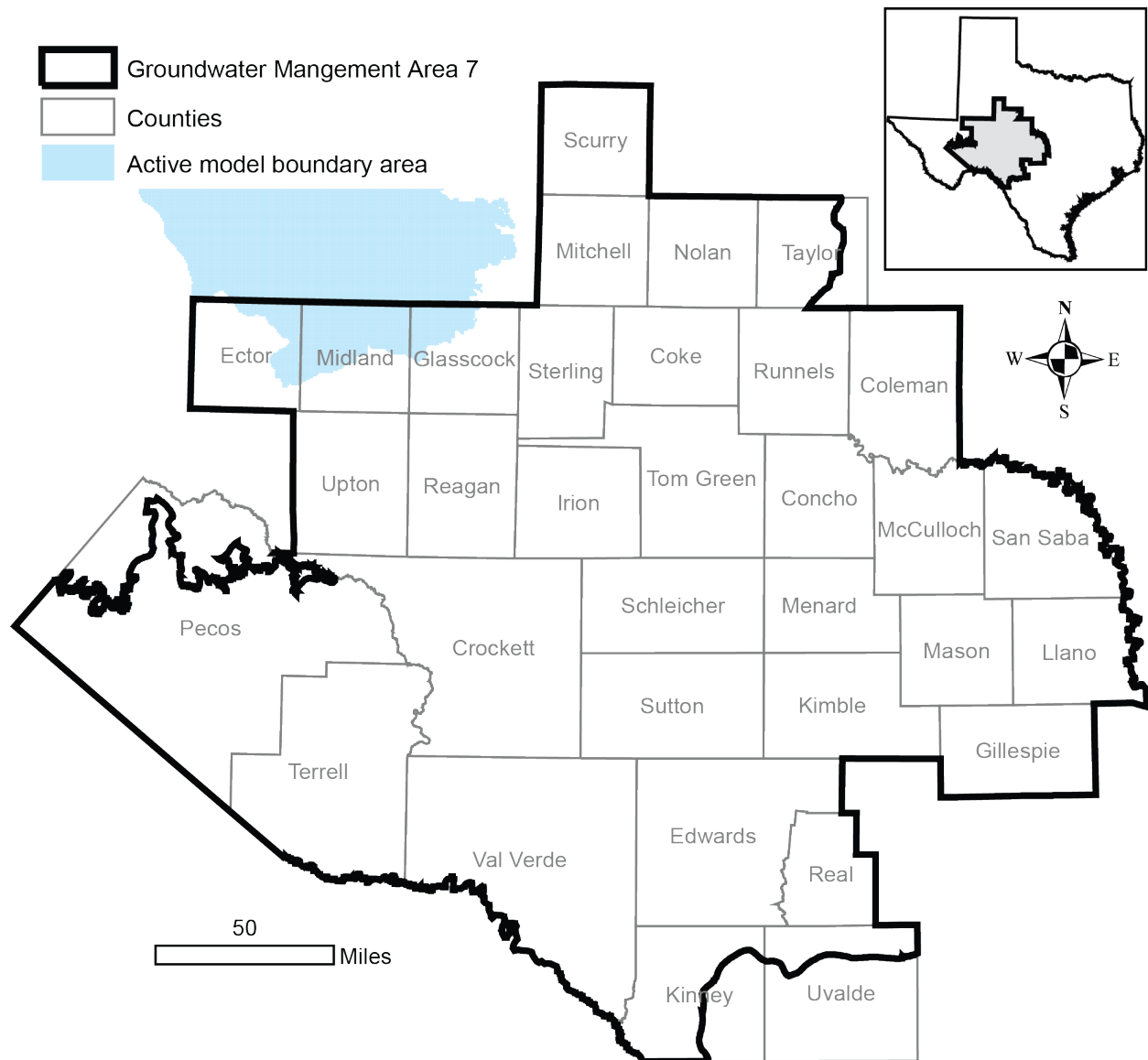
**FIGURE 5. MAP SHOWING AREAS COVERED BY THE DOCKUM AQUIFER IN THE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR THE HIGH PLAINS AQUIFER SYSTEM IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7.**

**TABLE 3. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE DOCKUM AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7 SUMMARIZED BY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND COUNTY FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2020 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR. GCD AND UWCD ARE THE ABBREVIATIONS FOR GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AND UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, RESPECTIVELY.**

District	County	Year					
		2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Middle Pecos GCD	Pecos	2,022	2,022	2,022	2,022	2,022	2,022
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>2,022</b>
Santa Rita UWCD	Reagan	302	302	302	302	302	302
	<b>Total</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>302</b>
<b>GMA 7</b>		<b>2,324</b>	<b>2,324</b>	<b>2,324</b>	<b>2,324</b>	<b>2,324</b>	<b>2,324</b>
Note: The modeled available groundwater for Santa Rita Underground Water Conservation District excludes parts of Reagan County that fall within Glasscock Groundwater Conservation District.							

**TABLE 4. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE DOCKUM AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7 SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), AND RIVER BASIN FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2030 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year				
			2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Pecos	F	Rio Grande	2,022	2,022	2,022	2,022	2,022
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>2,022</b>
Reagan	F	Colorado	302	302	302	302	302
		Rio Grande	0	0	0	0	0
		<b>Total</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>302</b>
<b>GMA 7</b>			<b>2,324</b>	<b>2,324</b>	<b>2,324</b>	<b>2,324</b>	<b>2,324</b>
Note: The modeled available groundwater for Reagan County excludes parts of Reagan County that fall outside of Santa Rita Underground Water Conservation District.							



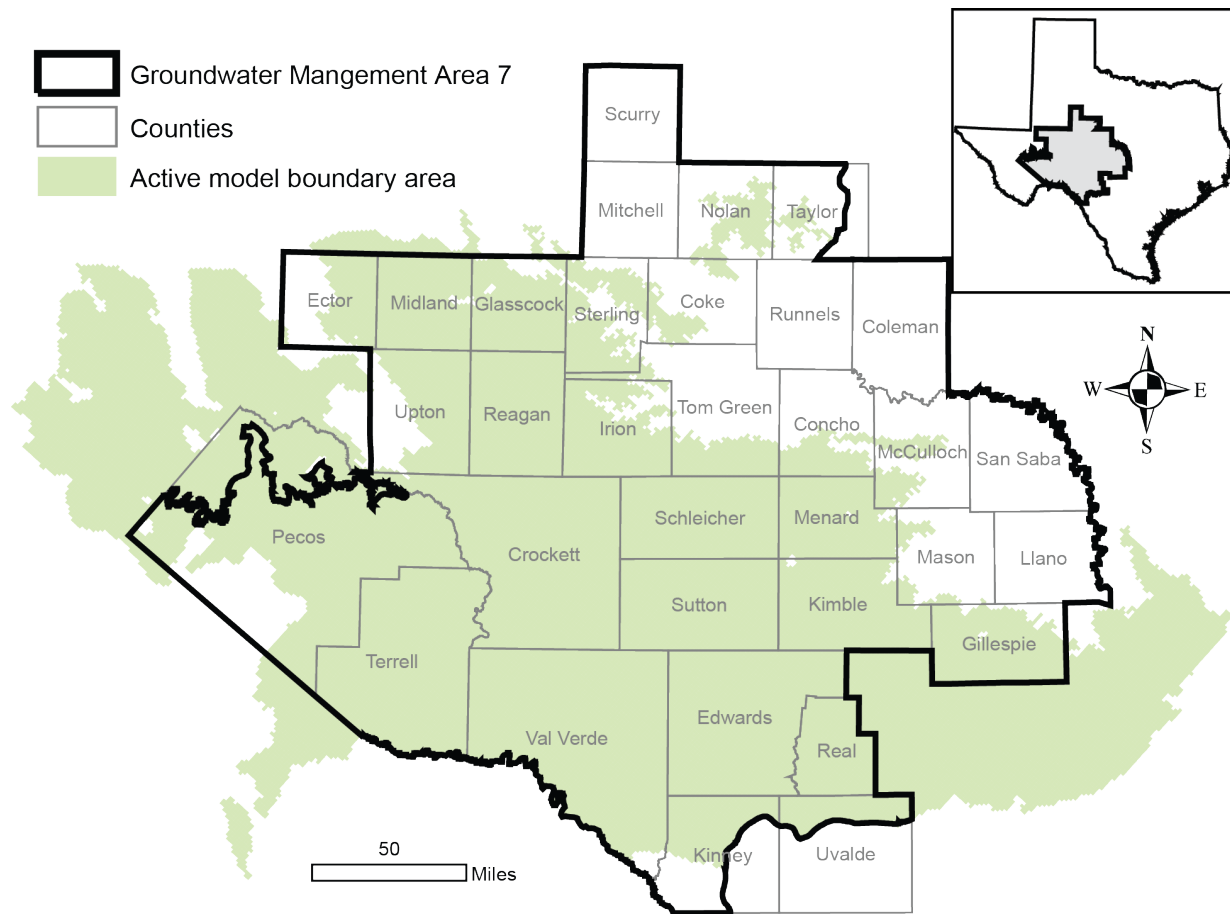
**FIGURE 6. MAP SHOWING THE AREAS COVERED BY THE OGALLALA AQUIFER IN THE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR THE HIGH PLAINS AQUIFER SYSTEM IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7.**

**TABLE 5. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE OGALLALA AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7 SUMMARIZED BY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (GCD) AND COUNTY FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2020 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

District	County	Year					
		2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Glasscock GCD	Glasscock	7,925	7,673	7,372	7,058	6,803	6,570
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7,925</b>	<b>7,673</b>	<b>7,372</b>	<b>7,058</b>	<b>6,803</b>	<b>6,570</b>
<b>GMA 7</b>		<b>7,925</b>	<b>7,673</b>	<b>7,372</b>	<b>7,058</b>	<b>6,803</b>	<b>6,570</b>

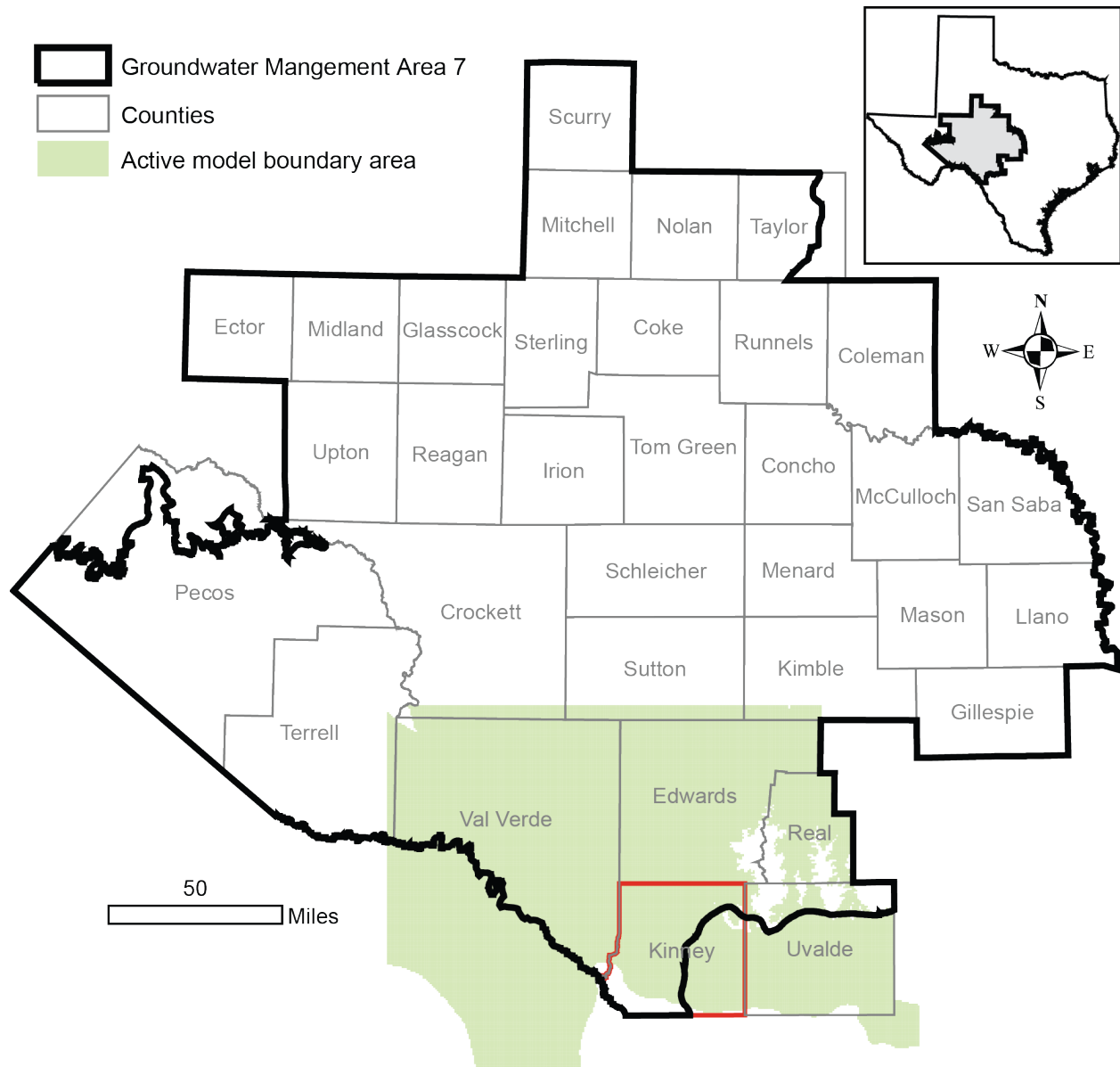
**TABLE 6. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE OGALLALA AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7 SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), AND RIVER BASIN FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2030 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year				
			2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Glasscock	F	Colorado	7,673	7,372	7,058	6,803	6,570
		<b>Total</b>	<b>7,673</b>	<b>7,372</b>	<b>7,058</b>	<b>6,803</b>	<b>6,570</b>
<b>GMA 7</b>			<b>7,673</b>	<b>7,372</b>	<b>7,058</b>	<b>6,803</b>	<b>6,570</b>

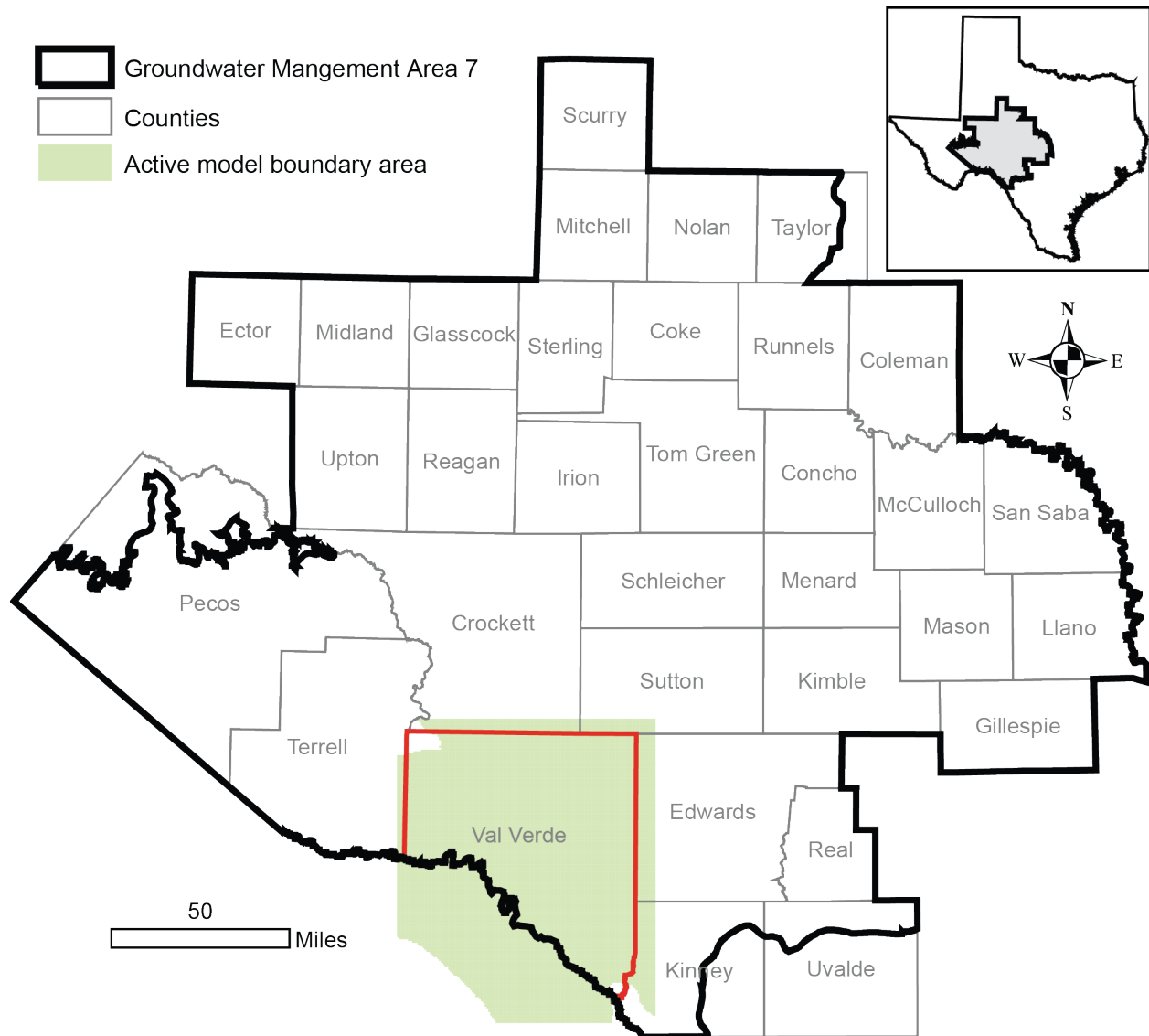


**FIGURE 7. MAP SHOWING THE AREAS COVERED BY THE UNDIFFERENTIATED EDWARDS-TRINITY (PLATEAU), PECOS VALLEY, AND TRINITY AQUIFERS IN THE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR THE EDWARDS-TRINITY (PLATEAU) AND PECOS VALLEY AQUIFERS IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7.**





**FIGURE 8. MAP SHOWING THE AREAS COVERED BY THE EDWARDS-TRINITY (PLATEAU) AQUIFER IN THE ALTERNATIVE MODEL FOR THE EDWARDS-TRINITY (PLATEAU) AQUIFER IN KINNEY COUNTY [HIGHLIGHTED IN RED].**



**FIGURE 9. MAP SHOWING THE AREAS COVERED BY THE EDWARDS-TRINITY (PLATEAU) AQUIFER IN THE GROUNDWATER FLOW MODEL FOR THE EDWARDS-TRINITY (PLATEAU) AQUIFER IN VAL VERDE COUNTY [HIGHLIGHTED IN RED].**







**TABLE 8. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER BY DECADE FOR THE UNDIFFERENTIATED EDWARDS-TRINITY (PLATEAU), PECOS VALLEY, AND TRINITY AQUIFERS IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7 SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), AND RIVER BASIN FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2030 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year				
			2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Coke	F	Colorado	997	997	997	997	997
		<b>Total</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>997</b>
Crockett	F	Colorado	20	20	20	20	20
		Rio Grande	5,427	5,427	5,427	5,427	5,427
		<b>Total</b>	<b>5,447</b>	<b>5,447</b>	<b>5,447</b>	<b>5,447</b>	<b>5,447</b>
Ector	F	Colorado	4,925	4,925	4,925	4,925	4,925
		Rio Grande	617	617	617	617	617
		<b>Total</b>	<b>5,542</b>	<b>5,542</b>	<b>5,542</b>	<b>5,542</b>	<b>5,542</b>
Edwards	J	Colorado	2,305	2,305	2,305	2,305	2,305
		Nueces	1,631	1,631	1,631	1,631	1,631
		Rio Grande	1,740	1,740	1,740	1,740	1,740
		<b>Total</b>	<b>5,676</b>	<b>5,676</b>	<b>5,676</b>	<b>5,676</b>	<b>5,676</b>
Gillespie	K	Colorado	4,843	4,843	4,843	4,843	4,843
		Guadalupe	136	136	136	136	136
		<b>Total</b>	<b>4,979</b>	<b>4,979</b>	<b>4,979</b>	<b>4,979</b>	<b>4,979</b>
Glasscock	F	Colorado	65,186	65,186	65,186	65,186	65,186
		<b>Total</b>	<b>65,186</b>	<b>65,186</b>	<b>65,186</b>	<b>65,186</b>	<b>65,186</b>

**TABLE 8. (CONTINUED).**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year				
			2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Irion	F	Colorado	3,289	3,289	3,289	3,289	3,289
		<b>Total</b>	<b>3,289</b>	<b>3,289</b>	<b>3,289</b>	<b>3,289</b>	<b>3,289</b>
Kimble	F	Colorado	1,386	1,386	1,386	1,386	1,386
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>1,386</b>	<b>1,386</b>
Kinney	J	Nueces	12	12	12	12	12
		Rio Grande	70,329	70,329	70,329	70,329	70,329
		<b>Total</b>	<b>70,341</b>	<b>70,341</b>	<b>70,341</b>	<b>70,341</b>	<b>70,341</b>
Menard	F	Colorado	2,597	2,597	2,597	2,597	2,597
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2,597</b>	<b>2,597</b>	<b>2,597</b>	<b>2,597</b>	<b>2,597</b>
Midland	F	Colorado	23,233	23,233	23,233	23,233	23,233
		<b>Total</b>	<b>23,233</b>	<b>23,233</b>	<b>23,233</b>	<b>23,233</b>	<b>23,233</b>
Pecos	F	Rio Grande	117,309	117,309	117,309	117,309	117,309
		<b>Total</b>	<b>117,309</b>	<b>117,309</b>	<b>117,309</b>	<b>117,309</b>	<b>117,309</b>

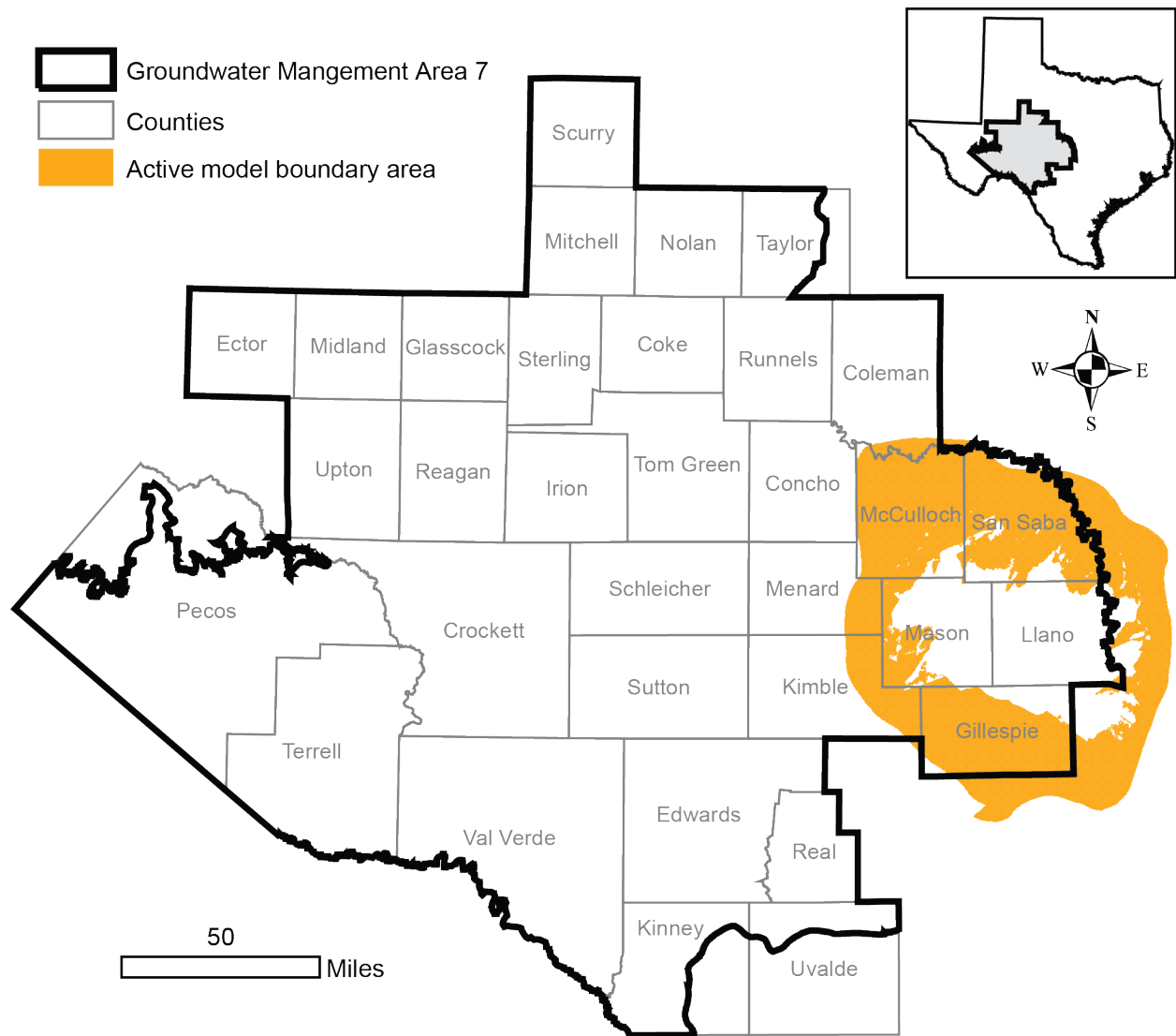


**TABLE 8. (CONTINUED).**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year				
			2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Reagan	F	Colorado	68,205	68,205	68,205	68,205	68,205
		Rio Grande	28	28	28	28	28
		<b>Total</b>	<b>68,233</b>	<b>68,233</b>	<b>68,233</b>	<b>68,233</b>	<b>68,233</b>
Real	J	Colorado	277	277	277	277	277
		Guadalupe	3	3	3	3	3
		Nueces	7,243	7,243	7,243	7,243	7,243
		<b>Total</b>	<b>7,523</b>	<b>7,523</b>	<b>7,523</b>	<b>7,523</b>	<b>7,523</b>
Schleicher	F	Colorado	6,403	6,403	6,403	6,403	6,403
		Rio Grande	1,631	1,631	1,631	1,631	1,631
		<b>Total</b>	<b>8,034</b>	<b>8,034</b>	<b>8,034</b>	<b>8,034</b>	<b>8,034</b>
Sterling	F	Colorado	2,495	2,495	2,495	2,495	2,495
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2,495</b>	<b>2,495</b>	<b>2,495</b>	<b>2,495</b>	<b>2,495</b>
Sutton	F	Colorado	388	388	388	388	388
		Rio Grande	6,022	6,022	6,022	6,022	6,022
		<b>Total</b>	<b>6,410</b>	<b>6,410</b>	<b>6,410</b>	<b>6,410</b>	<b>6,410</b>
Taylor	G	Brazos	331	331	331	331	331
		Colorado	158	158	158	158	158
		<b>Total</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>489</b>
Terrell	E	Rio Grande	1,420	1,420	1,420	1,420	1,420
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>1,420</b>

**TABLE 8. (CONTINUED).**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year				
			2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Upton	F	Colorado	21,243	21,243	21,243	21,243	21,243
		Rio Grande	1,126	1,126	1,126	1,126	1,126
		<b>Total</b>	<b>22,369</b>	<b>22,369</b>	<b>22,369</b>	<b>22,369</b>	<b>22,369</b>
Uvalde	L	Nueces	1,993	1,993	1,993	1,993	1,993
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,993</b>	<b>1,993</b>	<b>1,993</b>	<b>1,993</b>	<b>1,993</b>
Val Verde	J	Rio Grande	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
		<b>Total</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>
<b>GMA 7</b>			<b>479,063</b>	<b>479,063</b>	<b>479,063</b>	<b>479,063</b>	<b>479,063</b>

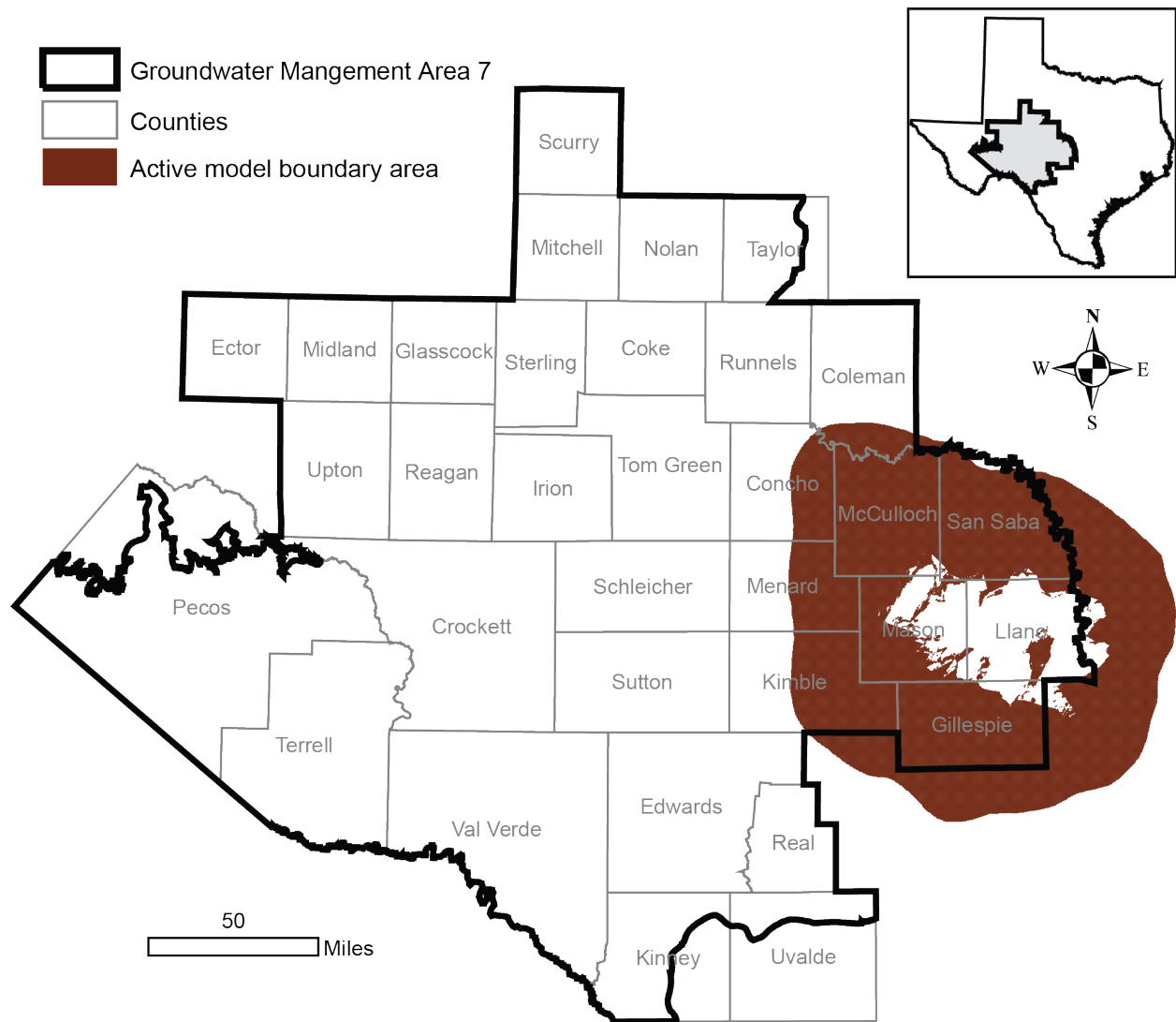


**FIGURE 10. MAP SHOWING THE AREAS COVERED BY THE ELLENBURGER-SAN SABA AQUIFER IN THE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR THE MINOR AQUIFERS OF THE LLANO UPLIFT AREA IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7.**



**TABLE 10. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE ELLENBURGER-SAN SABA AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7 SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), AND RIVER BASIN FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2030 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year				
			2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Gillespie	K	Colorado	6,294	6,294	6,294	6,294	6,294
		<b>Total</b>	<b>6,294</b>	<b>6,294</b>	<b>6,294</b>	<b>6,294</b>	<b>6,294</b>
Kimble	F	Colorado	521	521	521	521	521
		<b>Total</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>521</b>
Mason	F	Colorado	3,237	3,237	3,237	3,237	3,237
		<b>Total</b>	<b>3,237</b>	<b>3,237</b>	<b>3,237</b>	<b>3,237</b>	<b>3,237</b>
McCulloch	F	Colorado	4,364	4,364	4,364	4,364	4,364
		<b>Total</b>	<b>4,364</b>	<b>4,364</b>	<b>4,364</b>	<b>4,364</b>	<b>4,364</b>
Menard	F	Colorado	309	309	309	309	309
		<b>Total</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>309</b>
San Saba	K	Colorado	7,890	7,890	7,890	7,890	7,890
		<b>Total</b>	<b>7,890</b>	<b>7,890</b>	<b>7,890</b>	<b>7,890</b>	<b>7,890</b>
<b>GMA 7</b>			<b>22,615</b>	<b>22,615</b>	<b>22,615</b>	<b>22,615</b>	<b>22,615</b>



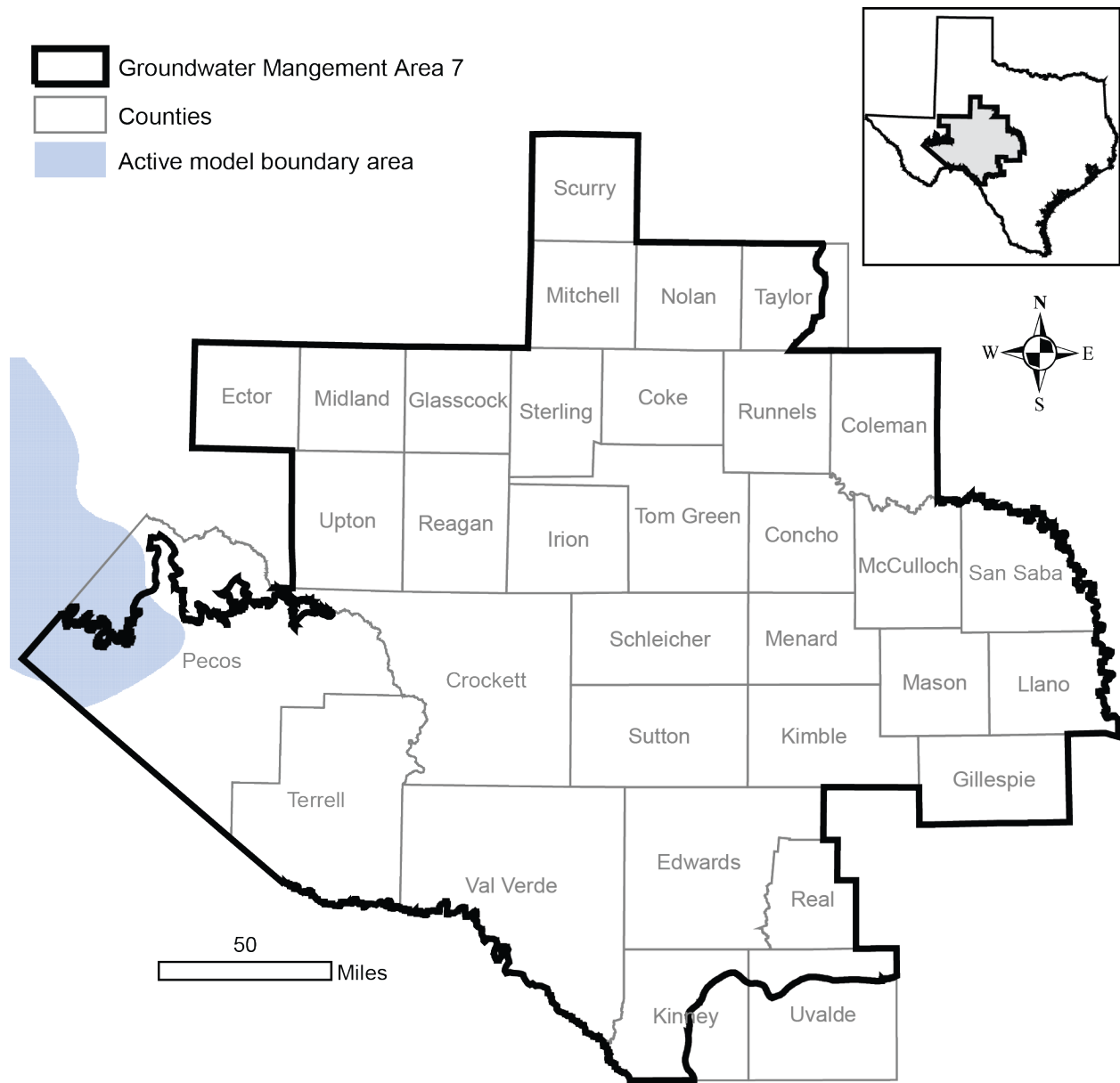
**FIGURE 11. MAP SHOWING AREAS COVERED BY THE HICKORY AQUIFER IN THE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR THE MINOR AQUIFERS OF THE LLANO UPLIFT AREA IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7.**



**TABLE 12. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE HICKORY AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7 SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), AND RIVER BASIN FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2030 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year				
			2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Concho	F	Colorado	27	27	27	27	27
		<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>
Gillespie	K	Colorado	1,751	1,751	1,751	1,751	1,751
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,751</b>	<b>1,751</b>	<b>1,751</b>	<b>1,751</b>	<b>1,751</b>
Kimble	F	Colorado	165	165	165	165	165
		<b>Total</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>165</b>
Mason	F	Colorado	13,212	13,212	13,212	13,212	13,212
		<b>Total</b>	<b>13,212</b>	<b>13,212</b>	<b>13,212</b>	<b>13,212</b>	<b>13,212</b>
McCulloch	F	Colorado	24,377	24,377	24,377	24,377	24,377
		<b>Total</b>	<b>24,377</b>	<b>24,377</b>	<b>24,377</b>	<b>24,377</b>	<b>24,377</b>
Menard	F	Colorado	2,725	2,725	2,725	2,725	2,725
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2,725</b>	<b>2,725</b>	<b>2,725</b>	<b>2,725</b>	<b>2,725</b>
San Saba	K	Colorado	7,680	7,680	7,680	7,680	7,680
		<b>Total</b>	<b>7,680</b>	<b>7,680</b>	<b>7,680</b>	<b>7,680</b>	<b>7,680</b>
<b>GMA 7</b>			<b>49,937</b>	<b>49,937</b>	<b>49,937</b>	<b>49,937</b>	<b>49,937</b>





**FIGURE 13. MAP SHOWING AREAS COVERED BY THE RUSTLER AQUIFER IN THE GROUNDWATER AVAILABILITY MODEL FOR THE RUSTLER AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7.**

**TABLE 13. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE RUSTLER AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7 SUMMARIZED BY DISTRICT AND COUNTY FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2020 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

District	County	Year					
		2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Middle Pecos GCD	Pecos	7,040	7,040	7,040	7,040	7,040	7,040
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7,040</b>	<b>7,040</b>	<b>7,040</b>	<b>7,040</b>	<b>7,040</b>	<b>7,040</b>

**TABLE 14. MODELED AVAILABLE GROUNDWATER FOR THE RUSTLER AQUIFER IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 7 SUMMARIZED BY COUNTY, REGIONAL WATER PLANNING AREA (RWPA), AND RIVER BASIN FOR EACH DECADE BETWEEN 2030 AND 2070. RESULTS ARE IN ACRE-FEET PER YEAR.**

County	RWPA	River Basin	Year				
			2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Pecos	F	Rio Grande	7,040	7,040	7,040	7,040	7,040
		<b>Rio Grande</b>	<b>7,040</b>	<b>7,040</b>	<b>7,040</b>	<b>7,040</b>	<b>7,040</b>

## ***LIMITATIONS:***

The groundwater model used in completing this analysis is the best available scientific tool that can be used to meet the stated objectives. To the extent that this analysis will be used for planning purposes and/or regulatory purposes related to pumping in the past and into the future, it is important to recognize the assumptions and limitations associated with the use of the results. In reviewing the use of models in environmental regulatory decision making, the National Research Council (2007) noted:

*“Models will always be constrained by computational limitations, assumptions, and knowledge gaps. They can best be viewed as tools to help inform decisions rather than as machines to generate truth or make decisions. Scientific advances will never make it possible to build a perfect model that accounts for every aspect of reality or to prove that a given model is correct in all respects for a particular regulatory application. These characteristics make evaluation of a regulatory model more complex than solely a comparison of measurement data with model results.”*

A key aspect of using the groundwater model to evaluate historical groundwater flow conditions includes the assumptions about the location in the aquifer where historic pumping was placed. Understanding the amount and location of historical pumping is as important as evaluating the volume of groundwater flow into and out of the district, between aquifers within the district (as applicable), interactions with surface water (as applicable), recharge to the aquifer system (as applicable), and other metrics that describe the impacts of that pumping. In addition, assumptions regarding precipitation, recharge, and streamflow are specific to a particular historical time period.

Because the application of the groundwater model was designed to address regional scale questions, the results are most effective on a regional scale. The TWDB makes no warranties or representations relating to the actual conditions of any aquifer at a particular location or at a particular time.

It is important for groundwater conservation districts to monitor groundwater pumping and groundwater levels in the aquifer. Because of the limitations of the groundwater model and the assumptions in this analysis, it is important that the groundwater conservation districts work with the TWDB to refine this analysis in the future given the reality of how the aquifer responds to the actual amount and location of pumping now and in the future. Historic precipitation patterns also need to be placed in context as future climatic conditions, such as dry and wet year precipitation patterns, may differ and affect groundwater flow conditions.

## **Model “Dry” Cells**

In some cases, the predictive model run for this analysis could result in water levels in some model cells dropping below the base elevation of the cell during the simulation. In terms of water level, the cells have gone dry. However, as noted in the model assumptions the transmissivity of the cell remains constant and will produce water. This would mean that the modeled available groundwater would include imaginary “pumping” values that are coming from cells that are actually dry.

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