

Bell County **GROUNDWATER**

The District Groundwater Report

*The District is responsible for the management
of groundwater in Bell County, Texas.*

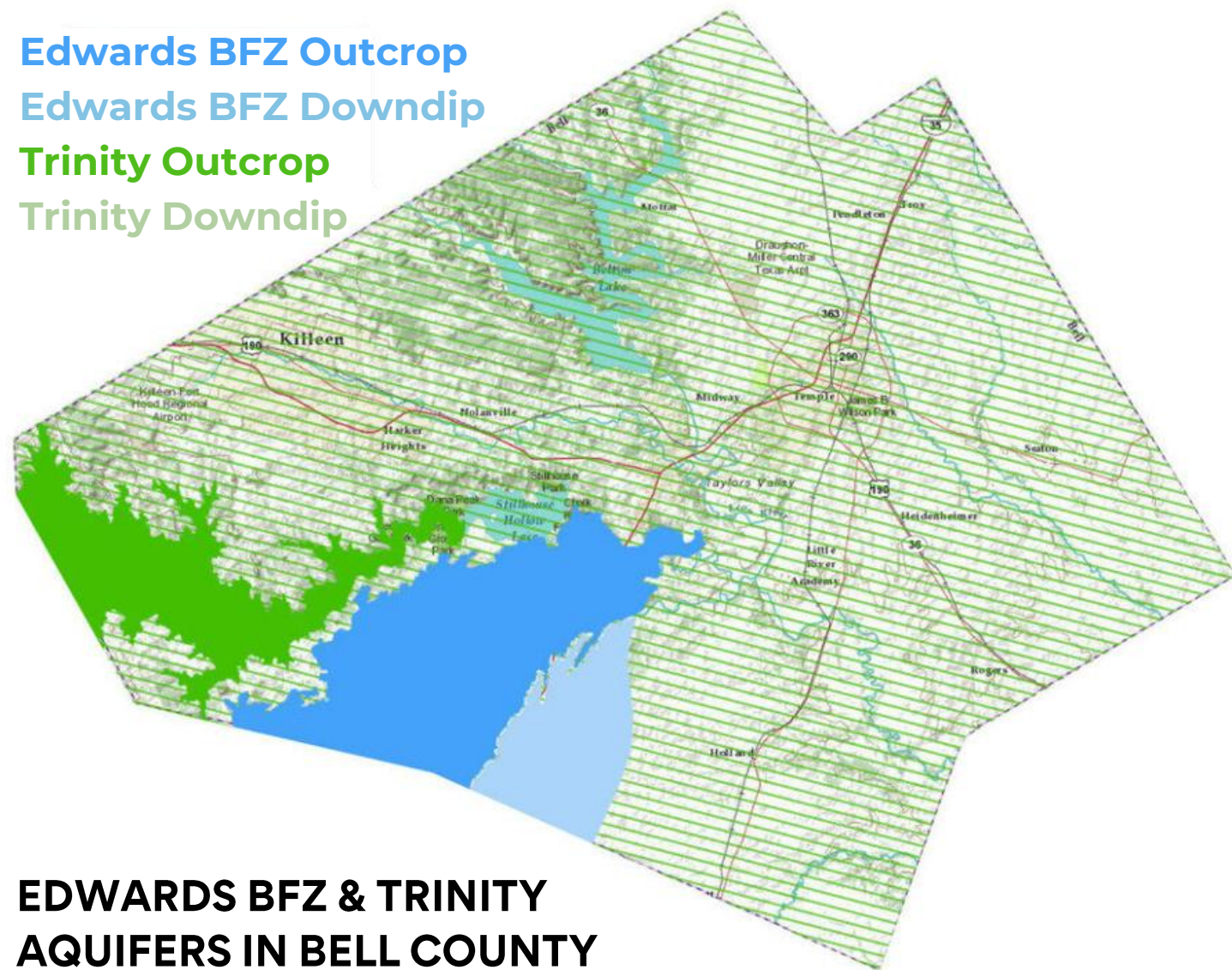


Every drop counts!

About CUWCD

- Created by 71st Legislature in 1989
- Confirmed by voters in 1999
- Doors opened in 2002
- 5 elected Board Members
- District includes all of Bell County
- Funding from ad valorem taxes

Edwards BFZ Outcrop
Edwards BFZ Dwndip
Trinity Outcrop
Trinity Dwndip



**EDWARDS BFZ & TRINITY
AQUIFERS IN BELL COUNTY**

CLEARWATER UWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Leland Gersbach

DIRECTOR PRECINCT 1,
BOARD VICE PRESIDENT



Gary Young

DIRECTOR PRECINCT 2,
BOARD SECRETARY



Jody Williams

DIRECTOR PRECINCT 3,
BOARD PRESIDENT



Scott A. Brooks

DIRECTOR PRECINCT 4



James D. Brown

DIRECTOR AT-LARGE



Every drop counts!

CLEARWATER UWCD STAFF



Whitney Ingram
General Manager

Shelley Chapman

Administrative Manager

Tristin Smith

Compliance/Education Coordinator

Corey Dawson

Field Technician



Every drop counts!

GCDs are political subdivisions of the state created to protect and balance private groundwater interests with the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging and prevention of waste of groundwater, and the control of subsidence caused by withdrawal.

Groundwater Conservation District (GCD)



Conservation, protection, recharge, and prevention of groundwater waste

Rights of landowners and the highest practicable level of groundwater production



Every drop counts!

UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS—
ORGANIZATION—POWERS

1949

Statutory framework for GCDs

An Act amending Chapter 25, Acts of the Regular Session, Thirty-ninth Legis-
lature, 1925, by adding a Section thereto providing for the creation and

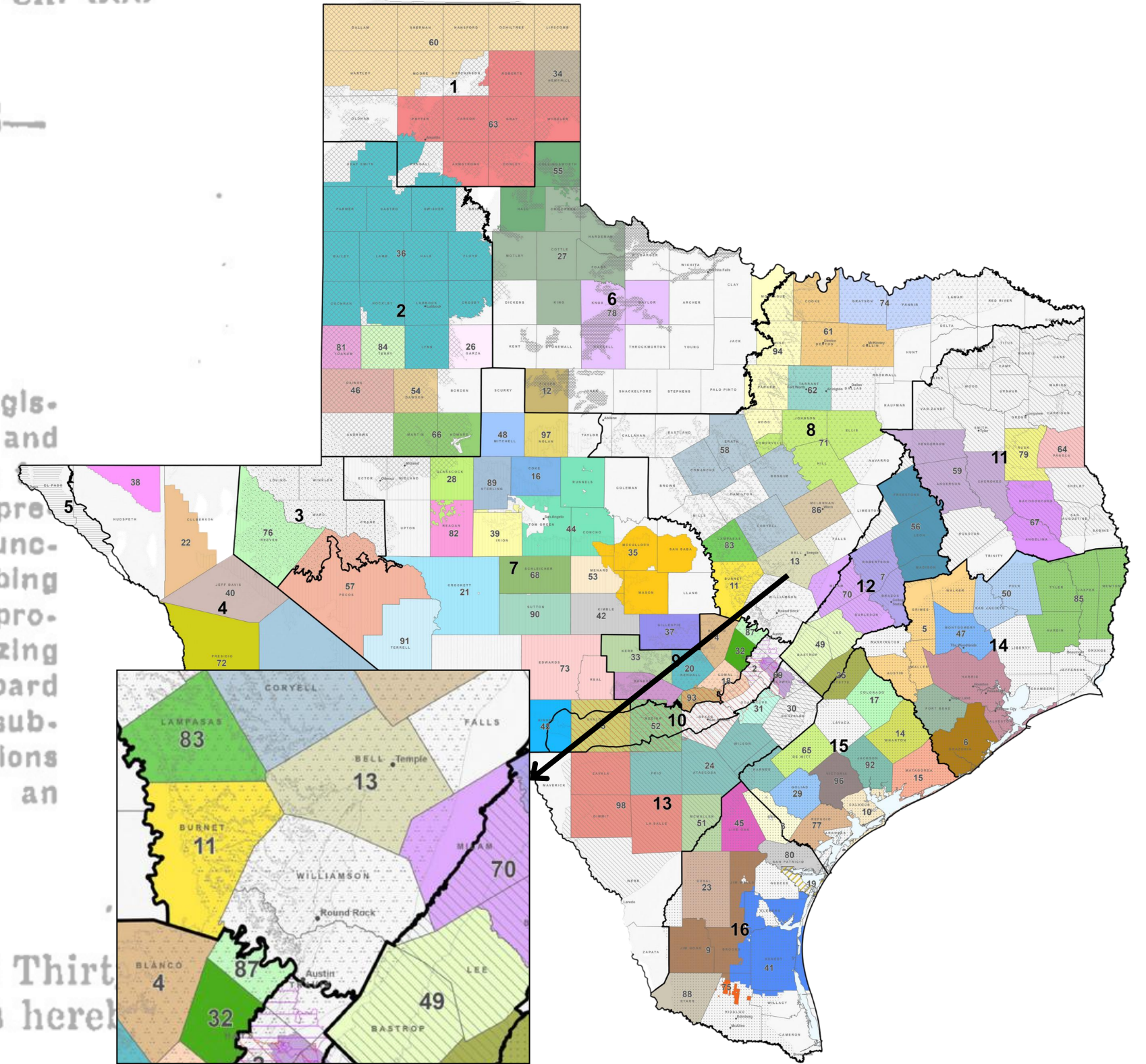
"I favor no control, but if we
must have it, let it be local"

Quote by Hockley County Farmer

1950-2024

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Chapter 25, Acts of the Regular Session of the Thirtieth
Legislature of the State of Texas, 1925, be and the same is hereby
amended²⁴ by adding thereto Section 3c to provide as follows:



Every drop counts!

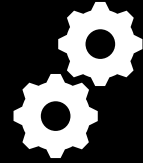
Texas Water Code

Ch. 36 Groundwater Law

Roles & Responsibilities of a GCD



District Rules
Well Permitting &
Enforcement



Establish DFC
Regional & Joint
Planning



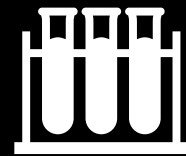
Maintain Records
Plans & Annual
Reports



Records Review
Proposed
Subdivision Plats



Water Levels
Monitor Well
Program



Lab
Water Quality
Testing



Education
Public Outreach



Science
Research & Data



Every drop counts!

District Rules & Management Plan

November 2025

- **Management Plan** amendments adopted
 - DFC management; revisions from 2022 State Water Plan

August 2025

- **District Rule** amendments adopted
 - DFC tracking; increased penalties for violations; export fee increase, clarification of use, options reporting usage
- **Administrative Fee Schedule** amendments adopted
 - Level II (1-5 AF) Permit Application fee increase

Tax Rate & District Budget

CUWCD 2025 Tax Rate:

\$0.002230/\$100 assessed value

Value:

\$100,000

\$286,885

\$1,000,000

Tax Implication:

\$2.23

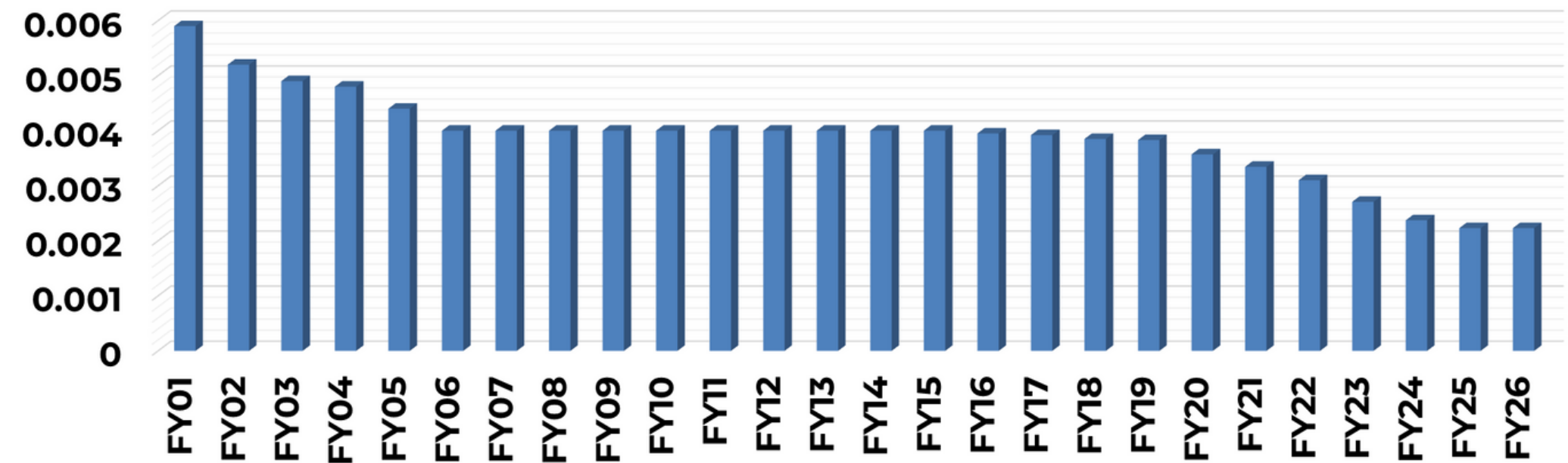
\$6.40

\$22.30

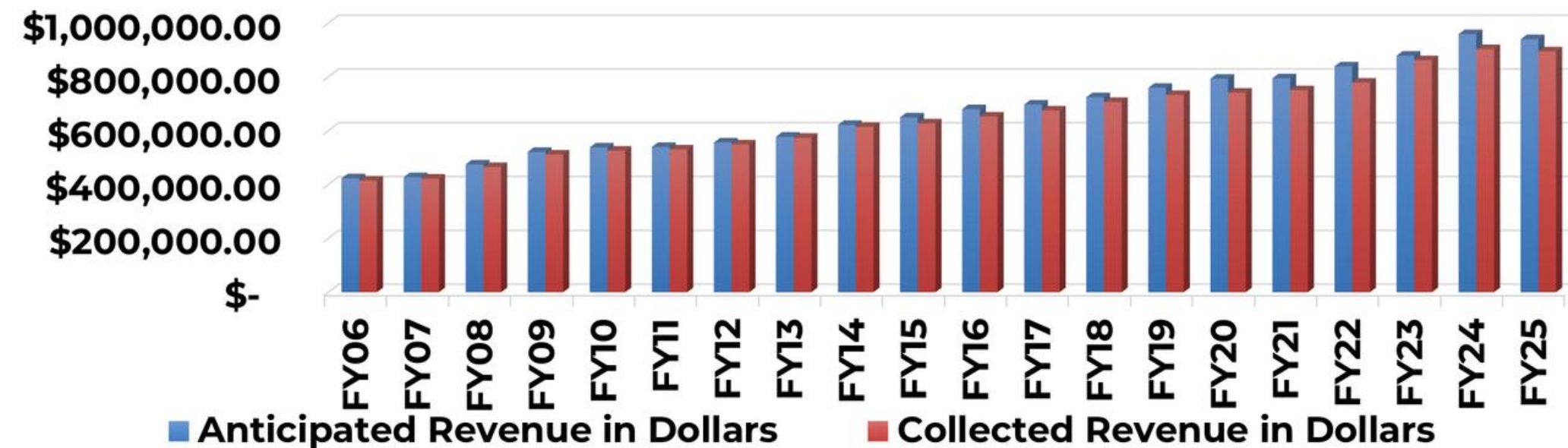
Projected FY26 Tax Levy:

\$917,444

CUWCD Tax Rate

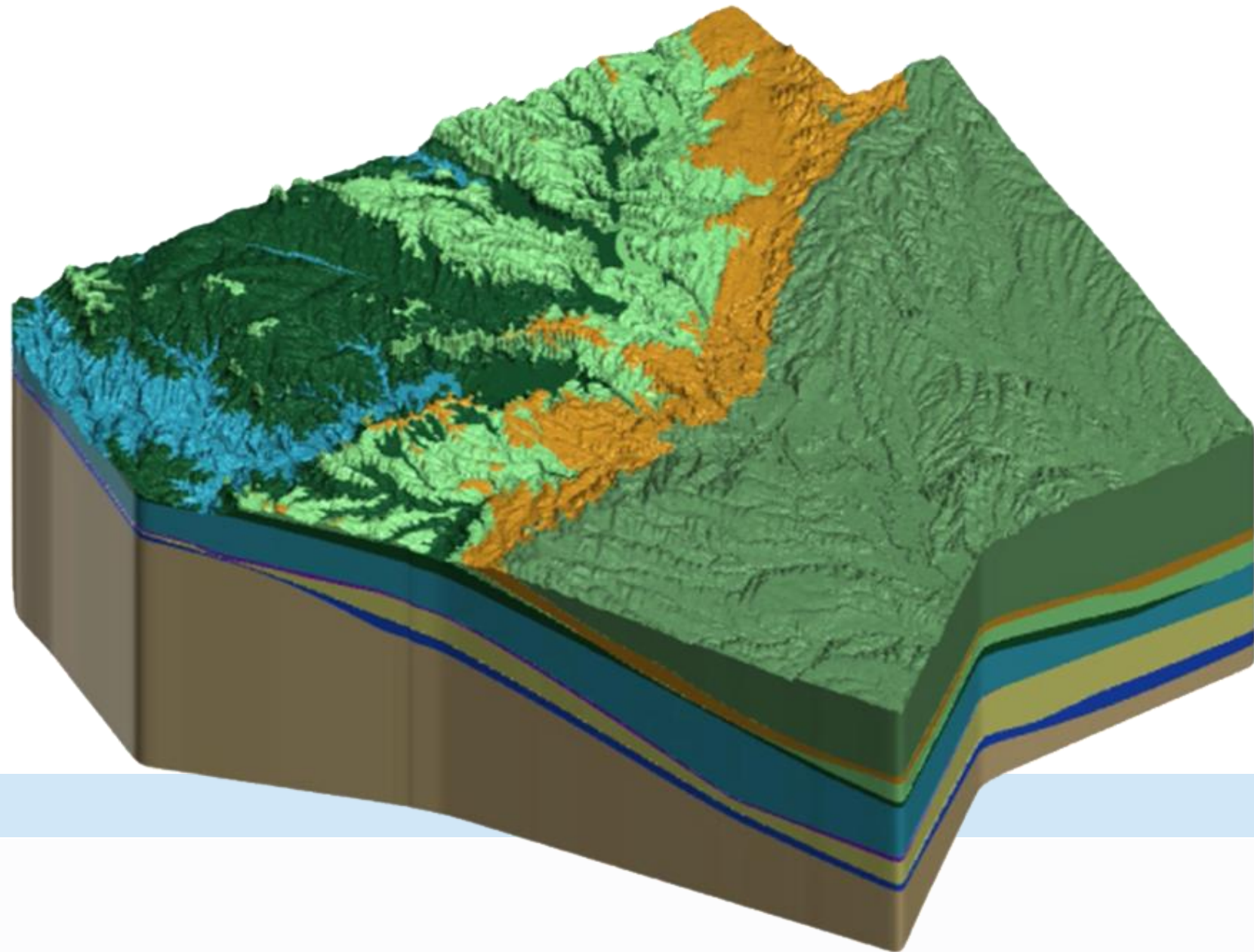


District Budget



Every drop counts!

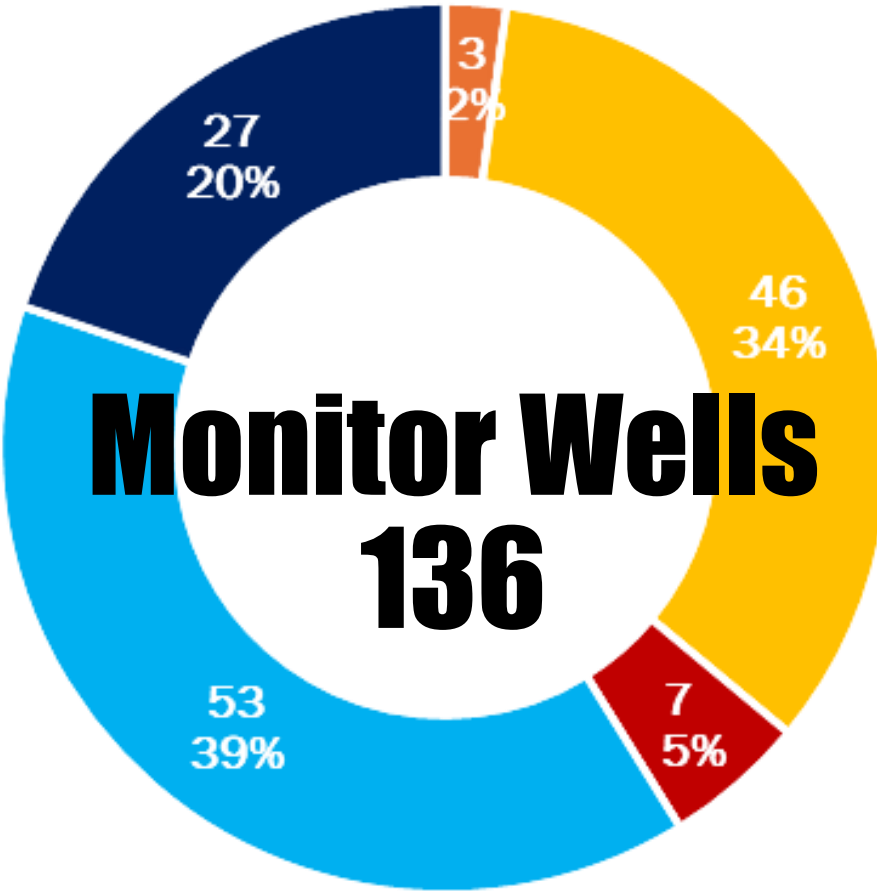
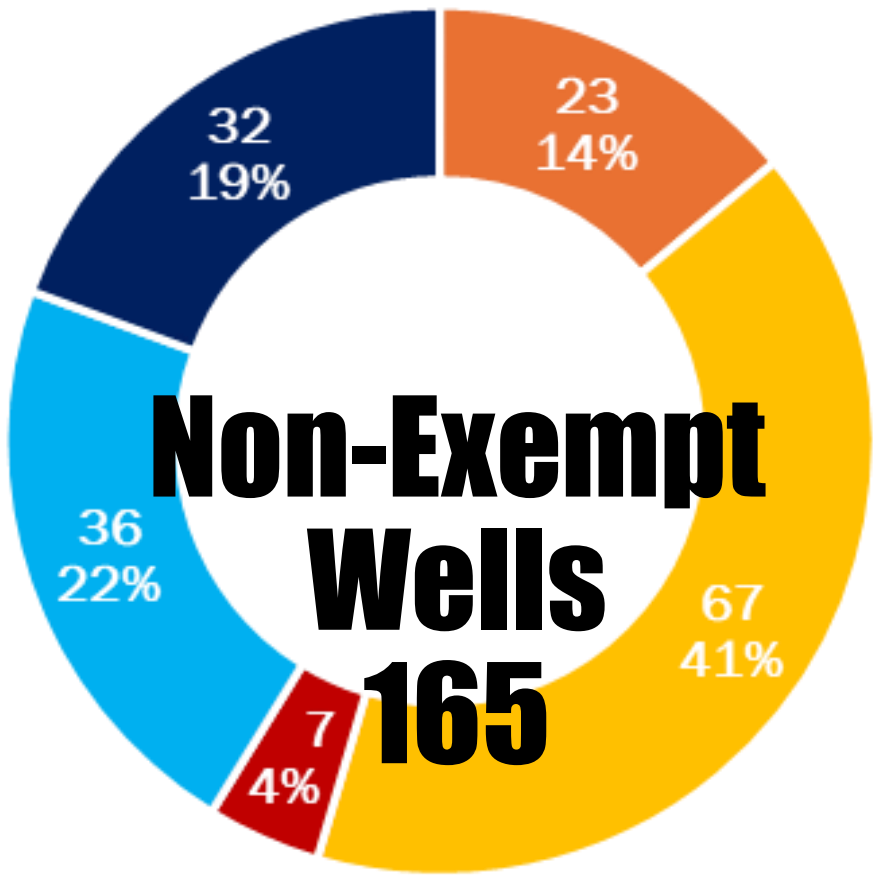
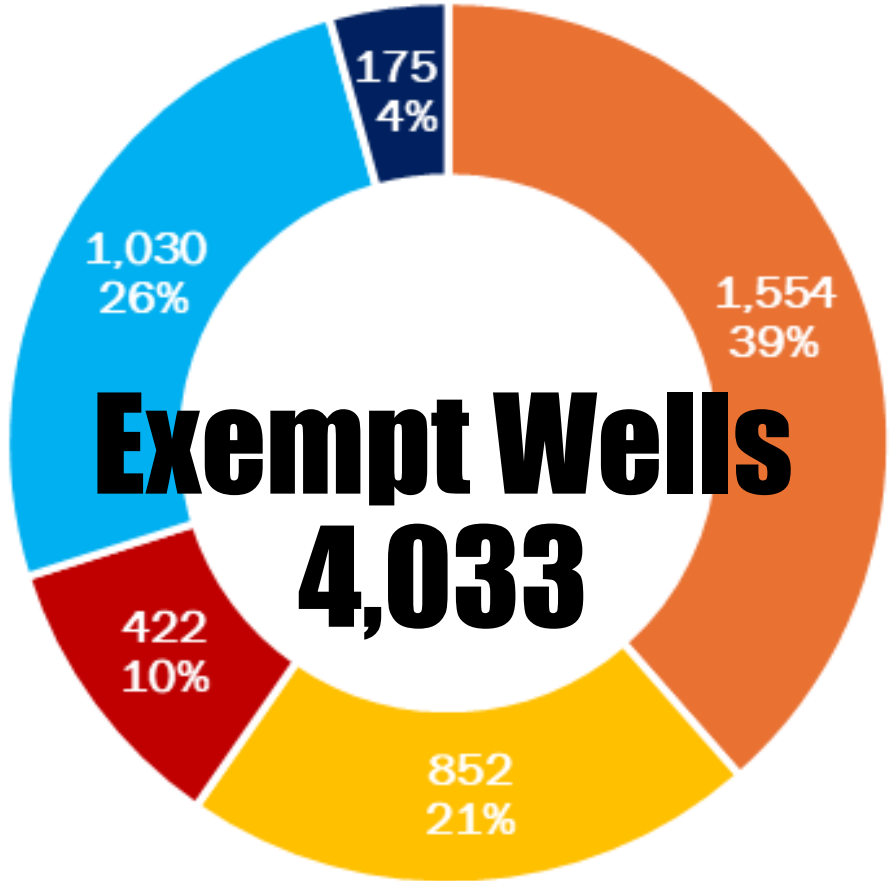
Groundwater protection and policy must be legally defensible through science.



“Best Available Science” means conclusions that are logically and reasonably derived using statistical or quantitative data, techniques, analyses, and studies that are publicly available to reviewing scientists and can be employed to address a specific scientific question.

CUWCD Well Totals by Aquifer

- Minor Aquifers & Alluvium
- Edwards BFZ Aquifer
- Glen Rose (Upper Trinity Aquifer)
- Hensell (Middle Trinity Aquifer)
- Hosston (Lower Trinity Aquifer)



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FY26 Funding Initiatives

- Enhancing Drought Management Framework
- Clearwater Groundwater Management Model (CGMM) Integration
- Edwards BFZ Management Zone Development
- Database Management System Enhancements
- Partnership with Baylor University Department of Geosciences
- New Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) for GMA 8

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Thank you to the 2025 event sponsors!

