



Heartbeat of the Hickory

Summer 2017

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In the Cloud

The District has entered into a contract with Hydromodel Host for the development of a cloud-hosted Decision Support System. This system will integrate the groundwater availability model developed by the Texas Water Development Board for the minor aquifers located in the Llano Uplift region with the data collected and updated by the Hickory UWCD.

The integrated groundwater management platform from Hydromodel Host includes three major decision support areas:

1. Data management – all data associated with the management of the aquifers is centralized in a database. This database is updated real-time with the latest field data. Data can be easily accessed, processed, visualized in a map and exported through a web browser
2. Groundwater Models: Hydromodel Host, through the use of cloud computing and proprietary technology developed during the last five years enables the execution of groundwater numerical models in the cloud, their visualization and interactivity through a web browser, and the most important part, automatic updating of the models in the cloud every time there are new field data.
3. What-if scenarios: groundwater managers, planners and users can easily run scenarios to predict the impact of their decisions on the aquifer.

At the July 12, 2017 Board Meeting, Mikel Irizar and Francisco Batlle gave a presentation to the Board and general public. Pam Dutton from Senator Charles Perry's Office and Gary Kafer from Representative J.D. Sheffield's Office attended. Shannon Houston from Representative Lyle Larson's Office attended a presentation the day prior at the TWDB Office in Austin.

The entire process of preparing, programming, integrating and uploading the system will take approximately four months. The District plans to host another meeting or open house for the public to view the end result this fall. If you are interested in attending and do not currently receive our agenda, please, contact our office so we can notify you of the time and date.

Mason High School Pioneers Propose Rainwater Harvesting System



The present Pioneers Raegan Glentz, Sloan Townsend, Brooke Wheelock and Ethan Powell pictured with teacher, Megan Bierschwale. And future Pioneers Whitt Bierschwale, Megan Canfield, Maddy Heath and Anna McMillan all attended the community presentation of the Pioneers Water Conservation Project.

The Mason High School Pioneers have embarked upon a water conservation journey that will benefit the school, the community and our aquifer. Their mission is to irrigate the band practice field with a rainwater harvesting system. Possibly two collection areas and storage tanks will be used in order to accomplish this mission. One will be connected to the junior high gym and with enough funding, the second will be connected to one half of the ag shop.

The Pioneers will be presenting this project to the Hickory Board in the near future. The public is welcome to attend.

Pioneers Youth Leadership is a state-wide non-profit organization that develops today's student leaders and tomorrow's community leaders. The group's mission is to help youth develop into ethical leaders engaged in building sustainable communities. The innovative approach combines an action-oriented curriculum with specialized events outside of the classroom. Learn more about the program at <http://www.pioneersyouthleadership.org/>.

U.S. Drought Monitor Texas

July 18, 2017

(Released Thursday, Jul. 20, 2017)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	74.42	25.58	7.85	0.46	0.00	0.00
Last Week 07-11-2017	76.12	23.88	6.57	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago 04-18-2017	90.30	9.70	1.54	0.00	0.00	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 01-03-2017	81.50	18.50	6.29	1.97	0.04	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-27-2016	94.83	5.17	0.62	0.00	0.00	0.00
One Year Ago 07-19-2016	86.88	13.12	1.66	0.00	0.00	0.00

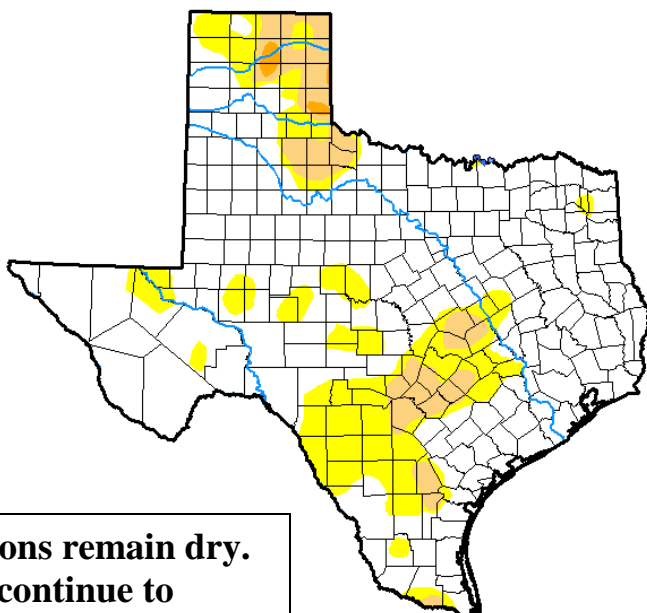
Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

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**Conditions remain dry.
Please, continue to
conserve water.**

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>