



Heartbeat of the Hickory

District Activities

District Management Plan and Rules Changes

After months of work, the District has drafts available for public review of both the Management Plan and Rules. The first of these, the Management Plan, was heard at a public hearing June 12, 2008. Public Notice for this hearing was published in the San Angelo Standard Times May 21, 2008. According to the TWDB's definition, "A groundwater management plan describes a district's groundwater management goals. These goals include providing the most efficient use of groundwater, controlling and preventing waste of groundwater, controlling and preventing subsidence, addressing conjunctive surface water management issues, addressing natural resource issues, addressing drought conditions, addressing conservation, groundwater recharge, and desired future aquifer conditions (§§356.5 and 356.6, Texas Administrative Code, relating to Management Plan and Plan Submittal, respectively)." The District is required to re-submit their management to the TWDB every five years for approval. A copy of both the 2003-2008 and proposed 2008-2013 Management Plans are available on our website: <http://www.hickoryuwcd.org>.

Because of legislative changes, the District has also found it advisable to re-write its rules. The last revisions were made in 1995. The Public Hearing is tentatively scheduled for July 17, 2008 at 5 p.m. at the Curtis Field Control Tower Building at 305 W. Main in Brady. Copies of the rules are available for review at the District Office. As with the Management Plan, you can call or come by the office. Comments on the Rules may be made by appearing at the public hearing July 17, 2008 or submitted in writing by 5:00 p.m. on July 17, 2008. Rules will also be available for download and review on our website.

There are many changes associated with this proposed set of rules. This new set of rules will authorize fines for delinquent water use reports, set forth spacing requirements for permitted wells, and require an evaluation by a hydrogeologist for all permit applications or group of applications requesting more than 500 acrefeet on a contiguous tract of land. Procedures for permitting and subsequent hearings have been addressed as well as a new rule concerning transportation of groundwater out of the District.



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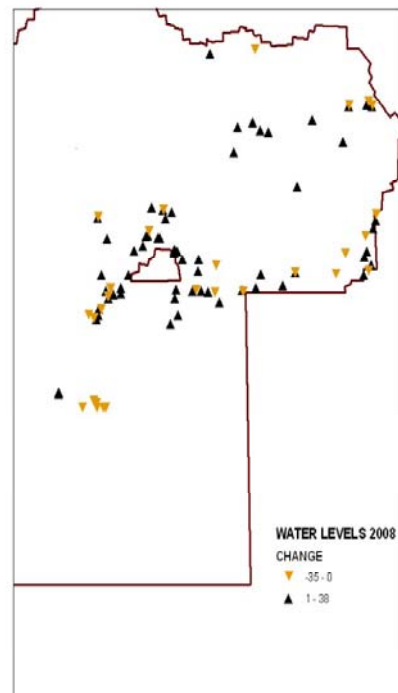
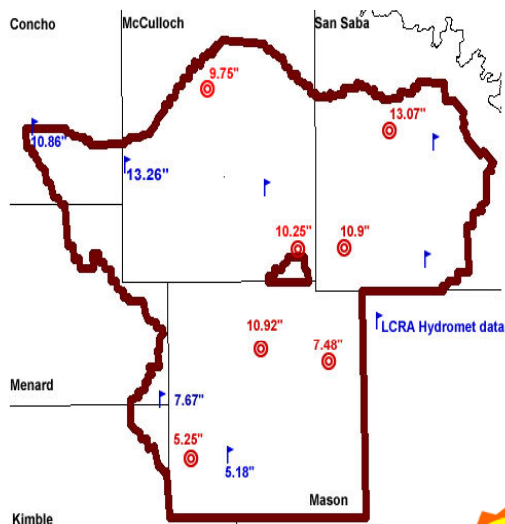
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*"You could write the story of man's growth in terms of his epic concerns with water."
~Bernard Frank*

District Rainfall & Water Level Report- Year to Date

The average change in water level across the District was an increase of 2.59 feet. The biggest drop was 34.7 feet in one well in Mason County. The greatest increase was 37.7 feet in one well in San Saba County. A decrease was noted in 32 of the 95 wells. All other wells were up. Last summer following the heavy rains experienced in spring and early summer, levels were up 4.95' from the year prior.



New Secretary at HUWCD

We're welcoming a new face to the District office. Traci Fields has joined our staff as secretary. Traci and her family are multi-generational residents of Rochelle and McCulloch County, and she brings with her a combined 10 years of secretarial/educational experience.

Traci has been employed by the Lohn and Rochelle school districts, and more recently, was employed by New Horizons as Development Assistant. She has also been involved in a volunteer capacity with the Haven Family Violence Shelter, the Heart of Texas Historical Museum, and the McCulloch County Historical Theater Society.

If you haven't met Traci yet, be sure to stop by to say "hi". She'll be happy to answer any questions you may have.