North Texas GCD Northern Trinity GCD Prairielands GCD Upper Trinity GCD

#### Final Report on the Update of the Trinity/Woodbine Groundwater Availability Model

**Presented To:** 

#### **Groundwater Management Area 8**

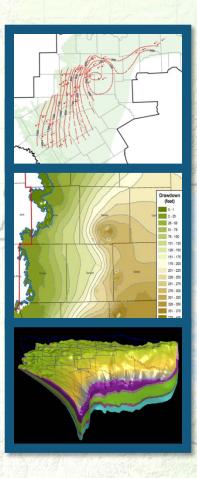
**Presented By:** 



In Association With:



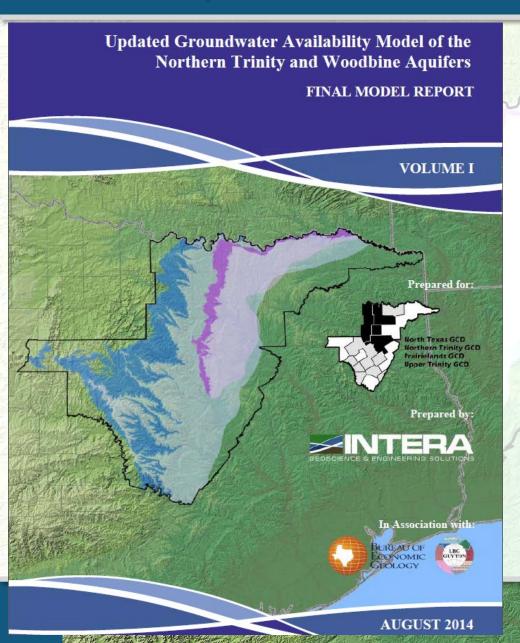
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November 3, 2014

#### Model Report





- Developed over a 2 year period with oversight of the Technical Advisory Committee
- Draft Model June 2014

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• Final Model August 2014

#### Model Review

Northern Trinity GCD Prairrelands GCD Upper Trinity GCD

- Central Texas GCD
- Southern Trinity GCD
- Dr. Hughbert Collier, P.G. and Mr. Lou Fleischhauer, P.G. of Collier Consulting, Inc;
- Mr. Dennis Erinakes, P.G. of the Prairielands GCD;
- Mr. Mike Massey of the Upper Trinity GCD;
- Mr. Bill Mullican, P.G. of Mullican and Associates;
- Dr. Robert Mace, P.G., Mr. Larry French, P.G., Ms. Cindy Ridgeway, P.G. and Dr. Jerry Shi, P.G. of the TWDB;
- Mr. Mark Kasmarek, P.G., Robert Joseph, P.G. and Mike Turco, P.G., of the United States Geological Survey;
- Mr. Charles Williams, P.G. of <u>W</u>Bar-W Groundwater Exploration
- Texas Oil and Gas Association

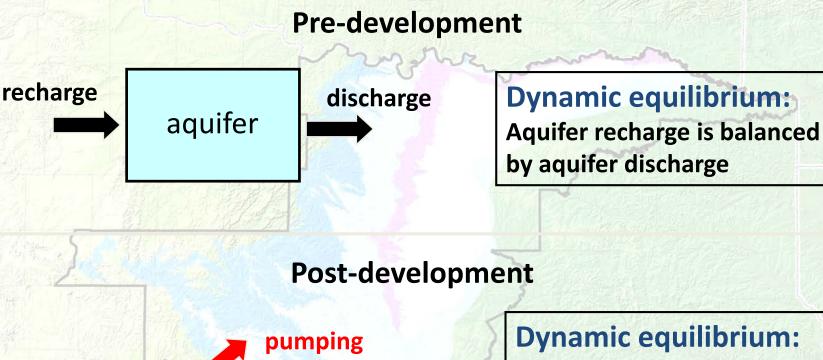
# **Hydrologic Conditions**





#### Aquifer Dynamics





discharge

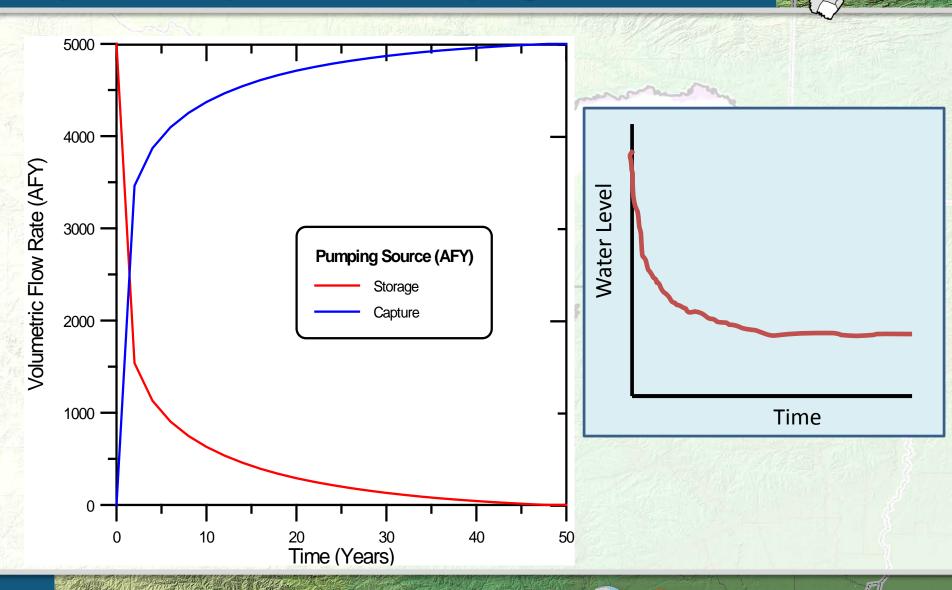
Dynamic equilibrium: Pumping is balanced by a reduction in discharge and in some cases an increase in recharge – sometimes termed "capture"

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aquifer

recharge

#### Aquifer Response to Pumping



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#### Sources of Capture



- Capture is a decrease in discharge from:
  - Streams
  - Groundwater ET
  - Cross-formational flow to younger formations
  - Springs
- Also can be increased recharge in certain circumstances once streams become dominantly losing



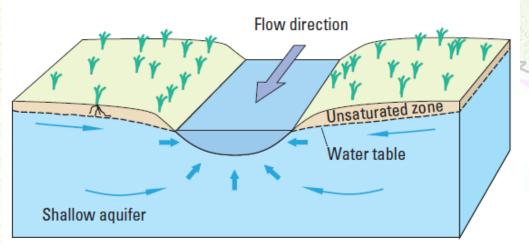


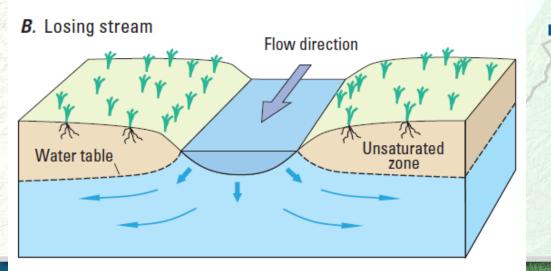
### Stream-Aquifer Terminology



#### A. Gaining stream

8





Gaining
Net discharge of groundwater to surface water " base flow"

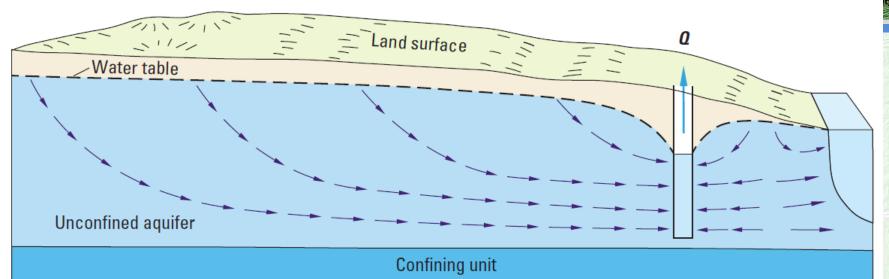
#### Losing:

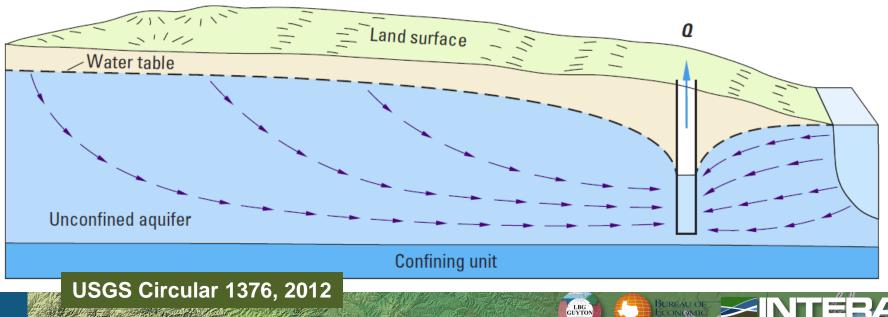
 Net discharge of surface water to groundwater "recharge"



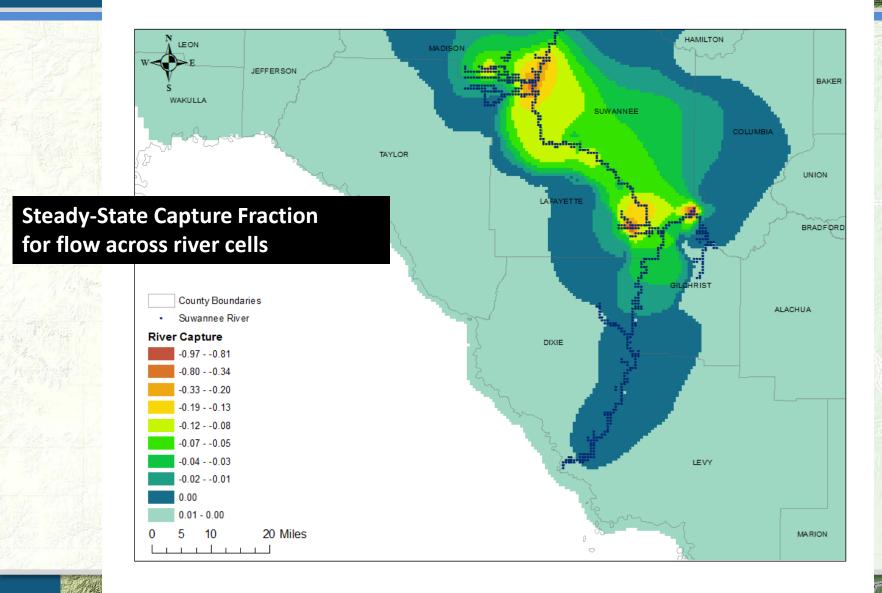


### Shallow Pumping Near a Stream





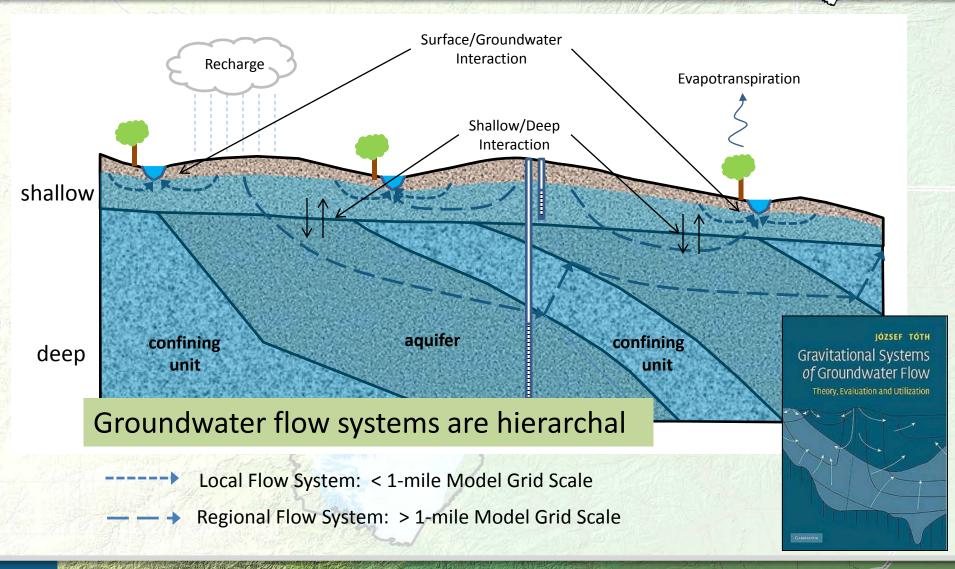
#### Regional Depiction of Base Flow Capture



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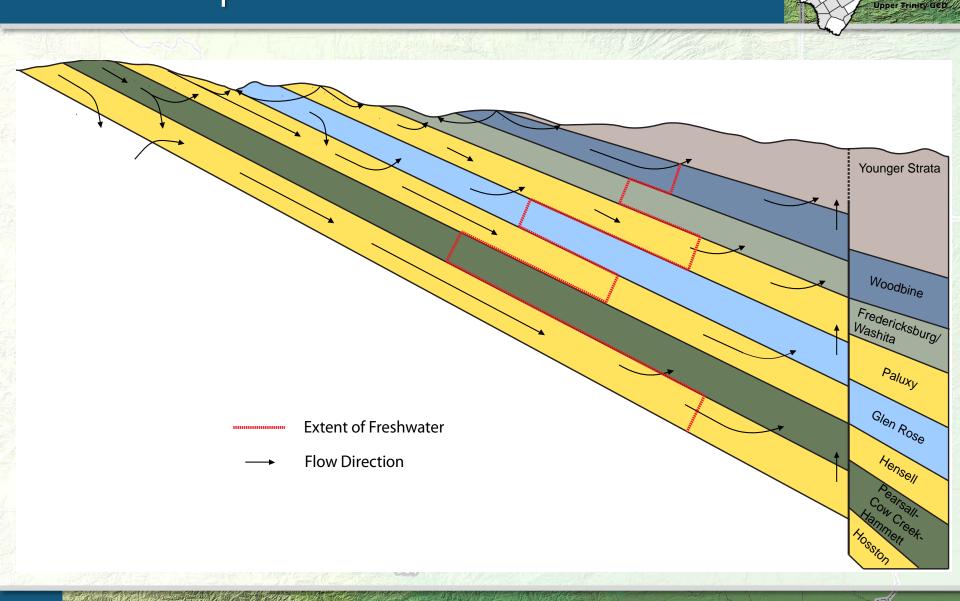
10

#### Groundwater Systems are Hierarchal





#### Predevelopment Schematic of Flow

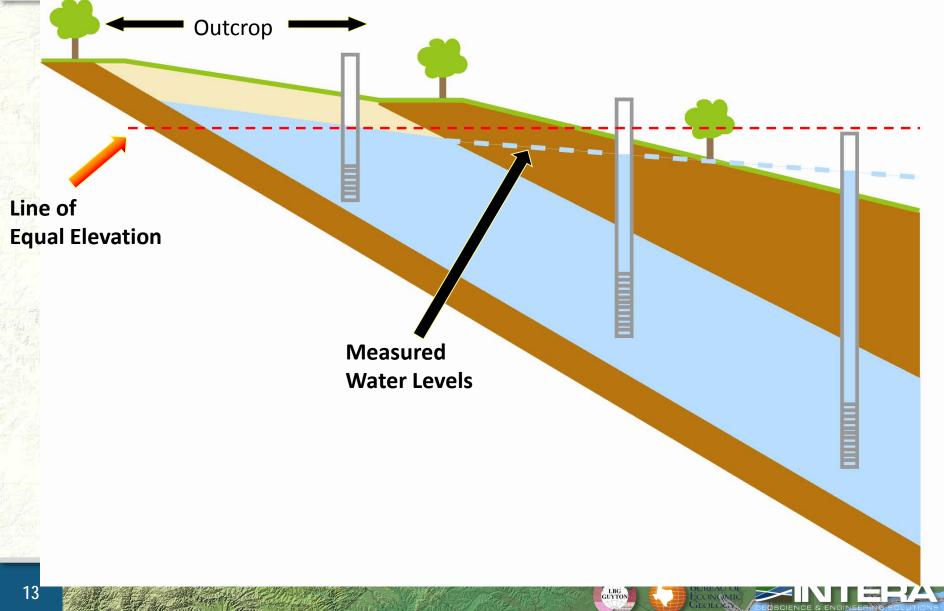


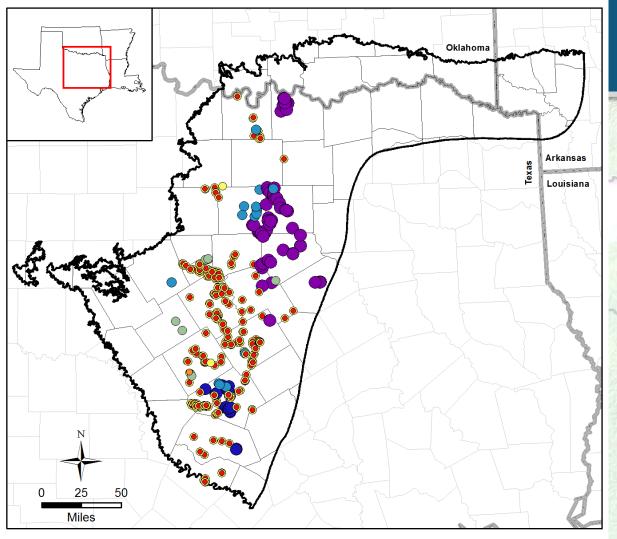


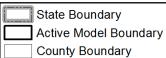
Northern Trini

#### Predevelopment









#### Flowing Well

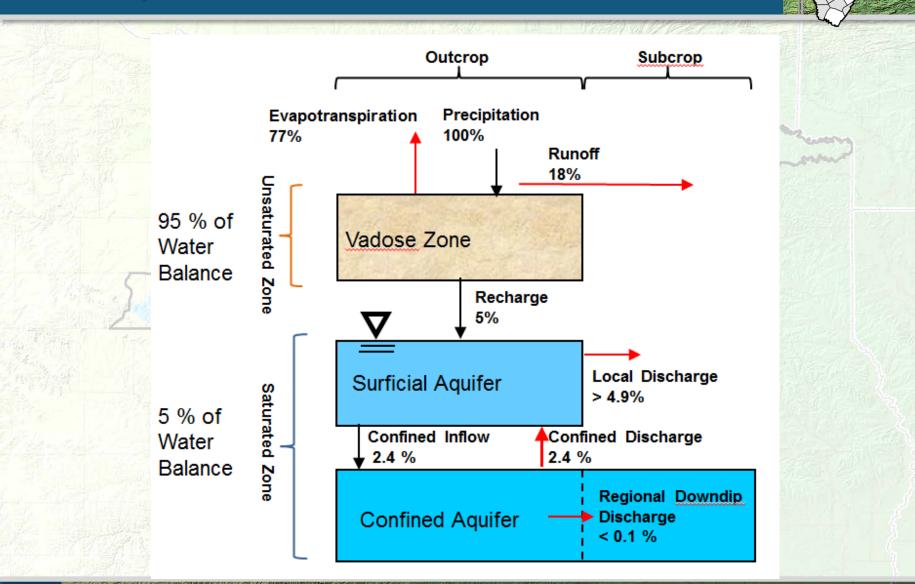
- Woodbine Aquifer
- Washita/Fredericksburg Groups
- Paluxy Aquifer
- Glen Rose Formation
- Hensell Aquifer
- Pearsall Formation
- Hosston Aquifer

#### **Flowing Wells**

Northern Trinity G Prairlelands GCD Upper Trinity GCD

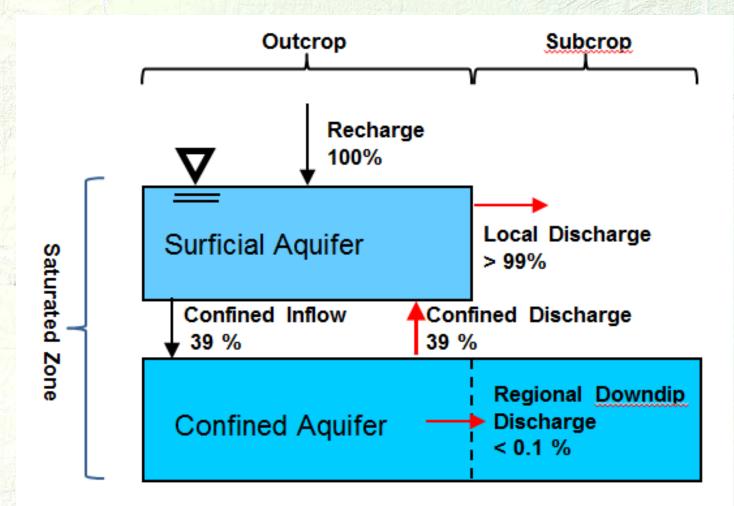


#### Conceptual Total Water Balance





#### Conceptual Groundwater Balance





- First comprehensive hydrostratigraphic framework developed for the northern Trinity and Woodbine aquifers from the Colorado River through Oklahoma Antlers
- Correlation using modern methods and tools
- Assembled 1498 geophysical logs
  - 1302 used for Aquifer/Formation boundaries
  - 988 used for lithology interpretation at the few foot level
- Developed
  - Structure, Cross-Sections, Net Sand & Depositional Environments



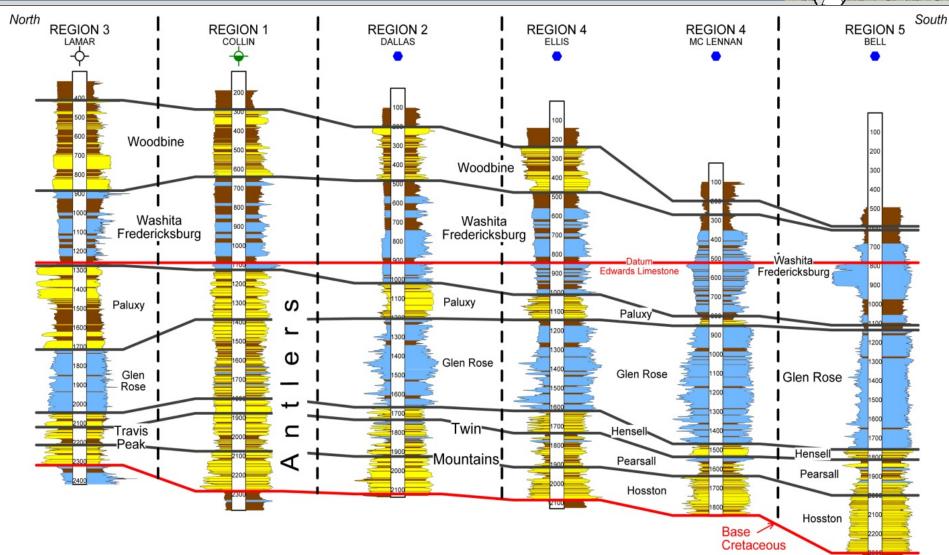
## Regions defined by stratigraphic and lithologic similarity



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Noith Texas GCP Noith Texas GCP Northern Trinky GCP Prairfelands GCD Upper Frinky GCD

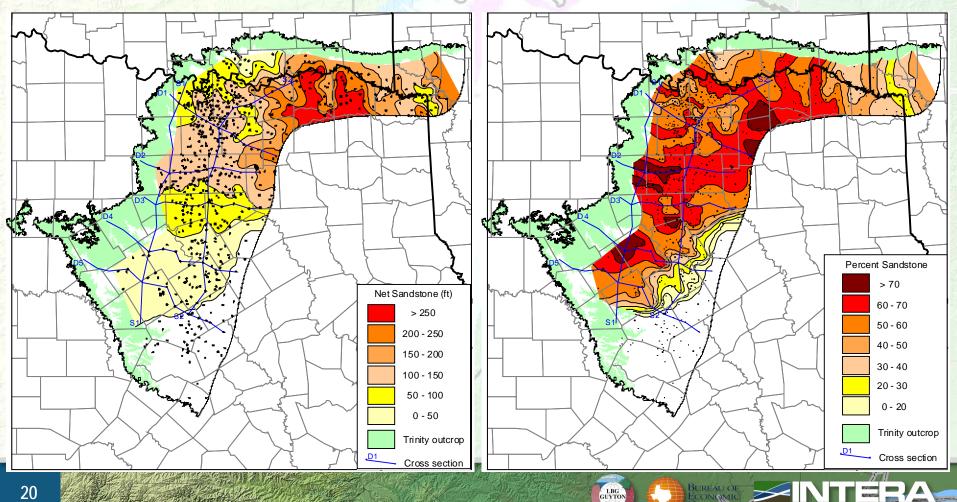
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- North Texas GCB Northern Trinity GCB Prairfelands GCB Upper Frinity GCB
- Developed Structure, Cross-Sections, Net Sand & Depositional Environments



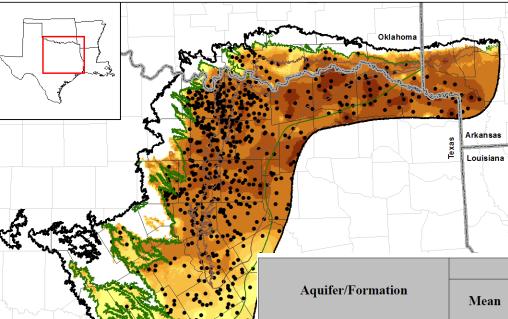
#### Hydraulic Properties



- Assemble Aquifer Pump & Specific Capacity Test Data and Calculate Transmissivities
  - 500 pump tests 12,364 SC tests
- Develop Lithologic-Unit Profiles from Geophysical logs for all HSU represented in model
- Calculate "Average" K's of Lithologic Units from Aquifer Tests
- Estimate a "Average Transmissivity" for HSUs at each geophysical log location
- Calibrate model to water levels as well be constrained to Measured and Estimated Aquifer Parameters



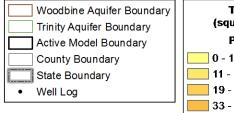
#### Hydraulic Properties



# Initial Transmissivity for the Paluxy (ft2/day)

Aquifer/Formation	Horizontal Hydraulic Conductivity (feet per day)							
	Mean	Standard Deviation	Median	Percentiles				
				5	25	50	75	95
Woodbine Aquifer	0.21	0.23	0.15	0.002	0.01	0.15	0.32	0.73
Washita/Fredericksburg Groups	0.40	0.24	0.32	0.13	0.18	0.32	0.61	0.81
Paluxy Aquifer	0.65	0.52	0.47	0.01	0.26	0.47	1.06	1.61
Glen Rose Formation	0.50	0.32	0.37	0.18	0.21	0.37	0.77	1.04
Hensell Aquifer	2.25	1.88	1.67	0.09	0.70	1.67	3.66	5.79
Pearsall Formation	0.98	0.86	0.84	0.03	0.29	0.84	1.27	2.81
Hosston Aquifer	3.23	2.07	2.27	1.17	1.46	2.27	5.13	7.02

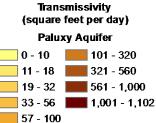
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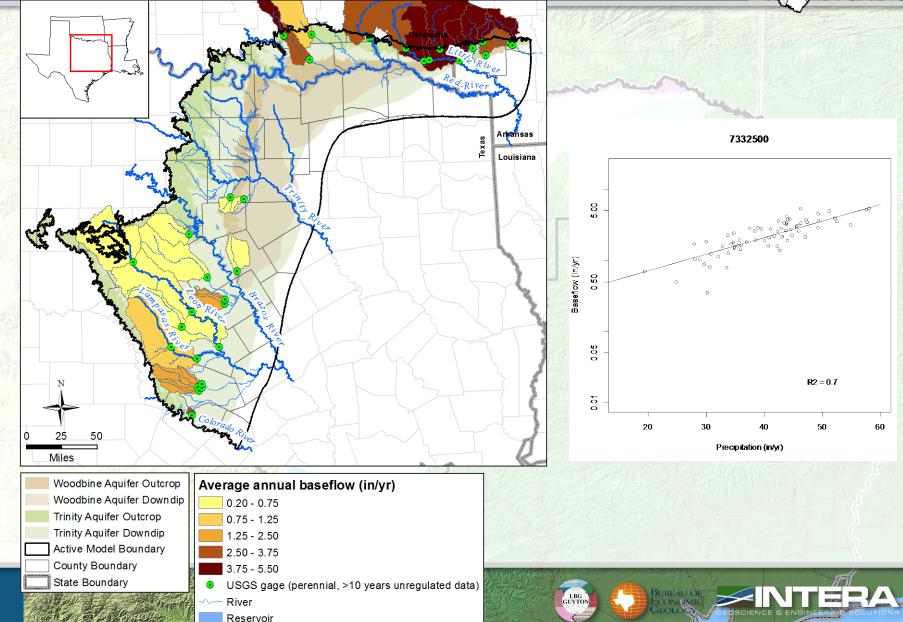
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Miles



22

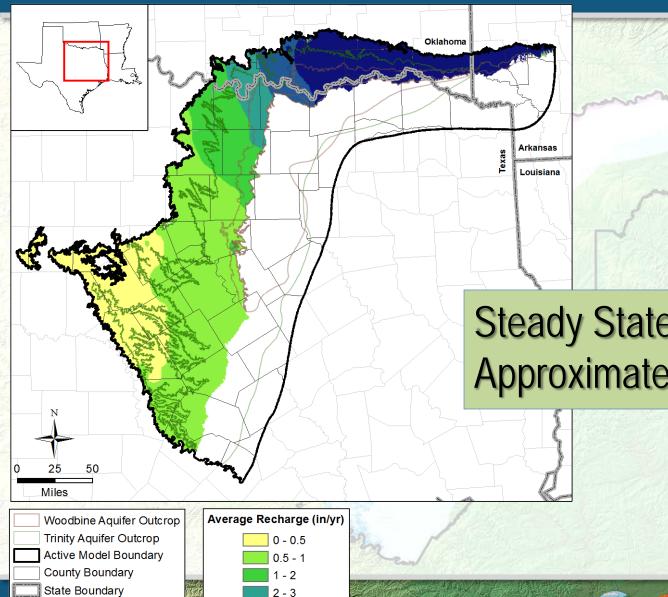
#### Stream – Aquifer Interaction



Prairielands GCD Upper Trinity GCD

#### Recharge

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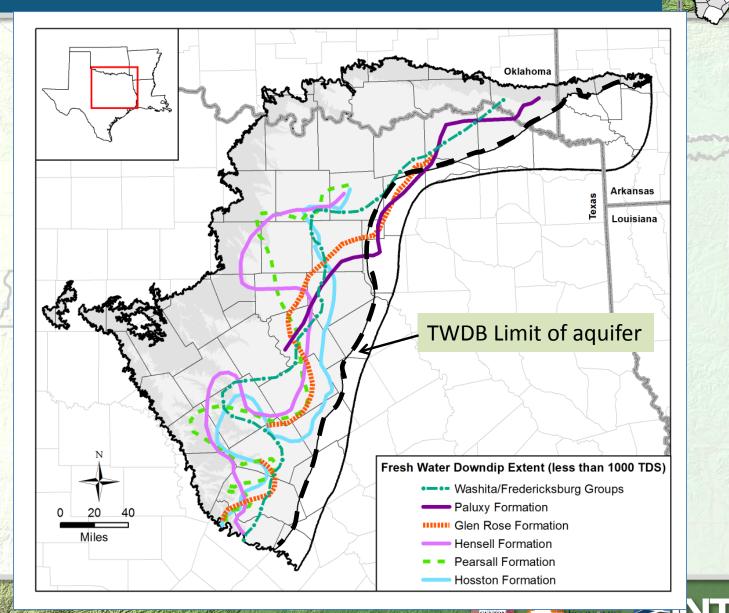
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#### **Steady State Recharge** Approximately 1.6 in/yr

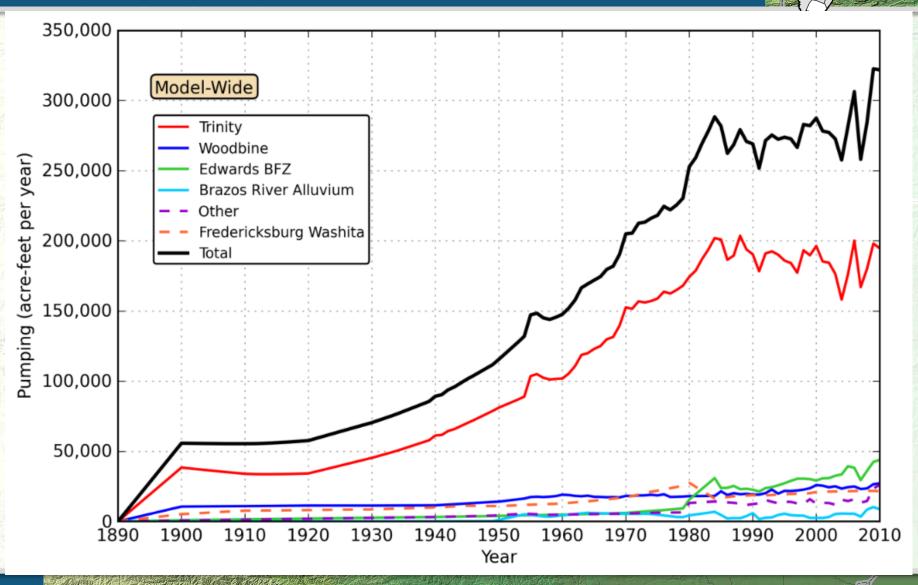
Northern Trin Upper Trinity Gen



#### Water Quality – 1,000 ppm TDS Limit

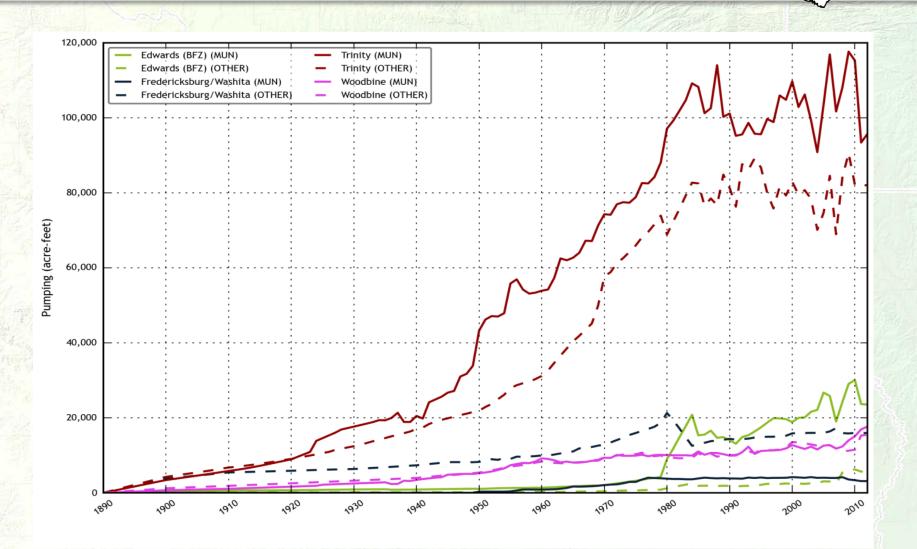


#### Pumping by Aquifer – 1890-2012



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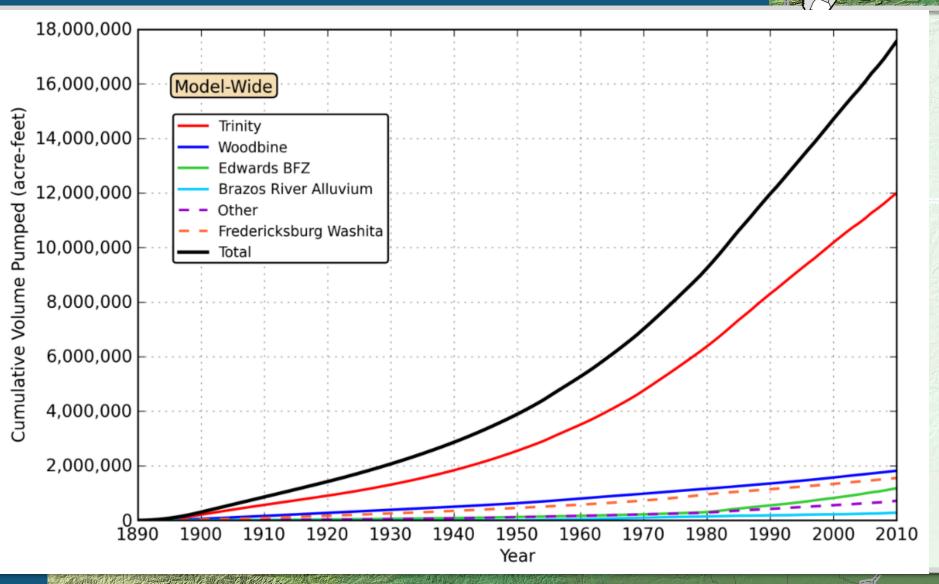
#### Pumping by Aquifer – 1890 to 2012





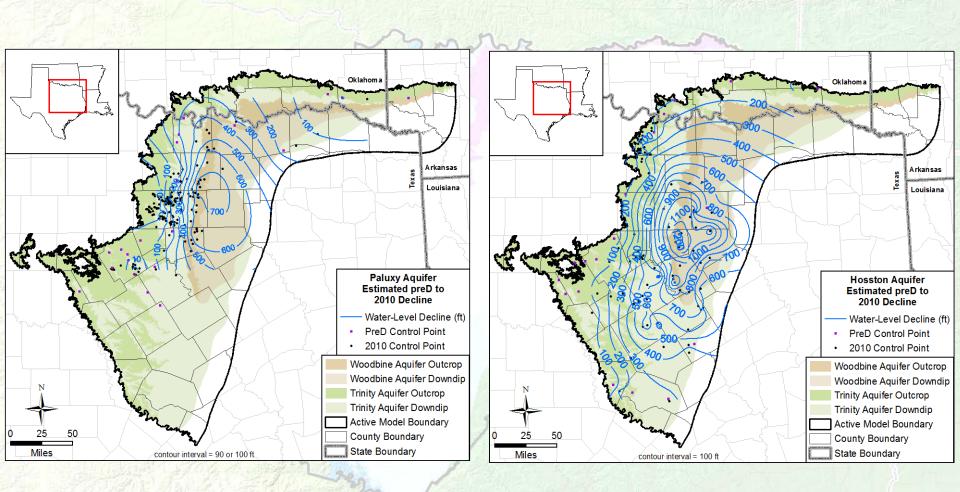
Northern Trinity C Prainelands GCD Upper Trinity GCD

### Cumulative Pumping by Aquifer



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#### Estimated Observed Drawdown (ft)

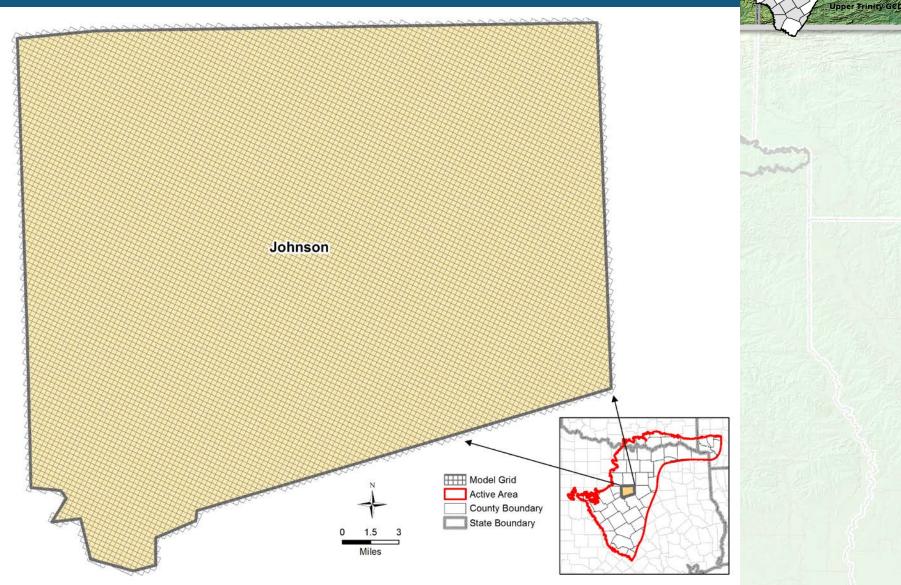




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Upper Trinity GCD

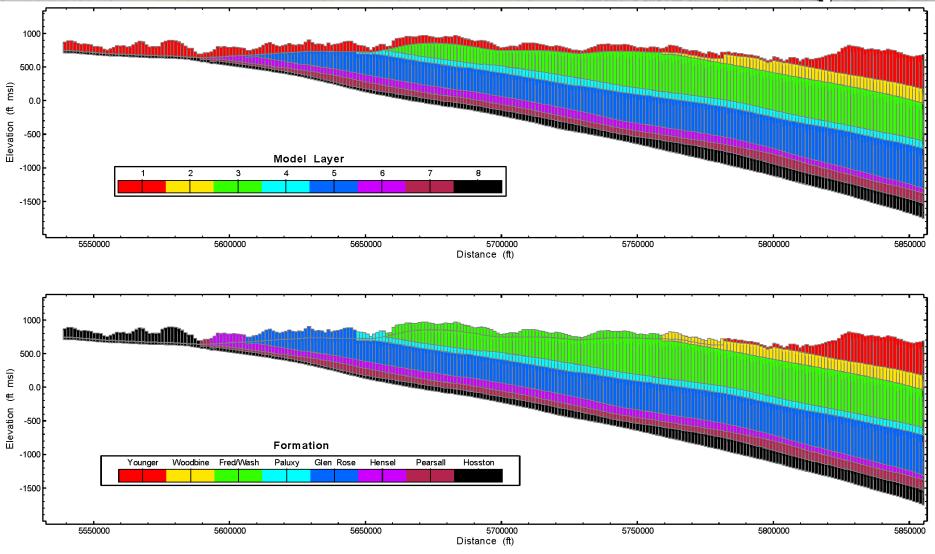
#### Horizontal Discretization





#### Vertical Discretization

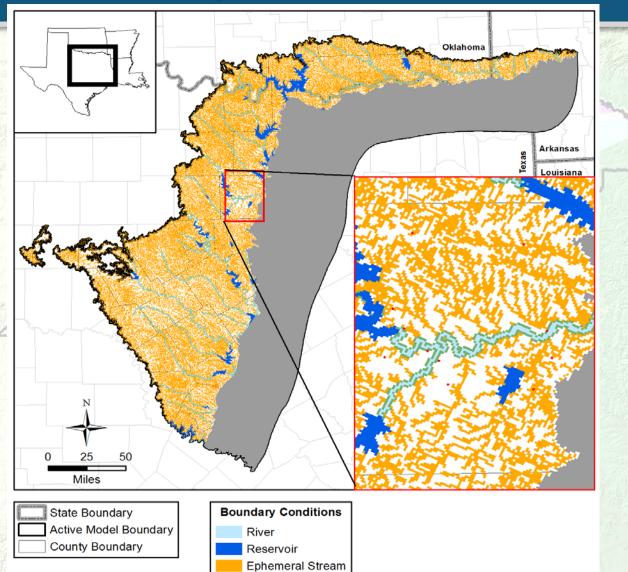






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#### Surficial Boundary Conditions



ET Spring

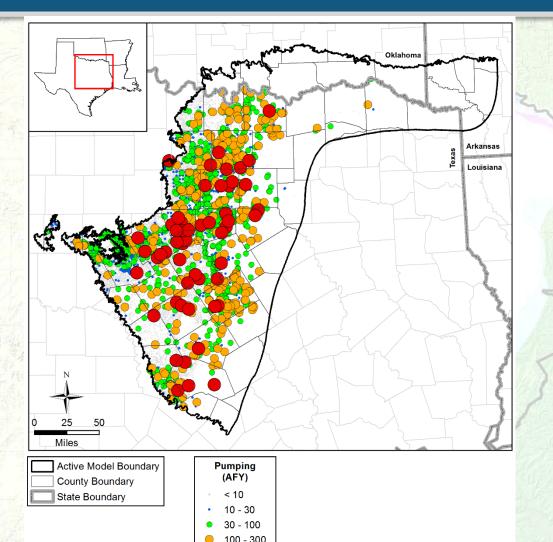
Younger



North-Texas GCD Northern Trinity C Prairielands GCD Upper Trinity GCD

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### Pumping in Trinity Aquifer: 2012

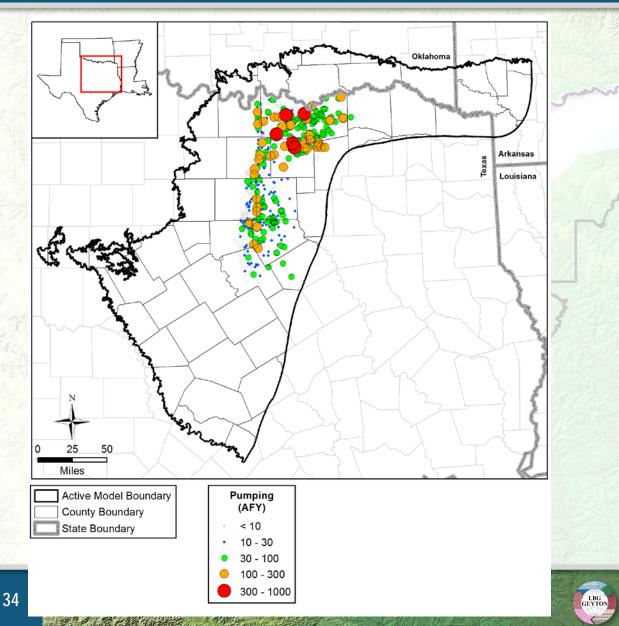


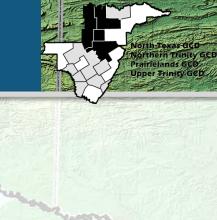
300 - 1000

- Metered data is used as provided
- Pumping assigned by county, aquifer and water use group
- Pumping distributed to wells by use type and drill date
- Pumping rates weighted by drawdown and transmissivity
- Pumping is conserved by county, aquifer and water use group



#### Pumping in Woodbine Aquifer: 2012





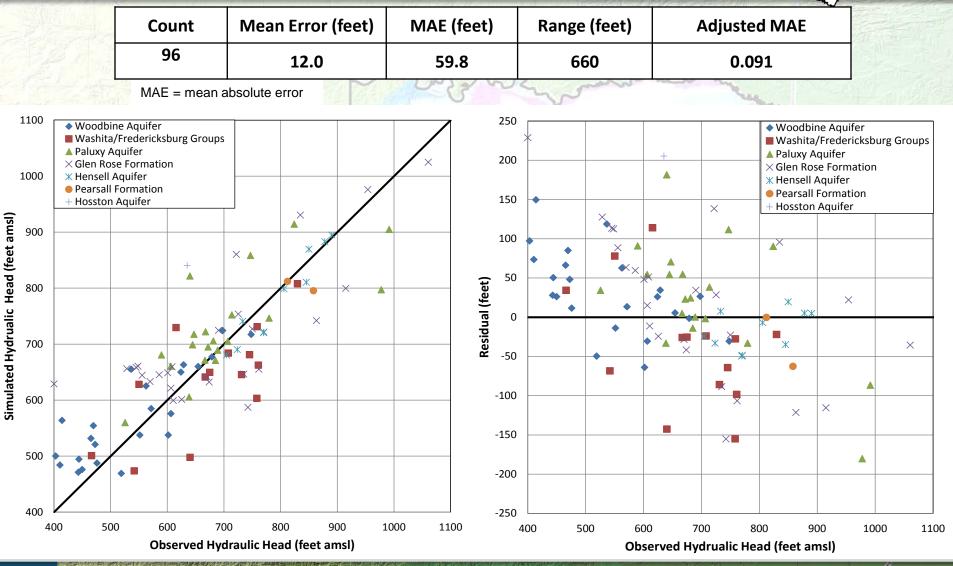
#### **Calibration Approach**

North Texas 6(0) Northern Trinity Profileands 6(0) Upper Trinity 6(1)

- Steady-State Calibration
  - 96 water level measurements prior to 1900
  - Artesian conditions during predevelopment
  - Fresh water at depth in the aquifers
- Transient Calibration
  - 27,490 water level measurements between 1890 and 2012
  - 706 hydrographs with more than 5 measurements
  - 33 stream base flow analyses

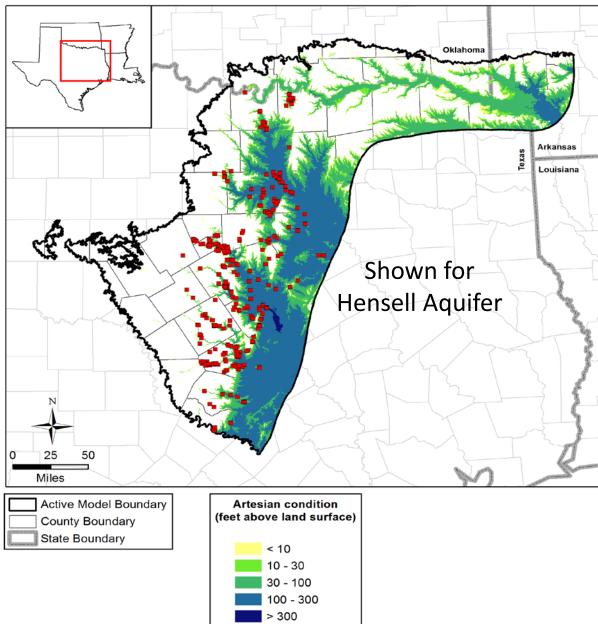
#### Steady-State Calibration

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### Simulated Steady-State Artesian Heads



Flowing Well

- Out of 420 documented flowing wells, 304 exhibit artesian conditions in the Hensell Aquifer
- An additional 47 flowing wells exhibit artesian conditions in the Hosston
- 84% of documented flowing wells are simulated as artesian

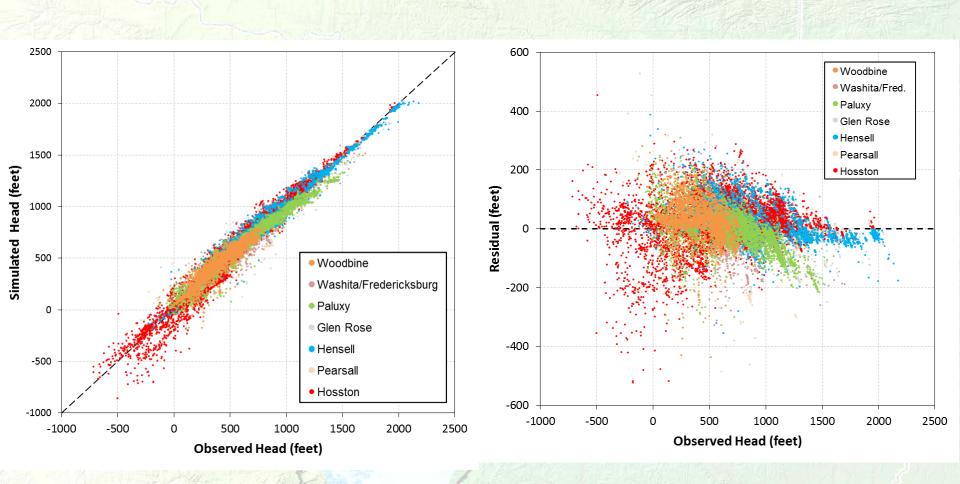
### Simulated Steady-State Water Balance (AFY)

Dec decilement	Cross-fo	low	Dechause	FT	Ephemeral	Perennial	Saudara	V	
Pre-development	Surficial	Тор	Bottom	Recharge	ET	Streams	Streams	Spring	Younger
Younger Formations	0	0	8,354	0	0	0	0	0	-13,711
Woodbine Aquifer	2,561	-8,354	5,901	326,201	-13,334	-197,776	-97,917	-61	0
Wash/Fred groups	5,886	-5,901	275	532,484	-6,633	-270,802	-236,638	-286	0
Paluxy Aquifer	1,859	-275	-1,565	245,673	-6,771	-113,235	-120,812	-126	0
Glen Rose Formation	16,844	1,565	-18,638	230,422	-6,503	-83,409	-131,395	-86	0
Hensell Aquifer	-11,214	18,638	-6,579	208,440	-11,756	-130,060	-67,678	-188	0
Pearsall Formation	3,374	6,579	-9,899	45,455	-3,697	-38,571	-24,689	0	0
Hosston Aquifer	-7,050	9,899	0	177,891	-4,352	-122,037	-58,080	-343	0
Total	12,259	22,151	-22,151	1,766,567	-53,046	-955,888	-737,209	-1,090	-13,711

Water balance information per county can be found at: http://ntwgam.intera.com/reports.html



#### Transient Calibration: 1890 to 2012





### Transient Calibration: 1980 to 2012

Manshe and									
Unit	Count	Mean Error (feet)	Mean Absolute Error (feet)	Range (feet)	MAE/Range				
All	21234	9.1	48.7	2891	0.017				
Woodbine Aquifer	2093	19.0	50.8	975.5	0.052				
Wash/Fred Groups	2044	-11.8	42.4	1658	0.026				
Paluxy Aquifer	3655	-11.0	46.9	1778	0.026				
Glen Rose Formation	3735	-11.1	38.3	2166	0.018				
Hensell Aquifer	2410	17.0	54.9	2369	0.023				
Pearsall Formation	1962	27.6	48.8	2262	0.022				
Hosston Aquifer	5335	30.8	56.2	2690	0.021				
MAE - maan absolute error	West	Engl - Weghite/E	and any alrahama						

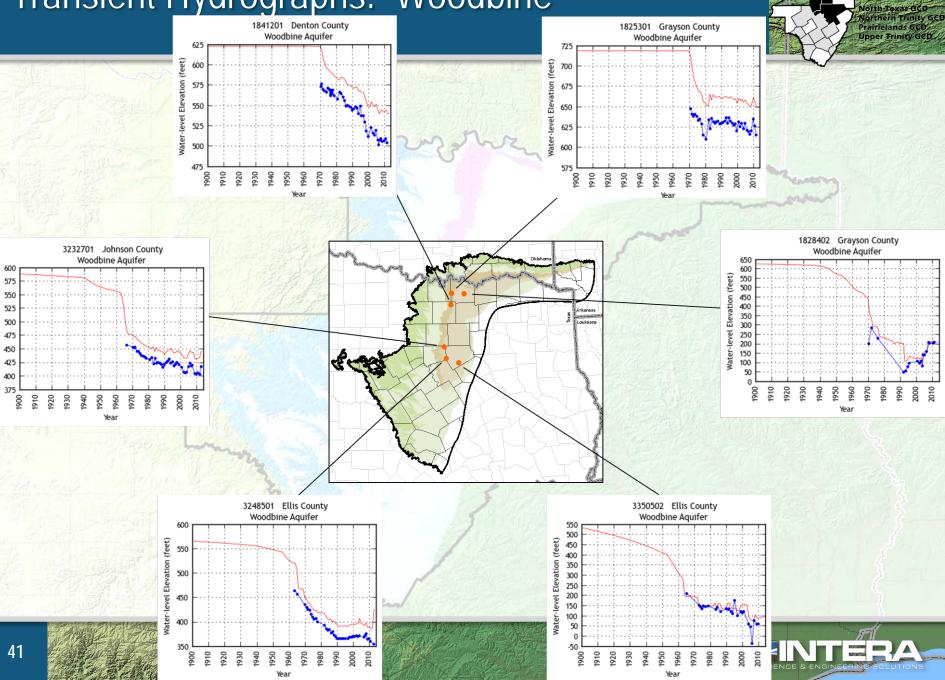
MAE = mean absolute error

Wash/Fred = Washita/Fredericksburg

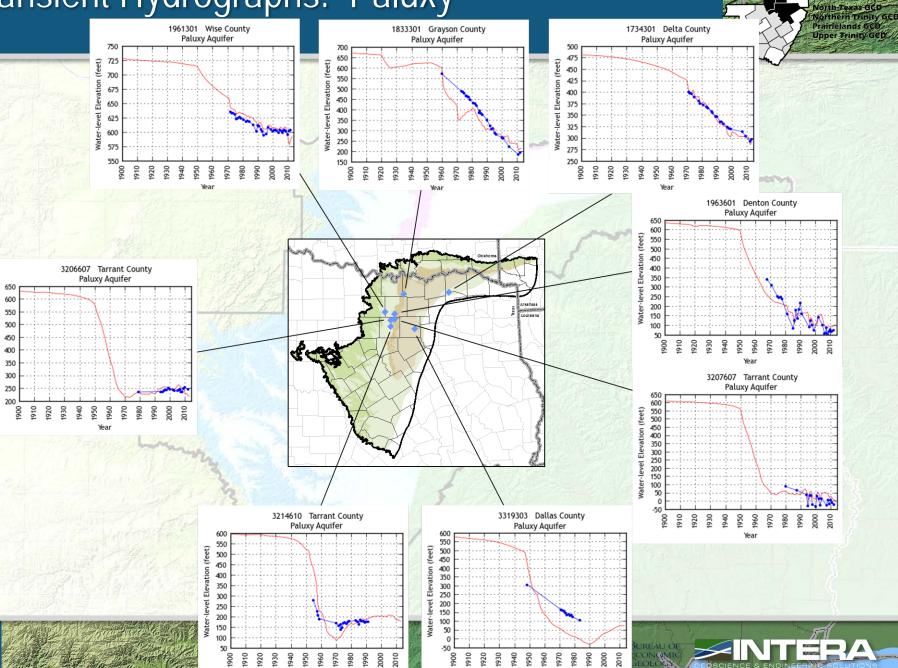


### Transient Hydrographs: Woodbine

Water-level Elevation (feet)



### Transient Hydrographs: Paluxy



Year

Year

(feet)

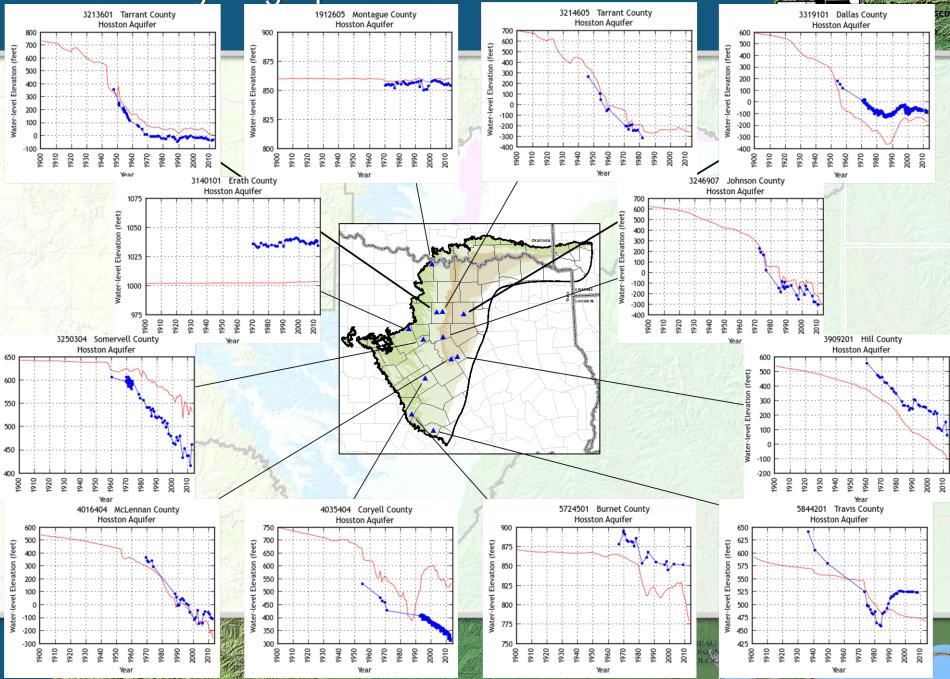
level Elevation

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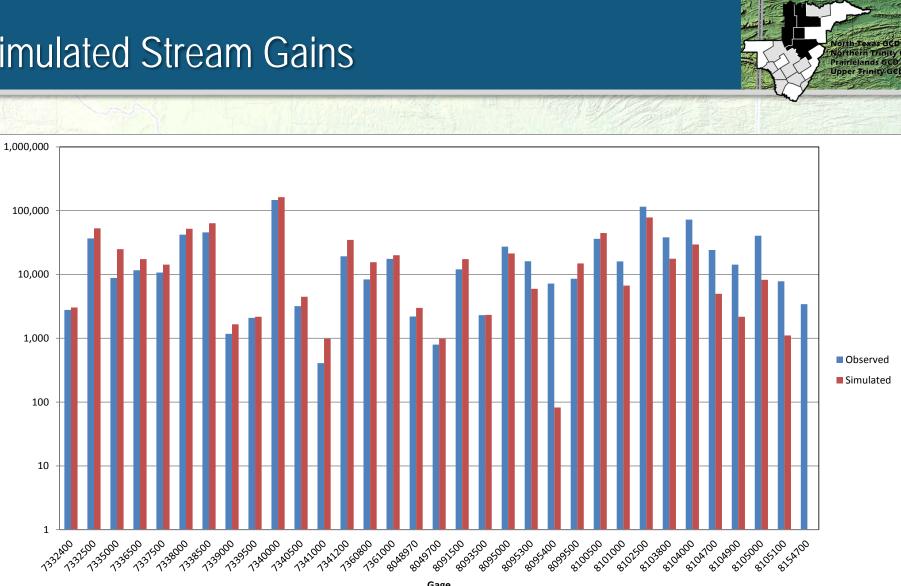
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#### Transient Hydrographs: Hosston

(feet)



#### **Simulated Stream Gains**

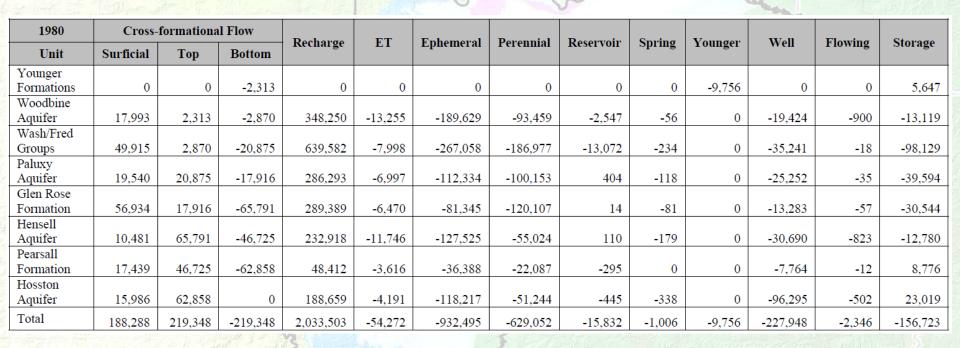


Gage



Stream Baseflow (AFY)

### Simulated Transient Water Balance: 1980



Water balance information per county can be found at: http://ntwgam.intera.com/reports.html



**Upper Trinity GCD** 

### Simulated Transient Water Balance: 2000

2000	Cross-formational Flow		Pachavga FT	ET	Ephemeral	Perennial	Reservoir	Spring	Younger	Well	Flowing	Storage	
Unit	Surficial	Тор	Bottom	Recharge	LI	Ерпешегат	rerennar	Reservon	Spring	rounger	wen	riowing	Storage
Younger	0	0	-5,407	0	0	0	0	0	0	-7,940	0	0	9,365
Woodbine Aquifer	24,864	5,407	-5,976	231,840	-13,556	-208,440	-96,990	-4,596	-64	0	-26,241	-904	136,163
Wash/Fred Groups	58,069	5,976	-25,510	345,628	-8,652	-298,137	-181,195	-11,257	-227	0	-41,062	0	226,979
Paluxy Aquifer	23,325	25,510	-21,510	173,587	-7,235	-124,408	-99,809	-459	-118	0	-31,035	-56	91,566
Glen Rose Formation	64,531	21,510	-73,590	142,829	-6,716	-88,150	-114,108	-540	-85	0	-16,179	-6	125,376
Hensell Aquifer	17,688	73,590	-56,062	151,900	-12,074	-137,903	-56,508	-821	-198	0	-37,487	-520	89,177
Pearsal1 Formation	21,485	56,062	-72,303	32,744	-3,702	-38,336	-22,424	-384	0	0	-8,821	-15	25,638
Hosston Aquifer	22,725	72,303	0	127,805	-4,270	-126,396	-50,753	-991	-318	0	-105,581	-226	91,890
Total	232,686	260,358	-260,358	1,206,333	-56,205	-1,021,770	-621,787	-19,048	-1,010	-7,940	-266,407	-1,727	796,154

Water balance information per county can be found at: http://ntwgam.intera.com/reports.html





- A unique collaboration of the GCDs within GMA-8 have worked together to develop a new Draft northern Trinity and Woodbine aquifers GAM
- The model has been successfully calibrated to both steady-state and transient conditions (1890-2012) consistent with GAM standards from predevelopment to 2012
  - 706 transient hydrographs and >27,000 individual water level measurements used for transient calibration targets





- The model is a significant step forward in our understanding and modeling of the northern Trinity and Woodbine aquifers
- The model successfully reproduces the important aquifer dynamics that govern sustainability and a policy definition of availability
- It serves as a good foundation for planning and future improvements
- The model has been developed in a public process





- This model offers advantages that include:
  - Refined model grid provides better placement of wells, rivers and other hydraulic boundaries
  - Calibration period extends through the major water level decline period which helps constrain storativity
  - The calibration period has been extended 12 years which improves our planning starting point
  - The draft model calibration is improved
  - The draft model incorporated GCD pumping data including metered data and wells
  - The draft model and data are publically available

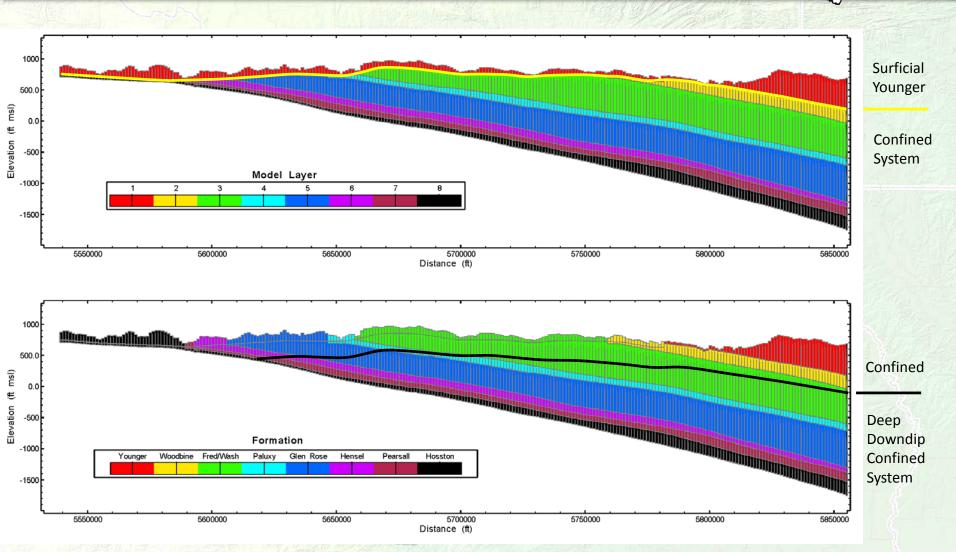




- The northern Trinity and Woodbine aquifers are a very complex aquifer system in Texas which is a challenge to model with one model
- Even the sand-rich aquifers are very stratified in their nature which results in low vertical hydraulic conductivities
  - In steady-state model
    - Approximately 40% of the recharge moves into the confined portions of the aquifers and flows back to surface for discharge
    - The predevelopment system was defined by rejected recharge

### Water Balance Zones







# Water Balance (AFY)

			mysha man								
Year	Recharge (AFY)	Total Pumping (AFY)	Net Confined Flow <sup>a</sup> (AFY)	Deep Pumping <sup>b</sup> (AFY)	Net Downdip Confined Flow <sup>c</sup> (AFY)	Deep Storage <sup>d</sup> (AFY)					
1889	1,766,549	0	503	0	2	0					
1940	1,266,049	-58327.1	53,298	-31,749	23,446	8,304					
1950	2,181,606	-91299.1	72,248	-48,113	30,401	17,713					
1960	1,972,149	-121543	95,138	-61,981	42,364	19,617					
1980	2,033,527	-227956	185,324	-104,552	75,799	28,755					
1990	2,193,932	-241691	212,141	-107,284	92,347	14,937					
2000	1,206,348	-266419	232,231	-117,533	100,167	17,363					
2010	2,888,125	-285357	248,096	-127,078	112,140	14,937					

<sup>a</sup> net model flow in AFY from the surficial outcrop area of Layer 1 to underlying layers  $\frac{b}{2}$  and define that accurately below a doubt of 200 foot below the base of

model pumping that occurs approximately below a depth of 300 feet below the base of the surficial outcrop area of Layer 1

net model flow in AFY that occurs to aquifers at a depth of 300 feet below the base of the surficial outcrop area of Layer 1

<sup>d</sup> model outflow from storage in AFY occurring within aquifers at a depth of 300 feet below the base of the surficial outcrop area of Layer 1



Norita-Vártne Upper

- After development
  - The volume of groundwater that enters the confined portion of the aquifers increases
  - After development there is a net loss from the surficial aquifers to the confined outcrop aquifers that reaches approximately 262,000 AF in 2010
  - The groundwater that reaches that down dip deeper confined portions of the aquifer reaches 15% of recharge in 2010 as a result of pumping
- The deep portions of the aquifers do not have adequate confined storage or available cross-flow to meet pumping volumes, therefore downdip flow increases