October 16, 2013

The Rio Grande Regional Water Planning Group (Region M) is in the process of updating its regional water plan, which will be compiled with regional plans from the rest of the state and reviewed by the Legislature to form the 2017 Texas State Water Plan. The mission of the Texas Water Development Board (TWD 6) is to provide leadership, planning, financial assistance, information, and education for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas. Within this mission, the agency uses the State Water Plan to guide its allocation of funding for water projects throughout the state. As Region M develops strategies for meeting future needs, inclusion in the Regional and State Water Plans will be essential for coordination and access to funding.

The task at hand is to gather all of the possible strategies for meeting the region’s water needs over the 50 year planning horizon (2020 — 2070). These strategies will then be categorized and evaluated by the regional water planning group with some strategies selected for further study. Types of strategies that may be evaluated include:

I. water conservation practices for agriculture, municipal, and industrial users,
II. drought management measures, including water demand management, wastewater reuse, potable or non-potable,
IV. inter-basin transfers (IBT) of surface water via transmission pipeline systems,
V. expanded use of existing supplies including system optimization, reallocation of reservoir storage, or enhancing yields of existing storage,
VI. new supply development including surface water, groundwater, brush control, and aquifer storage and recovery (ASR), and
VII. emergency transfers of surface water or interconnects between systems.

The Regional Planning Group is soliciting water supply strategies and projects from stakeholders in Region M until December 11, 2013. In this initial phase, the goal is to gather any and all concepts for projects. The attached form should be completed where information is available and applicable. All strategy descriptions are welcome, even if only some information is available at this time. Maps, data, and external resources are welcome as well as a written description of the strategy.

RESOURCES
Regional Water Planning: www.twdb.state.tx.us/waterplanning/rwp/index.asp
Region M: www.riograndewaterplan.org/index.php

Please submit completed strategy descriptions before December 11th according to the instructions on the Water Management Strategy Submittal Form.

Thank you for your participation.

Glen Jarvis, Chairman
Tomas Rodriguez, Vice-Chairman

Stewards of water resources from Amistad to the Gulf

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