NORTH PLAINS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AMENDED PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING REGARDING GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 1 PROPOSED DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS

Tuesday, June 1, 2021, at 9:00 AM CDT
Richard S. Bowers Learning Center
North Plains Water Conservation Center
6045 West County Road E., Dumas, Texas 79029-7201
(Approximately 9 miles north of Dumas, Texas, east of Highway 287)

The Board of Directors of the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District will hold a public hearing and accept public comment on the proposed Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) for the relevant aquifers within the Groundwater Management Area (GMA 1) Joint Planning Area. This hearing will be conducted in accordance with Section 36.108(d-2) of the Texas Water Code and held on June 1, 2021, at 9:00 am CDT at the North Plains Water Conservation Center, 6045 County Road E., Dumas, Texas 79029-7201. The purpose of the hearing is to provide interested members of the public the opportunity to appear and provide comments to the District related to the proposed DFCs. No other agenda items shall be considered or discussed by the District at the public hearing.

Four groundwater conservation districts are located wholly or partially within Groundwater Management Area 1 (GMA 1), as designated by the Texas Water Development Board. The GMA 1 Districts include: Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District; High Plains Underground Water Conservation District; North Plains Groundwater Conservation District; and, Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District. At the last GMA 1 joint planning meeting on March 18, 2021, the district representatives voted to approve the proposed DFCs. These proposed DFCs were mailed to each of the districts in GMA 1 on March 29, 2021, triggering a 90-day public comment period to close on June 28, 2021. Public comments may be submitted in writing to North Plains Groundwater Conservation District at any time during this period or may be made orally at this hearing.

The following proposed DFCs approved by the district representatives of GMA 1 are described in terms of acceptable drawdown levels for each subdivision of the Ogallala Aquifer (inclusive of the Rita Blanca Aquifer) and the Dockum Aquifer:

Ogallala (inclusive of Rita Blanca) Aquifer:

- At least 40 percent of volume in storage remaining for each 50-year period between 2018 and 2080 in Dallam, Hartley, Moore, and Sherman counties;
- At least 50 percent of volume in storage remaining for each 50-year period between 2018 and 2080 in Hansford, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Ochiltree, Carson, Donley, Gray, Roberts, Wheeler, and Oldham Counties, and within the Panhandle District portions of Armstrong and Potter Counties;
- At least 80 percent of volume in storage remaining for each 50-year period between 2018 and 2080 in Hemphill County; and,
- Approximately 20 feet of total average drawdown for each 50-year period between 2012 and 2080 in Randall County, and within High Plains District in Armstrong and in Potter Counties.

Dockum Aquifer:

- At least 40 percent of the average available drawdown remaining for each 50-year period between 2018 and 2080 for Dallam, Hartley, Moore, and Sherman Counties;
- No more than 30 feet average decline in water levels for each 50-year period between 2018 and 2080 in Oldham and Carson Counties, and the Panhandle District portions of Potter and Armstrong Counties; and,
- Approximately 40 feet average decline in water levels for each 50-year period between 2012 and 2080 in Randall County, and within High Plains District in Armstrong and Potter Counties.

Any person who desires to appear at the hearing and present comments or other information on the proposed DFCs may do so in person, by counsel, or both. Comments may be presented verbally or in written form. Limits may be placed on the amount of time that each person is allowed to present verbal comments at the hearing. The hearing described in this notice may be recessed from day to day or continued where appropriate.

Copies of the proposed DFCs may be requested by email at swalthour@northplainsgcd.org; are available electronically at www.northplainsgcd.org and www.PanhandleWater.org; and may be reviewed or copied at the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District, 603 East 1st Street, Dumas, Texas 79029. Any person who wishes to receive more detailed information on this notice or the proposed DFCs should contact Steve Walthour, General Manager (806) 922-7402 or via email at swalthour@northplainsgcd.org.