

SECTION 3

DATA COLLECTION

3.1 General

Information for the study was obtained through interviews, meetings, surveys, and existing reports and studies. The data collected was specific to water use, population estimates, water quality issues and concerns. The information obtained from surveys regarding existing facilities was used to analyze current systems and develop recommendations for future systems.

3.2 Survey

The survey for this study was prepared in January 2009 and sent by fax and email to participants. The questionnaire was prepared for water and wastewater utilities that held CCNs in Caldwell County. The information requested in the survey was classified as general information, population information, water quality, water conservation and plans to meet future needs. The survey provided an opportunity for respondents to provide additional information the respondent believed to be pertinent to the study. A copy of the survey can be found in **Appendix B**.

The information requested from water utilities related to the groundwater sources, usage and water quality. Questions included; source of the water supply, CCN number and year granted, average daily water use, historic peak volume for water delivery and year, volume of water pumped into the system, volume of water billed, customer data on type of meters, future planning projections on meters use, description of water production facilities, population estimates for past five years and projections for next 30 years, and a list of top water users and amount. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit information was also requested as well as any issues with water sources and concerns regarding point source discharges and non-point source pollution that may impact

water quality in the county. Finally, water conservation measures and future efforts were listed.

Wastewater collection utilities were requested to indicate whether they owned and operated a wastewater collection system, treatment plant, or if others operated the facility. Information requested included CCN number(s) and date granted, average daily wastewater flow for plants, historic peak day volume for wastewater treatment, volume of water treated, volume of water billed, sewer connection types, future projections for sewer connections, type of treatment plant and rated capacity, top wastewater producers, and a list of NPDES permits held by facility. Lastly, inquiries were also made about re-use of treated wastewater, plans to support future growth, and description of changes/upgrades for treatment facilities. The survey requested additional comments that the respondents believed to be pertinent to the study.

The survey was completed by eleven (11) of the twelve (12) water providers and three (3) of the four (4) wastewater CCN permit holders. The task of gathering the information requested in the survey did require time and effort from the respondents and the information provided was valuable in understanding the current conditions in the county and developing potential solutions.

The entities participating in the survey were contacted by phone to schedule times, if preferred, to visit with and clarify any questions about the survey and the information being requested. These surveyed participants included:

Aqua Water Supply Corporation	County Line WSC
City of Lockhart	City of Luling
Creedmoor Maha	Goforth WSC
Gonzales County WSC	Martindale WSC
Maxwell WSC	Polonia WSC
Tri Community WSC	Turner Crest Village

Throughout the planning study three meetings were held at the Caldwell County Annex in Lockhart, Texas to gather input from the community. Updates and presentations were held on the progress of the study and input was received on the draft report. Sign in sheets for the stakeholder meetings have been included in **Appendix A.**

3.3 Regional Coordination

Exchanging information with local government entities, groundwater districts, water authorities, and state agencies was considered necessary as a part of the study. Interviews were conducted with Canyon Regional Water Authority, Gonzales County Groundwater Conservation District, Hays/Caldwell Public Utility Agency (PUA), San Antonio River Authority, and the Texas State Data Center (TSDC). Other information was obtained from Capital Area Council of Governments, TWDB, TCEQ, the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Caldwell County Appraisal District (CCAD), and the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT).

The following participants were represented in the Stakeholder Meetings for this study:

Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative	Texas Water Development Board
Crystal Clear Water Supply Corporation	Envision Central Texas
Caldwell County	Hays Caldwell Public Utility Agency
Canyon Regional Water Authority	City of Lockhart
Luling Foundation	Lockhart I.S.D
Edwards Aquifer Authority	Plum Creek Conservation District
Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority	County Landowner
Plum Creek Watershed Partnership	
Gonzales County Groundwater Conservation District	
Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board	