



25 May, 2010

Boards of Directors  
Groundwater Management Area 12  
310 East Ave. C  
Milano, Texas 76556

**Re: Protecting the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer and Colorado River groundwater-surface water relationship in the desired future conditions of Groundwater Management Area 12.**

Dear Board of Directors:

In order that the public can fully understand the implications of the actions being taken by the GMA-12 districts, Environmental Stewardship requests that the GMA-12 prepare and present to the public, prior to adoption, a single document that describes:

1. The desired future conditions being submitted to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) individually and summarily,
2. The pumping volumes that are included in the desired future conditions,
3. The results of groundwater availability model (GAM) runs conducted by the TWDB or by GMA-12 hydrologists that are based on the desired future conditions that quantitatively includes the impacts on inflows & outflows to surface waters, other aquifers, and surrounding counties,
4. The socio-economic impacts reasonably expected to occur,
5. The environmental impacts including, but not limited to, impacts to spring flows or other interactions between groundwater and surface waters such as the Colorado River and its tributary streams.

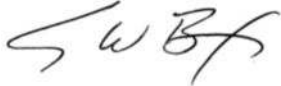
Based on the information presented to the LPGCD by Mr. Hutchinson, and to the GMA-12 by other State and regional entities over the past several years, it appears likely that the desired future conditions being submitted by GMA-12 will result in irreversible changes in river-aquifer relationships. Given the importance of these water resources to our region, we believe it is imperative that actions be taken to monitor for such impacts and take corrective actions should they occur. As such, Environmental Stewardship recently submitted a resolution to the Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors along with a request that the resolution be placed on the June board meeting agenda for consideration and adoption.

The resolution (attached) contains paragraphs we are requesting be included in the Groundwater Management Area 12 desired future conditions. These paragraphs describe actions that we are requesting be taken to protect the groundwater-surface water relationship between the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer, the Colorado River, and associated streams and springs of the region.

Therefore, we are requesting that the GMA-12 defer any final decision to adopt desired future conditions for the region until the Lost Pines GCD has had an opportunity to consider taking action on the resolution.

We believe it is essential to the environment and socio-economic health of our region that the Districts protect these natural resources by balancing the human demand for water with environmental needs. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Environmental Stewardship

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S W B', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steve Box  
Executive Director

Environmental Stewardship is a charitable nonprofit organization whose purposes are to meet current and future needs of the environment and its inhabitants by protecting and enhancing the earth's natural resources; to restore and sustain ecological services using scientific information; and to encourage public stewardship through environmental education and outreach. We are a Texas nonprofit 501(c) (3) public charity headquartered in Bastrop, Texas. For more information visit our website <http://Environmental-Stewardship.org/>.