

## **The Region C Plan Ignores Commonsense Conservation & Wastes Tax Dollars and Natural Resources!**

### **Plan fails taxpayers, wildlife, & land owners**

Water is vital to both our economy and our natural environment. Regional water planning – which will guide state funding for water development – affects all Texans. Unacceptably, the current Region C Water Plan for the Dallas/Fort Worth/North Texas area recommends wasteful development projects like the \$1.7 billion Marvin Nichols dam 170 miles away on the Sulphur River and ignores meaningful water conservation. The plan calls for spending BILLIONS on unnecessary projects at the expense of commonsense conservation measures that would save money, protect private property, and conserve natural resources.

***Demand that Region C revise their plan to eliminate unnecessary reservoir projects and focus on meeting reasonable water needs through more efficient management of existing water resources:***

- **REDUCE WATER DEMANDS THROUGH MEANINGFUL CONSERVATION INCENTIVES AND PRACTICES** - This is much less expensive than building new dams and pipelines. If Metroplex cities decreased water use by 22%, which would still leave per person use above ALL other major Texas cities, they still could grow as projected and there would be NO NEED for new reservoir construction [San Antonio lowered their per capita water use rate 30% in 13 years, while Region C projects an increase in use, currently 264 gal/person/day in Dallas!] (see graphs on back)
- **USE THE WATER SUPPLIES THAT ARE ALREADY DEVELOPED TO THEIR FULLEST EXTENT** - The Dallas/Fort Worth/North Texas area has 126 billion gallons of unused supply in reservoirs. Using these supplies efficiently is a logical water management solution. Additionally, Lake Texoma could provide a tremendous quantity of water to meet future demands. The Region C Plan should seriously evaluate this option and make the best use of existing supplies.

## **WHAT YOU CAN DO:**

The Region C Water Planning Group is made up of 23 Metroplex residents representing various “stakeholders,” including the public and environmental interests. The Planning Group meets on a regular basis to work on the water plan—public comment is sought at each meeting.

- **Speak out** at Region C water planning meetings and demand that the planning group use conservation to meet future demands. **The next Region C meeting is July 22 at 1:30 PM At the Trinity River Authority's (TRA) Central Wastewater Treatment Plant** (6500 W Singleton Blvd, Dallas TX, 75212). TRA contact is Lee Shaffer - 972-331-4310 (visit [www.twdb.state.tx.us](http://www.twdb.state.tx.us) and click on "regional water planning groups information" for future Region C meeting locations and dates)
- **Send a letter** to Terrace Stewart, Chair Region C Water Planning Group, North Texas Municipal Water District, P.O. Box 2408, Wylie, TX 75098-2408; or email: [virginia.towles@twdb.state.tx.us](mailto:virginia.towles@twdb.state.tx.us)
- **Call, write, or email your State Representative and State Senator.** Tell them you oppose wasteful and destructive new water projects like Marvin Nichols and that they should require regional water planning groups to adopt meaningful water conservation measures and protect our natural resources.

**For more information, see [www.texaswatermatters.org](http://www.texaswatermatters.org)**

## Other Region C Plan Shortcomings:

### *Doesn't Curtail Water Use in Times of Drought*

- The plan offers no realistic strategy for reducing water demand during a drought. Instead it assumes that peak human demands, like lawn watering, must be met during the WORST drought, even if no water is left for fish and wildlife.

### *Threatens Wildlife & Habitat*

- The Marvin Nichols dam and reservoir alone would flood 30,000 acres of rare bottomland hardwood forest (which provides vital habitat for game and nongame wildlife and helps protect water quality) and another 42,000 acres of mixed forest and family farms and ranches along the Sulphur River in northeast Texas.

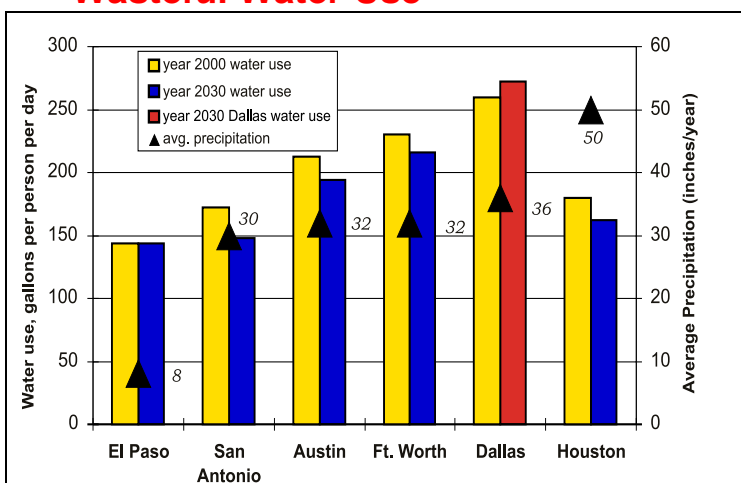
### *Makes All Citizens Pay for Those Who Continue to Waste*

- Water is a limited resource, essential for our economy and environment. All water users need incentives to conserve, including pricing structures that make necessary water affordable but excessive consumption a high-priced luxury. All citizens should not have to subsidize water use for people who don't conserve.

## ***There are cheaper, better alternatives!***

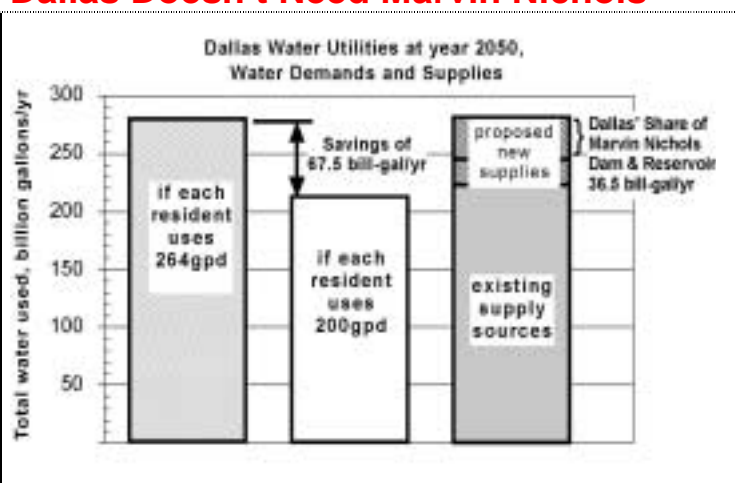
In its current form the Region C Water Plan fails taxpayers, landowners, and wildlife. It ignores water conservation and efficient allocation of existing supplies. Drought management was also ignored as a demand management strategy during water short periods. In addition, all water users – household, agricultural, and industrial – need to be given meaningful conservation incentives to reduce water use. ***We must not pursue water management strategies that benefit a few at the expense of taxpayers, farms, ranches, and our wildlife heritage.***

### **Wasteful Water Use**



Comparison of 2000 and 2030 water use: major Texas cities per capita water use in Dallas is higher than some cities that get less annual rainfall. (Source: 2002 Texas State Water Plan; Texas Weather).

### **Dallas Doesn't Need Marvin Nichols**



Reducing per capita water use in Dallas from 264 to 200 gallons per person per day over 50 years would eliminate the city's need for Marvin Nichols. (Source: 2002 Texas State Water Plan)