

# GUADALUPE BASIN COALITION

[www.guadalupebasincoalition.org](http://www.guadalupebasincoalition.org)

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## RESOLUTION NO. 2014 - 1

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE GUADALUPE BASIN COALITION CALLING ATTENTION TO SEVERE DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN THE REGION, EXPRESSING CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE EDWARDS AQUIFER HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ENHANCED CONSERVATION MEASURES AND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES**

**WHEREAS**, severe drought conditions exist in the Guadalupe River basin and the Edwards Aquifer region of Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center monthly and seasonal outlooks predict that these severe drought conditions will persist in these areas through 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the base flow of the Guadalupe, Comal and San Marcos rivers during drought conditions consists primarily of flows from the Comal and San Marcos springs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Guadalupe Basin Coalition wishes to call attention to the current severe drought conditions and the need for effective conservation measures and strategies for management of the Edwards Aquifer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Guadalupe Basin Coalition has strongly and consistently supported the development and implementation of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP), which has as a primary goal the protection of the continued flow of the Comal and San Marcos springs; and

**WHEREAS**, the EAHCP presently includes four measures to protect continued spring flows: The Voluntary Irrigation Suspension Program Option (VISPO), the Regional Municipal Water Conservation Plan, the Critical Period Management Plan, and the San Antonio Water System Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR); and

**WHEREAS**, two of the EAHCP's measures for protecting continued spring flows – VISPO and ASR – are not fully available for implementation to reduce demand on the Edwards Aquifer, and users of Aquifer water should therefore be prepared to reduce their usage more than is required under the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) Critical Period Management Plan to protect the continued flow of the Comal and San Marcos Springs; and

**WHEREAS**, the effectiveness of the EAHCP to protect the continued flow of the Comal and San Marcos springs can only be established by projecting and then verifying

the results of continued implementation of the spring flow protection measures;

**WHEREAS**, if it becomes apparent that the EAHCP is not effective in this regard, the EAHCP contains an adaptive management process that should be initiated to put measures in place that will protect the continued flow of the Comal and San Marcos springs; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GUADALUPE BASIN COALITION:**

**SECTION 1.** The Guadalupe Basin Coalition calls the attention of the public to the current severe drought conditions in the Guadalupe River basin and the Edwards Aquifer region of Texas.

**SECTION 2.** The Guadalupe Basin Coalition requests that all persons, businesses and water utilities in the Guadalupe River basin and the Edwards Aquifer region be mindful of these conditions and as conservative as possible in their use of water.

**SECTION 3.** The Guadalupe Basin Coalition strongly supports the continued implementation of the EAHCP, and in particular, the measures for protecting the continued flow of the Comal and San Marcos springs.

**SECTION 4.** If it becomes apparent that the EAHCP spring flow protection measures may not be effective to protect the continued flow of the Comal and San Marcos springs, the Guadalupe Basin Coalition A) strongly urges all users of aquifer water to reduce their usage more than is required under the EAA Critical Period Management Plan, and B) strongly urges the EAA to promptly undertake actions to promote greater participation in the VISPO and ASR programs.

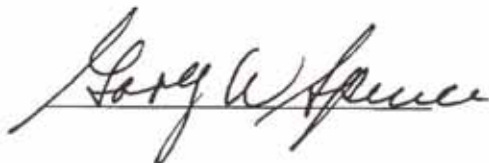
**SECTION 5.** In the longer term, if the EAHCP spring flow protection measures are not effective to protect the continued flow of the Comal and San Marcos springs, the Guadalupe Basin Coalition strongly urges the parties and stakeholders in the EAHCP to initiate the adaptive management process to develop and implement management strategies in the EAHCP that will protect the continued flow of the Comal and San Marcos springs.

**SECTION 6.** This Resolution takes effect immediately upon adoption.

**ADOPTED** on August 12, 2014.



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Gary Spence, Secretary