

October 23, 2019

Hill Country Alliance comments on the Hays Trinity GCD Rules created for the Jacob's Well Groundwater Management Zone

Dear Hays Trinity GCD Board of Directors,

Hill Country Alliance (HCA) respectfully and strongly affirms its support for the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District's new Jacob's Well Groundwater Management Zone (JWGMZ), and the management rules developed for the protection of Jacob's Well spring flows.

HCA recognizes the strength of this local policy decision which seeks to shield the community from the effects of periodic drought, conforms to TWC Chapter 36 rules, is based on thorough hydro-geologic science, and does not disrupt the ten-county Trinity Aquifer-wide Groundwater Management Area planning process.

Drought is an ever looming threat to well water supplies and those dependent on Cypress Creek flows. These rules afford critical additional protection for the management of the Trinity Aquifer resource in the JWGMZ -- for long-term sustainable yield.

HCA recognizes that the economic and ecological interests of all stakeholders in this remarkable community action are important.

HCA is honored to have participated in that broad-based stakeholder process, and is pleased that through a vigorous and time-consuming accord consensus was reached that considered the needs of all well users and residents downstream of Jacob's Well that benefit from its healthy flow.

Thank you,

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CC. Katherine Romans, HCA Executive Director; Matt Lara, HCA Board President