

Status of Drought Briefing: May 2020

Maps:

Below are the latest maps including the *US Drought Monitor* map for Texas and the *Palmer Hydrological Drought Index* map. The US Drought Monitor map indicates that our District is within drought condition “None” and the Palmer Hydrological Drought Index indicates “Severe Drought” conditions. These maps have been collected and will be part of the District’s 2020 Annual Report.

District Drought Triggers:

The Pedernales River drought trigger indicates 0 consecutive days of discharge flows below the drought stage ‘Alarm’, and the Blanco River drought stage trigger indicates 16 consecutive days of discharge flows below the drought stage ‘Alarm’ as of April 30th, 2020. To move into drought stage ‘Alarm’, both rivers must have 30 consecutive days of flow within drought stage ‘Alarm’. The District’s third trigger, the Palmer Drought Index, shows “Severe Drought” conditions.

Recommended Drought Stage:

The drought recommendation for western Hays County is to remain in Drought Stage 1 “No Drought – Voluntary Conservation” until further notice.

Jacob’s Well Groundwater Management Zone Drought Triggers:

At the end of every month, the average discharge rate at Jacob’s Well is calculated in order to determine which drought cutback amount will be applied to the Jacob’s Well GMZ for the following month. The running 10-day average of the last ten days of April indicate that the average discharge at Jacob’s Well is 4.35 cubic feet per second. The trigger for the 20% Reduction is an average discharge below 5 cubic feet per second and above 3 cubic feet per second.

Recommended Drought Stage for Jacob’s Well GMZ:

The drought recommendation for the Jacob’s Well GMZ is to apply the 20% Reduction until further notice.

