



# ***CRP Steering Committee***

## ***Current Drought Status and State Water Rights***

*April 24, 2014*

**Chris Higgins, Senior Hydrologist  
Brazos River Authority**



# ***Purpose is to...***

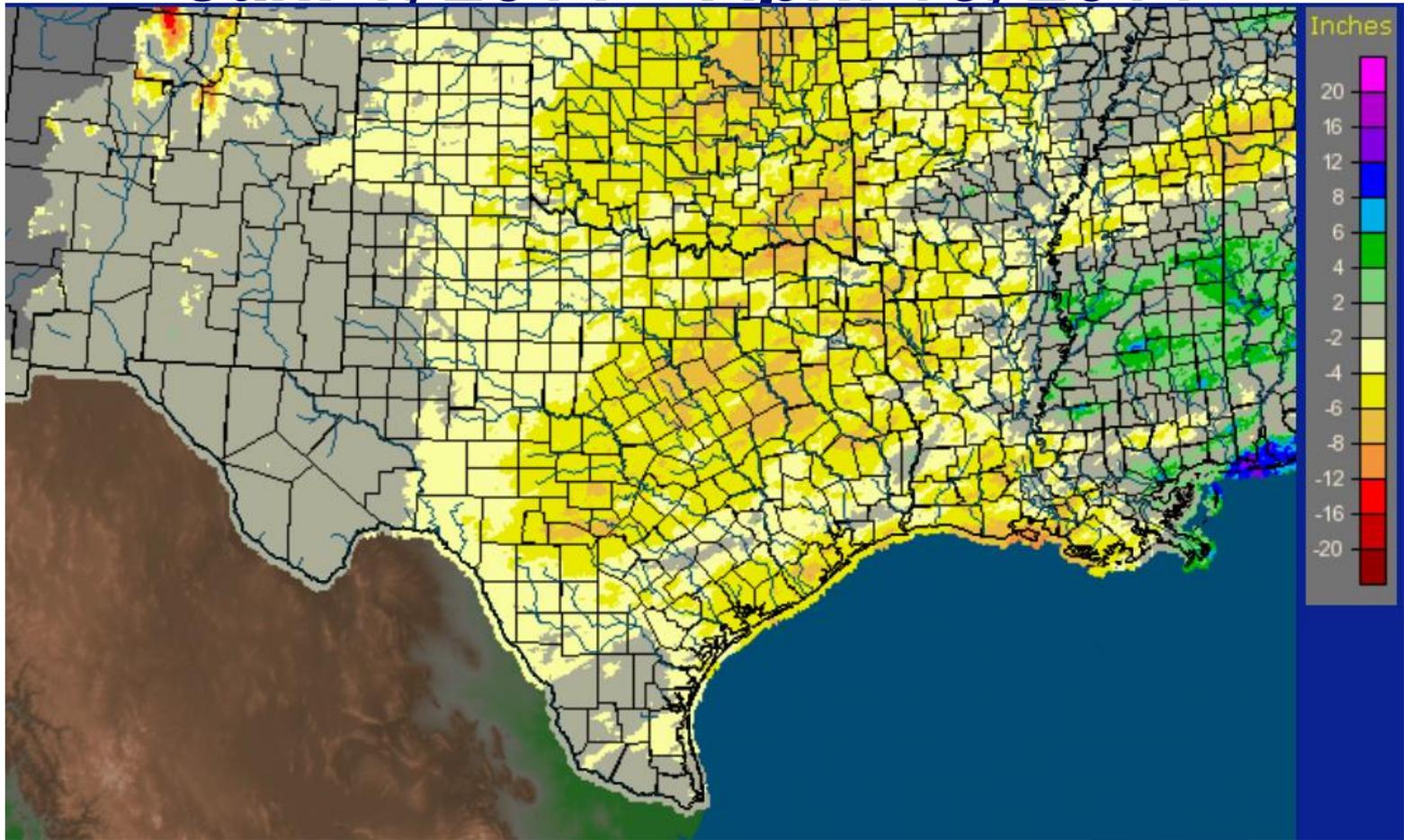
- **Update you on the on-going drought conditions**
- **Discuss what it means when a senior call is initiated.**

**Possum Kingdom Lake - April 2, 2014**



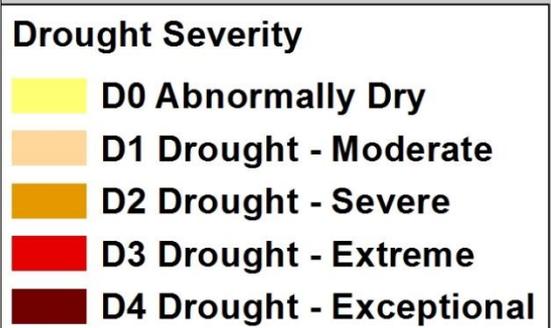
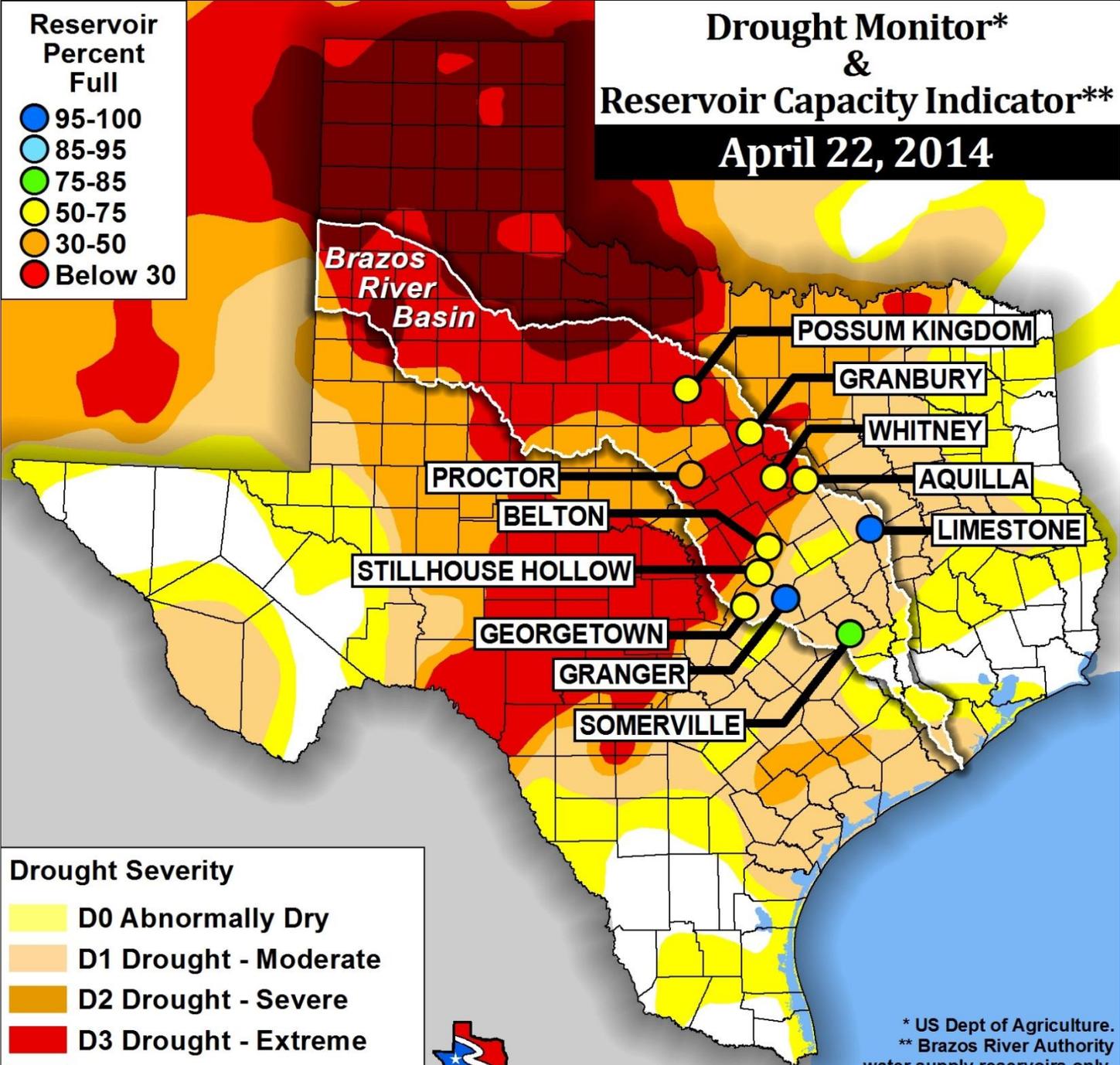
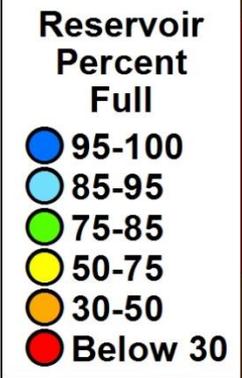


# Rainfall Departure from Normal Jan. 1, 2014 – April 16, 2014





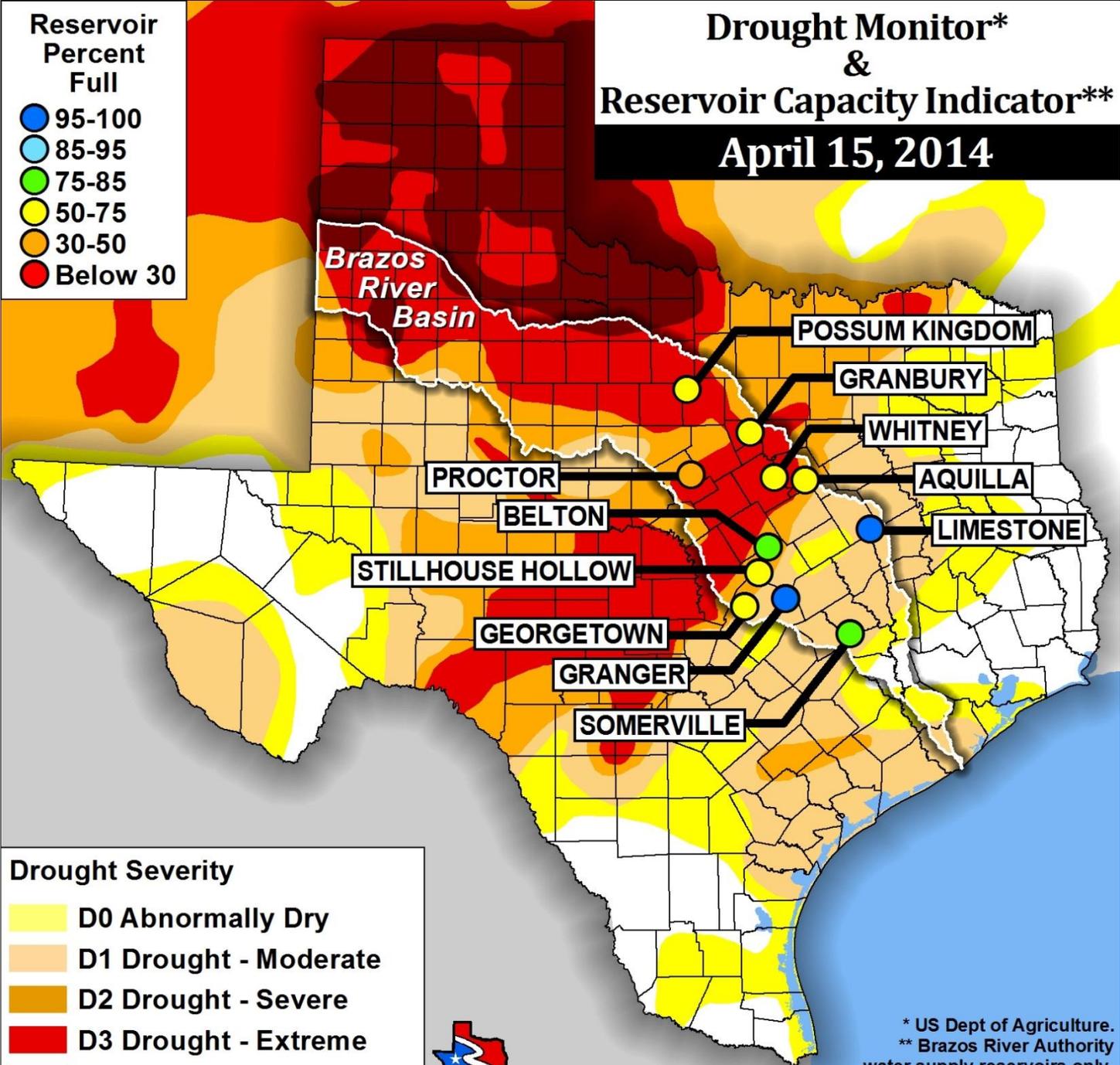
# Drought Monitor\* & Reservoir Capacity Indicator\*\* April 22, 2014



\* US Dept of Agriculture.  
 \*\* Brazos River Authority water supply reservoirs only.  
 Map is for general display purposes only.



# Drought Monitor\* & Reservoir Capacity Indicator\*\* April 15, 2014



**Reservoir Percent Full**

- 95-100
- 85-95
- 75-85
- 50-75
- 30-50
- Below 30

**Drought Severity**

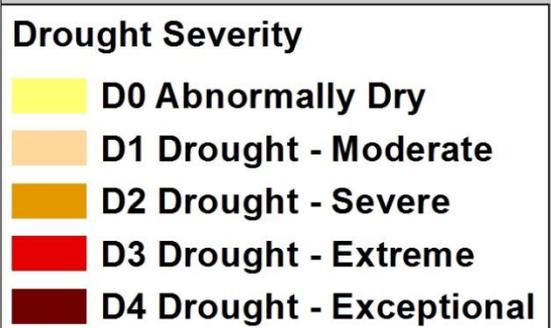
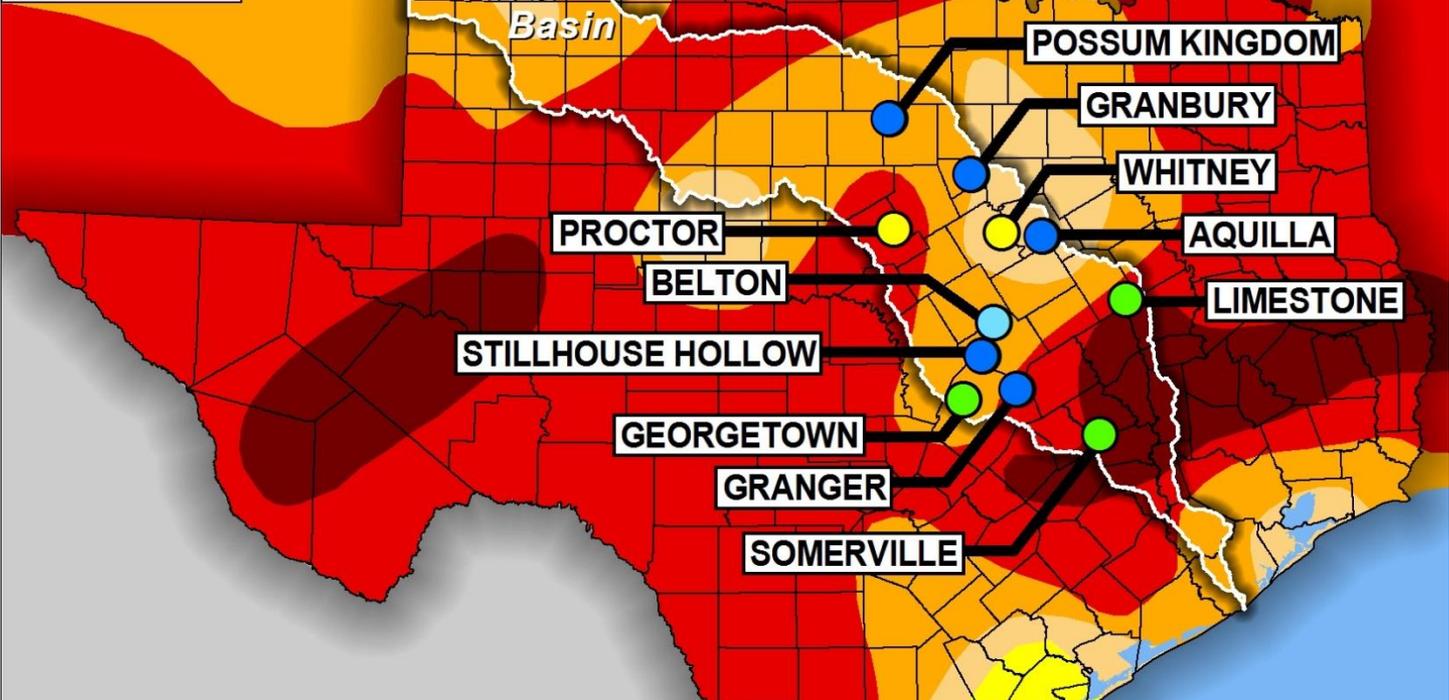
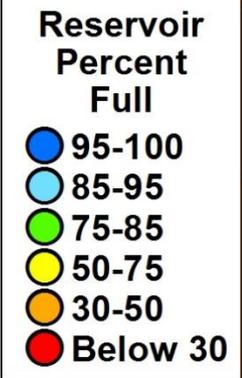
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought - Moderate
- D2 Drought - Severe
- D3 Drought - Extreme
- D4 Drought - Exceptional



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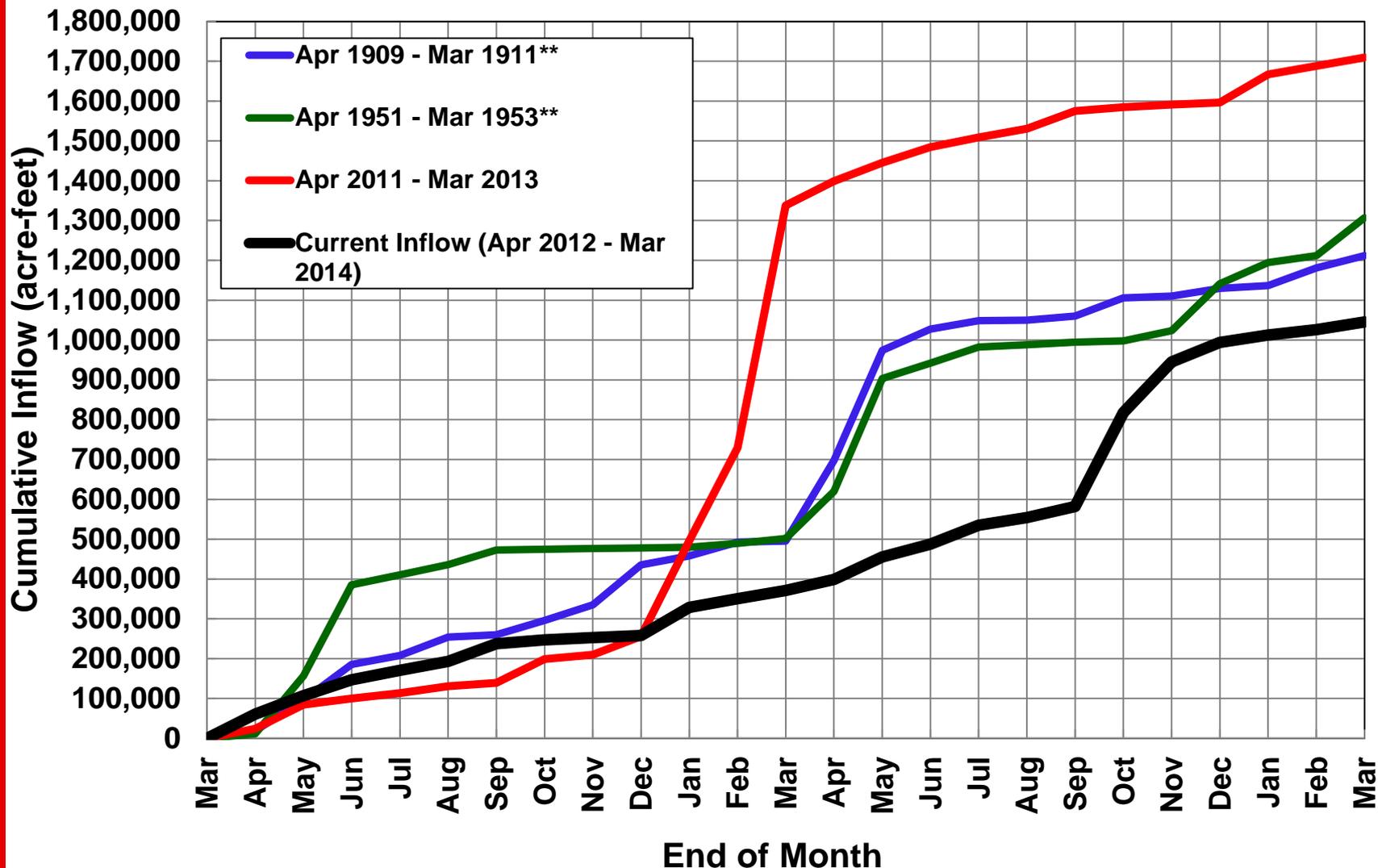
# Drought Monitor\* & Reservoir Capacity Indicator\*\* April 15, 2011



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\*\* Brazos River Authority water supply reservoirs only.  
Map is for general display purposes only.



# Total System\* Cumulative Inflow Tracking Since April 2012



\*Does not include Lake Granbury & Lake Whitney

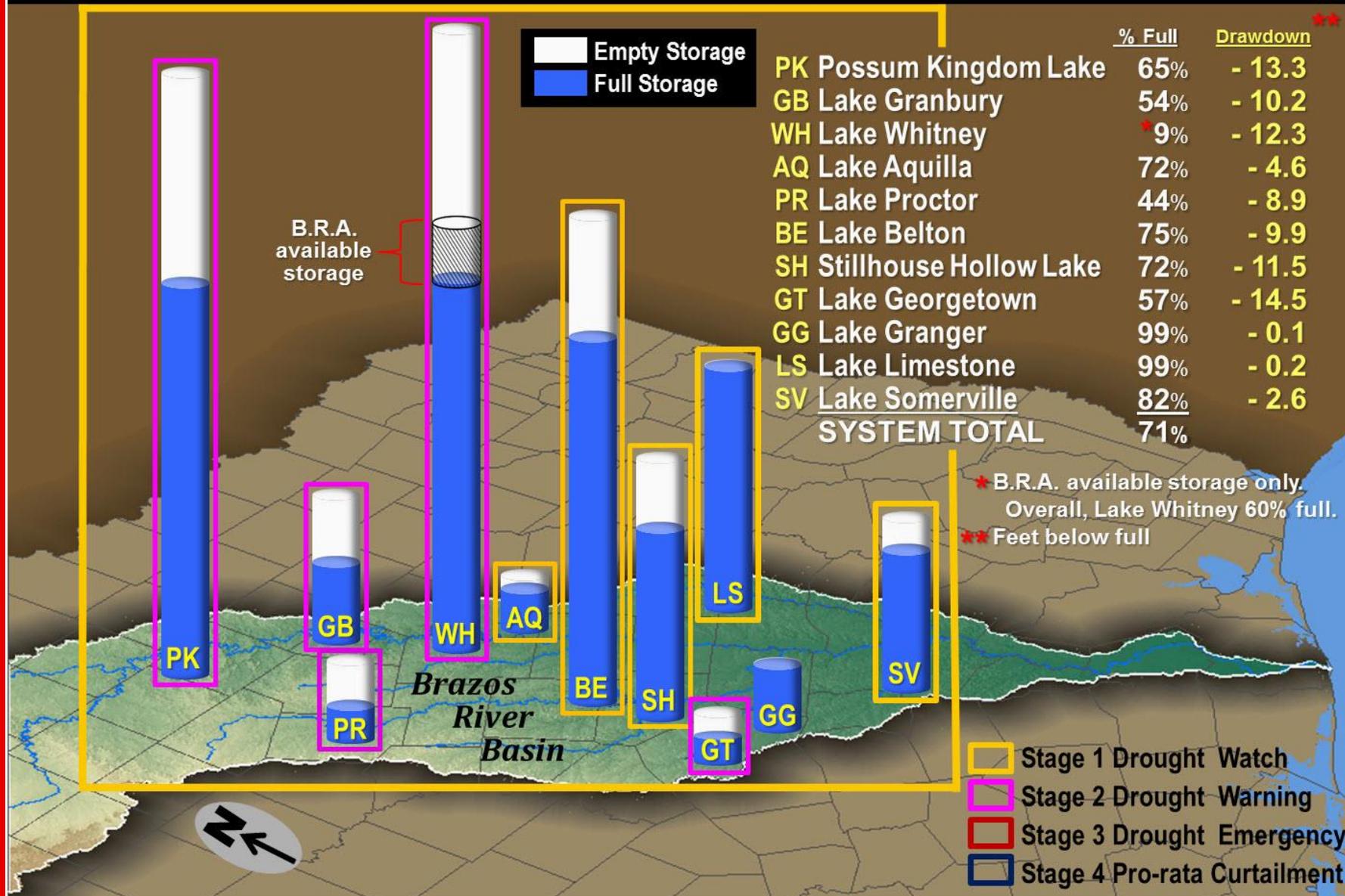
\*\*1900 - 2007 Brazos Water Availability Model Naturalized Flows Dataset (TWRI Rep. No. 340)

# B.R.A. Water Supply Reservoirs "PERCENT FULL" for April 23, 2014

**Combined Storage of Authority System is Below Stage 1 Drought Watch Storage Trigger**



**Brazos River Authority**



# Projected Reservoir Status for May 31, 2014 (based on minimum inflows and high evaporation)

## Combined Storage of Authority System is Below Stage 1 Drought Watch Storage Trigger

Estimated on:  
04/09/2014

Empty Storage  
 Full Storage

B.R.A. available storage

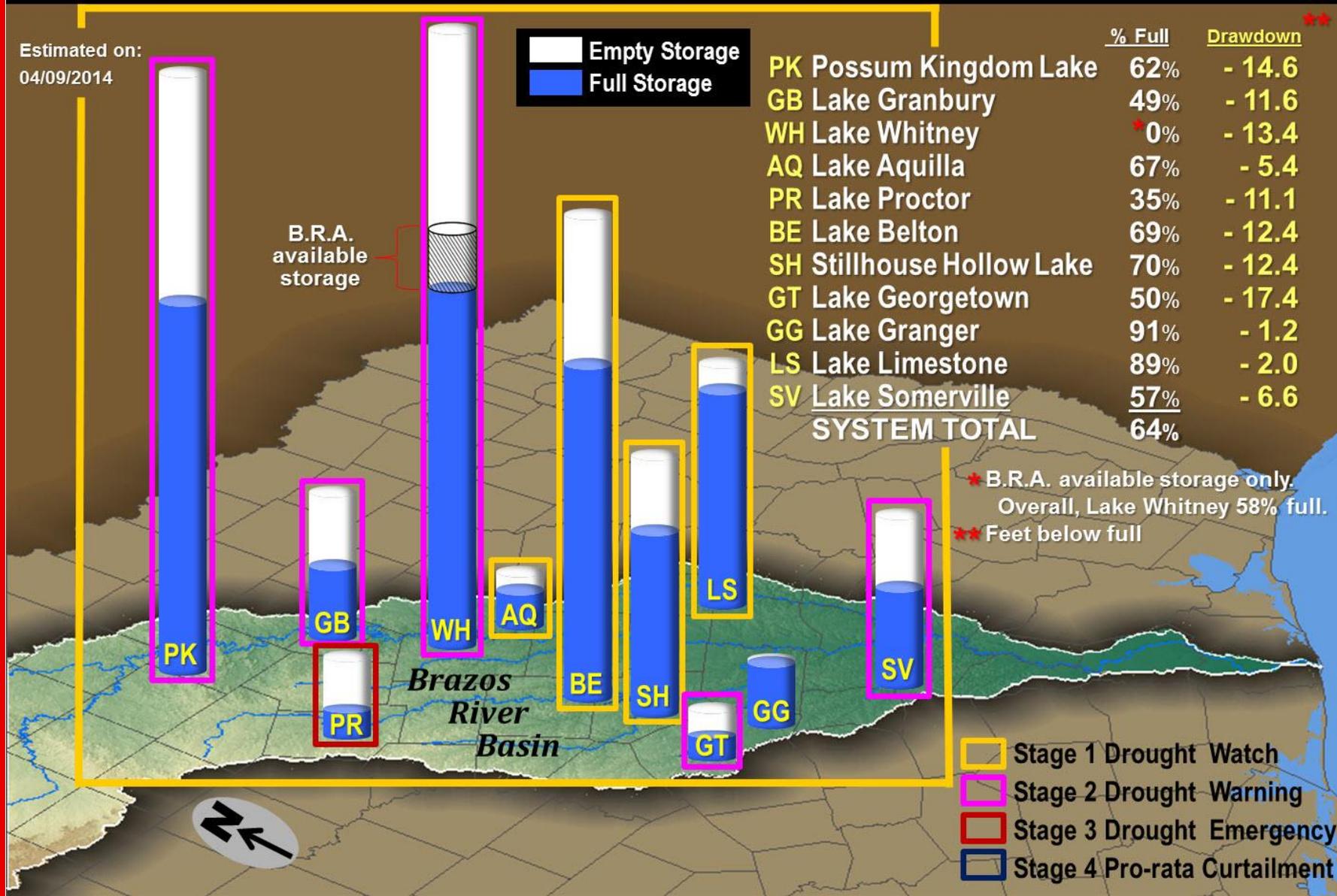
	% Full	Drawdown**
PK Possum Kingdom Lake	62%	- 14.6
GB Lake Granbury	49%	- 11.6
WH Lake Whitney	* 0%	- 13.4
AQ Lake Aquilla	67%	- 5.4
PR Lake Proctor	35%	- 11.1
BE Lake Belton	69%	- 12.4
SH Stillhouse Hollow Lake	70%	- 12.4
GT Lake Georgetown	50%	- 17.4
GG Lake Granger	91%	- 1.2
LS Lake Limestone	89%	- 2.0
SV Lake Somerville	57%	- 6.6
<b>SYSTEM TOTAL</b>	<b>64%</b>	

\* B.R.A. available storage only.  
Overall, Lake Whitney 58% full.  
\*\* Feet below full

- Stage 1 Drought Watch
- Stage 2 Drought Warning
- Stage 3 Drought Emergency
- Stage 4 Pro-rata Curtailment

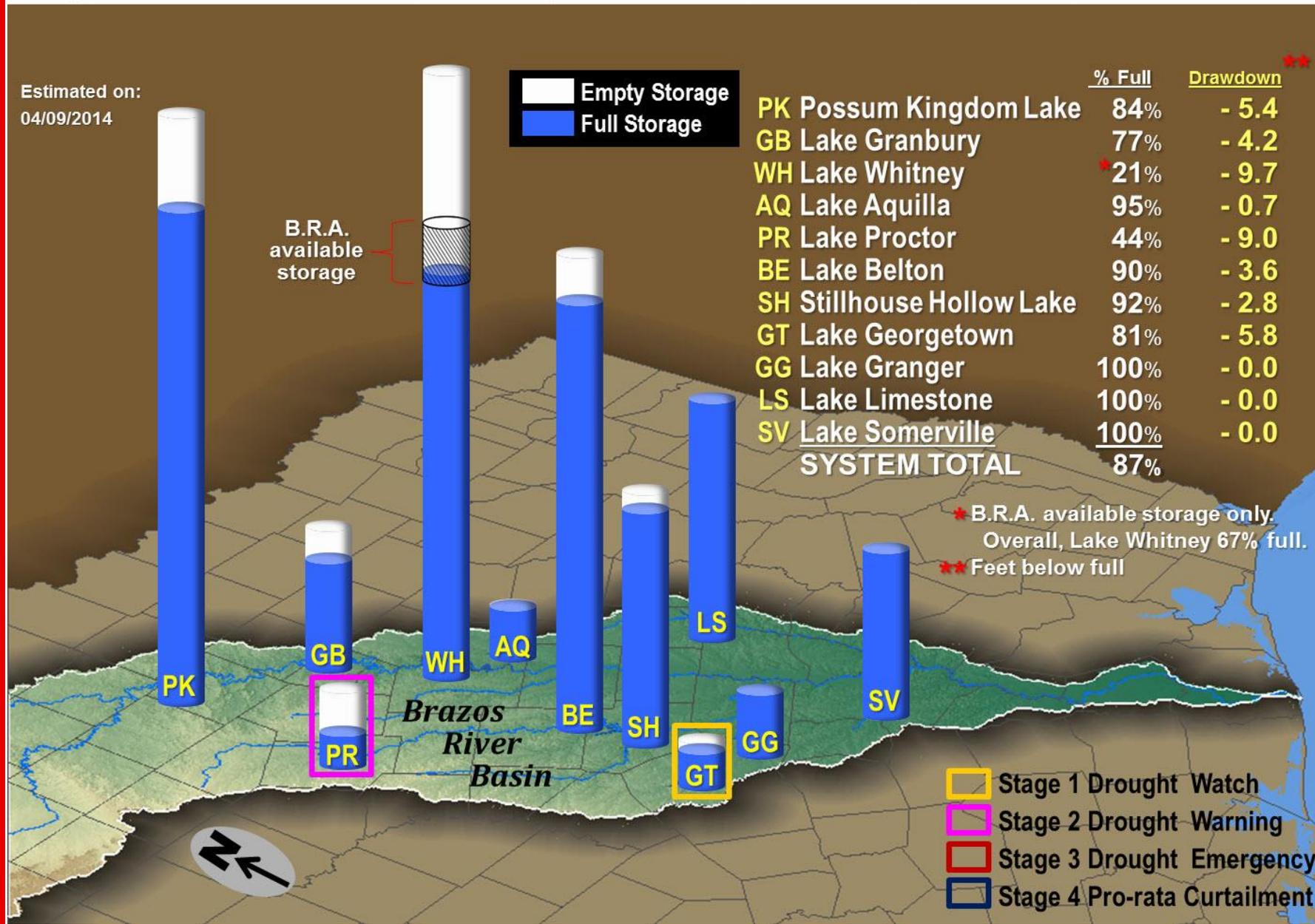


Brazos River Authority



# Projected Reservoir Status for May 31, 2014 (based on average inflows and evaporation)

Estimated on:  
04/09/2014



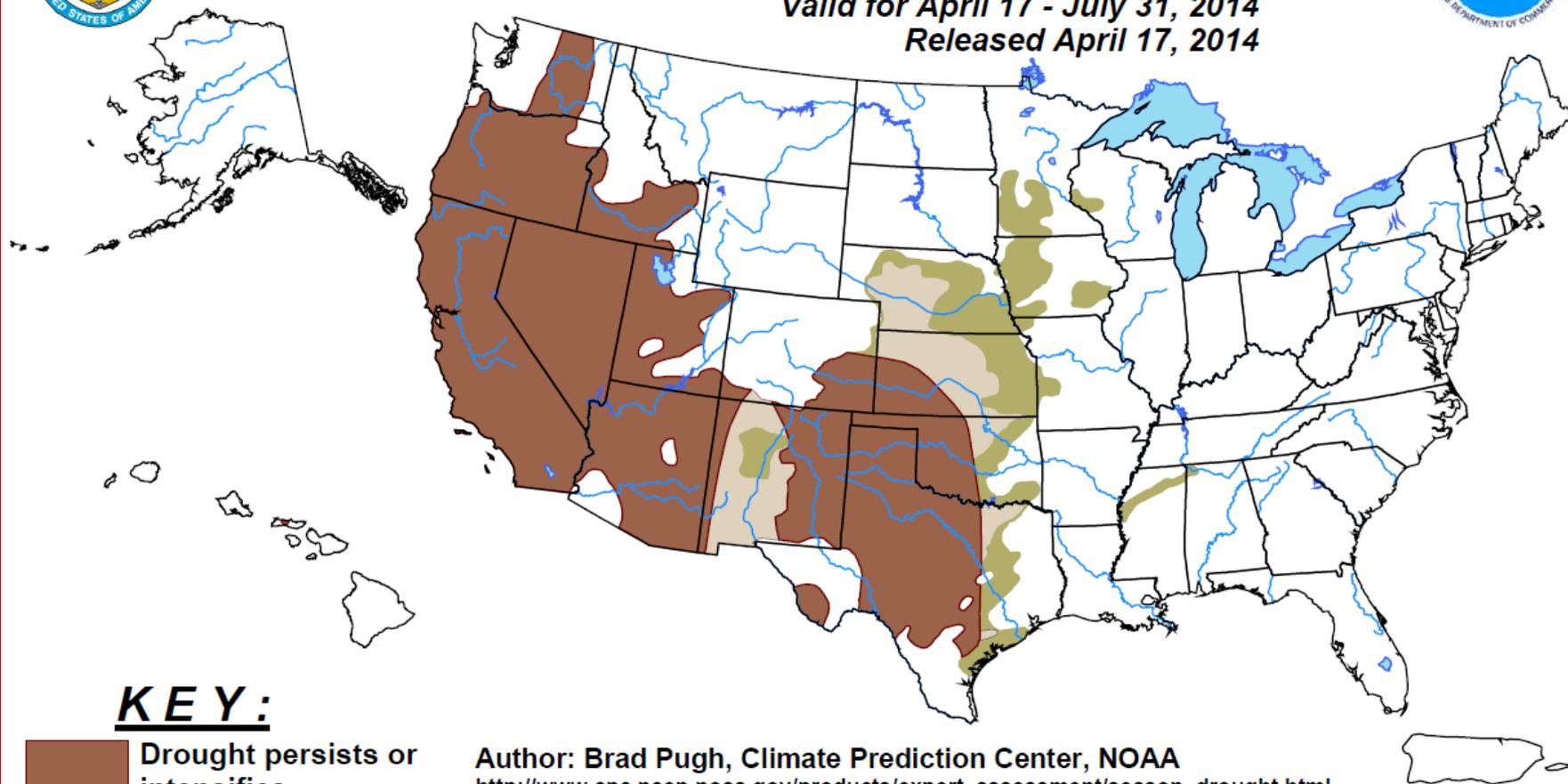


# U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

## Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for April 17 - July 31, 2014

Released April 17, 2014



### KEY:

-  Drought persists or intensifies
-  Drought remains but improves
-  Drought removal likely
-  Drought development likely

Author: Brad Pugh, Climate Prediction Center, NOAA

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert\\_assessment/season\\_drought.html](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/season_drought.html)

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Short-term events -- such as individual storms -- cannot be accurately forecast more than a few days in advance. Use caution for applications -- such as crops -- that can be affected by such events. "Ongoing" drought areas are approximated from the Drought Monitor (D1 to D4 intensity).

For weekly drought updates, see the latest U.S. Drought Monitor.

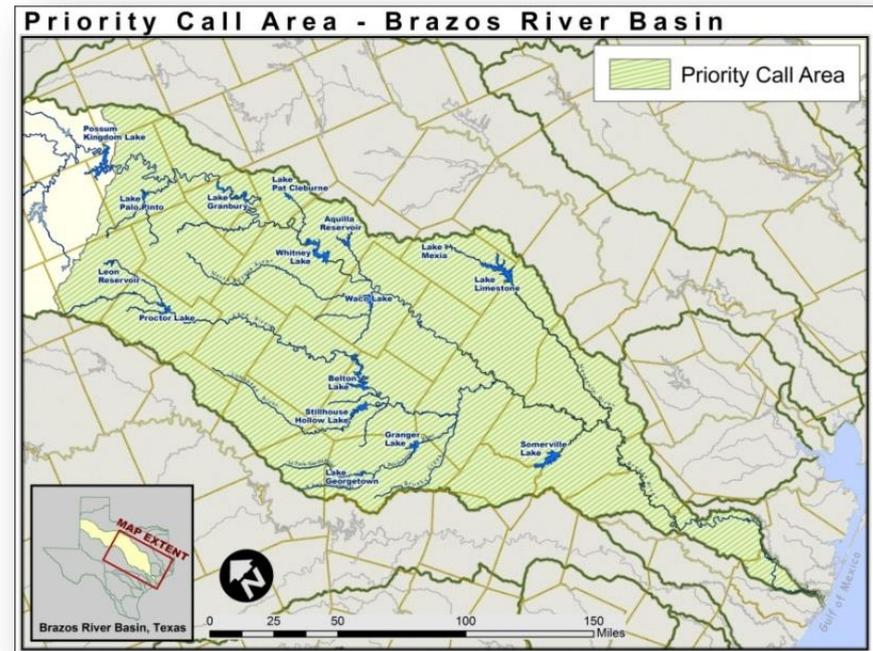
NOTE: The tan area areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period although drought will remain.

The Green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none)



# TCEQ “Senior Call”

- Four senior calls issued in Brazos Basin since 2009
- Guided by the priority doctrine in Texas law
- Currently no senior call in place and all junior water rights can divert from the river





**Brazos River Authority**

***Questions?***

***[www.brazos.org](http://www.brazos.org)***