Legislative Update

Presented by
Matt Phillips
Government and Customer Relations Manager

Meeting Date: July 30, 2018
Interim Charges-Hurricane Harvey

• Pre-releasing/seasonal lowering of reservoirs

• Flood mitigation strategies
  – Off-channel reservoirs
  – Aquifer storage and recovery

• Notice responsibility/improvement
  – Statewide website
  – Amber alert system

• Debris removal
TWCA Flood Committee

• Reservoir Operators Role in Providing Notice of Flood Events
• Water Supply and Flood Control Reservoirs in Texas
• Prerelease from Reservoirs as a Flood Mitigation Strategy
• Flood Liability and Takings Issues for Reservoir Owners
• Aquifer Storage Recovery as a Flood Mitigation Strategy
• Off-Channel Reservoirs as a Flood Mitigation Strategy
• On-Channel Reservoirs as a Flood Mitigation Strategy
• Dredging as a Flood Mitigation Strategy
• Hurricane Harvey Experience

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TWDB Flood Assessment

• Not the state flood plan
• Provide flooding history/experience
• Identify current roles and responsibilities
• Provide potential framework for creation of state flood plan
Other Interim Charges

- WAM updates
- Groundwater policy
  - Aquifer-wide management
  - Ground/surface water interaction
  - Permitting process
  - Data and science needs
- Water permit streamlining
- Regulatory framework of groundwater districts and river authorities
Sunset Review Process

• Step 1
  – Sunset staff evaluation

• Step 2
  – Sunset Commission deliberation

• Step 3
  – Legislative action
River Authority Sunset

- Currently reviewing NRA, RRA, GBRA and LCRA
- NRA, RRA and GBRA
  - Self-evaluation report completed
  - Sunset staff report and first Commission hearing completed
  - Commission decision hearing in August
- LCRA
  - Self-evaluation report completed
  - Sunset staff report in process—expected in October
  - First Commission hearing set for December
  - Commission decision hearing in January
Corps Water Supply Rule

- Problems with the rule
  - State water rights infringement
  - Water accounting/allocation
  - Reallocation costs
- Ongoing efforts
  - Congressional letters
  - National Water Supply Alliance
  - June meetings with Congressional delegation