## Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Annual Report October 20, 2021

This Annual Report is provided as per the TGPC POE Subcommittee ("Subcommittee") *Charge*<sup>1</sup>.

## Fiscal Year 2021 Results

- The Subcommittee met<sup>2</sup> four times during the past fiscal year:
  - September 9, 2020;
  - o December 9, 2020;
  - o March 10, 2021; and,
  - o June 2, 2021.
- At their meetings, the Subcommittee accomplished:
  - Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service reported that in FY2021 there were approximately 659 attendees at Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) events held throughout Texas.<sup>1</sup>
  - o Google Analytics statistics were reviewed. There were 12,847 sessions, 10,435 users and 21,653 page views.
  - The Subcommittee did not attend any in-person conferences due to the COVID-19 restrictions.<sup>2</sup>
    - Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts *Groundwater Summit*, September 1 – 3, 2020 was an interactive webinar event. TGPC prepared a virtual presentation and was available for interactive chats, similar to a booth.
    - Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Public Water Supply Conference's virtual booth with 153 attendees.
  - o The Subcommittee sponsored a "National Groundwater Awareness Week, March 7-13, 2021" poster at the Texas Capitol on March 15-19, 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://tgpc.state.tx.us/POE/POESubCommCharge19Jul2017.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, on March 16, 2020, in accordance with section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, Governor Abbott suspended various provisions of the Open Meetings Act that require government officials and members of the public to be physically present at a specified meeting location. Pursuant to that suspension, the public was not able to attend these meetings in person but was able to attend via videoconference at no cost.

o Members of the Subcommittee developed a video on the *Baby Aquifer* presentation that can be included in future booth opportunities.

## Fiscal Year 2022 Plans

- The Subcommittee will continue to provide outreach materials to conferences, support TWON events, and write and update FAQs and Fact Sheets as needed.
- The Subcommittee will develop its *TGPC POE Subcommittee Fiscal Year 2022 2023 Activity Plan*.
- The Subcommittee will review its *Charge* for FY2022.