





GW-1 & GW-2 and related aspects of Statewide Rules 13, 14, 9, 46, 99 & 100

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- What does the GAU do
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Who We Are



- Oil & Gas Division
 - Technical Permitting
 - Groundwater Advisory Unit (GAU)
 - Injection Permitting and Support
 - Environmental Permits and Support
 - Engineering Unit

What We Do (1 of 2)



- Groundwater Determinations:
 - SWR 13: Set and cement sufficient surface casing to protect all usable quality water strata (BUQW)
 - New Drills, Injection, Re-entry, Recompletion, P&A,
 H-15, O&G Water Supply (W-1 if deeper than BUQW)
- Geologic Isolation (H-1, W-14)
 - No injection is allowed in Underground Source of Drinking Water (USDW)*
 - Depth of confining clay or shale below BUQW/USDW

What We Do (2 of 2)



- Cathodic Protection and Microseismic wells
 - CP (SWR 99) and MS (SWR 100)
 - Required if depth is >30 feet
 - W-1 required if CP/MS well exceeds protection depth
 - Submit well schematic of CP/MS well with W-1
 - GW-1 for CP/MS wells cannot be used for other purposes
- Special Projects
 - Capitan Reef (BEG)
 - BRACS/ASR Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

Water Classification



- Superior Quality Water (SQW) ≤ 1,000 ppm
 - Good tasting drinking water
- The Base of Usable Quality Water (BUQW) ≤ 3,000 ppm
 - Protection depth as define by SWR 13
- Underground Source of Drinking Water (USDW) < 10,000 ppm
 - No injection allowed in the USDW*
 - * Aquifer Exemption or EPA concurrence

Water Board Letters



- Why do we call them Water Board Letters?
- Texas Board of Water Engineers established 1913
- 1950 Order required operators to obtain a TBWE letter

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS OIL AND GAS DIVISION.

OIL AND GAS DOCKET NOS. 108, . 120, 123, 124, 125, 126, 128, 129, 132, and 146

#20-19,629

IN RE: CONSERVATION AND PREVENTION OF WASTE OF CRUDE PETROLEUM

AND NATURAL GAS IN THE

STATE OF TEXAS

Austin, Texas November 14, 1950

SPECIAL ORDER

AMENDING STATEWIDE RULE 12(a), DIVISION ONE OF OIL AND GAS CIRCULAR 16-B, DATED MAY 15, 1934 AS AMENDED FEBRUARY 19, 1937, AND JUNE 25, 1942.

WHEREAS, After notice for the time and in the manner required by law, the Railroad Commission of Texas held hearings at various times in Austin, Texas, including the hearings held October 19 and November 14, 1950, for the purpose of determining whether or not Statewide Rule 12(a), adopted and promulgated in Oil and Gas Circular 16-B, dated May 15, 1934, as amended February 19, 1937, and June 25, 1942, should be further amended; and

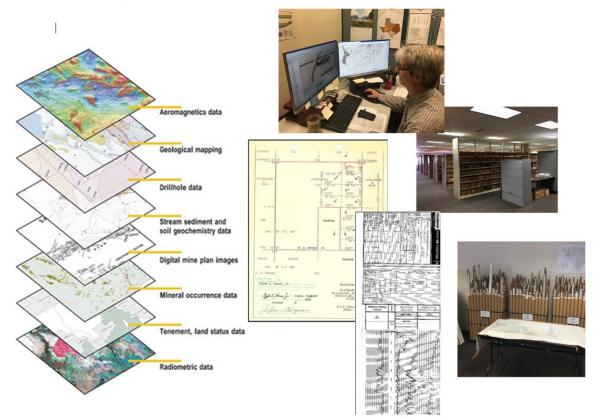
WHEREAS, From evidence adduced at the hearings held on October 19 and November 14, 1950, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that said Statewide Rule 12(a), as amended, should be further amended.

GAU Tools and Techniques (1 of 2)



The GAU uses Geographical Information System (GIS)

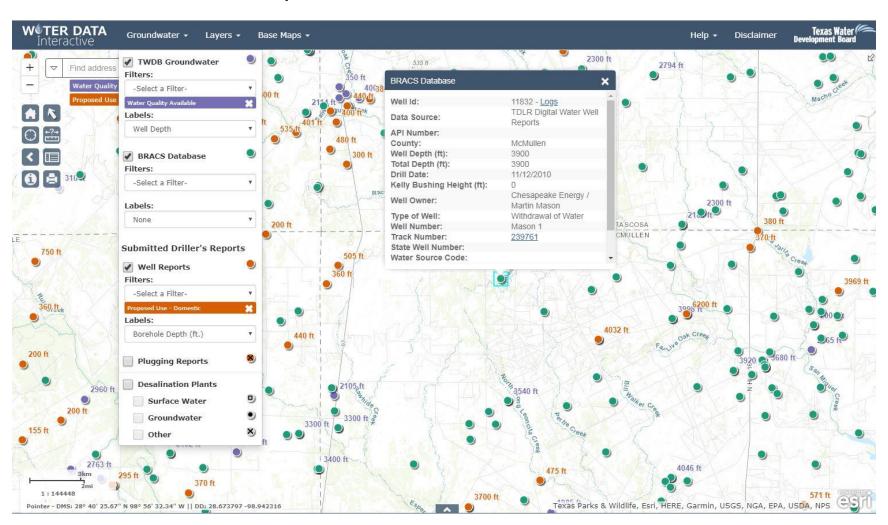
- Operator Provided Information
- Other Government and NGO Web Resources
- Legacy Cloth Maps and Well Files



GAU Tools and Techniques (2 of 2)



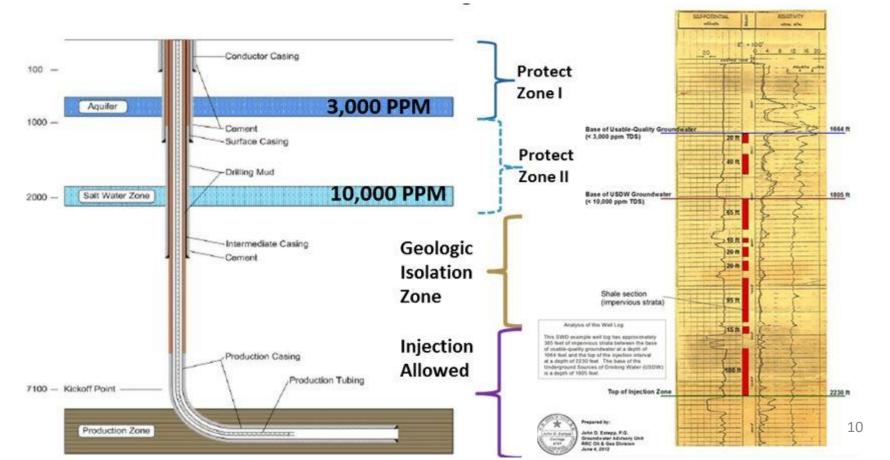
Texas Water Development Board – Water Data Interactive



How do we Protect?



- Provide Depths for Surface Casing, Cementing, and Plugging
- Locate Geologic Isolation For Injection Wells (H-1, W-14)
 - Depth of confining clay or shale below USDW is required 250' Below BUQW with 100' contiguous confinement



Casing and Cement (1 of 2)

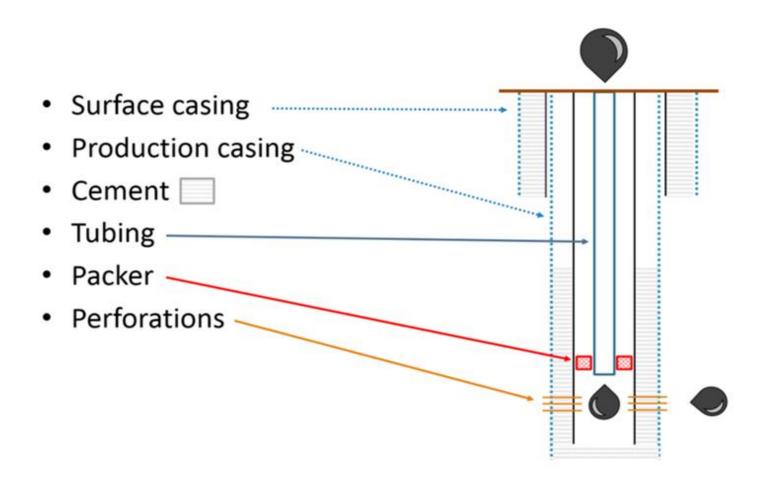


- SWR 13 requires that surface casing protect groundwater as stated in Groundwater Advisory Unit (GAU) letter (Form GW-2)
 - Surface Casing
 - Protects usable-quality water from drilling/completion process
 - Extra protection against leaks during production
 - Cement
 - Prevents annular migration of fluids
 - Prevents corrosion of casing
 - Isolates formation

Casing and Cement (2 of 2)



 Three layers of protection: surface casing, production casing and tubing



Application (Form GW-1)



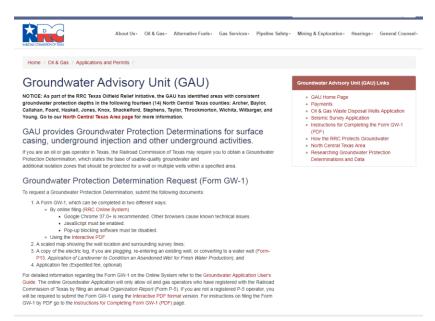
- Requests for Groundwater Determinations can be made one of two ways
 - Use the RRC On-Line System
 - Download a PDF form on the GAU Website
 - Email the completed GW-1 form to gau@rrc.texas.gov
 - · Send the completed GW-1 form through regular mail



Welcome to the RRC Online System

Main Application

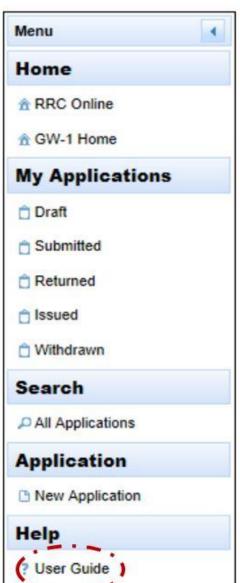
- Account Administration
- Drilling Permits (W-1)
- Completions
- Groundwater (GW-1)
- <u>Digital Well Log Submission</u>



Menu and User Guide



- My Applications (Status)
 - Check application status
 - "Draft" means not submitted
- Search for previous filings
- New Application
- User Guide



Reason for Filing



 Important for H-1 and W-14 because determination will include the USDW necessary for UIC permit application

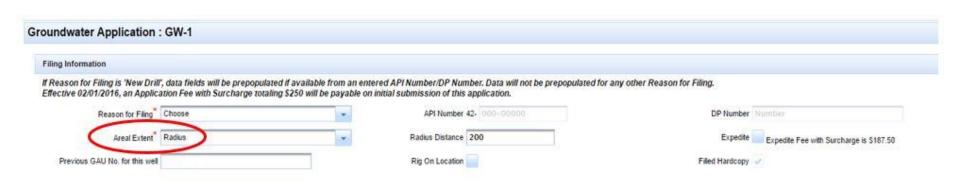
DP Number Number Expedite Expedite Fee with Surcharge is \$187.50 Expedite Register Number
OP Number Number Expedite Expedite Fee with Surcharge is \$187.50
Address1* State*

Areal Extent



Areal Extent

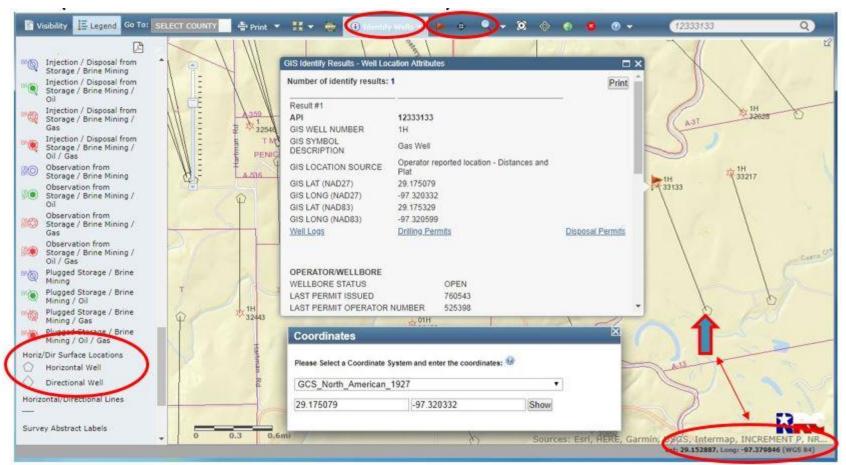
- May request Radius, Section, Abstract, Lease...
- Provide additional information in "Remarks"
 (ex: specify well API numbers to be included)
- Extent depends on hydrogeology & topography



Location Information



- GPS coordinates for surface location
- GIS tools for identifying wells and plotting coordinates
- Coordinates and survey calls consistent with other RRC filings (RRC GIS, W-1, H-1, W-14, etc.)



RRC GIS Public Viewer



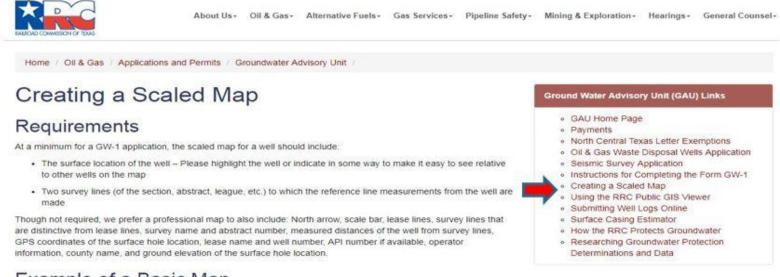
GAU webpage links - Using the RRC Public GIS



Creating a Scaled Map



- GAU webpage links Creating a Scaled Map
- A map is required with all application



Example of a Basic Map



Attachments for H-1 and W-14

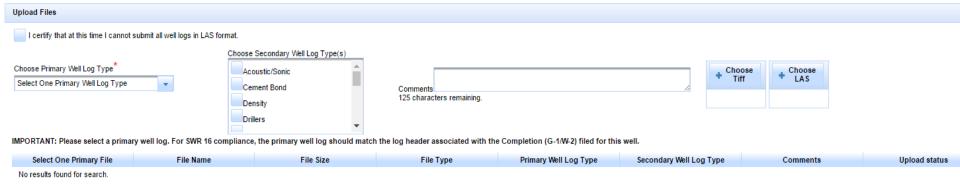


- Additional info is required for H-1 & W-14
 - H-1: Include the Form H-1A
 - W-14: Include Form W-14 and a representative well log
- GAU issues "no harm" letter for W-14 in addition to the GW-2 Determination

Log Submission



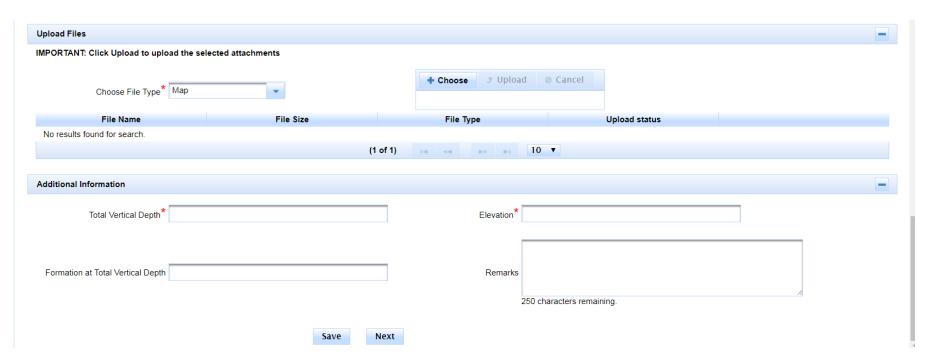
- Four ways to submit well logs
 - Attach to application (Form GW-1)
 - Digital Well Log Submission*
 - Refer to log already available via RRC GIS*
 - email or USPS mail in the hardcopy*(* Note in GW-1 Remarks)



Payment (1 of 2)



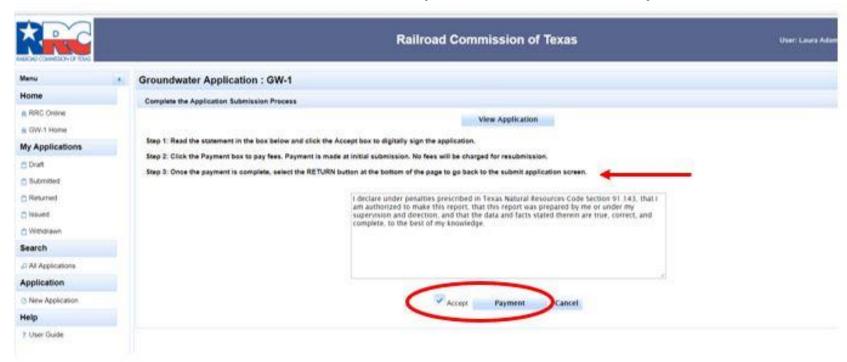
- Hit the "Next" button at the bottom of the page to accept the terms and pay.
- If "Save" Return via Menu/My Applications/Draft



Payment (2 of 2)



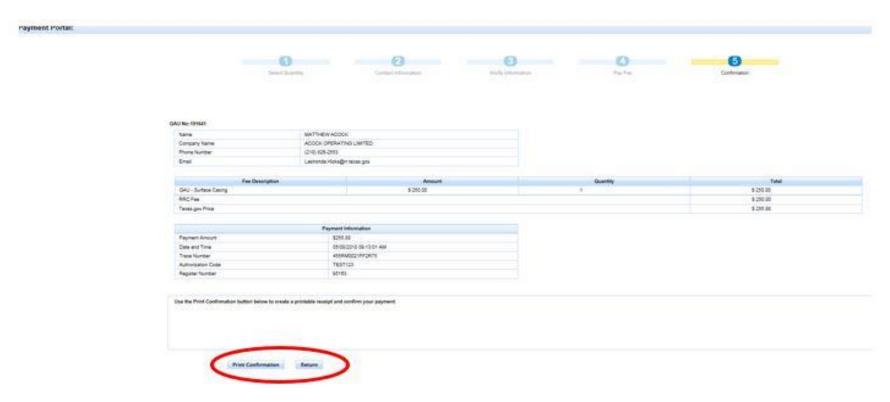
- Check the "Accept" box then the "Payment" button.
- Remember to return to the application after payment confirmation to submit. Otherwise GW-1 remains in "Draft" status (not submitted)



Payment Confirmation



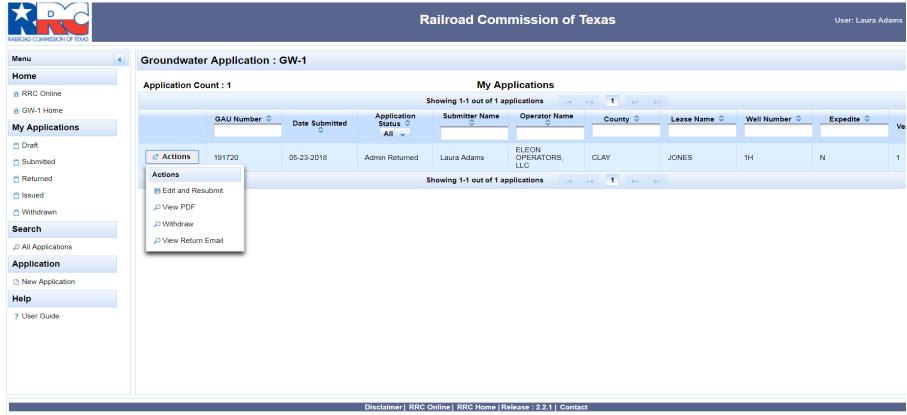
- "Print Confirmation" here (now or never!)
- Click on "Return" to go back and finalize submitting the GW-1



Application Status



• If an application is returned, "Edit and Resubmit" to make changes to the application and resubmit.



Summary



- Filing online helps expedite
- No Special Characters (!@#\$%^&*) or Spaces
- Chrome Browser recommended
- Map/plat Info consistent with GW-1/W-1
- More data favors the desired outcome
- Shout out for more data (shallow log data)
- Confidentiality
- Rig on Location!!! Call Us...

Special Projects



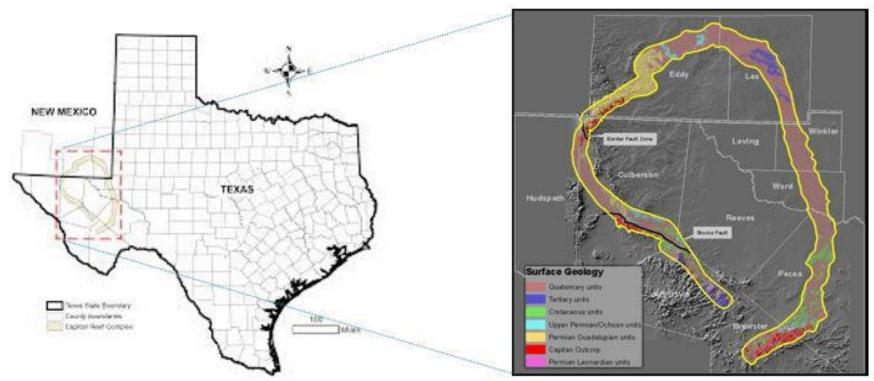


Capitan Reef

Capitan Reef (1 of 3)



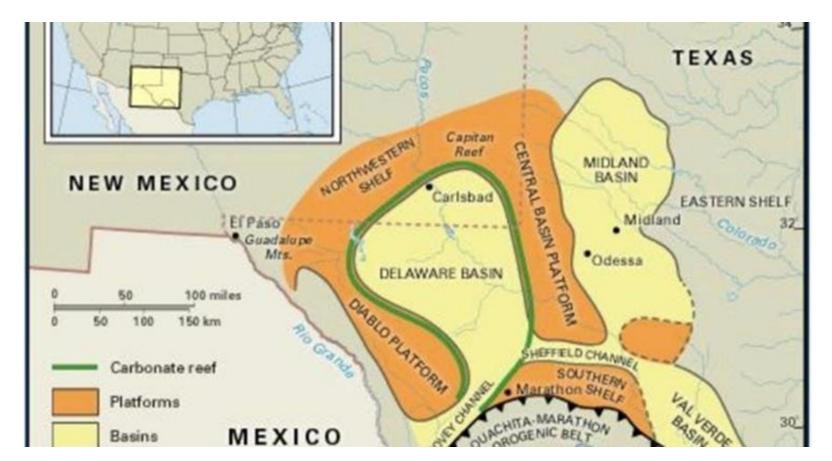
- Located in West Texas Permian Basin and South East New Mexico
- Present in Brewster, Culberson, Jeff Davis, Pecos, Ward, and Winkler Counties



Capitan Reef (2 of 3)



- The Reef contains fresh water but no oil
 - Important Hydrogeologic formation of the Permian Basin
 - Classified by the TWDB as a Minor Aquifer of Texas

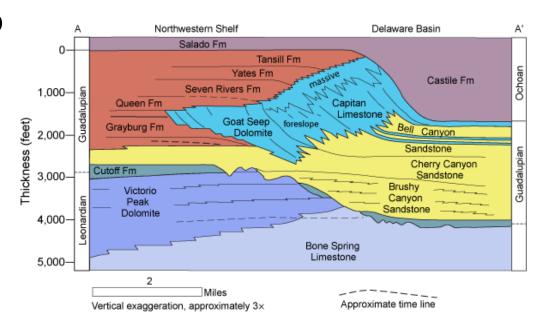


Capitan Reef (3 of 3)



- Request logs (shallow) data only) to help locate reef
- Capitan Reef added to SWR 13 Geologic Formation List to be reported on Completions Reports (Forms G-1/W-2)





Surface Casing Estimator (1 of 4)



- SCE provides operator with an estimate of casing depths
- Prepared in cooperation with the RRC and BEG

Surface Casing Estimator

This web site provides operators with an estimate of casing depths to assist in obtaining the **Groundwater Protection Determination Letter** (pdf).

All estimates derived from this Web site must be verified by the RRC Groundwater Advisory Unit Team and final recommendations will be provided in the Groundwater Protection Determination Letter.

Railroad Commission of Texas regulations require that anyone drilling for oil and gas or reentering an existing oil and gas well must have a plan for the well design that is approved by the RRC. Part of the plan must include use of surface casing and cement to protect fresh water (generally a salinity of less than 1000 mg/l TDS) and useable quality water (generally a salinity of less than 3000 mg/l TDS). Surface casing also helps protect the well from caving in and blowing out.

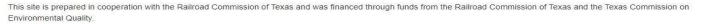
The well operator must have a letter from the RRC Groundwater Advisory unit, which is then provided to the RRC, which outlines where fresh and usable-quality water is located. The RRC uses the recommendations in the Groundwater Protection Determination Letter for designing well requirements.

For a full explanation of the procedures and available resources for obtaining the Groundwater Protection Determination Letter, please visit the RRC Groundwater Advisory Unit page that includes sample application forms, surface casing rules, expedited application procedures, and contact information.

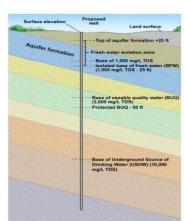
To acquire surface casing information, click the map below:

Go to the Surface Casing Estimator >



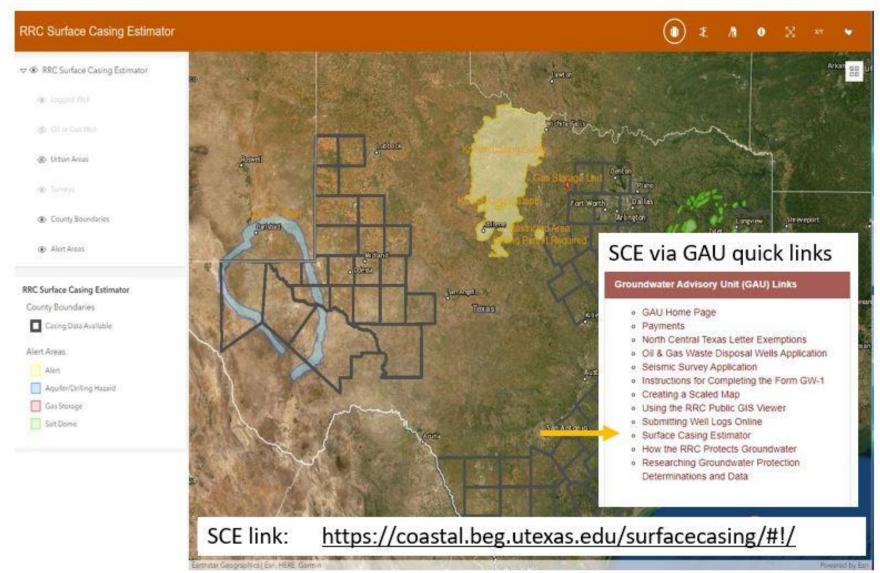


Effective September 1, 2011, the Surface Casing Estimator project is coordinated through the RRC Groundwater Advisory Unit. Prior to September 1, 2011, the Surface Casing Estimator project was coordinated through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.



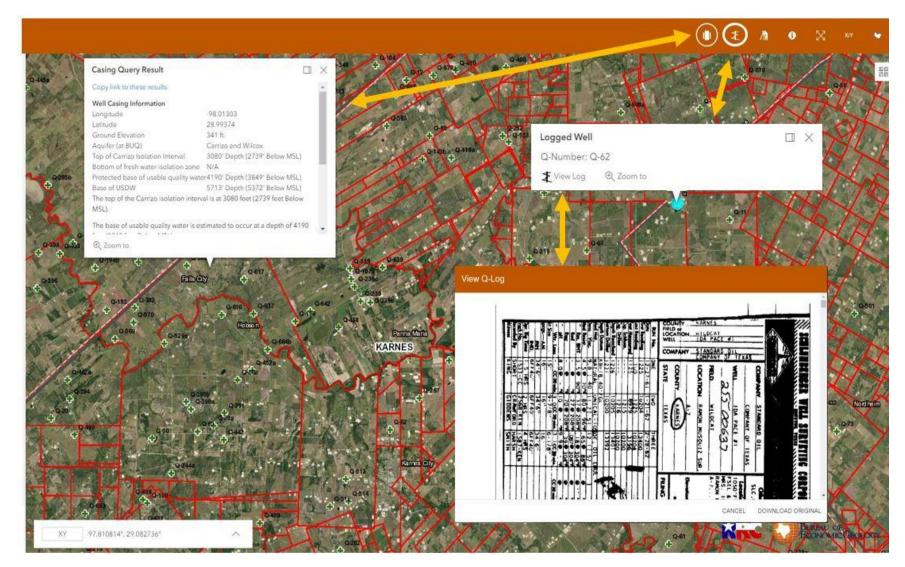
Surface Casing Estimator (2 of 4)





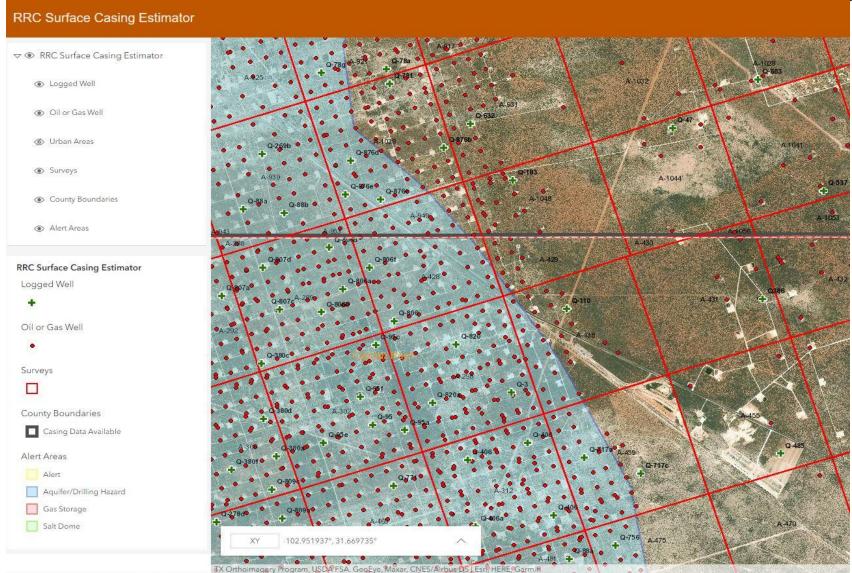
Surface Casing Estimator (3 of 4)





Surface Casing Estimator (4 of 4)





GAU Contact Info



Groundwater Advisory Unit	512-463-2741
James Harcourt, PG, Manager	463-2980
Heather Hesskew	463-3184
LaShonda Hicks	463-3052
Valerie Atkins	463-7137
Cristian Astorga, PG,	463-3013
Rick Behal, PG,	463-6473
Norman Gearhart, PG	463-2937
Ed LaCour, PG	463-2358
Toni Eilerts, PG	463-7280
Karen Cassidy, PG	463-6209
Hank Zhao, PhD, PG	463-3313
Royce Massey, GIT	462-7017
Bryce McKee, PG	463-2259

Questions?





Questions?