Executive Summary

In 1997, the State Legislature, through Senate Bill 1, determined that water planning should be accomplished at a regional level rather than with the centralized approach employed previously by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). To accomplish this task, the TWDB divided the state into 16 regional water planning areas and appointed representational Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPGs) to guide the development of each region's plan. In 2001, revised rules and guidelines from the TWDB were enacted through Senate Bill 2. The planning process is cyclic, with updated Regional Water Plans and State Water Plans produced every five years.

The designated water planning area for the east and southeast portions of Texas is the East Texas Regional Water Planning Area (ETRWPA), also known as Region I or the East Texas Region. The water planning process in the ETRWPA is guided by the East Texas Regional Water Planning Group (ETRWPG). These individuals are charged with the responsibility for development of the 2016 ETRWPA Water Plan (2016 Plan). The ETRWPG is currently comprised of the following voting members representing specific community interests:

- David Alders – Agriculture
- Josh David – Agriculture
- Jeff Branick – Counties
- Chris Davis – Counties
- Dale Peddy – Electric Power
- Dr. J. Leon Young – Environmental
- Leah Adams – Groundwater Management Areas
- John Martin – Groundwater Management Areas
- Michael Harbordt – Industries
- Darla Smith – Industries
- David Brock – Municipalities
- Gregory M. Morgan – Municipalities
- William Heugel – Public
- Bill Kimbrough – Public
- David Montagne – River Authorities
- Monty Shank – River Authorities
- Kelley Holcomb – River Authorities
- Scott Hall – River Authorities
- Mark Dunn – Small Business
- Dr. Joseph Holcomb – Small Business
- Worth Whitehead – Water Districts

The regional water planning process involves the evaluation of Texas Water Development Board projected water demands, identification of water supplies, and development of water management strategies designed to meet identified water shortages. However, the process also involves the evaluation of a broad range of issues that directly relate to water planning. Some of these issues notably include protection of natural resources and agricultural resources, water conservation and drought contingency, and water management strategy quantity, reliability, and cost.

Regional water planning in the ETRWPA is a public process, involving frequent public meetings of the ETRWPG, careful consideration of the requests and needs of various water user groups in the region, and an understanding of the need to allow for public comment throughout the planning cycle. For an in-depth discussion of any of the topics addressed in this Executive Summary, the reader is referred to the full 2016 Initially Prepared Plan (2016 IPP). An electronic copy of the 2016 IPP is available online at the ETRWPA website: http://www.etexwaterplan.org/ and at the TWDB website: http://twdb.state.tx.us.

ES.1 Regional Description

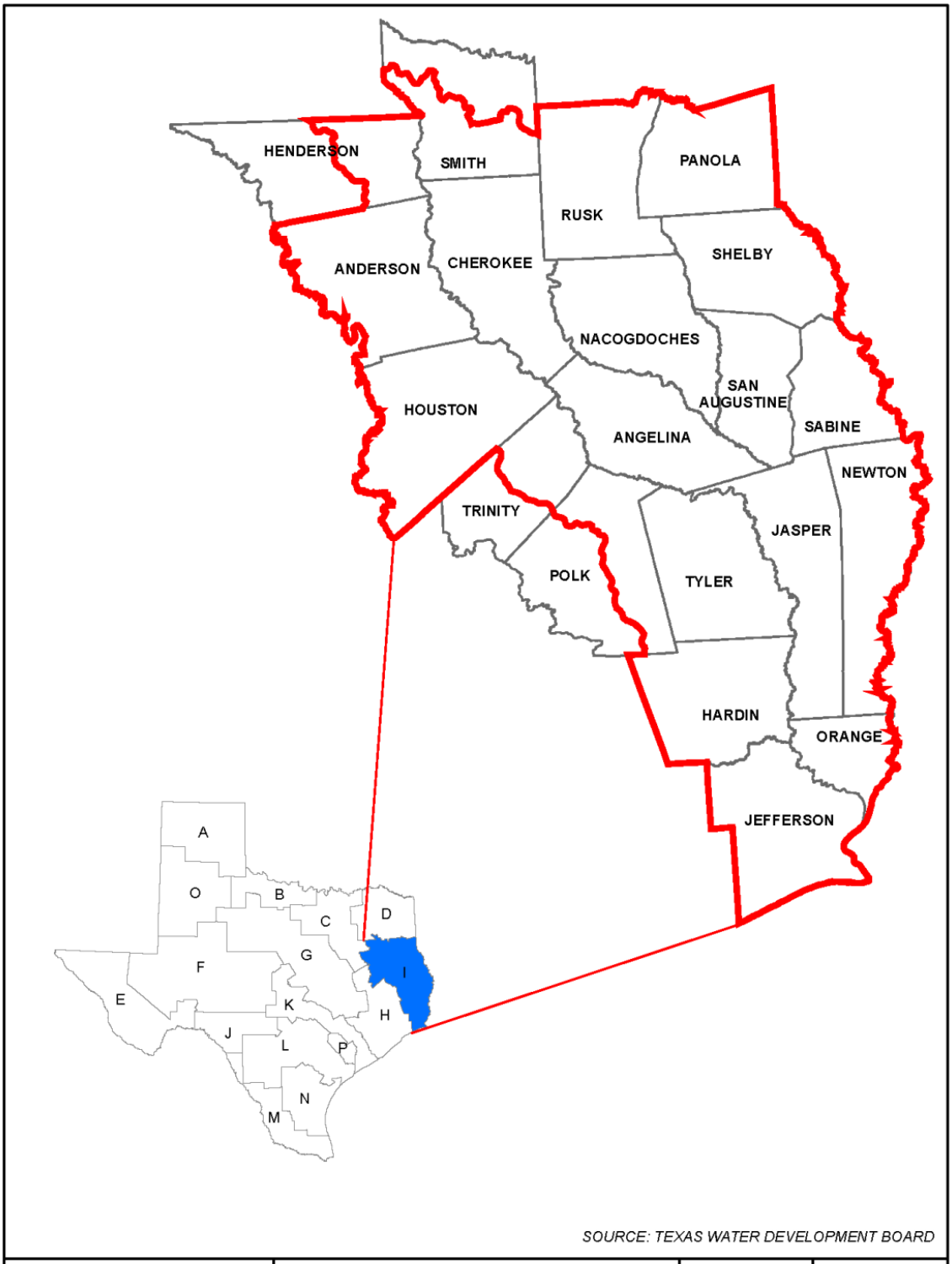
The ETRWPA consists of all or portions of the following 20 counties located in the Neches, Sabine, and Trinity River Basins, and the Neches-Trinity Coastal Basin:

Anderson	Jefferson	Sabine
Angelina	Nacogdoches	San Augustine
Cherokee	Newton	Shelby
Hardin	Orange	Smith (partial)
Henderson (partial)	Panola	Trinity (partial)
Houston	Polk (partial)	Tyler
Jasper	Rusk	

The region extends from the southeastern corner of the state for over 150 miles north and northwest as illustrated in Figure ES.1. The ETRWPA consists of approximately 10,329,800 acres of land, accounting for roughly six percent t of the total area of the State of Texas.

Much of the ETRWPA is forested, supporting various types of timber industry. Plant nurseries are common in portions of the region. Oil production is scattered through the region, and beef cattle are prominent. Poultry production and processing are prevalent and there is diverse manufacturing in addition to timber industries. Commercial fishing is an important economic characteristic of Sabine Lake. Tourism is important in many areas, especially on and around large reservoirs, Sabine Lake, and the Gulf of Mexico. Timbered areas include a number of state parks and national forests, etc., that offer recreational and hunting opportunities.

Agriculture is a vital component of the ETRWPA economy and culture. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, the 20 counties that make up the ETRWPA contain over 9,000 farms with a total of over a million acres of cropland.


HENDERSON
SMITH
PANOLA
RUSK
ANDERSON
CHEROKEE
SHELBY
NACOGDOCHES
SAN AUGUSTINE
HOUSTON
SABINE
ANGELINA
NEWTON
TRINITY
JASPER
POLK
TYLER
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East Texas
Regional Water Planning Area
Location Map
Location Map
FIGURE
ES.1

ES.2 Regional Water Planning Application

The Regional Water Planning Application (DB17) is an online database created by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). RWPGs submit all data generated during the planning cycle to the TWDB through the DB17's web interface. Once data is entered into the DB17 by the RWPG, the data can be queried to generate various summary reports referred to as DB17 Reports. The following DB17 Reports are required by the TWDB to be included in this Executive Summary.

- Population Projection and Water Demand Summary DB17 Report
- Existing Water Supplies Summary DB17 Report
- Identified Water Need Summary DB17 Report
- Second-Tier Identified Water Need Summary DB17 Report
- Source Water Balance DB17 Report
- Unmet Needs Summary DB17 Report
- Recommended Water Management Strategy Roll-Up Summary DB17 Report
- Alternative Water Management Strategy Summary DB17 Report

The TWDB will make each report available to RWPGs after submittal of the 2016 Initially Prepared Plan (IPP).

ES.3 County Summary Sheets

Following is a two-page summary sheet for each county in the ETRWPA. Each sheet includes the county's representatives, water-dependent economy, water sources, population projections, demand projections, available supply summary, and Recommended Water Management Strategies.

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