

Deep Well Injection in Texas (Another Tool in the Concentrate Management Tool Shed)

Multi-State Salinity Coalition
Las Vegas, Nevada

February 28, 2019

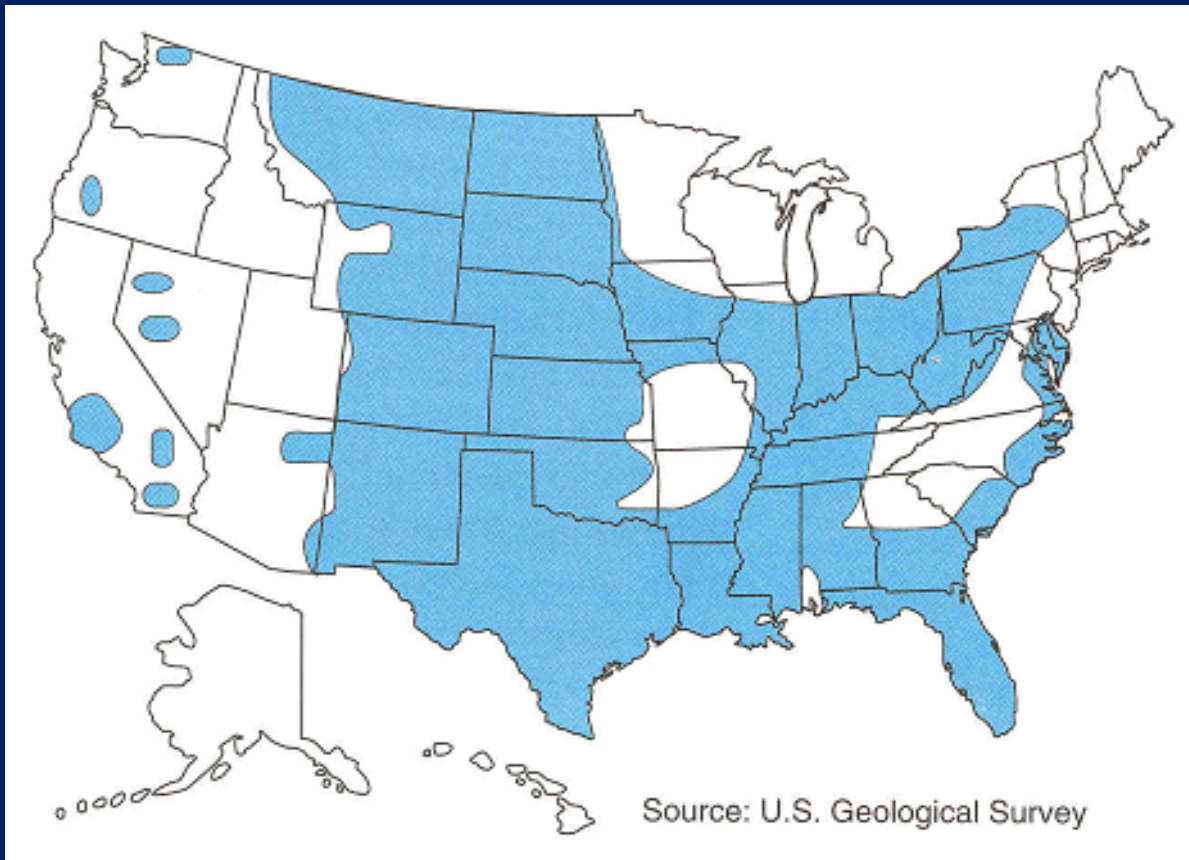
Brad Cross

Austin, Texas



Brackish Groundwater in the United States

Opportunity: Availability of brackish groundwater resources in the United States (TDS < 3,000 mg/L)



Examples of Inland Concentrate Management

- Surface water discharge (Big Spring and Brownsville, TX)
- Wastewater treatment plant (El Paso, TX)
- Enhanced evaporation (Boise, ID)
- Evaporation ponds (Fort Hancock, TX)
- Deep well injection (El Paso and San Antonio, TX)
- High recovery (El Paso, TX)

Big Spring Raw Water Production Facility

Concentrate disposal-transition from pipe to surface flow. Treatment facility in background.



El Paso Water Utility Well No. 412

1 MGD Reverse Osmosis Facility producing 70 gallons per minute of concentrate discharged into sewer



Evaporation Ponds – Fort Hancock, Texas



Enhanced Evaporation – Boise, Idaho



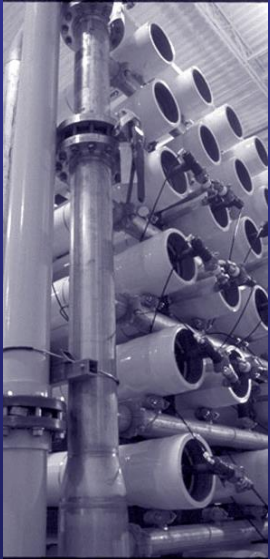


Deep Well Injection



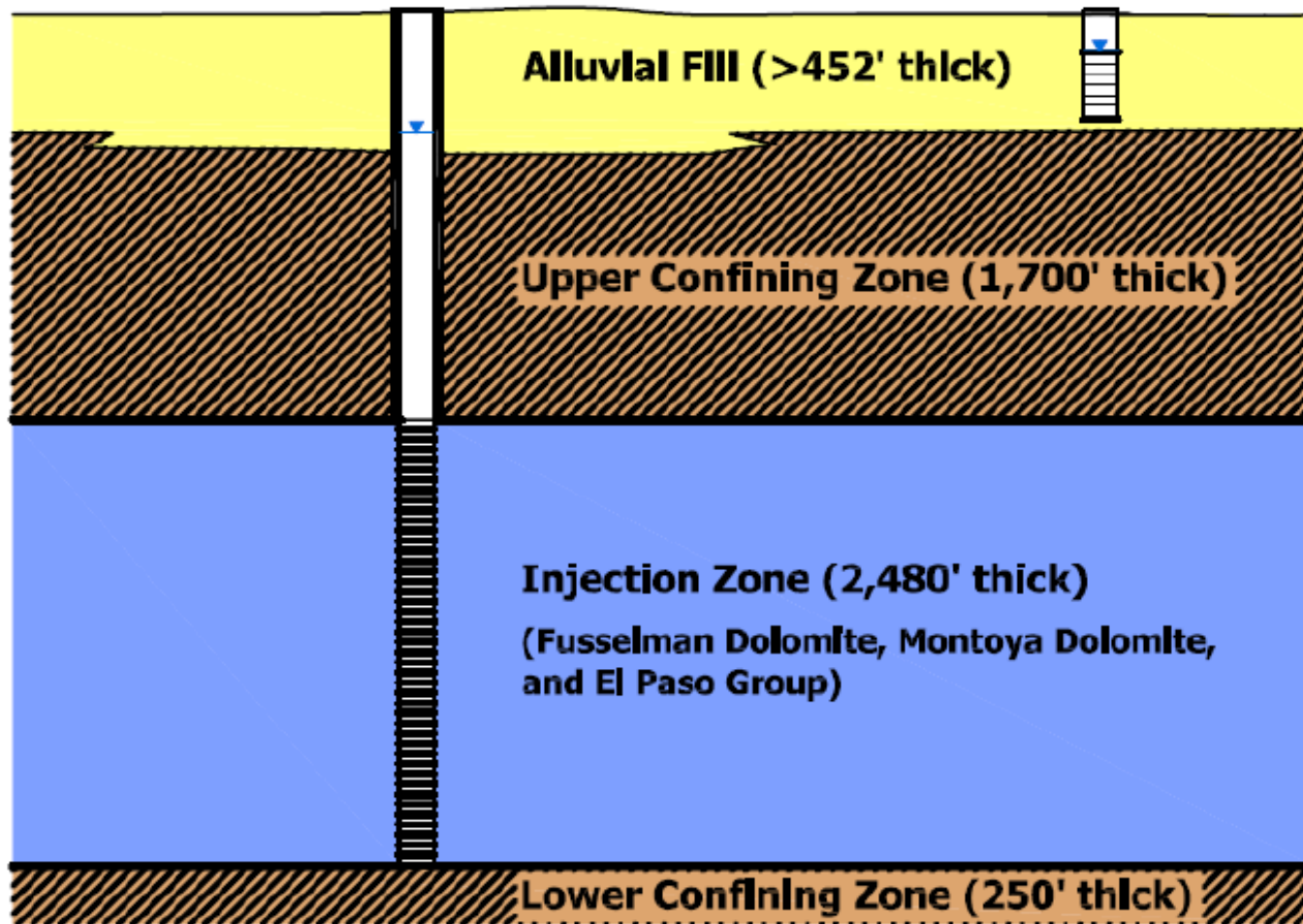


El Paso Water Experience



- Hueco Bolson aquifer has 3 times more brackish groundwater than fresh water
- Deep well injection works because of ideal geologic conditions (reservoir storage, highly fractured, confinement, reservoir not a water supply source)
- 3 injection wells in use for 12 years
- Current injection about 1 MGD
- TDS of Concentrate is 15,000 – 20,000 mg/L TDS
- Native formation water > 8,800 mg/L TDS
- El Paso will continue to experience an increase in growth and brackish water volumes
- Excellent relationship with regulators

El Paso Water – 3 Injection Wells Utilized for Concentrate Management





Test Hole #3
7/16/03
BOX #50
2343-2357

2343

2346

2347

2346

2357

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35

Code S, No. 1, S, 1/1000
SPAC. PANELS
1/2 INCH AT ENDS
1/4 INCH AT SIDES
CLIPS BEHIND
1 1/2\"/>

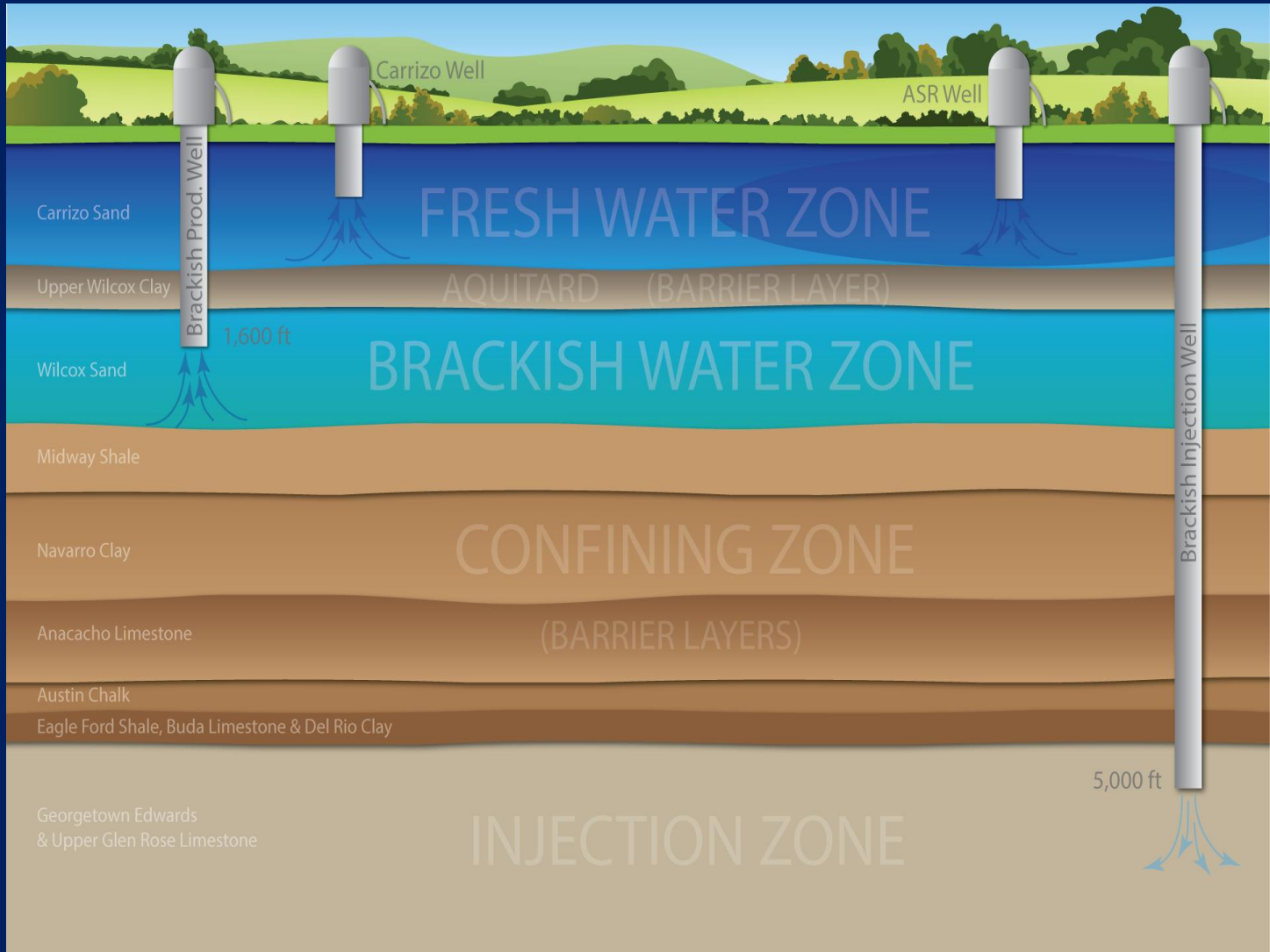
THE NATIONAL
WOOD ASSOCIATION
RATED SHEATHING
3/4\"/>



SAWS Program Summary

- H2Oaks Center opened in January 2017
- Three Phase Program – 12 MGD / 24 MGD / 30 MGD
- Uses an underutilized brackish water resource – Wilcox Aquifer
- Utilize 2 deep injection wells at 5,000 ft. deep
- Injection zone is Edwards Fm with a 90,000 mg/L TDS
- Concentrate currently has a TDS of 15,000 mg/L





Summary

- Texas is right for further desal operations!
- We've got available brackish groundwater and multiple concentrate management options.
- Deep injection wells work – and they're a cheaper option!! Don't overlook them. They're not a new concept and have been utilized for chemical waste disposal since the 1950s.
- With the right geology, injection can be one of the most valuable tools in your tool box.
- Develop and cultivate a positive, working relationship with State & Federal regulators.

**Brad Cross, P.G.
Supervising Hydrogeologist
WSP**

**1101 S. Capital of Texas Hwy., Ste. B-220
Austin, Texas 78746**

**(512) 501-5564
Brad.Cross@WSP.com**

