

PUBLIC INPUT ON DRAFT GMA9 DRAFT DFC ALTERNATIVES
JUNE 24, 2010

My name is David Glenn and I live in Wimberley, Texas within the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District boundaries. First, I want to thank you that have worked in the GMA9 DFC process for your time and service in a difficult assignment. Nearly three years ago, on September 11, 2007, I stood before a similar group giving you input and guidance with the following resolution as you were beginning the DFC process:

**“RESOLUTION FOR GMA 9 TO PRESERVE SPRINGS, AND PROTECT
SPRING BASE FLOWS AND SURFACE WATER CONDITIONS IN ADOPTING
DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS FOR AQUIFERS OF THE HILL COUNTRY**

Whereas the karst geology, climatology, and topography of the Wimberley Valley make the conjunctive relationship between both surface and groundwater resources *unique and inseparable*; and

Whereas the Wimberley Valley water supply is almost totally dependent on groundwater wells in the Trinity Aquifer; and

Whereas the clear, flowing surface waters of creeks, streams, and the Blanco River give the Wimberley Valley its unique sense of place and are the economic engine driving eco-tourism and increasing property values; and

Whereas these creeks, streams and rivers require continued *spring flows* to maintain permanent, year-round surface water flows; and

Whereas GMA 9 has been charged by the Texas Legislature to adopt Desired Future Conditions necessary to protect, manage, and preserve the Wimberley Valley’s life source – *its water, both subsurface and surface*;

Now and Therefore Be It Resolved that the Wimberley Valley Water Issues Subcommittee urges GMA 9 to develop Desired Future Conditions for aquifers of the Hill Country which preserve *springs, spring base flows, and surface stream flows* that maintain a sound ecological environment thereby preserving the vitality of all the Hill Country’s natural resources.

PASSED AND APPROVED at the meeting of the Wimberley Valley Water Issues Subcommittee, Village of Wimberley Planning & Zoning Commission / Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District in Wimberley, Texas on the 11th day of September 2007, by a vote of 5 (Ayes) 0 (Nays) 0 (Abstain).

By _____
David H. Glenn, Chairman
Wimberley Valley Water Issues Subcommittee

ATTEST:

City Secretary

This resolution focuses on the Wimberley Valley, but the HTGCD serves over 50% of Hays County conserving, preserving, and protecting groundwater in the Trinity Aquifer. However, I am equally concerned about Onion and Little Barton Springs Creeks and the Pedernales River, near Dripping Springs as well as Sink and Flat Creeks and San Marcos Springs to the south.

The three alternatives presented tonight for public comment all call for INCREASES IN PUMPING of the aquifer. There are a plethora of numbers in the GAM tables and graphs, but all we know for sure is two things:

1. NO WELL in GMA9 will have a rise in water level because of INCREASED PUMPING.
2. NO SPRING in GMA9 will have an increase in flow because of INCREASED PUMPING.

For this reason, I implore you to seek a DFC that DOESN'T INCREASE PUMPING!

Tonight I'm concerned primarily with property values, not property rights. Whether you live in Dripping Springs, Wimberley, or San Marcos land that has live water, either springs, creeks, or a good well is considerably more valuable than land that doesn't. Driving here I wondered where the "dripping springs" had gone? All I can remember is water dripping off the back of water trucks headed out Fitzhugh Road a couple of years ago.

Jimmy Skipton, as President of the HTGCD Board, how is GMA9 going to preserve our springs, spring base flows, and surface stream flows throughout Hays County with the proposed three DFC alternatives? I urge you to be conservative in the DFC you support and the aquifer management you and your board follow.

Ron Fiesler, I challenge your assertion that DFC's can only apply to an aquifer. In Hays County the karstic geology, climatology, and topography connect surface and groundwater uniquely and inseparably so that a failing aquifer is readily apparent in diminished spring and stream flows. The public can IMMEDIATELY SEE THE FAILURE OF OVERPUMPED AQUIFERS as springs and streams dry up while falling water well levels remain hidden underground and out of sight and mind until it is too late.

Thank you, David Glenn, P.G. 5525, Wimberley, Texas
"WATER is the elixir that makes the Hill Country magic"