

Alternative Water Supplies

James A. Golab, Ph.D., P.G.

Manager – Innovative Water Technologies
Texas Water Development Board
Austin, Texas

Abstract

The mission of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is to lead the state's efforts in ensuring a secure water future for Texas and its citizens. To accomplish this goal the TWDB provides water planning, data collection, financial assistance, and technical assistance services across the state. The Innovative Water Technologies (IWT) Department at the TWDB was created in 2002 and is focused on alternative water supplies including aquifer storage and recovery, aquifer recharge, desalination, and water reuse. The primary goals of IWT are to participate in research and demonstration projects, develop publications and other educational material, and disseminate information to the public through various outreach activities. IWT publishes a biennial report on desalination in Texas for the state legislature and the ninth report in this series was released in 2022. In 2019, the 86th Texas Legislature passed House Bill 721, which directed the TWDB to work with appropriate interested persons to conduct studies on ASR and AR projects. This presentation will provide an update on the current and planned alternative water supply projects IWT is undertaking and discuss how these alternative water supplies fit into the TWDB's overall mission.