

## **SMALL USER EXEMPTIONS**

### **Trinity, San Jacinto, Sabine and Neches River Basins**

#### **Trinity-San Jacinto and Neches-Trinity Coastal Basins**

- The environmental flow standards for these basins were adopted on April 20, 2011.
- All new water right permits in these basins are subject to subsistence and base flow standards and these requirements will be included in the permit. In these basins, new water right permits that authorize diversions of less than 10,000 acre-feet per year do not have to pass high flow pulses and a high flow pulse requirement will not be included in their permit.

### **Colorado and Lavaca River Basins**

#### **Colorado-Lavaca and Lavaca Guadalupe Coastal Basins**

- The environmental flow standards for these basins will be adopted on August 8, 2012.
- For all areas of these basins, except the main stem of the Colorado River below Lake Travis, there is no small user exemption. All new water rights in these areas will have to pass high flow pulses and there will be a high flow pulse requirement in the permit.
- For the Colorado River below Lake Travis there is a tiered exemption:
  - New water rights with a diversion rate less than 500 cfs or new reservoirs smaller than 2,500 cfs do not have to pass high flow pulses and a high flow pulse requirement will not be included in the permit.
  - New water rights with a diversion rate greater than 500 cfs or new reservoirs larger than 2,500 acre-feet must pass all pulses up to the one per year pulse and this requirement will be in the permit.
  - New water rights with a diversion rate greater than 800 cfs or a new reservoir larger than 2,500 acre-feet cannot impair the one-per-eighteen month high flow pulse by reducing its frequency or average volume by more than 10%.
  - New water rights with a diversion rate greater than 2,700 cfs or a new reservoir larger than 2,500 acre-feet must pass the one-per-two year high flow pulse and this requirement will be in the permit.

### **Guadalupe and San Antonio River Basins**

#### **San Antonio-Nueces Coastal Basin**

- The environmental flow standards for these basins will be adopted on August 8, 2012.
- All new water right permits in these basins are subject to subsistence and base flow standards and these requirements will be included in the permit.
- If the diversion rate for the new permit is less than 20% of an individual pulse flow trigger requirement (for a season), the permit will not have to pass that high flow pulse and a requirement for that pulse will not be included in the permit. If the diversion rate for the new permit is greater than 20% of an individual pulse flow trigger requirement; the permit will have to pass the high flow pulse and that high flow pulse requirement will be included in the permit.