



Climate Change, Bioenergy and Population Growth as they Stress the Food-Energy-Water Nexus

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## **FEW Nexus**

 Food-Energy-Water Nexus Analysis considers way sectors interact in the food, energy and water space and in cases ways in which actions by some parties in the FEW sectors can benefit total regional welfare.

RECHARGE ZONE

- We are involved in Nexus Analysis in 2 settings
  - Nexus analysis under Water scarcity: Limited supply and increasing demand for water are <u>driving Nexus forces</u>
  - Nexus Analysis under major bioenergy decisions US renewable fuel standard and whether we will expand cellulosic ethanol production plus use marginal land
- Today I will mainly talk from the first project as that is one I am leading

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# FEW Nexus – Water Scarcity

- Water Scarcity FEW Nexus Analysis is stressed by evolving climate and population
  - Climate
    - Increases water demand in form of desired water use per acre, per household, for electrical cooling and for some other industries
    - In study area lowers water supplies and increases variability
    - In area lowers yields per unit land, lessening food supply
  - Population growth
    - Increases household and supporting industry water demand.
    - Also increases demands for energy and food
- Collectively makes Water scarcity worse
  - Lowering supply and increasing demand for water plus adding energy and food demands while lowering food supply

# FEW Nexus – Water Scarcity

- In our study we examine FEW Nexus actions in the form of new water related sectoral investments and altered operating strategieswe collectively call these <u>projects</u>
- We are working on defining projects:
  - Agriculture related projects
  - Water related projects
  - Energy related projects
- We also examine who gains and who loses as we feel Compensation and mechanisms to achieve it will be a big issue





# Background on Regional Issues



### Study Region - Geographic & Hydrologic Scope



### Study Region - Geographic & Hydrologic Scope



### Water Sources

- 4 River Basins
- **5** Aquifers
- 2 Springs
- 5 Lakes/Reservoirs

### Users

- Agriculture
- Municipality
- Industry
- Energy power plants and fracking)
- Recreational
- Environmental

# Limited water supply : Rivers

- Average precipitation in the region varies from 20 -30 inches (50-75 cm) per year in the ag areas in west to about 40 inches (100 cm) per year in the east
- Sufficient flows needed for downstream water use and flows to Estuary to protect fishery and species.
- Interaction with ground water
  - Springs from Edwards Aquifer provide 30-80% of base flow in eastern river under drought
  - Overpumping of groundwater will lower river flows



# Limited water supply : Aquifers

### Edwards Aquifer



Source: Edwards Aquifer Website http://www.edwardsaquifer.net/intro.html

### Limited water supply : Edwards Aquifer

- Problems
  - Limited water supply (recharge)
  - Heavy discharge (pumping and springs)
  - Environment concerns and endangered species finding
  - EAA solution
    - Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) issued permits to limit pumping and regulated withdraw amount based on water level
    - Permit trading is allowed in EAA (water market)



### Stochastic water supply Edwards Aquifer



Unit is thousands of acft which is 1,233 cubic meters)

## Stochastic water supply : Aquifers



### Edwards Aquifer does not retain water

## **Environmental Issue - Edwards**

### • Aquifer supports Endangered species



**Texas Blind Salamander** 



San Marcos Gambusia



#### **Fountain Darter**



San Marcos Salamander

### Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer Water Level falling



In Groundwater Management area 13 covering southern segment of Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer, desired 2070 condition is no more than 48 feet average drawdown relative to 2012





### Background on Demand and Population



### Regional Water Usage by Sector - 2015



- Heavy water usage by municipal sector
- Irrigation uses mainly groundwater

## **Rapid Population Growth**



### Population growth leads to

- Rapid municipal industrial and electricity cooling demand
- Growing deficit

Figure 2-5 Total Water Demand Projections South Central Texas Region - 2020 to 2070







# **Challenges from Fracking**

- Between 2000 and 2014, water used to drill a horizontal natural gas well increased from 177,000 to 5.1 million gallons per well
- Fracking (mining) is largest water use in some counties.
- Heavy fracking in winter garden increased Carrizo-Wilcox drawdown.

Mining water usage as proportion of total usage

Water Elevation of Well 7738103 on La Salle and Dimmit Boarder





# **Climate Change**



### **Temperature history**



Year	Change from 20 <sup>th</sup> Century Average	Rank out of 138 years
2014	0.74°C	135
2015	0.90°C	137
2016	0.94°C	138
2017	0.84°C	136

- 2017 was the third warmest year in NOAA's 138-year series.
- 41<sup>ht</sup> consecutive year (since 1977) that annual temperature is above 20<sup>th</sup> century average.
- All 17 years of 21<sup>st</sup> century rank are among seventeen warmest on record (1998 is ninth)
- Six warmest years have all occurred since 2010
- Four warmest have been last 4
- Temperatures in 2015-2016 were majorly influenced by strong El Niño
- Increased <u>0.07°C (0.13°F) per decade since 1880</u> and <u>0.17°C (0.31°F) since 1970</u>

### Climate Change is making things non stationary

### **Edwards Aquifer Recharge Over Time**



http://www.edwardsaquifer.net/data.html

### Climate Change is making things non stationary

#### POLICYFORUM

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

### Stationarity Is Dead: Whither Water Management?

P. C. D. Milly,<sup>1+</sup> Julio Betancourt,<sup>2</sup> Malin Falkenmark,<sup>3</sup> Robert M. Hirsch,<sup>4</sup> Zbigniew W. Kundzewicz,<sup>5</sup> Dennis P. Lettenmaier,<sup>6</sup> Ronald J. Stouffer<sup>7</sup>

Systems for management of water throughout the developed world have been designed and operated under the assumption of stationarity. Stationarity—the idea that natural systems fluctuate within an unchanging envelope of variability—is a



Climate change undermines a basic assumption that historically has facilitated management of water supplies, demands, and risks.

that has emerged from climate models (see figure, p. 574).

Why now? That anthropogenic climate change affects the water cycle (9) and water supply (10) is not a new finding. Nevertheless, sensible objections to discarding stationarity

### Water Can we use 100 year flood?

Milly, PCD, J. Betancourt, M. Falkenmark, 2008. Climate Change: Stationarity Is Dead: Whither Water Management?, Science, Vol. 319. No. 5863, pp. 573 – 574.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE AND FUTURE ANALYSIS: IS STATIONARITY DYING?

#### BRUCE A. MCCARL, XAVIER VILLAVICENCIO, AND XIMING WU

Economists often do risk analysis in support of management decisions. Commonly, such analyses are based on probability distributions arising from historical data where the distributions developed are based on at least a partial assumption of stationarity. For example, in water-based risk analysis one typically assumes the distribution is stationary, and uses the 100 year drought. In yield-related analyses analysts typically assume the mean is changing with time (proxying for technological progress along with monetary inflation) but that the variance is stationary. assessments (2007, 2001) or the U.S. National Assessment (Reilly et al. 2002). Many studies indicate that climate change alters mean yields (e.g., Adams et al. 1990; Reilly et al. 2002; Deschenes and Greenstone 2007) and/or land values (Mendelsohn, Nordhaus, and Shaw 1994). Chen, McCarl, and Schimmelpfennig (2004) also indicate that in addition to climate change affecting mean yields, it will contribute to a change in crop yield variability, while Mearns, Rosenzweig, and Goldberg (1992) provide crop simulation results to the same point.

### Ag yields Can we history to assess risk?

McCarl, Bruce A., Xavier Villavicencio, and Ximing Wu. "Climate change and future analysis: is stationarity dying?." American Journal of Agricultural Economics 90.5 (2008): 1241-1247.

### Climate Change is making things non stationary USGS 05054000 RED RIVER OF THE NORTH AT FARGO, ND



https://www.ndsu.edu/fargoflood/images/red\_river\_of\_the\_north\_raster\_plot\_august\_2014.pdf

R

### Yet more could happen



Figure 1: Global temperature change and uncertainty. From Robustness and uncertainties in the new CMIP5 climate model projections Reto Knutti & Jan Sedláček, Nature Climate Change 3, 369–373 (2013) doi:10.1038/nclimate1716,

# **Climate Change**

• Use data for 2030 and 2090

Canadian Climate Center Model (CCC)

Hadley Climate Center Model (HAD)

Average changes for the 10 year periods

Climate Change Scenarios	Temperature ( <sup>0</sup> F)	Precipitation (Inches)
HAD 2030	3.2	-4.1
HAD 2090	9.01	-0.78
CCC 2030	5.41	-14.36
CCC 2090	14.61	-4.56

Less water in much of Southwest region (IPCC, WH2 AR5 chapter 3)

## Projections – Edwards Aquifer

### **Results for EA Recharge Prediction**

(% change from the BASE ) Ha	adley		Canadian	
Recharge in Drought Years	-20.59	-	-29.65	
Recharge in Normal Years	-19.68	-	-28.99 -	
Recharge in Wet Years	-23.64	-	-34.42 -	

### **Municipal Demand**

Forecasted that climate change will increase municipal water demand by 1.5% (HAD) to 3.5% (CCC).

# **Climate Change**

- Edwards Aquifer is vulnerable under climate change, much less recharge under La Nina
- Decreasing precipitation in far future makes Groundwater more vulnerable

### Precipitation Changing Rate Under Canadian GCM



**Edwards Aquifer Recharge** 





# Modeling



# EDSIMR – the concept

### Unify

- Detailed aquifer hydrologic model
- Regionalized economic Model
- Surface water flow model
- Hydrology embedded in regional economic model via regression (Keith Keplinger dissertation)
- 1. Keith O. Keplinger. "An investigation of Dry Year Options for the Edwards Aquifer. " Ph.D. Thesis, TAMU, 1996.
- 2. File Number 598 Keplinger, K.O., and B.A. McCarl, "Regression Based Investigation of Pumping Limits and Springflow Within the Edwards Aquifer", Texas A and M University, 1995.
- File Number 829 Gillig, D., B.A. McCarl, and F.O. Boadu, "An Economic, Hydrologic, and Environmental Assessment of Water Management Alternative Plans for the South-Central Texas Region", Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics, 33, 1 (April ), 59-78, 2001.

### EDSIMR "System" (and friends/ancestors)



# EDSIMR – Components

**Edwards Aquifer Groundwater and River System Simulation Model** 

### What is contained in EDSIMR ?

- **Simulation Model (GAM)** Springflow, beginning/ending aquifer elevations, pumping
- Econometric Model

Springflow/ending = f (beginning, recharge, pumping)

### Mathematical Linear Programming

- Components : objective function
  - : ag, M&I power and fracking decision variable
  - : constraints
  - : Surface water Network flow
  - : ground water characteristics
- Linkage : Ground Water + Surface Water

### EDSIMR – the scope



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### **EDSIMR – Demand Scope**



### EDSIMR – Objective function terms

- Max Expected Regional Net Benefit
  - Agricultural sector => revenues production cost
  - Non-agricultural sector => areas under demand supply curves
  - $\circ~$  Power operations cost ~ and rev from fixed price
  - Fracking operations cost and fixed demand
  - Env sector to be determined
  - Project cost and retrofit cost (water, power, fracking)

### EDSIMR – Agriculture Sector Land Modeling

• Land Balance:

Cropland + Pasture <= Total available land

Land Transfer



 Land use decisions are made in Stage 1 of the model (CROPACRES and LIVEPROD)

## EDSIMR – River flow detail



### **Stochastic Model**



### EDSIMR Objective Expected Net Benefits Maximization

The objective function is a probabilistically weighted across the states of nature to reflect stochastic weather

Less SON independent costs

MAXIMIZE  $\sum_{r} prob_{r} * \left\langle \sum_{pc} \left( irrprofit_{cr} * IRRCROPPROD_{pcr} \right) \right\rangle$ Net Ag income from +  $\sum_{rec} (dryprofit_{cr} * DRYCROPPROD_{pcr})$ Irr and dry Crop and animalproduction +  $\sum (liveprofit_{ar} * LIVESTOCK_{acr})$ areas +  $\sum \left( \int gmundem_{pmr} (GMUN_{pmr}) dGMUN_{pmr} + \int ginddem_{pmr} (GIND_{pmr}) dGIND_{pmr} \right)$ under M&I demand +  $\sum \left( \int smundem_{nmr} (SMUN_{nmr}) dSMUN_{nmr} + \int sinddem_{nmr} (SIND_{nmr}) dSIND_{nmr} \right)$ curves  $-\sum ground a gpump \cos t_{pr} * GAGWATER_{pmr}$ pumping Ag  $-\sum surface a gpunp \cos t_{nr} * SAGWATER_{nmr}$ delivery costs  $-\sum groundmunindpump \cos t_{pr} * (GMUN_{pmr} + GIND_{pmr})$ **M&I**  $-\sum surfmunindpump \cos t_{nr} * (SMUN_{nmr} + SIND_{nmr})$ + EnvBenefit \* (Instream + reserviorrec + bayestuaryinflow)  $-\sum (transaction * TRANSFERS_{nr}) \rangle$ Water Mkt Transaction costs  $-\sum annual cost_d * NEWPROJECTS_{dmr}$ Annual project dev costs - Integer **Crop plant cost** - Planting cost - Animal herd cost Animal acquisition annual cost Land transfer cost Cost of irr to dry or dry to past

### EDSIMR – Agriculture Sector Crop Mix Modeling

- Crop Mix Balance
  - Crop mix should be a convex combination of historical crop land allocation
  - Dryland and Irrigated crops mixes are counted separately

 $\sum_{zones} CROPACRE_{county, zones, crops, irrigstatus} \\ \leq \sum_{mixesa} [CROPMIX_{county, irrigstatus, mixesa} \\ * cropmixdata_{county, crops, irrigstatus, mixesa}] \\ \forall county, crops, irrigstatus \end{cases}$ 



### EDSIMR –Water rights, and Markets

- Diversion Constraint:
  - Amount of water diverted from river by one permit +Sold to others
  - -Buy from others
  - <= Permitted Capacity

# EDSIMR – Projects

### Water, Power, Fracking

- Integer variables in most cases
- Capacity Constraint
  - Water from projects <= 
     <p>the project capacity if the project is built.

0, otherwise

- Project capacity may be stochastic
- Operating cost per acre foot
- Fixed amortzed construction costs per project
- State of nature (stage 2) operation
- Injection Balance
  - Water could only be recovered in the Hdry state
  - Water recovered in the Injection projects in Hdry state <= water injected into aquifer in other state of nature

# **EDSIMR – Basics of Stochastics**

### Stochastics

- Temp and precipitation
- Crop Yields and Water Requirements and pest costs
- Livestock stocking rate
- Livestock performance
- M&I demand
- Cooling requirements
- Water available

### EDSIMR – Incorporating Water Markets



# **EDSIMR – Basics of Stochastics**

- Discrete Stochastic Model :9 weather states
- 2 Stage Decision
- Stage 1
  - Water and energy projects
  - Crop mix
  - Livestock numbers
  - Initial levels of aquifers and reservoirs
- Stage 2
  - Crop water use strategy
  - Recharge and surface inflows
  - Pumping/diversion
  - Water flows



# EDSIMR – Conceptual Results

- Projects built
- Water Use Pattern and Trading
- Economic Effect by party
  - regional ag farm income + non-ag net surplus
  - regional water prices and costs
- Hydrologic Effect
  - EA elevation at the J-17 well index and river flows
- Environmental Effect
  - spring flows, river flows, and the Estuary bay flows
- Social Effect





# Projects

## WEF Alternatives – a starting point

Irrigation methods and practices Land to dryland or grazing Degraded water use Dry year option Alternative crops Removing minimum limits Crop mix

Use of more distant aquifers Reservoirs Enhanced recharge Reuse Interbasin transfer

Ag

Water

Injection & recovery Saline sources Conservation Broader markets and leasing

Energy Alternative cooling Renewable sources wind solar Fracking water reuse Coal to Natural Gas Import more Fracking technology

## Water Projects Examples

Figure 5.2.23-1 Vista Ridge Project Location



Out-of-Region Water Project: Vista Ridge

- 143 miles pipelines
- Yield: 50,000 acft/yr
- Water cost full operation \$1,976 /acft
- Total cost of facility: \$493 million
- Pumping Energy: 156,691 MWh/year



ASR Project: Luiling ASR

- Total cost of facility: \$23 million
- Annual cost of water: \$1,086 / acft
- Energy Consumption for pumping: 1,617 MWh/year

## **Power Plant Retrofit**

- Boiler retrofit (coal to natural gas)
- Cooling retrofit
  - (Once-through to Recirculating to Dry-cooling)
- Switch to renewable source: Wind, solar and Nuclear.
- Add new capacity in or outside region
  - Could export water use
  - Wind and solar reliability are issue
- Retrofit and new capacity cost will be in first stage of the model

# Public Goods Concern

- Some Nexus actions will not be adopted by private individuals as they benefit the public not just the individual. In such cases the public may need to get directly involved in adoption.
- Water Projects in our projects are public goods

## **Compensation Reallocation**

- When an entity like a Power plant could retrofit to save water but don't do it because of cost
- We need provide subsidy or compensation to the power plants to increase their incentive of cooling and heating retrofit.







# Preliminary Result



### EDSIMR – Example Analysis Objectives

- Evaluate the economic and environmental consequences of a set of water management and energy project plans
- Determine the "best" mix of water and energy retrofit options for a given demand and environmental constraints
- Undertake a comparative assessment of the model "best" set of water management and energy project plans.

# Base run -Agriculture Land

- Land transfers from irrigated land to dry land and sprinkler irrigation is preferred to save water even with higher cost.
- Few crop lands transfers to pasture



#### Cropland Shares

### Crop Land vs Pasture



## **Agriculture Production Index**



Ag Production Index

- Vegetable production is very sensitive to precipitation. It is preferred during wet years (2020s, 2030s) but spurned in the dry years (2050s, 2060s).
- Production index of all ag products also varies with precipitation.

## Water Source by Sector

- Demand increases over time with the growing population. •
- Municipal water needs driving expensive water projects proposed by Texas Water Development Board, or being implemented.
- Municipal sector owns less surface water permits than agriculture and industrial sector in the . region. Plus has means of financing.
- Industrial water relies more on surface water over time, due to the shortage of water . projects and groundwater drawdown





**Industrial Water Source** 

2070

Surface Ground Project

## Water Source by Sector

- Agriculture use less water under climate change, because the increasing demand of groundwater draw down the aquifer and make the water too expensive for agriculture usage.
- Mining relies on ground water due to the shortage of surface water permits



### Agriculture Water Source



Mining Water Source

Surface Ground

### Average Water Cost by Sector



Water Cost (\$/Acft)

**Municipal Water Cost** 



Industrial Water Cost







# Water Projects Selection

	Available Projects	2015	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Surface Water Projects	4							
Ground Water Projects	34	0	4	5	5	5	5	6
Aquifer Storage and Recovery	7	0	2	2	2	2	2	2
Off-Channel Reservoir	5							
Outside Water Projects	7							
Fixed cost(Million \$)			3.87	3.89	0.02			17.60
Variable cost(Million \$)	0	0.00	29.18	35.28	35.17	35.12	40.82	72.69
Energy Consumption(MWh)			3152	4274	4267	4263	5835	20220

# EDSIMR – Sample Analysis Results

- There is a distinct tradeoff in the EA region between the economic well being of pumping users and regional environmental attributes.
- Leaving behind the *rule of capture* to take on the highest of the HCP motivated pumping limits reduces regional pumping user related welfare by \$246 million per year. The most extreme limit examined (175,000 acft) under the emerging HCP raises the welfare loss to \$633 million per year.
- The emergence of the EA water market improves regional welfare to pumping users but worsens environmental attributes unless the East-West pools could somehow be factored into its design.
- Water development from alternative sources will be stimulated greatly by HCP related EA use restrictions.
- The EA region will have to develop an expanded set of water development alternatives if the severe Habitat Conservation Plan based restrictions are imposed.

# EDSIMR – Sample Analysis Results

#### Table 2. Economic and Hydrologic Effects of Water Management Plans

	2050 Base <sup>a</sup>	Optimal 400	Optimal 200	Plan 1	Plan 2	Plan 3	Plan 4	Plan 5
	change from the 2050 Base							
Average Welfare Measures (Mil.\$):		-				-		
Agricultural Income	19.1	-31.5%	-9.8%	-12.7%	-41.2%	-10.0%	-16.9%	-72.3%
Non-agricultural Surplus	878.0	2.2%	0.9%	-5.7%	-7.2%	-12.1%	-8.2%	2.0%
Other Regional Agricultural Income	59.1	0.02%	0.02%	-2.1%	-2.1%	-2.1%	0.02%	-2.3%
Other Regional Non-Agricultural Surplus	216.5	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Total Regional Welfare	1232.8	1.1%	0.5%	-4.2%	-5.9%	-8.8%	-6.1%	0.2%
Agricultural Activity Measures (10 <sup>3</sup> acres):								
Edwards Aquifer Irrigated Acres Harvested	74.5	-35.7	-21.6	-21.9	-45.4	-21.8	-25.1	-64.4
Edwards Aquifer Dry Land	17.2	-5.9	-6.6	-8.1	-1.6	-6.9	-7.6	-5.8
Purchased Edwards Aquifer Irrigated Land	N/A	40.4	27.9	28.4	45.1	28.2	31.1	59.2
Leased Edwards Aquifer Irrigated Land	N/A	1.9	0.4	1.5	1.5	0.3	1.5	8.6
Average Hydrologic Measures:								
Comal Spring Flow (cfs/year)	196.0	-46.0	125.6	-8.7	71.9	128.7	-16.9	-44.5
Corpus Bay Inflow (10 <sup>3</sup> acft)	1025.7	-4.7	-1.6	5.5	7.6	0.4	-38.1	-9.2

- The EA ag sector is worse off.
- The economic gain accrues to the EA non-agricultural sector, but is basically offset by the water development costs.

Gillig, D., B.A. McCarl, and F.O. Boadu, "An Economic, Hydrologic, and Environmental Assessment of Water Management Alternative Plans for the South-Central Texas Region", <u>Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics</u>, <u>33</u>, <u>1 (April)</u>, <u>59-78</u>, <u>2001</u>.

## EDSIMR – Sample Analysis Results

#### Table 1. Water Management Options Used in the Alternative Plans

Water Option	Optim al400	Optim al 200	Plan 1	Plan 2	Plan 3	Plan 4	Plan 5
Surface Water Diversion/Transfer							
Lower Guadalupe River diversion	Χ	X	Х	Х			
Colorado River in Colorado County					Х		
Colorado River in Bastrop				Х			
Joint development of water supply with CCC/LCC						Х	
system							
Medina Lake							
Canyon Reservoir			Х	X	X	X	X
Wimberley & Woodcreek Reservoirs			Х	X	X	X	Х
Cibolo Reservoir			Х				
Lockhart Reservoir			Х				Х
Purchase/lease surface water irrigation rights	X	X					
Groundwater Pumping/Recharge/Recovery							
EA irrigation transfers	X	X	Х	Х	X	Х	X
EA recharge Type 2	Х		Х	X	Х	Х	Х
Guadalupe River diversion near Comfort							X
Springflow recirculation		X		X	Х		Х

## Conclusion

- Agriculture transfer land from furrow irrigation to sprinkler irrigation to dryland to save fresh water and avoid high pumping cost
- Building more water projects could destress water scarcity and increase social welfare.
- More water projects are built over time. ASR and Groundwater projects are preferred due to extra water source and lower fixed and operating cost

### Future Research

- Enhance the preliminary electrical energy part improving data and modeling on cooling alternatives and the use of electricity when developing the water projects
- Add Edwards Aquifer Authority water management strategies/regulation and water marketing into the model.
- Add alternative strategies via which fracking can reduce its usage of fresh water
- Develop information on how water supply, crop yield and irrigated crop water use are affected by climate change scenarios in interaction with the SWAT, hydrological modeling group.





# Preliminary Result

