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**WATER LEVEL MEASUREMENTS INDICATE AVERAGE INCREASE OF
+ 0.37 OF A FOOT IN GROUNDWATER LEVELS WITHIN HPWD IN 2015-2016**

LUBBOCK TX (April 29, 2016) --Annual water level measurements indicate an average increase of + 0.37 of a foot in the groundwater levels of the Ogallala Aquifer within the 16-county High Plains Underground Water Conservation District (HPWD) service area from 2015 to 2016.

Above-average rainfall, which fell in a timely manner, helped increase groundwater levels during 2015-2016. This compares to the average change of – 0.56 of a foot recorded in 2014-2015.

The 10-year district average change (2006-2016) is – 9.29 feet while the five-year district average change (2011-2016) is -5.94 feet.

Water level measurements are made from December to March each year in 1,400 privately-owned water wells completed into the Ogallala/Edwards-Trinity (High Plains) Aquifer.

In addition, the district made water level measurements in 24 wells as part of the newly-established Dockum Aquifer observation well network.

“We encourage area residents to visit the interactive web map at map.hpwd.org to view charts of water levels as well as the saturated thickness for each of the observation wells in our network. The online tools provided on the district’s website can help people understand the variability in saturated thickness and groundwater levels within the district’s 16-county service area,” said HPWD General Manager Jason Coleman.

Results of the 2016 HPWD water level measurements are also presented in a 80 page report available for online viewing/downloading at www.hpwd.org/reports/

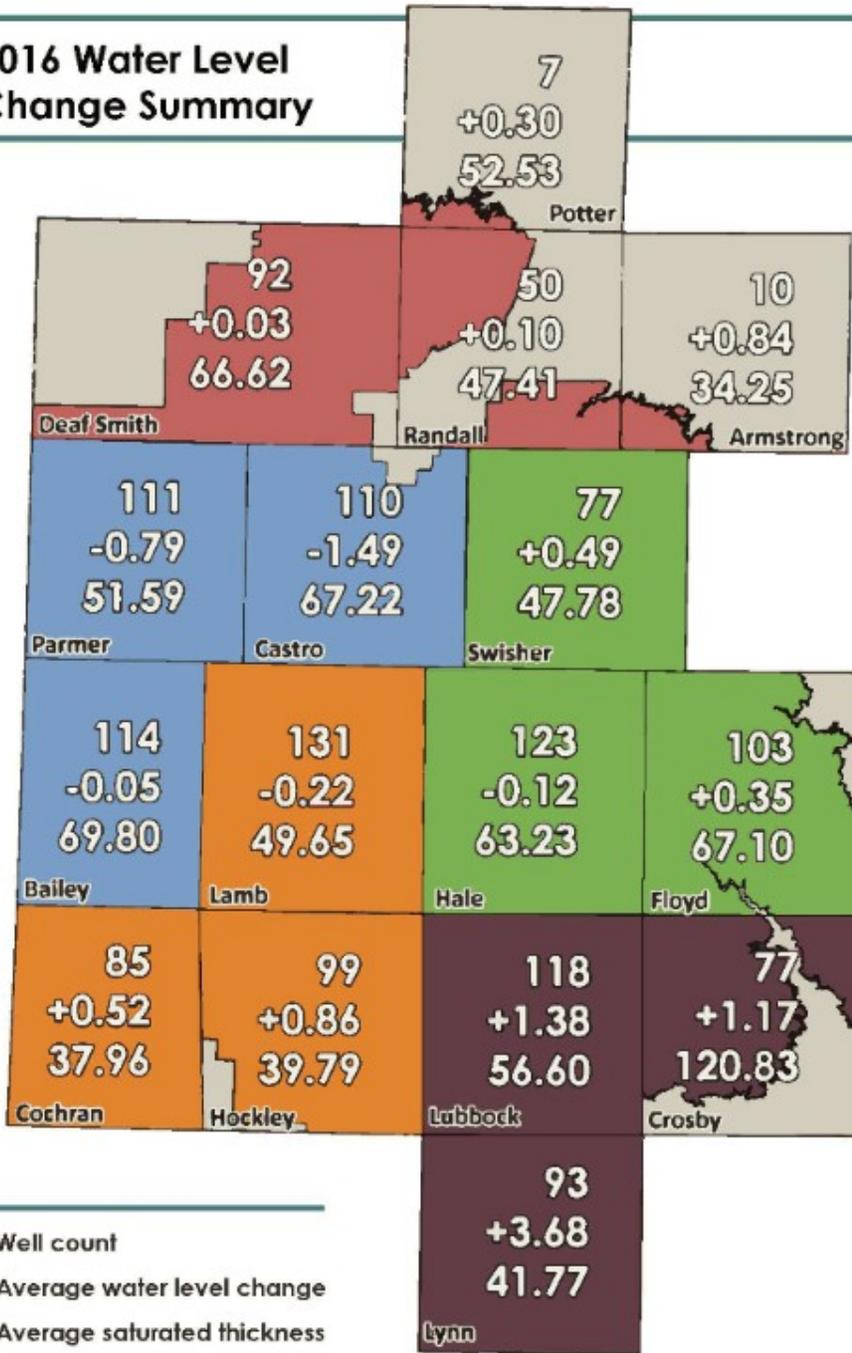
A limited number of printed copies are available by contacting the HPWD office at (806) 762-0181.

Created in 1951 by local residents and the Texas Legislature, the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District is charged with the responsibility of conserving, preserving, protecting, and preventing the waste of groundwater within its 16-county service area. It celebrates its 65th Anniversary in 2016.

Visit www.hpwd.org for more information about the district. You can also follow HPWD on Facebook and Twitter.

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2016 Water Level Change Summary



1. Well count
2. Average water level change
3. Average saturated thickness



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