

Region 4. Sabine Flood Planning Group Meeting
November 19, 2020
1:00 PM
Publicly Accessible Videoconference
(details below)

Meeting will be conducted via GoToWebinar at:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3927022737740871693>

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome, Meeting Facilitation Information and Instructions
3. Receive general public comments (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)
4. Discussion and Approval of minutes from the previous Region 4 Sabine RFPG meeting held October 27, 2020
5. Update from the Texas Water Development Board
 - a. Update on Application Timeline and Process
 - b. Update on funding available to the Region-4 Flood Planning Group
 - c. TWDB Presentation
6. Discuss and Consider nominations for electing regional flood planning group Officers to include Vice Chair and Secretary
 - a. Nominations for Vice Chair by members
 - b. Discussion and consider taking action to elect Vice Chair
 - c. Nominations for Secretary by members
 - d. Discussion and consider taking action to elect Secretary
7. Discuss and Consider nominating and electing two RFPG members-at-large to serve on the Executive Committee
 - a. Nominations for two Executive Committee members-at-large by members
 - b. Discussion and consider taking action to elect Executive Committee members-at-large.
8. Discuss and Consider nominations for electing a liaison to other coastal flood planning groups since Orange County is deemed a coastal County in Texas for flood planning
9. Update from Planning Group Sponsor regarding status of Regional Flood Planning Grant contract with the TWDB
 - a. Discussion on status of application for Regional Flood Planning Grant funds
 - b. Discussion of technical consultant procurement process and scope of services
 - c. Discussion on Scope of Work posted with TWDB RFA
10. Discuss and Consider a means by which the RFPG will develop and host a public website (required per §361.21(b)).
11. Discuss and Consider a means by which the RFPG will accept written public comment prior to and after meetings (required per §361.21(c)).
12. Discussion of the required solicitation for persons or entities who request to be notified of RFPG activities (required per §361.21(e)).
13. Consider date and agenda items for next meeting
14. Adjourn

If you wish to provide written comments prior to or after the meeting, please email your comments to bhughes@sratx.org and include "Region 4. Sabine River Flood Planning Group Meeting" in the subject line of the email.

If you choose to participate via the webinar link below, you WILL have the opportunity to provide comments during the designated portion of the meeting.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3927022737740871693>

If you choose to participate in the meeting using the conference call number below, you will NOT have the opportunity to provide comments during the designated portion of the meeting. The conference call phone number is provided for LISTENING PURPOSES ONLY. Telephone conference call phone number: **+1 (415) 655-0060** and the audio access code is **437-747-148**.

This meeting is a public meeting under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

Region 4. Sabine River Flood Planning Group will hold a public meeting via GoToMeeting pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.127, as modified by the temporary suspension of various provisions in accordance with the Governor's March 13, 2020 proclamation related to, the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additional information may be obtained from: Bill Hughes, Chair, Region 4 - Sabine River Regional Flood Planning Group, (409) 746-2192, bhughes@sratx.org

Meeting Minutes
Region 4. Sabine Flood Planning Group Meeting
October 27, 2020
1:00pm
GoToWebinar Virtual Meeting

Roll Call:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (x) /Absent () / Alternate Present (*)</u>
James (Bill) Bruce	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	X
Johnny Trahan	<i>Counties</i>	X
Francis X. Shannon	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	X
Clyde V. McKee III	<i>Environmental interests</i>	X
Don Carona	<i>Flood districts</i>	X
Nikki Davis	<i>Industries</i>	X
Alton Bradley	<i>Municipalities</i>	X
Michelle Falgout	<i>Public</i>	X
William R. (Bill) Hughes	<i>River authorities</i>	X
Jeff Rogers	<i>Small business</i>	X
Roman D. Griffin	<i>Water districts</i>	X
Ross Gordon	<i>Water utilities</i>	X

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Colleen Jones	General Land Office	X
Kathy Saucedo	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	
Manuel Martinez	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
Brian Hurtuk	Texas Division of Emergency Management	X
Robert (Bob) Baker	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	X
Trey Watson	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	X
Ryke Moore	Texas Water Development Board	X

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **12**

Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 12: **7**

Other Meeting Attendees: **

TWDB Director Brooke Paup
 Reem Zoun (Facilitator), TWDB
 James Bronikowski, TWDB
 Morgan White, TWDB
 Richard Bagans, TWDB
 Hayley Gillespie, TWDB

Anna Gonzalez, TWDB
 Patrick Lopez, TWDB
 Robert (Bill) Adams
 Jason Afinowicz
 Seyoum Asamenaw
 Jim Brown

Stephanie Castillo
Jon Clingaman
Matt Hiland
John Martin
Ryan Murdock
Robin Phillips
Michael Reedy

Philip Taucer
Jennifer White
Allison Wood
Carman Apple
Michelle Ellis
Tina Hendon
Shaun Miller

**Meeting attendee names were gathered from those who entered information for joining the GoToWebinar meeting.

All meeting materials are available for the public at:

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/regions/schedule.asp>.

1. AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order

Reem Zoun called the meeting to order at 1:09pm. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance and a quorum was established.

2. AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome, Meeting Facilitation Information and Instructions

Reem Zoun and TWDB Director Brooke Paup welcomed members to the meeting. Reem Zoun provided meeting facilitation information and instructions.

3. AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Member Introductions

Each present voting and non-voting member of the Sabine RFPG introduced themselves.

Reem Zoun introduced supporting TWDB staff including Matt Nelson, James Bronikowski, and Morgan White.

4. AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Regional Flood Planning Overview Presentation

Reem Zoun presented an overview of the regional flood planning process.

5. AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Discussion of group bylaws and consider adopting group bylaws

Reem Zoun presented the model bylaws provided by the TWDB for the RFPG to consider adopting and opened discussion on adopting group bylaws.

Reem Zoun pointed out the items to consider modifying in the bylaws and language based on Texas Administrative Code rules. Reem Zoun opened the floor to discussion about the bylaws.

After discussion, the bylaws were edited to replace "Model RFPG" throughout with "Region 4 Sabine RFPG".

The members discussed term limits and lengths and meeting format (in person vs virtual) but did not make changes to the model bylaws regarding these topics.

The members discussed that the bylaws can change in the future.

A motion was made by Roman Griffin to adopt the bylaws, with changes noted in the discussion.

The motion was seconded by Bill Bruce.

The vote to adopt the group bylaws passed by a vote of 12 Ayes and 0 Nays.

6. AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Consider nominating and electing regional flood planning group Chair or Interim Chair

Reem Zoun described the Chair/Interim Chair election process and opened the floor to nominations for the Chair or Interim Chair position.

A nomination of Don Carona as the Chair was made by Bill Hughes.

Don Carona declined the nomination.

A nomination of Bill Hughes as the Chair was made by Don Carona.

A nomination of Don Carona as the Interim Chair was made by Clyde McKee.
Don Carona declined the nomination.

Bill Hughes spoke and stated that he would gladly serve as Chair of the Sabine RFPG.

A motion to cease nominations was made by Roman Griffin.
The motion was seconded by Johnny Trahan.
The motion passed by unanimous consent.

The nomination of Bill Hughes as the Chair was approved by unanimous consent.

7. AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Consider selecting a planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the regional flood planning group

Chair Bill Hughes opened the floor to public comments.
No public comments were given.

Chair Bill Hughes listed the entities that had expressed interest in serving as the Sabine RFPG's planning group sponsor. These interested entities included:
The Sabine River Authority

Chair Bill Hughes continued with an open call for additional interested political subdivisions.

Chair Bill Hughes opened discussion on selecting a planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG.

Chair Bill Hughes reaffirmed the Sabine River Authorities' interest in being a potential sponsor to the group.

A motion was made by Clyde McKee III to select the Sabine River Authority as the designated planning group sponsor for the Sabine RFPG.
Johnny Trahan seconded the motion.
The vote to select the Sabine River Authority as the planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG passed by a vote of 12 Ayes and 0 Nays.

8. AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Consider additional, region-specific public notice requirements, if any, that might be necessary to ensure adequate public notice in the region per 31 Texas Administrative Code §361.12(3)

Chair Bill Hughes opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

Matt Nelson described existing notice requirements.

Chair Bill Hughes opened discussion on identifying additional, region-specific public notice requirements.

No action was taken.

9. AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Consider authorizing the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG

Chair Bill Hughes opened discussion on authorizing the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and to enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG.

Reem Zoun provided information regarding grant funding for the RFPG.

The group discussed the grant funding allocation.

Johnny Trahan made a motion to authorize the Sabine River Authority to apply for grant funds and enter into contract with the TWDB on behalf of the Sabine RFPG.

The motion was seconded by Clyde McKee.

The vote to authorize the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG passed by a vote of 12 Ayes and 0 Nays.

10. AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Discussion of necessary additional voting and non-voting positions that may be needed to ensure adequate representation from the interest in the region

Chair Bill Hughes opened the floor to public comments.

No public comments were given.

The group discussed adding additional non-voting members, including from the State of Louisiana.

No action was taken.

11. AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Receive general public comments (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

Chair Bill Hughes opened the floor to public comments.

No public comments were given.

12. AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Consider date and agenda items for next meeting

Chair Bill Hughes opened discussion to consider the date and agenda items for the next meeting.

After discussion, Chair Bill Hughes stated that the next meeting will be on 11/19/2020 at 1PM.

13. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:22PM by Chair Bill Hughes.

Approved by the Sabine RFPG at a meeting held on 11/19/2020.

FIRST AND LAST NAME, SECRETARY

BILL HUGHES, CHAIR

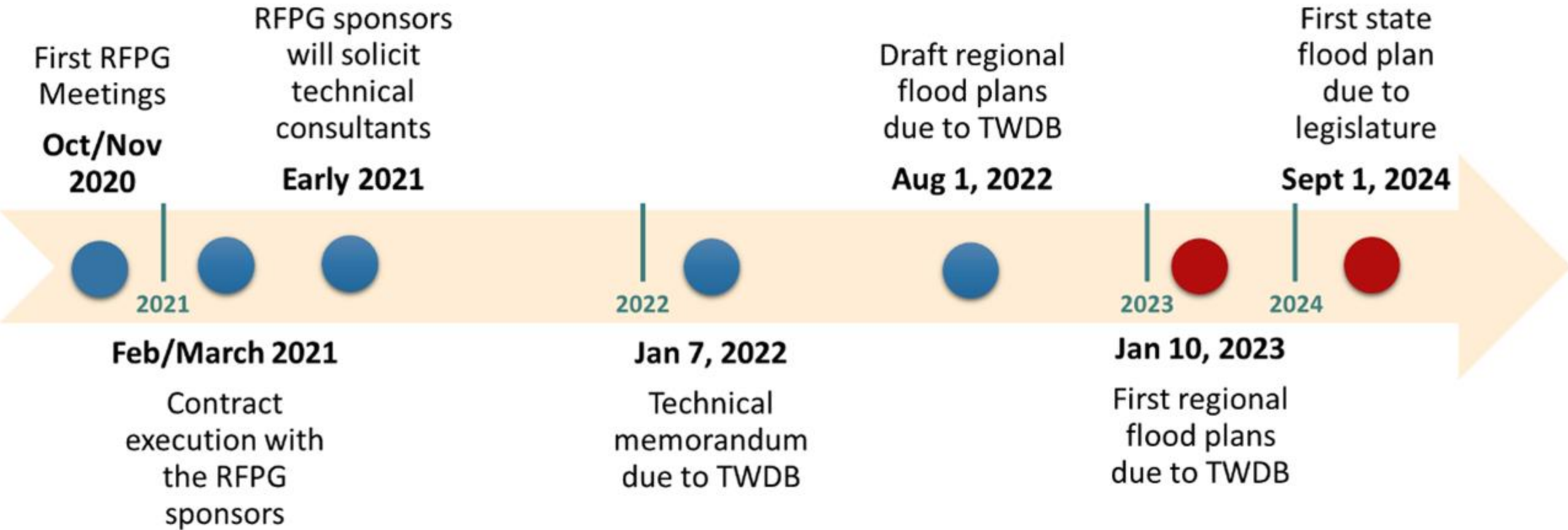
Texas Water Development Board Flood Planning Presentation Regional Flood Planning Group 2nd Meeting

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

- RFA Process & Funding Summary (5 minutes)
 - Flooding 101 (20 minutes)

RFA Process & Funding Summary

Flood Planning Timeline



Regional Flood Planning Grant RFA

Highlights:

- Request for authorization to post RFA is a November 19th, 2020 TWDB Board item.
- \$19.5 million available funds (allocated between 15 regions)



Board Memo with attachments (RFA, Scope of Work, etc.) will be publicly posted prior to the meeting on:

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/board/2020/11/board2/index.asp>

RFA and Contracting Process

- Sponsors will submit applications between November 20, 2020 - January 21, 2021.
- Applications will be processed as received.
- TWDB will begin contract execution process as soon as possible, but no later than March 2021.

Flooding 101

Flooding 101: Watersheds

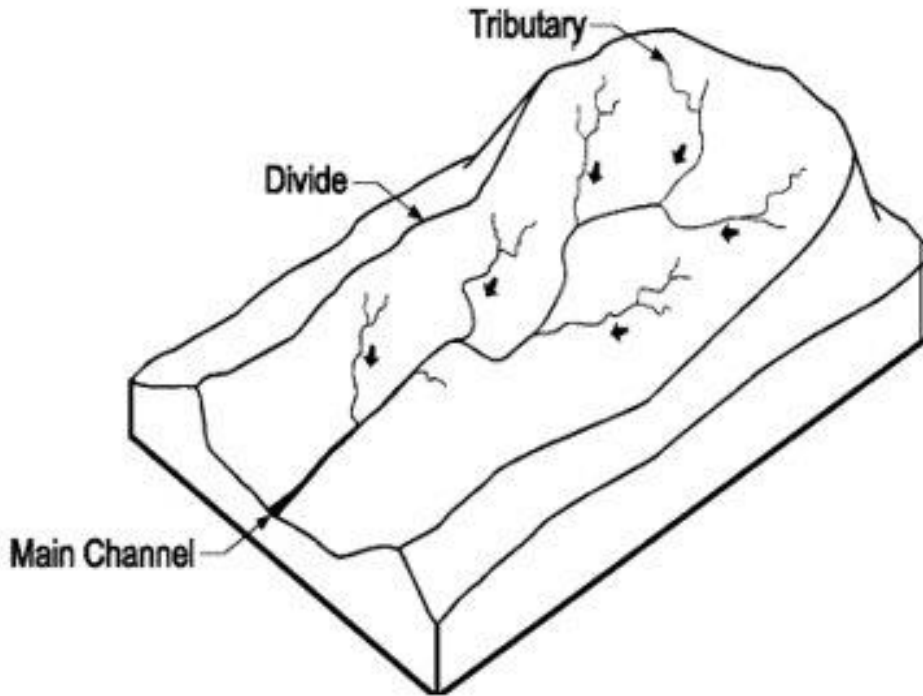
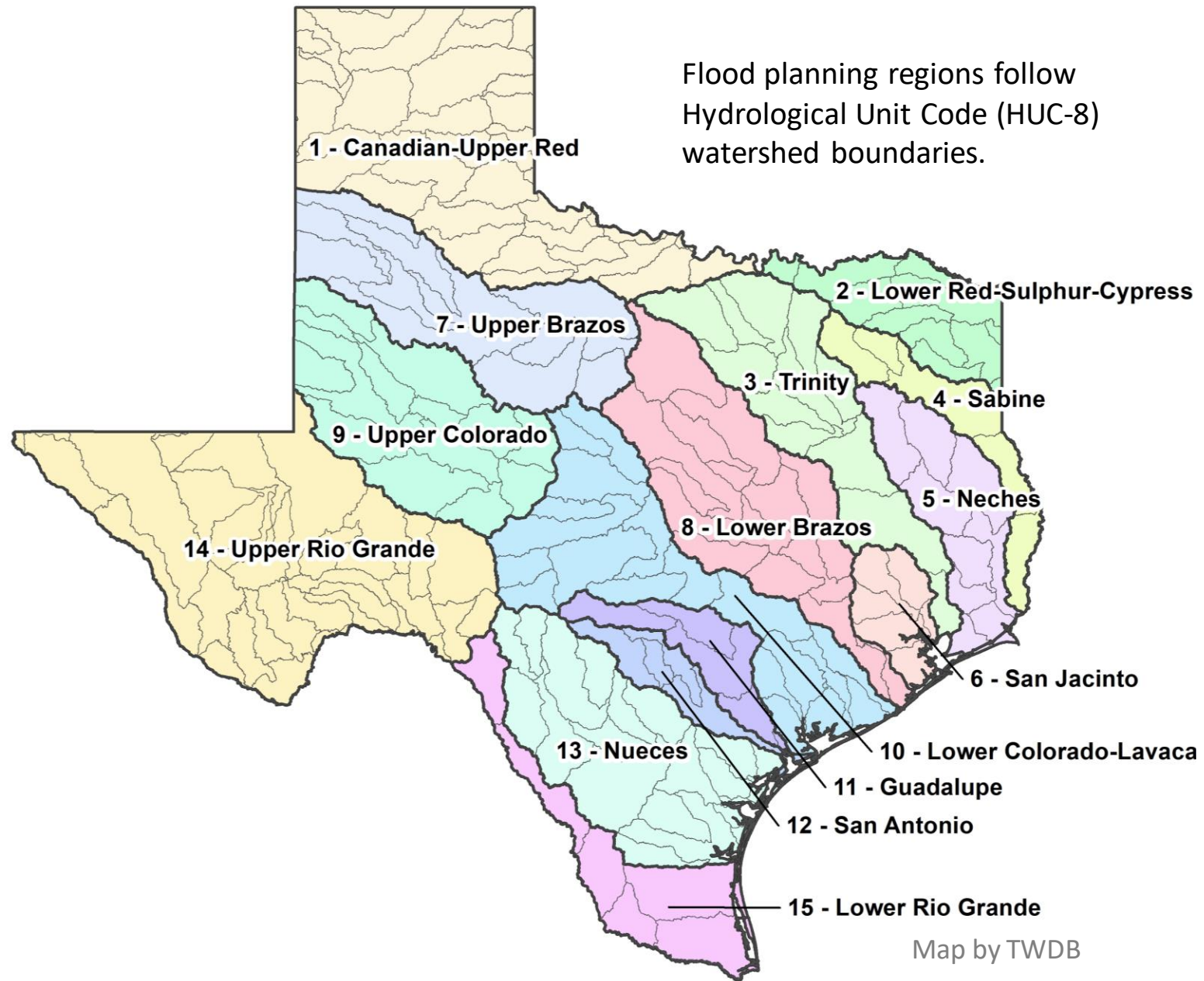


Figure 1-2. Riverine Watershed and Floodplain

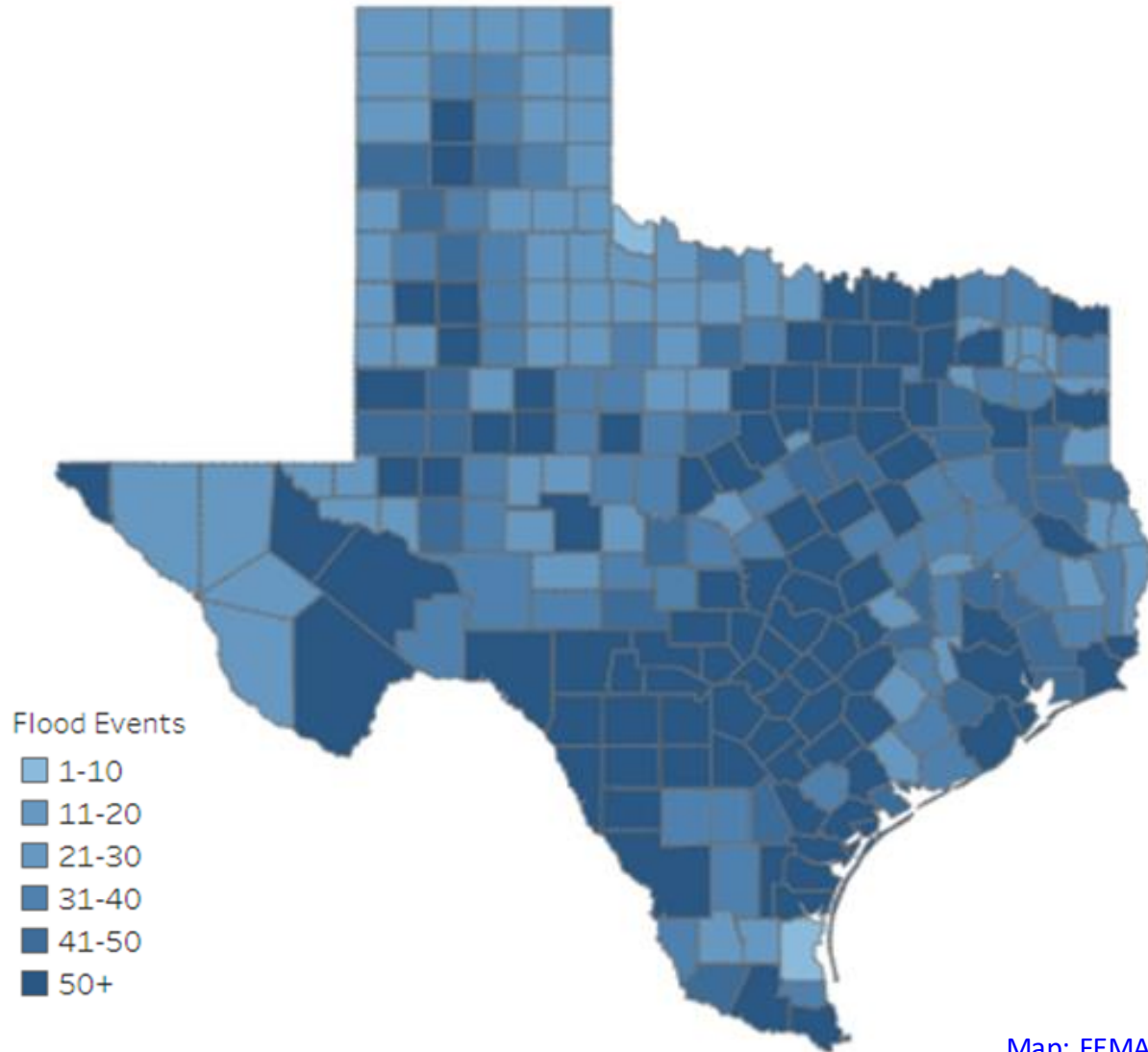
Image by FEMA



Flood planning regions follow Hydrological Unit Code (HUC-8) watershed boundaries.

Map by TWDB

Flooding 101: Flooding in Texas

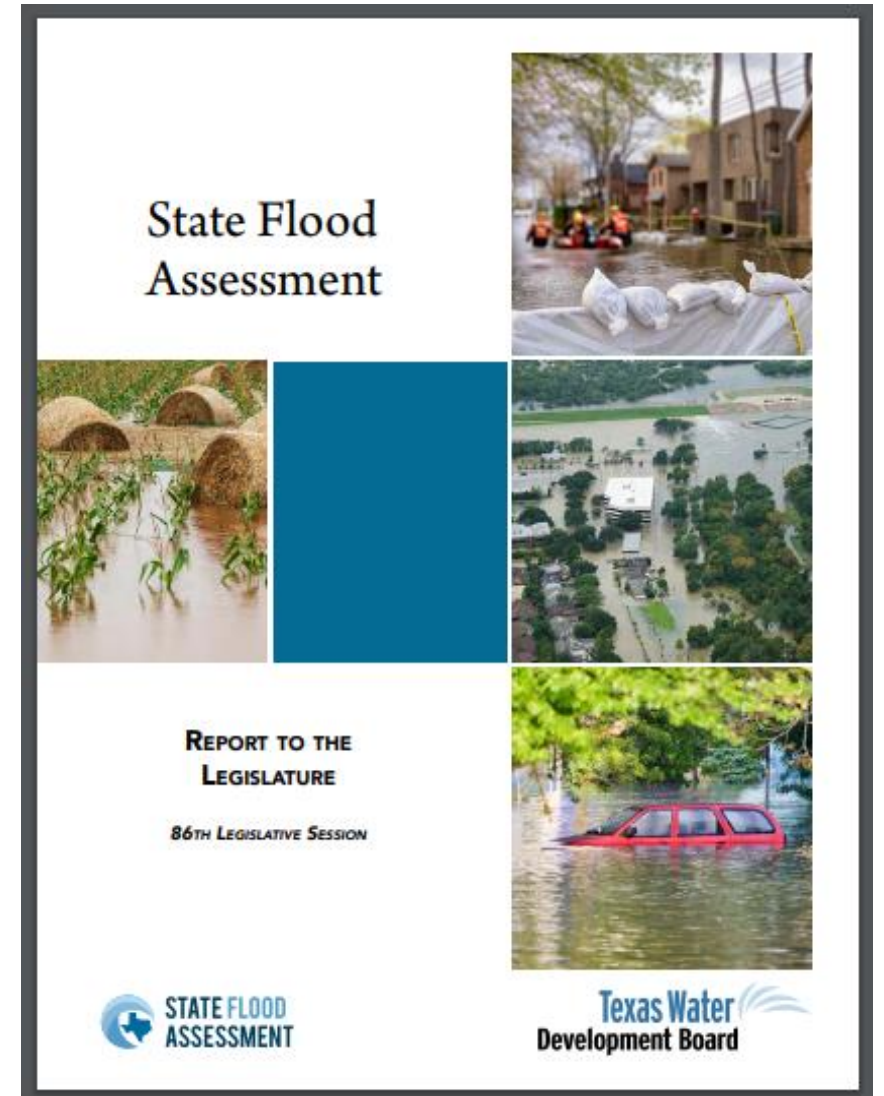


Flood Events

- 1-10
- 11-20
- 21-30
- 31-40
- 41-50
- 50+

[Map: FEMA](#)

[Data: NOAA Storm Event Database 1996-2020](#)



[-State Flood Assessment, 2019](#)

Flooding 101: What is a Flood?

A general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land area from overflow of inland or tidal waters or from the unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source.



Agricultural flooding damaging crops and hay.

Flooding 101: Floodplains

The area of land subject to periodic inundation by floodwaters.

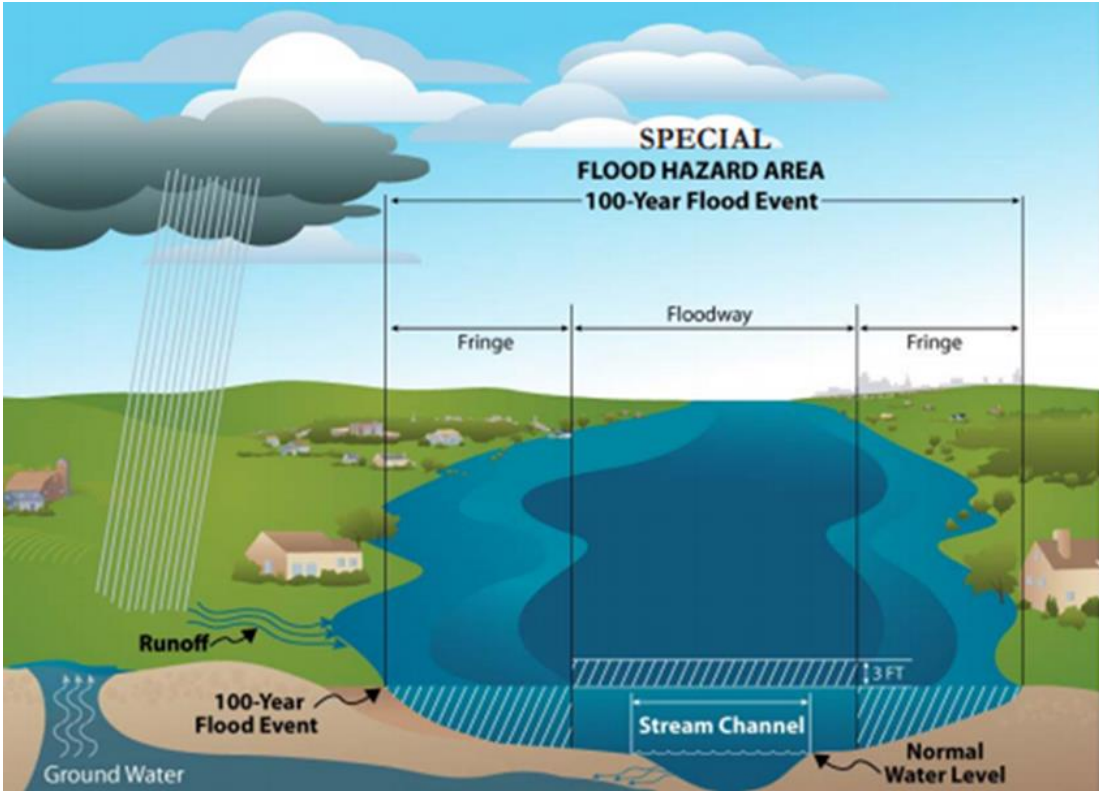


Image: FEMA



Image: FEMA

Flooding 101: Benefits of Floods

When floodplains are preserved in their natural state, they provide many benefits:

- Reduce severity of floods by storing floodwaters, reducing flood velocities, and curbing sedimentation and erosion
- Contribute to groundwater recharge
- Provide recreation and quality of life
- Create habitats for many plants and animals.

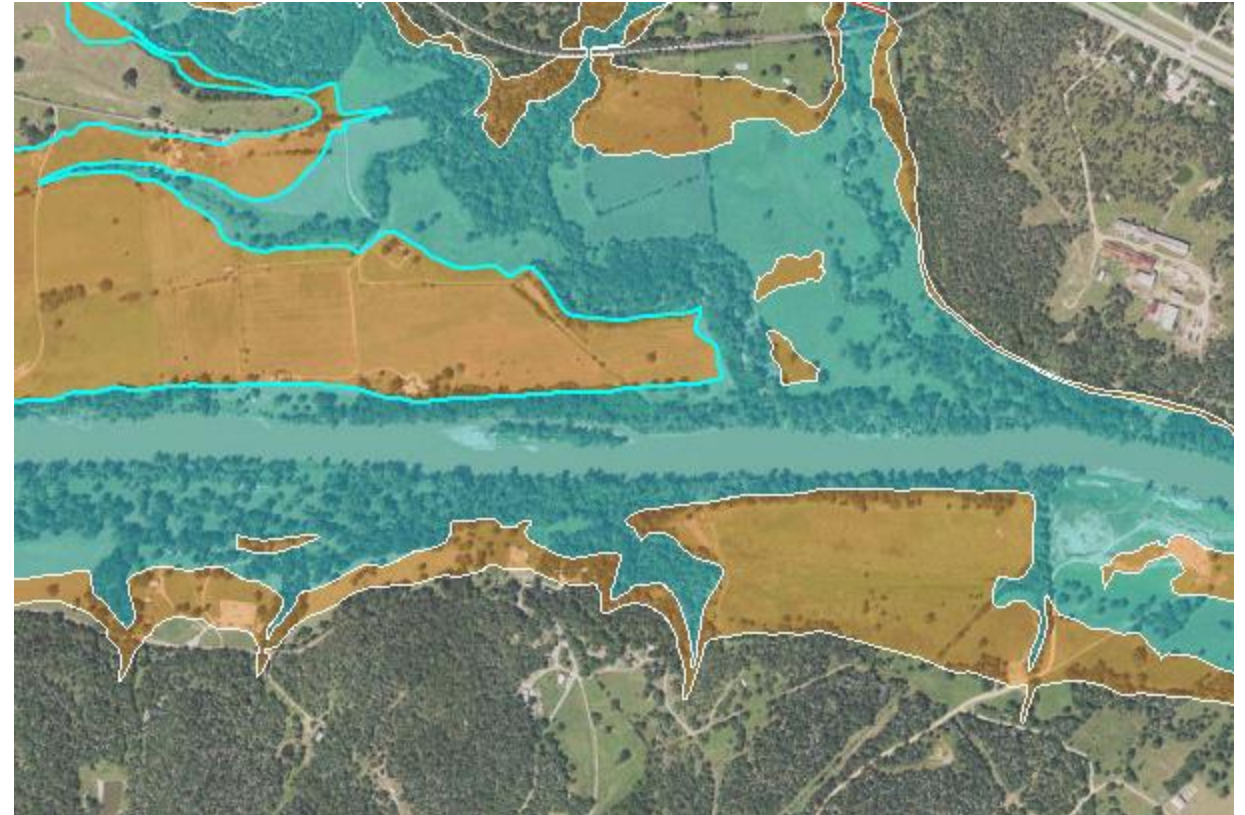


Wetlands at Galveston Island State Park provide natural ecosystem services.

Image: [Yinan.Chen CC-PD](#)

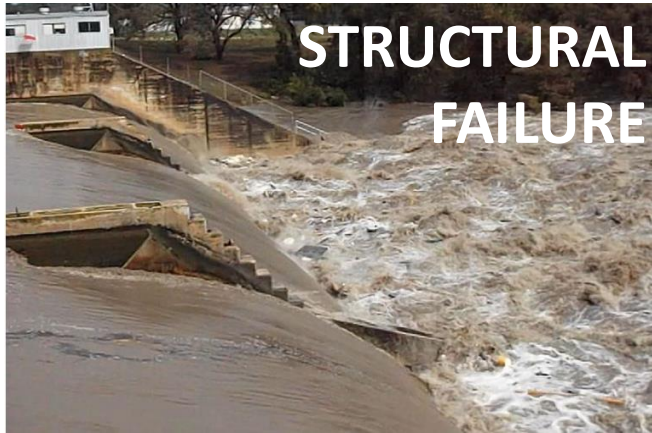
Flooding 101: Quantifying Flood Events

- 1.0% annual chance flood event
 - flood event having a 1.0% chance of happening in any given year
 - also referred to as the "base flood" or "100-year flood"
- 0.2% annual chance flood event
 - flood event having a 0.2% chance of happening in any given year
 - also referred to as the "500-year flood"



The 1% annual chance floodplain is shown in blue.
The 0.2% annual chance floodplain is shown in orange.
Image by FEMA

Flooding 101: Types of Flooding



2019 Lake Dunlap Spillway Failure.
Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority



Texas National Guard, Houston, TX
Texas National Guard CC-BY-2.0



Blue Hole Park, South San Gabriel River,
Georgetown, TX. FEMA



Flash flooding in San Marcos, TX. [CC-BY-SA-3.0](#)



Cadillac Ranch sculpture near Amarillo, TX.
© Rachel Goad, used by permission.



Coastal flooding in Galveston, TX
[pixabay, no attrib. req.](#)

Flooding 101: Flood Mitigation

The implementation of actions, including both **structural** and **non-structural solutions**, to reduce flood risk to protect against the loss of life and property.



Mangroves on the Texas Coast stabilize shorelines and help absorb storm surge; an example of a non-structural flood mitigation solution.

Photo by Univ. Of Texas Marine Science Institute



Galveston Seawall, a structural flood mitigation solution. Image by [Yinan Chen CC-PD](#)

Flooding 101: Structural Solutions to Flooding

Examples include the construction of levees, dikes, floodwalls/seawalls, dams, channel alterations, culverts, flood gates, and detention and retention basins.



Anzelduas Dam on the Rio Grande near Mission, TX. Image: TWDB



Storm Drains



Streambank Stabilization in Austin, TX. Image by City of Austin Watershed Protection

Flooding 101: Non-Structural Solutions to Flooding

Examples include open space preservation, property buyouts and relocation, zoning and building codes, wetland restoration, elevated structures, flood warning systems, educational campaigns, and participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.



Homes that survived the ~20-foot-high storm surge of Hurricane Ike in Bolivar Peninsula, near the community of Caplen.

Image: TWDB



Turn Around, Don't Drown educational campaign.

Image: Weather.gov



Engineered Wetlands in the Houston Audubon Society's The Oaks Nature Preserve . Image: TWDB

Flooding 101: National Flood Insurance Program

Based on an agreement between local communities and the federal government.

- Local communities agree to adopt floodplain management regulations to reduce flood risks
- The federal government makes flood insurance and disaster assistance available to the community



Image by FEMA / National Flood Insurance Program

Future Presentation Topics

- TWDB Regional Flood Planning Grant:
 - RFA Details
 - Summary of Scope of Work
- What else would your group like to have presented?



Shoal Creek flooding, Austin, TX. Image: TWDB

Questions?