

Region 13. Nueces Flood Planning Group Meeting
November 30, 2020
1:00 P.M. to 3:00PM

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86552567594>
Dial by phone - 877 853 5257 US Toll-free
Meeting ID: 865 5256 7594

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome, Meeting Facilitation Information and Instructions
3. Prayer
4. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting.
5. TWDB Update & Presentation
6. Discussion of necessary additional voting and non-voting positions that may be needed to ensure adequate representation from the interest in the region
 - a. Discussion Only
7. Consider nominating and electing RFPG Vice Chair and Secretary (*as applicable, per group bylaws*)
 - 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
8. Consider nominating and electing two members-at-large to serve on the Executive Committee (*as applicable, per group bylaws*)
 - a. Nominations for two Executive Committee members-at-large by members
 - b. Discussion and consider taking action to elect Executive Committee members-at-large.
9. Update from Planning Group Sponsor – Nueces River Authority regarding status of Regional Flood Planning Grant contract with the TWDB and other required administrative matters.
 - a. Discussion on status of application for Regional Flood Planning Grant funds
 - b. Consider a means by which the RFPG will develop and host a public website (required per §361.21(b)).
 - c. Consider a means by which the RFPG will accept written public comment prior to and after meetings (required per §361.21(c)).
 - d. Discussion of the required solicitation for persons or entities who request to be notified of RFPG activities (required per §361.21(e)).
 - e. Discussion on status of solicitation process for individuals to fill the two remaining voting positions – Electric generating utilities & flood districts
10. Consider designating Alternates for RFPG members (*as applicable, per group bylaws*)
11. Public comments – limit 3 minutes per person
12. RFPG members' comment
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 tpruski@nueces-ra.org and include "Region 13. Nueces Flood Planning Group Meeting Nov 30th" in the subject line of the email.

If you wish to provide oral public comments at the meeting, please email your comments to tpruski@nueces-ra.org and include "Region 13. Nueces Flood Planning Group Meeting Nov 30th – Public Comment" in the subject line of the email.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Travis Pruski

Nueces River Authority

539 HWY 83 South

830-278-6810

tpruski@nueces-ra.org

**Meeting Minutes
Region 13 Nueces Flood Planning Group Meeting
November 4, 2020
9:00am CST
GoToWebinar Virtual Meeting**

Roll Call:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (x) / Absent () / Alternate Present (*)</u>
Debra Barrett	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	X
Shanna K. Owens	<i>Counties</i>	X
Vacant	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	N/A
Lauren Hutch Williams	<i>Environmental interests</i>	X
Vacant	<i>Flood districts</i>	N/A
Jeffrey Pollack	<i>Industries</i>	X
Lj Francis	<i>Municipalities</i>	X
Adnan Rajib	<i>Public</i>	X (arrived during agenda item 3)
Sky Lewey	<i>River authorities</i>	X
Andrew M. Rooke	<i>Small business</i>	X
J. R. Ramirez	<i>Water districts</i>	X
Larry Dovalina	<i>Water utilities</i>	X

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Jim Tolan	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	X
Tim Frere	Texas Division of Emergency Management	X
Nelda Barrera	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
Kendria Ray	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	X
Simone Sanders	General Land Office	X
Hayley Gillespie, Ph.D.	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	X
Joel Anderson	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	X

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **10**

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

Other Meeting Attendees: **

Reem Zoun, TWDB

Kathleen Jackson, TWDB Board Member

Matt Nelson, TWDB

Annette Mass, TBWD

James Bronikowski, TBWD

Morgan White, TWDB

Megan Ingram, TWDB

Ron Ellis, TWDB

Jennifer White, TWDB
Anna Gonzalez, TWDB
Stacy Barna
Chad Ballard
Ty Berry
John Byrum
Jim Carrillo
Lily Cartwright
Stephanie Castillo
Keren Costanzo
Troy Dorman
Alem Gebriel
Stephanie Griffin
Tina Hendon

Gabriel Hinojosa
Amin Kiaghadi
Justin Lennon
Daniel McGinn
Tami Norton
Travis Pruski
Paul Robinson
Zachary Stein
Jay Scanlon
Kristi Shaw
Mel Vargas
Daniel Zell
Lauren Gonzalez
Spandana Tummuri

**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 9:09am. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance and a quorum was established prior to calling the meeting to order.

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

Reem Zoun and Director Kathleen Jackson 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 Region 13 Nueces RFPG introduced themselves.

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.

Members discussed the maximum number of voting members, terms of office, term limits, what constitutes a conflict of interest, and electing officers.

After discussion, Article VIII Section (b) was edited to re-select officers beginning in 2022. Article XV was edited to include adopting "and/or amending" bylaws. The term "Model" was replaced with "Region 13 Nueces" throughout.

A motion was made by Sky Lewey to adopt the bylaws as amended.

The motion was seconded by Debra Barrett

The vote to adopt the group bylaws passed by a vote of 10 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 LJ Francis as the Chair was made by Sky Lewey.

A nomination of Andrew Rooke as the Chair was made by Shanna Owens.

Lj Francis thanked the group for the nomination, spoke to his experience and would be honored to serve as Chair.

Andrew Rooke declined the nomination and respectfully deferred to Mr. Francis as Chair.

The nomination of Lj Francis as the Chair was approved by unanimous consent. The group then took a brief recess. Chair Francis assumed the role of meeting facilitator after the recess.

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

Reem Zoun listed the entities that had expressed interest in serving as the Region 13 Nueces RFPG's planning group sponsor. These interested entities included:

Nueces River Authority

Chair Francis opened the floor to public comments.

Travis Pruski of Nueces River Authority stated the river authority's willingness to serve as the planning group sponsor.

John Byrum of Nueces River Authority stated the qualifications of the river authority to serve as planning group sponsor.

Jim Tolan endorsed the Nueces River Authority and suggested the central meeting location of Three Rivers.

Chair Francis asked if any there was anyone in the audience that represented a political subdivision that was interested in acting as the planning group sponsor. No additional interested entities came forward to express interest.

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

Discussion included members positive experiences with the Nueces River Authority and expressions of support.

A motion was made by Larry Dovalina to select Nueces River Authority as the designated planning group sponsor for Region 13 Nueces RFPG.

J.R. Ramirez and Andrew Rooke seconded the motion.

The vote to select Nueces River Authority as the planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG passed by a vote of 10 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).

Reem Zoun described existing notice requirements and Chair Francis opened discussion on identifying additional, region-specific public notice requirements.

Chair Francis opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

Larry Dovalina made a motion to initiate the solicitation process for individuals to fill the vacant required voting member position.

The motion was seconded by Lauren Williams.

The vote to initiate the RFPG solicitation process passed by roll call vote with 10 Ayes and 0 Nays.

12. AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Receive general public comments (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

Chair Francis opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

Chair Francis opened the floor for general comments from RFPG members and TWDB staff.

Reem Zoun offered congratulations to the group. Matt Nelson offered the support of TWDB. Members thanked the TWDB staff for their preparation in advance of this meeting.

Director Kathleen Jackson gave closing remarks.

13. AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Consider date and agenda items for next meeting

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

After discussion, Chair Francis announced that the Nueces River Authority will send an email poll to members to schedule the meeting during the week of November 30-December 4, 2020. Potential agenda items include electing officers and executive committee members.

14. Adjourn

After a motion by Shanna Owens to adjourn, seconded by Andrew Rooke. The meeting was adjourned at 11:41AM CST by Chair Francis.

*Approved by the Region 13 Nueces RFPG at a meeting held on **DATE**.*

FIRST AND LAST NAME, SECRETARY

FIRST AND LAST NAME, CHAIR

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

- Flooding 101 (20 minutes)
- Request for Applications Process & Contract Details (5 minutes)
- RFPG Responsibilities: Scope of Work Overview(20 minutes)

Flooding 101

(20 minutes)

Flooding 101: Watersheds

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

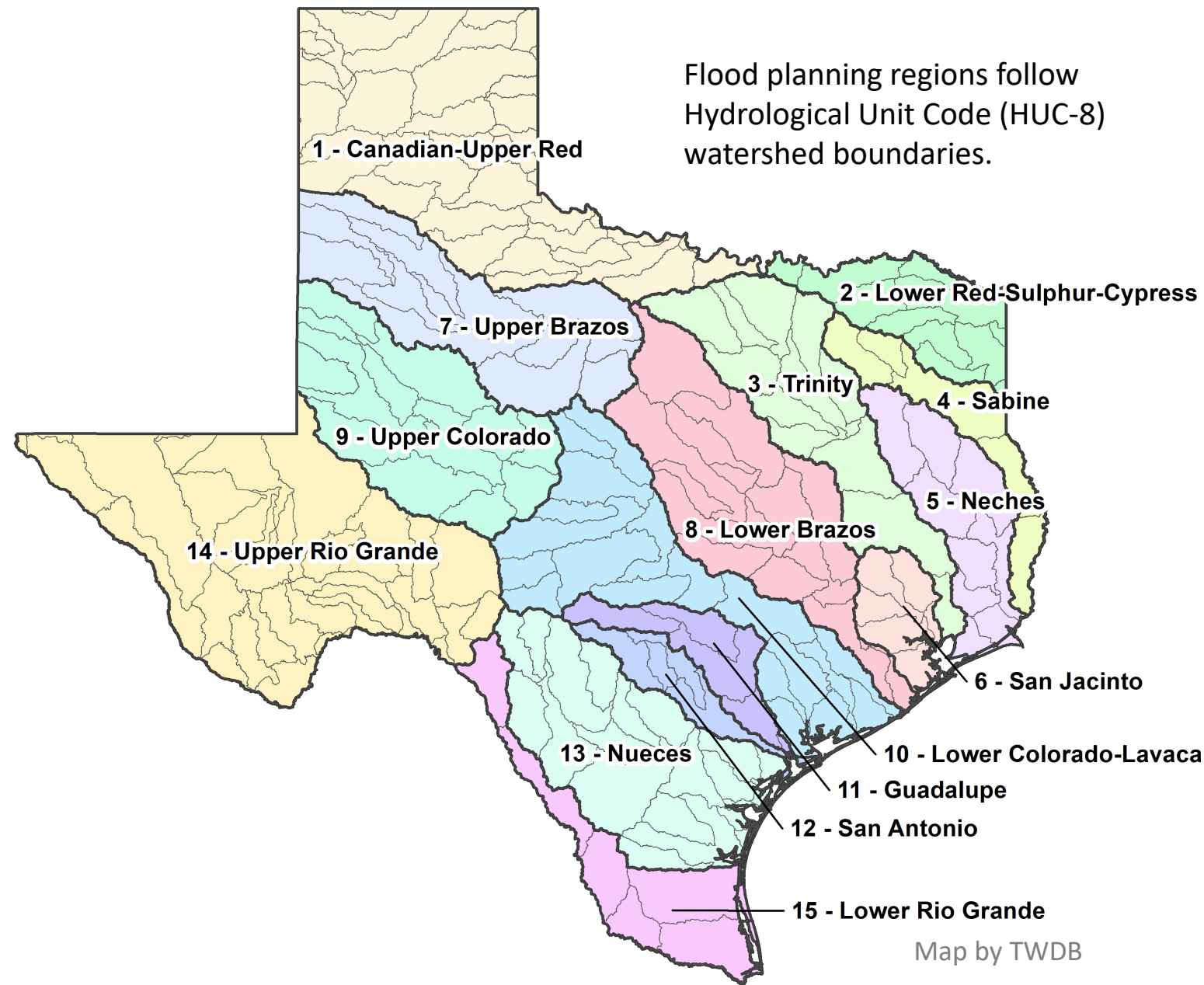
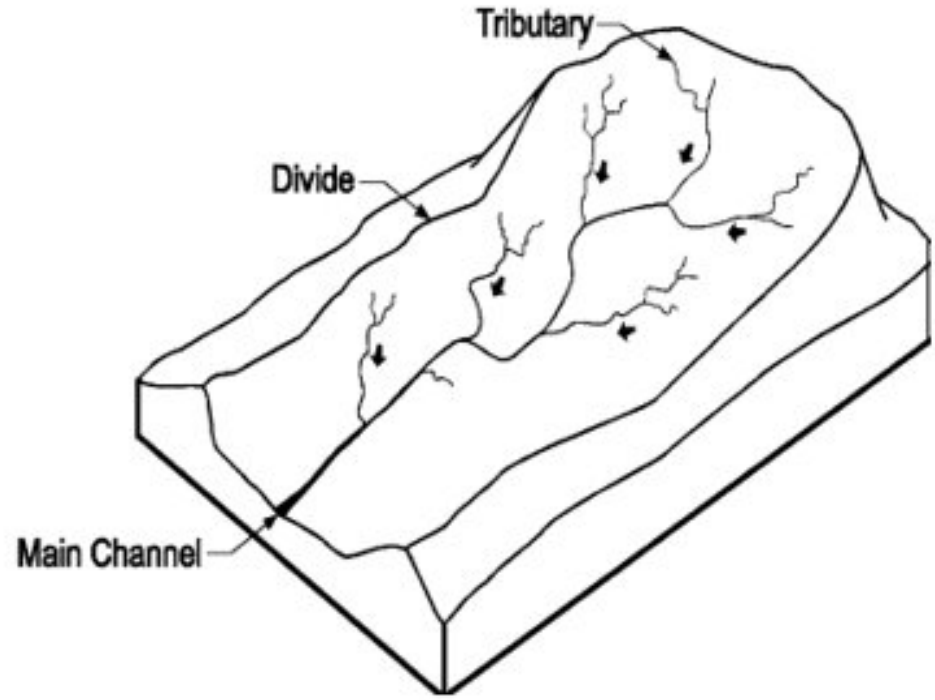
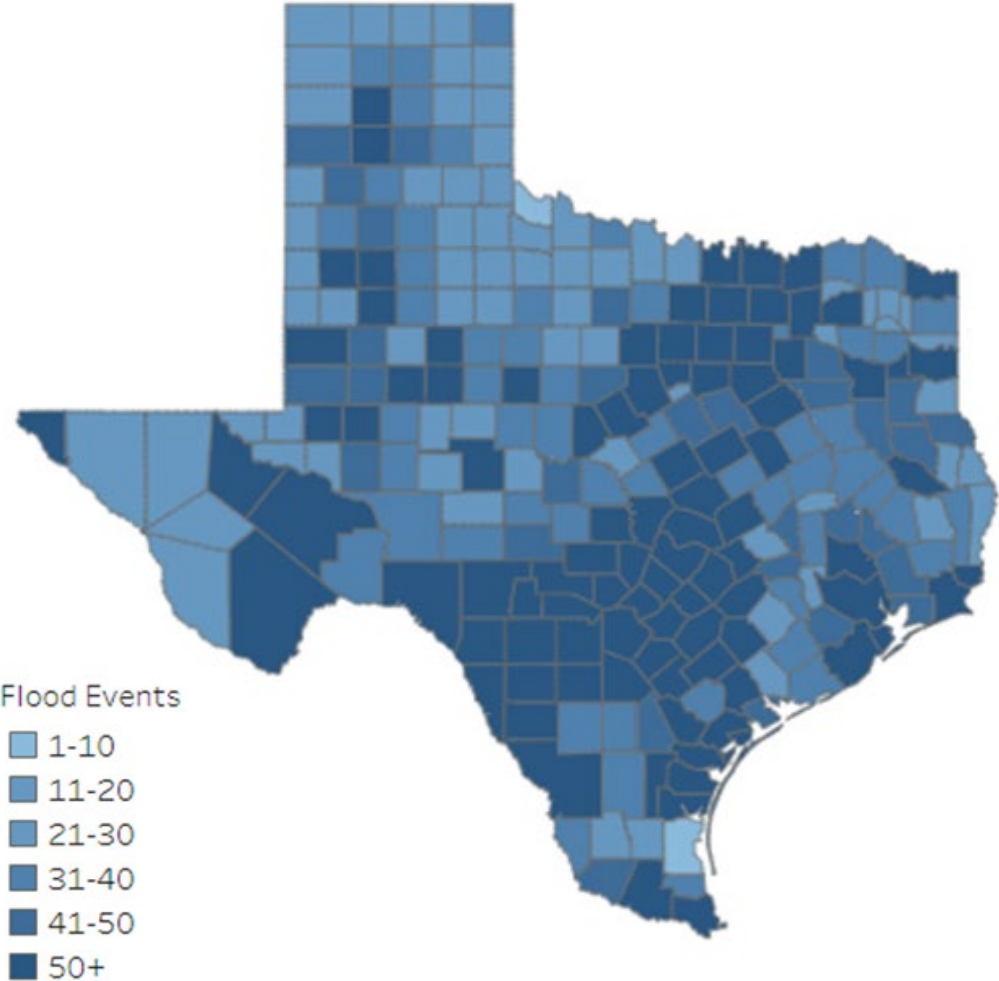


Figure 1-2. Riverine Watershed and Floodplain
Image by FEMA

Map by TWDB

Flooding 101: Flooding in Texas



Map: FEMA
Data: NOAA Storm Event Database 1996-2020

State Flood Assessment

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
86TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

STATE FLOOD ASSESSMENT

Texas Water Development Board

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.

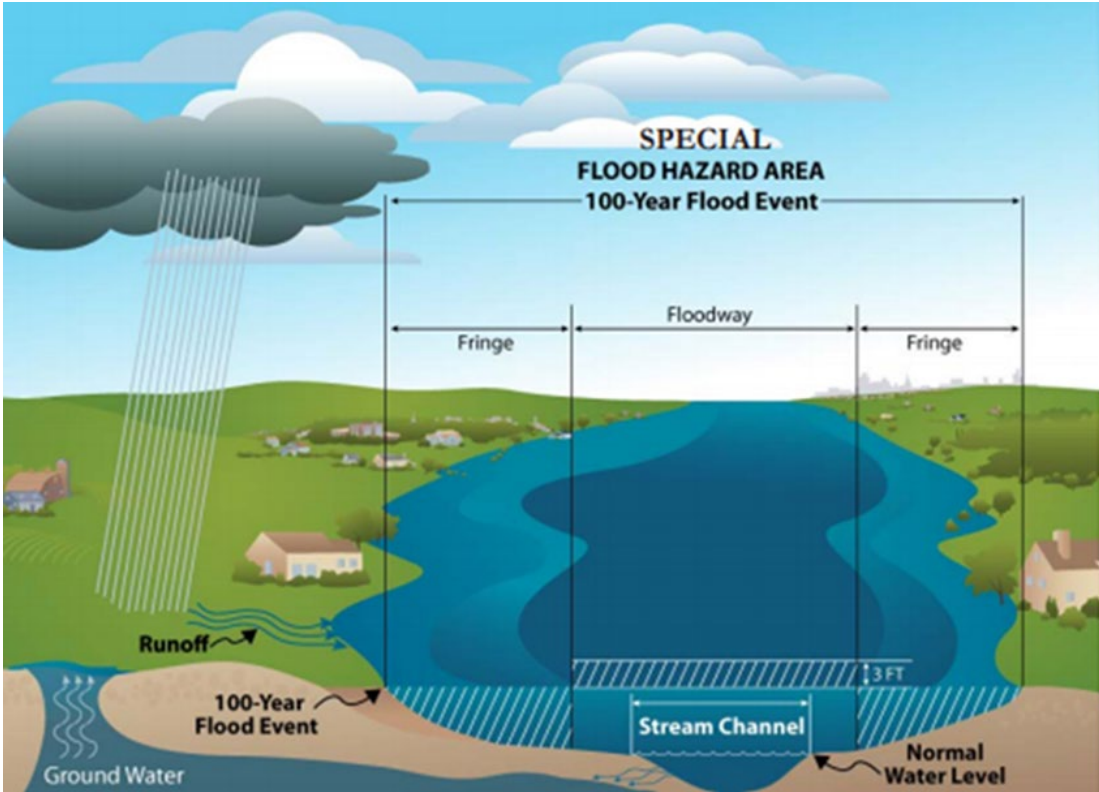


Image: FEMA



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.

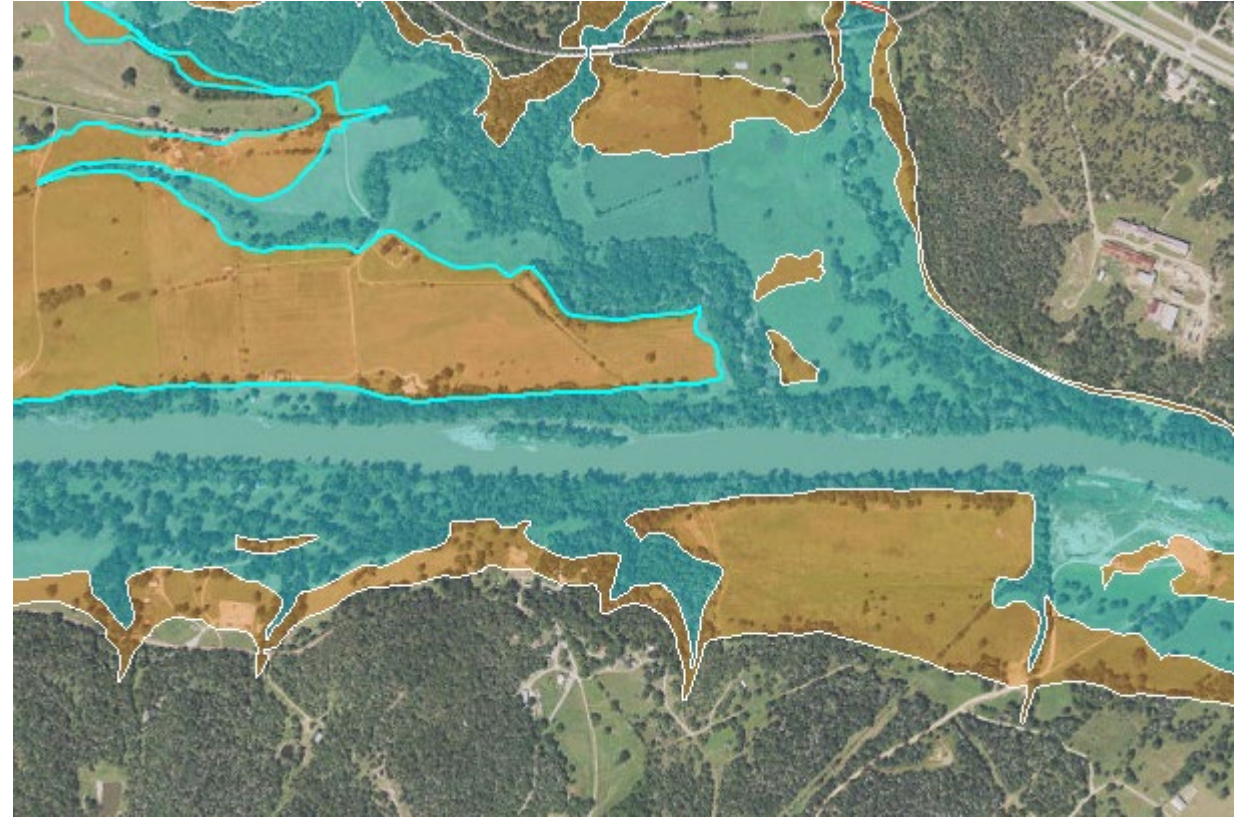


Wetlands at Galveston Island State Park provide natural ecosystem services.

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 = **every 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 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



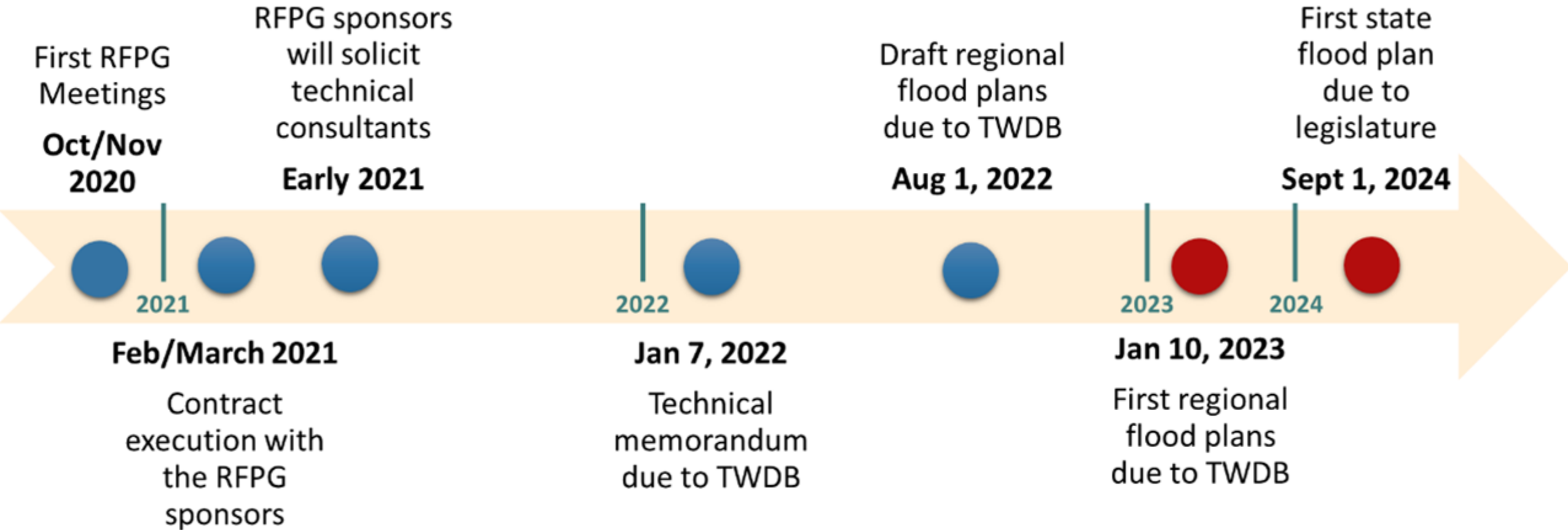
Image: Brent Hanson, U.S. Geological Survey. Public domain.

Questions? Comments?

Request for Applications Process & Contract Details

(5 minutes)

Flood Planning Timeline



Regional Flood Planning Grant RFA

- \$19.5 million in available funds to be allocated between 15 regions.
- Sponsors may submit applications November 20, 2020 - January 21, 2021
- Applications will be processed as received
- Contract execution (TWDB & sponsor) by March 31, 2020



Texas Water Development Board approved posting the Regional Flood Planning Grant Request for Applications on November 19th!

The Request for Applications and associated documents are now available on our website:

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/documents/2023/index.asp>

Regional Flood Planning Grant Application Documents:

- [Request for Applications Posting](#)
- [Application Instructions](#)
- [Application Checklist](#)
- [Draft Scope of Work](#)
- [Draft Contractor \(Planning Group Sponsor\) Task Budget](#)
- [Board item document](#)

These documents are available on our website at:

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/planningdocu/2023/index.asp>

Funding the Planning Process

Total \$19,500,000

Region	RFPG Name	Allocated Funds
1	Canadian-Upper Red	\$1,008,200.00
2	Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress	\$910,400.00
3	Trinity	\$2,520,200.00
4	Sabine	\$947,600.00
5	Neches	\$1,148,900.00
6	San Jacinto	\$2,446,000.00
7	Upper Brazos	\$961,500.00
8	Lower Brazos	\$1,485,500.00
9	Upper Colorado	\$946,200.00
10	Lower Colorado-Lavaca	\$1,373,700.00
11	Guadalupe	\$961,300.00
12	San Antonio	\$1,295,000.00
13	Nueces	\$1,143,700.00
14	Upper Rio Grande	\$1,081,800.00
15	Lower Rio Grande	\$1,270,000.00



Image: Brent Hanson, U.S. Geological Survey. Public domain.

Questions? Comments?

RFPG Responsibilities: Scope of Work Overview (20 minutes)

General Document Cross-Reference

Regional Flood Planning Contract Document References			2023 Regional Flood Plan Chapter, Associated TAC Sections, and Content		
TWDB Contract Reimbursement Accounting Number ('CAS')	Exhibit A - Contract SOW Task	Exhibit C - General Guidelines for Regional Flood Plan Development	Regional Flood Plan Chapter Number	Primary TAC Section	General Content
1	1	1	1	§361.30; §361.31; §361.32	Planning Area Description
2	2A	2	2	361.33	Existing Condition Flood Risk Analyses
3	2B			361.34	Future Condition Flood Risk Analyses

Task 1 – Planning Area Description



Llano dam on the Llano river sits on the banks of the county seat.

Image: TWDB

A general description of the region, including:

- social & economic character
- flood-prone areas, types of major flood risks, and key historical flood events
- political subdivisions with flood related authority
- the extent of local regulation and development codes relevant to flooding
- existing or proposed natural flood mitigation features and constructed major flood infrastructure

Task 2A & 2B – Existing & Future Condition Flood Risk Analyses

Perform existing and future condition **flood hazard analyses** to determine the location and magnitude of both 1.0% and 0.2% annual chance flood events



Develop existing & future condition **flood exposure analyses** to identify who and what might be harmed for both 1.0% and 0.2% annual chance flood events.

Perform existing & future condition **vulnerability analyses** to identify vulnerabilities of communities and critical facilities

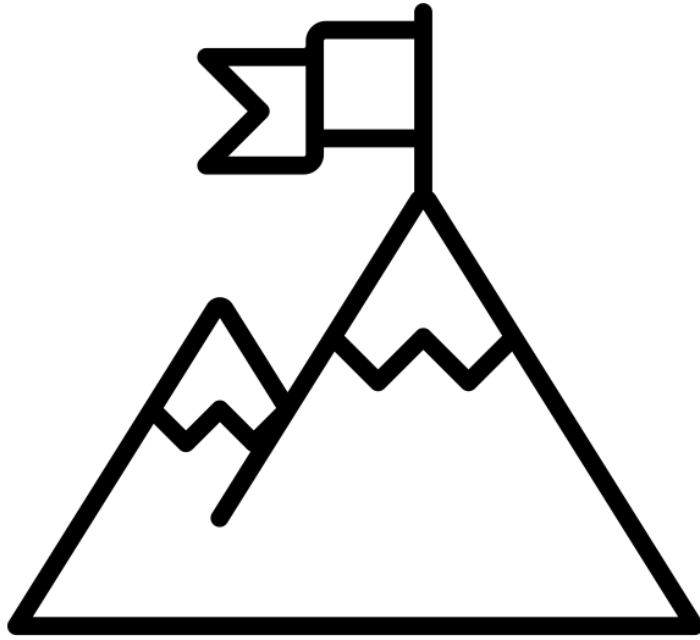
Task 3A – Evaluation & Recommendations on Floodplain Management Practices

- Consider how current floodplain management practices or regulations increase flood risks.
- Consider how the 1.0% annual chance floodplain and associated flood risks may change over time.
- Consider adopting minimum floodplain management/land use standards that an entity must adopt prior to including any evaluations, projects, or strategies in the regional flood plan.



West Fork San Jacinto River near Humble, Texas after Hurricane Harvey
Image: Steve Fitzgerald, Harris County Flood Control District

Task 3B – Flood Mitigation & Floodplain Management Goals

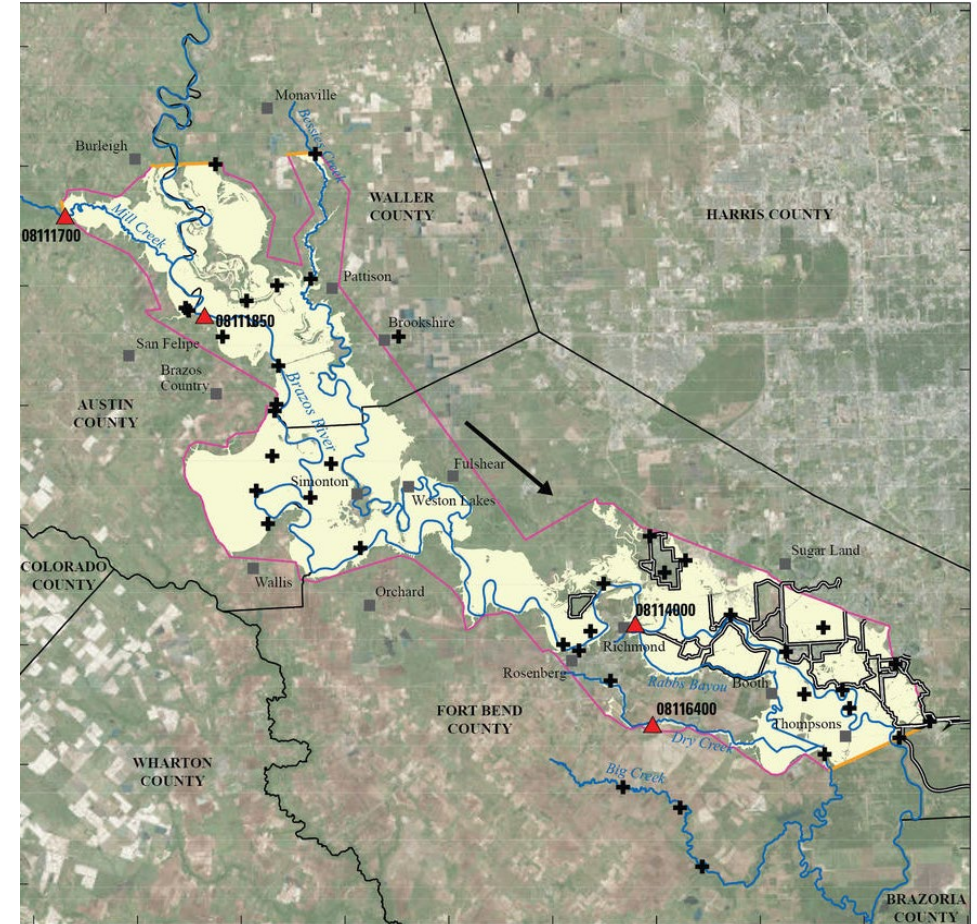


Created by Birckhead Creative
from Noun Project

- Identify specific and achievable flood mitigation and floodplain management goals
 - Short (10 year) & Long-Term (30 year)
- State the levels of residual flood risk after goals are fully met.

Task 4A – Flood Mitigation Needs Analysis

- Identify locations within the region that have the greatest flood mitigation and flood risk study needs.
- Based on the analyses and goals developed by the RFPG under Tasks 2A through 3B

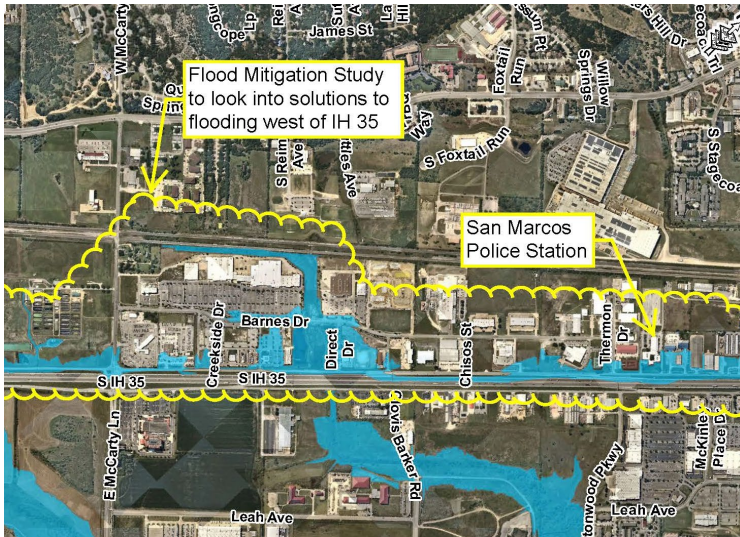


Map of inundated areas (yellow areas) on the lower Brazos River after Hurricane Harvey
Image: USGS

Key Terms for Tasks 4 & 5: FME, FMP, FMS

Flood Management Evaluation (FME)

- A proposed flood study of a specific, flood-prone area that is needed in order to assess flood risk and/or determine whether there are potentially feasible FMSs or FMPs.



Cottonwood Creek Flood Study, San Marcos, TX.

Image: City of San Marcos

Flood Management Strategy (FMS)

- A proposed plan to reduce flood risk or mitigate flood hazards to life or property (may or may not require associated FMPs to be implemented).



Exploration Green project, Clear Lake City, TX

Image: Texas Water Resources Institute

Flood Mitigation Project (FMP)

- A proposed project (structural and non-structural) that when implemented will reduce flood risk, mitigate flood hazards to life or property.

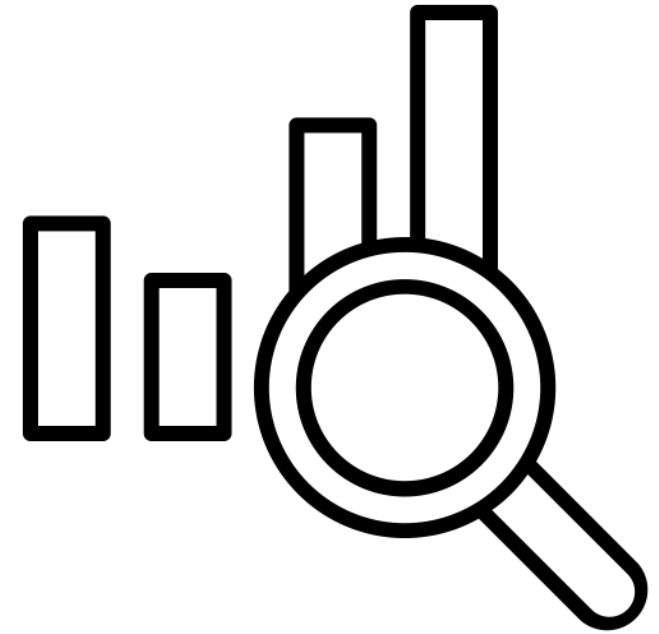


El Paso storm water project, El Paso, TX

Image: El Paso Water

Task 4B – Identification and Evaluation of Potential FMEs & Potentially Feasible FMSs and FMPs

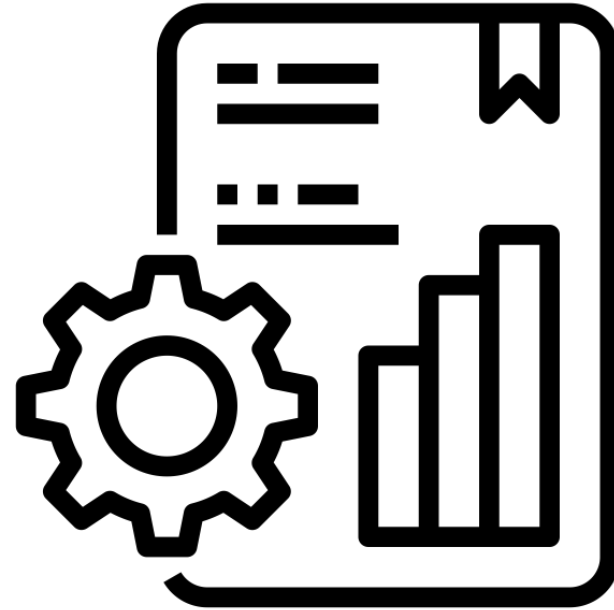
- Identify potential FMEs and potentially feasible FMSs and FMPs based on process developed with public input
- Evaluate potential FMEs and potentially feasible FMSs and FMPs based on a variety of factors described in rules and guidance.
- The FMPs should be permittable, constructible, and implementable.



Created by Pascal Heß
from Noun Project

Task 4C – Prepare and Submit Technical Memorandum

- Include all deliverables from Tasks 1 to 4B detailed in the Scope of Work
- TWDB Guidance Document will provide more information.
- Tentative Due Date: January 2022



Created by Komkrit Noenpoempisut
from Noun Project

Task 5 – Recommendation of FMEs, FMSs & FMPs

- Recommend FMEs that are most likely to identify potentially feasible FMSs and FMPs based on evaluations under Task 4B
- Recommend FMSs and FMPs to reduce the impacts of flood based on evaluations under Task 4B
- Recommendations should be based on comparison of alternatives



Created by Kwesi Phillips
from Noun Project

Regional & State Flood Planning Long-Range Planning Process



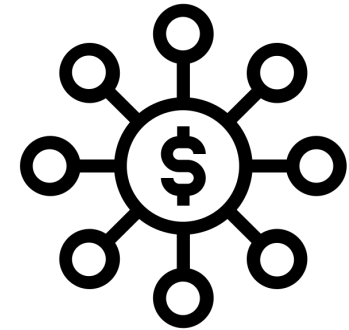
Created by Andrejs Kirma
from Noun Project

Regional Flood Plans will identify flood risk and recommend FMEs, FMSs, and FMPs within regions.



Created by Creative Stall
from Noun Project

State Flood Plan will rank recommended FMEs, FMSs, and FMPs statewide.



Created by Alice Design
from Noun Project

Future state financial assistance may be allocated using a to-be-determined prioritization criteria.*

*Funding to implement projects can also come from local, federal, or other sources.

Task 6A – Impacts of Regional Flood Plan

- Summarize the relative reduction in flood risk that implementation of the plan would achieve.
- Describe impacts of recommended FMSs and FMPs on environment, agriculture, recreation, water quality, erosion, sedimentation, and navigation.
- State that FMPs will not negatively affect neighboring areas.



Crops in the lower Rio Grande Valley
Image: TWDB



Recreational boating.
Image: TWDB



Dolan Falls
Image: TWDB

Task 6B – Impacts on Water Supply

- Summarize how Regional Flood Plan will affect water supply.
- How would FMSs and FMPs contribute to water supply?
- How would FMSs and FMPs impact water supply, availability, or projects in the State Water Plan?



© Texas Water Development Board

Task 7 – Flood Response Information and Activities

- Summarize existing flood response preparations.
- Coordinate with entities in the region to gather information
- RFPGs do not perform analyses or other activities related to disaster response or recovery.



Texas State Guard Hurricane Harvey emergency response.

Image: Texas State Guard

Task 8 – Administrative, Regulatory, and Legislative Recommendations

- Develop policy recommendations to implement and achieve the RFPG's stated goals and plans.
- Consider potential new revenue-raising opportunities to fund flood activities in the region.



Image: TWDB

Task 9 – Flood Infrastructure Financing Analysis

- Survey and report on how sponsors propose to finance recommended FMEs and FMPs
- Include recommendations on the proposed role of the State in financing FMEs and FMPs



Dam on the Llano River under Hwy 16 in Llano, Texas.

Image: TWDB

Task 10 – Public Participation & Plan Adoption

Administrative activities not included in other tasks, including:

- Meeting preparations, notices, agendas, materials, minutes, presentations, and public comments
- Website creation and maintenance
- Intraregional and interregional coordination and communication to develop the regional flood plan.



TWDB flood outreach meeting in Bastrop, TX.

Image: TWDB



Image: Brent Hanson, U.S. Geological Survey. Public domain.

Questions? Comments?