

2028 Regional Flood Planning Chair-Led Technical Conference Call

December 03, 2025

Agenda

1. Introductions and opening remarks
2. Select Task 5B Survey Results
3. Region 13 Nueces Presentation
4. Chair-Moderated Discussion
5. Q/A

This call is being recorded. The recording and slides will be made available on the TWDB Flood Planning *website as soon as possible.

*<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/planningdocu/2028/index.asp>

TWDB Flood Planning Staff



Reem Zoun, PE, CFM
Assistant Deputy Executive
Administrator
Office of Planning
reem.zoun@twdb.texas.gov



Tressa Olsen, CFM
Assistant Director
Flood Planning
tressa.olsen@twdb.Texas.gov



Kevin Wessels
Manager
Flood Planning
kevin.wessels@twdb.Texas.gov

Meet the TWDB Contract Managers



Tressa Olsen, CFM
(Interim) Regions 8, 12, 13



Cynthia Nolasco, State Flood Planner
Regions 1, 2, 11



Katie Koslan, CFM
Regions 3, 4, 5



Sarah Magana, Team Lead
Regions 7, 9, 10



Nick Collins
Regions 6, 14, 15

Round Robin Introductions by Region

(Name, Affiliation)

Task 5B – TWDB Guidance

- Prioritize FMEs for **small and rural communities that lack resources and staff.**
- Consider FMEs most likely to result in potentially feasible FMPs and FMSs.
- Beyond this requirement, RFPG has flexibility.
- RFPGs provide list **in order of timing.**
- RFPGs approve the FME list at regular RFPG meetings.

Rural applicant

(as applicable to TWDB financial assistance programs)

Rural Applicant – An applicant that is:

- (A) a nonprofit water supply or sewer service corporation created and operating under Chapter 67 of the Texas Water Code or a district or authority created under Section 52, Article III, or Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, no part of the service area of which is located in an urban area with a population of more than 50,000;
- (B) a municipality:
 - (i) with a population of 10,000 or less, no part of the service area of which is located in an urban area with a population of 50,000 or more; or
 - (ii) located wholly in a county in which no urban area has a population of more than 50,000;
- (C) a county in which no urban area has a population of more than 50,000; or
- (D) an entity that:
 - (i) is a nonprofit water supply or sewer service corporation created and operating under Chapter 67 of the Texas Water Code, a district or authority created under Section 52, Article III, or Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, a municipality, county, or other political subdivision of the state, or an interstate compact commission to which the state is a party; and
 - (ii) demonstrates in a manner satisfactory to the board that the entity is rural or the area to be served by the project is a wholly rural area despite not otherwise qualifying under Paragraph (A), (B), or (C).

Source: <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/fif/doc/SFY2024-2025-FIF-IUP.pdf?d=8364.5>

Select Task 5B Survey Results

Region	Criteria	Criteria Description
Region 1	Municipality & County Population	TWDB's guidelines listed in the guidance when considering what is small and rural.
Region 4	Municipality & County Population	The planning group decided on revising the metric to 15,000 which included Royse City and Kilgore. We are evaluating the list of FMEs, the associated FME cost, anticipated scope to be completed, whether available models exist which could speed up the analysis time, and considering previous involvement and engagement in the RFP process.
Region 8	Municipality & County Population	Our region is considering using the 2024-2025 FIUP definition to define what communities qualify as rural. The RFPG has discussed modifying the population threshold for municipalities to more closely align with other population delineations we have used in portions of the plan (5,000 and 25,000 have been used for other purposes in our region and are some of the alternate values that have been considered).
Region 9	Municipality & County Population	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Municipality with a population of 10,000 or less; OR located wholly in a county in which no urban area has a population of more than 50,000 2. County in which no urban center has a population of more than 50,000; except for the County being the applicant for a study or project wholly located in an unincorporated community or communities with a population of 10,000 or less per community
Region 14	Municipality & County Population	Municipalities only count if they have a population of <10,000 and the county in which they are located has a population of <100,000 .

Select Task 5B Survey Results, cont.

Region	Criteria	Criteria Description
Region 3	FIF ranking criteria with Rural	The subcommittee recommended using TWDB's FIF ranking criteria to select FMEs across the region. They recommended TWDB's definition of "rural" to refine the FMEs suggested for Task 5B. The RFPG's approach for Tasks 4C (Performance of FMEs by RFPGs) and 5B (Recommend a list of FMEs to be performed by TWDB) differ in that 4C will focus on FMEs that score high for FIF while 5B will have an added condition of rural.
Region 4	Screening and Prioritization	Size of study and ability to perform the study and provide deliverables in approximately 6 months so it can be incorporated into the Draft Plan.
Region 8	Screening and Prioritization	Our region will likely utilize the results of our Task 3B - Needs Analysis to prioritize rural FMEs for performance. The Task 3B analysis included consideration of existing flood risk, historical flood risk, and vulnerability metrics. Additional criteria such as area thresholds, FME types, or sponsor interest may be applied to help prioritize valuable studies and ensure the recommended FMEs can be completed within the planning timeline.
Region 14	Screening and Prioritization	We are considering FME not performed, in-progress, or planned as of the submission date, and not likely to be funded under the FIF in upcoming cycles. We're also prioritizing communities without existing Stormwater Master Plans, that could be used to identify, rank, and prioritize projects in the community. While not a requirement, community activity related to stormwater infrastructure is considered an indicator when it comes to FME recommendations.

Region 13 Nueces Update

By Judge Barbara Canales (Region 13 Nueces Chair)

Moderated Discussion

Moderator: Judge Barbara Canales (Region 13 Nueces Chair)

Questions?

Question: We are anticipating struggles with stakeholder/entity engagement in the Task 5B process. Will the FME program contract include expenses to meet with project sponsors and public meetings?

Note: TWDB will send out a follow-up email blast with questions and answers, including those submitted ahead of the call.

Date & Topics for Future Calls