

Region 2. Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress Regional Flood Planning Group
January 7, 2021
2:00 pm
Via teleconference/webinar

Use the following information to register for the meeting:

<https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJEkf-CorzgoE9FqFRaHzmys09UII5iNpVkN>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

If you experience issues while registering or do not have access to a computer, please contact Paul Prange no less than two (2) workdays prior to the meeting at 903.255.3519 or pprange@atcog.org.

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome
3. Confirmation of attendees / determination of quorum
4. Public comments – limit 3 minutes per person
5. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting (p3).
6. TWDB Update and Presentation (p9).
7. Update from Planning Group Sponsor regarding status of Regional Flood Planning Grant contract with the TWDB: [link to 1st Planning Cycle Documents \(2020-2023\) webpage](#)
 - a. Discussion on status of application for Regional Flood Planning Grant funds
 - b. Discussion of technical consultant procurement process
 - c. Discussion on Scope of Work posted with TWDB RFA

Action Items

8. Consider revision of Group Bylaws (p48)
9. Consider applications of nominees to fill the currently vacant *Counties, Flood Districts, and Industries* voting positions (p49)
10. Consider adding voting members, non-voting members, and/or new interest categories (p50)
11. Consider a means by which the RFPG will develop and host a public website (required per §361.21(b)). (p51)
12. Consider a means by which the RFPG will accept written public comment prior to and after meetings (required per §361.21(c)). (p52)
13. Discussion of the required solicitation for persons or entities who request to be notified of RFPG activities (required per §361.21(e)). (p53)
14. Consider date and agenda items for next meeting
15. Adjourn

If you wish to provide written comments prior to or after the meeting, please email your comments to pprange@atcog.org and include “Region 2 RFPG Meeting” in the subject line of the email – OR – you may mail your comments to Region 2 RFPG, c/o ATCOG – Paul Prange, 4808 Elizabeth St, Texarkana, TX 75503.

If you wish to provide oral public comments at the meeting, please submit a request via email to pprange@atcog.org, include "Region 2 RFPG Meeting Public Comment Request" at least 2 hours prior to the meeting, and follow the registration instructions at top of page 1 of the Agenda.

Additional information may be obtained from: [Region 2 RFPG website TBD] Ark-Tex Council of Governments, 903-832-8636, pprange@atcog.org, 4808 Elizabeth St, Texarkana, TX 75503

Meeting Minutes
Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress Flood Planning Group Meeting
October 30, 2020
1:00PM
GoToWebinar Virtual Meeting

Roll Call:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (x) /Absent () / Alternate Present (*)</u>
Preston Ingram (William)	Agricultural interests	X
Vacant	Counties	N/A
W. Greg Carter	Electric generating utilities	X
Laura-Ashley Overdyke	Environmental interests	X
Vacant	Flood districts	N/A
Vacant	Industries	N/A
Dustin Henslee	Municipalities	X
Kirby Hollingsworth	Public	X
R Reeves Hayter	River authorities	X
Kelly Mitchell	Small business	X
Joseph W. Weir III	Water districts	X
Susan Whitfield	Water utilities	X

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
James (Clay) Shipes	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	X
Brian Hurtuk	Texas Division of Emergency Management	X
Darrell Dean	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
Tony Resendez	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	X
Trey Bahm	General Land Office	X
Megan Ingram	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	X
Michelle Havelka	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	X

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **9**

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

Other Meeting Attendees: **

James Bronikowski, TWDB
 Brooke Paup, TWDB Board Member
 Reem Zoun, TWDB
 Matt Nelson, TWDB
 Morgan White, TWDB

Megan Ingram, TWDB
 Richard Bagans, TWDB
 Patrick Lopez, TWDB
 Sarah Backhouse, TWDB

Ron Ellis, TWDB
Ryke Moore, TWDB
Hayley Gillespie, TWDB
Anna Gonzalez, TWDB
Chris Brown
Matt Bucchin
Stephanie Castillo
Kyle Dooley
Andy Endsley
Tom Gooch
Stephanie Griffin
Heather Harris
Brennan Kane
Vance Liles
Joshua McClure

Jarred Overbey
Paul Prange
David Rivera
Walt Sears
Andrew Smith
Kevin Smith
Tony Smith
Kayla Wood
Jennifer Sheehan
Lauren Gonzalez
Tina Hendon
Amin Kiaghadi
Benjamin Pylant
Sephra Thomas, TWDB

**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>.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order

James Bronikowski called the meeting to order at 1:08PM. 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.

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

James Bronikowski and Director Brooke Paup welcomed members to the meeting. James Bronikowski provided meeting facilitation information and instructions.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Member Introductions

Each present voting and non-voting member of the Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress RFPG introduced themselves.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Regional Flood Planning Overview Presentation

James Bronikowski presented an overview of the regional flood planning process.

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

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

After discussion, the bylaws were edited to replace “Model RFPG” with “Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress RFPG”. Additionally, the members discussed and made edits to the model bylaws regarding the following topics: maximum number of voting members, removal of nonapplicable language regarding neighboring RFPGs touching the Gulf Coast, designation of alternates, selection of initial officers, calling special meetings, amendment of bylaws, and officer vacancies.

The members discussed expiration of terms, designation of alternates in writing, selection of Executive Committee members, quorum requirements, and special meetings in regard to Open Meetings Act requirements. No changes were made regarding these topics.

A motion was made by Greg Carter to adopt the bylaws.

The motion was seconded by Joseph Weir.

The vote to adopt the group bylaws passed by a vote of 9 Ayes and 0 Nays.

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

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

The members discussed the possibility of selecting an Interim Chair.

A nomination of Reeves Hayter as the Interim Chair was made by Joseph Weir.

The nomination of Reeves Hayter as the Interim Chair was approved by unanimous consent.

James Bronikowski offered for Interim Chair Reeves Hayter to facilitate the remainder of meeting. Interim Chair Reeves Hayter requested that James Bronikowski continue facilitating the meeting.

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

James Bronikowski listed the entities that had expressed interest in serving as the Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress RFPG's planning group sponsor. These interested entities included:
Ark-Tex Council of Governments

Chris Brown (Ark-Tex Council of Governments) gave public comment regarding Ark-Tex Council of Governments' interest in serving as planning group sponsor.

James Bronikowski 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.

James Bronikowski opened discussion on selecting a planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG. The members discussed Ark-Tex Council of Governments' qualifications to serve as planning group sponsor.

A motion was made by Joseph Weir to select Ark-Tex Council of Governments as the designated planning group sponsor for Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress RFPG.

Greg Carter seconded the motion.

The vote to select the Ark-Tex Council of Governments as the planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG passed by a vote of 9 Ayes and 0 Nays.

The members then took a 5 minutes recess.

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).

James Bronikowski opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

James Bronikowski described existing notice requirements. James Bronikowski opened discussion on identifying additional, region-specific public notice requirements.

The members discussed existing notice requirements.

No action was taken. James Bronikowski closed discussion on AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.

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

James Bronikowski 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.

No points nor comments/concerns were brought forth during open discussion.

A motion was made by Lauran-Ashley Overdyke to authorize the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG.

The motion was seconded by Dustin Henslee.

The motion 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 unanimous consent.

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

James Bronikowski opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

James Bronikowski opened discussion additional voting and non-voting positions that may be needed to ensure adequate representation from the interest in the region.

The members discussed the required assignment of a non-voting liaison with the Region 1 Canadian Upper-Red RFPG, geographic diversity in regard to future nominees for additional voting and non-voting positions, and the potential addition of members for federal representation.

No action was taken. James Bronikowski closed discussion on AGENDA ITEM NO. 10.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Consider initiating RFPG solicitation process for individuals to fill vacant required voting member positions

James Bronikowski opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

James Bronikowski opened the floor to discussion on initiating RFPG solicitation processes for individuals to fill the vacant required voting member position. The current vacant, required voting position for Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress RFPG is:

Currently Vacant: *Counties*
 Flood districts
 Industries

The members discussed authorizing the Ark-Tex Council of Governments to initiate the solicitation process for individuals to fill the vacant required voting member positions not designated by the TWDB.

Joseph Weir made a motion to authorize the Ark-Tex Council of Governments to initiate the solicitation process for individuals to fill the vacant required voting member positions not designated by the TWDB.

The motion was seconded by Reeves Hayter.

The motion passed by unanimous consent.

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

James Bronikowski opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

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

James Bronikowski opened discussion to consider the date and agenda items for the next meeting.

The members discussed the solicitation process for additional members including required vacant positions, the possibility of scheduling the next RFPG meeting earlier than the formerly established quarterly meeting schedule, organization and coordination with the Ark-Tex Council of Governments, the possibility of scheduling the next RFPG meeting to take place in January 2021, potential agenda items for the next RFPG meeting, and the timeline for meeting requirements in regard to future contracts.

After discussion, the members requested that the Ark-Tex Council of Governments disseminate an online poll for the purposes of scheduling the next RFPG meeting in January 2021.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: Adjourn

Greg Carter made a motion to adjourn.

The motion was seconded by Joseph Weir.

The vote to adjourn was passed by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 4:04PM by James Bronikowski

Approved by the Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress RFPG at a meeting held on January 7, 2021.

Attest

Reeves Hayter, 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

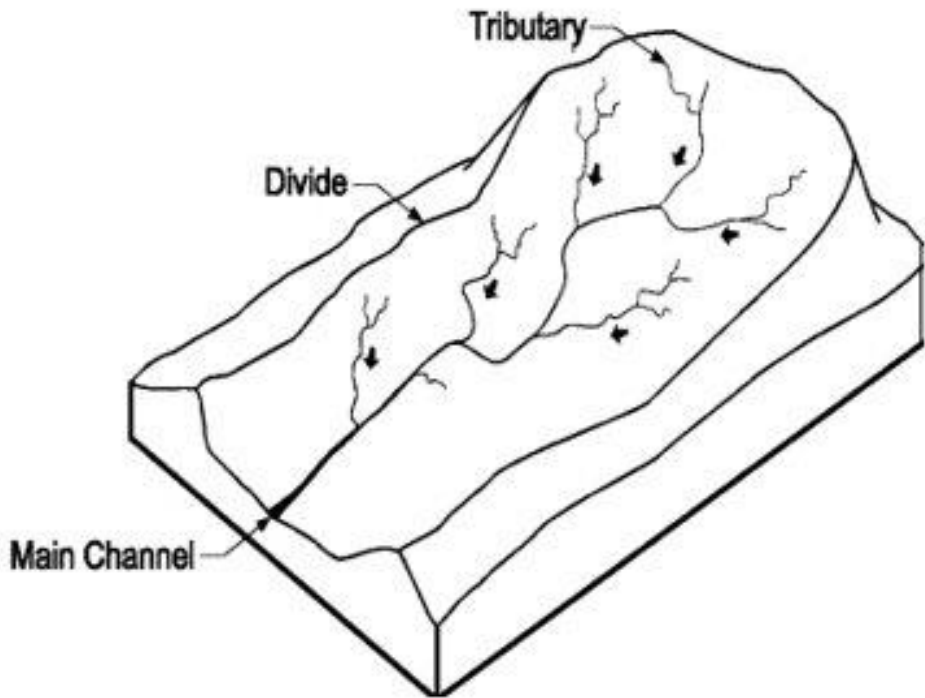
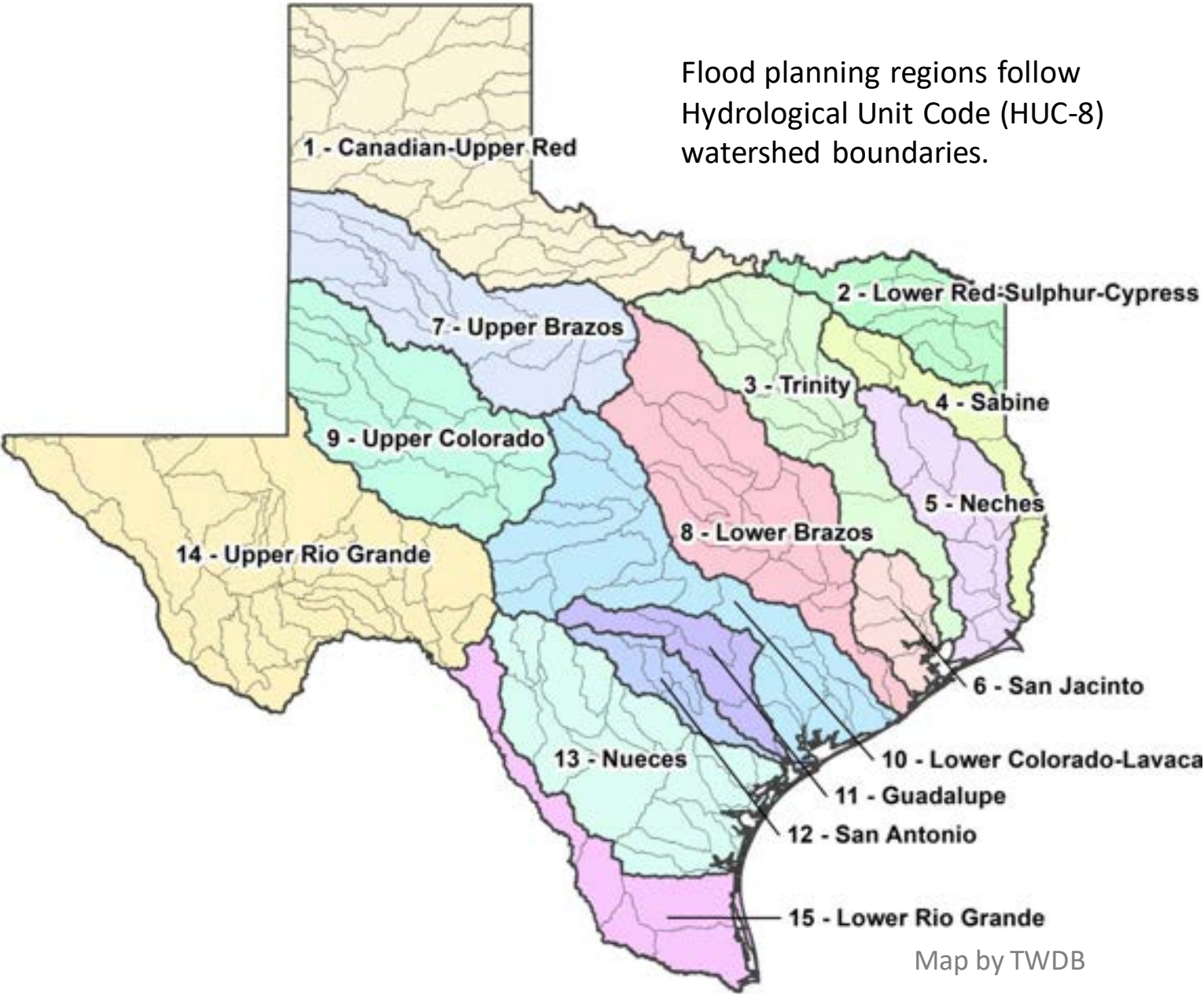
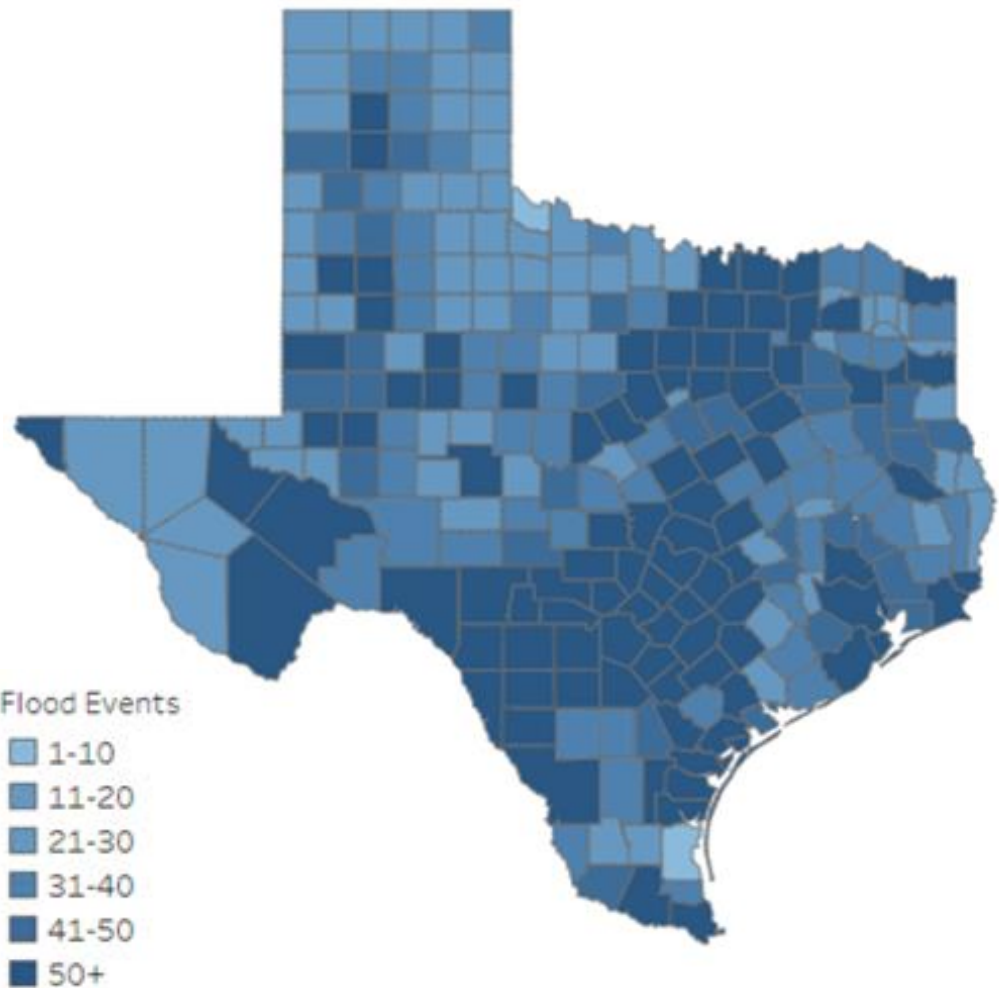


Figure 1-2. Riverine Watershed and Floodplain

Image by FEMA







Flooding 101: Flooding in Texas





Map: FEMA

Data: NOAA Storm Event Database 1996-2020

State Flood Assessment



REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
86TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION



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.

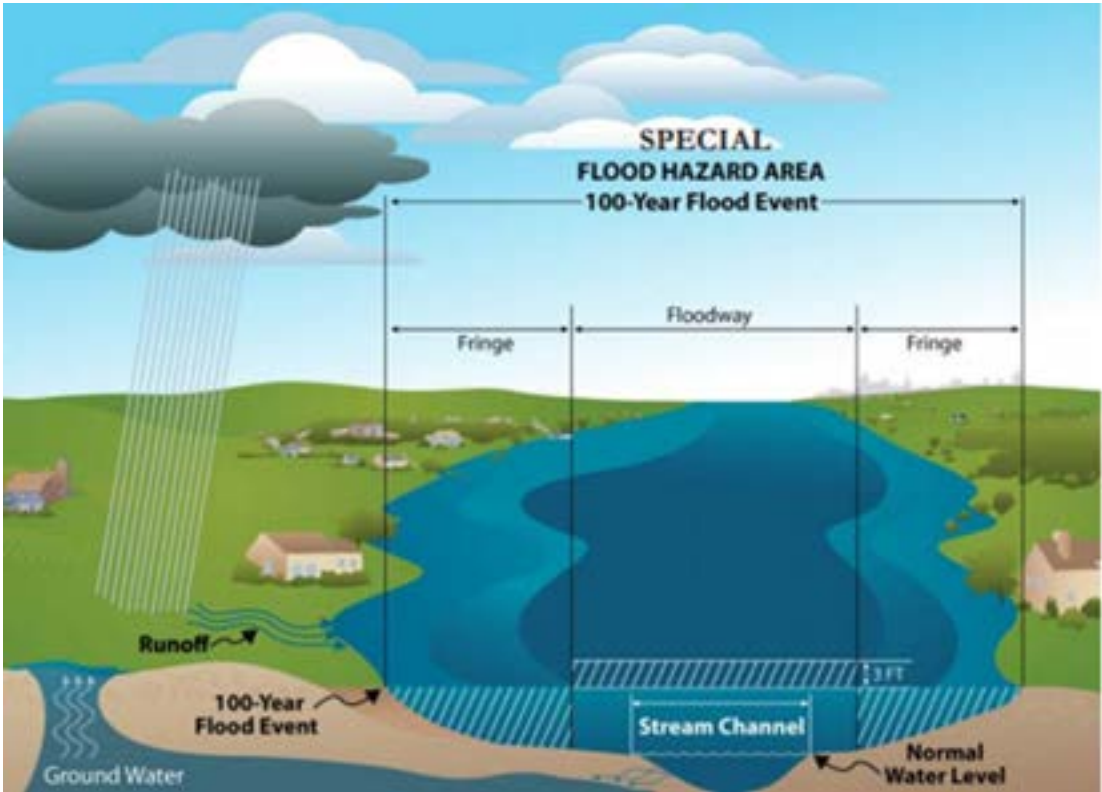


Image: FEMA



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.

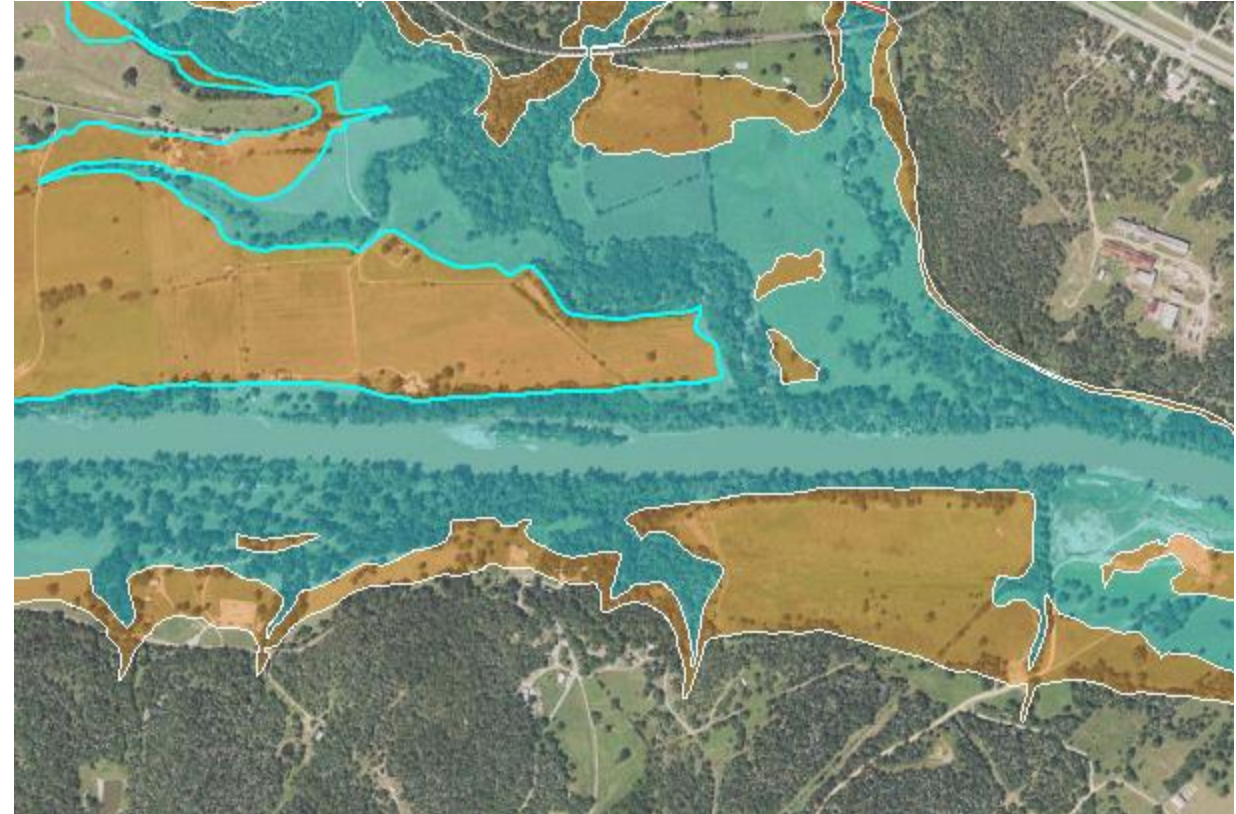


Wetlands at Galveston Island State Park provide natural ecosystem services.

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 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



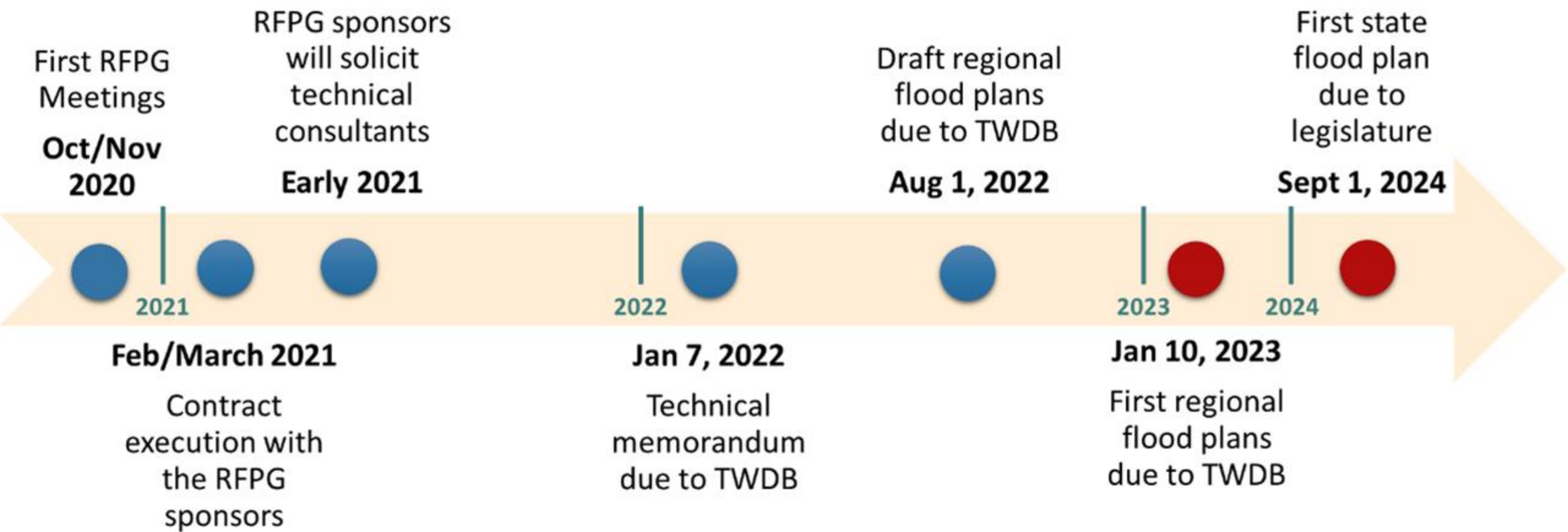
Image: Brent Hanson, U.S. Geological Survey. Public domain.

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

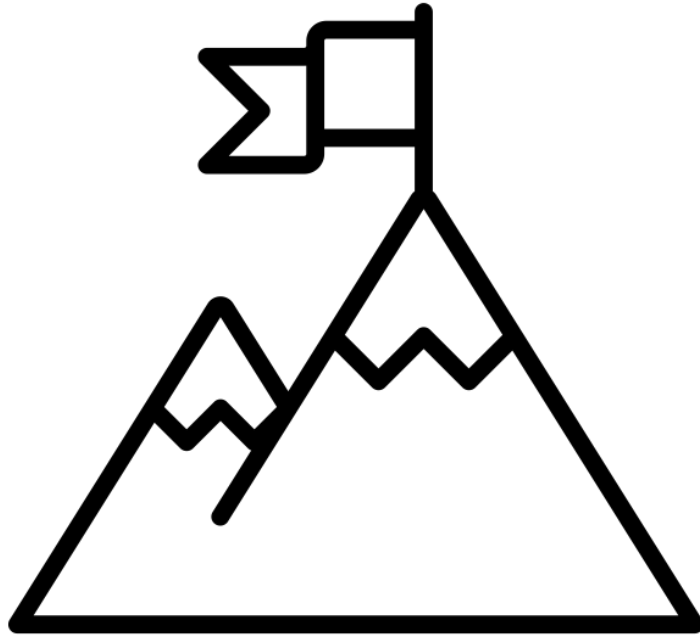
Task 3A – Evaluation & Recommendations on Floodplain Management Practices

- 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

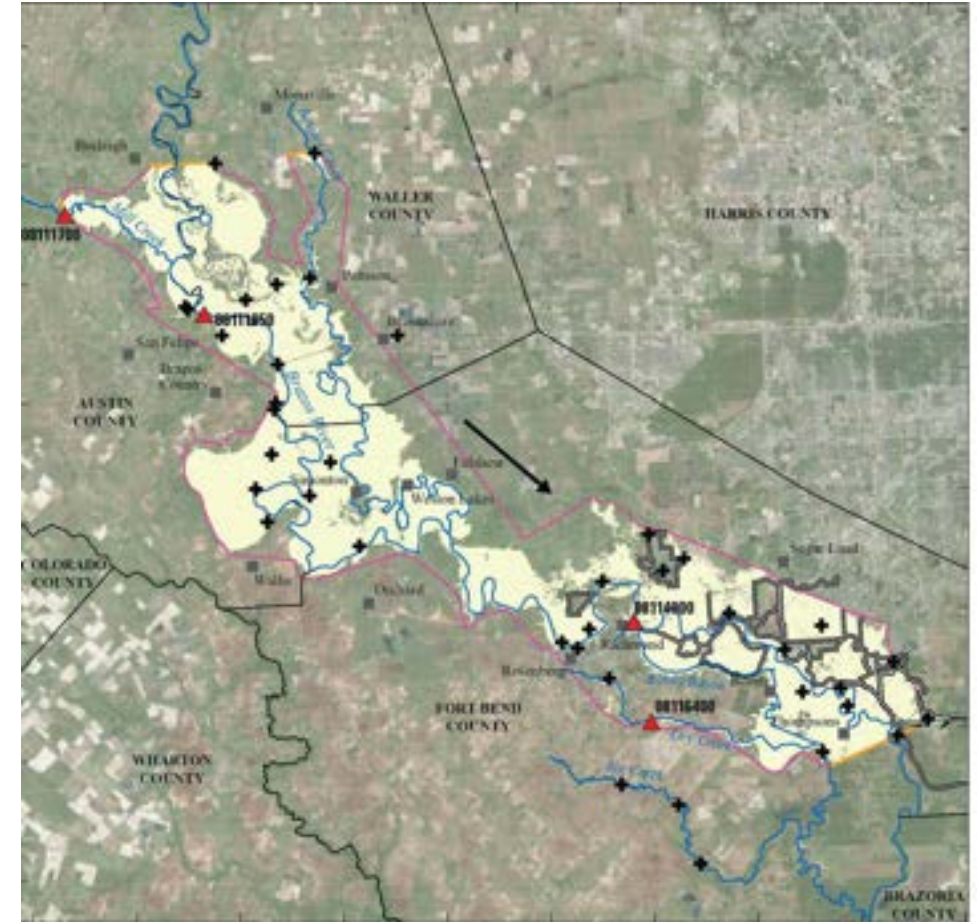


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from Noun Project

- 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)

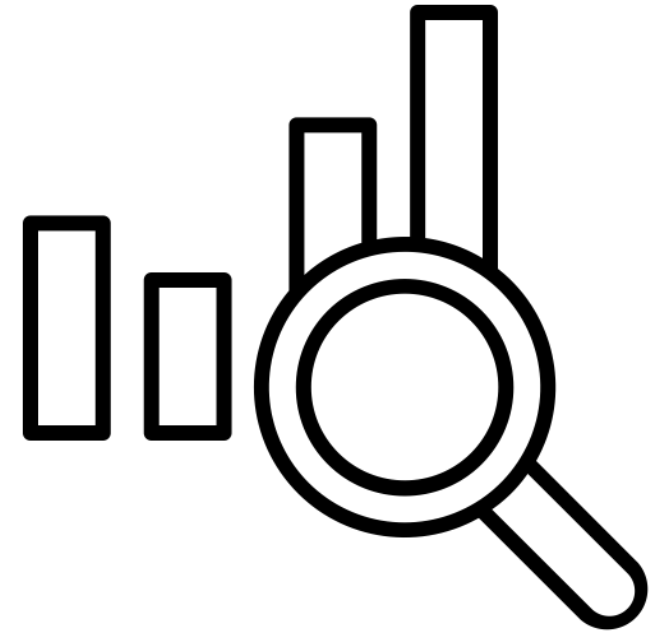
- A proposed project (structural and non-structural) that when implemented will reduce flood risk, mitigate flood hazards to life or property.



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

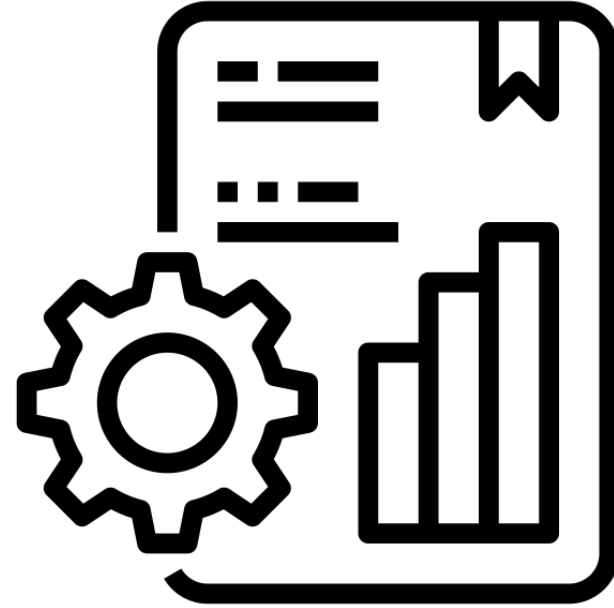
- Identify potential FMEs and potentially feasible FMSs and FMPs based on process developed with public input
- Evaluate potential FMEs and potentially feasible FMSs and FMPs based on a variety of factors described in rules and guidance.
- The FMPs should be permittable, constructible, and implementable.



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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



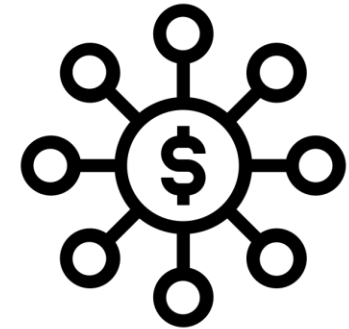
Created by Andrejs Kirma
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Regional Flood Plans will identify flood risk and recommend FMEs, FMSs, and FMPs within regions.



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?

BRIEFING PAPER - ACTION ITEM

ITEM 8:

Consider revision of Group Bylaws

BACKGROUND:

The RFPG Bylaws were reviewed and adopted at the meeting on Oct. 30, 2020. In our first meeting, the membership wanted to fill all voting positions and have a chance to get to know one another before making any officer or executive committee selections. The following would allow additional time for Officer and Executive Committee selection.

TWDB has also suggested a revision for clarification of Officer and Exe. Committee appointments.

DISCUSSION:

Article VIII. 2(a) - **Initial Officers.** Within ~~90~~180 days after the adoption of these bylaws, the voting members shall select initial officers. (This would allow until April 28, 2021)

Article VIII. 2(b) - **Regular Officers.** Beginning in 2022 ~~Regular~~ officers shall be selected at the first meeting of each calendar year ~~after the calendar year in which these bylaws were adopted.~~

Article V. 4.1 and 4.2 – Filing Vacancies – 4.1 outlines the process of filling a voting position should that position be vacated. This includes the requirement for the Executive Committee to review the nominations and make recommendations to the Group.

The end of 4.2 states the following:

If upon the designation of initial flood planning group members by the TWDB on October 1, 2020, there is a vacant voting position for one or more of the required interest categories in 31 TAC §361.11(e), the Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress RFPG shall solicit nominations by generally utilizing the selection process set forth in this section, A nominee may be selected to fill the vacant voting position upon a majority vote of the voting members present.

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider redline revisions for Article VIII

Evaluate whether Article V. 4.2 allows for the appointment of vacant positions by the voting members without recommendations from an Executive Committee.

BRIEFING PAPER - ACTION ITEM

ITEM 9:

Consider applications of nominees to fill the currently vacant *Counties, Flood Districts, and Industries* voting positions

BACKGROUND:

In the meeting on October 30, 2020, the RFPG authorized initiate the solicitation process for individuals to fill the vacant required voting member positions not designated by the TWDB. The positions are *Counties, Flood Districts, and Industries*.

DISCUSSION:

ATCOG worked with Chairman Hayter and the TWDB to post the following solicitation:
<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/doc/Region%20Vacancy%20Notice.pdf?d=13600.744999945164>

All nominations are due by January 4, 2021. The above notice was posted on the TWDB on their website under “Flood Planning” at www.TexasFlood.org, and delivered to each of the 20 County Clerks as required by the bylaws.

RECOMMENDATION:

Each nomination will be forwarded to our voting members after the close of the nomination period. We ask each voting member review the nominations prior to our January 7th meeting and be prepared to discuss qualifications and consider member acceptance as directed by the Group Bylaws as considered in Item 8.

BRIEFING PAPER - ACTION ITEM

ITEM 10:

Consider adding voting members, non-voting members, and/or new interest categories

BACKGROUND:

In the October 30th meeting, members discussed the potential addition of members for federal representation.

DISCUSSION:

Article V Section 4.2, and Article VI Section 2 addresses the ability to add these positions.

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider additional representation that the RFPG considers appropriate for development of its Regional Flood Plan.

BRIEFING PAPER - ACTION ITEM

ITEM 11:

Consider a means by which the RFPG will develop and host a public website (required per §361.21(b)).

BACKGROUND:

Texas Administrative Code §361.21(b) states:

Each RFPG shall create and maintain a website that they will use to post public notices of all its full RFPG, subgroup, and subcommittee meetings and make available meeting agendas and related meeting materials for the public, in accordance with the items listed below in subsection (h)(1) - (3) of this section.

DISCUSSION:

ATCOG is accustomed to maintaining this type of site and information. We will establish a website that meets/exceeds the requirements of the rule. Costs will be minimal and maintained internally by ATCOG IT staff. The site will be easy to edit and improve as more information is needed to be added.

Some potential domain names are:

Texasflood-region2.org
Texasfloodregion2.org
TexasRFPG2.org

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider desired domain name and other information that might be included.

BRIEFING PAPER - ACTION ITEM

ITEM 12:

Consider a means by which the RFPG will accept written public comment prior to and after meetings (required per §361.21(c)).

BACKGROUND:

Texas Administrative Code §361.21(c) states:

Each RFPG shall provide a means by which it will accept written public Comment prior to and after meetings. The RFPGs must also allow oral public Comment during RFPG meetings.

DISCUSSION:

ATCOG proposes the following be included on each agenda:

If you wish to provide written comments prior to or after the meeting, please email your comments to pprange@atcog.org and include "Region 2 RFPG Meeting" in the subject line of the email – OR – you may mail your comments to Region 2 RFPG, c/o ATCOG – Paul Prange, 4808 Elizabeth St, Texarkana, TX 75503.

If you wish to provide oral public comments at the meeting, please submit a request via email to pprange@atcog.org , include "Region 2 RFPG Meeting Public Comment Request" at least 2 hours prior to the meeting, and follow the registration instructions at top of page 1 of the Agenda.

Additional information may be obtained from: [Region 2 RFPG website TBD] Ark-Tex Council of Governments, 903-832-8636, pprange@atcog.org, 4808 Elizabeth St, Texarkana, TX 75503

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the above wording as included on the current agenda.

BRIEFING PAPER - ACTION ITEM

ITEM 13:

Discussion of the required solicitation for persons or entities who request to be notified of RFPG activities (required per §361.21(e)).

BACKGROUND:

Texas Administrative Code §361.21(e) states:

Each RFPG shall solicit interested parties from the public and maintain a list of emails of persons or entities who request to be notified electronically of RFPG activities.

DISCUSSION:

ATCOG is accustomed to sending multiple electronic notification for current meetings. We will solicit interested parties and include them on the email notification list for meetings and notices.

RECOMMENDATION:

Include the following on the agendas:

All meeting agendas and notices will be posted on our website at (TBD). If you wish to be notified electronically of RFPG activities, please submit a request to pprange@atcog, include "Request for notification of Region 2 RFPG activities". This request will be honored via email only.