

Region 8 - Lower Brazos

Regional Flood Planning Group

LOWER BRAZOS REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

Thursday, February 20, 2025

10:00 AM

Brazos River Authority, Lt. Gen. Phillip J. Ford Central Office

4600 Cobbs Dr., Waco, TX 76710

Region 8 - Lower Brazos

Regional Flood Planning Group

- 1. Call Meeting to Order and Attendance**
- 2. Public Input - comments on agenda items or flood planning issues (limited to 3 minutes each)**
- 3. Consent Agenda**
 - 1. Approval of Minutes from the December 12, 2024, meeting**
 - 2. Approval and Certification of the Finance Report Expenditures**

Meeting Minutes

REGION 8 - LOWER BRAZOS REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

Brazos River Authority, Lt. Gen. Phillip J. Ford Central Office,
4600 Cobbs Dr. Waco, TX 76710

10:00 a.m. – Thursday, December 12, 2024

Meeting agenda, materials, and audio recordings are available online at www.lowerbrazosflood.org

1. Call Meeting to Order and Attendance

Anthony Beach presided over the meeting in Waco, TX. Mr. Beach called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Susan Alford	A	David Lilly	A
Anthony Beach	P	Tim Finley	P
Carl Burch	A	Matt Phillips	P
Sujeeth Draksharam	P	Mark Vogler Alt. Jeffery Janecek	P
Charlotte Gilpin	P	Brandon Wade	P
Alysha Girard	P	Claudia Wright	P

Quorum Present: **Yes**. A quorum is 7 of 12 voting members.

2. Public Input - Public comments on agenda items or flood planning issues (limited to 3 minutes each)

Anthony Beach opened the floor for public comments. No public comments.

3. Consent Agenda

3.1. Approval of Minutes from the October 24, 2024 meeting

3.2. Report, Approval and Certification of the Finance Report Expenditures

Anthony Beach opened the floor for approval of the Consent Agenda Items. The October 24, 2024, meeting minutes and finance report were approved as presented. Sujeeth Draksharam made the motion to approve the consent agenda items and Claudia Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Discussion and possible action on the report from the technical consultant

The Technical Consultant team provided an update on planning data and guidance provided by the TWDB and discussed the first steps and schedule for the development of the 2028 Regional Flood Plan. The RFPG discussed outstanding data needs from the TWDB and what information would be included within those datasets.

The Technical Consultant team provided an update on the development of the amendment evaluation and documentation. Anthony Beech asked why one flood management evaluation (FME) did not make it through the evaluation. The Technical Consultant team explained that sufficient data was not provided by the community to complete the TWDB tables required for FMEs. This does not preclude the FME from being incorporated into the plan at a later date.

The RFPG discussed the different categories of flood mitigation strategies (FMSs) and their alignment with the RFPG and plan goals. Alysha Girard encouraged the Technical Consultant team to ensure that the FMSs addressed regional problems and not local flooding issues. The Technical Consultant team confirmed that all submitted FMSs meet the goals established in the Lower Brazos 2023 Regional Flood Plan; these goals could be revisited and adjusted in the 2028 flood planning cycle.

The Technical Consultant team discussed amendment requests received after the data collection deadline. The RFPG determined to not incorporate the requests into the amendment to ensure consistent messaging and opportunity for all communities. However, these requests will be considered for incorporation into the 2028 Regional Flood Plan.

The Technical Consultant team provided an overview of the community questionnaire. They confirmed that this will be one avenue for communities to submit FMXs for inclusion in the 2028 Regional Flood Plan; however, these requests will also be accepted from emails or other avenues, as needed. Data regarding floodplain management, emergency planning, and other flood related practices will also be collected through the questionnaire and used in the development of several chapters of the regional flood plan. The RFPG requested that the public facing map be accessible without having to submit any personal information, and to have it display comments left by other users. The Technical Consultant team agreed to look into making these adjustments.

The Technical Consultant team provided an overview of upcoming items for discussion and RFPG votes. With regards to Task 2, Charlotte Gilpin asked if the prioritization of the data source layers for flood quilt development should be a statewide decision. The Technical Consultant team confirmed that this is guided by the TWDB at a statewide level; however, there are variations in data availability and quality across the regions that needs to be considered per flood planning region. The Technical Consultant team will review and further explain these data sets at the next meeting and will work with surrounding flood planning regions to ensure there are not continuity issues.

5. Report from:

5.1. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) staff

Anita Machiavello provided the TWDB Report to the RFPG.

5.2. Regional Planning Sponsor

No Sponsor report.

5.3. Lower Brazos RFPG Liaisons and Chair

The Chair gave a brief report.

6. Confirm next meeting date and discuss new business to be considered at next meeting

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, February 20, 2025.

7. Adjourn

Anthony Beach adjourned the meeting at 10:45 AM.

Approved by the Region 8 Lower Brazos RFPG at the meeting held on February 20, 2025.

Matt Phillips, Secretary

Alysha Girard, Chair

Brazos River Authority
2028 Region 8 Lower Brazos Regional Flood Planning Group
 From 11/01/24 Through 12/31/24

	Current Period	Life to Date	Total Budget	Budget Variance	% Budget Remaining
Revenues					
State Grants	92,396	96,136	2,520,600	2,424,464	96.19%
Total Revenues	92,396	96,136	2,520,600	2,424,464	96.19%
Reimbursable Expenditures					
Salaries	45	512	14,750	14,238	96.53%
Benefits	19	220			
Indirect Costs	5	51			
Other Expenditures			10,250	10,250	100.00%
Printing/Publishing					
Public Information/Notices/Ads ¹		-			
Misc postage/overnight/Misc/etc. ²	320	356			
Total Other Expenditures	389	1,140	25,000	23,860	95.44%
Voting Planning Member Travel		-	4,500	4,500	100.00%
Subcontractors ³	92,007	94,996	2,491,100	2,396,104	96.19%
Total Reimbursable Expenditures	92,396	96,136	2,520,600	2,424,464	96.19%
Work in Kind					
Salaries/benefits	172	1,495			
Other	-	-			
Total Work in Kind	172	1,495			
Net Revenue over expenditures	(172)	(1,495)	-	-	

²Agenda, handouts, sign in sheets & chair notes - Digicert

³ Thru 10/31/24

Region 8 - Lower Brazos

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4. Discussion and possible action on the report from the technical consultant

REGION



Lower Brazos

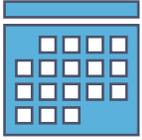
Regional Flood Planning Group

TECHNICAL CONSULTANT UPDATE

FEBRUARY 20, 2025



Agenda



TWDB Schedule Update



Community Questionnaire



Discussion of Task 2A – Layer Prioritization



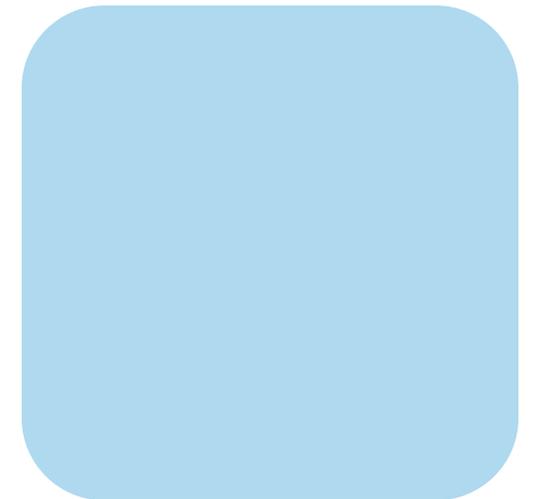
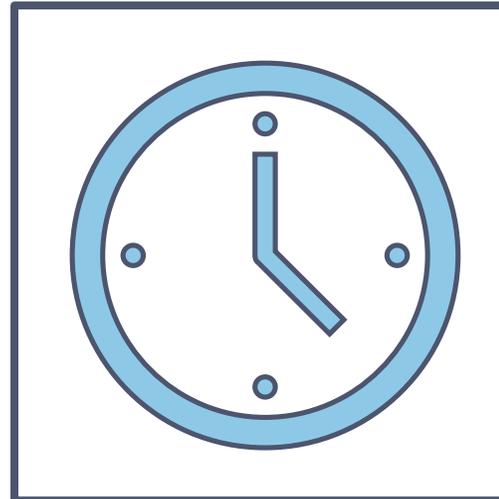
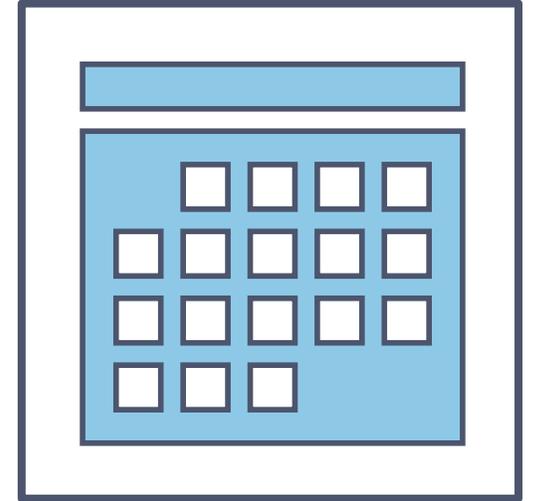
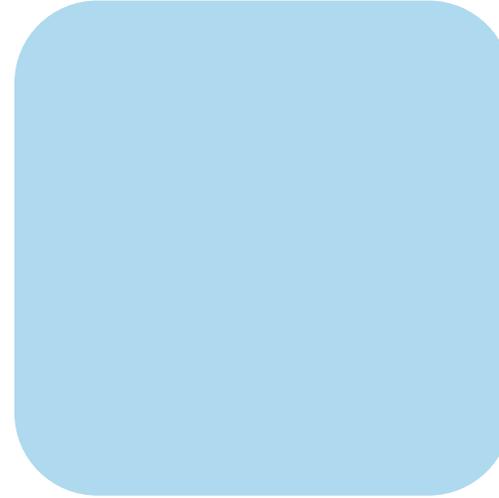
2023 Lower Brazos Regional Flood Plan Amendment

TWDB Schedule Update

RYAN LONDEEN, PE, CFM (HALFF)

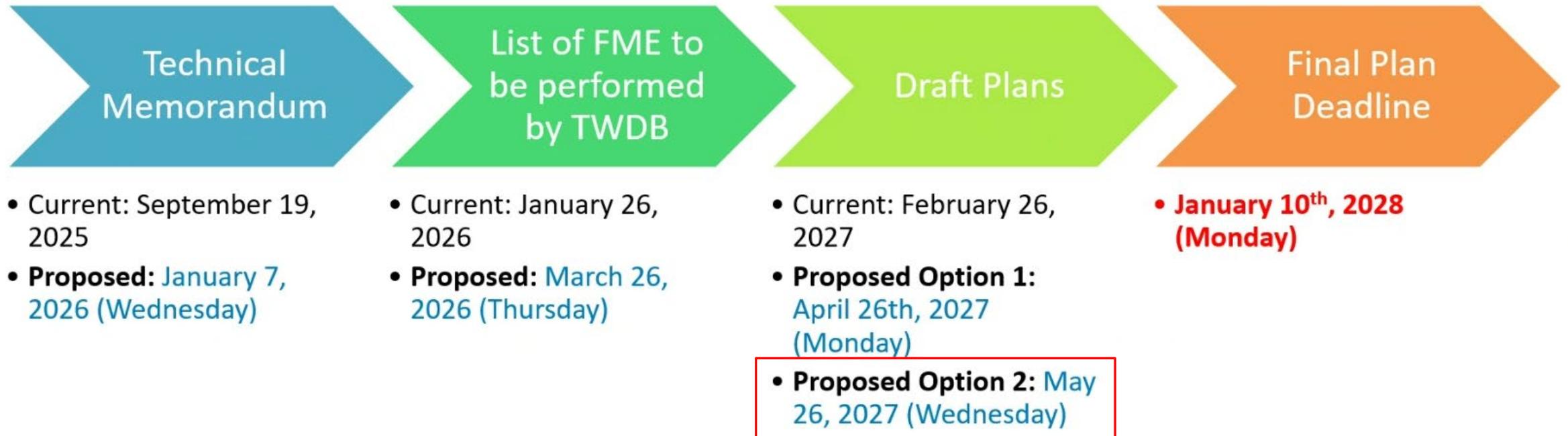
TWDB Technical Call

- TWDB held Technical Consultant Call with sub-consultants on January 31st
- Discussed recently released guidance and data
 - Exhibits C and D
 - Preliminary Flood Quilt
- Discussed outstanding data needs
 - FATHOM existing and future datasets
 - Building footprints
 - Infrastructure assessment toolkit
 - **Expect all data by end of March**
- **Proposed schedule adjustments to account for data delay**

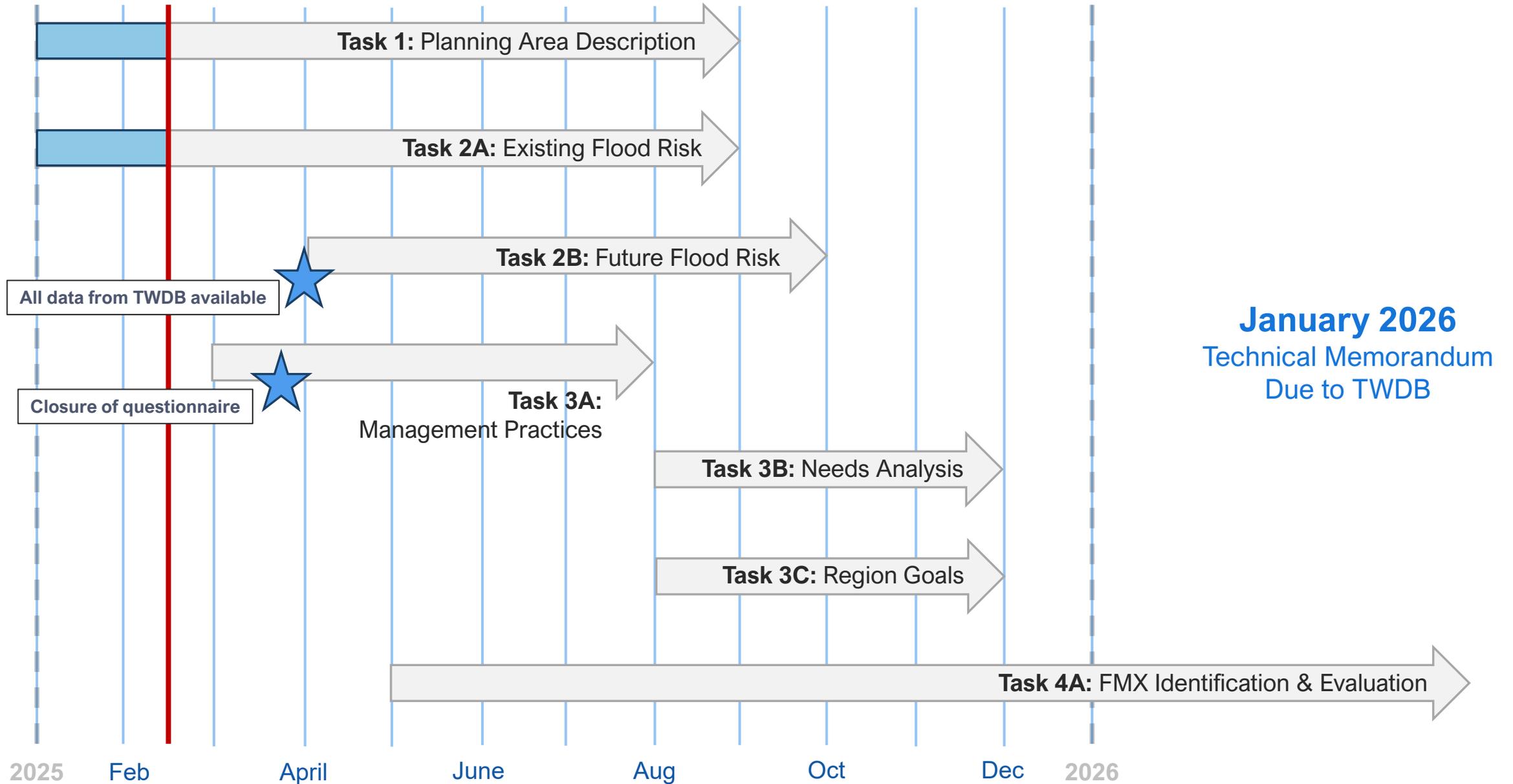


Schedule Updates

TWDB proposed adjustments to the 3 interim submittals. Final Plan deadline will stay the same.



Schedule Updates



Community Questionnaire

RYAN LONDEEN, PE, CFM (HALFF)

Community Questionnaire

- Updated to include public viewer (no login)
- Questionnaire sent to communities on January 16th
- Upcoming Follow-Up
 - Reminder email blast to all contacts
 - FMX Submittal Guidance
 - Form
 - Data Upload portal
 - Personal phone calls and outreach
- Deadline March 28th

lowerbrazosflood.org/Community-Questionnaire



The Lower Brazos (Region 8) Regional Flood Planning Group needs your input as we begin the second cycle of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Regional Flood Planning Process. Your feedback is critical to ensure the updated flood plan reflects the needs and priorities of your community.

Share Your Input Today!

We invite you to complete the **Lower Brazos Community Questionnaire** by **March 28, 2025**. Click the link below to complete the questionnaire or visit lowerbrazos.half.com.

[Complete the Questionnaire!](https://lowerbrazos.half.com)

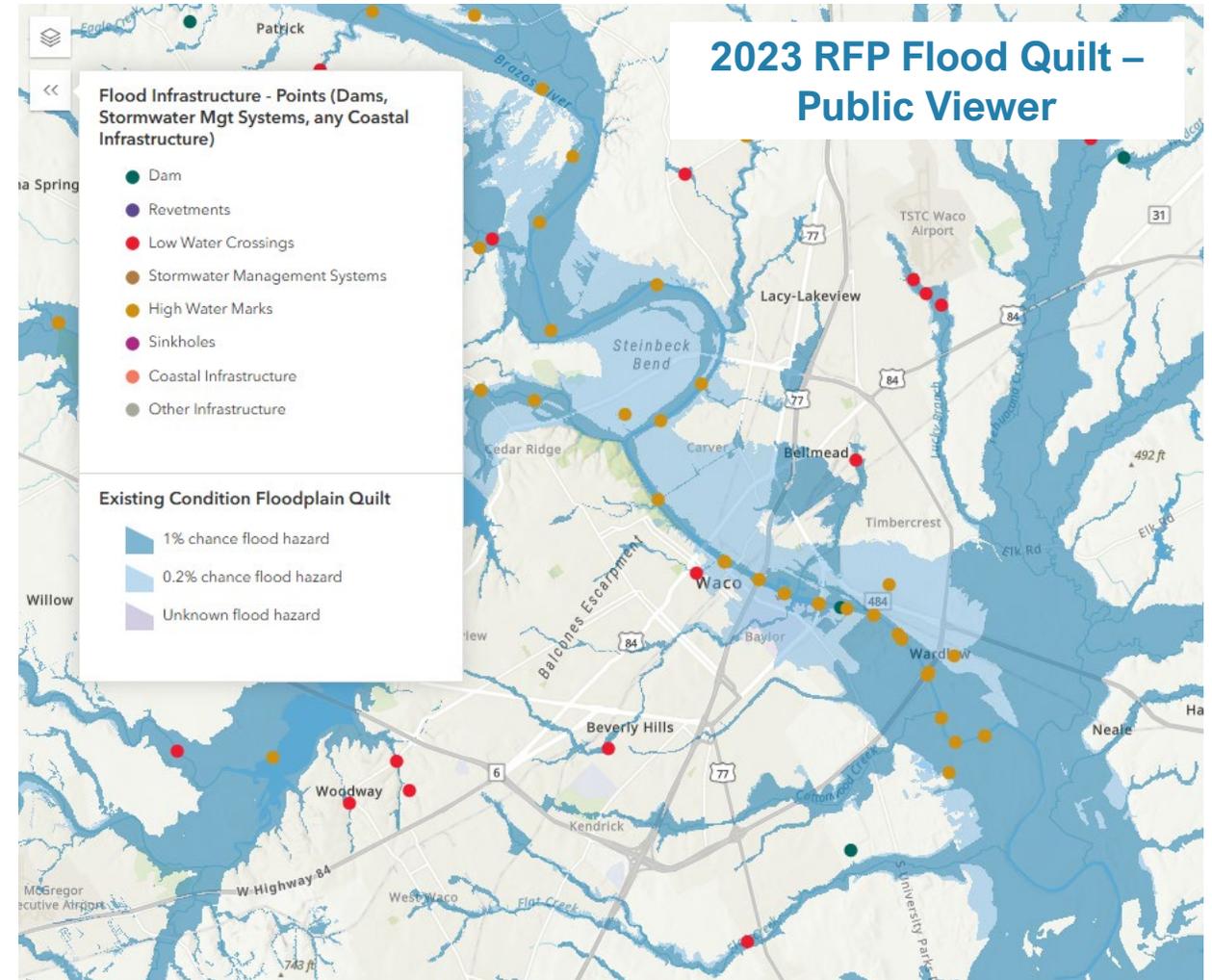
By sharing your flood-related experiences, concerns, and management practices, along with helping us identify infrastructure that is critical to the livelihood of your community, you can help shape strategies and solutions to better protect our communities from future flood events. Your feedback will directly inform the development of the regional flood plan and influence state funding for flood mitigation projects and studies.

Discussion of Task 2A

RYAN LONDEEN, PE, CFM (HALFF)

Task 2A – Existing Flood Risk

- Utilize best available flood risk data to create comprehensive flood risk layer (i.e., “flood quilt”)
 - 10-year (new!)
 - 100-year
 - 500-year
- Summarize existing flood **risk** to infrastructure for entire region
- Determine **vulnerability** – combines community characteristics alongside flood risk



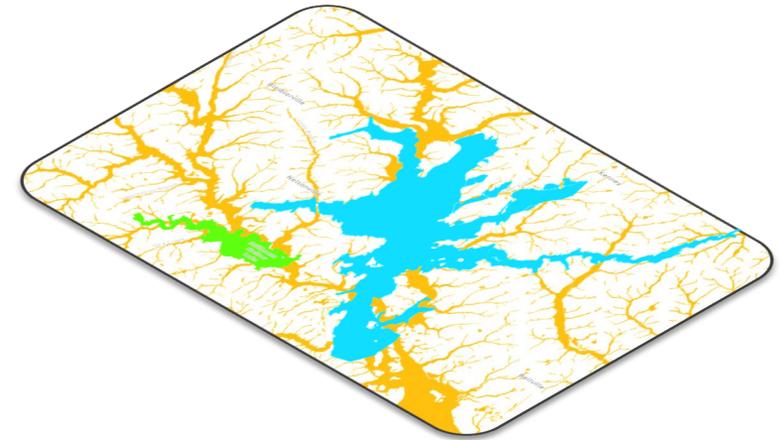
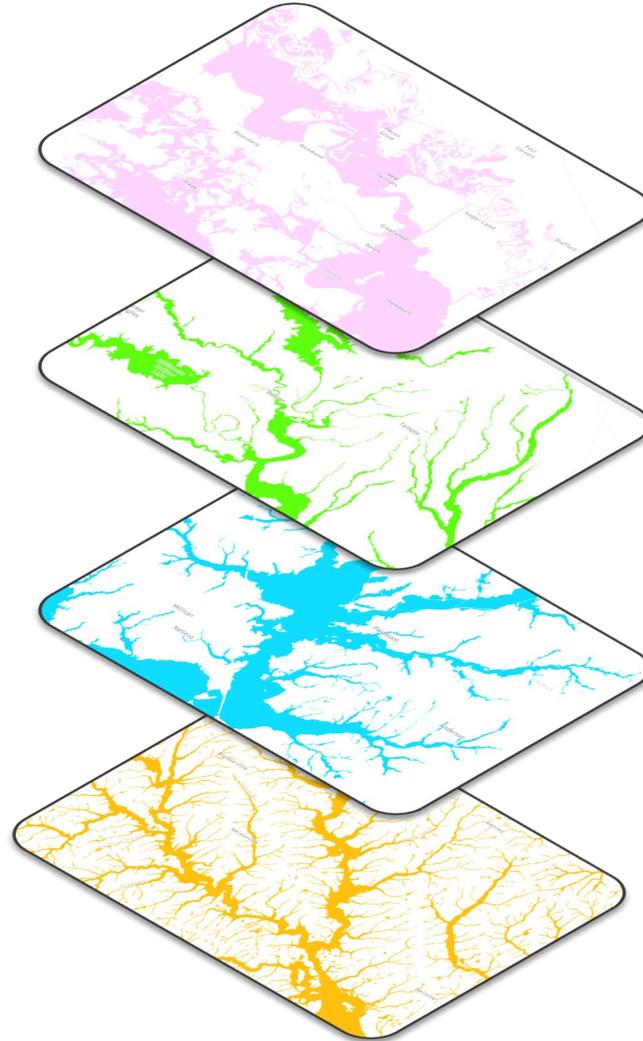
Task 2A – Flood Quilt Data

**Community
Models / Maps**

**FEMA Flood
Hazard (NFHL)**

**Base Level
Engineering
(BLE)**

Fathom Layer



Flood Quilt

Task 2A – National Flood Hazard Layer

Pros

- AE based on detailed modeling
- Reflects hydrology for large river basins well
- Includes coastal

Cons

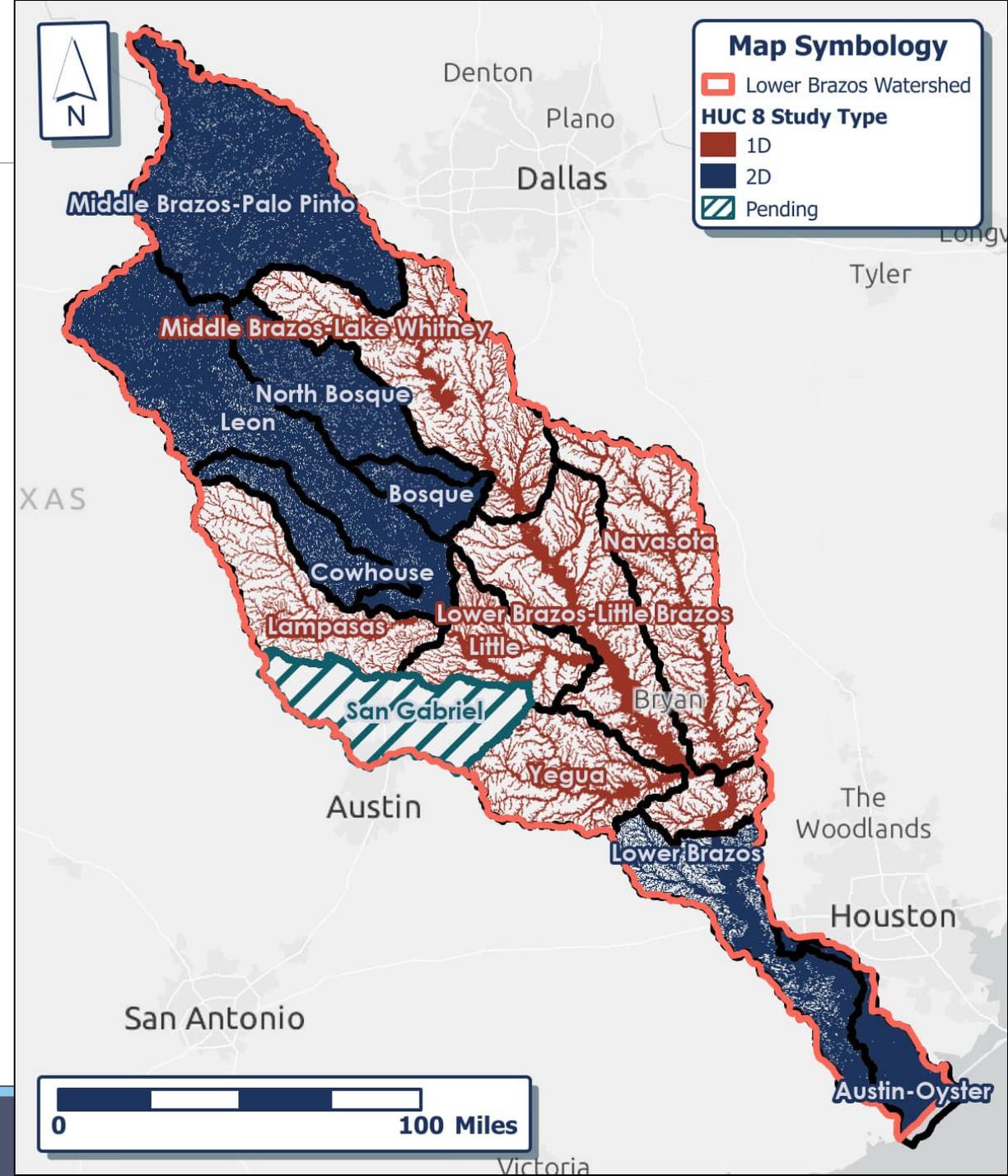
- Zone A is only approximate
- AE can sometimes be outdated
 - Old hydrology
 - Old terrain
 - Old modeling methods
- Does not include 10-year
- Does not include pluvial



Task 2A – BLE

- Flood risk product developed by TWDB
- Complete coverage of the Lower Brazos Region
- Quality and coverage varies (1D vs 2D)
- Includes 10-year data
- Does not include crossing structures

webapps.usgs.gov/infrm/estbfe/



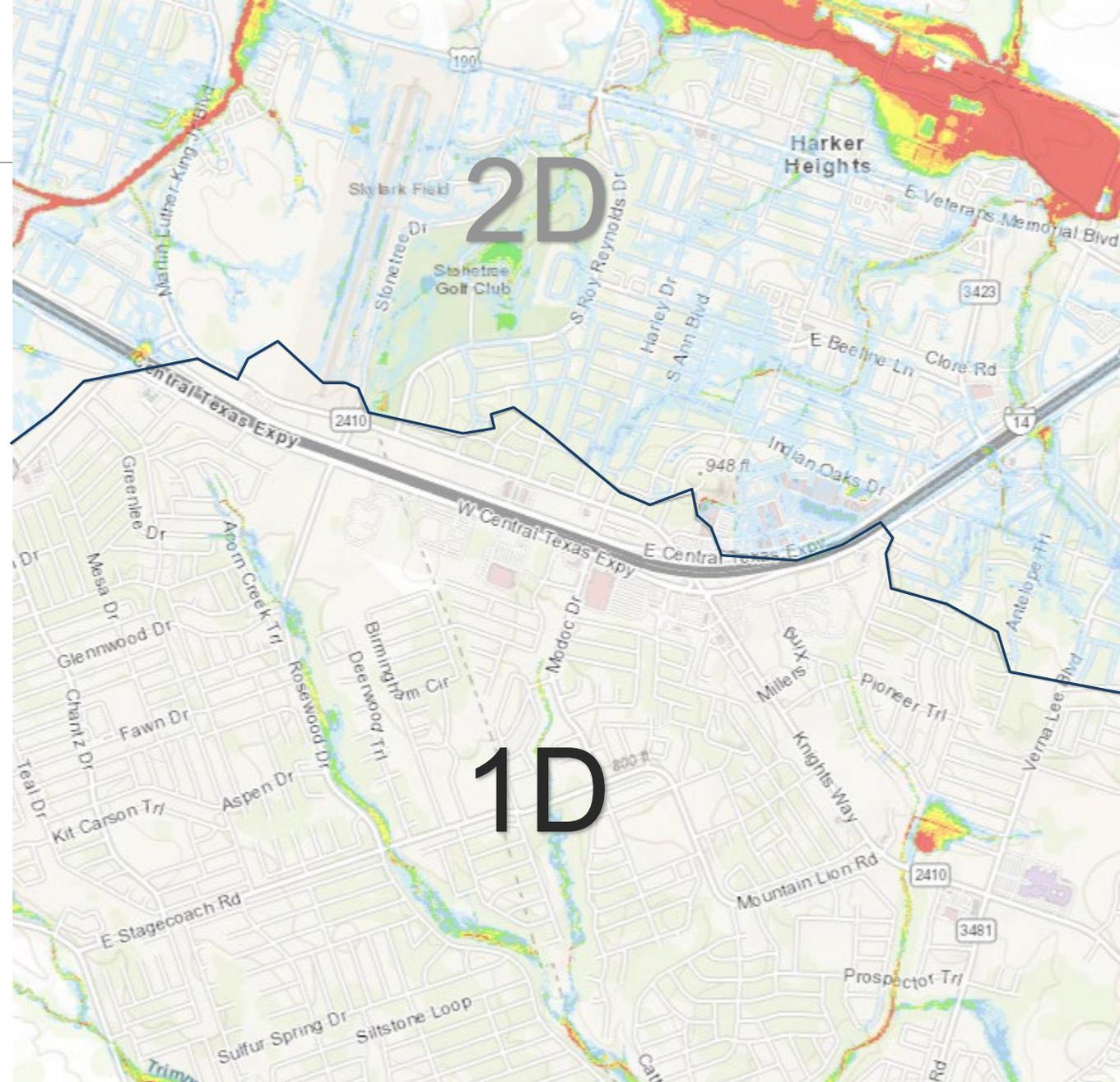
Task 2A – 1D BLE

Pros

- Based on recent data (rainfall, topo, land use)
- Includes 10-year
- Better than NFHL - Zone A

Cons

- Model detail is limited
 - Coarse modeling
 - No crossing structures (bridges, culverts, etc.)
- Does not include pluvial
- Does not estimate coastal well



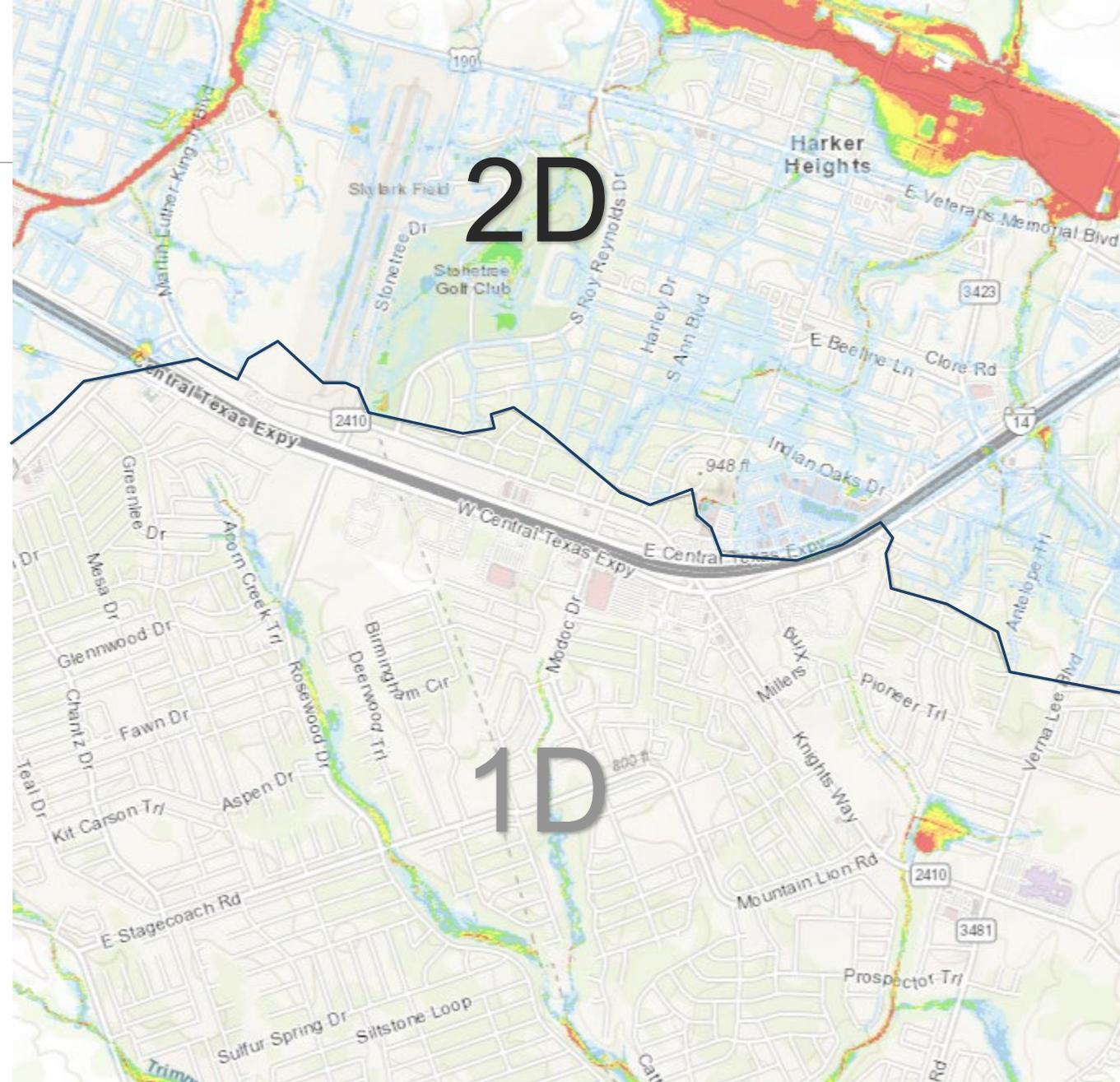
Task 2A – 2D BLE

Pros

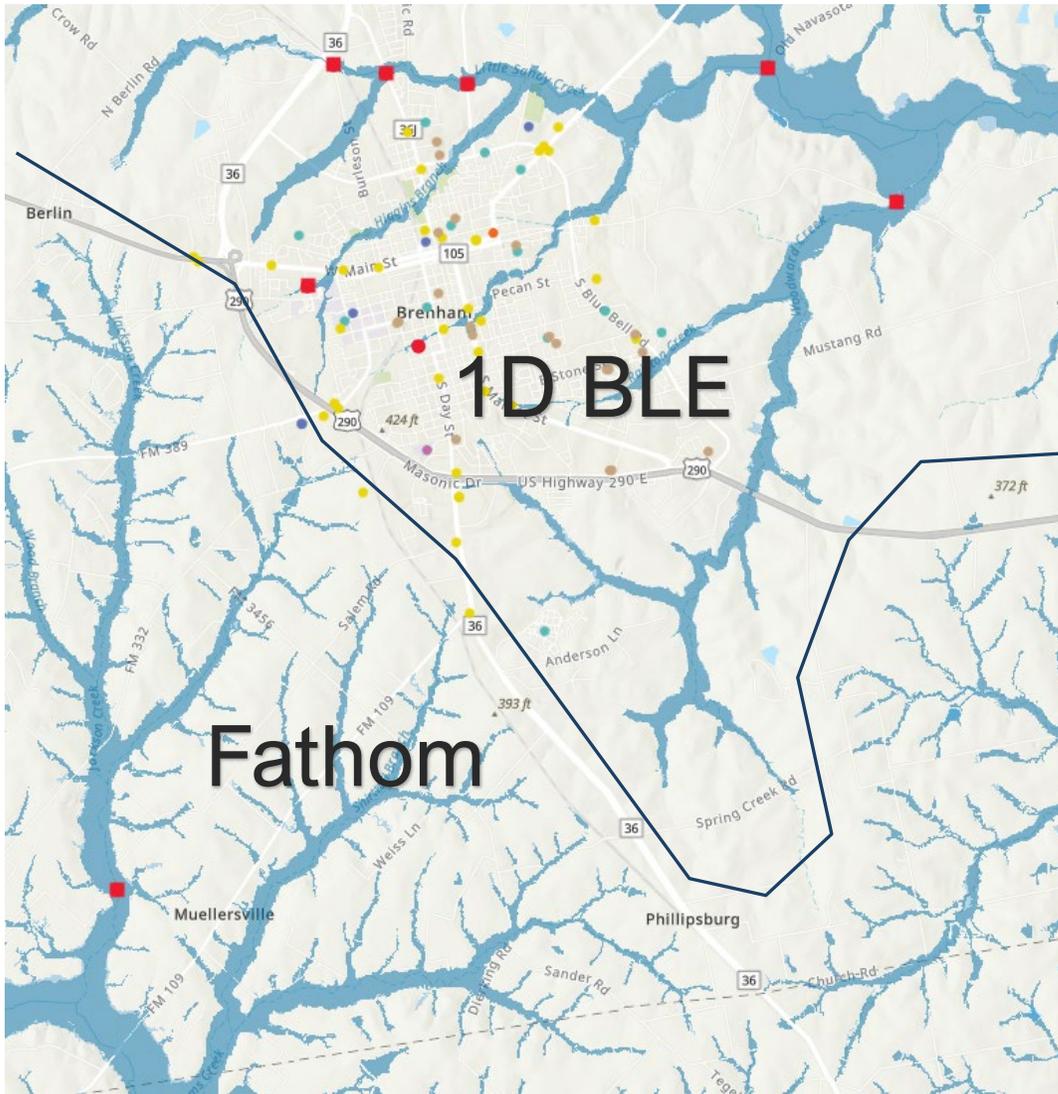
- Based on recent data (rainfall, topo, land use)
- Includes 10-year
- Better than NFHL - Zone A
- **Includes pluvial**

Cons

- Model detail is limited
 - Coarse modeling
 - No crossing structures (bridges, culverts, etc.)
- Does not estimate coastal well



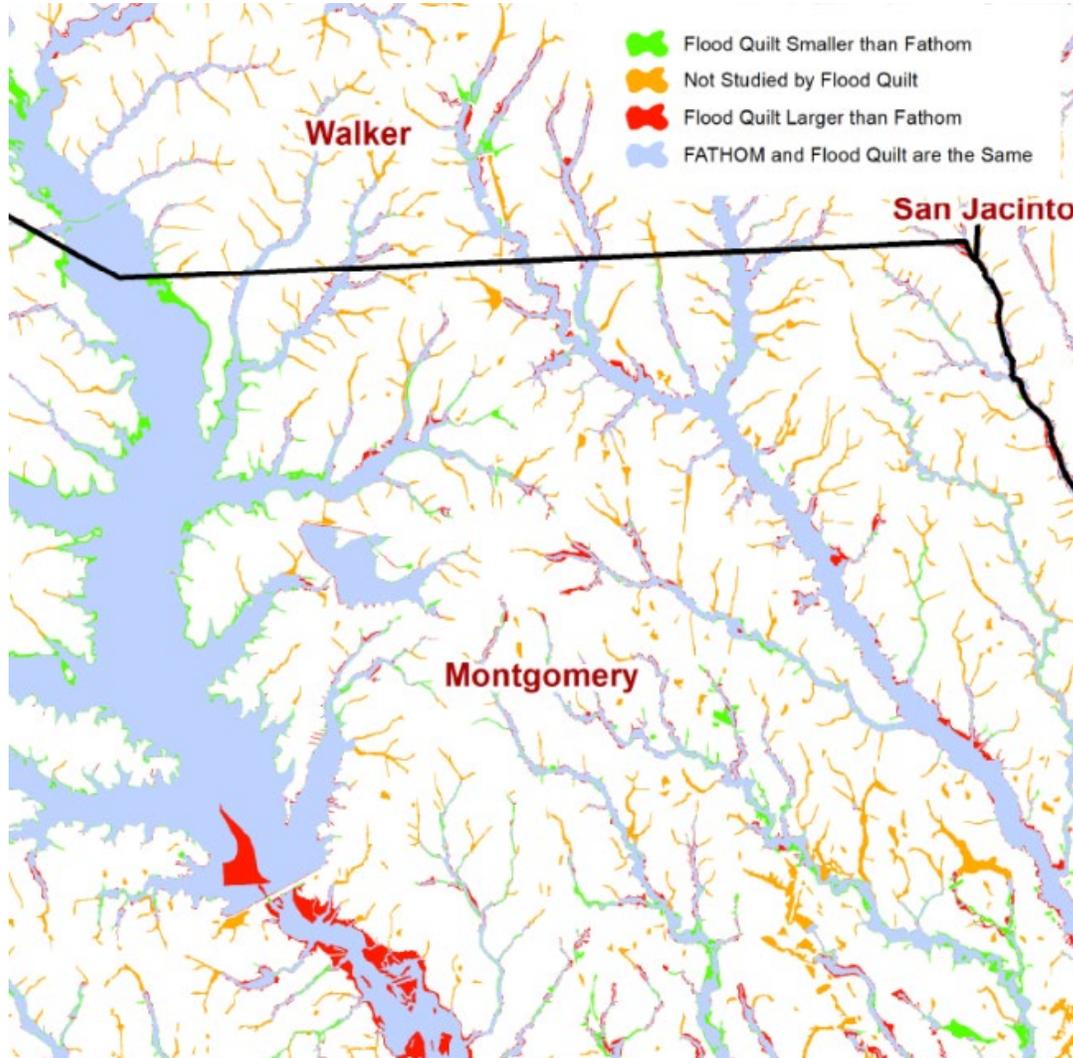
Task 2A – Fathom



- 2D “Rain-on-mesh” assessment dataset developed to fill in gaps in data coverage
- Uses Atlas 14 rainfall and latest Lidar
- Coarse modeling
- Full coverage of the region
- TWDB is also developing a “future conditions” FATHOM layer (more to come)

fathom.global

Task 2A – Fathom



Pros

- Based on recent data (rainfall, topo, land use)
- Includes 10-year
- Better than NFHL - Zone A
- Includes pluvial
- Estimates coastal

Cons

- Model detail is very limited
 - Coarse modeling (100-ft resolution)
 - No crossing structures (bridges, culverts, etc.)
 - Cannot handle steep flow conditions

Task 2A – Flood Quilt Data Prioritization

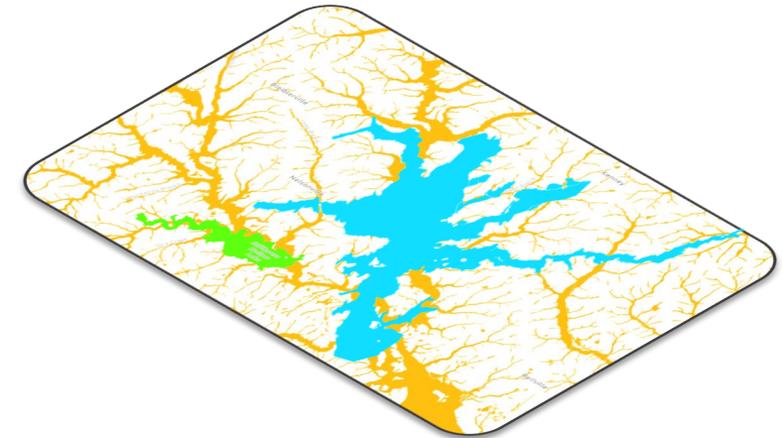
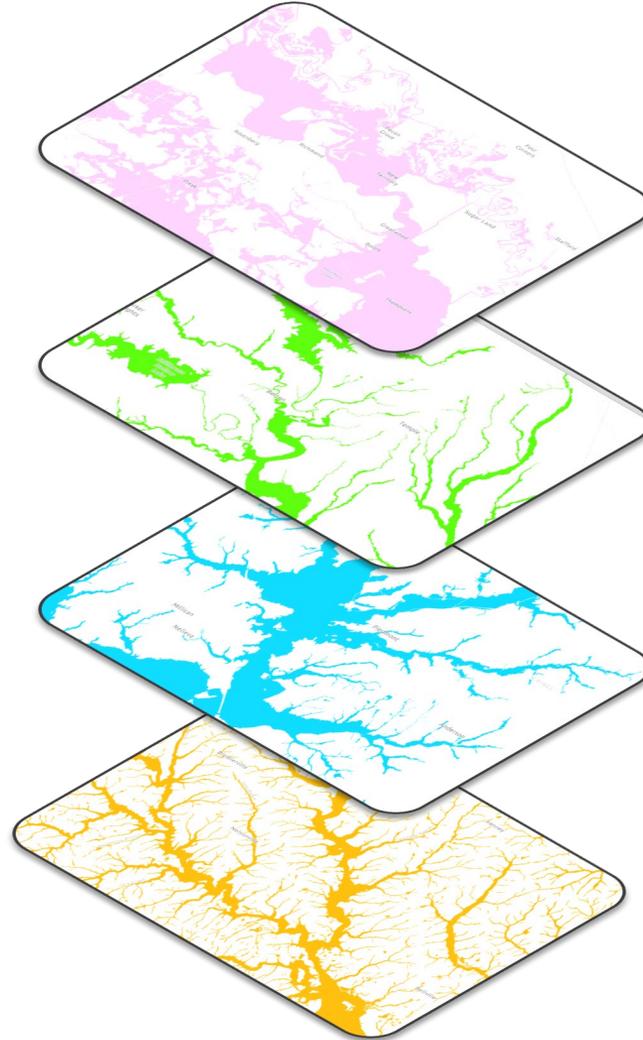
Priority?

Community
Models / Maps

FEMA Flood
Hazard (NFHL)

Base Level
Engineering
(BLE)

Fathom Layer



Flood Quilt

Task 2A – Prioritization

Need to determine which layers should take precedence when there are multiple available datasets.

Option 1 (TWDB Recommended)

1. Community Models / Maps
2. FEMA Detailed (AE & VE)
Includes pending data
3. BLE 1D & 2D
4. FEMA Non-Detailed (A & V)
5. Fathom (pluvial)

Pluvial gap for BLE 1D and FEMA Detailed where applicable

Option 2 (Tech Consultant Alternative)

1. Community Models / Maps
2. FEMA Detailed (AE & VE) – large rivers
3. BLE - 2D
4. FEMA Detailed (AE & VE) – small rivers, case-by-case
5. BLE - 1D
6. Non-Detailed (A & V)
7. Fathom (pluvial)

Supplement BLE 1D and FEMA Detailed where applicable



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

For more information or to contact the RFPG visit:
lowerbrazosflood.org

LOOKING AHEAD

MARCH 2025

- 2A - Finalize flood quilt prioritization
- 2B - Introduce future flood quilt concepts

APRIL 2025

- 10 - Community questionnaire results
- 3A – Introduce Task

Region 8 - Lower Brazos

Regional Flood Planning Group

5. Discussion and possible action on adoption of the proposed Amendment of the Lower Brazos Regional Flood Plan Report

2023 Lower Brazos Regional Flood Plan Amendment No. 2

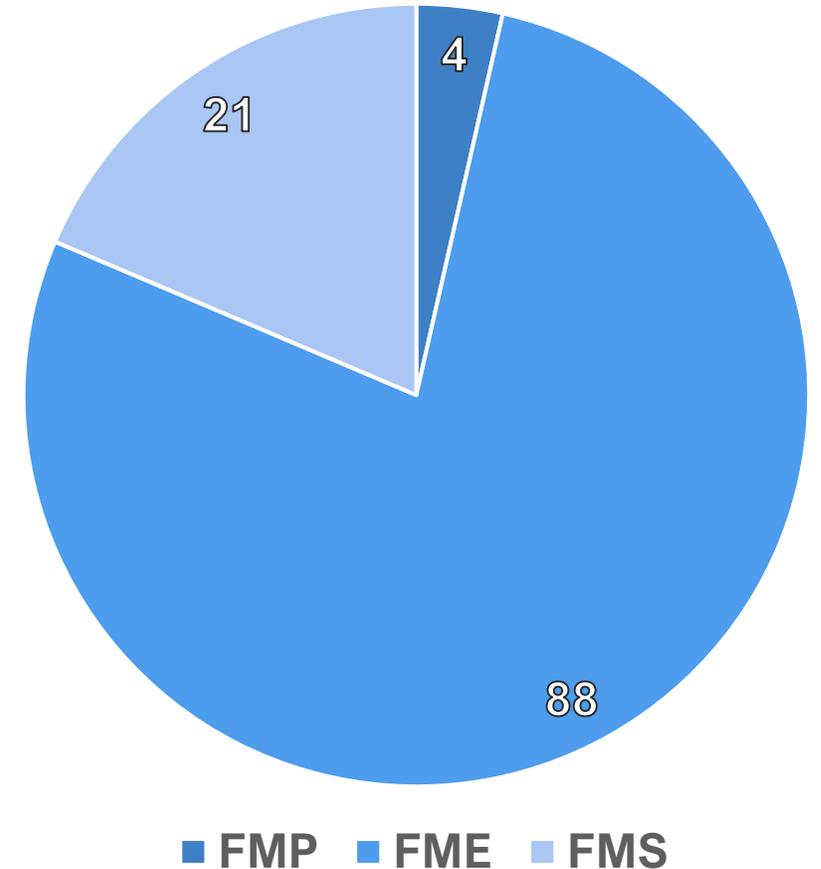
RYAN LONDEEN, PE, CFM (HALFF)

2023 Amendment No. 2

Seeking RFPG approval!

- Cover Letter
- Summary of Changes
- Detailed Amendment Document, changes to:
 - Text
 - Tables
 - Maps
- GIS data and summary of changes included as digital attachment

Number of FMX Revisions

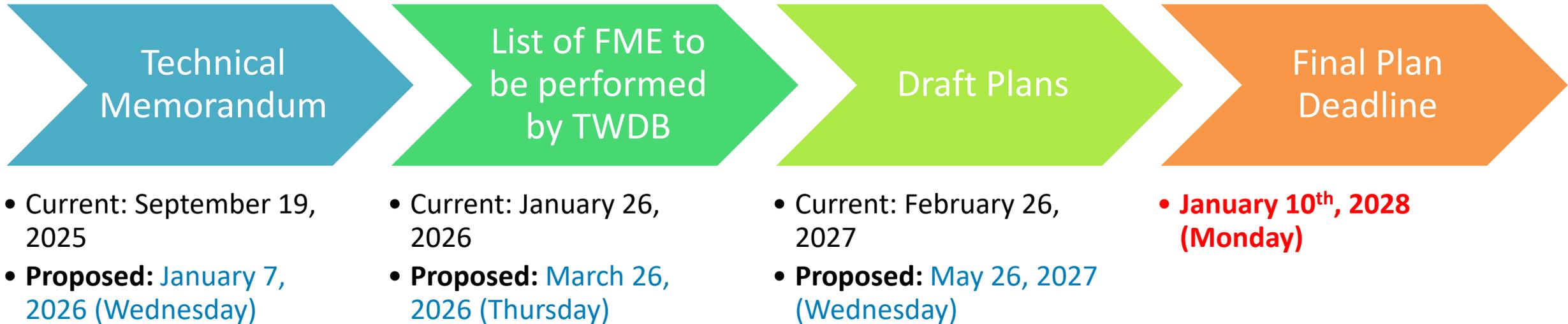


Region 8 - Lower Brazos

Regional Flood Planning Group

- 6. Discussion and possible action of approval for the Lower Brazos Regional Flood Planning Group to authorize the Regional Flood Planning Group sponsor to execute an amendment to the contract with the TWDB to extend the interim submittal deadlines for 2028 Regional Flood Plans**

Proposed Deadlines



Next Steps

1. RFPG buy-in
2. Contract amendments to reflect deadline changes
3. Subcontract amendments

Region 8 - Lower Brazos

Regional Flood Planning Group

7. Report from:

7.1. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) staff

7.2. Regional Planning Sponsor

7.3. Lower Brazos RFPG Chair

Region 8 - Lower Brazos

Regional Flood Planning Group

8. Discussion and possible action on the Election of Officers, Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and 2 At-Large Members of the Executive Committee

Region 8 - Lower Brazos

Regional Flood Planning Group

9. Discussion and possible action on meeting dates for the 2025 calendar year

Region 8 - Lower Brazos

Regional Flood Planning Group

Proposed monthly regular meetings this calendar year

--Meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 10:00am--

Thursday, March 20

Thursday, April 17

Thursday, May 15

Thursday, June 19

Thursday, July 17

Thursday, August 21

Thursday, September 18

Thursday, October 16

Thursday, November 20

Thursday, December 18

Region 8 - Lower Brazos

Regional Flood Planning Group

- 10. Confirm the next meeting date and discuss new business to be considered at the next meeting**

Region 8 - Lower Brazos

Regional Flood Planning Group

11. Adjourn