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**Subject:** Lower Brazos Regional Flood Planning Group  
**Date:** Sunday, May 30, 2021 8:45:59 AM  
**Attachments:** [Screenshot \(11\).png](#)

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Lower Brazos Regional Flood Planning Group:

I, Roy E. Beken, live and work on the Brazos River. With two Brazos River dredging companies and with two Texas Parks and Wildlife dredging permits on the Brazos at Rosharon and Richmond, and with a Brazos River Authority Permit, I am impacted by flooding whenever it happens. Additionally, my wife's family has 1500 acres on the east bank of the Brazos immediately south of FM 1462. I monitor the National Weather Service's Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service. Before this information became readily available, I lost two dredges that were swept down the Brazos River in the flood of 1994. We recovered them, one at West Columbia and one at FM 2004.

Lately, the river flood elevations have been affected by the retention levies. When we have a flood on the Brazos River and significant rainfall, the mud and levy districts begin pumping immediately. They increase the impact of the flood because the water that they pump into the Brazos immediately adds to the height and duration of the crest of the flood water. Instead of waiting and pumping into the Brazos River after the crest of the flooding has passed, they keep pumping and increase the crest height and duration. There needs to be coordination with these levy managers so that they would delay their pumping one or two days to allow the river flood crest to pass before they resume maximum pumping from the retention areas. I understand that the retention levies must be pumped immediately if the homeowners protected are threatened by rising waters from rainfall; however, the levy districts just want to empty the retention ponds and levies. After proving this point with the Brazoria County Commissioners, we were told that they had no ability to limit the speed that the levy districts pumped out their ponds. Some coordination and mandated enforcement must be put in place.

The community in my area recognizes the danger of flooding on the Brazos. My wife, Melba Beken, gets many calls after a minor rainfall in which anyone announces major rainfall of the Brazos. "What is the Brazos River doing??? Are we going to flood NOW??" Since we have had floods in '15, '16, '17, and '19, many folks have moved away but many others are wary of the Brazos River Flood potential. [SEE SCREENSHOT.]

We request that we coordinate with the Federal Authorities the management of the pumping districts to thoughtfully address the rate that the MUD and LEVY Districts pump water into the Brazos River during a "flood event."

Thank you, Roy E. Beken, a concerned citizen and a BRAZOS RIVER RAT.