

REGION



Lower Brazos
Regional Flood Planning Group

Thursday, June 19, 2025

10:00 AM

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

4600 Cobbs Dr., Waco, TX 76710



- 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 May 15, 2025, 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, May 15, 2025

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 10:02 am.

Anthony Beach	P	Tim Finley		P
Carl Burch	A	Matt Phillips		P
Sujeeth Draksharam	P	Mark Vogler		P
Charlotte Gilpin	P	Brandon Wade		P
Alysha Girard Alt. Laura Harris	P			
David Lilly	A			

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 April 17, 2025 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 April 17, 2025, meeting minutes and finance report were approved as presented. Sujeeth Draksharam made the motion to approve the consent agenda items and Anthony Beach seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Report, discussion, and possible action on a recommendation from the Executive Committee on the selection of candidates for the Environmental, Agriculture, Counties, and Electric Generating Utilities interest representative vacancies

The Lower Brazos RFPG accepted the Executive Committee's recommendation of the selection of [Bruce Bodson](#) to represent Environmental Interests, [Russell Ford](#) to represent Agriculture interests, and [Jonathan Steiber](#) to represent Counties, as voting members of the Lower Brazos Regional Flood Planning Group.

The Executive Committee recommends leaving the Electric Generating Utilities vacancy open. By rule requires an individual that represents or is employed by a utility that is an electric generator. No action taken on this agenda item.

5. Presentation from GLO – Update on the Central Region River Basin Studies

A representative from the GLO Central Region River Basin Study team provided an update on their ongoing efforts, previous coordination with the RFPG, and upcoming opportunities for coordination.

Anthony Beech asked if the projects identified during GLO data collection were included in the State Flood Plan. The GLO presenter responded that many of them were gathered from public data sources and not fully vetted. However, the GLO team can provide the list to the RFPG for consideration.

Sujeeth Draksharam asked if the factors used for hot spot identification were all weighted equally. Anthony Beech asked if the prioritization and metrics that the RFPG developed for needs analysis was considered or leveraged for this effort. The GLO presenter responded that the factors are not being weighted equally across the board; however, the approach has not been finalized so the weighting is not yet public information. He will inform the technical team of the RFPGs work on prioritization for them to consider in their analysis.

Sujeeth Draksharam asked what types of events were used for calibration and whether only extreme events were considered. The GLO presenter responded that the calibration events included both high and low flow precipitation events.

Charlotte Gilpin asked for clarification on how the GLO information ties back into our effort. Ryan Londeen replied that the modeling developed by the GLO will be used as "best available data" in the flood quilt. Additionally, any projects identified through the GLO efforts will be considered and included in the Regional Flood Plan. The Technical Consultant team will also provide the GLO with any data we develop during our Performance of FMEs (Task 4C) to ensure there is not any duplication of effort.

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

The Technical Consultant team provided an update on the responses received from the Community Questionnaire. A supplemental handout was provided as part of the meeting materials summarizing the responses to each question.

Anthony Beech encouraged the RFPG to forward the Large Municipalities seat opening to any entities who may be interested. Applications were due May 30th.

The Technical Consultant Team provided an update on the proposed plan for the Public Roadshow. Anthony Beech encouraged the team to look at doing public announcements through the radio to encourage attendance. These announcements are typically free.

The Technical Consultant team presented the planned approach for Task 2B. The RFPG did not pose any opposition to the approach.

The Technical Consultant team provided an overview of Task 3A – Floodplain Management Practices. Sujeeth Draksharam encouraged the team to keep the standards similar to the previous cycle, so we are not moving the goal post for communities. Charlotte Gilpin agreed. She also encouraged the team to keep the standards as recommendations and not adopted standards. There are too many intricacies on the local level for the RFPG to regulate and restrict communities. Matt Phillips agreed that adopting standards is not a role that is appropriate for the RFPG. That role should be assumed by the TWDB or the legislature.

The Technical Consultant Team provided a brief overview of Task 4A – Identification and Evaluation of FMXs and upcoming meeting discussion items.

7. Report from:

7.1. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) staff

Cynthia Nolasco provided the TWDB Report to the RFPG.

7.2. Regional Planning Sponsor

Pam Hannemann gave a brief report on current activities.

7.3. Lower Brazos RFPG Liaisons and Chair

No chair report.

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

The LBRFP Executive Committee will hold a meeting on June 12, 2025, at 10:00AM. The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, June 19, 2025, at 10:00AM.

9. Adjourn

Alysha Girard adjourned the meeting at 11:50 AM.

Approved by the Region 8 Lower Brazos RFPG at the meeting held on June 19, 2025.

Matt Phillips, Secretary

Alysha Girard, Chair

Brazos River Authority
2028 Region 8 Lower Brazos Regional Flood Planning Group
 From 04/01/25 Through 05/31/25

	Current Period	Life to Date	Total Budget	Budget Variance	% Budget Remaining
Revenues					
State Grants	114,587	409,315	2,520,600	2,111,285	83.76%
Total Revenues	114,587	409,315	2,520,600	2,111,285	83.76%
Reimbursable Expenditures					
Salaries	293	964	14,750	13,786	93.46%
Benefits	126	415			
Indirect Costs	29	96			
Other Expenditures			10,250	10,250	100.00%
Printing/Publishing					
Public Information/Notices/Ads ¹		9			
Misc postage/overnight/Misc/etc. ²	27	398			
Total Other Expenditures	475	1,883	25,000	23,117	92.47%
Voting Planning Member Travel		-	4,500	4,500	100.00%
Subcontractors ³	114,112	407,432	2,491,100	2,083,668	83.64%
Total Reimbursable Expenditures	114,587	409,315	2,520,600	2,111,285	83.76%
Work in Kind					
Salaries/benefits	586	3,063			
Other	-	-			
Total Work in Kind	586	3,063			
Net Revenue over expenditures	(586)	(3,063)	-	-	

²Agenda, handouts, sign in sheets & chair notes

³ Thru 04/30/25



4. Report, discussion, and possible action on a recommendation from the Executive Committee on the selection of a candidate for the Large Municipalities interests representative new voting member of the Lower Brazos Regional Flood Planning Group



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

Technical Consultant Update

June 19, 2025



Agenda



General Updates



Task 3B – Flood Mitigation Needs Analysis



Task 3C – Regional Flood Planning Goals



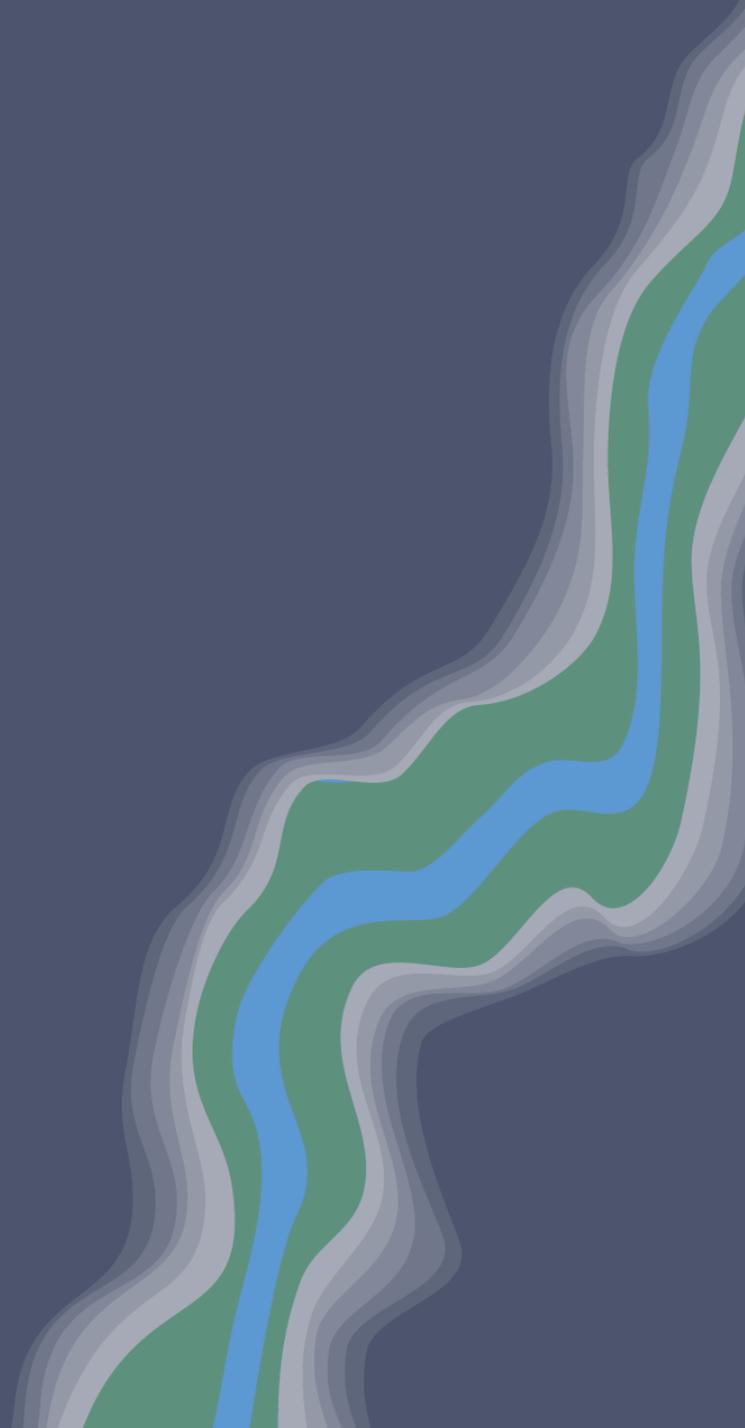
Task 4A – Identification and Evaluation of FMXs



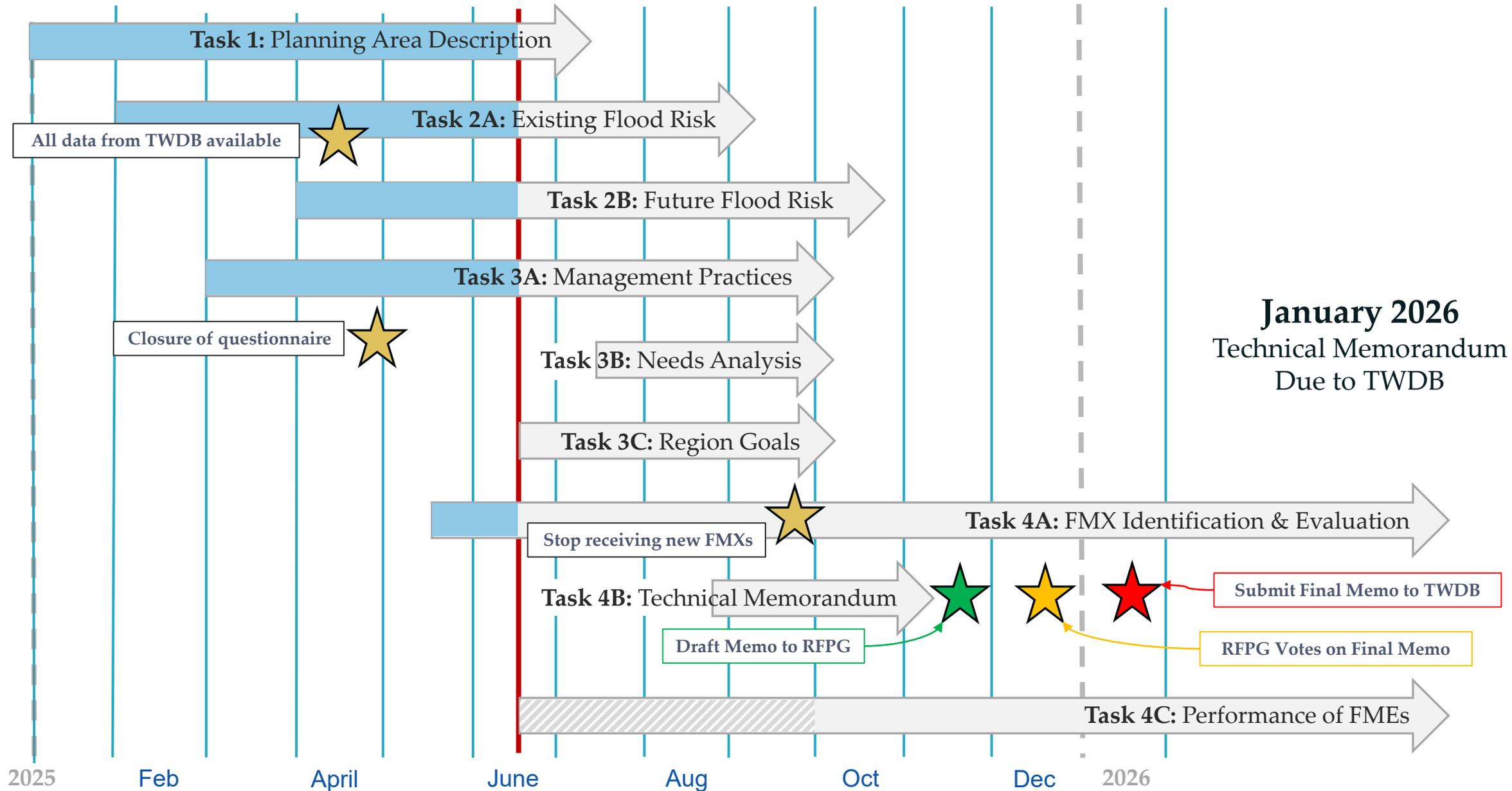
Task 4C – Performance of FMEs

General Updates

Ryan Londeen, PE, CFM (Halff)



Schedule Updates



General Updates

Task 1

- Finalizing chapter updates
- Updated chapter will be ready for RFPG review in July

Task 2A & 2B

- Processing prioritized datasets
- “Stitching” datasets together to create flood quilts

Task 3A

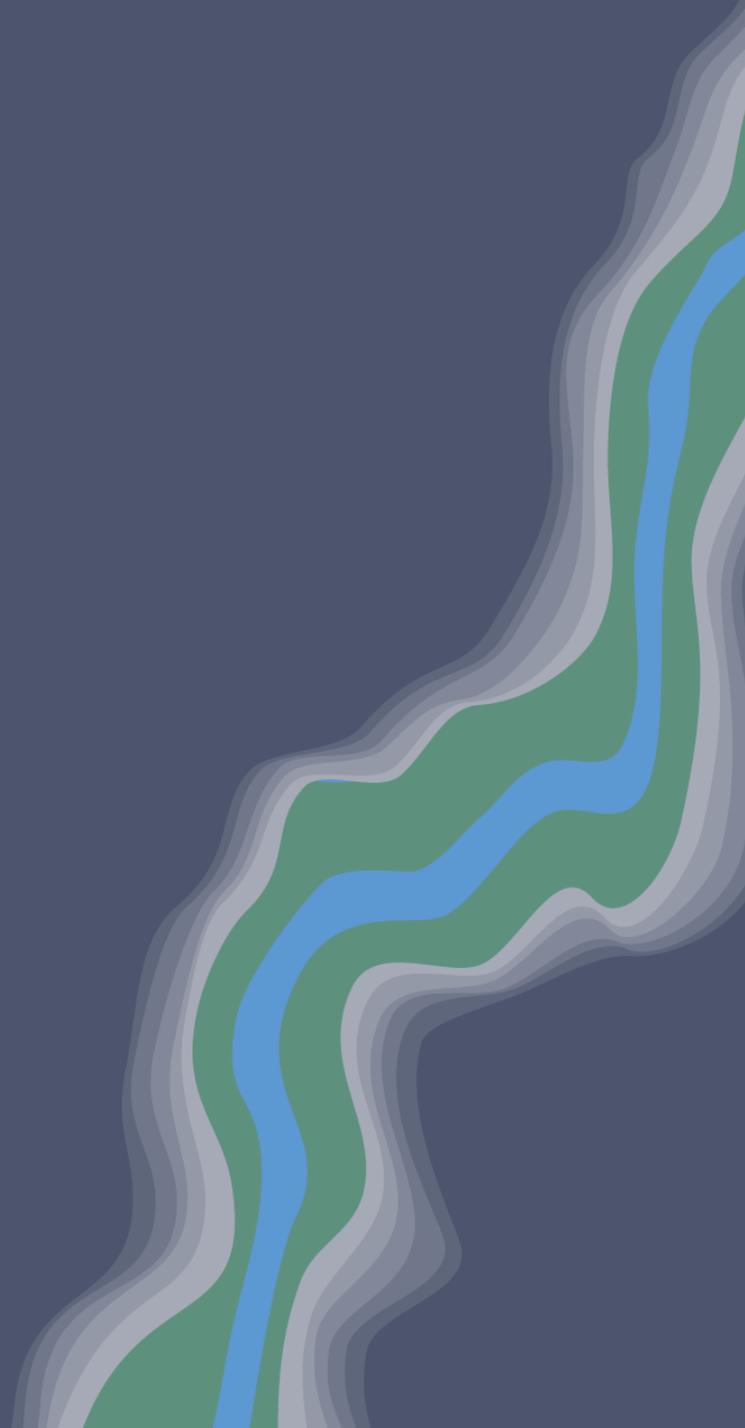
- Incorporating RFPG feedback into draft standard recommendations

Task 10

- Finishing website updates
- Continuing FMX outreach
- Developing outreach videos (2)

Task 3B – Flood Mitigation Needs Analysis

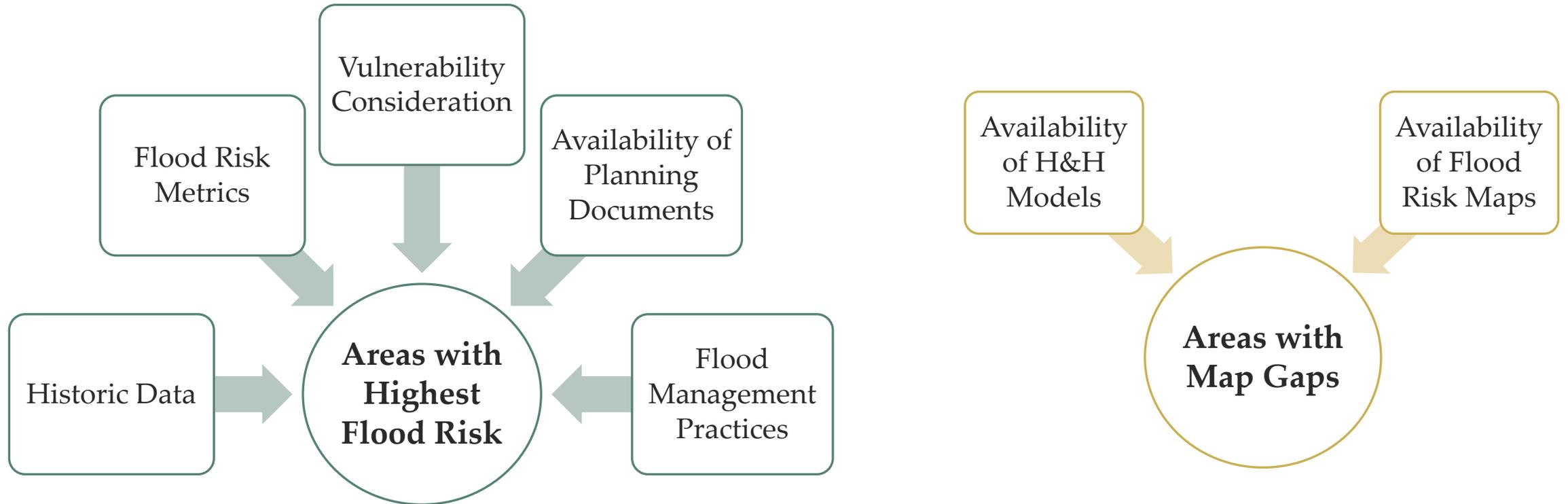
Ryan Londeen, PE, CFM (Halff)



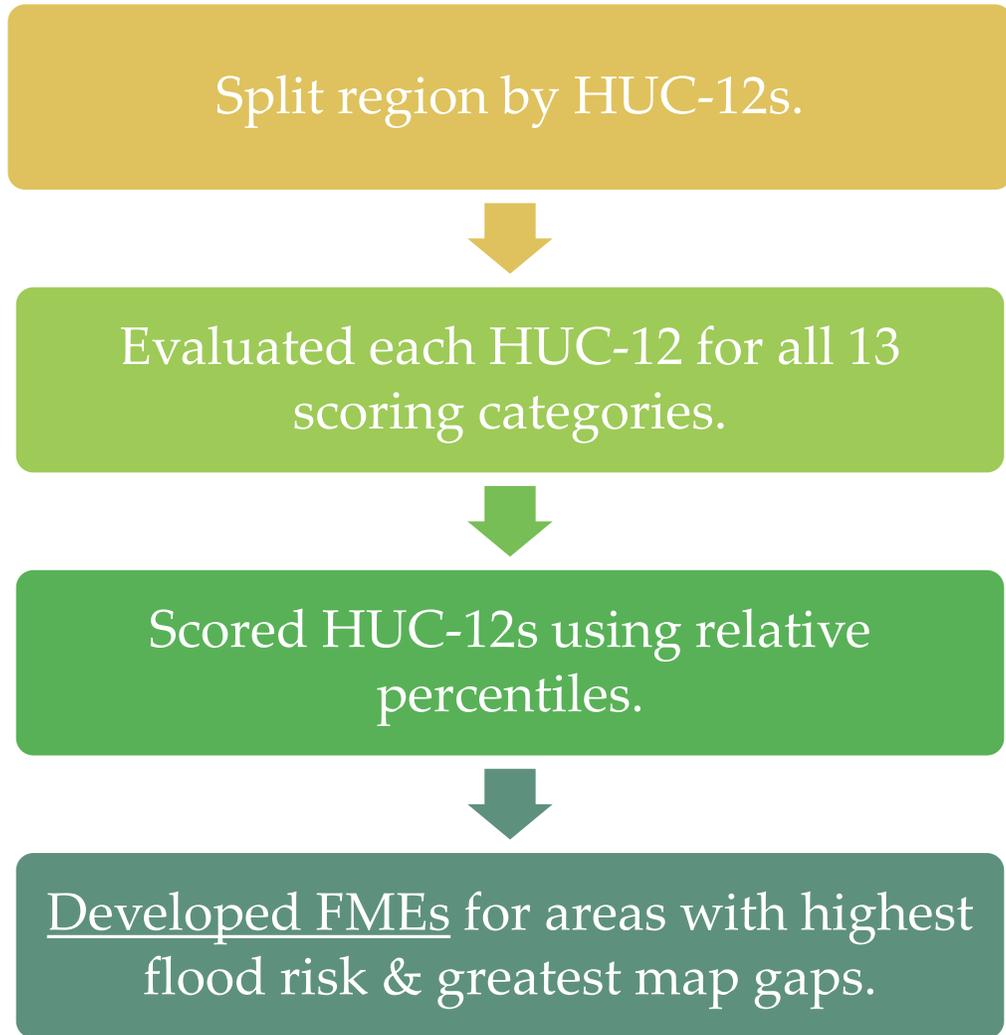
3B – Task Overview

Goal

Identify locations within the flood planning region that have the greatest need for flood risk mitigation and/or flood risk studies.



3B – 2024 Cycle



Scoring Categories

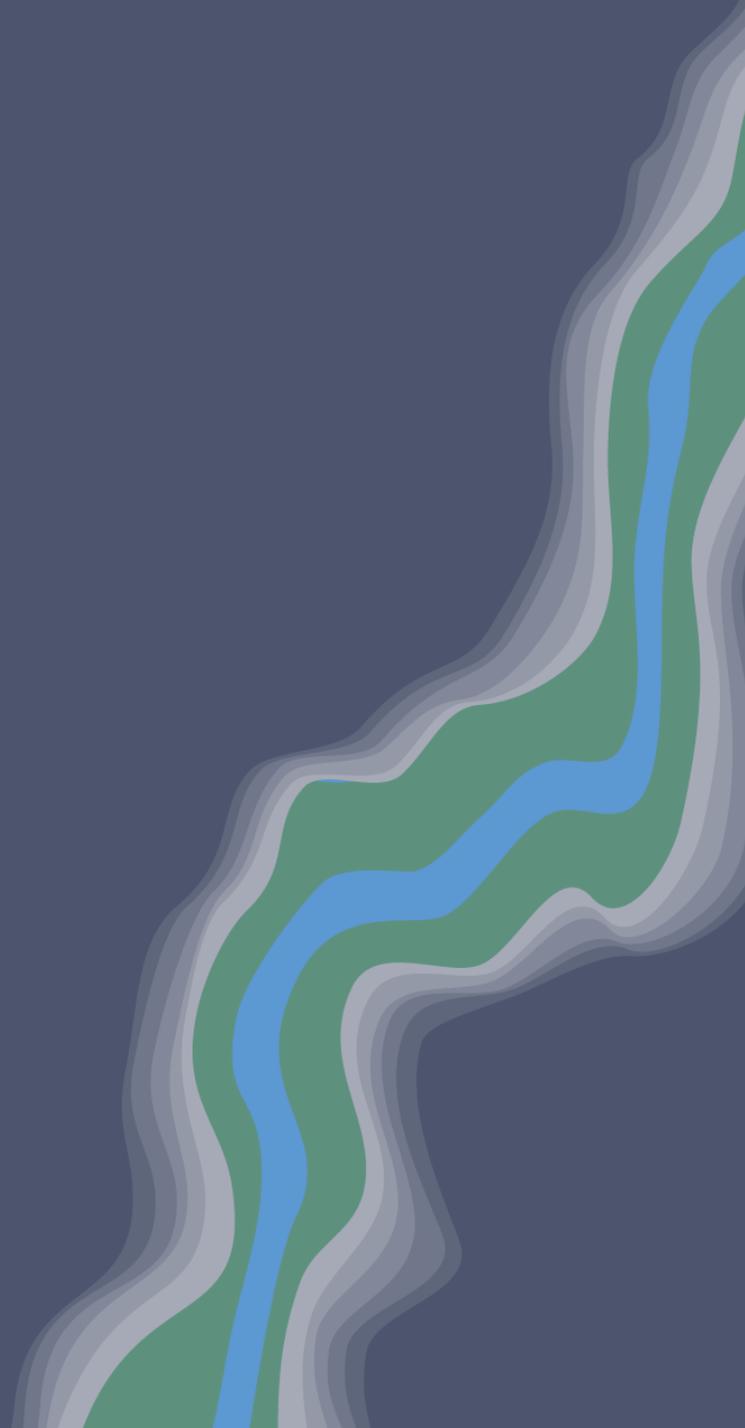
- Num. of Buildings in Flood-Prone Areas
- Num. of Low Water Crossings
- Agricultural Areas in Flood-Prone Areas
- Num. of Critical Facilities in Flood Prone Areas
- Num. of Communities NOT in NFIP
- Num. of Communities with CRS Rating < 10
- Damaged or Failing Infrastructure
- Hazard Mitigation Action Plans
- Num. of Disaster Declarations
- Num. of FEMA Claims
- Social Vulnerability Index
- Identified as a Flood Map Gap
- Areas without H&H Models

Flood Risk

Map Gaps

Task 3C – Flood Mitigation & Management Goals

Rachel Herr, PE, CFM (Halff)



3C – Intent

Task Intent

- Identify specific and achievable flood mitigation and floodplain management goals for the region along with target years by which to meet those goals
- Recognize risk remaining even if goals are fully met
- Identify short-term (10 years) and long-term goals (30 years)
- All goals must fall under a TWDB list of ‘themes’
- All recommended FMXs **must** “support specific RFPG flood mitigation and/or management goals”



3C – Themes

New!

TWDB Prescribed Themes

1. Conducting flood risk reduction studies
2. Reduced structures and population in the 1% and 0.2% annual chance floodplains
3. Implementing flood risk reduction projects
4. Stakeholder and public outreach, education, and training
5. Higher floodplain management standards and policies
6. Roadway safety and early warning systems
7. Infrastructure, assessment, maintenance, and rehabilitation
8. Nature-based solutions, green infrastructure, and preservation
9. Funding
10. Reducing flood risk to critical facilities
11. Water supply
12. Non-structural flood risk reduction
13. Multiple or combination of themes

3C – 2024 Adopted Goals

Goal	Baseline	Short Term (2033)	Long Term (2053)
Increase the number of counties and communities enrolled in the NFIP	Participating Communities – 152 (85%) Participating Counties – 41 (95%)	Communities Enrolled – 90% Counties Enrolled – 100%	Communities Enrolled – 95% Counties Enrolled – 100%
Increase the number of counties and communities that have adopted higher than NFIP standards, including directing development away from the floodplain	39 out of a total of 221 counties and communities have higher standards	Increase the number of counties and communities with higher standards by 10%	Increase the number of counties and communities with higher standards by 40%
Increase the number of entities that have adopted the best available data and science for their designs and plans	Number of entities that are utilizing the latest data	Establish a baseline measurement	80% of all entities

3C – 2024 Adopted Goals

Goal	Baseline	Short Term (2033)	Long Term (2053)
Improve safety at low water crossings by adding warning systems/signage or improving low water crossings in high-risk areas	895 existing low water crossings	Improve 90 low water crossings	Improve 270 low water crossings
Reduce the number of structures that are at risk of flooding during the 1% annual chance flood event by both structural and non-structural means	17,732 structures in the floodplain quilt	Reduce risk to 5% of structures	Reduce risk to 15% of structures
Reduce the number of critical facilities that are at risk of flooding during the 1% annual chance of flooding to above the 0.2% annual chance flood event by both structural and non-structural means	538 critical facilities are within the floodplain quilt	Establish the quantity of at-risk critical facilities in the region	Reduce risk to 10% of facilities

3C – 2024 Adopted Goals

Goal	Baseline	Short Term (2033)	Long Term (2053)
Increase the accuracy of flood hazard data in the region by performing detailed studies using the best available terrain, land use, and precipitation data to reduce gaps in floodplain mapping	N/A	Establish a baseline measurement	50% data gap reduction
Increase the number of communities with warning and emergency response programs that can detect flooding threats and provide timely warning of impending flood danger	N/A	Establish a baseline measurement	Increase the number of communities with programs by 40%
Increase the number of flood gauges in the region	N/A	Establish a baseline measurement	Add gauges based on the results of the evaluation (increase by 30%)
Increase public outreach and education activities to improve awareness of flood hazards and the benefits of flood planning in the region	N/A	Develop outreach and education program	Majority participation in annual events throughout the basin

3C – Next Steps

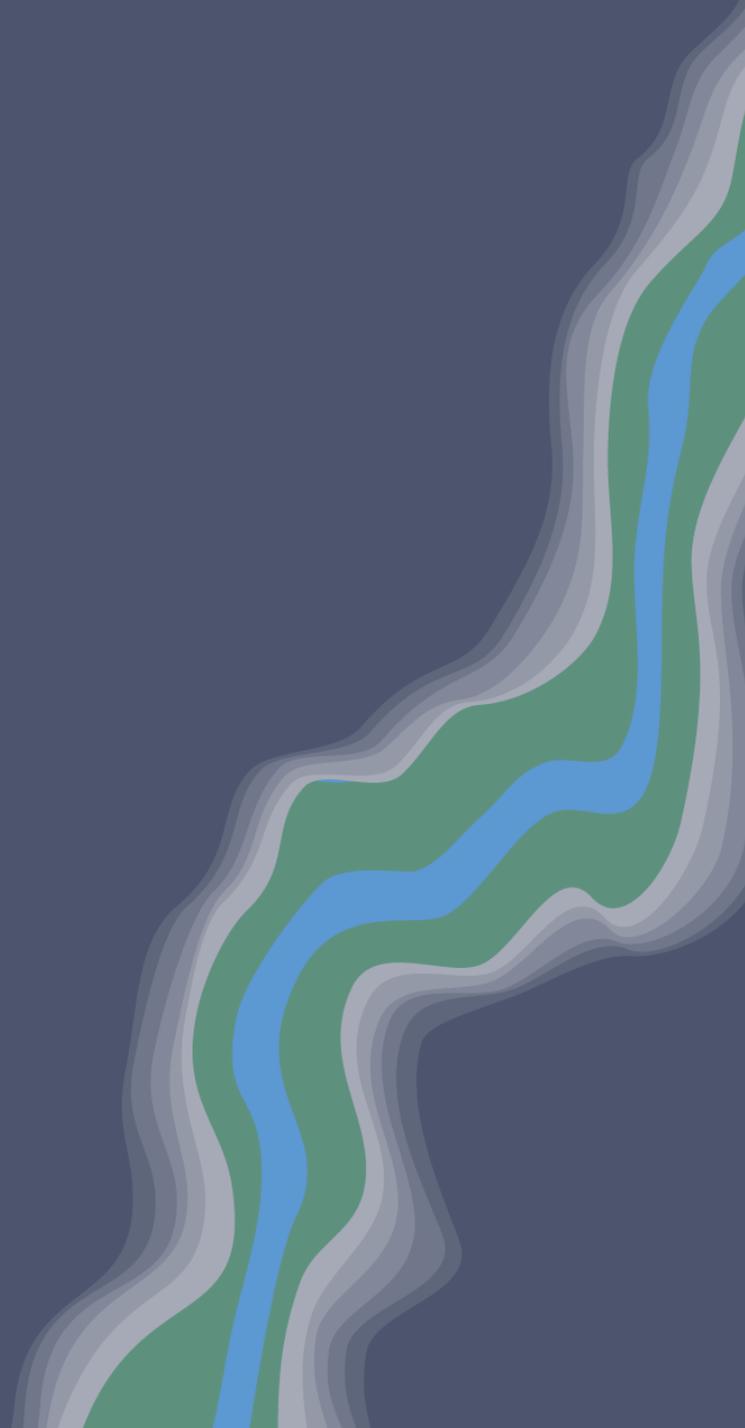
Next Steps

- Evaluate progress made on the previous cycle's goals (based on the questionnaire results)
- Examine the 2024 adopted goals based on what we know
- Determine goals and measurable actions for this cycle



Task 4A – FMX Identification

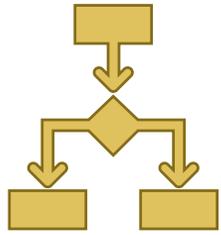
Ryan Londeen, PE, CFM (Halff)



4A – Task Overview

Goal

Identify and evaluate potential FMXs: Flood Management Evaluations (FMEs), and potentially feasible Flood Mitigation Strategies (FMSs) and Flood Mitigation Projects (FMPs).



Feeds into several subsequent tasks

- Task 4C: Performance of FMEs
- Task 5A: Recommendation of FMXs
- Task 5B: FMEs to be Performed by TWDB

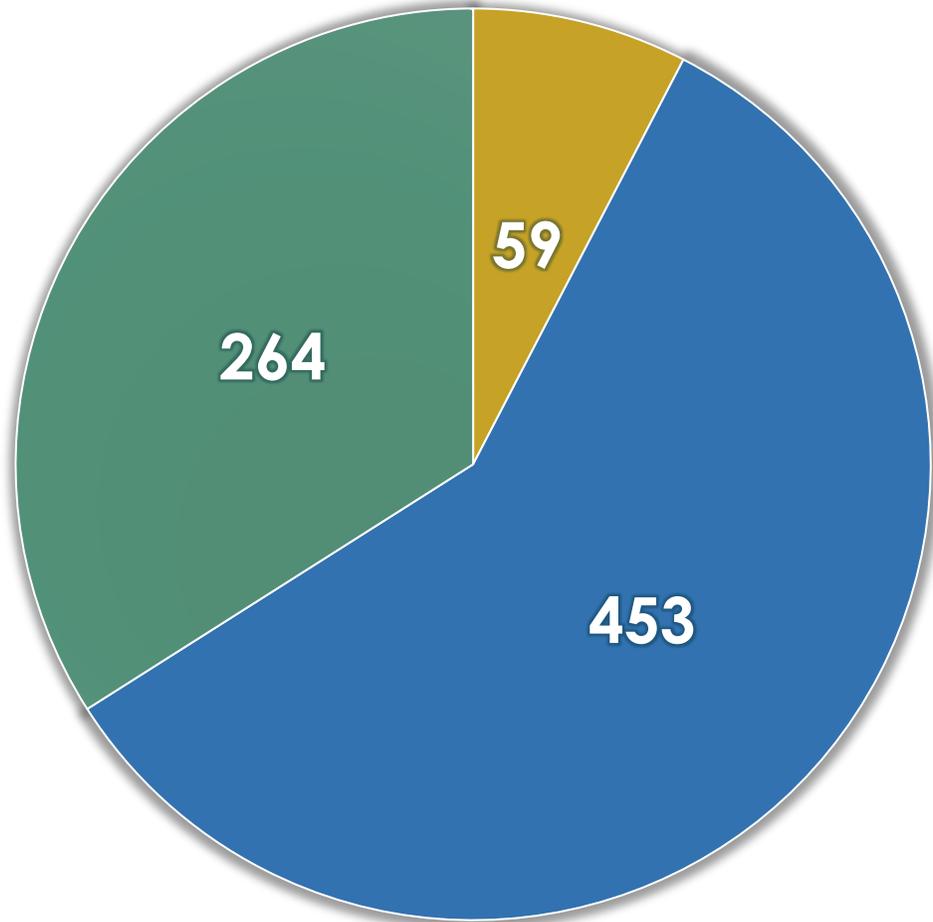


Started Task with Amendment

- Collected many FMEs and FMSs during amendment
- Expecting lower volume of new items primarily consisting of FMPs

4A – Current FMX List

■ Infeasible ■ Non-Recommended ■ Recommended

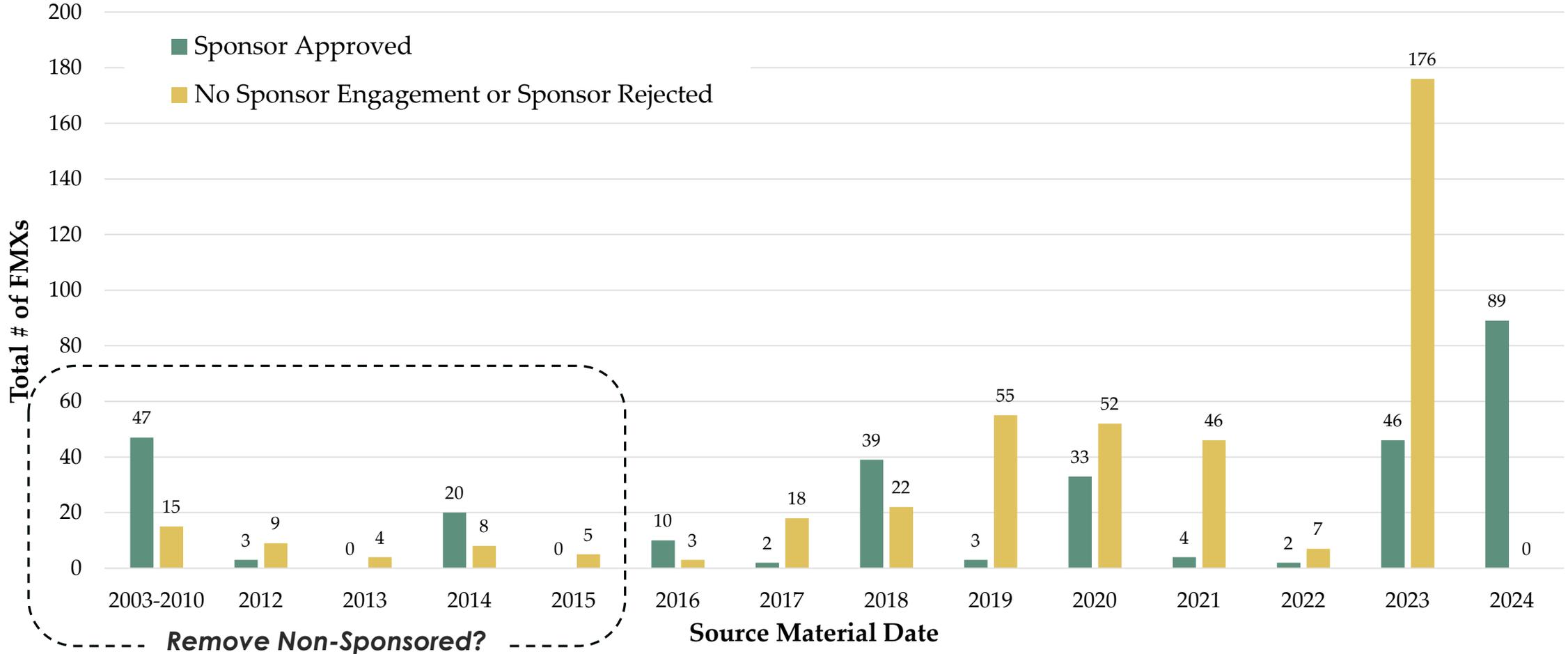


FMX Source	No. FMXs Identified	No. FMXs Recommended
Hazard Mitigation Plans	213	4
Other Available Public Docs	213	86
Direct Community Submittals	199	165
RFPG Task Efforts*	151	9
TOTAL	776	264

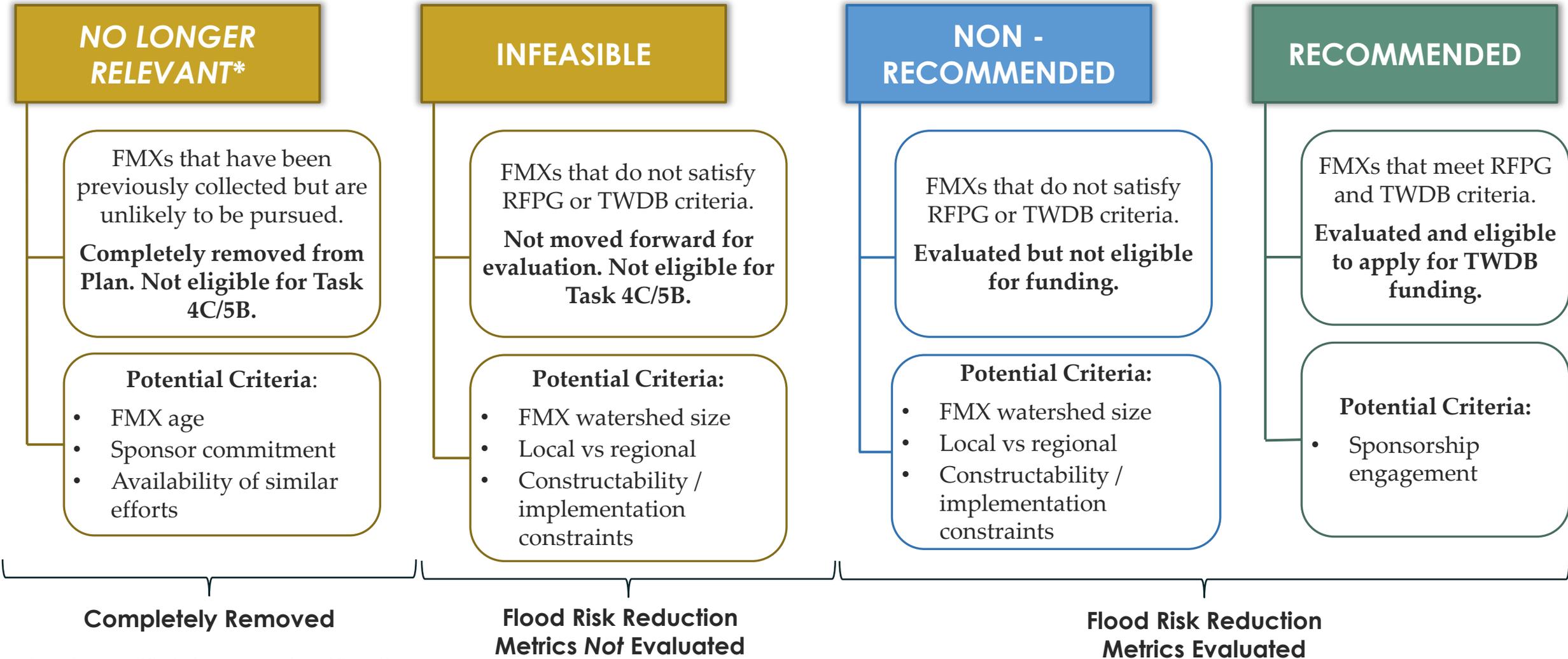
**Combination of FMPs and FMSs identified through Task 12 FME performance, and FMEs identified through Task 4A flood risk analysis during 2024 planning cycle.*

4A – Current FMX List

FMX Source Documentation Dates

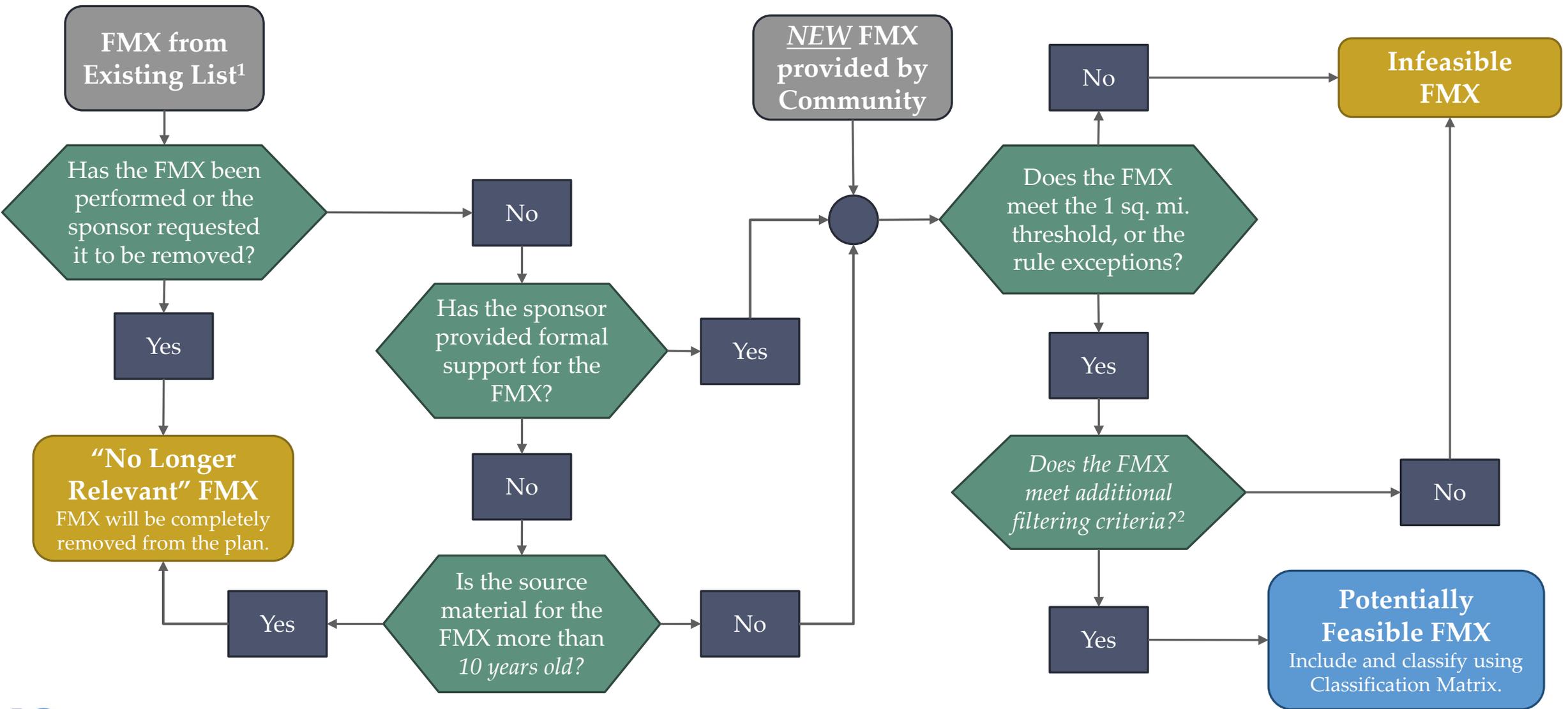


4A – FMX Identification Categories



*Not an official TWDB classification.

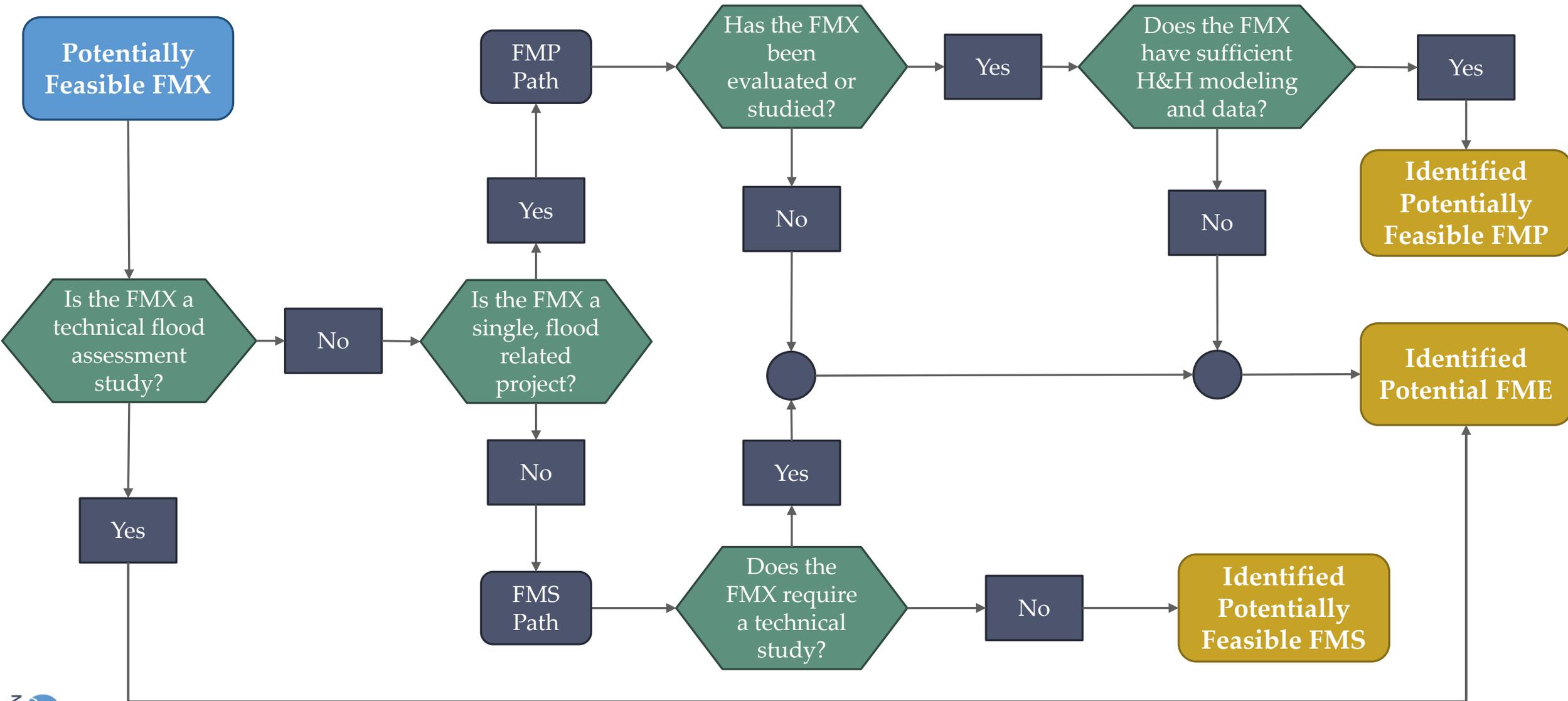
4A – FMX Identification Flow Chart



¹Previous plan AND amendments.

²Can optionally include additional metrics for infeasible classification.

4A – FMX Classification Flow Chart



4A – Future Decisions & Discussions

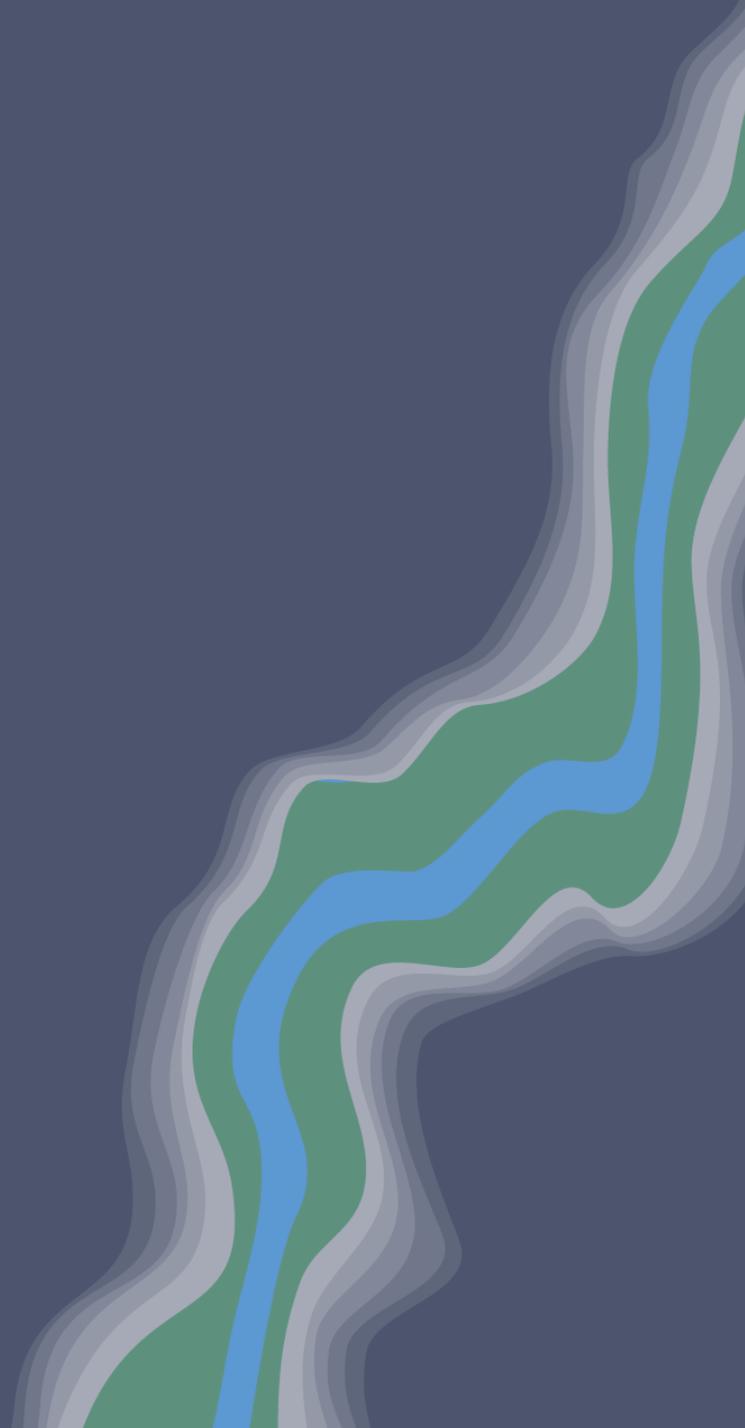
Determine if we want to move forward with *No Longer Relevant* List.

Decide on metrics (if any) for Infeasibility.

**Vote on FMX
Identification and
Classification flow
charts**

Task 4C – FME Performance

Ryan Londeen, PE, CFM (Halff)



4C – Task Overview

Goal

Perform select flood management evaluations (FMEs) to identify potentially feasible flood mitigation projects and strategies (FMPs and FMSs).

We will recommend additional FMEs to be performed by the TWDB during Task 5B.

Perform **regional watershed studies** for rural, underserved areas.

Identify flood risk solutions based on risk assessment.

**Data Gap
Reduction**

**Flood Risk
Reduction**

Finalize existing flood risk reduction concepts to elevate them to FMPs.

Incorporate updated base data and calculate benefits and costs.

4C – 2024 Cycle



Regional Watershed Studies

- Performed 6 studies analyzing flood risk for almost 300 sq mi
- Identified 10 potential FMPs



FME to FMP Promotion

- Performed 1 evaluation to promote FME to FMP
- Updated models to meet RFPG & TWDB criteria



Flood Warning System Evaluation

- Evaluated availability of gauges and flood warning systems within the region
- Identified areas with gaps in available information

4C – Supporting Info

FME Prioritization

Task 3B – Needs Analysis

- Identify flood risk knowledge gaps (FEMA, BLE, community models, none, etc.)
- Identify areas with highest flood risk
- Leveraged to prioritize FMEs for performance
- Substantial completion in September

Data Gap Reduction

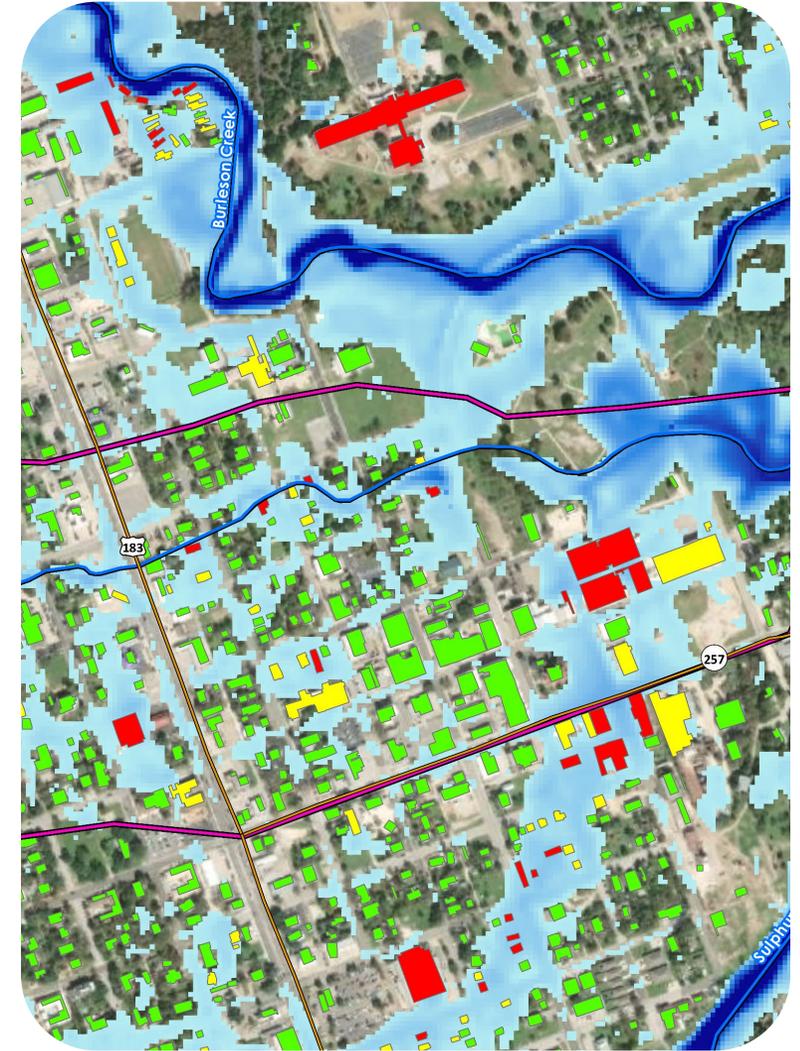
InFRM WHA by USACE

- Detailed hydrology for major rivers & creeks (> 50 sq. mi.)
- Good hydrology for rivers is currently lacking in our region
- Could be utilized to develop hydraulic models to increase accuracy of flood risk for large creeks and rivers
- Finalized by end of year (draft data available now)

FME to FMP

FMX Collection from Communities

- FMX submittal window closes in September



4C – Task Budget and Schedule



4C Schedule

- Complete by October 2026
- *Recommend initiating at the end of year after the completion of Task 3B and collection of FMXs*
- Task 5B can only be initiated after submittal of Tech Memo & receipt of notice to proceed



4C Budget

- \$630,150
- Includes performance of FMEs, related outreach, and chapter development
- Roughly \$130,000 less than what was received for Tasks 11-13 in 2024 cycle
- Unknown budget for Task 5B (Performance of FMEs by TWDB)

4C –Decisions & Discussions

Decide when to initiate Task 4C.

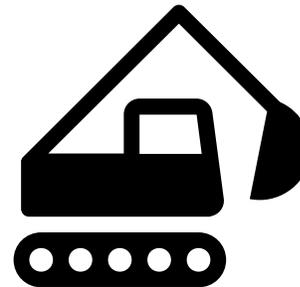
Determine what type(s) of FMEs Lower Brazos Region wants to perform.

Compare applicable FMEs to create priority list using data from other Tasks.

Perform FMEs in order of prioritization until limited by budget or schedule.



*Discussion
(Today)*





QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

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

LOOKING AHEAD

JULY 2025

- **Task 1: Draft Planning Area Description Chapter Review**
- **Task 3B: Flood Mitigation Needs Analysis Approach Approval (if needed)**
- **Task 4A: Approve FMX Identification Flow Chart**

AUGUST 2025

- **Task 2A: Draft Existing Flood Quilt Review**
- **Task 3A: Final Floodplain Management Practices Acceptance**
- **Task 3B: Flood Mitigation Needs Analysis Results**



6. Report from:

6.1. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) staff

6.2. Regional Planning Sponsor

6.3. Lower Brazos RFPG Chair



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

3rd Thursday of the month for regular RFPG meeting – July 17, 2025, at 10:00 AM

REGION



Lower Brazos
Regional Flood Planning Group

8. Adjourn