



REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

NCTCOG Public Works Roundup

August 20, 2026

Forward Thinking for Flood Planning

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Project Manager



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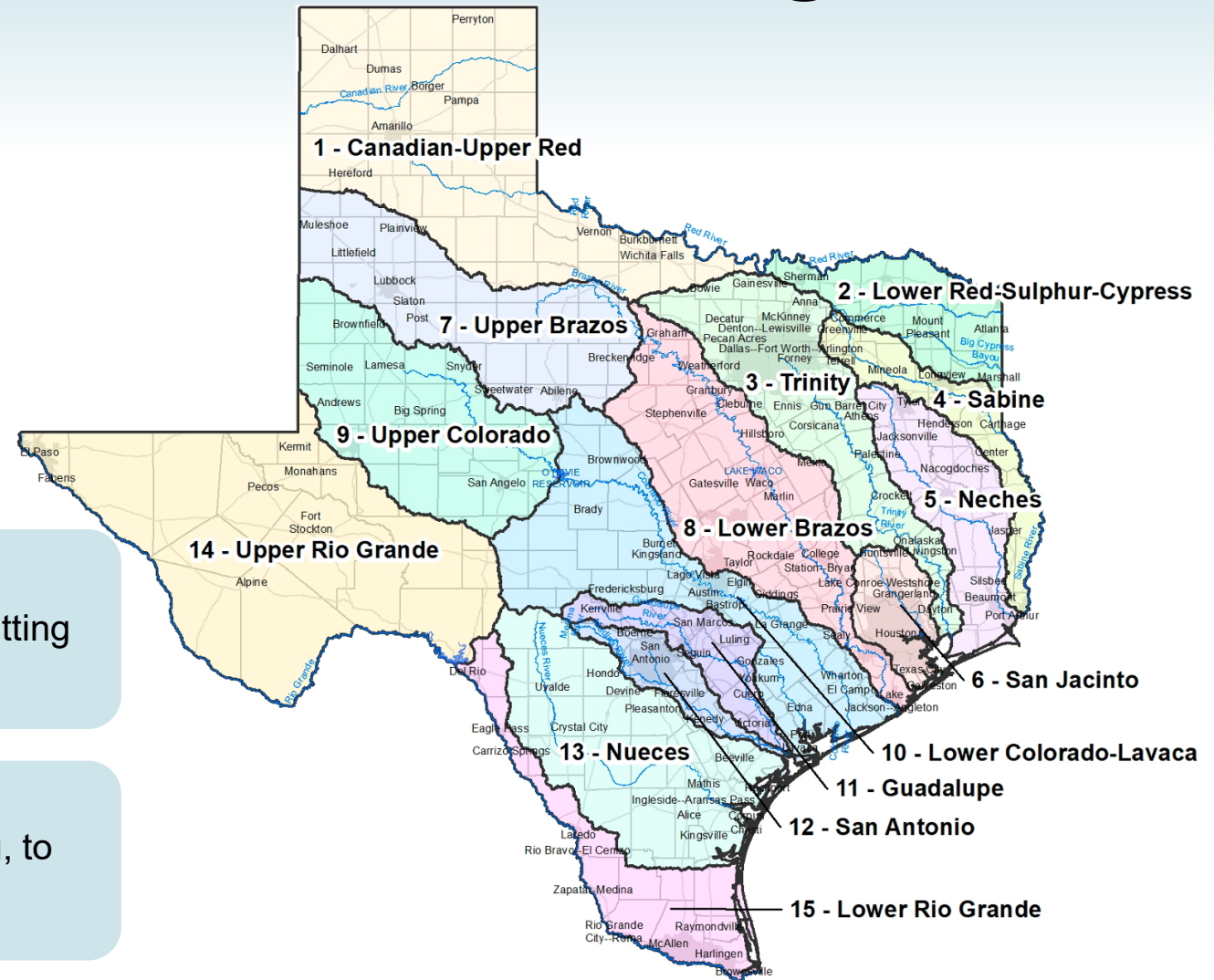
Overview of the Regional Flood Planning Process

History of Regional Flood Planning

Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) created 15 regional flood planning groups in 2020, following 2019 State Legislation establishing the Regional Flood Planning process.

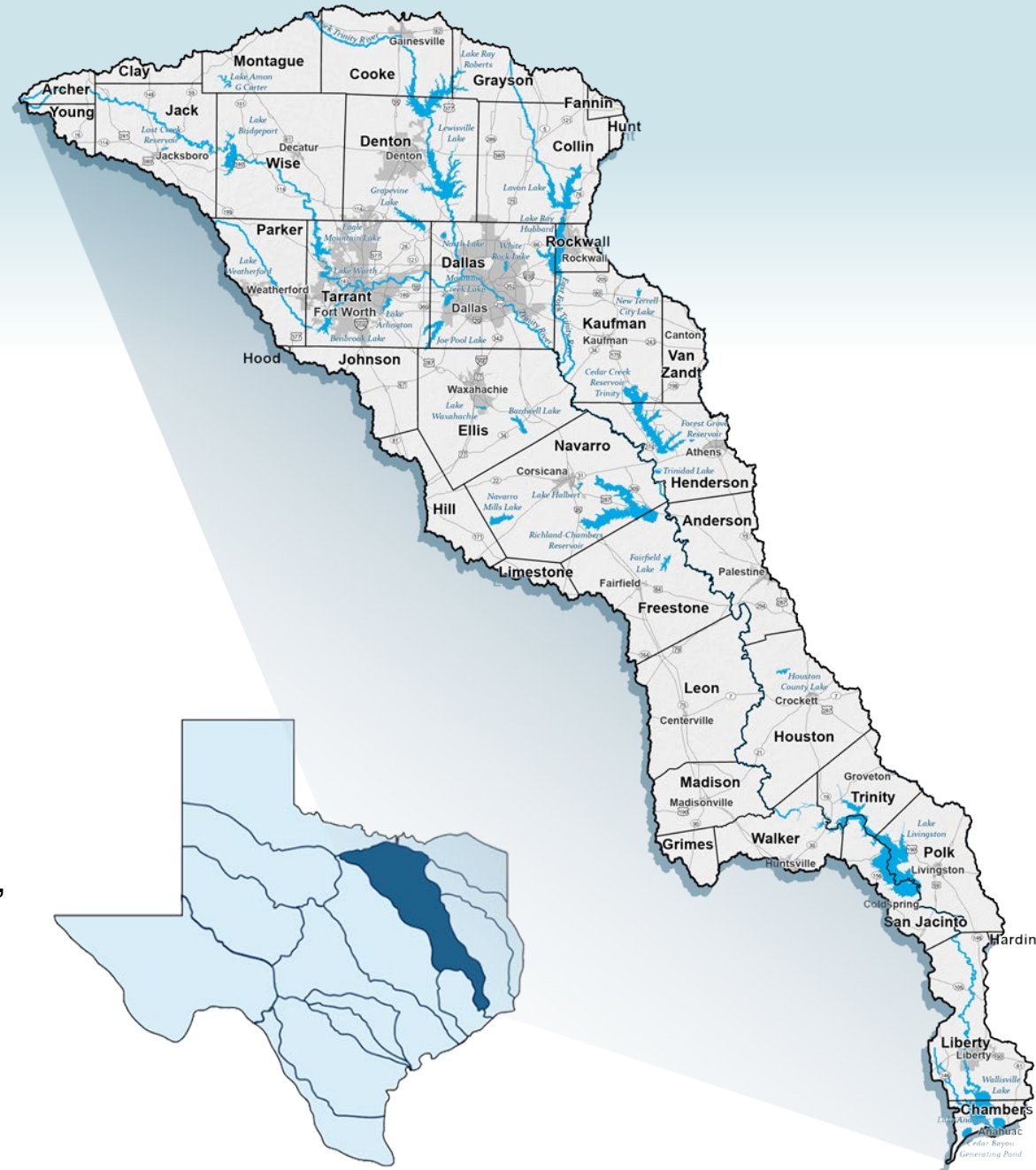
Each group is tasked with creating a Regional Flood Plan, updating and submitting it to the TWDB on a five-year cycle

Members represent 12 interest categories potentially affected by flooding, to provide a diversity of perspectives



About Region 3

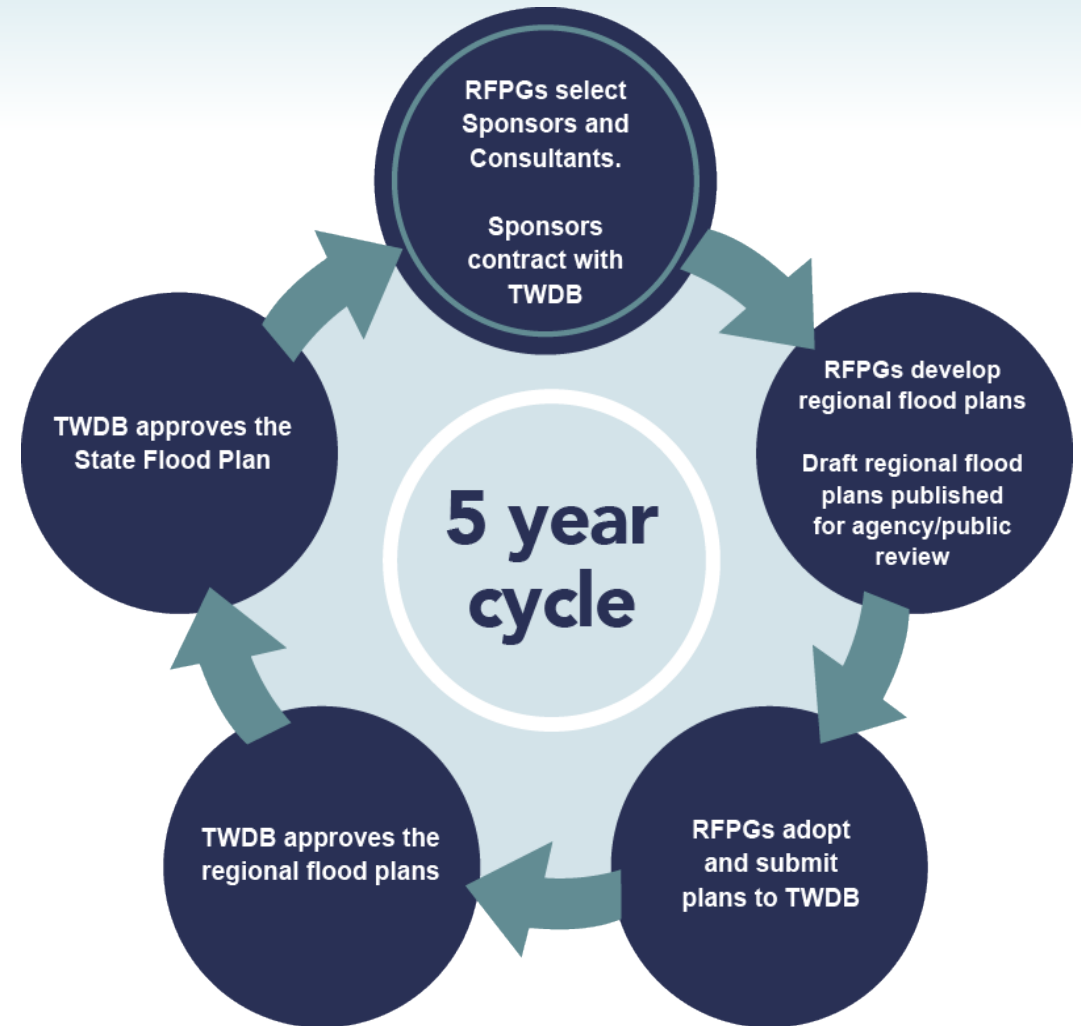
- Stretches from Gainesville in Cooke County to Anahuac in Chambers County (all or parts of 38 counties)
- Includes approximately 47,000 stream miles, draining a total land area of nearly 18,000 square miles
- One of the state's **most populated flood planning areas**, with an estimated 9,453,000 residents (expected to have 96 communities with populations over 25,000 by 2060)
- More than 3.4 million business establishments, 228,000 acres of parkland and preserves, and more than 30 major lakes and reservoirs



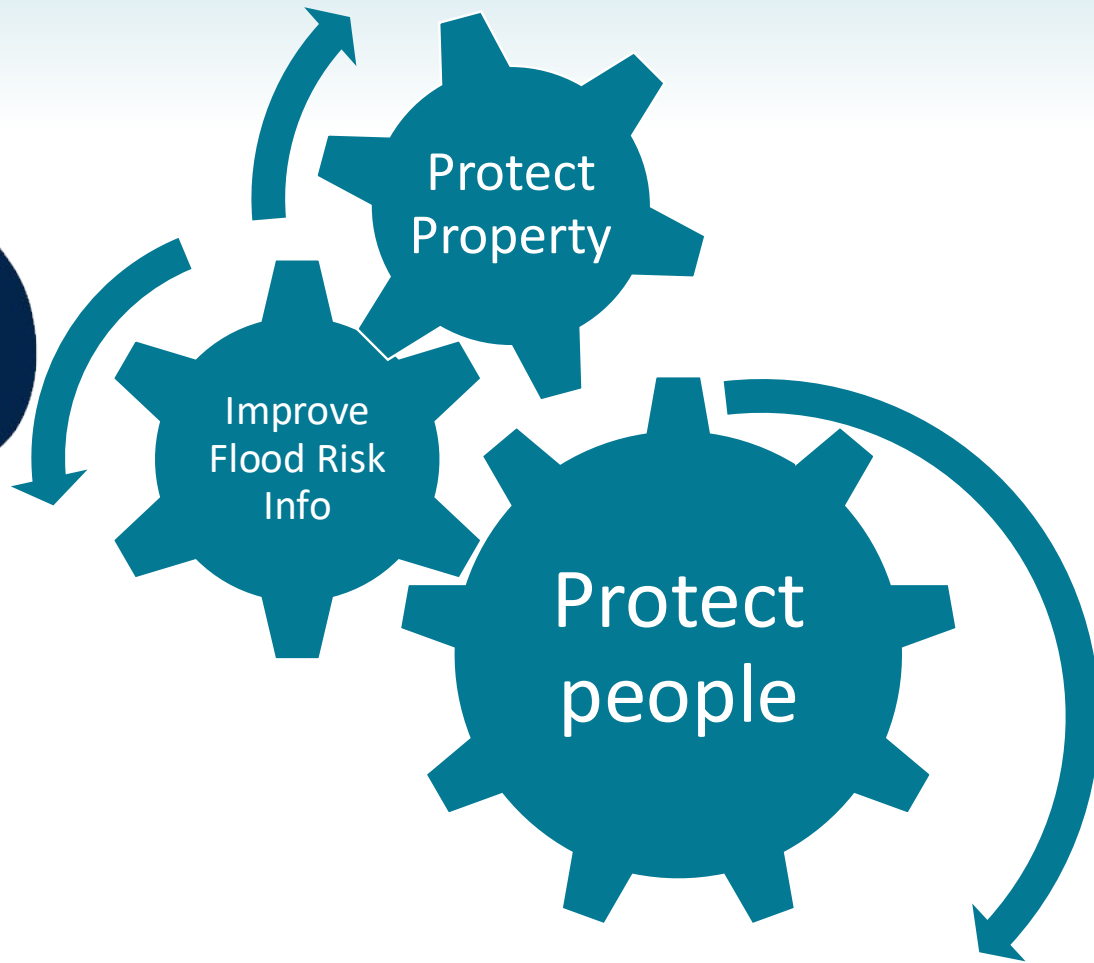
<https://trinityrfpg.org/>

Regional Flood Planning Cycle

- First planning cycle began in Fall 2020
- 2023 Regional Flood Plans were submitted to the TWDB in January 2023
- 2023 Regional Flood Plan amendments were submitted to the TWDB in July 2023
- All 15 Regional Flood Plans were synthesized into Texas' first-ever State Flood Plan in August 2024
- Second 5-year flood planning cycle began in Spring 2024
- 2028 Regional Flood Plans are due to TWDB in January 2028

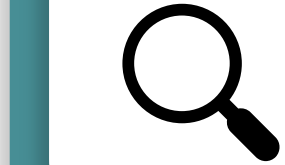


Goal of Flood Planning



- Communicate, promote, and publicize regional and state flood planning
- Collect and assess existing data
- Identify existing and future flood risks
- Evaluate flood management practices
- Establish measurable goals
- Develop regional flood plan to mitigate flood risk to people and property
- Recommend actions to reduce flood risks

Regional Flood Planning Acronyms



**FLOOD MANAGEMENT
EVALUATION (FME)**

Analyses or studies



**FLOOD MITIGATION
PROJECT (FMP)**

“Actual” projects



**FLOOD MANAGEMENT
STRATEGIES (FMS)**

Anything else!

What's in a Regional Flood Plan?

Developing each new Regional Flood Plan requires completion of **11 primary tasks**:

1. Describe the planning region
2. Document flood exposure and vulnerability (existing and future)
3. List floodplain management practices and goals
4. Develop a method for choosing flood studies/evaluations (FMEs), projects (FMPs), and strategies (FMSs)
5. Make final recommendations of FMEs, FMPs, and FMSs
6. Assess impacts of the plan
7. Document flood response and recovery activities
8. Make recommendations to the legislative and administrative bodies
9. Survey financing options for recommended solutions
10. Facilitate public outreach and input
11. Document implementation and compare the new and previous RFPs



We are here



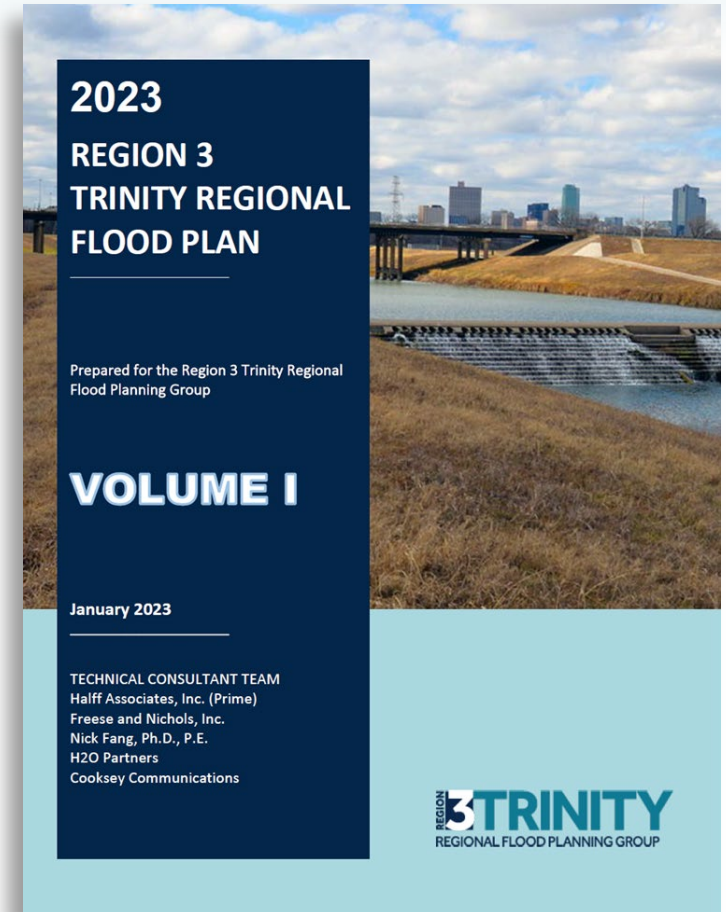
**Draft regional flood plans
due:
May 26, 2027**

**Final regional flood plans
due:
January 10, 2028**

Major Components of the 2023 Plan

Based on the best available science, data, models and flood risk mapping, all regional flood plans include:

- Current and future flood risks and infrastructure
- Flood mitigation needs analysis
- Development and selection of **flood management evaluations** (FMEs), **flood mitigation projects** (FMPs) and **flood management strategies** (FMSs)
- Contributions to water supply and impacts on the State Water Plan
- Funding recommendations for recommended actions
- Public participation and plan approval



How the Plan Affects You

Goals

- 19 total goals for the region
- Includes goals to promote flood warning systems, reducing the vulnerability of agriculture and ranching, increasing the acreage of protected natural areas, and increasing NBSs.

Nature-Based Solutions (NBSs)

- Promoting more “green”, less “grey”
- TWDB is producing a NBS Manual later in 2026.

Proactive Planning

- Assessment of existing issues provides more comprehensive views of Texas’ flood risk mitigation measures that promote collaborative and forward-thinking solutions.

Small & Rural Communities

- TWDB has a renewed focus on assisting small & rural communities, including a task that is providing engineering resources to communities that could not otherwise acquire them.

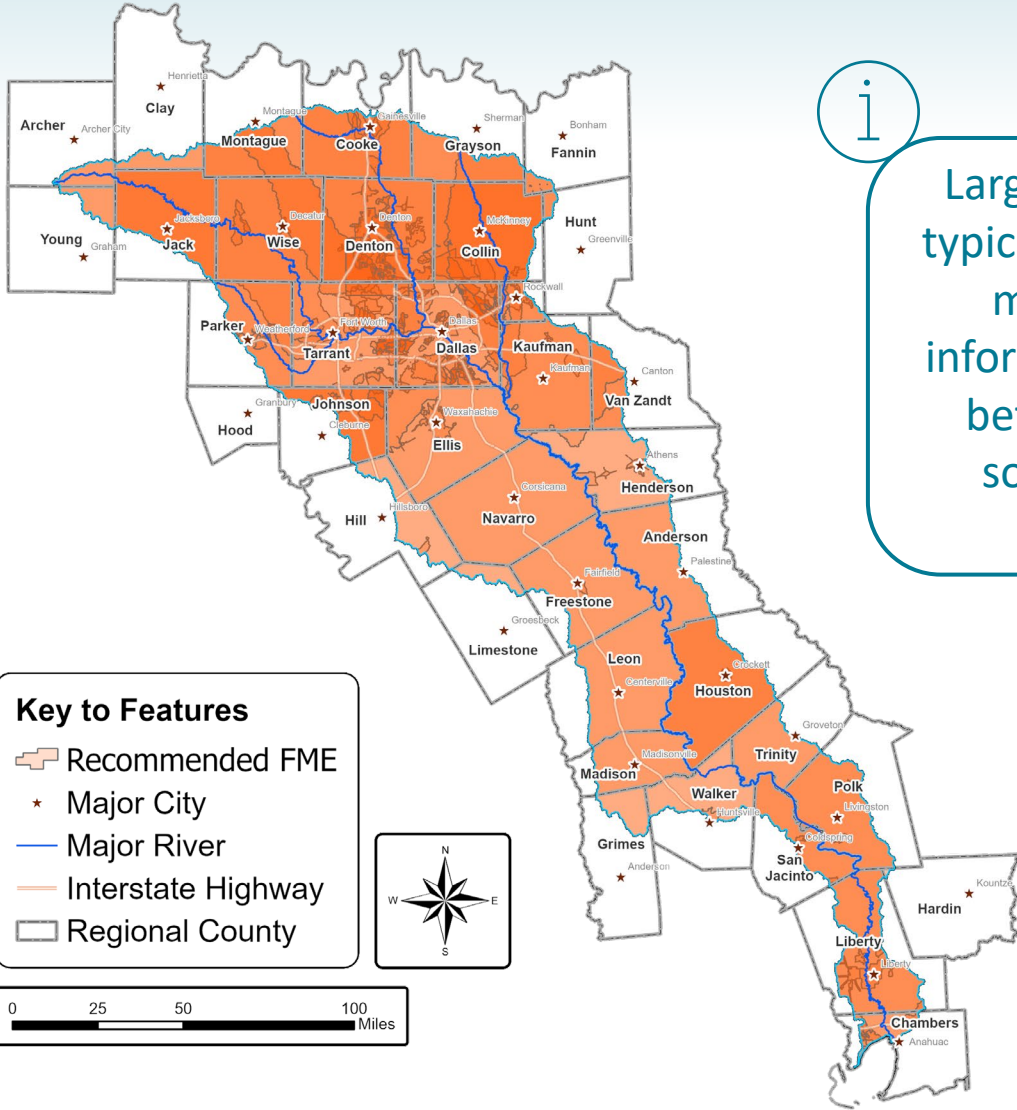
Flood Management Evaluations (FMEs)

508

recommended
FMEs in 2023
Amended Plan

\$222M

Approx. Total Cost



i

Large FME presence typically indicates that more flood risk information is needed before projects or solutions can be developed.

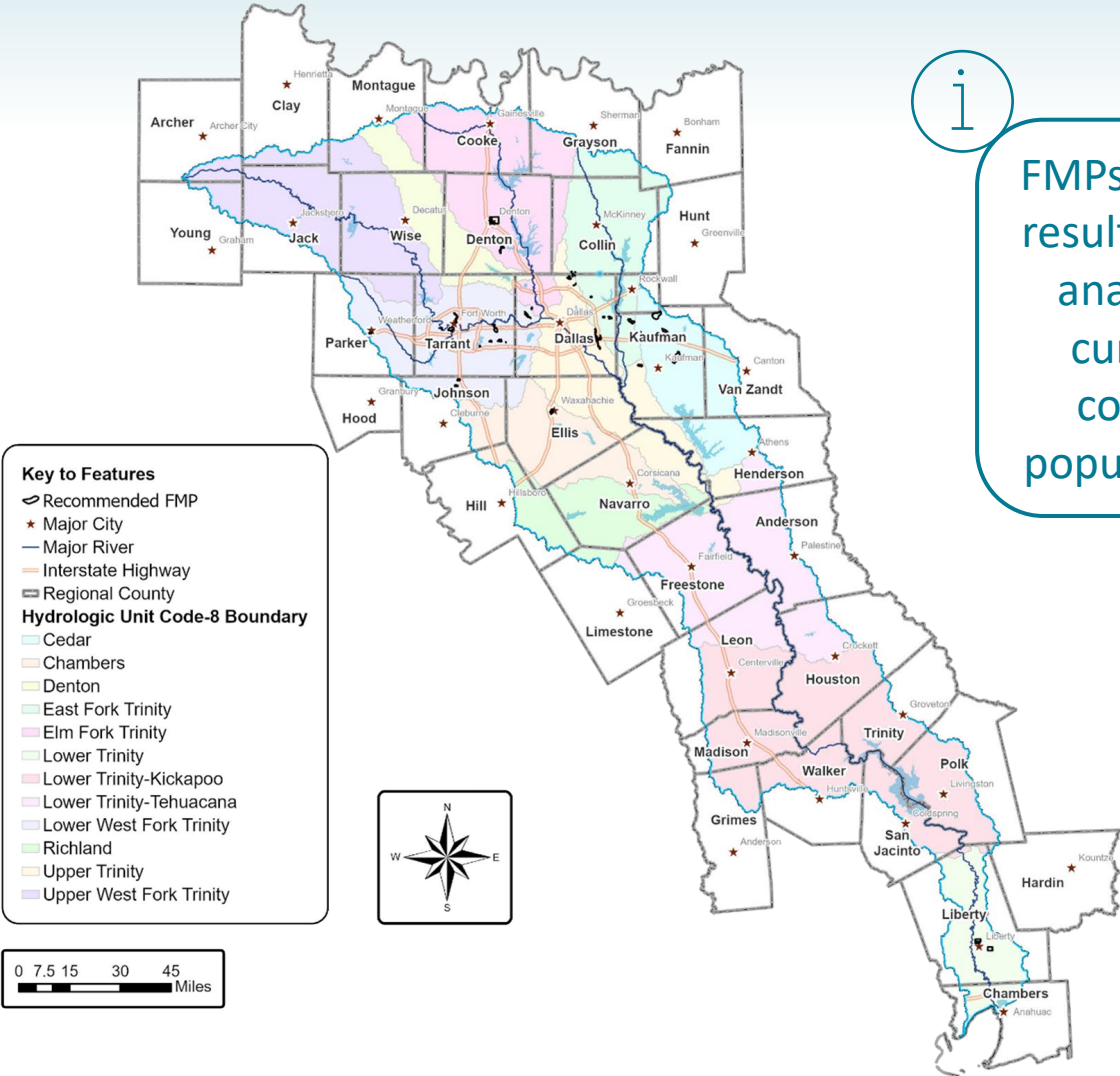
Flood Mitigation Projects (FMPs)

83

recommended projects
in 2023 Amended Plan

\$2.3B

Approx. Total Cost



i FMPs are typically a result of performed analysis and are currently most common near population centers.

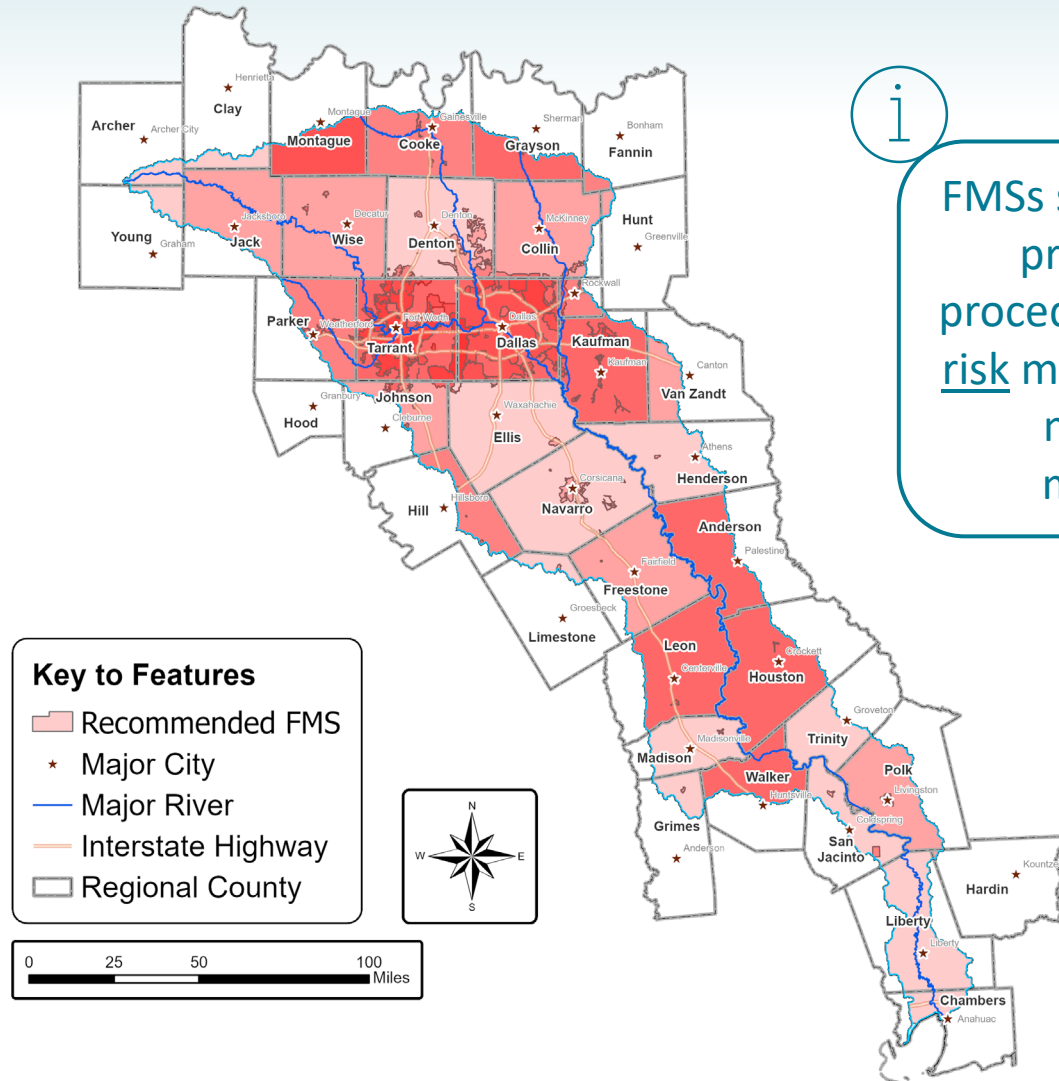
Flood Management Strategies (FMSs)

144

recommended FMSs
in 2023 Amended Plan

\$752M

Approx. Total Cost



FMSs support needed programs and procedures to provide risk mitigation (not so much flood mitigation).

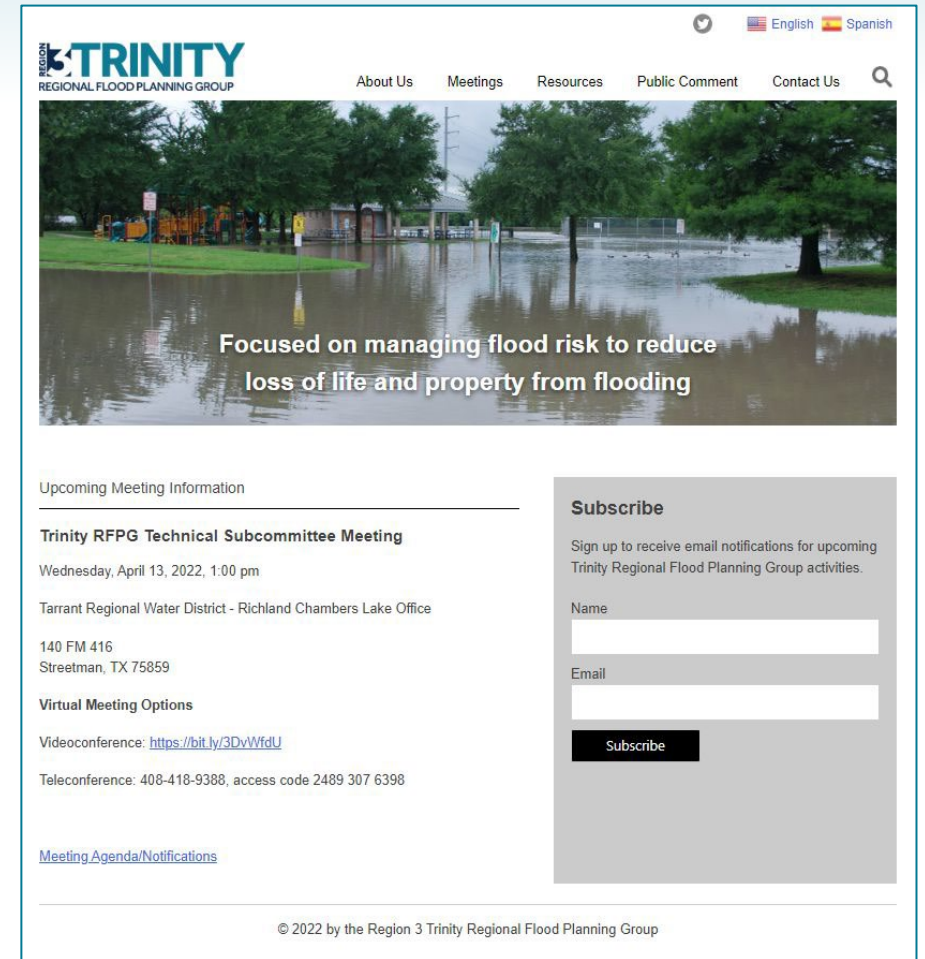
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Public Participation

How to Stay Informed and Get Involved

How to stay informed

- **Visit our award-winning website:**
www.trinityrfpg.org
 - Info about the regional flood planning effort
 - Meeting notices and information
 - Meeting materials for review and input
 - Draft and final plan documents
 - Glossary and other helpful resources/links
- **Sign up** through the “**Subscribe**” area of website homepage to join our e-mail list and get timely e-notifications about Trinity RFPG activities
- **Follow us** on social media
 - **X:** @TrinityRFPG
 - **LinkedIn:** Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'About Us', 'Meetings', 'Resources', 'Public Comment', and 'Contact Us'. A search icon is also present. The main header features the 'REGION 3 TRINITY' logo and the text 'REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP'. Below the header is a large banner image of a flooded park area with a playground. Overlaid on the banner is the text: 'Focused on managing flood risk to reduce loss of life and property from flooding'. Below the banner, there is a section titled 'Upcoming Meeting Information' which lists details for a 'Trinity RFPG Technical Subcommittee Meeting' on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, at 1:00 pm, held at the Tarrant Regional Water District - Richland Chambers Lake Office. It also provides virtual meeting options, including a videoconference link and a teleconference number. To the right of the meeting information is a 'Subscribe' form with fields for 'Name' and 'Email', and a 'Subscribe' button. At the bottom of the page, there is a copyright notice: '© 2022 by the Region 3 Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group'.

How to Stay Informed and Get Involved

How to get involved

- **Attend regular, hybrid public meetings** in the Upper, Middle and Lower Trinity Basin throughout the planning cycle
- **Provide public comments**
 - Web:
www.trinityrfpg.org/public-comment
 - Email:
info@trinityrfpg.org



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Solicitation for Additional FMXs



You asked, the RFPG listened!

- Original solicitation closed in September 2025
 - FMEs for RFPG to advance have been decided
 - FMEs for TWDB to advance have been decided
- Multiple inquiries about next opportunity to submit FMXs
- RFPG reopened FMX solicitation
 - Sponsor has **ALL** TWDB-required elements (tables, maps, models, geodatabase, cost estimate, BCA, project description, RFPG goal(s) met, no negative impacts, etc.)
 - Consultant team promotes the opportunity via email, social media, etc.
 - Deadline to submit **ALL** TWDB-required elements: **October 30, 2026***

*Complete FMPs will be considered in the order in which they are received depending on time and budget.

Eligible Planning Studies (FMEs)



- Preliminary engineering (up to 30% design for FMEs)
- Feasibility assessments
- Development of regional projects
- Obtaining regulatory approvals
- Hydraulic and hydrologic studies
- Alternative analyses
- Watershed assessments
- Dam hazard assessments
- Planning activities

FME Submittal Requirements

- Image of desired model limits (PDF, JPG or PNG format)
- GIS-based file showing desired model limits (.shp file)
- Brief description of study area and why study is needed
- Populated TWDB-required table (only for FME inputs)
- Cost estimate of proposed study
- Name of sponsor/submitting entity
- Names of other entities, if any, that would provide oversight or should be included



Eligible Construction Projects (FMPs)



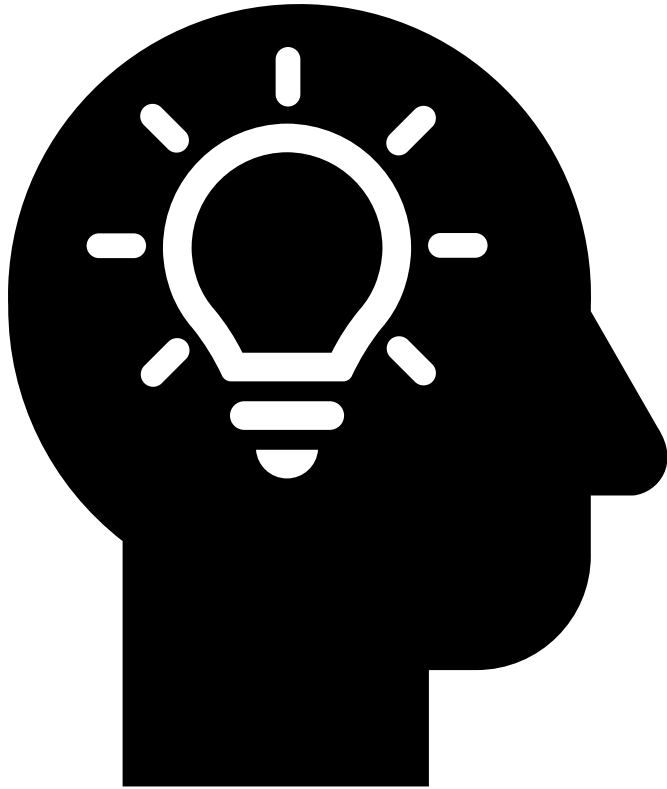
- Drainage infrastructure
- Flood control and flood mitigation infrastructure
- Retention / detention ponds
- Sustainable infrastructure
- Erosion control
- Dams and levees
- Property acquisitions
- Nature-based solutions
- Flood infrastructure that creates a new source of water supply

FMP Submittal Requirements

- Image of model limits (PDF, JPG or PNG format)
- GIS-based file showing model limits (.shp file)
- Brief description of project and why it is needed
- Hydrologic models (if applicable) and hydraulic models showing both existing conditions and post-project conditions
- Cost estimate of proposed project construction
- Benefit-cost analysis
- Description or proof that proposed project does not cause adverse impacts to others
- Populated TWDB-required table (only for FMP inputs)



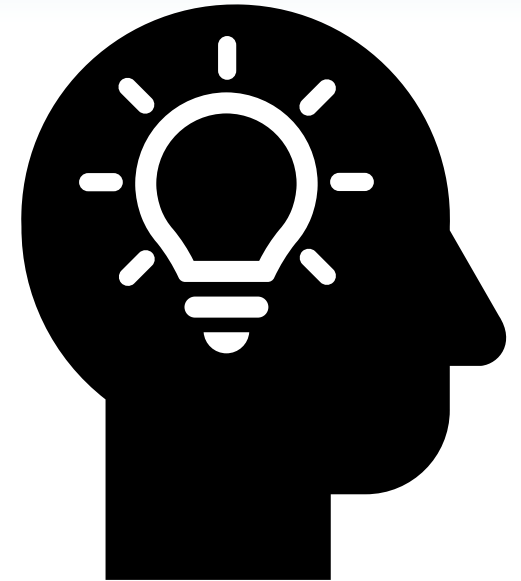
Non-Structural and Other Eligible Strategies (FMSs)



- Conservation easements
- Living shorelines
- Protection and restoration of riparian corridors, floodplains, coastal areas, and wetlands
- Development/update of local flood regulations
- Flood early warning systems
- Stream gages
- Educational campaigns
- Buyouts

FMS Submittal Requirements

- GIS-based file showing desired model limits (.shp file)
- Brief description of activity and benefit to community
- Cost estimate of proposed activity
- Populated TWDB-required table (only for FMS inputs)





Submittal Details Available

www.trinityrfpg.org

Deadline to submit **ALL** required elements: **October 30, 2026**

The background of the slide is an underwater scene. The top half shows the surface of the water with gentle ripples and a bright, hazy light source, likely the sun, creating a shimmering effect. The bottom half is a deep, clear blue, showing some faint, out-of-focus light patterns. A solid, light blue horizontal line spans the width of the slide, positioned just above the title text.

TWDB Funding



Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF)

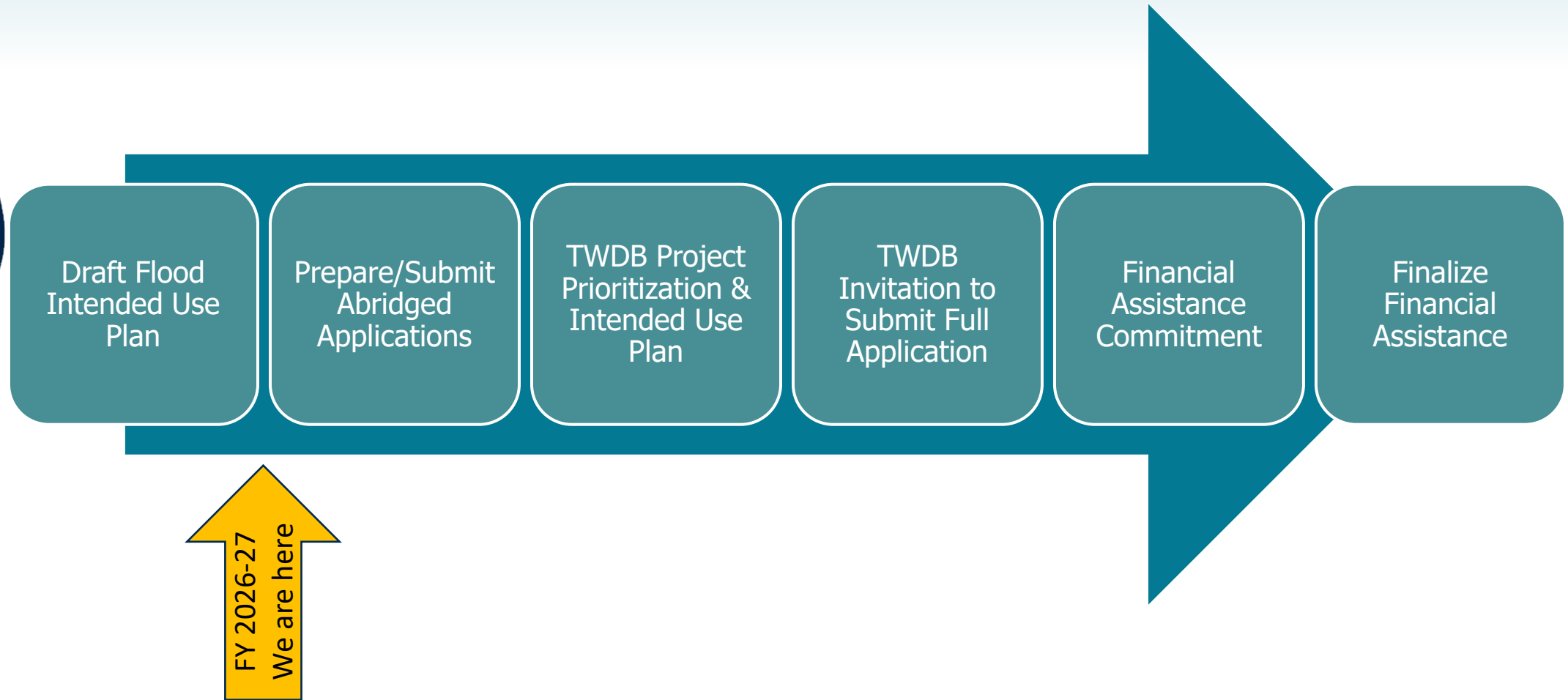
- Established by Texas Legislature and managed by TWDB
- Financial assistance for a broad range of drainage, flood mitigation, and flood control projects and categorized between FME, FMP and FMS for eligible applicants (cities, counties and districts or authorities created under Article III, Section 52, or Article XVI, Section 59 of the Texas Constitution).
- **Key eligibility requirement:** requested **action must be recommended** in the approved regional flood plan

Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF)

- Available funding varies
 - \$375M available for FY 2024-25
 - \$312M available for FY 2026-27
- Two-step application process
 - Submit abridged application
 - Submit full application (when invited)



Anticipated FIF Process





FIF Program Updates for FY 2026-27

- Sponsors are limited to 2 abridged applications per FMX.
- TWDB will invite at least one FME or FMP from each RFPG.
- BCAs are not required for FMP abridged applications.
- Funding amounts for FMX categories are not predetermined.
- Funding caps apply to each category.
- Percentage grant awards are increasing.

Upcoming Activities

Aug / Sept 2026

- TWDB Releases FY 2026-27 Flood Intended Use Plan
Submit abridged FIF applications for funding!

October 30, 2026

- Deadline to submit complete FMX requests to RFPG for consideration in 2028 Flood Plan

November 2026

- Next RFPG Meeting
Open to the public; virtual option available. Meetings occur quarterly.

Summer 2027

- Draft 2028 Trinity Regional Flood Plan available for public comment
Provide input for your community!



Questions?

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