



# Engaging in the Regional Flood Planning Process

NCTCOG Public Works Roundup  
September 4, 2025



# INTRODUCTIONS



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Trinity Regional Flood Plan



# Agenda

- Overview of the State Flood Plan
- Flood Infrastructure Fund
- Trinity Region and a 2028 Flood Plan Update
- How to Engage in Flood Planning

The background is a deep teal color with a wavy, horizontal line across the upper third, resembling the surface of water. Below this line, the water appears slightly more transparent, showing some light rays and small bubbles. The overall effect is a calm, aquatic atmosphere.

# Overview of the State Flood Plan

Big Picture First

# Background

From 2015 through 2024, Texas experienced 14 flood-related events resulting in Federal Major Disaster Declarations, totaling more than \$5B in FEMA funding.

**2017**

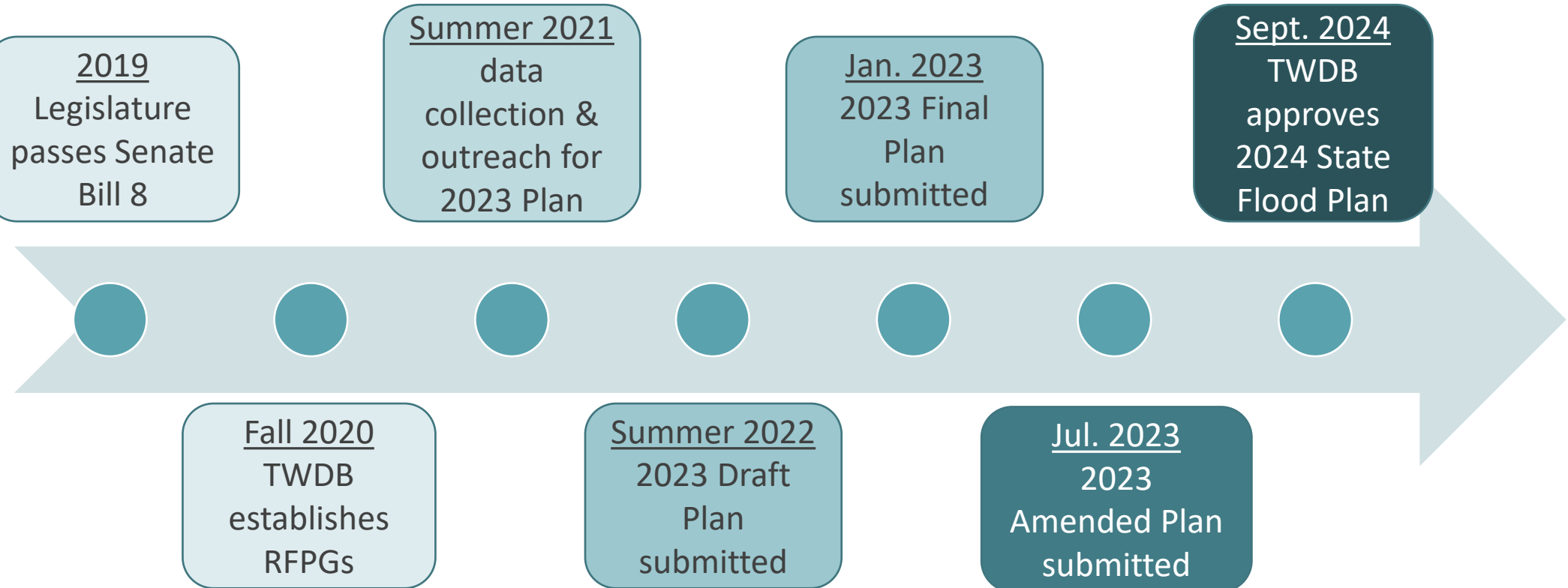
Hurricane  
Harvey

**2019**

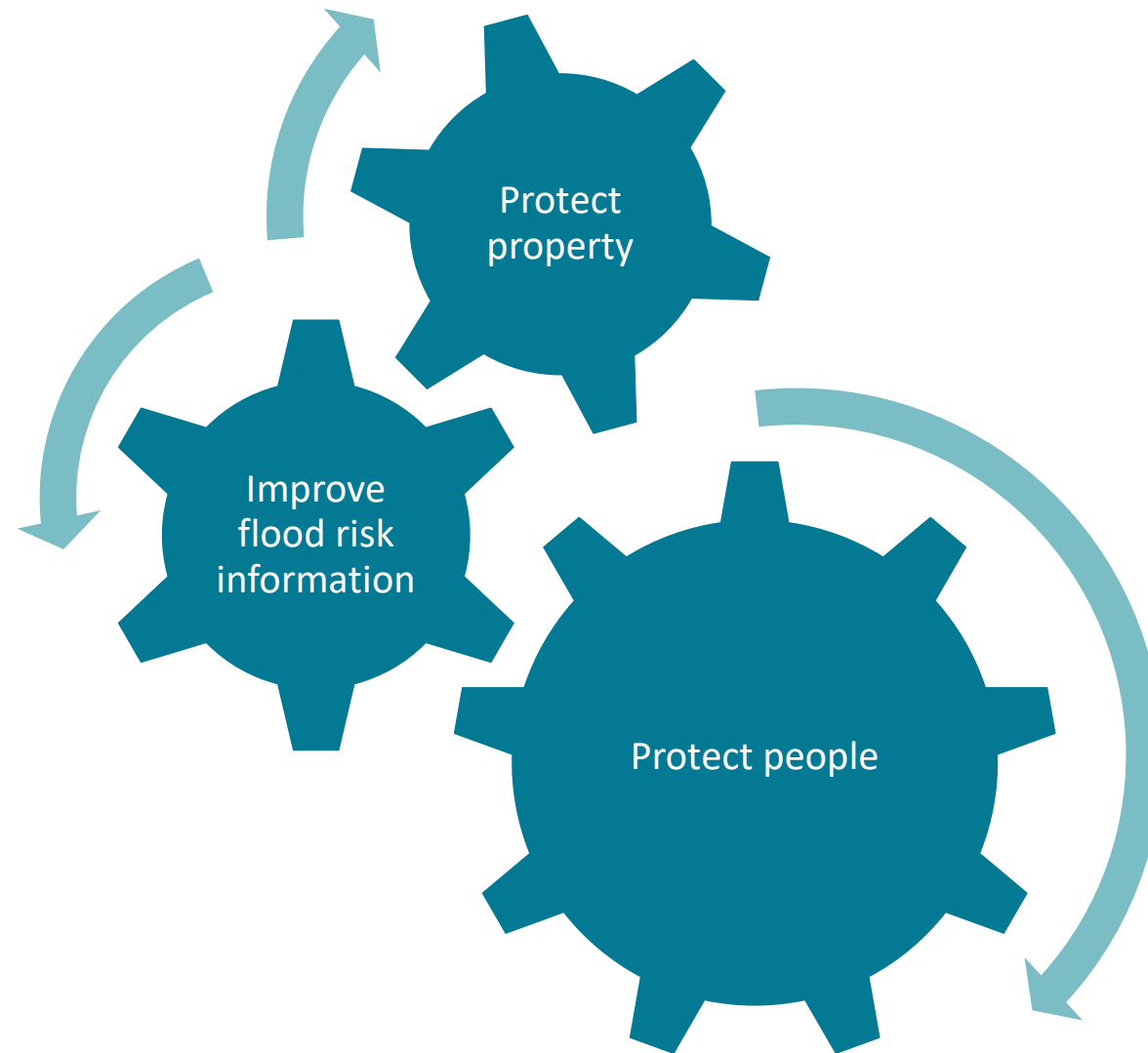
Senate Bill 8  
is passed

**2024**

Texas' First  
State Flood  
Plan

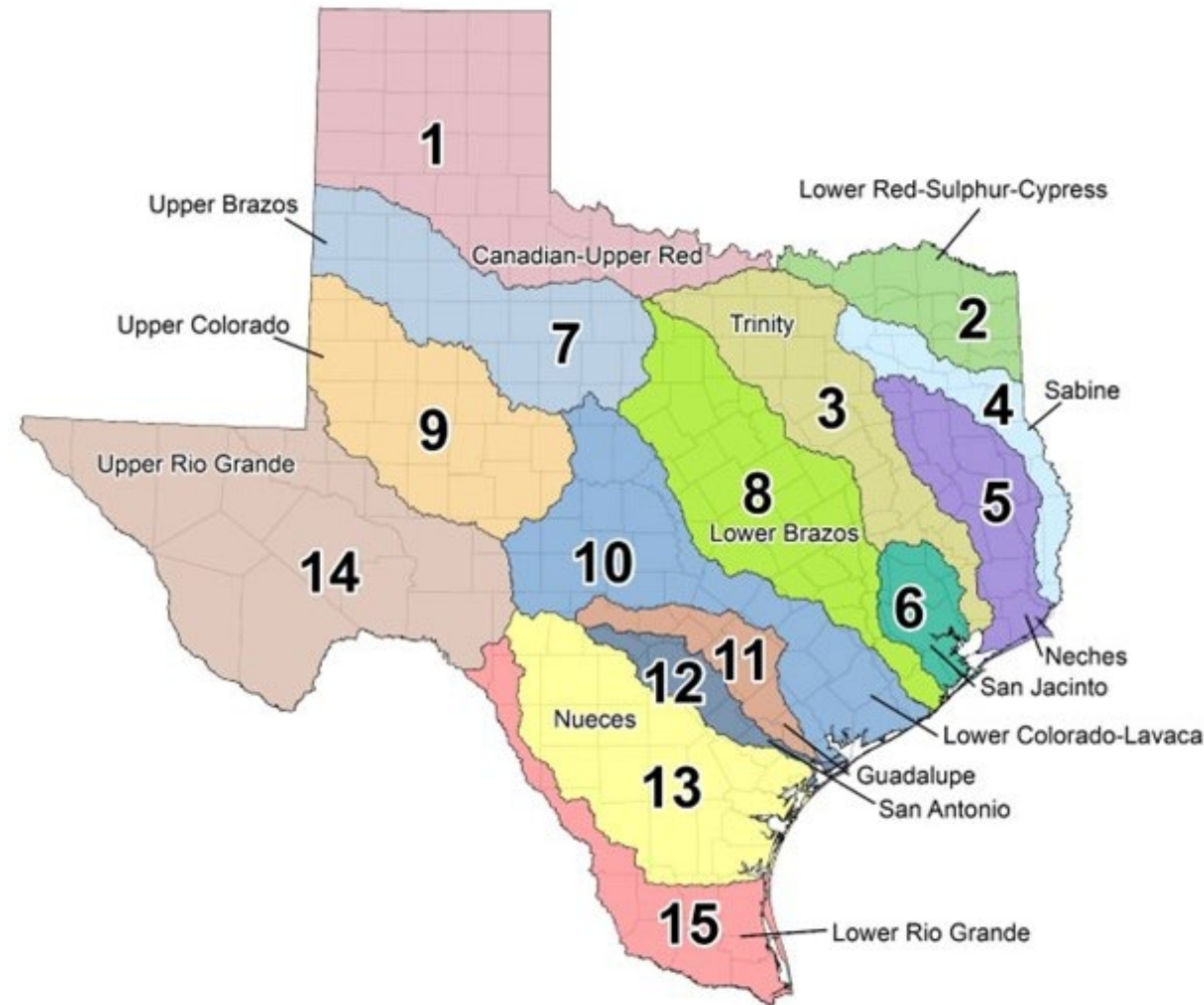


# Purpose of the State Flood Plan



# RFPG Basics

- Grassroots ("bottom up") approach
- 15 regions total, set by TWDB
- 12 interest categories required by the board, but each region may decide to add additional categories.
- Public involvement during all stages of plan development
  - All meetings, notes, and deliverables will be publicly available.
- Regional Flood Plans roll up to become the State Flood Plan





# First-Ever State Flood Plan

## Identified within flood hazard areas

Approx. 1.7  
million  
buildings

64,000+  
miles of  
roadway

6,000+  
critical  
facilities

1 in 6  
Texans'  
homes  
and/or  
workplaces

## Results

4,600+ actions  
or “FMXs”  
recommended  
in the plan

\$54 billion in  
needs  
represented



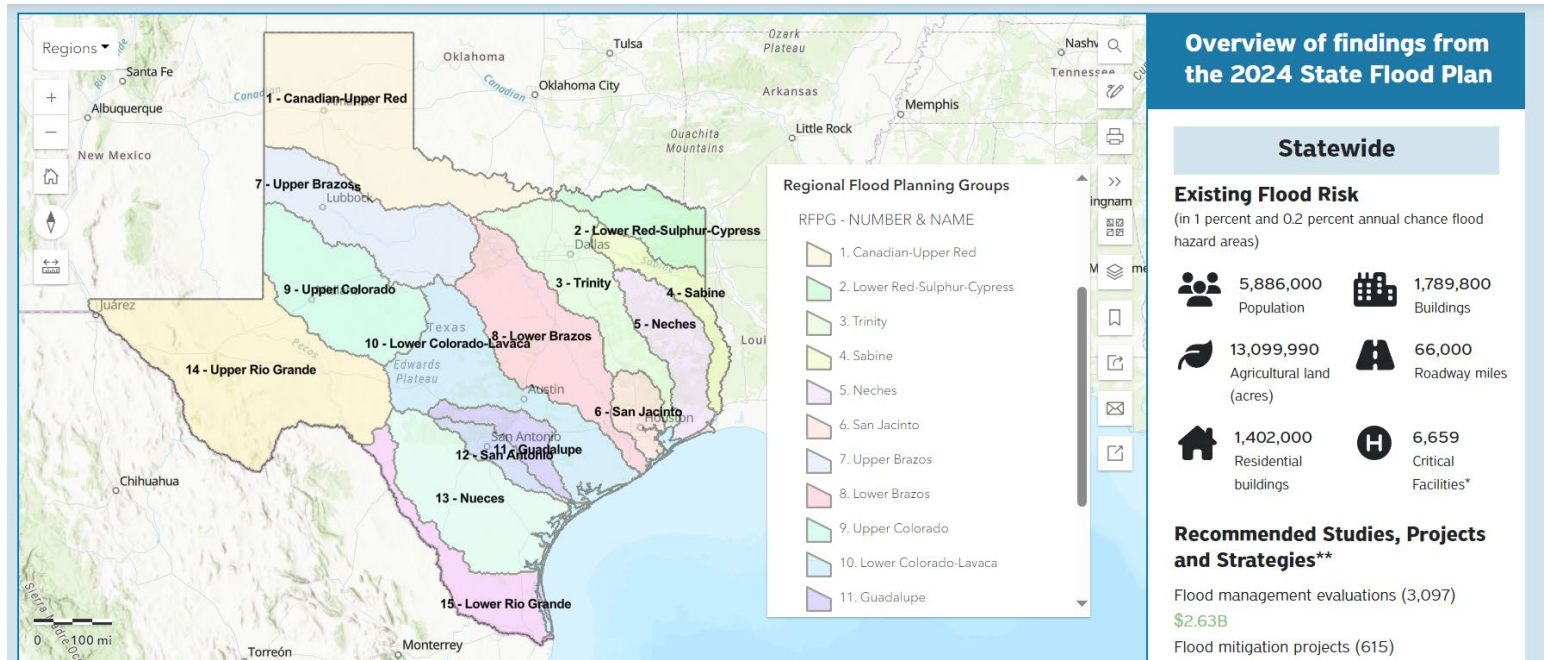
# 2024 State Flood Plan

**texas**statefloodplan.org

▶ Read the 2024 State Flood Plan

## Interactive State Flood Plan Viewer

View and download the extensive dataset generated by the statewide flood planning program, including flood risk and recommended flood risk reduction solutions.



The background of the slide is a deep blue, monochromatic image of an underwater scene. A horizontal line across the upper third of the image represents the water's surface, with gentle ripples and light reflecting off it. Below this line, the water is still, with some faint, blurry light patterns visible, suggesting an underwater environment.

# Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF)

Three letters that mean “money for drainage projects”

# Background

Senate Bill 7 (SB7) was passed in the 85<sup>th</sup> Texas legislative session to fund flood mitigation studies and projects. Following adoption of 2024 State Flood Plan, only actions recommended in flood plans are eligible for funding.

**2019**

Senate Bill 7 is passed

**2023**

Funds increased

**2025**

Funds increased

2019 -  
Legislature  
passes  
Senate Bill 7  
(SB7)

2021 -  
TWDB  
begins  
awarding  
funds

2024 -  
TWDB  
solicits  
abridged  
applicati  
ons

Nov 2025 -  
Proposition 4  
goes to voters

2020 - TWDB  
establishes  
program rules,  
solicits  
abridged  
applications

2023 -  
Legislature  
allocates  
funds to FIF

2025 -  
Legislature  
increases  
funding

2026 - next  
opportunity  
for FIF  
abridged  
applications

# 2024-25 Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF)

- 2024-2025 FIF
  - **\$375 million** funding dollars anticipated to be available during 2024-2025 cycle
  - Only FMXs within the State Flood Plan were eligible for submittal
  - **FIF Abridged Applications** were due April 15, 2024
  - Qualifying “FMX”s will be scored and prioritized
  - FMS prioritization list has already been published
  - Top scoring FMXs will be sent invitation to submit complete financial assistance applications





# 2025 89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative Session

- “Water Session”
- Senate Bill 7 (SB7)
  - Renamed State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) to Texas Water Fund (TWF)
  - Added FIF to the Texas Water Fund
  - Created TWF Advisory Committee
  - Supports addition of 34 staff to TWDB
  - Allocated \$1B to TWF for a two-year period
- Constitutional Amendment Election on November 4, 2025
  - Proposition 4: would dedicate a portion of the revenue from the state sales and use taxes to the TWF, if approved

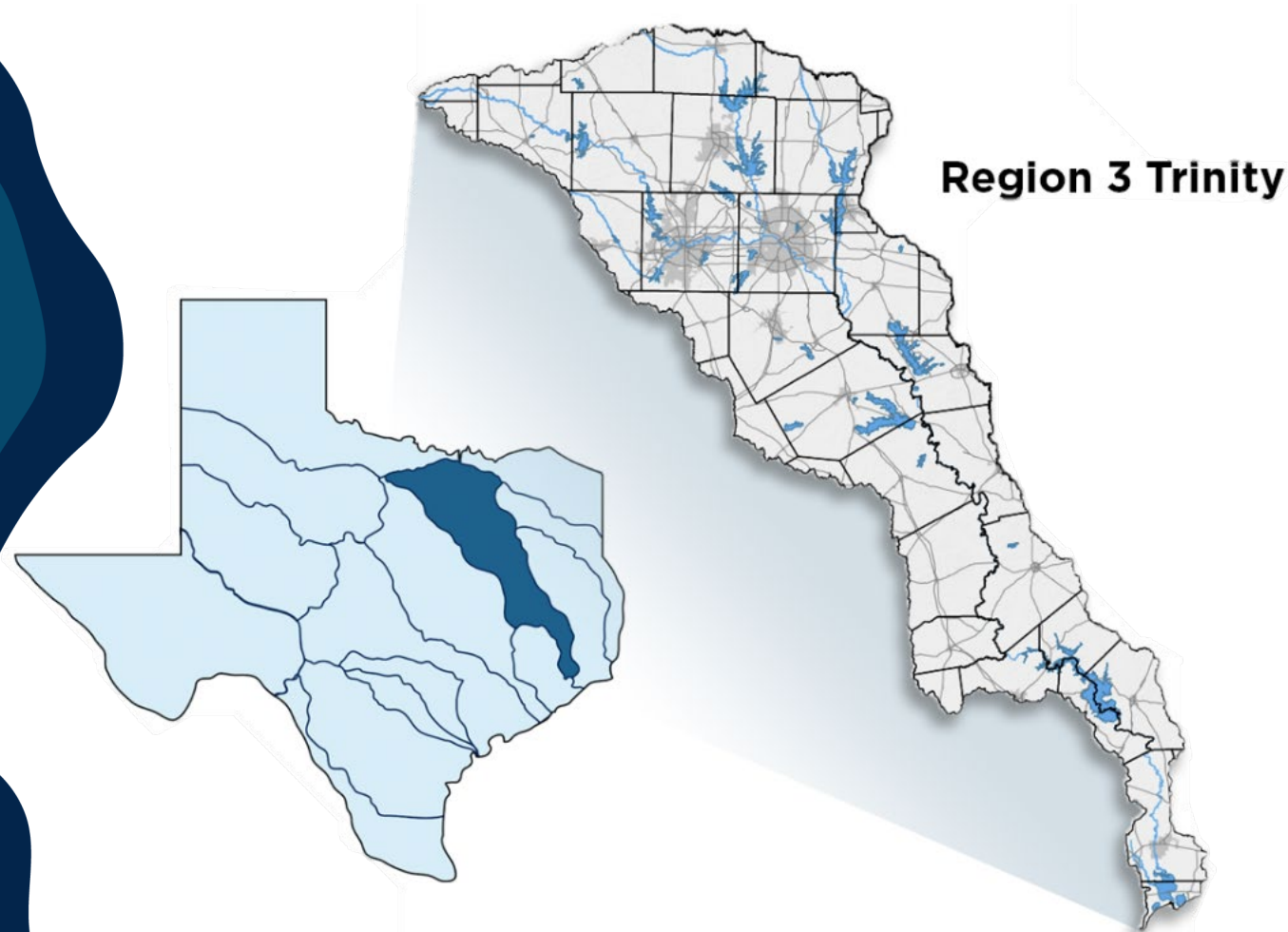


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# Trinity Region 2028 Flood Planning

“What does all of this mean for you?”

# Region 3 Trinity River Basin



From Cooke County to  
Chambers County (the Gulf)

All or part of 38 counties

Nearly 18,000 square miles,  
with almost 47,000 stream miles

30+ major lakes and reservoirs

Population approximately  
8 million and growing... rapidly





# Trinity RFPG Goals

Improve flood  
warning and  
public safety

Improve flood  
analyses

Reduce property  
damage and loss

Preserve the  
floodplain

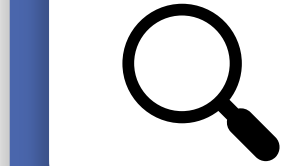
Improve flood  
infrastructure

Expand flood  
education and  
outreach

Expand funding

# FMEs, FMPs, and FMSs = “FMXs”

NUMBERS AND COSTS AS OF APRIL 2025 AMENDMENT



**FLOOD MANAGEMENT  
EVALUATION (FME)**

Analyses or studies

**508 Recommended  
\$222.0 Million**



**FLOOD MITIGATION  
PROJECT (FMP)**

“Actual” projects

**83 Recommended  
\$2.3 Billion**

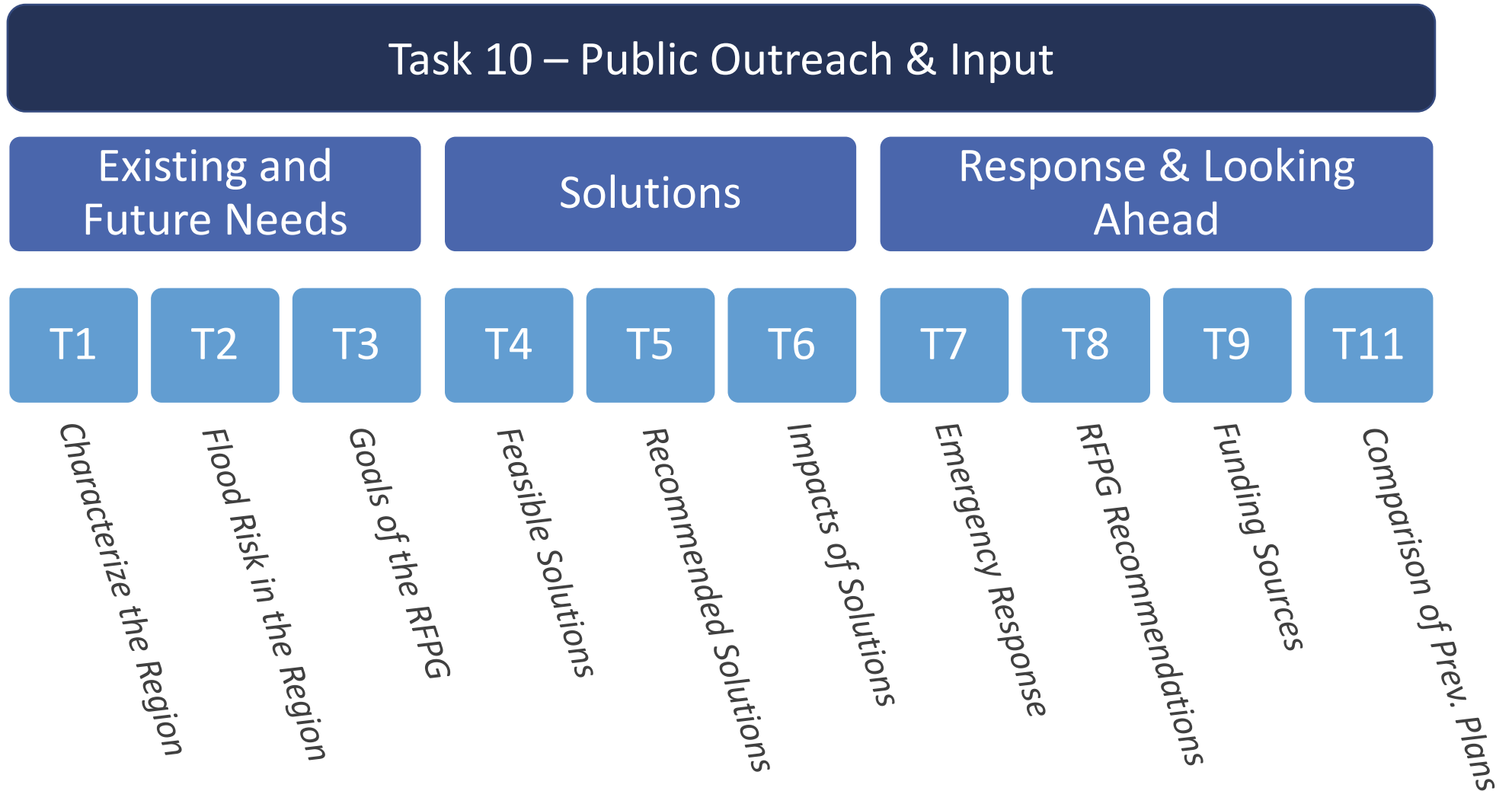


**FLOOD MANAGEMENT  
SOLUTION (FMS)**

Anything else

**144 Recommended  
\$751.5 Million**

# 2028 Flood Plan Components



# Where are we now?

## 2023 Plan

### 2025 Amendment

- Completed in April of this year
- Actions will be eligible for FIF in 2026

### Substantially Complete

- Data collection & first round of outreach
- Chapter 1

## 2028 Plan

### Ongoing

- Defining existing and future flood risk in the region
- Goal refinement
- Solicitations for new FMEs, FMPs, and FMSs

### Coming Up

- Solicitation window closes Sept. 30.
- Approval of ongoing tasks to support checkpoint submittal on January 7, 2026

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# Engage in Flood Planning

How can you get in on this?

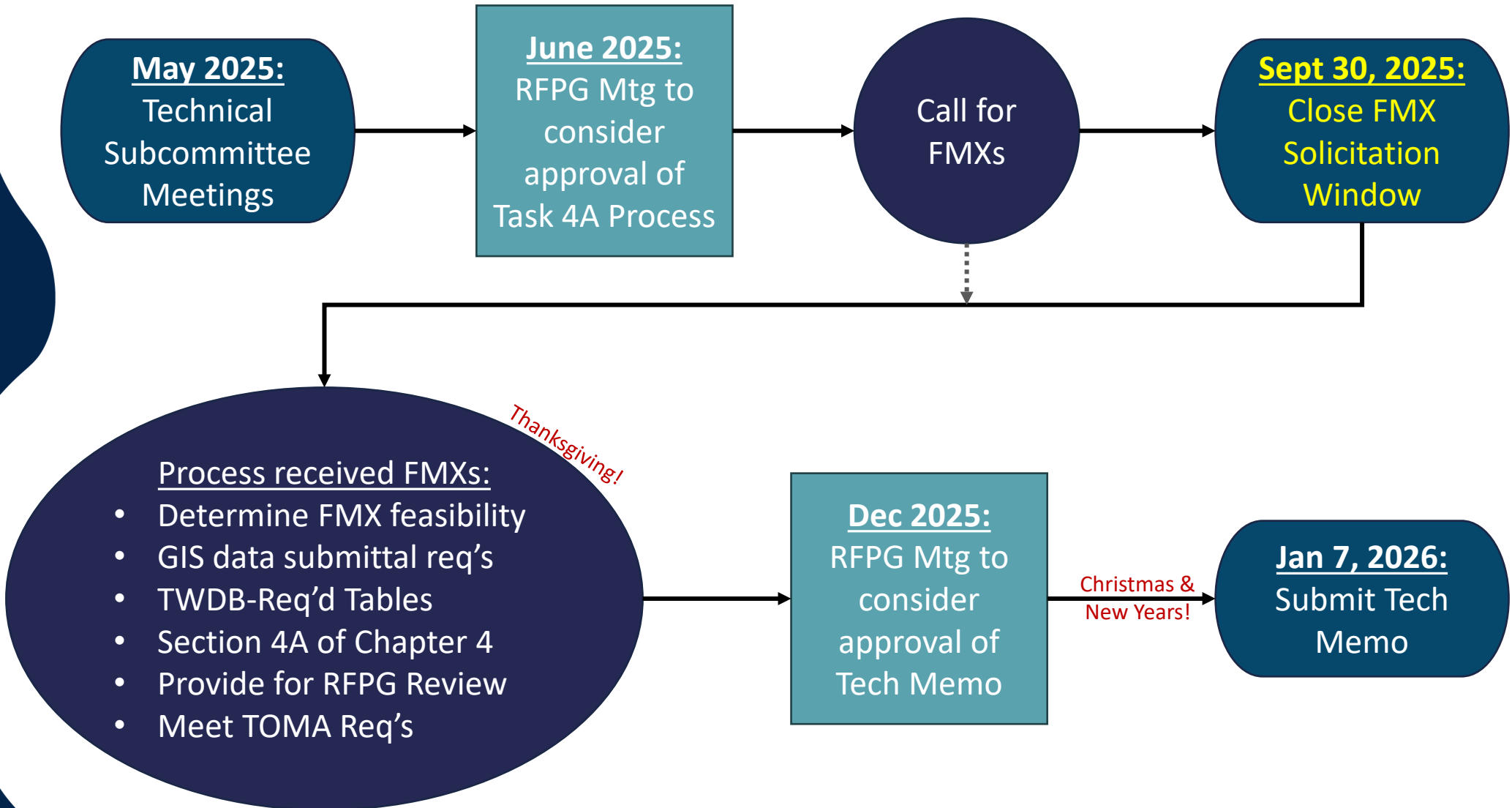
# What Outreach Have We Done So Far?

Technical Subcommittee Recommendation

## Task 4A Potentially Feasible FMXs

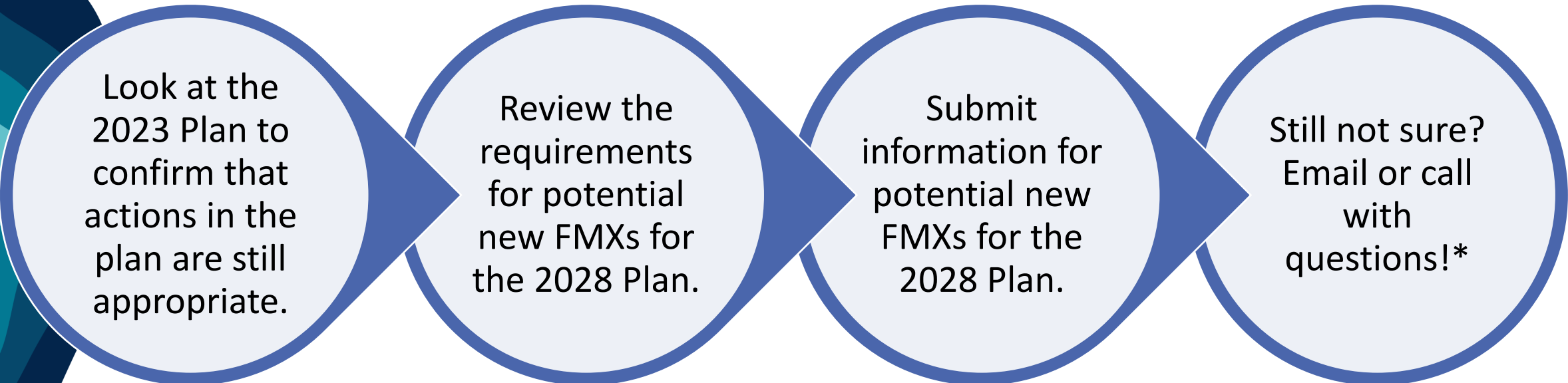
- Individual outreach to existing RFP participants
- Individual outreach to entities with updates to their HMPs since Cycle 1
- Advertise on trinityrfpg.org
- Email Blasts
- Social Media Outlets
  - LinkedIn
  - “X” Posts

# What Are We Doing Behind the Scenes?





# What Actions Can You Take?



Look at the 2023 Plan to confirm that actions in the plan are still appropriate.

Review the requirements for potential new FMXs for the 2028 Plan.

Submit information for potential new FMXs for the 2028 Plan.

Still not sure?  
Email or call  
with  
questions!\*

\*Seriously, contact us.  
We're here to help,  
it's no cost to you.

**Deadline to submit requests: September 30, 2025**



You are all “interested parties”!

**We need your input**

# How Can You Stay Informed?

Attend RFPG and Technical Subcommittee meetings, in person or online.



Sign up to receive email notifications on our website.

Provide updated contact information.  
(Trinity database has nearly 1,000 individual contacts.)

- City, county, or other community officials
- State, federal and other entities with flood planning responsibilities
- Public / interested parties

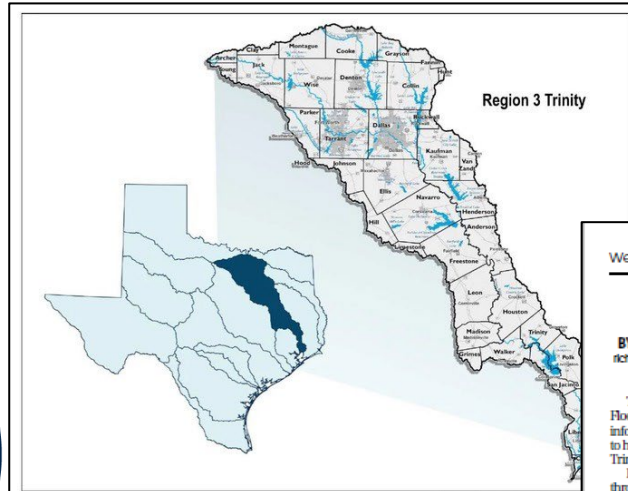
Visit our award-winning website: [www.trinityrfpg.org](http://www.trinityrfpg.org).



Follow our social media accounts (X and LinkedIn).

The screenshot shows the Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'About Us', 'Meetings', 'Resources', 'Public Comment', and 'Contact Us'. Below the navigation bar is a large banner image of a flooded area with the text 'Focused on managing flood risk to reduce loss of life and property from flooding'. Underneath the banner, there is a section titled 'Upcoming Meeting Information' which lists the 'Trinity RFPG Technical Subcommittee Meeting' on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, at 1:00 pm, at the Tarrant Regional Water District - Richland Chambers Lake Office. It also provides virtual meeting options with 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'.

# Public Participation



The Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group's planning region (Trinity River Basin Region Three) spans almost 18,000 square miles across 38 counties

## Flood planning group requests public input

Herald Staff Report

The Region Three Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group urges anyone affected by floods to participate in its online data collection survey and interactive web map. Responses must be submitted by Feb. 11 to be considered in the 2028 Trinity Regional Flood Plan.

Participation from the general public and groups with flood-related responsibilities will strengthen the Regional Flood Planning Group's ability to update and maintain a flood plan that represents local flood planning resources, flood-related risks, flood mitigation needs, and potential solutions.

Members of the general public are encouraged to participate and share their knowledge of flood-prone areas and zones where flood mitigation might be needed. To access the public input map at [www.Trinity.half.com](http://www.Trinity.half.com), a name, physical address, and email address must be provided. The Regional Flood Planning Group will only use the provided contact information to confirm unusual or extreme responses. Most people who provide information on the map will not be contacted.

Representatives from cities and other entities are encouraged to participate by registering by providing an email address, creating a password. Once logged in, users can answer 25 questions and an interactive prompt a review of flood history, storm age systems, and critical infrastructure.

Anyone with relevant documents to submit, or additional questions about data collection process, is encouraged to contact Stephanie Griffin, project manager with Half Associates. Her email address is [sgriffin@half.com](mailto:sgriffin@half.com) and her phone number is (817) 813-5704.

The first-ever Trinity Regional Flood Plan was adopted in 2023 and is now part of the 2024 State Flood Plan. Each of the regional flood planning groups in Texas will update their plans every five years.

Region Three's Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group's next meeting will be held at the Huntsville Service Center, 475 N. Huntsville, or online at [trinityrfpg.org](http://trinityrfpg.org).

For more information, you can visit [TrinityRFPG.org](http://TrinityRFPG.org) or email them at [info@trinityrfpg.org](mailto:info@trinityrfpg.org).

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

THE MADISONVILLE METEOR

3

## Trinity RFPG seeks data for flood planning

BY RICHARD SIRMAN  
[richard.sirman@madisonville-meteor.com](mailto:richard.sirman@madisonville-meteor.com)

The Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group seeks information from the public to help develop the 2028 Trinity Regional Flood plan. Data can be submitted through the online survey and interactive web map at <https://trinity.half.com>.

Clint Clingenpeel, chairman of the Trinity RFPG, said the extension gives more residents an opportunity to participate in the planning process.

"If we don't get the information from the individuals, from the local communities affected, it's very hard for us to know what's going on in those areas," Clingenpeel said. "So not only what is an individual experiencing in terms of flooding, where are our roadways being overtopped during flood events, but also what is your municipality doing about it?"

The planning process follows significant flooding events across Texas between 2015 and 2019, which came after a five-year drought.

"We had five years of drought juxtaposed with five years of significant flooding. And I think that really made an impression on a lot of people," Clingenpeel said.

The drought occurred from 2011 to 2014, followed by record-setting floods from 2015 through 2019. During that period, Texas experienced Hurricane Harvey in 2017 and Tropical Storm Imelda in 2018-2019, which affected the lower parts of the Trinity Basin.

The Texas Legislature created the regional flood planning process in 2019, following the model of the state's water supply plan-

ning. The state is divided into 16 planning regions, with the Trinity Basin covering nearly 18,000 square miles across 38 counties from Cooke County in the north to Chambers County on the Gulf Coast.

"The Texas legislature took the success of that water planning and said, let's do the same thing for flood planning," Clingenpeel said. "They applied that same general framework to the flood planning process and created this flood planning process and enabled the Texas Water Development Board to stand this whole process up."

The Trinity RFPG held its inaugural meeting in October 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic. The group had just 18 months to develop the first flood plan for submission to the Texas Water Development Board.

Public participation is crucial for developing effective flood solutions. When residents and local entities submit information about flood-prone areas, the planning group can better identify risks and potential solutions.

"It's hard for us to understand what's going on at that local level. And so in a nutshell, I think that's why it's so important for that information to be given to us through this data collection tool," Clingenpeel said.

Clingenpeel emphasized the "bottoms up" approach of the planning process.

"I think that's one of the things that has been so successful about the water planning process is that it's not a group of bureaucrats in an ivory tower in Austin looking out and saying, well, you need this and you need that. It's asking the people that are being affected by

this that have the needs," Clingenpeel said. "I think it's a very Texan way to go about things."

The first-ever Trinity Regional Flood Plan, adopted in 2023 and now part of the 2024 State Flood Plan, includes 56 recommended Flood Mitigation Projects (FMPs), 507 recommended Flood Management Evaluations (FMEs) and 138 recommended Flood Management Strategies (FMSs).

The 2023 Trinity Regional Flood Plan draws on science, data, models and flood risk mapping to recommend over \$1 billion in flood mitigation actions to fix local flooding issues and reduce flood-related loss of lives, property and livelihoods.

Projects included in the final plan become eligible for funding through the Flood Infrastructure Fund, which was approved by Texas voters in 2019. This funding is only available to projects included in the state flood plan.

"In order to be eligible to apply for FIF funding, you must be in the state plan," Clingenpeel said.

Clingenpeel said communities that don't participate miss an opportunity.

"What happens is if you're not in the plan, then you're not eligible for the flood infrastructure funds, the grant money that the legislature has specifically earmarked and set aside for flood risk reduction activities," Clingenpeel said.

The planning group considers three types of flood risk reduction activities: flood management evaluations (studies), flood mitigation projects (physical infrastructure), and flood management strategies

(warning systems or public outreach).

"FME is a study, a project is a physical project. So you're turning dirt, you're pouring concrete, you're actually doing something that is modifying the hydraulics or the hydrology of a particular area," Clingenpeel said. "The FMS can be very important too. These can be strategies like gates at low water crossings. This can be public outreach, right? So some kind of public notification system, a reverse 911, for instance, anything that alerts the public to impending flooding."

Efforts are made to ensure rural and underserved communities have their voices heard in the planning process.

"It's well understood, and it was very evident in the legislation that created the flood planning process, that what we found is that the most effective would be a flood management strategy that involves a flood warning system," Clingenpeel said.

Clingenpeel emphasized that the regional flood planning process focuses on mid and long-term planning rather than immediate flood response, which is handled by existing emergency management agencies.

"What the Regional Flood Planning Group does is planning. And so we're not in the business of immediate flood response or near-term flood response," Clingenpeel said. "This is more of a longer term planning. And I think that's part of a bigger solution."

When visiting the data collection website, representatives from cities and other entities must register by providing an email and creating a password. Once logged in, users will answer no more than 25 questions related to flood history, storm drainage systems and critical infrastructure.

Members of the general public are also encouraged to participate and share their knowledge of flood-prone areas. To access the public input map, users need to provide their name, physical address and email address. The RFPG will use contact information only to confirm unusual or extreme responses.

Residents who have experienced flooding are asked to visit the planning group's website and complete the survey. They can also submit comments through the website or by email at [info@trinityrfpg.org](mailto:info@trinityrfpg.org).

"That's actually a data point on a map that we can use to understand where people are actually experiencing flooding," Clingenpeel said. "We welcome that public input. It's data, it's information that helps us do our jobs better."

For those wishing to share relevant documents, data, or who have additional questions about the data collection process, Project Manager Stephanie Griffin with Half Associates, Inc. can be contacted at 817-813-5704 or [sgriffin@half.com](mailto:sgriffin@half.com).

For more information or to subscribe to receive future updates, visit the website at [trinityrfpg.org](http://trinityrfpg.org).

When visiting the data collection website, representatives from cities and other entities must register by providing an email and creating a password. Once logged in, users will answer no more than 25 questions related to flood history, storm drainage systems and critical infrastructure.

## Trinity RFPG asks public to share flood data

Time to read: 1 minute  
Share  
Caleste Denova  
Posted in: CHAMBERS COUNTY



Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group, Trinity RFPG, is asking residents of Chambers County by flood-related issues to share information on areas prone to flooding through an online survey to create the 2028 Trinity Regional Flood Plan.

The survey will help Trinity RFPG to update the flood plan to represent local flood risks, flood-related risks, flood mitigation needs and potential solutions.

Those already participated are encouraged to review the updated interactive map online and information to keep the data current and to address new flooding concerns.

Help identify, and make eligibility for funding, flood reduction solutions that can protect potentially save lives.

PG's planning region has an estimated population of 8 million and spans about 18,000 across 38 counties.

One of 15 regional flood planning groups, first designated in April 2020 by the Texas Water Board, TWDB, as a result of Senate Bill 8, passed in the 86th Texas Legislative Session.

In a new regional and state flood planning process. Each flood planning group will update its plan every five years.

Session also created a new financial assistance fund and gave TWDB the responsibility of the fund. The Flood Infrastructure Fund, FIF, requires studies, projects and strategies in the State Flood Plan in order to be eligible to apply for the fund.

The Regional Flood Plan was adopted in 2023 and is part of the 2024 State Flood Plan. T recommended FMPs, 507 recommended FMEs and 138 recommended FMSs.

Regional Flood Plan allowed for over \$1 billion in flood mitigation actions designed to address issues.

Interactive 2024 State Flood Plan viewer can be accessed at [trinityrfpg.org/floodplan/overview](http://trinityrfpg.org/floodplan/overview).

On the website, users are required to register by providing an email and password. Once logged in, users are required to answer between 20 to 25 questions. An interactive map showcases flood history, storm drainage flood infrastructure.

Interactive map or to participate in the survey, visit <https://trinity.half.com/> or visit [trinityrfpg.org/public-comment/](http://trinityrfpg.org/public-comment/). The survey will be available until Tuesday, Feb. 11.

Public input map, users are required to provide their name, physical address and email most participants will not be contacted. Trinity RFPG may use contact information if the flood is unusual or extreme.

Have added documents or data to submit, or for additional questions, contact Project Manager Stephanie Griffin with Half Associates, Inc. at 817-813-5704 or by emailing [sgriffin@half.com](mailto:sgriffin@half.com).

For more information or to subscribe for updates, visit [www.Trinityrfpg.org](http://www.Trinityrfpg.org) or email [info@trinityrfpg.org](mailto:info@trinityrfpg.org). Has an X account, previously Twitter, at <https://x.com/TrinityRFPG/mx-2>.

Hay for Sale  
Square & Round

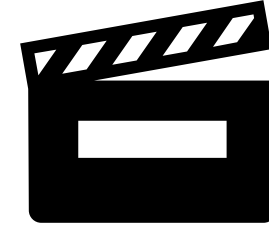


# Major Takeaways



## Reminders

- Regional flood plans will be updated every five years.
- 2028 Flood Plan is being prepared now!
- Plan reflects flood risk and need in the region...you know your local areas best!



## Actions

- Review 2023 Flood Plan to confirm that actions are still appropriate.
- Submit NEW! requests for potential FMEs, FMPs and FMSs by September 30, 2025 for consideration in the 2028 Flood Plan.

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# Q&A

What do you want to know?

# CONTACT US



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**State Flood Plan Viewer:**  
[texasstatefloodplan.org](https://texasstatefloodplan.org)



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**TWDB FIF Information:**  
[twdb.texas.gov/financial/  
programs/fif/index.asp](https://twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/fif/index.asp)