

Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group Meeting
Friday, October 3, 2025
9:00 a.m.

The Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group convened a public meeting, in person as well as virtual, on Friday, October 3, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel opened the meeting at 9:01 a.m.

Voting Members Present:

Melissa Bookhout
Glenn Clingenpeel
Scott Harris
Sean Howard
Andrew Isbell, joined after roll call
Jordan Macha, joined after roll call
Craig Ottman, alternate for Rachel Ickert
Galen Roberts
Matt Robinson, absent
Lissa Shepard
Sarah Standifer

8 voting members were present at the time of roll call, constituting a quorum.

Ex Officio Members Present:

Susan Alvarez
Steve Bednarz, absent
John Blount, absent
Justin Bower
Todd Burrer, absent
Humberto (Bert) Galvan
Diane Howe, absent
Lonnie Hunt, absent
Risa King, absent
Neely Kirkland
Manuel Martinez, absent
Katie Koslan
Andrea Sanders
Matthew Lepinski, absent
Lisa McCracken, absent
Greg Waller
Adam Whisenant
Amanda Young, absent

Approval of the Minutes for the August 6, 2025, Meeting

Motion: Galen Roberts moved to approve the minutes as presented;
Second: Sarah Standifer; Action: Minutes were unanimously approved.

Acknowledgement of written public comments received

No written public comments were received.

Receive registered public comments on specific agenda items

No registered public comments were received.

TWDB Update – Katie Koslan, TWDB

Katie Koslan provided an update on behalf of TWDB. TWDB sent out an email on October 2, 2025 regarding TWDB Board approval of an item related to *Task 5B - Recommend a List of Flood Management Evaluations (FMEs) to be Performed by TWDB* that authorizes the negotiation and execution of contracts with third-party consultants to perform FMEs for small and rural communities as selected by the Regional Flood Planning Groups (RFPGs) to support the regional flood planning process for the second and subsequent cycle of flood planning. On the same day, they also sent another email about the Tech Memo checklist. All questions and answers from the September 12, 2025 conference call were compiled into a document and shared. A few updates were also made to Exhibit C, which can be viewed on TWDB's [website](#).

Update from the Nominating Committee – Scott Harris, Gulf Coast Authority

No updates were provided.

Updates from Region 3 Technical Consultant – Stephanie Griffin, Halff

Stephanie Griffin, Halff, provided an overview of the progress on various chapters. Katy Overbey, Halff, provided an update on Chapter 2, which covered existing and future conditions, noting the considerable effort required to analyze the data. Chapter 3 had two action items, with Shena Providence, FNI, sharing an update on 3A, where a decision would be sought regarding the recommendation or requirement of higher or minimum standards for actions to be incorporated into the Regional Flood Plan. Audrey Giesler-Klump, Halff, gave an update on Chapter 4. Dorothy White, Cooksey Communications, provided an update on public outreach efforts.

a. Chapter 2 Updates – Katy Overbey and Samuel Amoako-Atta, Halff,

The presentation on Chapter 2 summarized the technical discussions and findings concerning the modeling and analysis of flood risk, exposure, and impacts within the planning area.

Katy Overbey, Halff, reported that the infographics provided a snapshot of data from Cycle 2, highlighting the increase in population exposed to risks.

Samuel Amoaka - Atta, Halff and Dr. Nick Fang, University of Texas at Arlington (UTA), provided an update. During the June 3rd meeting, an extensive discussion took place regarding the use of the new FATHOM Texas model, a

TWDB-funded three-dimensional statewide model. The results from this model were expected to be published by the end of April. The model incorporated five different scenarios, including climate projections, and advised using the 83rd percentile for a more conservative scenario. The future conditions were compared with Cycle 1 data, which were based on the 100-year and 500-year floodplain area. For the Trinity region, a range of potential conditions was proposed, from Scenario 1 to Scenario 3. In the analysis, the most conservative values were used to ensure maximum risk estimation, while acknowledging that in some cases, future floodplain areas could be smaller than the existing ones, though safeguards were in place to prevent this.

Flood exposure analysis revealed modest increases in mapped land area (approximately 0.6%) between Cycles 1 and 2. The Cycle 2 model included 10-, 100-, and 500-year flood events, with the 10-year floodplain showing the greatest spatial extent. Population exposure slightly decreased, whereas exposure of buildings, roads, agricultural areas, and especially critical facilities increased. The rise in critical facilities was attributed to improved datasets and refined definitions, now including government and communication facilities essential to disaster response.

Future condition modeling projected further increases in exposure across most categories, except for agricultural land, which appeared to decline due to continued development. The analysis also quantified expected flood damages, including residential, commercial, governmental, religious, agricultural, and educational buildings. Economic losses encompassed wages, income, and business inventory, derived primarily from FEMA's HAZUS program.

Samuel Amoaka - Atta, Halff, noted that the report also highlighted emergency facilities, a subset of critical facilities, which included emergency operating centers, fire stations, police stations, and schools. The program used in the analysis helped assess how these facilities could prepare for flood events and mitigate their impact. It allowed for detailed evaluations of specific facilities, such as identifying which schools might become non-functional during a flood event and what measures would need to be taken to address these vulnerabilities.

The chapter additionally addressed emergency facilities, such as schools, fire stations, and emergency operations centers, identifying which would likely be rendered non-functional during flood events and emphasizing their recovery prioritization.

At the time of discussion, the draft of Chapter 2 had been circulated for review by R3RFPG. The Technical Consultants intended to incorporate comments by early October, finalize the chapter for public posting by the end of that month, and present it for formal approval at the December meeting.

b. Chapter 3 Updates

i. Task 3A Floodplain Management Practices – Shena Providence, FNI

Ms. Providence provided an overview of the six Floodplain Management Practices that were anticipated for inclusion in Cycle 2. A key decision required during the meeting was whether to adopt or recommend the proposed Floodplain Management Practices. If the R3RFPG chose to adopt certain Floodplain Management Practices, any entity seeking to include an FMX in the flood plan

would first be required to adopt those practices. This requirement would effectively limit the number of FMXs that could be included, as only communities that had implemented the six Floodplain Management Practices would be eligible. In contrast, if the Practices were only recommended rather than adopted, any entity would still be able to submit an FMX for inclusion in the plan.

There was discussion regarding the inclusion of nature-based solutions within the Floodplain Management Practices, particularly in relation to drainage corridor preservation. It was noted that this concept aligns with the goal of preserving natural conditions and could be reflected within the criteria, potentially under number five on land use standards or number four on drainage corridor preservation. The intent was not to propose a new criterion, but rather to ensure that the preservation aspect is interpreted to include nature-based solutions and the protection of natural floodplains and river corridors that safely carry and store floodwaters without restricting development. Given the growing emphasis on nature-based approaches among other flood planning groups and elected officials, R3RFPG agreed that the meeting minutes would reflect this discussion for consideration in future wordsmithing efforts.

It was noted that adopting many of the proposed Floodplain Management Practices could effectively require some municipal and county governments to revise their existing floodplain management regulations or ordinances in order for their projects to qualify for inclusion in the plan. R3RFPG acknowledged that the timing of such changes would have been more feasible earlier in the year, such as in April, when entities were developing their budgets.

R3RFPG agreed that while participation in the NFIP made the most sense and aligned with the TWDB's emphasis, other practices, such as drainage corridor preservation, could present challenges for certain communities. For these reasons, R3RFPG recalled that in the previous planning cycle, the practices were not made mandatory. It was also noted that many of the current practices appeared broad or undefined because, in the previous cycle, they were treated as recommendations rather than adopted requirements. If the R3RFPG were to adopt them in this cycle, the practices would need to be clearly defined so that each entity could identify and meet the specific criteria required to submit an FMX.

A question was raised regarding whether some of the Floodplain Management Practices could be made mandatory while others remained as goals, or if the approach had to be all or nothing. In response, Katie Koslan, TWDB, stated that it was likely an all-or-nothing approach but noted that she would confirm this for clarification.

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel called for a motion to recommend the six Floodplain Management Practices.

Motion: Andrew Isbell moved to recommend the six Floodplain Management Practices.

Second: Lissa Shepard; Action: Motion passed unanimously.

Galen Roberts, NTMWD, suggested adding this topic to Chapter 8 as a policy recommendation to advocate for greater flexibility in future cycles.

David Rivera, FNI, added that the Intended Use Plan includes requirements for submitting any FMX for FIF funding applications. He noted that if a community reaches the stage of submitting a full application, participation in the NFIP becomes mandatory unless the funding request is specifically intended to support the community's participation in the NFIP.

Mr. Rivera reported that, based on his research, the TWDB technical guidance states: "The regional flood planning groups may choose to recommend and or adopt region wide flood planning management standards including those that will achieve more consistent approaches across the region, either or both in the form of general recommendations or considerations by entities in the region or specific minimum standards that should be adopted."

It was discussed that adopting a hybrid approach, where some Floodplain Management practices are recommended and others are adopted, would provide greater flexibility, particularly for potential FMX submissions. It was suggested that Floodplain Management Practices related to participation in the NFIP could be adopted as region-wide Floodplain Management Standards, while Floodplain Management Practices three, four, and five could be included as recommendations.

Glenn Clingenpeel requested that the six practices be included as an item on the December agenda to consider moving some of the Floodplain Management Practices from recommendations to requirements, without revisiting the practices that were approved during this meeting.

ii. Task 3C Goals and Residual Risks – Audrey Giesler-Klump, Halff

Task 3C goal handouts were provided to R3RFPG voting members on September 17th, made available on the website the same day, and included in the meeting materials. Several updates have been made since the previous meeting, which were subsequently reviewed.

Goal 1.A

Andrew Isbell recommended tracking both proposed and constructed projects, making it a dual metric. He suggested starting the constructed baseline at zero and adding one per term to allow the metric to be refined as new data become available.

Goal 2.C

This goal was proposed for removal due to its strong similarities to Goal 2.B, the difficulty of measuring its metric, and its emphasis on entities rather than activities.

Goal 3.B

Andrew Isbell stated that the concern with the current goal is its focus on all structures within the 1% floodplain rather than specifically on nonconforming structures. He explained that no entity completely bans construction within the 1% floodplain, and that the key issue should be nonconforming structures. He noted that communities with significant floodplain areas, but strong regulatory standards, may appear to perform poorly under the current metric despite effective floodplain management. It was suggested adding clarification in the notes or additional text to reflect this distinction and recommended maintaining flexibility to incorporate such language when the motion is finalized.

Goal 3.E

R3RFPG discussed revising the statement and metric language to read public facilities, instead of non-residential facilities. This clarification ensures the goal aligns with funding eligibility and accurately reflects its intent to address public facilities.

Goal 5.D

This goal was proposed for removal due to maintenance or other recurring costs are not eligible activities, requiring entities to self-report number of inspections, RFPG cannot validate quality or quantity (inspection reports are not publicly available), and all FMXs based in Goal 5.D can be moved the revised 5.C.

Goal 7.A

It was discussed that clarification should be included in the narrative to specify that the goals apply to programs, projects, and entities participating in or included in the regional flood planning process. While it was uncertain whether this context was explicitly stated in Cycle 1, it was confirmed that it will be clearly included in Cycle 2 to ensure nothing is unintentionally excluded.

Sarah Standifer, DWU, requested that a note be added in Chapter 8 indicating that, while it is important to align these goals with submissions included in the Regional Flood Plan, the TWDB should also consider a method for capturing non-FIF funded activities. Ms. Standifer emphasized that many communities may be unable to participate in available funding mechanisms due to limited resources, and to fully assess implementation progress, such efforts should be reflected at a broader, statewide level. Ms. Standifer clarified that this is more of a directive for the TWDB.

iii. Approval of the Goals for 2028 Flood Plan

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel called for a motion to adopt the goals as presented, incorporating the changes discussed.

Motion: Sarah Standifer moved to adopt the goals as presented, incorporating the changes discussed.

Second: Lissa Shepard; Action: Motion passed unanimously.

c. Chapter 4 Updates – Audrey Geisler-Klump

- i. Task 4A Potentially Feasible FMXs
- ii. Task 4B Tech Memo

Audrey Geisler Klump will be scheduling a meeting with the Technical Subcommittee for January 2026.

Summary of Task 4A: Potentially Feasible FMXs

Task 4A updates indicated that new potentially feasible measures continued to come primarily from the greater Dallas–Fort Worth metroplex. A total of 49 FMEs, 46 FMPs, and 27 FMSs were submitted with sufficient information to be processed further and met the minimum data requirements for evaluation. The consultant team will be processing the FMEs moving forward and will present them to the Technical Subcommittee in January or February, followed by a subsequent meeting to consider recommendations for the actions.

The prior 2023 cycle included only seven FMPs, highlighting a significant increase. This growth was attributed to broader familiarity with the planning process, more refined outreach, and improved follow-up through hazard mitigation planning. Several entities also became aware of omissions in their 2023 submissions when pursuing funding, which contributed to additional entries in the current cycle.

The cycle began approximately one year prior, and R3RFPG noted that although the planning horizon spanned five years, the practical window for identifying FMEs and FMPs was much shorter. Additional projects could still be submitted after the Technical Memorandum deadline for inclusion in the 2028 plan, provided they meet the category requirements, but such submissions would not be eligible for FMEs to FMPs advancement.

Summary of Task 4B: Technical Memorandum

Task 4B updates that TWDB had issued the formal checklist at the end of September, replacing the earlier version. It is intended to incorporate the updated checklist as part of the Technical Memorandum process.

d. Chapter 10 Outreach Updates – Dorothy White, Cooksey Communications

Dorothy White, Cooksey Communications, provided an update. Public outreach and engagement efforts continued with regular updates to the stakeholder contact list, drawing from email notifications, website sign-ups, and meeting participation. Media advisories were distributed to encourage coverage of the FMX solicitation process and upcoming meetings, and the media list was actively maintained to expand outreach opportunities.

The R3RFPG website was updated with current meeting information, revised statistical content, notices for FMX solicitation, and uploads of draft Regional Flood Planning documents. Social media engagement was maintained through posts on LinkedIn and X (formerly Twitter), which increased visibility and encouraged new stakeholder participation in the LinkedIn group. Overall, outreach and communication activities ensured stakeholders, media, and the public were kept informed and engaged throughout the Regional Flood Planning process.

e. Project Schedule

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel requested that Andrew Isbell, as Chair of the Technical Committee, contact the Committee members to confirm their continued willingness and availability to participate.

Updates from liaisons for adjoining coastal regions

- a. Region 5 Neches RFPG: No update was provided
- b. Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG: Scott Harris, Gulf Coast Authority, reported that, after reviewing Region 6's meeting minutes, there were no significant differences between their progress and the work currently being undertaken by R3RFPG.

Update from Planning Group Sponsor – Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel, TRA

No updates to provide.

Receive registered public comments – limit 3 minutes per person

No registered public comments were received.

Announcements

- Scott Harris, GCA, suggested developing or providing an updated, standardized presentation for use during stakeholder engagement activities. He noted that as staff members continue to meet with cities and counties, having a ready-made presentation with slides about the regional flood planning process (specifically for Region 3) and upcoming engagement opportunities would be valuable. He added that while some materials likely already exist, a current and polished version that could be easily shared and adapted would be beneficial.


Confirm meeting date for next meeting

Tuesday, December 9, 1:00 PM at the Trinity River Authority of Texas General Office
5300 S Collins Street, Arlington, TX 76018

Adjourn

11:08 AM adjourned

THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING ARE CERTIFIED TO BE TRUE AND CORRECT MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP
HELD OCTOBER 3, 2025.


SCOTT HARRIS, Secretary
REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

12/18/25
Date


GLENN CLINGENPEEL, Chair
REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

12/23/2025
Date