Sabine Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting Sabine River Authority Main Office, Orange, Tx November 18, 2024 1:30 PM

NOTE: This meeting will be conducted in person and via Zoom

https://zoom.us/j/6418597377?pwd=a2svTVhpbzJML1h3M3Y3SXVHaWV5QT09

Location: Meeting will be held at the Sabine River Authority of Texas, Main Office 12777 Hwy 87 N, Orange, TX 77632.

If you wish to provide written comments prior to or after the meeting, please email your comments to comments@sabine-rfpg.org and include "Region 4. Sabine River Flood Planning Group Meeting" in the subject line of the email.

This meeting is a public meeting under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

If you choose to participate in the meeting using the conference call number below, please be prepared to identify yourself. So, we can record your attendance. Telephone conference call phone number:

Phone Number: +1 346 248 7799
Meeting Number: 641 859 7377
Access Code: 857302.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Mark Howard RMPD Division Manager Sabine River Authority of Texas 12777 Hwy 87 N. Orange, Texas 77632 (409) 746-2192 mhoward@sratx.org.

Sabine RFPG meeting

Sabine River Authority, Orange, Tx November 18, 2024 – 1:30 PM AGENDA

1. Call to Order.

Presenter: Travis Williams, Chair

2. Roll Call.

Presenter: Jeff Rogers, Secretary

3. Receive public comments (public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker).

Presenter: Travis Williams, Chair

4. Discussion and Approval of minutes from the previous Region 4 Sabine RFPG meeting held on September 9, 2024.

Presenter: Travis Williams, Chair

5. Update from Chair.

Presenter: Travis Williams, Chair

6. Update from the Texas Water Development Board

Presenter: Katie Pietsch Koslan

7. Region 5. Neches RFPG Report.

Presenter: Doug Manning

8. Update from Technical Consultant, Freese and Nichols.

Presenter: Mat Leclair

9. Consider date and agenda items for the next meeting.

Presenter: Travis Williams, Chair

10. Adjourn.

Presenter: Travis Williams, Chair

RESENTED BY: TRAVIS WILLIAMS, CHAIR Chair Travis Williams will call the meeting to order.				
				Time:

AGENDA ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

RECOMMENDED ACTION

No action required.

AGENDA ITEM 2: ROLL CALL

PRESENTED BY: JEFF ROGERS, SECRETARY

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

<u>Voting Member</u>	Interest Category	Present (V-Virtual, P-Physical)/
		Absent () / Alternate Present (*)
James (Bill) Bruce	Agricultural interests	
Johnny Trahan	Counties	
Francis X. Shannon	Electric generating utilities	
Clyde V. "Tad" McKee III	Environmental interests	
Doug Manning	Flood districts	
Nikki Davis	Industries	
Alton Bradley	Municipalities	
Michelle Falgout	Public	
Travis Williams	River authorities	
Jeff Rogers	Small business	
Roman D. Griffin	Water districts	
Ross Gordon	Water utilities	

Non-voting Member	<u>Agency</u>	Present (V-Virtual, P-Physical)/ Absent () / Alternate Present (*)
Vacant	General Land Office (GLO)	
Kathy Sauceda	Texas Commission on	
	Environmental Quality (TCEQ)	
Manuel Martinez	Texas Department of Agriculture	
Alt. Kristin Lambrecht	(TDA)	
Andrea Sanders	Texas Division of Emergency	
	Management (TDEM)	
Robert (Bob) Baker	Texas Parks and Wildlife	
	Department (TPWD)	
Trey Watson	Texas State Soil and Water	
	Conservation Board (TSSWCB)	
Katie Koslan	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Number of voting members or alternates present
Seven voting members are required for a quorum.
Quorum is present, Yes, or No?

AGENDA ITEM 3: PUBLIC COMMENTS		
PRESENTED BY: TRAVIS WILLIAMS, CHAIR		
SUPPORTING INFORMATION		
Receive public comments (public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)		
RECOMMENDED ACTION		

No action required.

AGENDA ITEM 4: DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES				
PRESENTED BY: TRAVIS WILLIAMS, CHAIR				
SUPPORTING INFORMATION				
Discussion and approval of minutes from the September 9, 2024, Region 4, Sabine RFPG meeting.				
RECOMMENDED ACTION				
Approve minutes as discussed.				
MOTION: SECOND:APPROVED:				

Meeting Minutes Region 4 Sabine Flood Planning Group Meeting September 9, 2023 11:00 AM

SRA Meeting Room and Virtual via Zoom

Voting Member	<u>Interest Category</u>	Present (V-Virtual, P-Physical)/ Absent () / Alternate Present (*)
James (Bill) Bruce	Agricultural interests	V
Johnny Trahan	Counties	P
Francis X. Shannon	Electric generating utilities	
Clyde V. "Tad" McKee III	Environmental interests	
Doug Manning	Flood districts	P
Nikki Davis	Industries	
Alton Bradley	Municipalities	V
Michelle Falgout	Public	V
Travis Williams	River authorities	P
Jeff Rogers	Small business	P
Roman D. Griffin	Water districts	P
Ross Gordon	Water utilities	V

Non-voting Member	<u>Agency</u>	Present (V-Virtual, P-Physical)/ Absent ()/ Alternate Present
Vacant	General Land Office (GLO)	<u>(*)</u>
Kathy Sauceda	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)	V
Manuel Martinez Alt. Kristin Lambrecht	Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)	P arrived at 11:08
Andrea Sanders	Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)	
Robert (Bob) Baker	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)	
Trey Watson	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB)	
Katie Koslan	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Number of voting members or alternates present. 9

Seven voting members are required for a quorum.

Quorum is present, **Yes**, or No?

Other Meeting Attendees:

Mat Leclair, FNI * Mark Howard, SRA * Lacey Rogers ** Christine Gardner**

*Physical meeting attendees, **Virtual meeting attendees, names were gathered from those who entered information for joining the Zoom meeting.

Agenda Item 1: Call to Order

- Travis Williams called the meeting called to order at 11:01 AM.

Agenda Item 2: Roll Call

- Jeff Rogers confirmed the quorum with 9 out of 12 voting members present.

Agenda Item 3: Receive general public comments (public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker).

- No comments from the public.

Agenda Item 4: Discussion and Approval of minutes from the previous Region 4 Sabine RFPG meeting held on June 17, 2024.

- Johnny Trahan motions to adopt as presented, Roman Griffin seconded. Motion passes.

Agenda Item 5: Updates from Chairman

- Travis Williams informed the membership that SRA and FNI are working on a Task Authorization for the 2nd Cycle Flood Planning.
- Working to execute the documents with the TWDB and they will send 20% release of funds to the sponsor.
- Everything is complete for Cycle 1 except final payment to FNI and that check has been cut.
- August 15 TWDB did approve the Texas Water Plan.
- Travis responded to Clyde McKee's email about the AgriLife Symposium. Tavis and others felt that this Symposium is geared more to Urban areas. Since the Sabine is mostly rural, Travis would like to bring someone to give a more tailored presentation at one of our meetings. Jeff Rogers volunteered to work on setting up a speaker from AgriLife for our meetings.

Agenda item 6: Update from the Texas Water Development Board

- TWDB is closing out Cycle 1 for Region 4, final payment has been made.
- First installment for Cycle 2 should be sent soon.
- Katie Koslan discussed the change in deadline for amendments to the 1st Cycle Flood Plan to Spring 2025.
 - Ross Gordon asked about the funding of amendments with Cycle 2 funds, Katie said she would check
 - Mat LeClair stated that FNI has been in conversation with several entities about amendments that they would like to include as an amendment in the Flood Plan. Also, FNI is planning to include OCDD relief ditch, some upper basin potential projects. Trailor and Associates has been included as a sub to FNI is working with Bridge City and Vidor.
 - Travis asked about the number of amendments, Mat said he thought there would be at least 10.
 - Ross asked about the deadline and if there would be a chance to further amend the Flood Plan;
 Katie said the Plan can be amended twice.
 - Mat asked about the number needed of meetings to approve amendments; Katie said the TWDB would require only one meeting to select and approve amendments.
 - Travis asked if there was enough time to make these amendments by the Spring deadline, Mat answered in the affirmative.
 - Johnny suggested meeting more often until the amendment was complete.

Agenda Item 7: Region 5. Neches RFPG Report.

- Doug reported that he was unable to attend, but according to the agenda there was to be a model update for the Corp.

Agenda Item 8: Second Cycle Pre-Planning Meeting

- Travis stated that we have forms for the public to fill out to make comments or suggestions about Flood Planning.
- Katie gave a presentation on the difference between the First and Second Cycle Flood Planning Scope of work.
- RD Griffin and Johnny discussed various ways to reach the public, including Facebook, presentations to the various councils, COGS, etc.
- Manuel Martinez spoke about several outreach opportunities, Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission meetings, TX Forest County Partnership, SFA Center for Applied Research.
- Travis asked for a flyer and a press that would describe the program with the form and an email with contact information.

Agenda Item 9: Consider date and agenda items for next meeting.

- Discussion of the number of amendments and the need to meet in November. Mat listed 10 or so projects and it was agreed that a November meeting would be prudent.
- The next meeting was scheduled for November at 1:30 PM.

Agenda Item 10: Adjourn

Travis Williams called for a motion to adjourn.

Johnny Trahan motioned to adjourn the meeting, Doug Manuel seconded, and the motion passed. Travis Williams ended the meeting at 12:09 PM.

AGENDA ITEM 5: UPDATE FROM CHAIR.

PRESENTED BY: TRAVIS WILLIAMS, CHAIR

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- Work Authorization between SRA and FNI is executed and in force,
- Advance funds from TWDB (20% of contracted amount) had been sent and is in SRA account,
- Jeff Rogers is working on getting someone to speak to the Sabine Regional Flood Planning Group on Nature Based Solutions,

RECOMMENDED ACTION

No action required.

AGENDA ITEM 6 : UPDATE FROM THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD.
PRESENTED BY: KATIE KOSLAN, TWDB

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

RECOMMENDED ACTION

None.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION				
SUPPUKT	ING INFOR	XIVIA I IUN		
RECOMM	ENDED AC	TION		
None.				

AGENDA ITEM 7: REGION 5, NECHES RFPG REPORT.

AGENDA ITEM 8: UPDATE FROM TECHNICAL CONSULTANT

PRESENTED BY: MAT LECLAIR

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- Team Introductions
 - o FNI Team
 - o Traylor
- Schedule overview
- Amendment Process
 - o Timeline
 - o Notice of Intent by 12/6
 - o Data Submittal by 1/17
- Amendment Flyer for distribution to entities
- 2028 Regional Flood Plan

RECOMMENDED ACTION

None.

Sabine RFPG

November 2024 Update



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FNI Sabine Team - Management

Senior Advisor Mike Reedy, PE



Project Manager Mat Leclair, PE, CFM



Assistant Project Manager Allison Hand, PE, CFM



Production Lead Fei Xie, PE, CFM



FNI Sabine Team - Subconsultant



Engagement Melinda Smith, CFM



Flood Risk Analysis and Mitigation Strategies Kaitlin Fox Brown, PE, CFM



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FNI RFP Team Structure

Statewide Senior Advisor Scott Hubley, PE, CFM



Statewide Coordination David Rivera PhD, PE, CFM

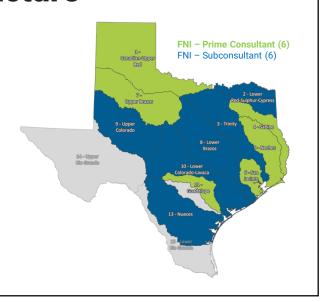


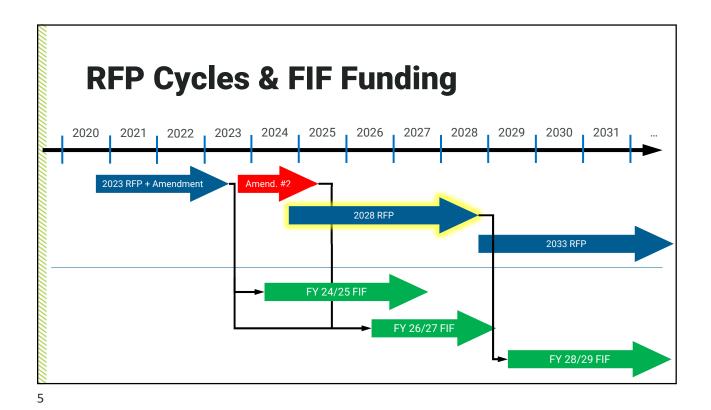
Statewide Coordination Maggie Puckett, PE, CFM



Statewide GIS Lead **Robert Wood**







2028 RFP Schedule 27 months 2024 2027 2028 2025 2026 Submit Draft RFP Submit Submit Tech Submit Nov. RFPG Final RFP **FME List** Memo Meeting to TWDB to TWDB to TWDB to TWDB

Scope

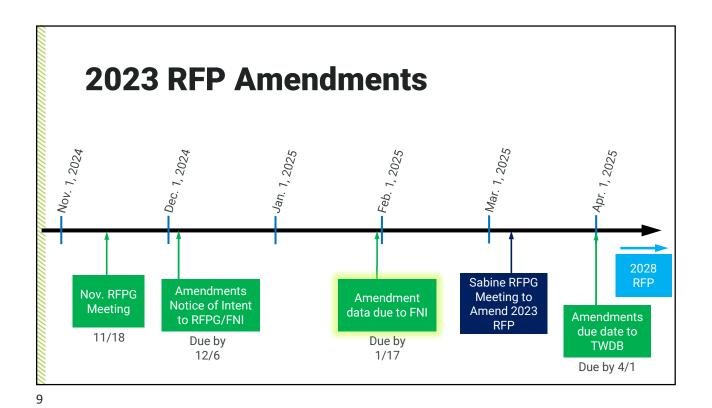
- 1 Region Description
- 2A Existing Flood Hazards
- 2B Future Flood Hazards
- 3A Flood Policies & Regulations
- 3B Mitigation Needs Analysis
- 3C Flood Mitigation/ Management Goals
- 4A Identification of FMXs
- 4B Tech Memo
- 4C Performing FMEs

- 5A Recommend FMXs
- 5B List of FMEs for TWDB to perform
- 6A Impacts of Flood Plan
- 6B Contributions to Water Supply
- 7 Flood Response Activities
- 8 Admin., Regulatory, and Legislative Recommendations
- 9 Financing Analysis
- 10 Public Participation
- 11 Comparison to previous RFP

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RFP Amendments

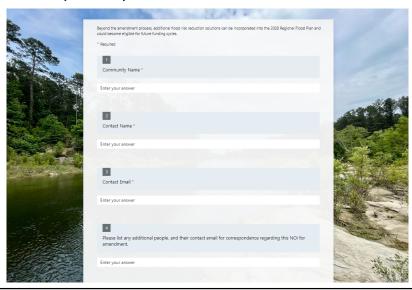




Amendment Process Consideration Feb 2025 Late 2025 Dec 6, 2024 Jan 17, 2025 March 2025 Apr 1, 2025 FNI Submits • TWDB RFPG Vote to Sponsors Sponsors FNI prepares Amendment to TWDB submit FMX Approve Amendment Adopts Amended submit Notice Amendment of Intent (NOI) info & data to RFPs

Notice of Intent (NOI)

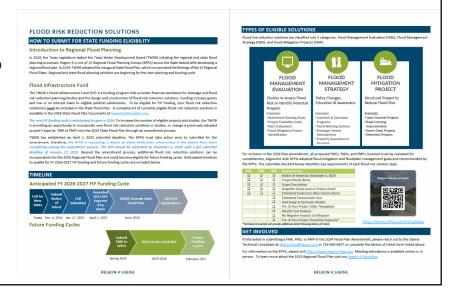
- Way for communities to communicate to RFPG
- Touchpoint for follow up in mid-January
- Does NOT force a community to submit



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Amendment Flyer

- Copy provided in meeting materials
- To be distributed to communities in Sabine region
- Provides requirements for submittals
- · Links to:
 - Cycle 1 RFP
 - NOI Form
 - TWDB website



FME Requirements

- Project Name
- Brief FMP Description inclusive of all scope elements
 - Max 255 characters.
- FME Type
 - Watershed Planning
 - Project Planning
 - Preparedness
 - Other
- GIS Boundary polygon

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FMP Requirements

- Project Name
- Brief FMP Description inclusive of all scope elements
 - Max 255 characters.
- FMP Type
- FMP Details spreadsheet filled out
- Completed H&H Models showing pre-project and post-project runs and have modeled at least the 100-year event.
- Does the project address an emergency need?
- No Negative Impact certification

FMP Requirements (cont.)

- · Estimated non-construction cost
- Estimated Recurring cost
- Estimated construction cost
- What percent of the project cost can be matched by the local sponsor?
- What percent of the project is nature-based?
- · Other Benefits provided by this project
- Does it contribute to water supply?
- · Benefit Cost Analysis

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FMP Requirements (cont.)

- GIS Data:
 - · GIS Boundary polygon of the benefit area
 - Pre-project 100-yr floodplains
 - Post-project 100-yr floodplains

Pathways to Amendment

- Project has all the necessary data to be considered an FMP
 - Included in Amendment → FMP
- Project is only missing a BCA
 - If BCA can be completed by deadline → FMP
 - If BCA <u>cannot</u> be completed by deadline → FME
- Project modeling did not produce post-project 100-yr floodplains
 - If sponsor can complete modeling by deadline → FMP
 - If sponsor <u>cannot</u> complete modeling by deadline → FME
- Project is a potential mitigation solution, but no H&H analysis has been completed
 - Included in Amendment → FME

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Pathways to Amendment

- Project modeling is currently underway, and additional funding is needed for additional modeling and construction
 - Included in Amendment → FME
- Project modeling is currently underway, and additional funding needs is only for construction
 - Not included in Amendment
 - > Because project isn't fully defined/studied
 - Project can be considered as an FMP in 2028 RFP once all modeling and BCA are completed

Future RFPG Meetings



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Future RFPG Meetings

- January 2025
 - Recommended to be held after 1/17 amendment deadline
 - Update on Amendment submittals
- March 2025
 - Vote to approve Amendment
- May/June 2025
 - · Discussion and approval of tasks included in Tech Memo
- August 2025
 - Vote to approve Tech Memo



FLOOD RISK REDUCTION SOLUTIONS

HOW TO SUBMIT FOR STATE FUNDING ELIGIBILITY

Introduction to Regional Flood Planning

In 2019, the Texas Legislature tasked the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) initiating the regional and state flood planning processes. Region 4 is one of 15 Regional Flood Planning Groups (RFPG) across the State tasked with developing a regional flood plan. In 2024, TWDB adopted the inaugural State Flood Plan, which incorporated the findings of the 15 Regional Flood Plans. Regional and state flood planning activities are beginning for the next planning and funding cycle.

Flood Infrastructure Fund

The TWDB's Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) is a funding program that provides financial assistance for drainage and flood risk reduction planning/studies and the design and construction of flood risk reduction solutions. Funding includes grants and low or no interest loans to eligible political subdivisions. To be eligible for FIF funding, your flood risk reduction solution(s) <u>must</u> be included in the State Flood Plan. A complete list of currently eligible flood risk reduction solutions is available in the 2024 State Flood Plan Documents at <u>texasstatefloodplan.org</u>.

The next FIF funding cycle is anticipated to open in 2026. To increase the number of eligible projects and studies, the TWDB is providing an opportunity to incorporate new flood risk reduction solutions or studies, or change a previously adopted project's type (ie. FME to FMP) into the 2024 State Flood Plan through an amendment process.

TWDB has established an April 1, 2025 submittal deadline. The RFPG must take action prior to submittal for the amendment; therefore, the RFPG is requesting a Notice of Intent (NOI) from communities in the Sabine River basin considering joining the amendment process. The NOI should be submitted by December 6, 2024, with a full submittal deadline of January 17, 2025. Beyond the amendment process, additional flood risk reduction solutions can be incorporated into the 2028 Regional Flood Plan and could become eligible for future funding cycles. Anticipated timelines to qualify for FY 2026-2027 FIF funding and future funding cycles are included below.

TIMELINE

Anticipated FY 2026-2027 FIF Funding Cycle

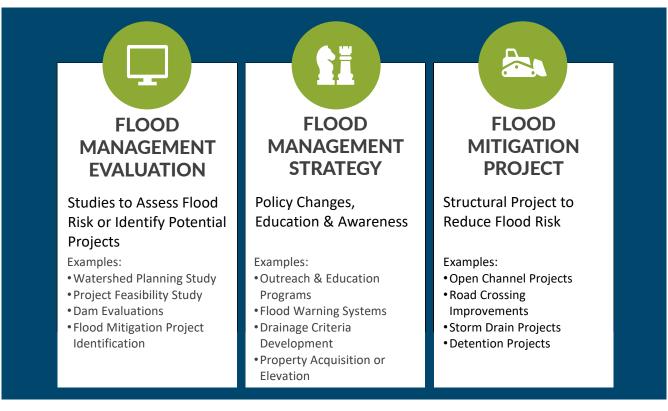


Future Funding Cycles



TYPES OF ELIGIBLE SOLUTIONS

Flood risk reduction solutions are classified into 3 categories, Flood Management Evaluation (FME), Flood Management Strategy (FMS), and Flood Mitigation Projects (FMP).



For inclusion in the 2024 Plan Amendment, all proposed FMEs, FMSs, and FMPs received must be reviewed for completeness, alignment with RFPG-adopted flood mitigation and floodplain management goals and recommended by the RFPG. The submittal checklist below identifies key requirements of each flood risk solution type.

FME	FMS	FMP	Requirements
			Notice of Intent by December 6, 2024
			Project/Study Name
			Scope Description
			Shapefile (Study area or Project Area)*
			Estimated Study Cost (Non-Construction)
			Estimated Construction Cost
			Hydrologic & Hydraulic Models
			Pre- & Post-Project 100yr Floodplains
			Benefit Cost Analysis
			No Negative Impacts Certification
			Pre- & Post-Project Flood Risk Exposure*

^{*}Technical Consultant will provide additional detail following Notice of Intent



https://forms.office.com/r/6jsBBAai

GET INVOLVED

If interested in submitting a FME, FMS, or FMP in the 2024 Flood Plan Amendment, please reach out to the Sabine Technical Consultant at Mat.Leclair@freese.com or 713-600-6877 or complete the Notice of Intent form linked above.

For information on the RFPG, please visit https://www.sabine-rfpg.org/. Meeting attendance is available online or in person. To learn more about the 2023 Regional Flood Plan visit our Region 4 StoryMap.

AGENDA ITEM 10: CONSIDER DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING.

PRESENTED BY: TRAVIS WILLIAMS

RECOMMENDED ACTION

No action required.

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADJOURNMENT				
PRESENTED BY: TRAVIS WILLIAMS				
SUPPORTING INF	ORMATION			
There being no other to adjourn the meetin		liams will entertain a motion		
TIME:				
RECOMMENDED ACTION				
MORNON	GE GOVE	A PRO CAVER		
MOTION:	_ SECOND:	_ APPROVED:		