

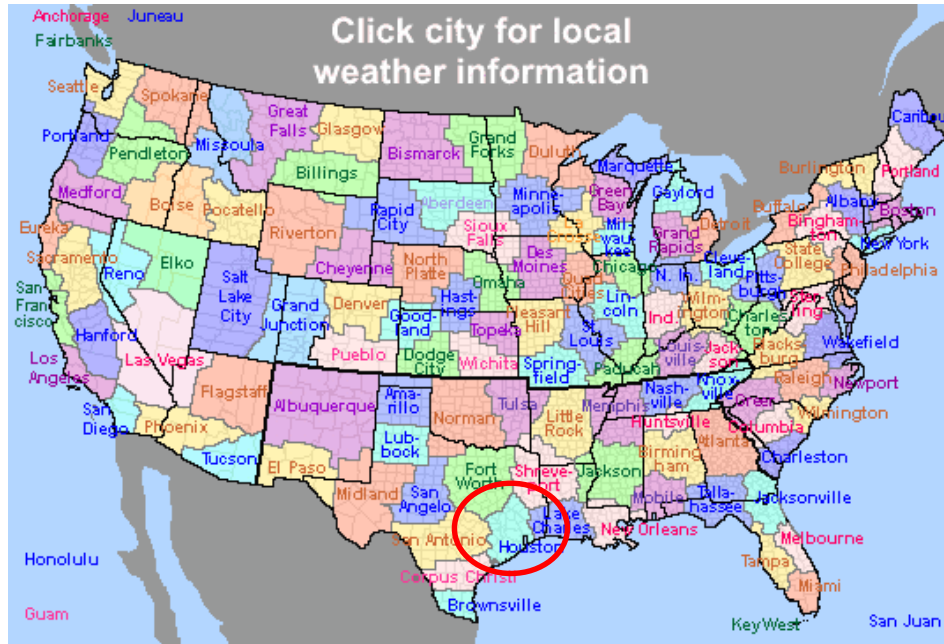


2019 FloodAware Training

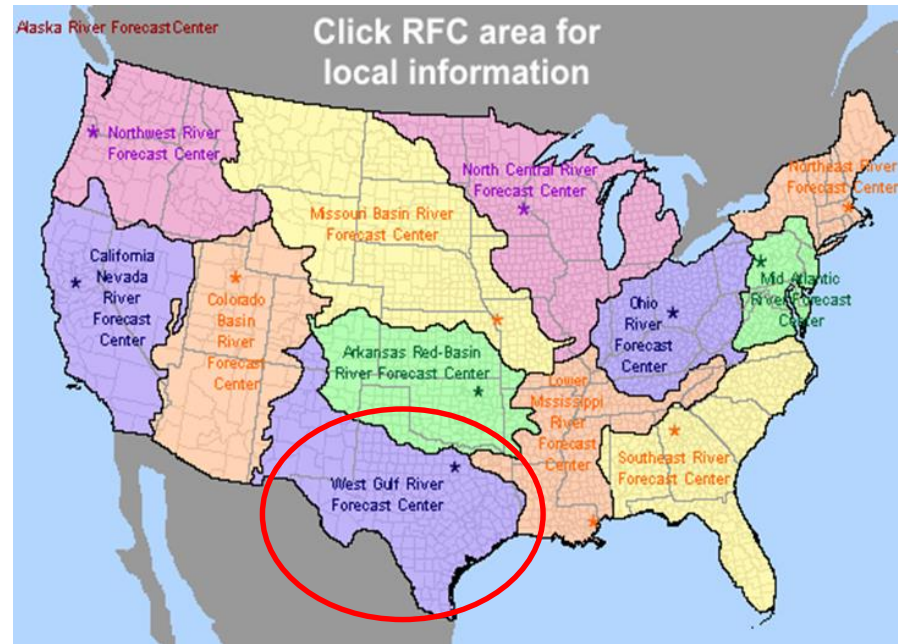
Katie Landry-Guyton
Senior Service Hydrologist/Meteorologist
National Weather Service- Houston/Galveston, TX

National Weather Service

Weather Forecast Offices



River Forecast Centers



Outline

Flooding Importance

Flooding Types and Causes

Flood Products

River Flooding

Partners

Flood Safety

Reporting Flooding

Flood Risk

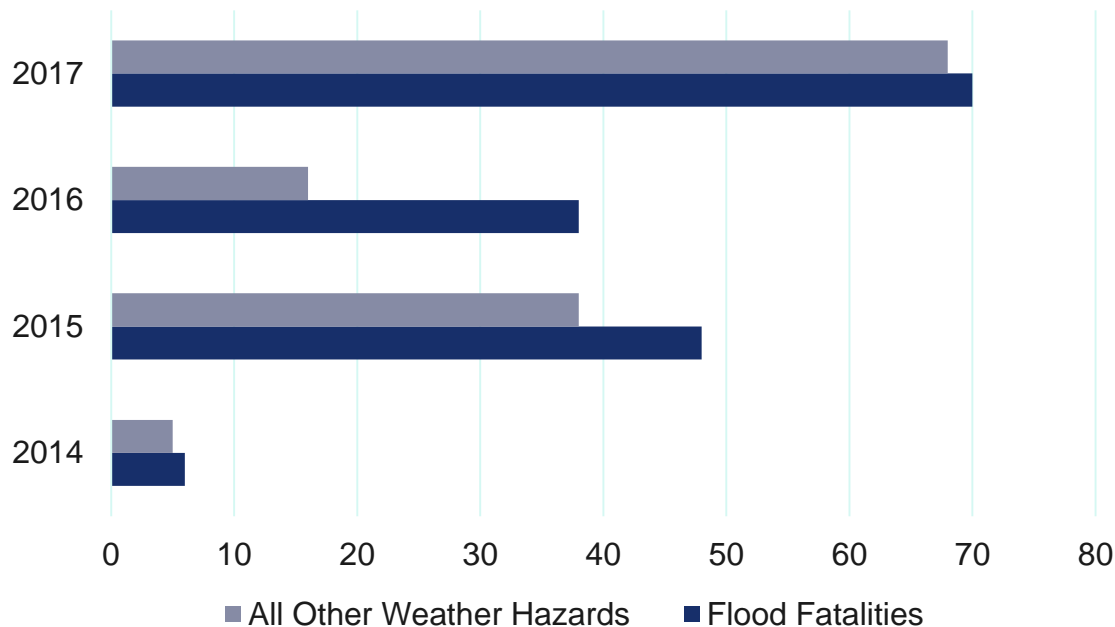




Flooding Importance

Flooding is Deadly!

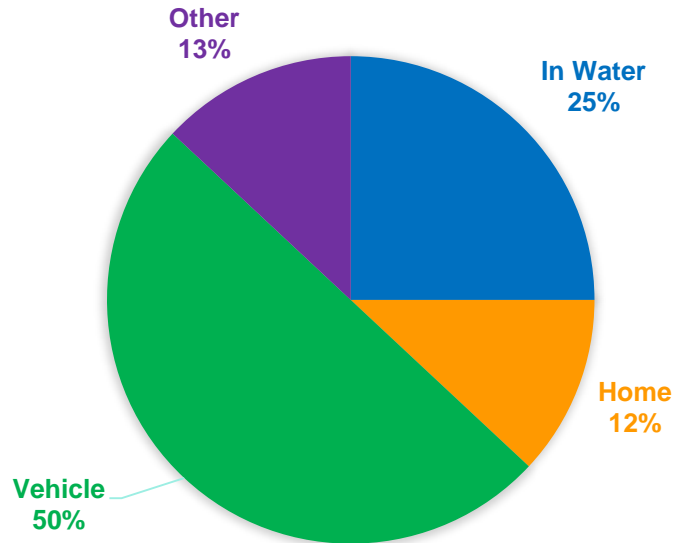
Weather-Related Deaths in Texas



In the 4 year period from 2014 to 2017, **more** people have died in Texas from flooding than ***all other weather hazards combined.***

Flood Fatalities

TEXAS FLOOD FATALITIES BY SHELTER FROM 2014-2016



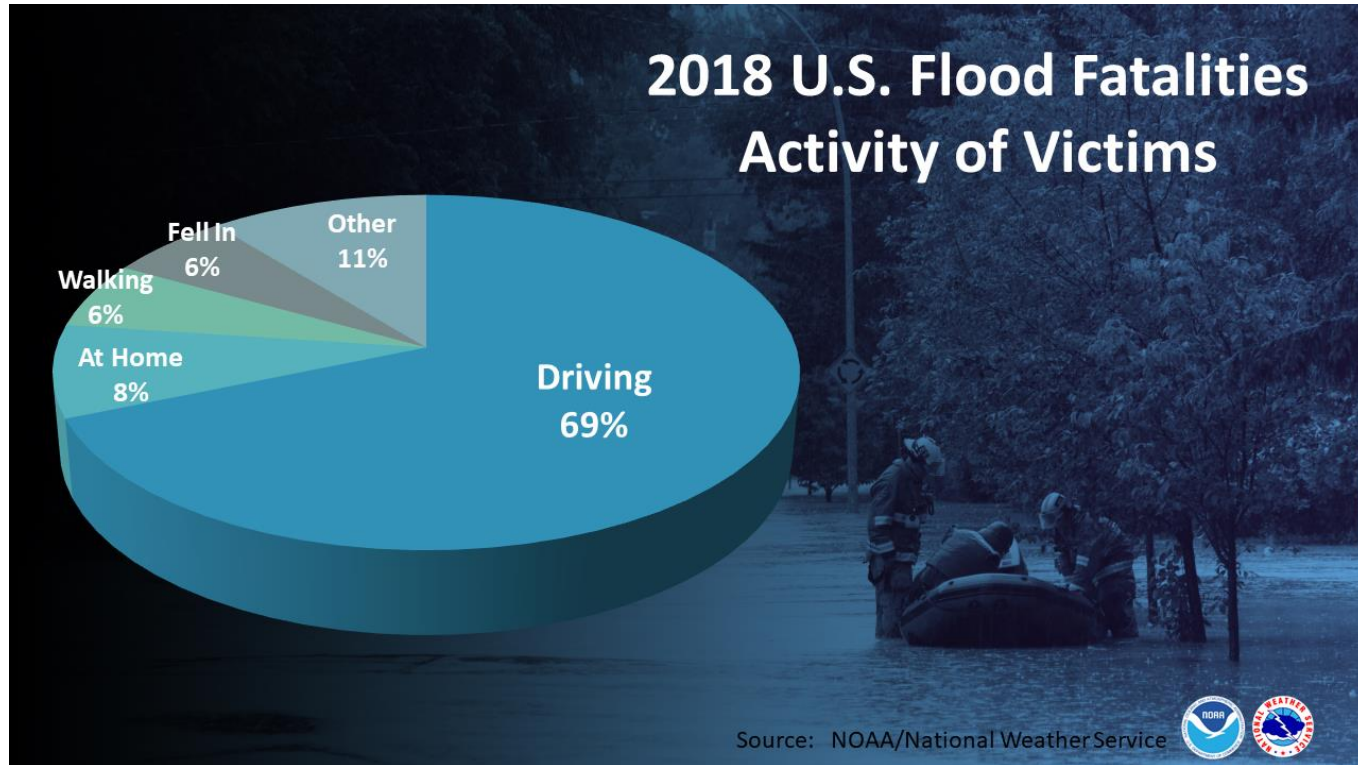
Half of the flood fatalities in Texas occurred while people were in their car.

2017 was skewed due to Hurricane Harvey. In 2017, there were 33 flood fatalities in the water and 19 in vehicles.

Houston Floods: April 18, 2016



Flood Fatalities



Recent Big Floods...

Memorial Day 2015

Tax Day 2016

Brenham 2016

Harvey 2017



Tax Day 2016



Brenham 2016



Harvey 2017

And other historic floods...

Tropical Storm Allison

1994 Flood

Tropical Storm Claudette



Flooding Types and Causes

What Causes Flooding?

- Intense rainfall
- Rain over several days
- Dam/levee failures
- High tides or storm surge
- Snowmelt
- Ice or debris jams



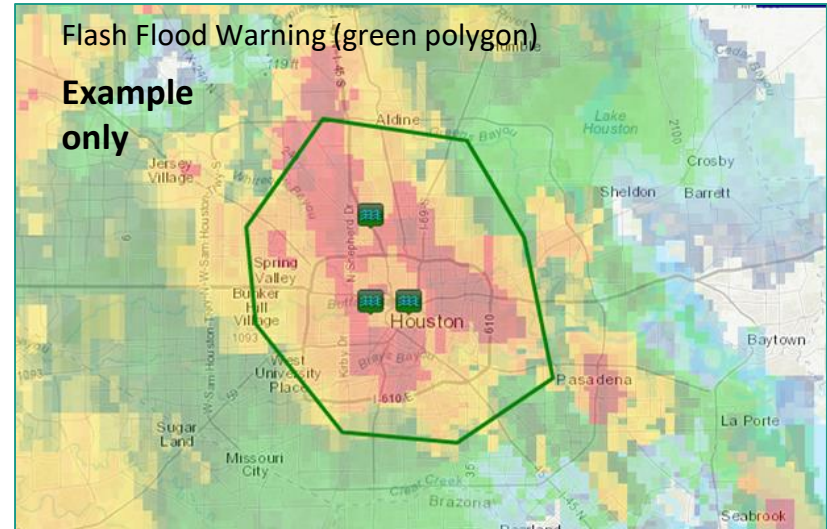
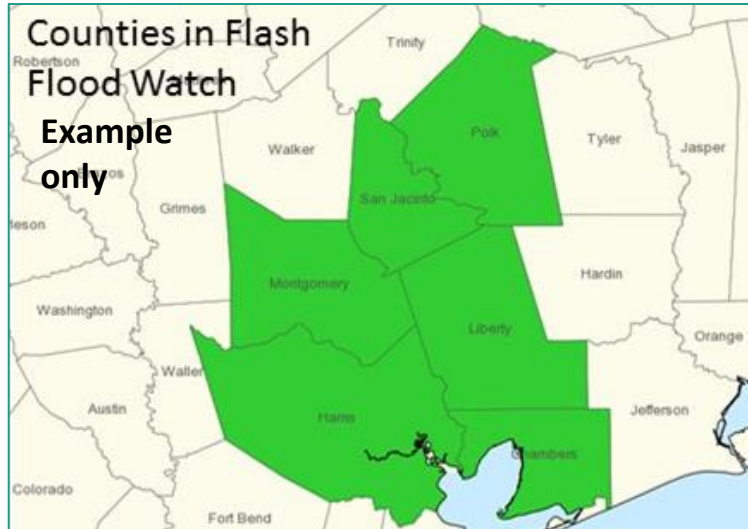


Flood Products

Watch vs Warning

A **Watch** is issued when conditions are favorable to occur.

A **Warning** is issued when the threat is *occurring or imminent*, threatening life or property.



Flood vs. Flash Flood



A **Flood** is an overflow of water onto normally dry land likely caused by rising water in a river/bayou, poor drainage, or high tides/surge. Flooding is a longer term event than flash flooding. It may last days or weeks.

A **Flash Flood** is a flood caused by heavy or excessive rainfall in a short period of time, typically 6 hours or less. Flash floods are defined as:

- ≥ 3 feet of standing water (less if threatening life or property), and/or
- ≥ 6 inches of fast flowing water across a road or bridge, or
- Water in a stream or bayou flowing rapidly out of its banks, or
- A dam break (even on a sunny day)

Understanding Flooding

Urban / Small Stream Advisory

WHAT IS IT?

Flooding of small streams, streets and low-lying areas.

WHAT TO DO?

Stay away from areas that are prone to flooding and stay clear of rapidly moving water

Flood Watch

WHAT IS IT?

Flooding is possible – typically within a 6 to 48 hours before rain is expected to reach the area.

WHAT TO DO?

Stay tuned to local river forecasts; prepare for areas near rivers to spread towards nearby roads and buildings

Flash Flood Watch

WHAT IS IT?

Flash flooding is possible – typically 6 to 48 hours before rain is expected to reach the area.

WHAT TO DO?

Have a way to receive local warnings, expect hazardous travel conditions and have alternate routes available

Flood Warning

WHAT IS IT?

Flooding impacts are occurring or imminent.

WHAT TO DO?

Stay *alert* for inundated roadways and follow all local signage! Additional impacts include homes and structures could become flooded and need to be evacuated

Flash Flood Warning

WHAT IS IT?

Flash flooding impacts are occurring or imminent.

WHAT TO DO?

Conditions will *rapidly* become hazardous! Do not cross flooded roadways or approach inundated areas as water may still be rising

Flash Flood Emergency

WHAT IS IT?


Flash flood situation that presents a clear threat to human life due to extremely dangerous flooding conditions

WHAT TO DO?

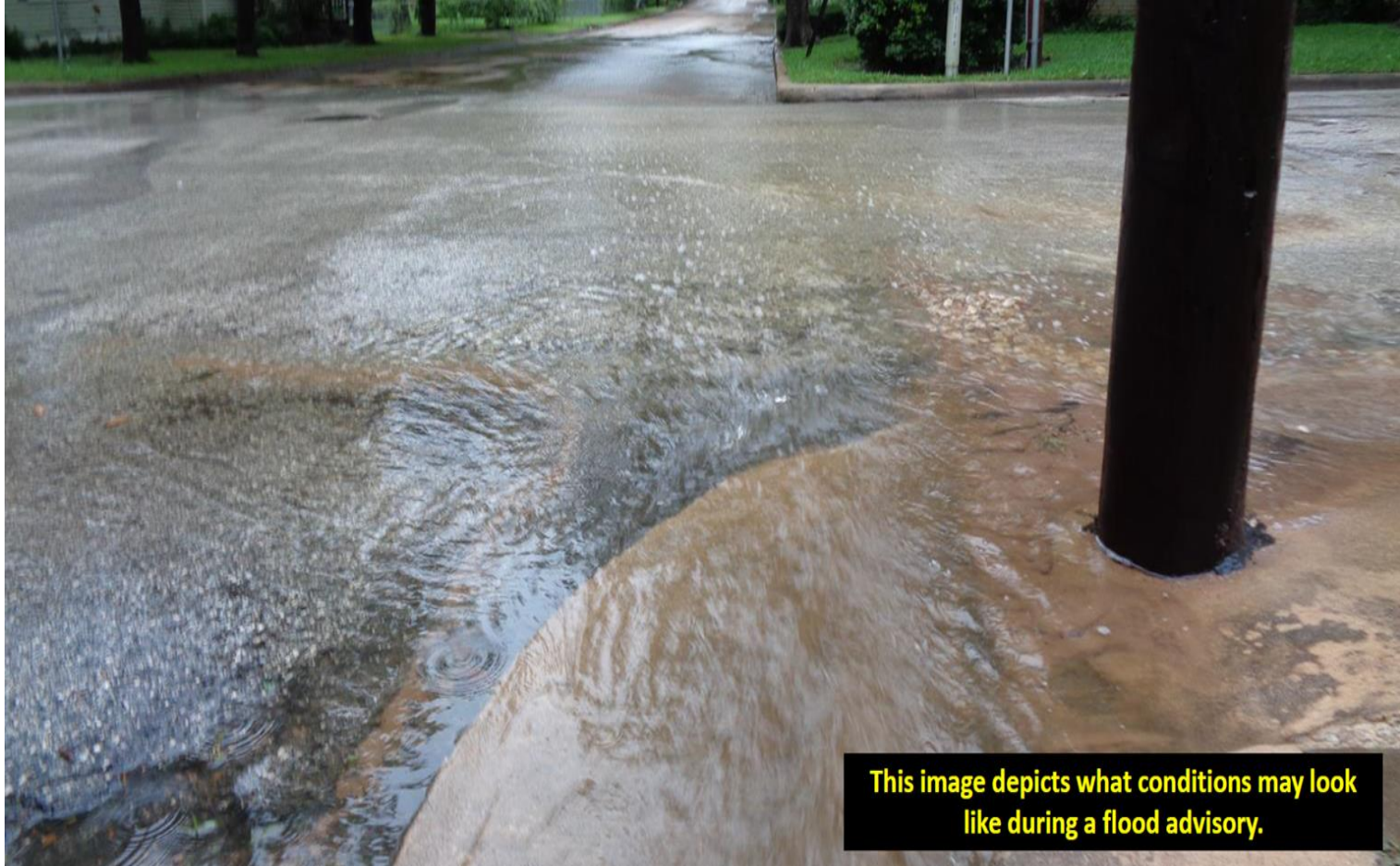
Immediately reach higher ground by any means possible



You make the call...



Urban / Small Stream Flood Advisory



This image depicts what conditions may look like during a flood advisory.

Flash Flood Warning



This image depicts what conditions may look like during a Flash Flood Warning.

Flash Flood Emergency



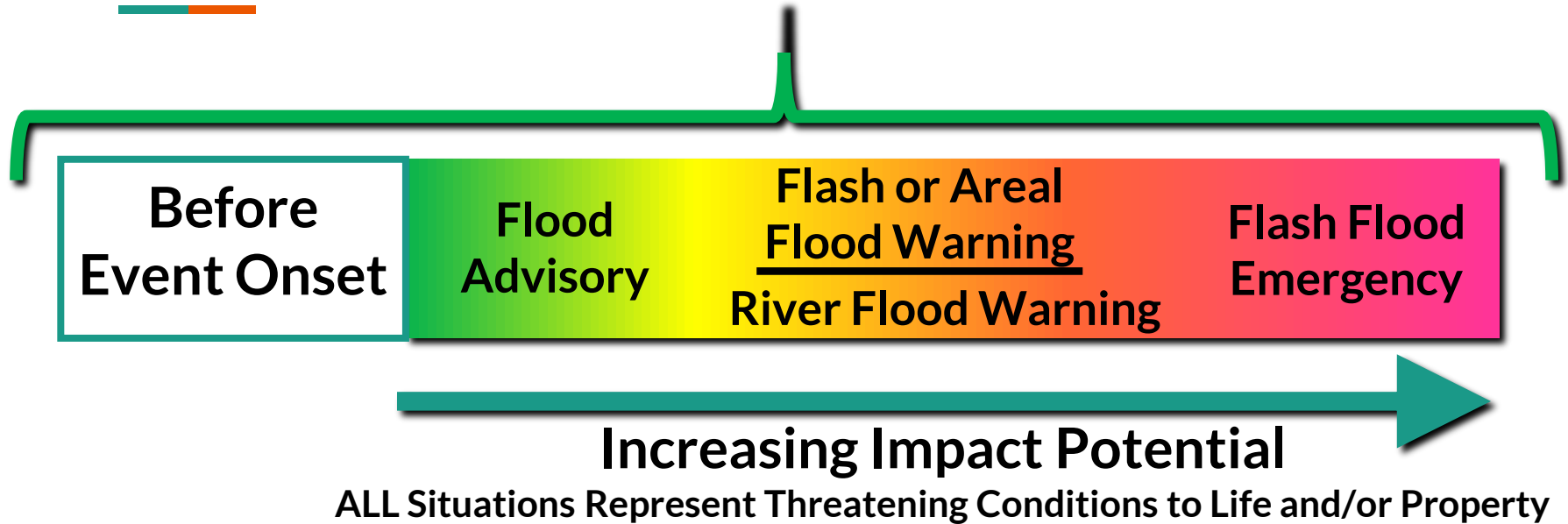
This image depicts what impacts may result from a Flash Flood Emergency. A rapidly moving flood wave resulted in this roadway being completely washed out.

Flood Warning (Areal/ River/ Bayou)



This image depicts what conditions may look like during an Areal Flood Warning.

Flood Timeline



Note: Flooding can (and does) occur without a Flash Flood Watch!

Be sure to have multiple ways to receive warnings.

Ways to Receive a Warning

NOAA Weather Radio



NWS Website: <https://www.weather.gov/hgx/>

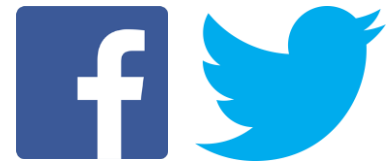
Wireless Emergency Alerts and Weather Apps



TV and Radio



Social Media





River Flooding

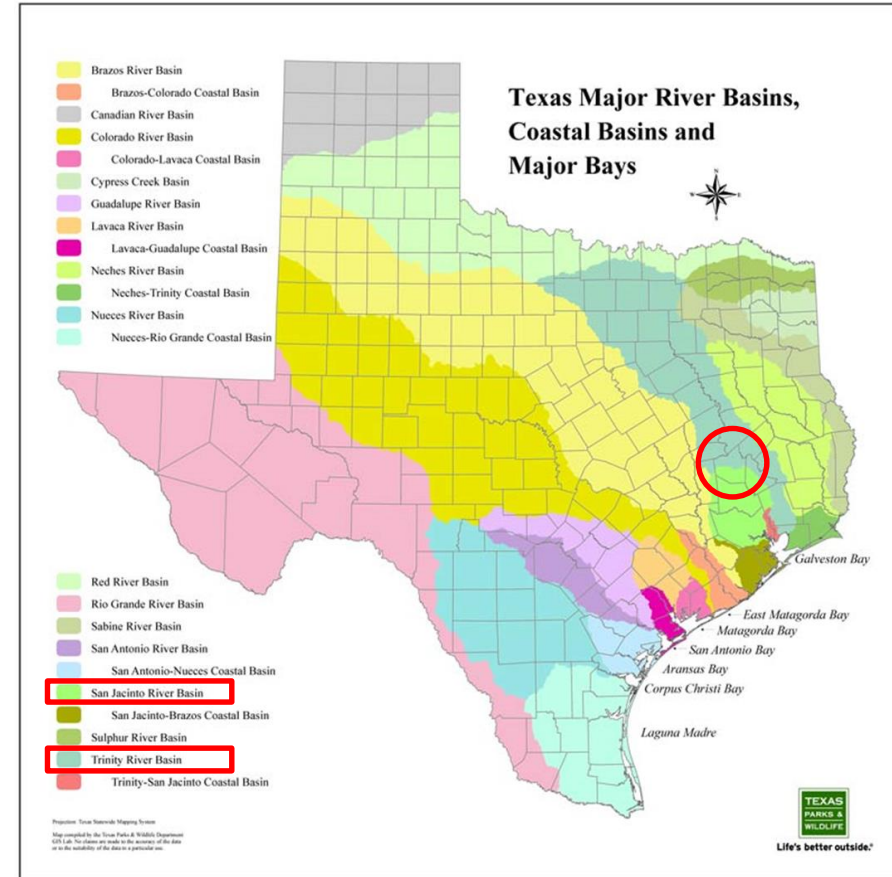
River Flooding



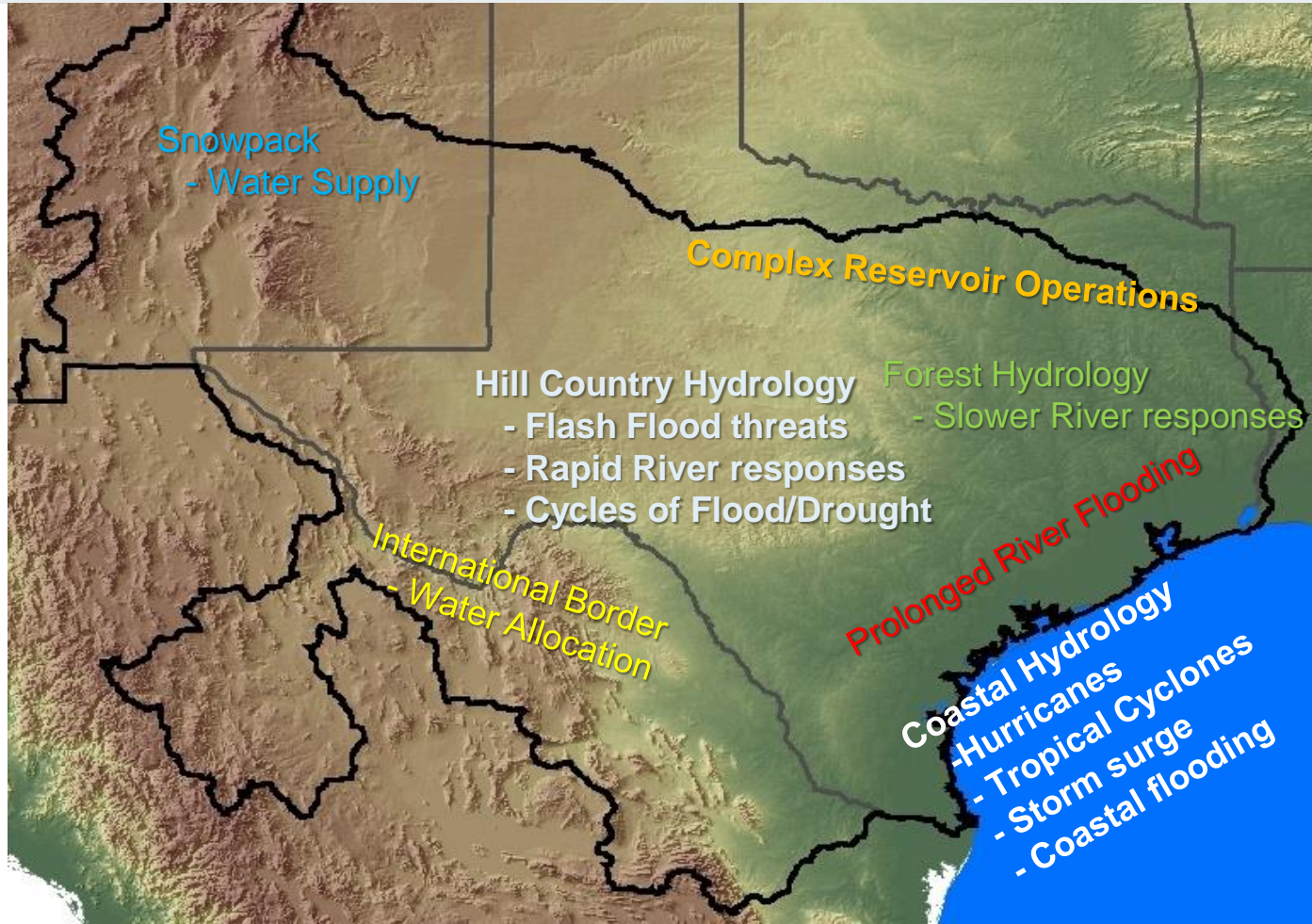
River flooding occurs when water escapes the river banks. There are different thresholds for river flooding: action, minor, moderate, major and record flooding. This image depicts what a river flooding looks like.

Watershed

- A watershed, or basin, is an area of land that drains runoff from rainfall (stormwater) to a body of water, either a river, bayou, creek, or lake.
- A watershed can flow into another watershed.
- Watersheds vary in shape and size which ultimately lead to unique challenges.
- Topography plays a big role in how watershed boundaries are defined.
- Walker County deals with 2 primary watersheds: Trinity River and San Jacinto River

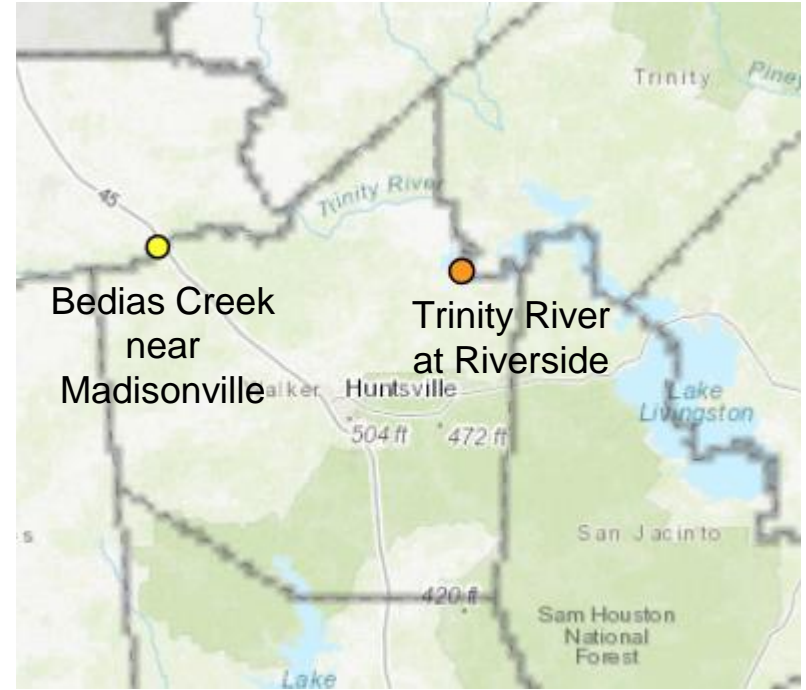


Diverse Watershed Characteristics in Texas



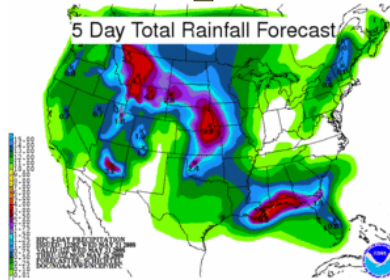
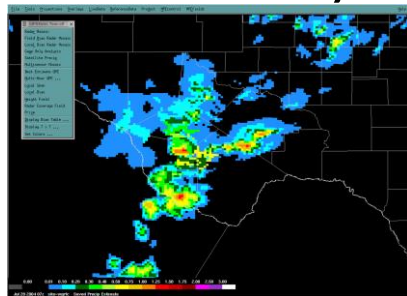
Watershed

- A watershed, or basin, is an area of land that drains runoff from rainfall (stormwater) to a body of water, either a river, bayou, creek, or lake.
- A watershed can flow into another watershed.
- Watersheds vary in shape and size which ultimately lead to unique challenges.
- Topography plays a big role in how watershed boundaries are defined.
- Walker County deals with 2 primary watersheds: Trinity River and San Jacinto River
- NWS issues river forecasts for 2 sites in Walker County.



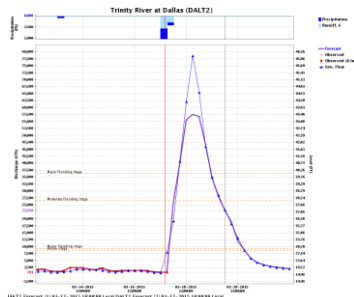
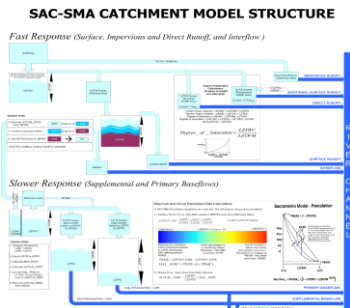
River Forecast Process

Rainfall Analysis



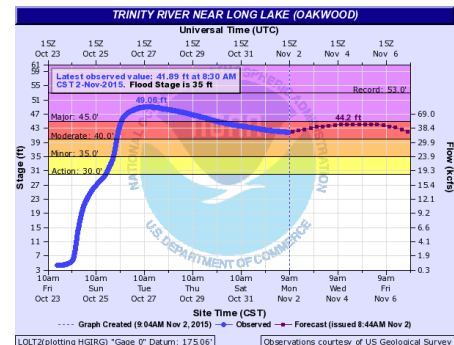
Rainfall estimates and forecasts merged into continuous dataset

Hydrologic Modeling



Rainfall ingested into hydrologic model.
Forecasters adjust model parameters in real time

Forecast



Warning

FLOOD WARNING
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HOUSTON/GALVESTON, TX
926 PM CDT THU MAY 26 2016

...The National Weather Service in Houston/Galveston has issued a flood warning for the following rivers...

Brazos River in Richmond affecting the following counties in Texas...Austin and Fort Bend

/XC015-039-157-473-271425-
/O.NEW.KHGX.FL.W.0149.160529T0730Z-000000T0000Z/
/R/NOT2.1.ER.160529T0730Z.160531T0600Z.000000T0000Z.NO/
126 PM CDT THU MAY 26 2016

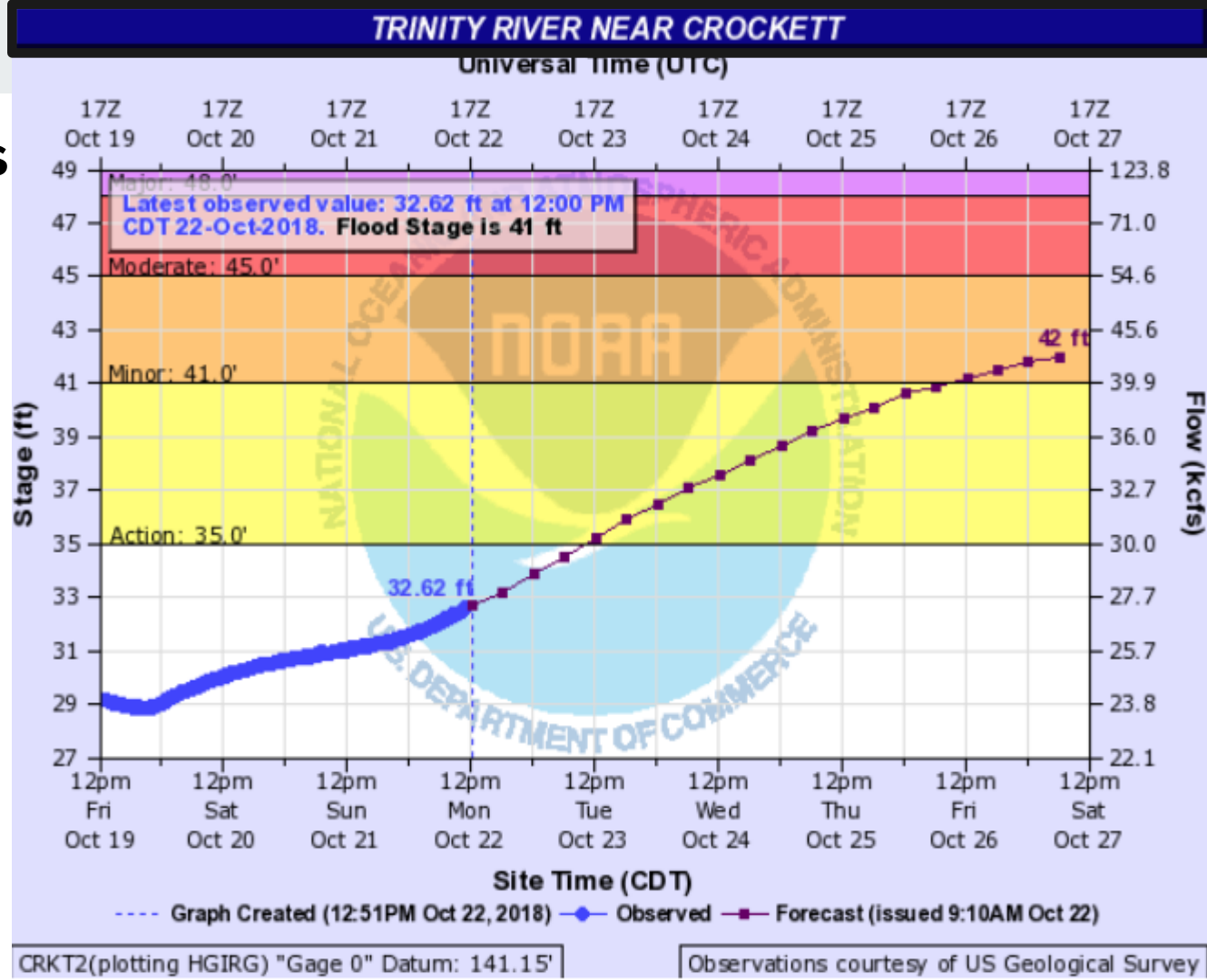
The National Weather Service in Houston/Galveston has issued a

Flood Warning for
The Brazos River in Richmond.
from late Saturday night until further notice...or until the warning is canceled.

Hydrograph Basics

LOCATION:

Of the gage the forecast is made, AT means the gage is in the limits of the town/city, NEAR or NR means that town/city has the closest post office

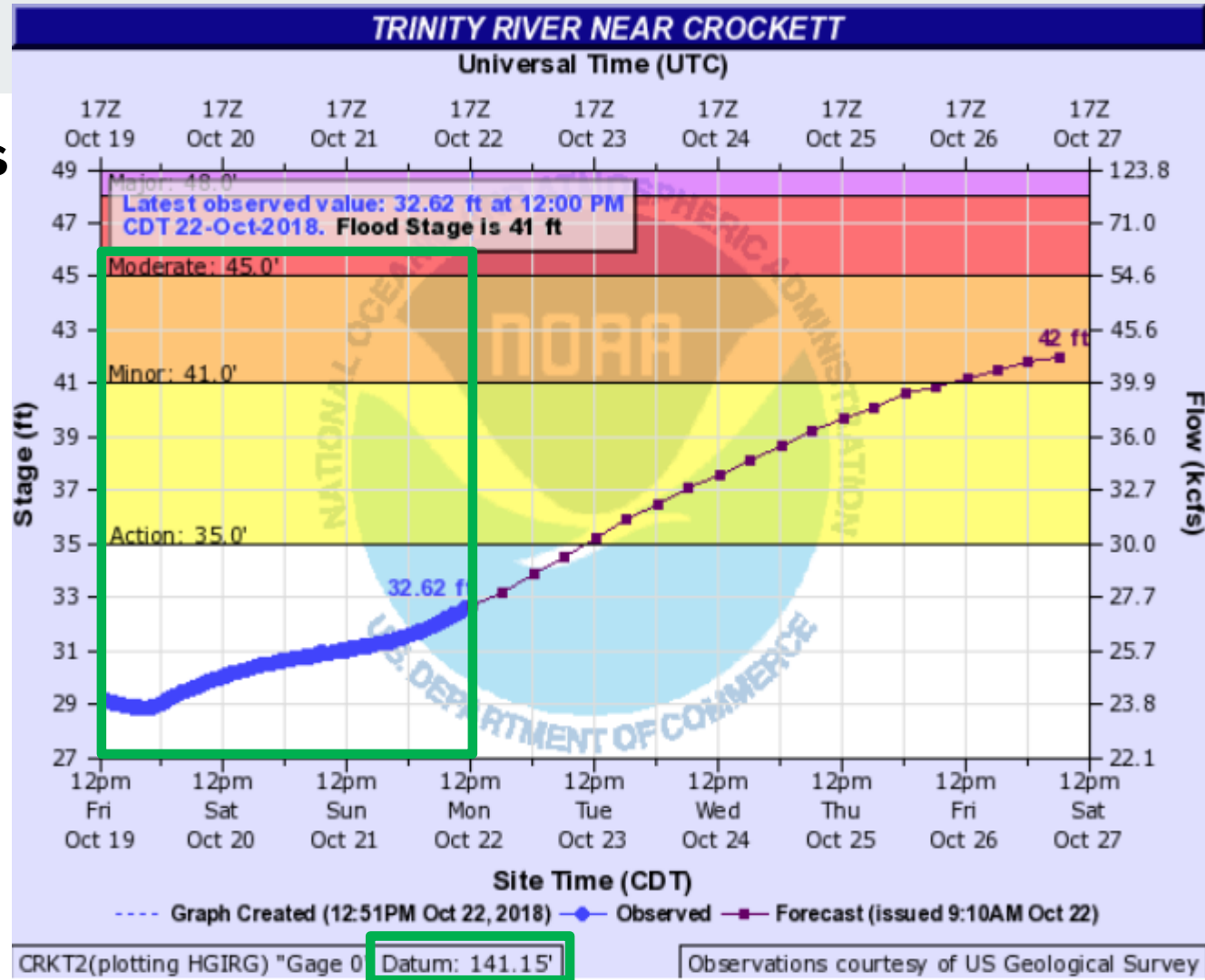


Hydrograph Basics



OBSERVATIONS:
Past river stages

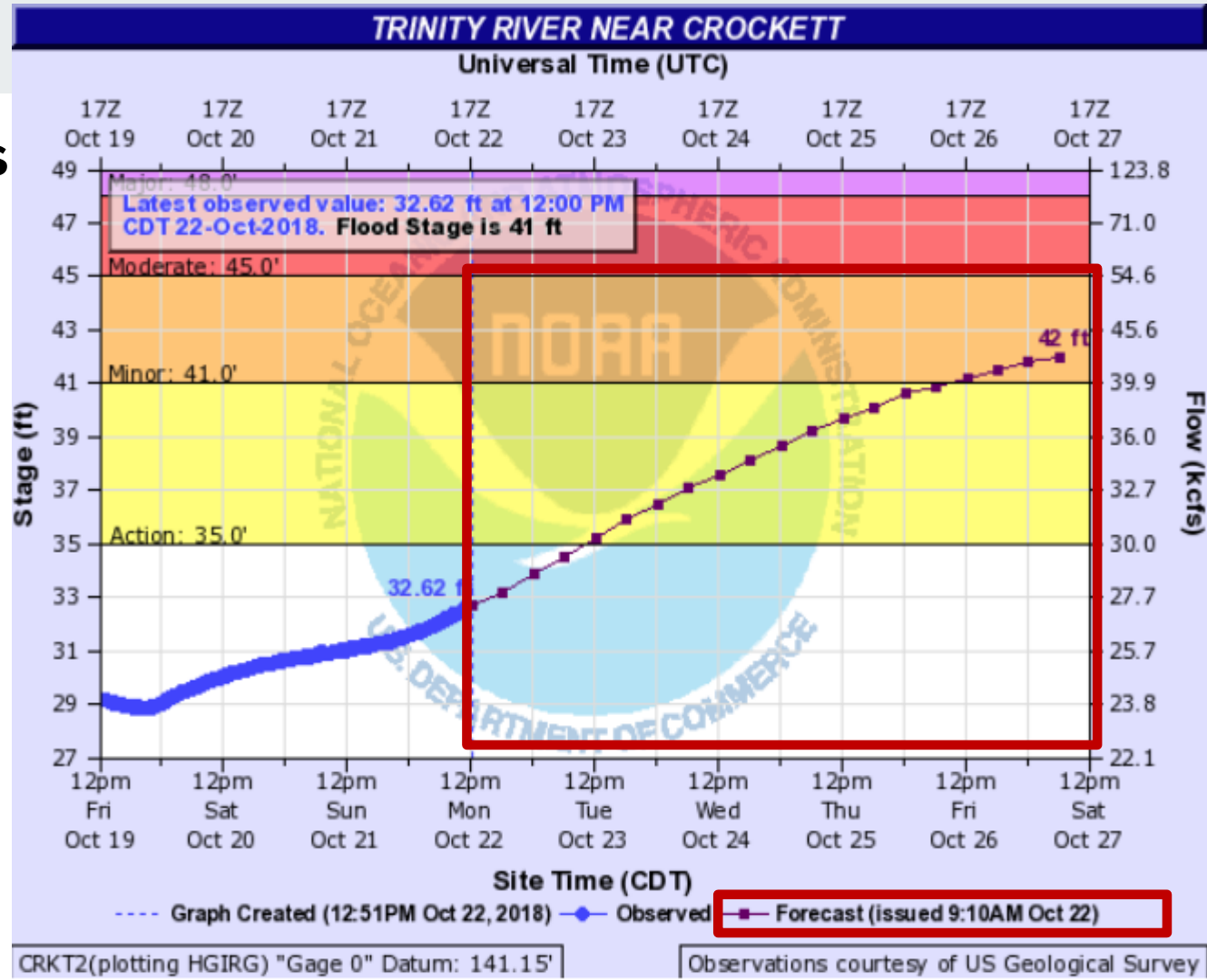
DATUM:
Adjustment to
mean sea level



Hydrograph Basics

FORECAST:
Forecast River
Stages

CREST:
Peak Stage

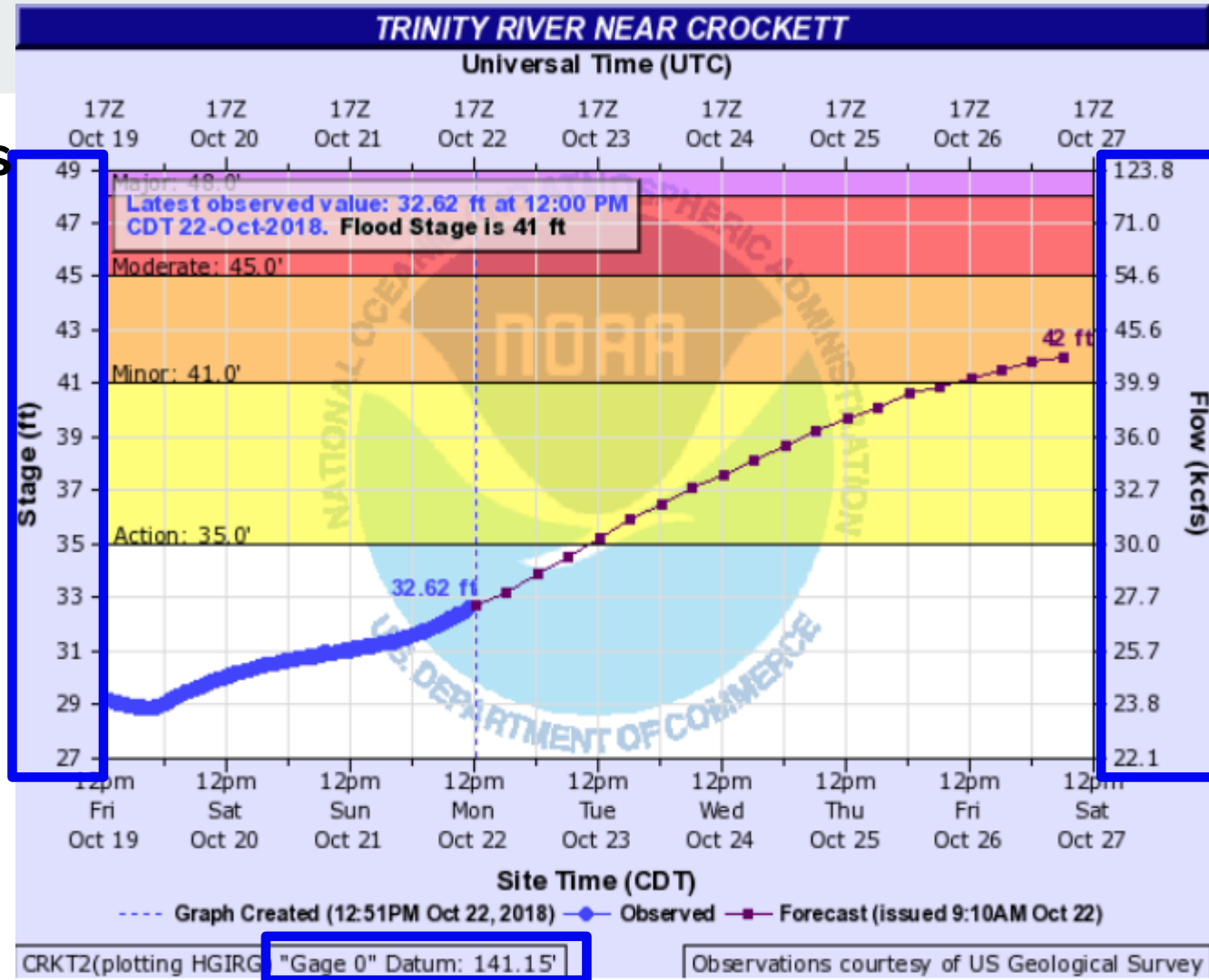


Hydrograph Basics

STAGE VS FLOW:

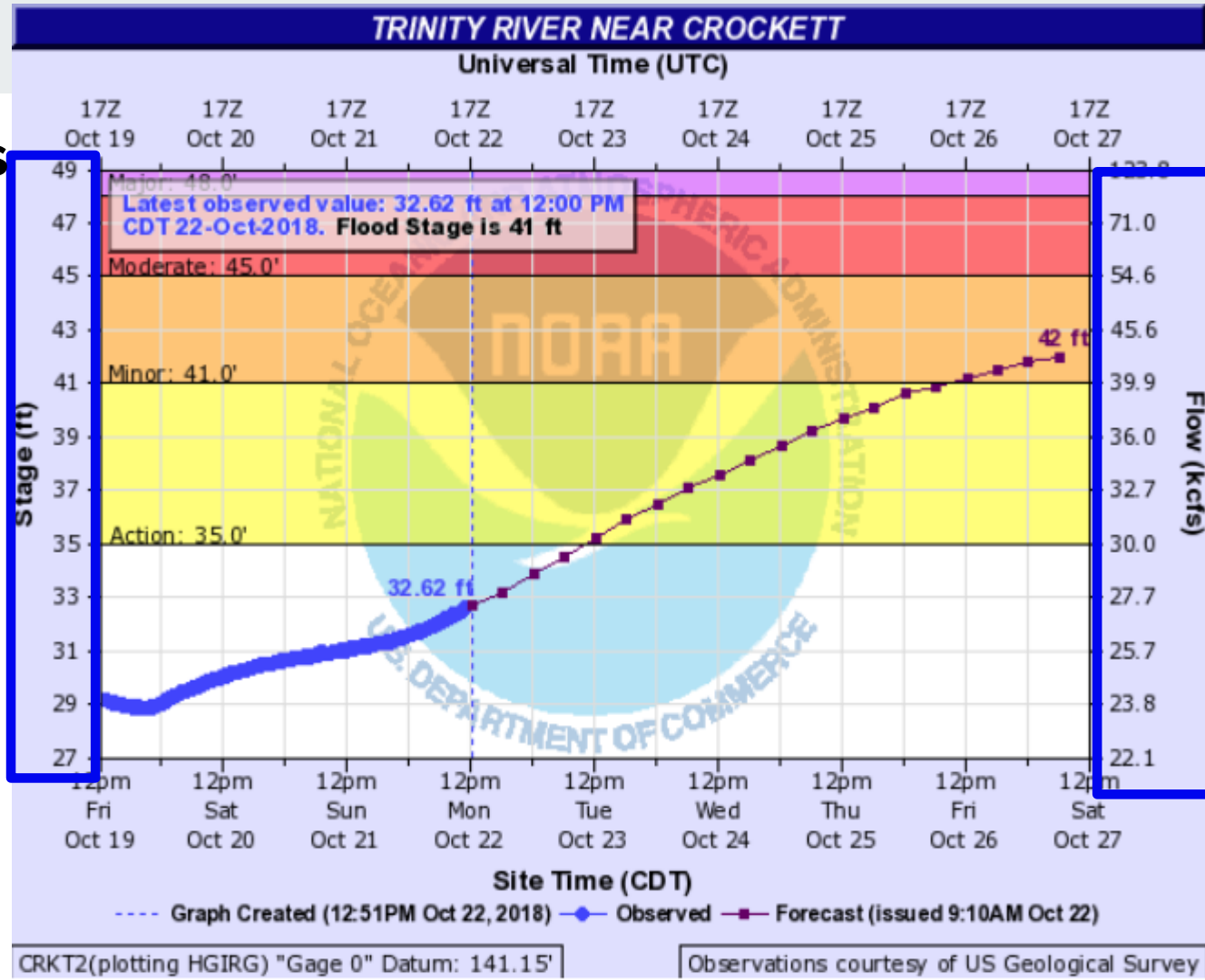
Hydrologists,
models, reservoirs
work in flow.
Emergency
managers, media,
general public work
in stage.

What is flow or a
cubic foot per
second?



Hydrograph Basics

A basketball is roughly a cubic foot, so 20,000cfs is 20,000 basketballs of water passing the gage every second.



Understanding River Criteria Levels



BELOW CRITERIA

Impact: Water is within the banks of the river with no impacts to the surrounding area. Flow speeds may still be high during rainfall or releases which could impact recreational activities

ACTION

Impact: Water is over the banks and into the flood plain, but not a threat to structures or roadways. Some action may be required such as moving farm equipment or increasing awareness

MINOR

Impact: Typically water is impacting areas inside of floodplain which can vary by location. Some low water crossings covered by water, agricultural flooding, water approaching public areas (parks, sidewalks etc.). Areas frequently flooded can expect to be impacted

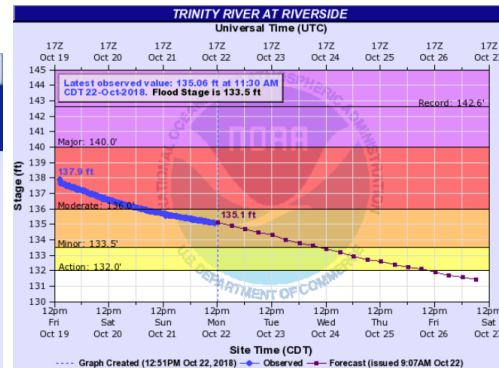
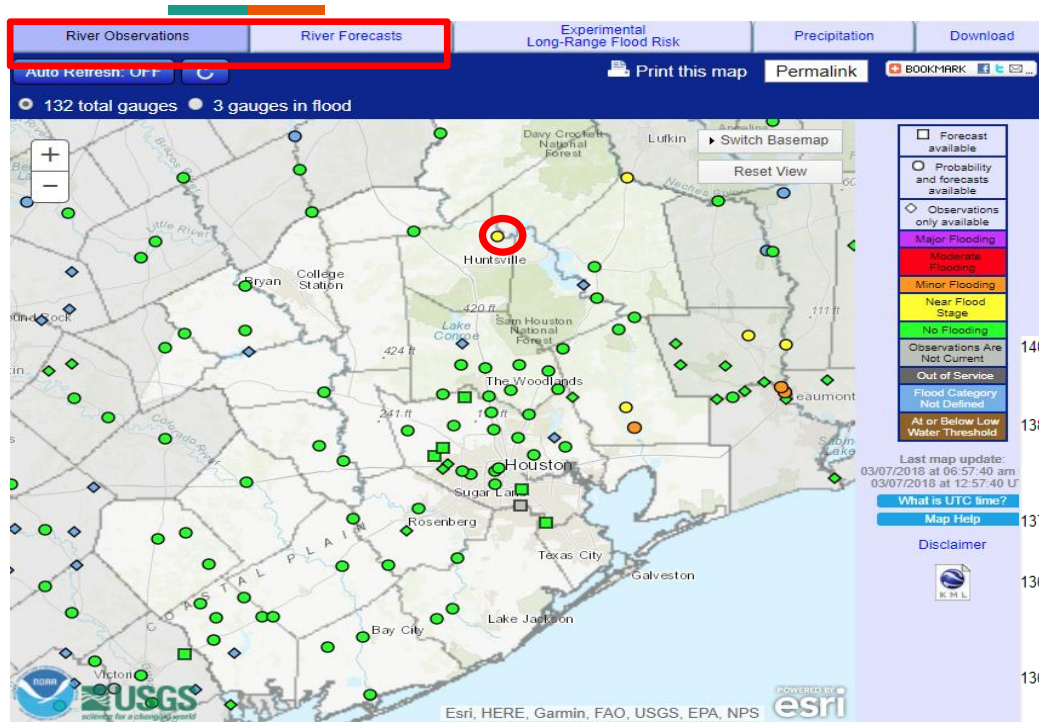
MODERATE

Impact: Water now reaching areas only impacted by significant rain events. Structures can be inundated, several roads covered with water, water may cut off certain areas, widespread agricultural flooding.

MAJOR

Impact: Water is near the highest it's ever been representing rare flooding and significant widespread impacts. Most roads will be covered by water in the area cutting off if not completely flooding subdivisions, rivers can be several miles wide in areas. Homes and structures underwater, bridges inundated and in danger of being hit by debris. Impacts may be greater than ever experienced.

Advanced Hydrologic Prediction System



Flood Categories (in feet)

Major Flood Stage:	140
Moderate Flood Stage:	136
Flood Stage:	133.5
Action Stage:	132
Low Stage (in feet):	0

Historic Crests

- (1) 142.60 ft on 05/05/1942
- (2) 141.70 ft on 04/09/1945
- (3) 139.60 ft on 05/04/1957
- (4) 138.12 ft on 06/06/2015
- (5) 137.67 ft on 07/18/2007

Show More Historic Crests

- 140 Major lowland flooding begins with widespread flooding in Trinity and Walker Counties. Water is in several homes in the Deep River Plantation and Green Rich Shores subdivisions. Roads into several subdivisions in Walker and Trinity Counties and secondary roads along the river are inundated.
- 138 Moderate lowland flooding continues with water 3 to 4 feet below the State Highway 19 Bridge and Plantation Drive near FM 230 is inundated. FM 2978 is flooded and impassable. Up to one foot of water is flowing over Thomas Lake Road which remains impassable. Several roads into the Green Rich Shores and Deep River Plantation subdivisions are covered with up to one foot of water and homes in Deep River Plantation are threatened.
- 137 Moderate lowland flooding continues as several homes in the Green Rich Shores Subdivision in Walker County flood and water covers Thomas Lake Road. The lowest buildings off FM 980 northwest of Riverside flood.
- 136.8 Moderate lowland flooding continues as the approaches to the FM 3478 bridge upstream of the gage are inundated and impassable. The lowest homes in the Green Rich Shores Subdivision are flooded with up to one half foot of water. Thomas Lake Road remains flooded and the lowest roads into properties off FM 980 northwest of Riverside are inundated and impassable.
- 136 Moderate lowland flooding begins in the vicinity of the gage. The lowest homes in the Green Rich Shores Subdivision are flooded and Thomas Lake Road is inundated and impassable. Low roads in the Deep River Plantation Subdivision are inundated. The lowest roads into properties off FM 980 northwest of Riverside are inundated and the lowest buildings are threatened.
- 135 Minor lowland flooding continues as significant backwater up Thomas Lake floods the lowest areas in the Green Rich Shore Subdivision in Walker County with the boat ramp completely inundated. The lowest lying areas in the Deep River Plantation Subdivision and FM 980 northwest of Riverside are threatened.

<http://water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=hgx>

USGS Water Alerts

- Set alerts when a gauge reaches certain water surface elevations.
- Identify the gauge nearest you

USGS
science for a changing world

WaterAlert

Sites Map

Select Location

News updated September 30, 2013

Search by Street Address:
Enter Street Address

Search by Place Name:
Enter Place Name

Search by Site Number(s):
Enter Site Number(s)

Search by State/Territory:
Select an Area

Search by Watershed Region:
Select a Region

Select Data Type

About WaterAlert

How To Use WaterAlert

Related Information

Sam Houston National Forest

The Woodlands

Houston

Pasadena

Baytown

Sugar Land

Missouri City

Pearland

League City

Reynolds

Angleton

Brazoria Natl Wildlife Refuge

Lake Jackson

0 10 20mi

95.597, 29.141

USGS Water Alerts:

<https://maps.waterdata.usgs.gov/mapper/wateralert/>

USGS Water Alerts

- Set alerts when a gauge reaches certain water surface elevations.
- Identify the gauge nearest you
- Click on the gauge and select "Subscribe to WaterAlert"

The screenshot shows the USGS WaterAlert website. At the top is the USGS logo with the tagline "science for a changing world" and a banner image of people canoeing. Below the logo is the "WaterAlert" header. The main interface includes a "Select Location" sidebar on the left with search options: "News" (updated September 30, 2013), "Search by Street" (with an "Enter Street Address" field), "Search by Place" (with an "Enter Place Name" field), "Search by Site" (with an "Enter Site Number" field), "Search by State" (with a "Select an Area" dropdown), and "Search by Water" (with a "Select a Region" dropdown). The main area displays a map of the Houston area with numerous gauge locations marked by black triangle icons. One gauge is circled in red. A "Site Information" pop-up window is open over this gauge, displaying the following details: "Site Number: 08069500", "Site Name: W Fk San Jacinto Rv nr Humble, TX", "Site Type: Stream", "Agency: USGS", and a link for "Access Data". Below this, it shows "Streamflow: 7260 ft³/sec on 2018-04-02 at 22:15 CDT (TSID 229383)" and "Stage: 42.78 ft on 2018-05-07 at 06:45 CDT (TSID 140334)". At the bottom of the pop-up is a button labeled "Subscribe to WaterAlert". The map includes labels for "Sam Houston National Forest", "Houston", "Pasadena", "Pearland", "League City", "Angleton", "Brazoria Natl Wildlife Refuge", and "Lake Jackson". A scale bar at the bottom indicates 0, 10, and 20 miles.

USGS Water Alerts:

<https://maps.waterdata.usgs.gov/mapper/wateralert/>

USGS Water Alerts

- Set alerts when a gauge reaches certain water surface elevations.
- Identify the gauge nearest you
- Click on the gauge and select "Subscribe to WaterAlert"
- Define how you want to receive the information:
 - Email or phone
 - Frequency
 - Stage or Discharge
 - Stream Elevation(s)
- Note: Use Internet Explorer

Subscription Form

The U.S. Geological Survey WaterAlert service sends e-mail or text (SMS) messages when [certain parameters](#), as measured by a USGS real-time data-collection station, exceed user-definable thresholds. The development and maintenance of the WaterAlert system is supported by the USGS and its partners, including numerous federal, state, and local agencies.

Real-time data from USGS gages are transmitted via satellite or other telemetry to USGS offices at various intervals; in most cases, 1 to 4 times per hour. Emergency transmissions, such as during floods, may be more frequent. *Notifications will be based on the data received at these site-dependent intervals.*

Site Info:

Number: 08069500
 Name: W Fk San Jacinto Rv nr Humble, TX
 Agency: USGS
 Transaction ID: stsCN

Send Notification To:

- [about this...](#)
- ☐ My mobile phone
☐ My email address

Notification Frequency:

[about this...](#)

Hourly ☐
 Daily ☒

Streamflow Parameter(s):

[about this...](#) Recent value:

Discharge, in ft³/s ☒ 7260 [\[peak chart\]](#)
 Gage height, in ft ☐ 42.78 [\[peak chart\]](#)

Alert Threshold Condition:

- [about this...](#)
- ☒ Greater than (>)
☐ Less than (<)
☐ Outside a range (< or >)
☐ Inside a range (> and <)

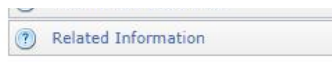
Real-time value is greater than: ft³/s

☐ I have read and acknowledge the [Provisional Data Statement](#) and [Disclaimer](#).

Submit

Reset

Cancel



USGS Water Alerts:

<https://maps.waterdata.usgs.gov/mapper/wateralert/>



Partners

Partners

Roles of Primary River Forecast Partners



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

- Operate Flood Control Reservoirs
- Manage Other WR Projects



- U.S. Stream Gage Network
- Water Science Studies



- Issue Weather & Water
Forecasts, Watches, Warnings &
Data

Shared Data and Resources



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

- Assist w/Gage Maintenance
- Assist w/Stream Measurements
- Assist w/Funding Data Networks



- Gage Maintenance
- Stream Measurements
- Focus Stream Gage Network



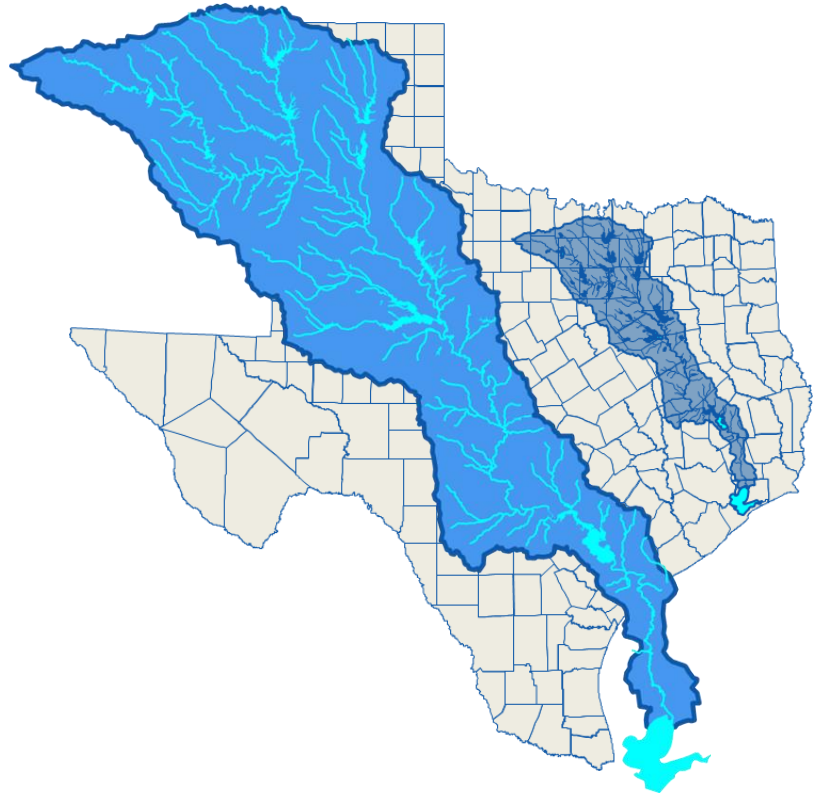
- Cooperative Data Network
- NOAA/NWS Satellite Transmission
- Forecasts/Data for Operations

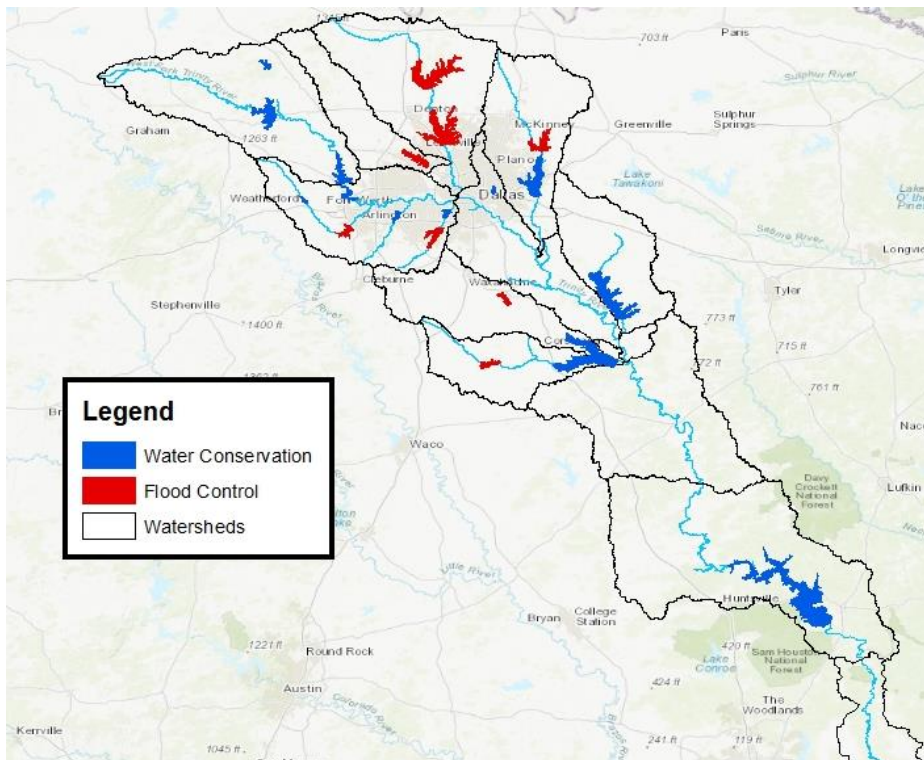
Trinity River Basin Over View



Basin Facts

- Nearly 18,000 square miles
- More water storage than any other river system in Texas





20 reservoirs ranging
from 1,000 to 83,000
acres

- 12 Water Conservation
- 8 Flood Control

Basic Components of a Dam



Flood Control Reservoir



Flood Control Reservoir

- Built to regulate flood waters
- Examples:

1. Lake Grapevine

- Storage-535 MSL
- Flood Pool-560 MSL
- Surge-582 MSL

2. Lake Lewisville

- Storage-522 MSL
- Flood Pool-532 MSL
- Surge-552 MSL

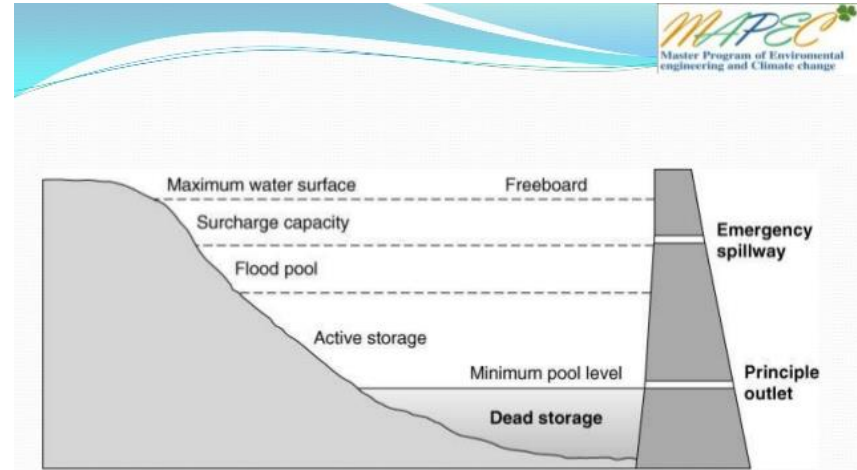


Figure 7.5 Classification of principle storage zones in a cross section of a multipurpose reservoir.

COE Release Schedule

PROJECT	ELEVATIONS	% FLOOD STORAGE	CLEAR FK TRINITY R.	WEST FK TRINITY R.	WEST FK TRINITY R.	MOUNTAIN CREEK	DENTON CREEK	ELM FORK TRINITY R.	ELM FORK TRINITY R.	TRINITY RIVER	EAST FK TRINITY R.	TRINITY RIVER	RICHLAND CREEK	WAXAHACHIE CREEK	CHAMBERS CREEK	LONG LAKE
Location			FWHT2	Ft Worth FWOT2	Grand Prairie GPRT2	Grand Prairie GPAT2		Above Lewisville Lake	Carrollton CART2	Dallas DALT2	Crandall CNLT2	Rosser RSRT2	Dawson DWST2	Bardwell BRDT2	Rice RCET2	LOLT2
Benbrook BNBT2	694.0 - 696.0	0 - 10	600		6000					13000		15000				24000
	696.0 - 697.1	10 - 16		3000	6000					13000		15000				24000
	697.1 - 710.0	16 - 100			6000					13000		15000				24000
Joe Pool JPLT2	522.0 - 524.0	0 - 10			6000	1000				13000		15000				24000
	524.0 - 536.0	10 - 100				4000				13000		15000				24000
										13000		15000				24000
Ray Roberts RRLT2	632.5 - 633.5	0 - 11						2000	4000	13000		15000				24000
	633.5 - 636.0	11 - 41						4000	5500	13000		15000				24000
	636.0 - 640.5	41 - 100						6000	7000	13000		15000				24000
Lewisville LEWT2	522.0 - 523.0	0 - 10	11 days						4000	13000		15000				24000
	523.0 - 526.0	10 - 35							5500	13000		15000				24000
	526.0 - 532.0	35 - 100							7000	13000		15000				24000
Grapevine GPVT2	535.0 - 538.2	0 - 10					2000		4000	13000		15000				24000
	538.2 - 542.0	10 - 23					2000		5500	13000		15000				24000
	542.0 - 550.0	23 - 100					2000		7000	13000		15000				24000
Lavon LVNT2	492.0 - 503.5	0 - 100									8000	15000				24000
Navarro Mills DAWT2	424.5 - 427.3	0 - 10											1200			24000
	427.3 - 443.0	10 - 100											2000			24000
Bardwell BDWT2	421.0 - 423.3	0 - 10												600	4000	24000
	423.3 - 427.4	10 - 30												1200	4000	24000
	427.4 - 439.0	30 - 100												2000	4000	24000

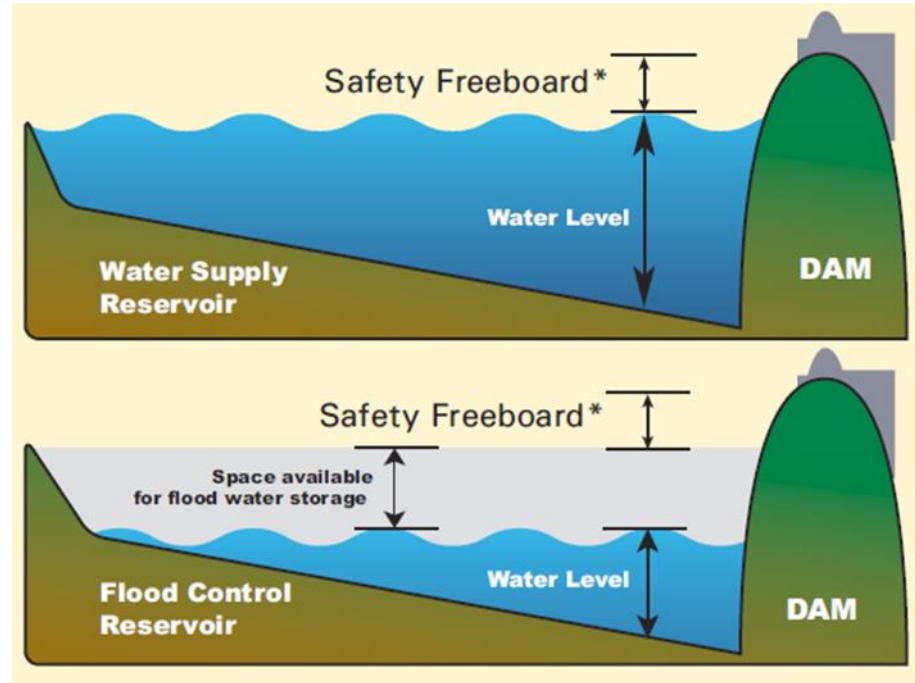


Water Conservation Reservoir



Water Supply Reservoir

- Designed to stay near full
- Have very limited capacity to capture storm inflows
- Designed to pass inflows from storms (with some reduction in peak flow)
- Structurally, the gates must open gradually as lake rises
- Still reduces flooding downstream



Lake Livingston

WATER CONSERVATION RESERVOIR is responsible for the safe storage of water and providing drinking water to more than two million southeast Texans.

- 83,000 surface acres
- 1,750,000 acre feet
- More than 350,000 CFS spillway discharge capacity
- Conservation Pool – 131 MSL
- Flowage Easement –135 to 140 MSL





Gate Operations

- Manage outflow in order to mimic river flows
- Calculate releases adequate to keep pace with increasing inflows without causing sudden surges and without exceeding computed inflows until the peak inflow has been reached.
- Once reservoir elevation has peaked, excess inflow will be released from surcharge storage in an orderly fashion to reduce pool to conservation pool of 131 MSL.



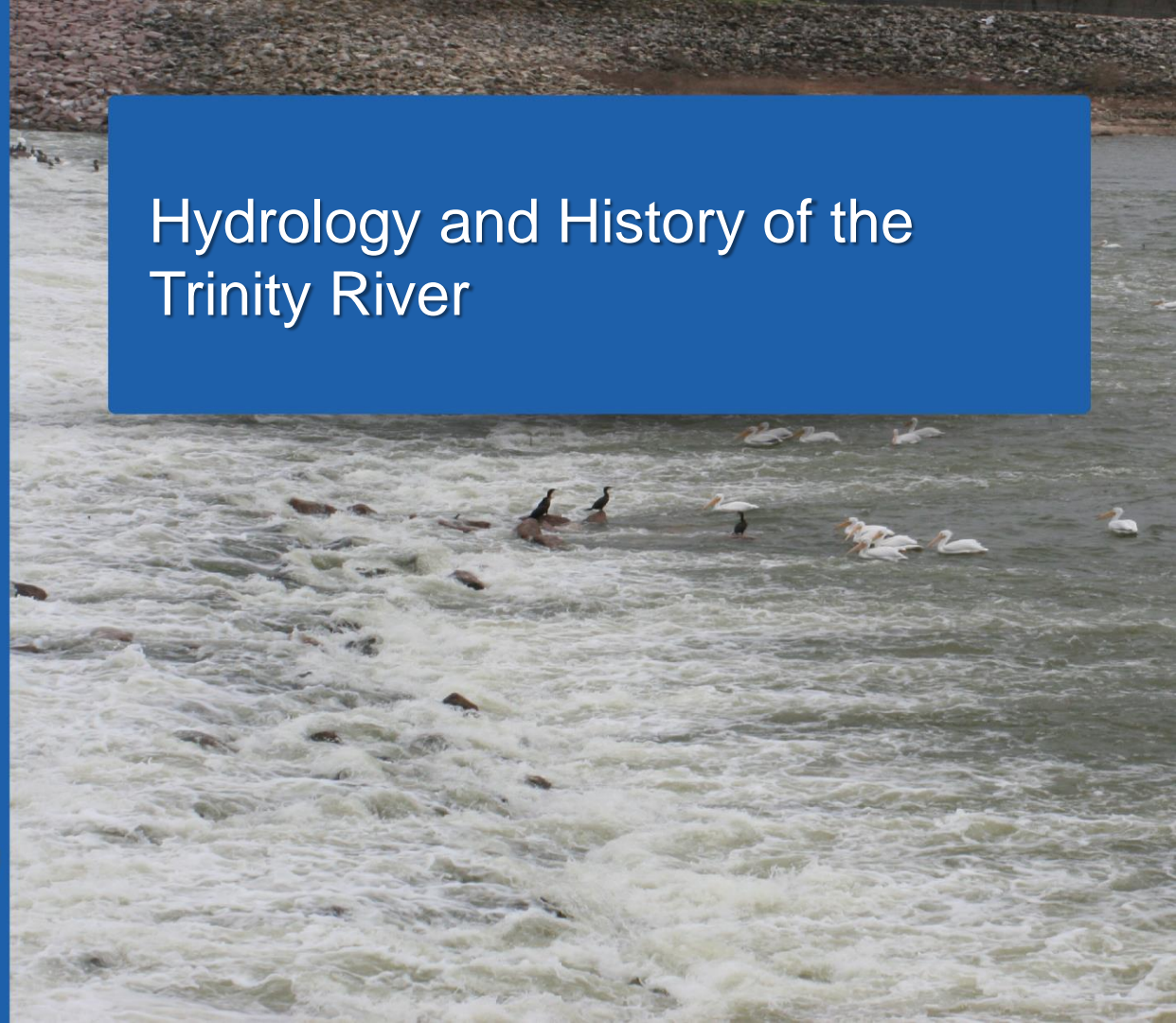
The background of the slide features a photograph of a long concrete dam with multiple spillways, situated next to a large body of water. The sky is overcast. A vertical blue bar is on the left, and a vertical green bar is next to it. A stylized logo, consisting of blue and green shapes, is located at the bottom left of the blue bar.

Lake Livingston Emergency Action Plan

- Implemented at discharge of 20,000 cubic feet/second (CFS)
- Who do we contact?
 - ✓ Emergency Management Coordinator for Walker, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, Liberty and Chambers counties
 - ✓ NWS and WGRFC
 - ✓ DPS-Lufkin
 - ✓ Liberty radio
- Methods of notification
 - ✓ Phone
 - ✓ Email
 - ✓ Twitter

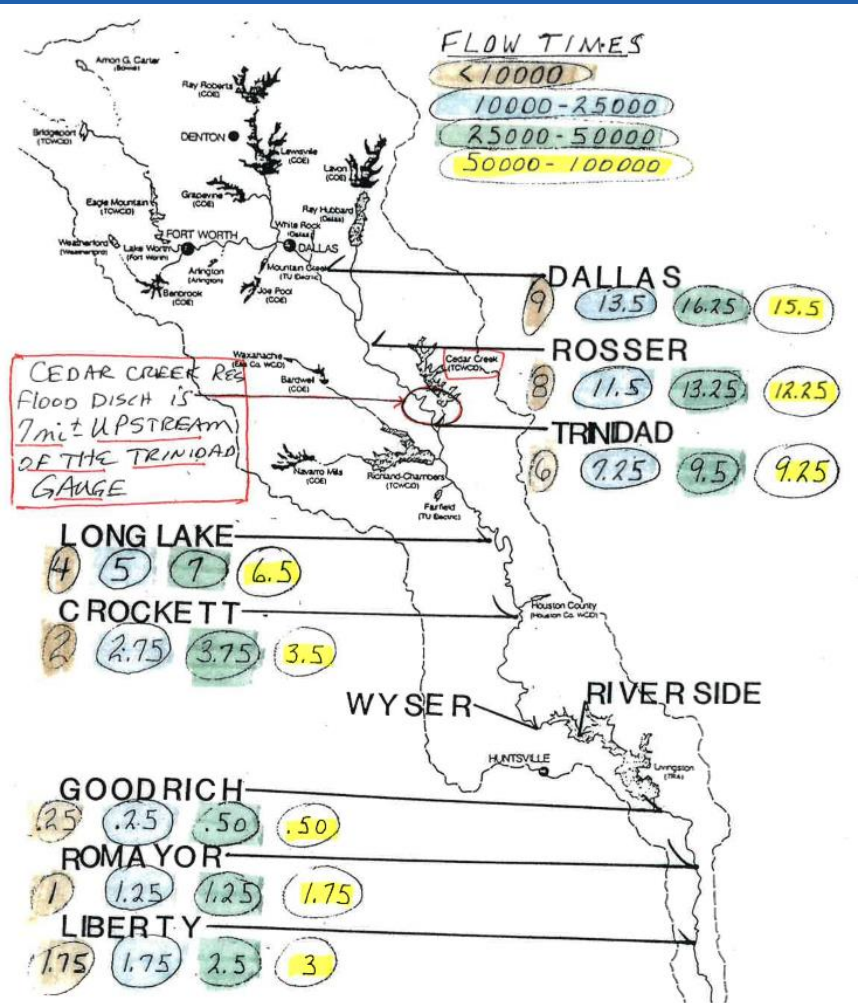


Hydrology and History of the Trinity River



Trinity River Travel Times

- Travel times are to/from Lake Livingston



Historic Flood Stages at Riverside


RANK	YEAR	STAGE
1	1942	142.61
2	1945	141.69
3	1957	139.61
4	1908	139.56
	1968	GATES AT DAM CLOSED
5	1990	139.08

Riverside 1942





No Two Floods Are The Same

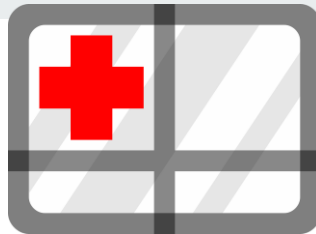
- What part of the watershed is the flood event originating?
 - Rain event in Dallas
 - Local Rain
 - How much of the watershed was covered by precipitation?
 - What are the current conditions?
 - Link: <http://lakedata.traweb.net/home.php>
 - Twitter Releases: @LivingstonDam
- 



Flood Safety

What to do before, during, and after a flood?

Safety Before a Flood

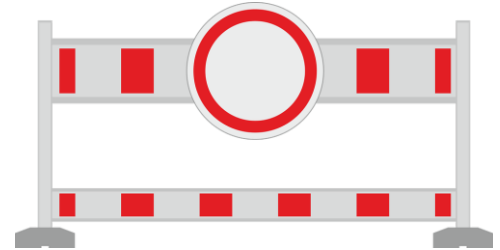


- Prepare a family disaster plan.
- Check if your insurance covers flood damages. If not, get flood insurance.
- Keep insurance and other important documents, such as copies of driver's licenses and credit cards, and other valuable items, in a safe place.
- Assemble a disaster supplies kit. Be sure to include prescription medications, food, and water.
- Find out where you can go if ordered to evacuate.
- Arrange to keep in contact with relatives and friends.
- Know your resources.

Knowing what to do when a flood occurs will increase your family's safety and possibly its survival.

Safety During a Flood

- Monitor warnings and be prepared to take action.
- Have multiple ways to receive weather information.
- Turn around, don't drown!
- Stay away or be swept away. Flood waters will be moving swiftly and river banks/culverts can become unstable.
- Barricades are for your protection; do not drive around them!
- Do not sightsee!
- If evacuations are ongoing, don't get in the way of first responders.
- Stay out of the flood waters!



Turn Around, Don't Drown!

- Most flood deaths occur in vehicles.
- It only takes **six inches of water** for a vehicle to lose contact with the road surface.
- Most vehicles can be swept away in just 18 to 24 inches of water!
- Flooded roads may have hidden dangers, such as washed out road beds or underwater obstructions.
- Be especially cautious when traveling at night.
- If your vehicle is caught in rising water, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.



Minnesota road damaged by flood waters, courtesy of FEMA.

Safety After a Flood

- Stay away from damaged areas unless your assistance has been specifically requested by police, fire, or a relief organization.
- Return home only when authorities indicate it is safe.
- Use extreme caution when entering buildings; there may be hidden damage, particularly in foundations.
- Cut power to flooded areas of your home
- Only use generators in well-ventilated areas—never in a closed garage!

Flooding Resources

Flood Safety

Turn Around Don't Drown

State Flood Information

Flood Hazards

NWS Flood Related Products

Forecasts and Observations

National Water Center

Education and Outreach Materials

Partner Agencies

weather.gov/flood



Reporting/Wrap Up

What to Report

Flash Flooding

- Underpasses filling with water
- Impassible roadways
- Any fast-moving water greater than 6 inches in depth

Any River or Bayou Flooding

Any Coastal Flooding



Flooding, Washington County (2016)

Formatting Reports



Reports should include the following information:

WHO is calling

WHERE the flooding is located

WHAT type of flooding is occurring (flash, river, or bayou)

WHEN the flooding occurred (is it ongoing?)

HOW deep is the water (if you can *safely* evaluate this)



The Good

“I’m a storm spotter located in Sealy at the intersection of Meyer and FM 2187. Water is flowing over curbs; it’s at least 6-8 inches deep in some locations on the road.”

The Bad

“Hey, we got some flooding here a few minutes ago!”

The Ugly

“My sister-in-law said the bayou got really closer to her house, did you have a warning out for that?”

How to Report

Call us!

Spotter line: 1-800-846-1828

Report via amateur radio

Call sign WX5HGX

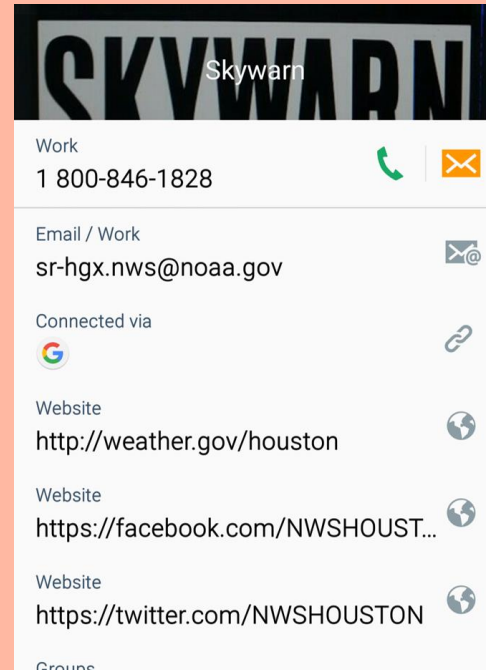
Email

sr-hgx.nws@noaa.gov

Social Media

Twitter: @NWSHouston

Facebook: NWSHouston



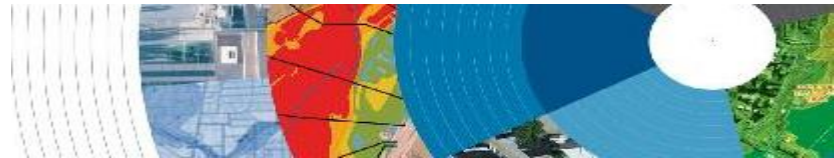
Spotter Tip

Set up SKYWARN as a contact
in your smartphone



Flood Risk

Flood Risk?



Any situation involving exposure to a flood danger, harm or loss.

Everyone is at a risk for flooding.



FEMA

Insurance Misconception

■ Misconception:

"I'm already covered—my homeowners policy covers flooding."

■ Fact:

Most insurance policies do not cover flooding; only flood insurance covers flood damage.

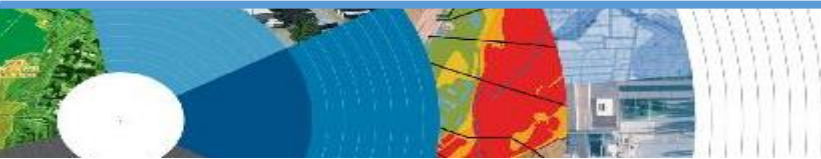
Renters and Business owners should also consider flood insurance for contents.

■ Misconception:

"I don't live in a flood zone."

■ Facts:

- Floods are the #1 natural disaster in the United States.
- If it can rain, it can flood.
- FIRMs do not show localized flooding from drainage ditches/sewers/road ponding.
- To some degree overland flooding...but not property to property drainage problems.

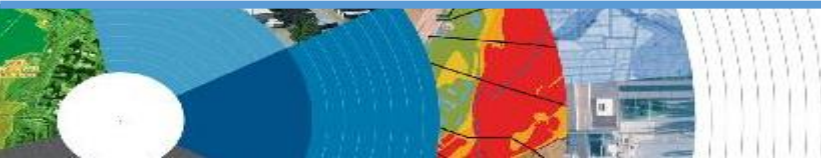


FEMA

Cost of Flood Damage?

2,500 sqft, one-story home with possessions worth \$50,000

Interior Water Depth (Inches)	Cost to Home	Cost to Personal Property	Combined Loss Potential
1"	\$23,635	\$3,172	\$26,807
2"	\$23,720	\$3,172	\$26,892
3"	\$24,370	\$4,917	\$29,287
4"	\$31,345	\$7,207	\$38,552
5"	\$31,425	\$13,914	\$45,339
6"	\$37,260	\$14,777	\$52,037
7"	\$37,691	\$17,700	\$55,391
8"	\$38,122	\$20,624	\$58,746
9"	\$38,553	\$23,547	\$62,100
10"	\$38,983	\$26,470	\$65,453
11"	\$39,414	\$29,394	\$68,808
12"	\$39,845	\$32,317	\$72,162
24"	\$44,325	\$43,001	\$87,326
36"	\$47,905	\$46,633	\$94,538
48"	\$53,355	\$50,000	\$103,355



FEMA

Flood Insurance Basics

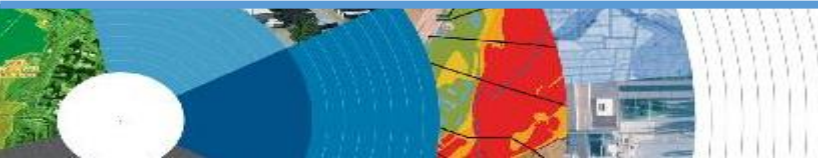
- Brief definition of flooding – Any form of rising water in which 2 properties are affected.
- It doesn't have to be presidential declared event for a flood claim to be filed on a flood policy.

Individual Flood Insurance

- Structure Coverage
 - Max coverage \$250,000
 - Higher limits for commercial risk
- Contents coverage
 - Contents is an optional addition (except for Preferred Risk Policy)
 - Max coverage \$100,000 coverage.
 - Renters can purchase flood insurance for contents.
- Wait Period
 - Typically - 30-days from purchase until effective.

Group Flood Insurance

- Available during a Presidential Declared event
- If qualified for a IA grant a GFIP will be purchased in the amount of \$600
- Policy is good for 3 years
- Must maintain insurance on the property forever
- Max amount on the policy is 33,500 this includes structure and dwelling

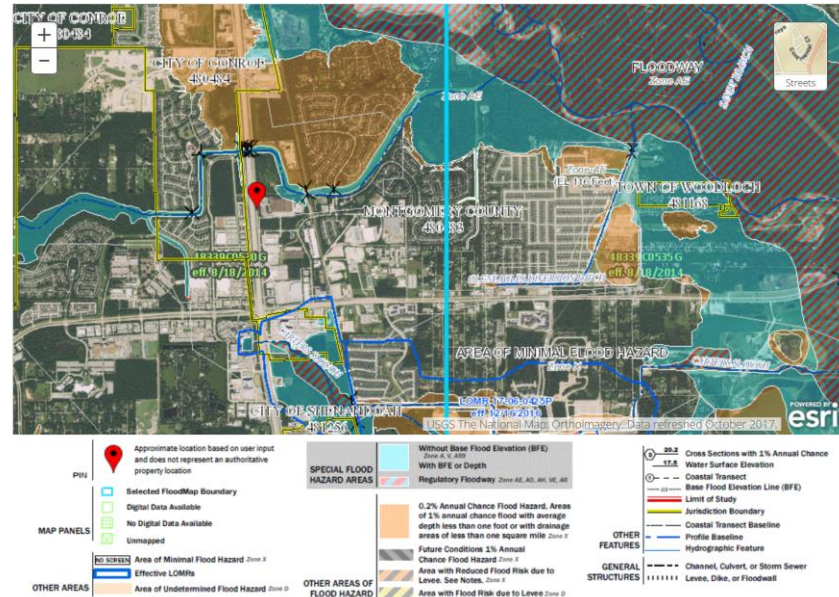


FEMA

What is a FIRM?

Flood Insurance Rate Map

- Identifies the flood zones
- SFHA (high risk)
 - A, AE, AO, AH, VE, V etc. (Aqua)
 - 1% annual chance flood
- Non-SFHA (low to moderate risk)
 - B, C and X (Shaded – orange or gray color & non-Shaded)
 - Orange/Gray area – outlines areas protected by Levees
 - Even the non-shaded is a flood zone – a minimal risk.
- Used for rating flood insurance policies
- Are subdivided by panels to cover jurisdictional boundary.
- Shows what the BFE within the zones
- FIRM's only show Coastal and Riverine flood risk



Find your zone at <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>



FEMA

Structure Elevation Impact Insurance Rates



High Risk =
\$\$\$

Medium Risk =
\$\$

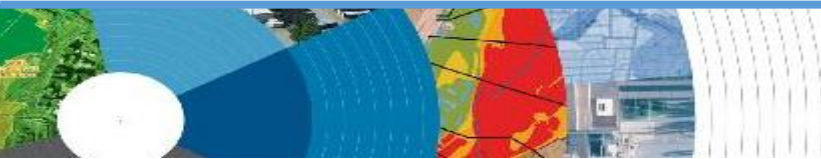
Lower Risk = \$

The elevation is just one factor, others include: when was the structure, has it flooded in the past, etc.

EVERY Structure has a risk...
generally the higher the structure the less the risk.

Summary

- Living in Texas means we have a flood risk even with heavy rain.
 - Tax Day 2016 and Memorial Day 2015 – not with a tropical system
- Flood Risk is from multiple sources.
- Flood insurance allows individual property owners to manage their risk.
 - **Buy policies that cover the structure AND contents.**



FEMA

Contact Information

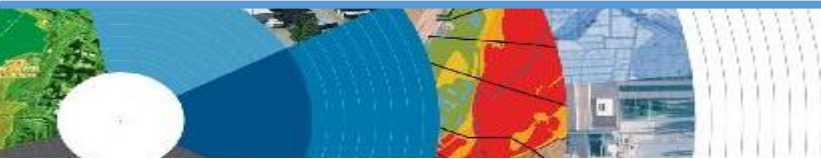
NFIP Hotline
1-800-427-4661
www.fema.gov/nfip

Angela Harrison, Insurance
Cell 470-557-2794 | Angela.Harrison@fema.dhs.gov

Yho-Meka Conway, Insurance
Cell 470-572-0803 | Yho-Meka.Conway@fema.dhs.gov

Lauren Schmied, PE, Floodplain Management
Cell 202-812-6164 | Lauren.Schmied@fema.dhs.gov

Gilbert Giron, ANFI, CFM, ACA
Senior Regional Insurance Specialist, FEMA Region 6
Phone: 940-898-5412 | Gilberty.giron@fema.dhs.gov



FEMA



Questions

National Weather Service
Trinity River Authority