

Texas Water Development Board Update

Region 11 Guadalupe Regional Flood Planning Meeting

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Texas Water Development Board

General Updates



TWDB is hosting a Technical Conference Call on September 12th, 2025.



Minor updates made to Exhibit C Technical Guidelines, available on our Second Cycle Planning Documents webpage



TWDB clarified there will be no third amendment to the 2023 RFPs, as the State Flood Plan aligns with the 2028–2029 FIF Cycle.



Freese and Nichols will present to RFPGs on the new Nature Based Solutions Manual – tentative in the new year. They will reach out to Sponsors to coordinate.

Flood Early Warning Systems (FEWS)



Update to flood infrastructure toolkit:
includes Flood Early Warning Systems
(FEWS) as an Asset Type option

FEWS added to drop-down
options



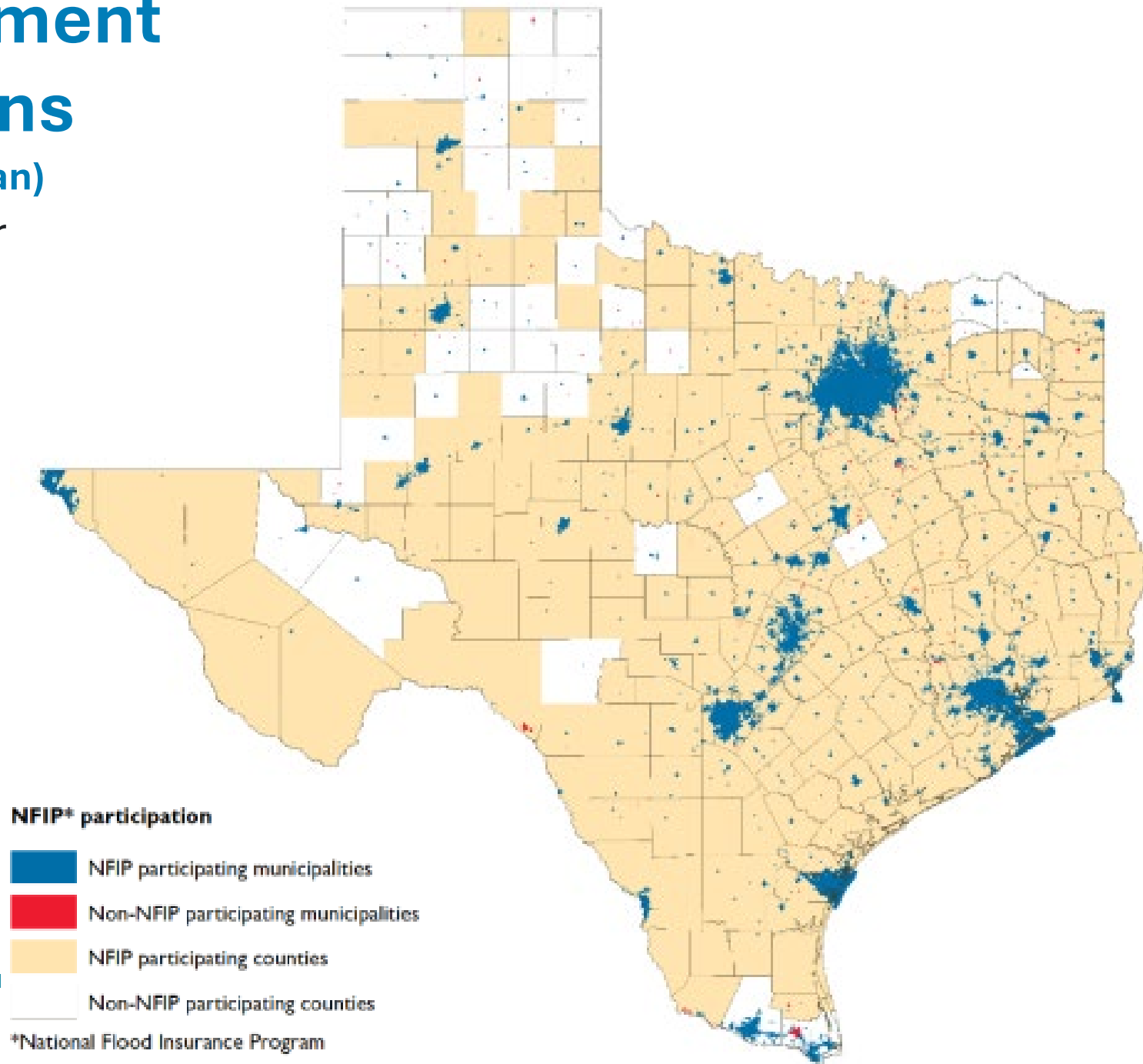
Update to Exhibit D feature classes: Existing Flood Infrastructure, FEWS
added

Floodplain Management Recommendations

(Source: 2024 State Flood Plan)

TWDB general recommendations for floodplain management includes

1. Existing minimum FEMA floodplain standards required for cities and counties under Texas Water Code § 16.3145 and recommendations for higher standards
2. Enhance current floodplain management activities
3. Nature-based solutions
4. Asset management
5. Education and outreach
6. State flood planning continued coordination



TWDB Recommendations for Higher Floodplain Management Standards (Source: 2024 State Flood Plan)

Description of select minimum FEMA NFIP standards

(Currently required for all counties and cities under Texas Water Code § 16.3145)

Recommendations to consider for higher standard

1	Managing flood risks to at least the 1 percent (100-year) event, in accordance with NFIP minimum standards.	Consider developing standards for a range of flood event frequencies starting with 50 percent (2-year) events up to 0.2 percent (500-year) events.
2	Restricting development and use of fill within SFHA to prevent increasing the risk of flooding.	Consider setting a baseline of criteria ensuring safe development in flood-prone areas, including limiting construction within certain high-hazard areas, such as within 10 percent (10-year) annual chance floodplain, and considering flood mitigation approaches, such as detention requirements for new developments, as appropriate.
3	Requiring elevation of the lowest floor of all new residential buildings and substantial improvements to buildings in the SFHA to or above the BFE or the 1 percent (100-year) annual chance water surface elevation.	Consider requiring a minimum freeboard for finished first floor elevation of buildings , (e.g., 1 foot to 2 feet above the BFE and/or an elevation equivalent to a 0.2 percent (500-year) flood event, especially for critical infrastructure) for all new development and substantial improvements within the 1 percent annual chance floodplain, as applicable.
4	Requiring that development in floodplains not increase the base flood elevation by more than 1 foot to ensure no negative impacts on other properties from proposed projects.	Consider adopting smaller allowance for increases to the base flood elevation (less than 1 foot) to limit negative impacts and the potential cumulative impacts of new developments, including those outside of floodplain.
5	Requiring certain construction materials and methods that minimize future flood damage, in accordance with NFIP minimum standard.	Consider meeting flood protection aspects of the 2018 or 2021 versions of International Building Code for all new development and substantial improvements within the 1 percent (100-year) annual chance floodplain, as applicable.

Questions?

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