Another Colorado: Rivertown Austin

Kevin M. Anderson Ph. D.

Austin Water Center for Environmental Research

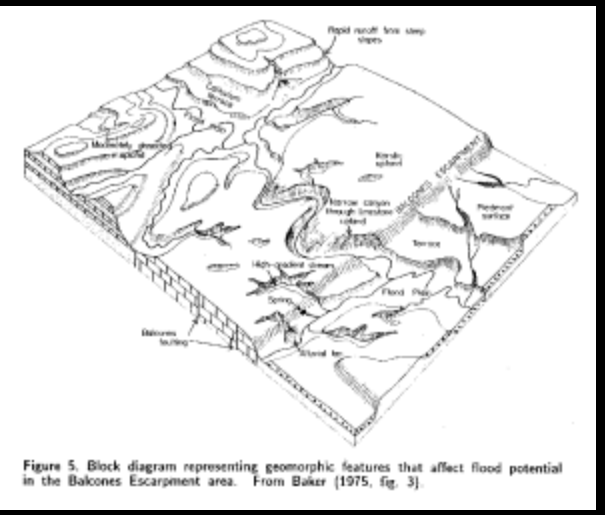


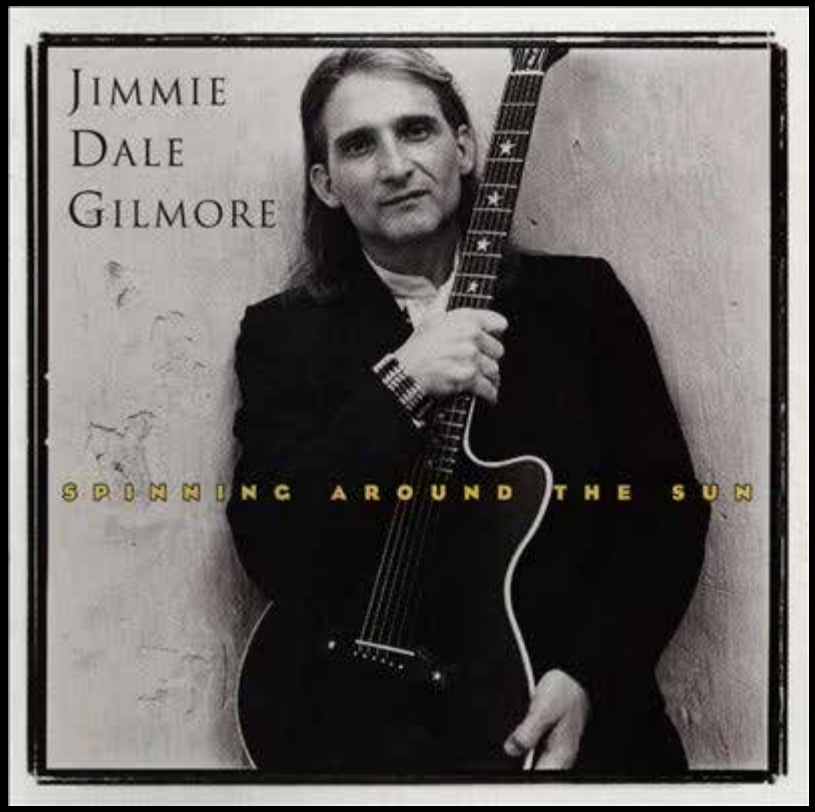
Figure 5. Block diagram representing geomorphic features that affect flood potential in the Balcones Escarpment area. From Baker (1975, fig. 3).

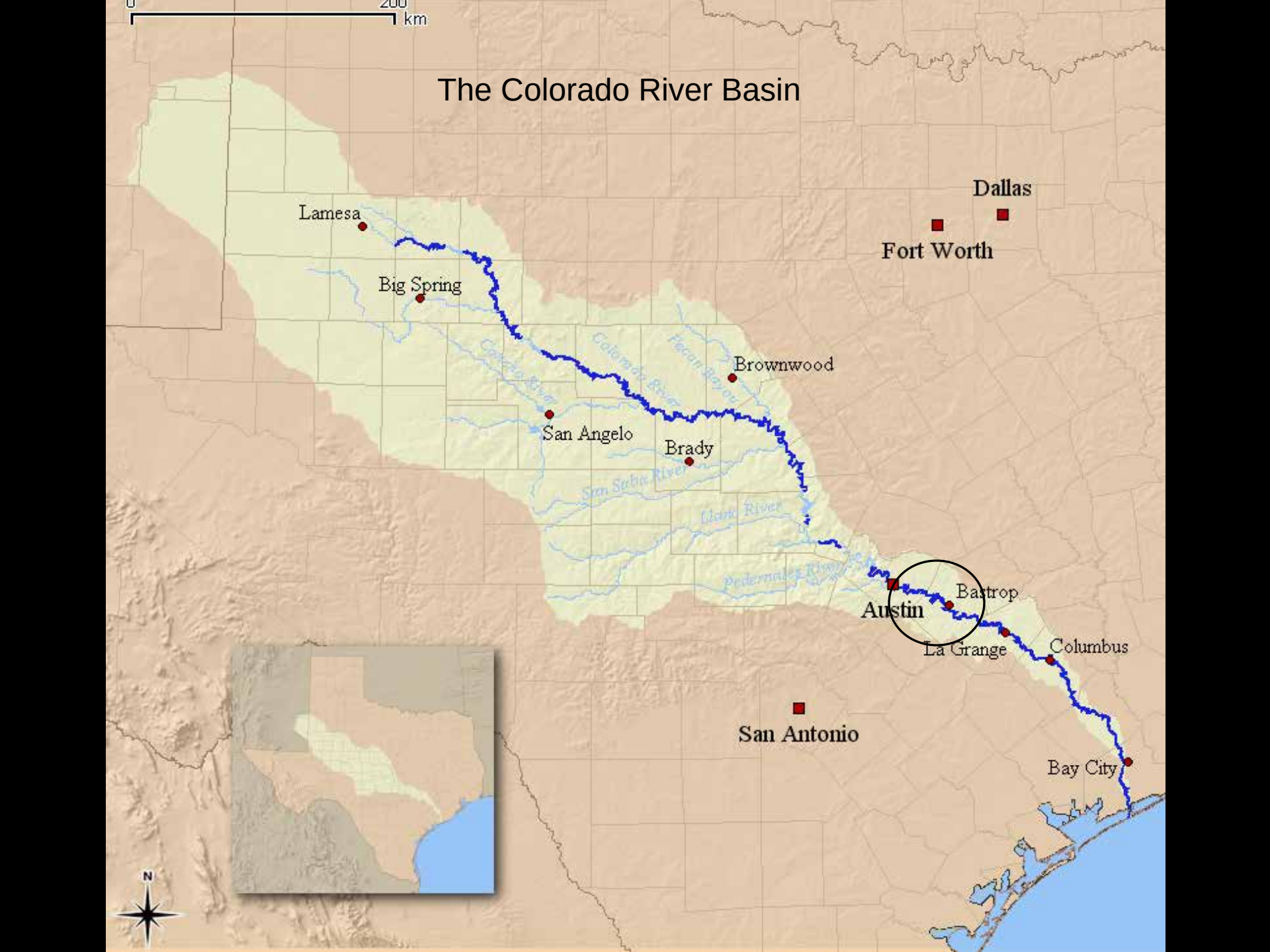
C08484-A Austin History Center, Austin Public Library

Another Colorado
Jimmie Dale Gilmore

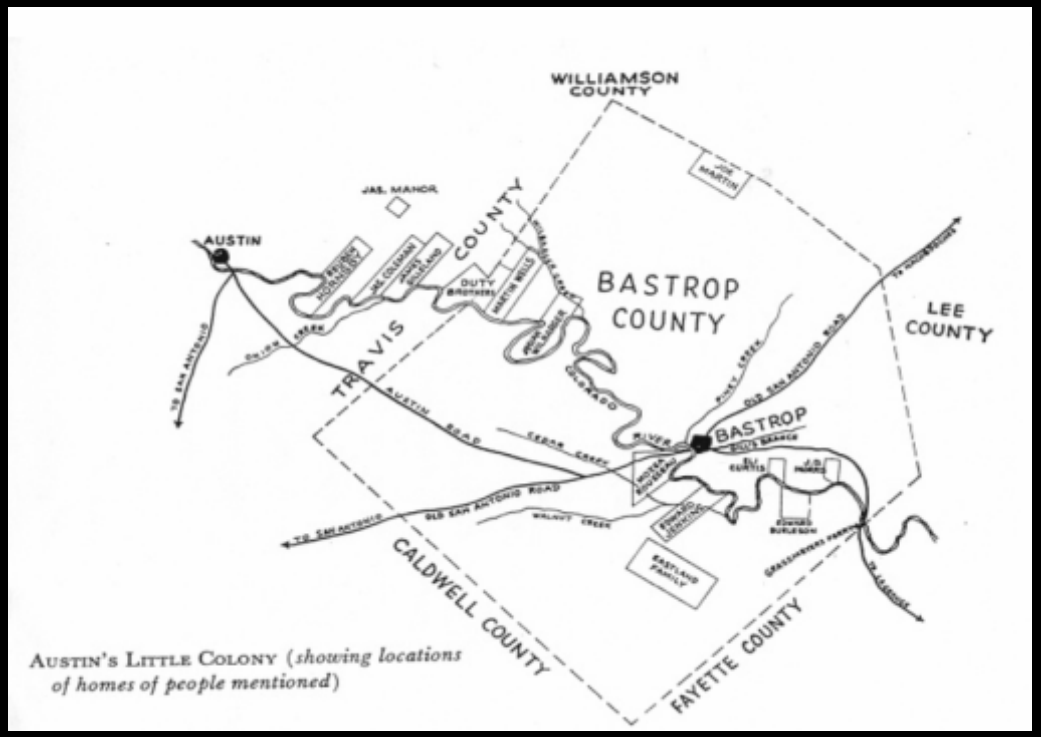
Down by the banks of the Colorado
My true love and I one night did lie
And we laughed and played and made fun
Of the entire world spinning around the sun
Down by the banks of the Colorado

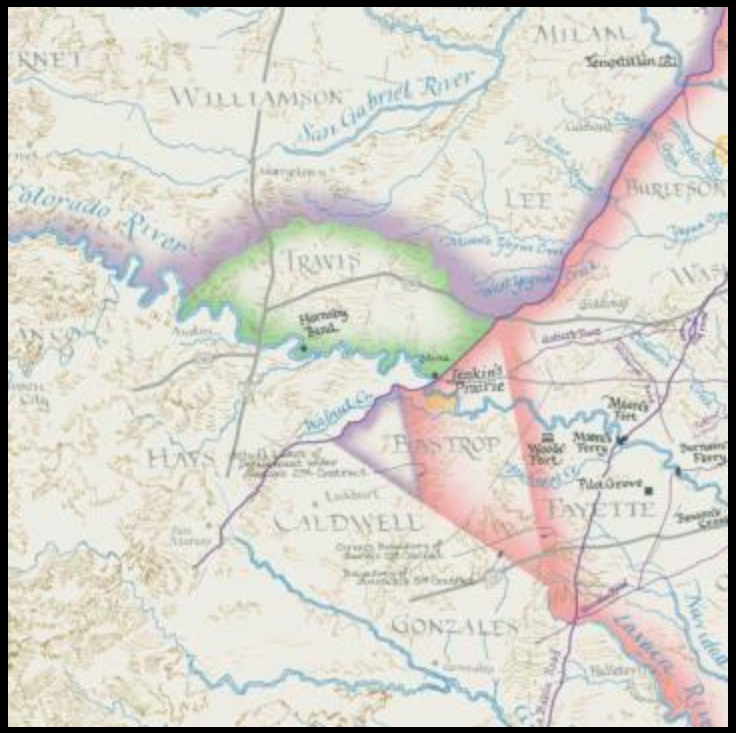
There is another Colorado
Wise men have told me, wise women too
That I may find sweet El Dorado
Down by the banks of one sweet Colorado...




0
200
km
The Colorado River Basin
Dallas
Fort Worth
Lamesa
Big Spring
Brownwood
San Angelo
Brady
Austin
Bastrop
La Grange
Columbus
San Antonio
Bay City
N

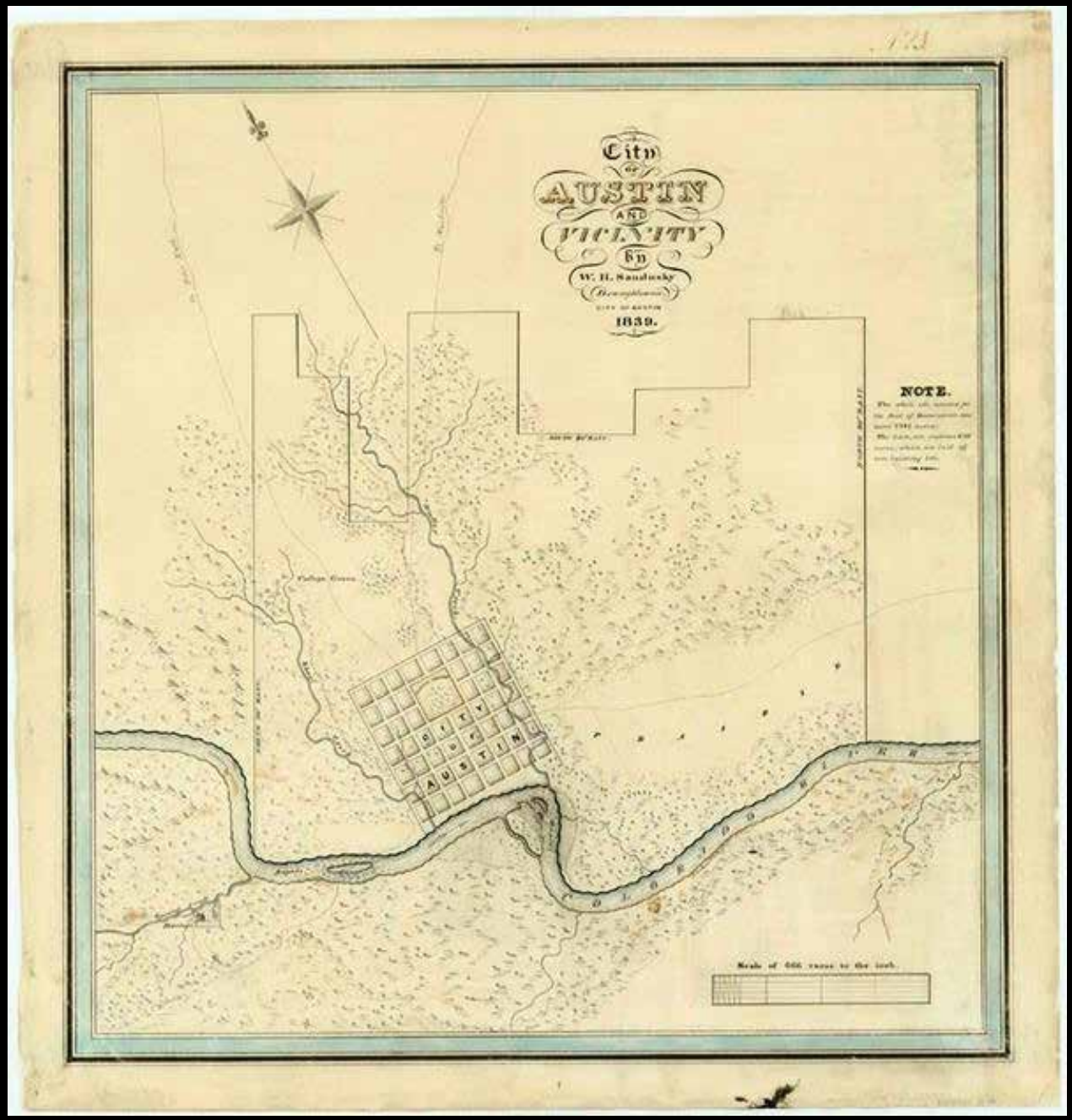
Settlement begins 1820's along river corridor and destroys the bottomland forest

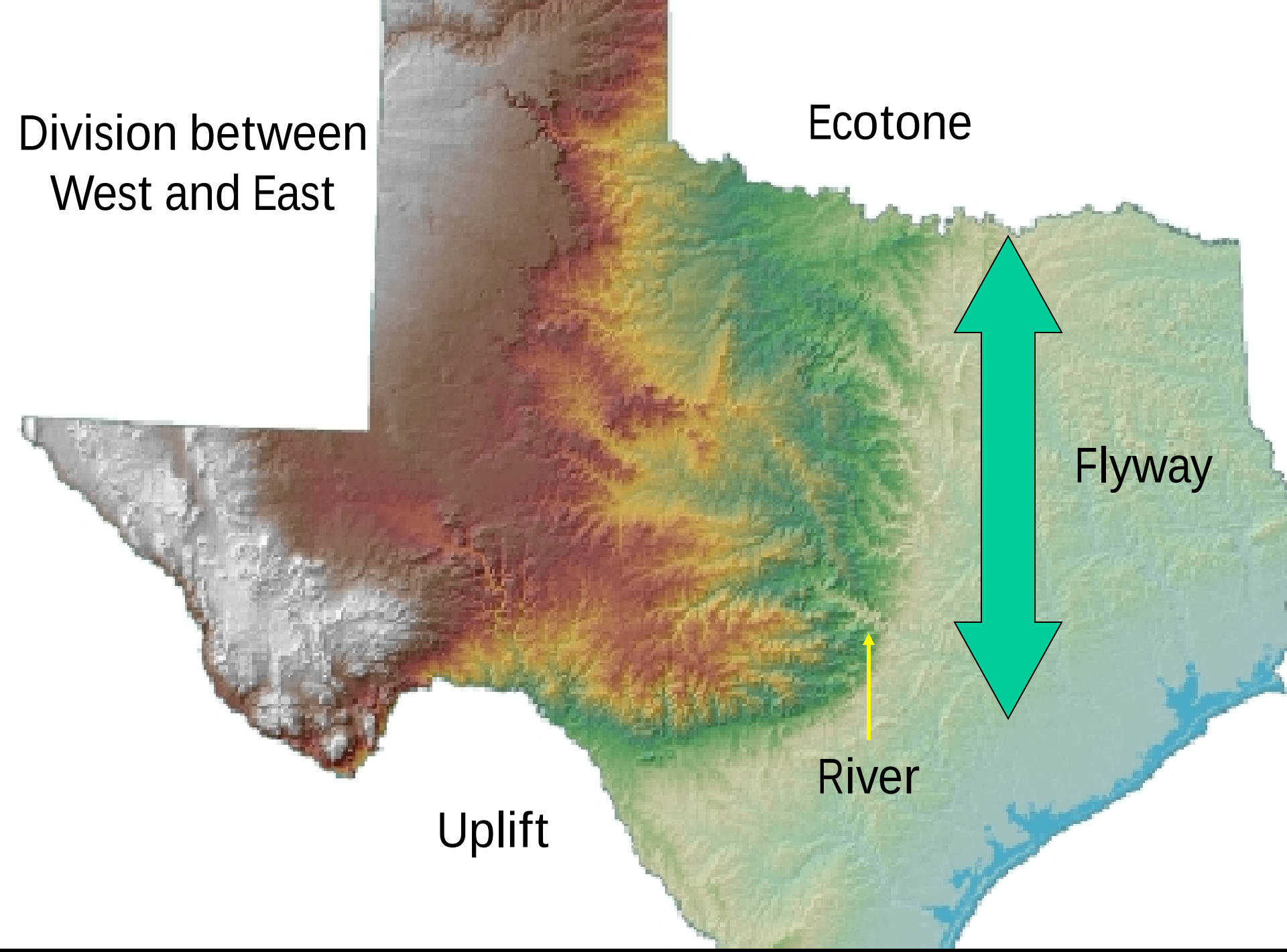




When was the City of Austin founded?

1839


City
of
AUSTIN
AND
VICINITY
By
W. H. Sandusky
Draughtsman
1839.
NOTE.
CITY OF AUSTIN
COLORADO RIVER
Scale of 666 varas to the inch.


Division between
West and East
Ecotone
Flyway
River
Uplift

Balcones Escarpment

Mt. Bonnell 780ft

Hornsby Bend 440ft

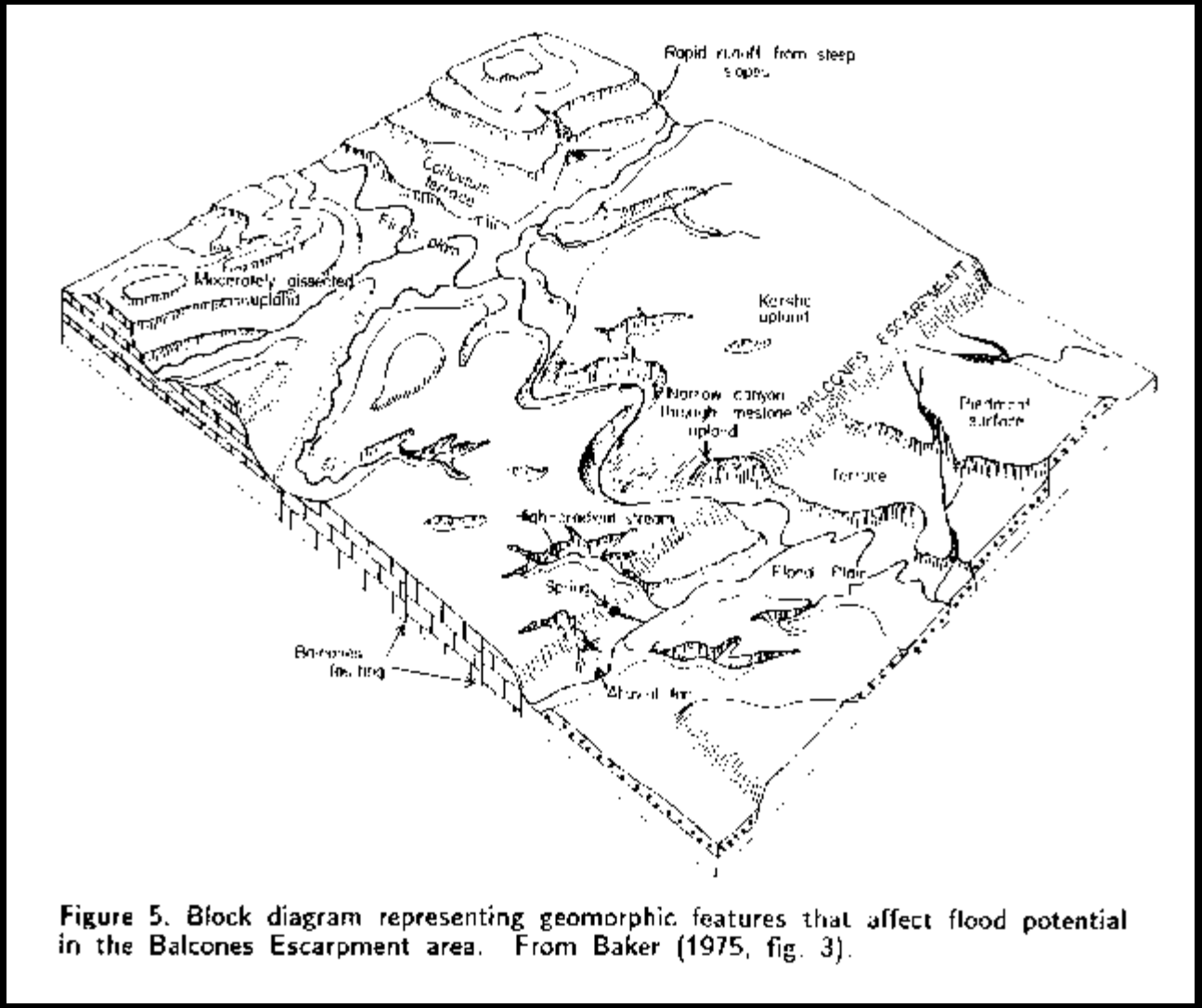
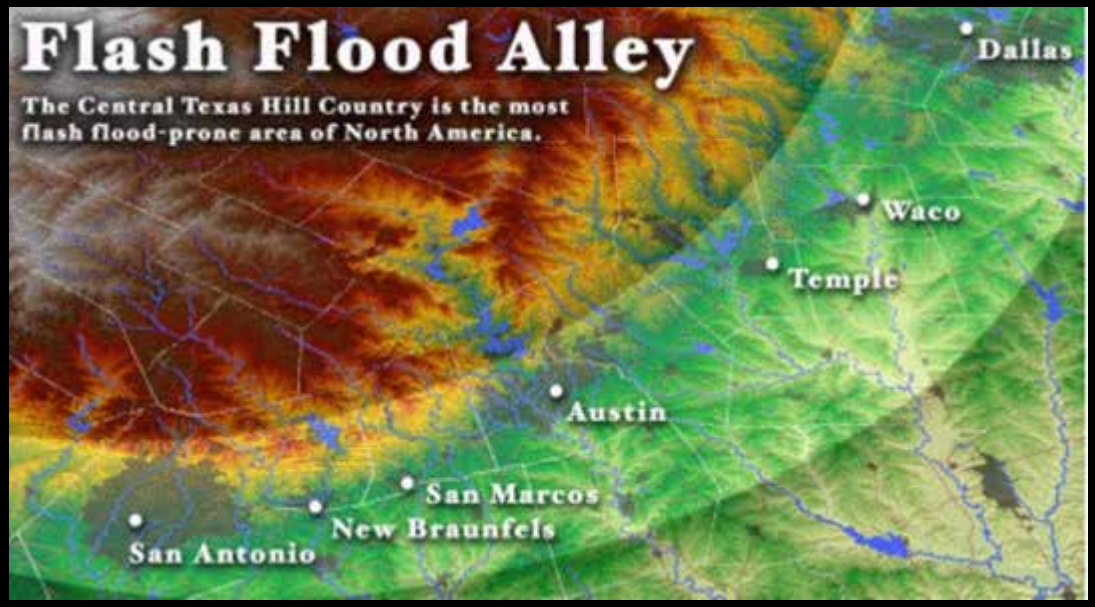
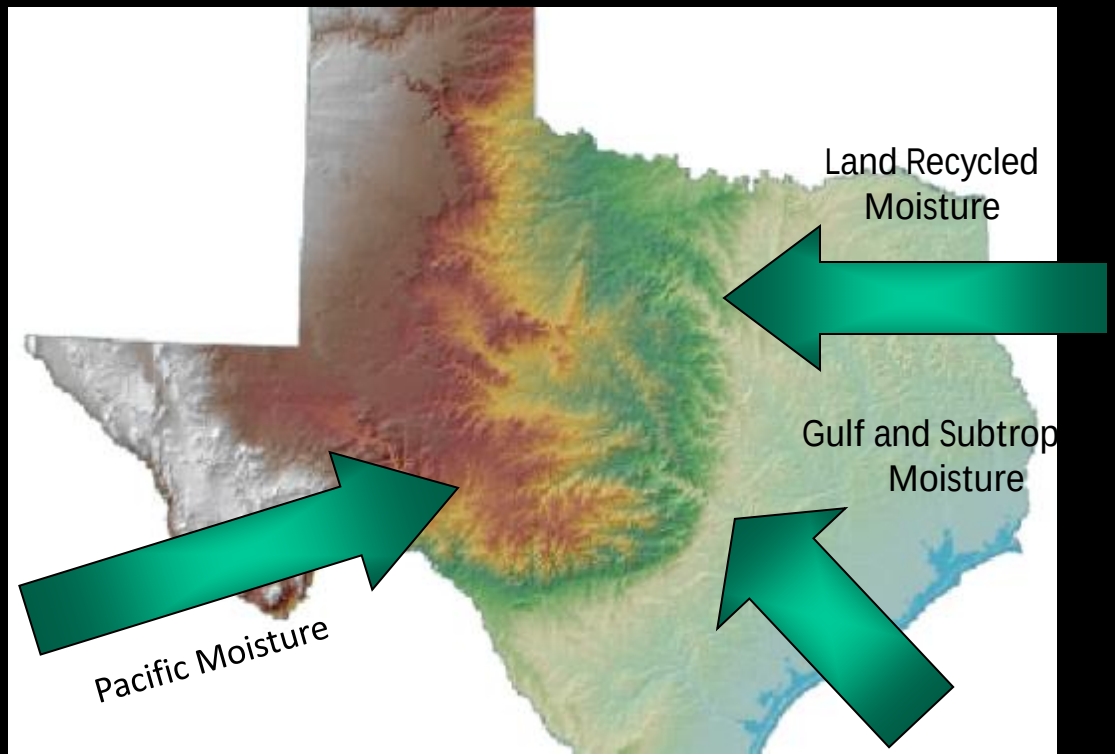
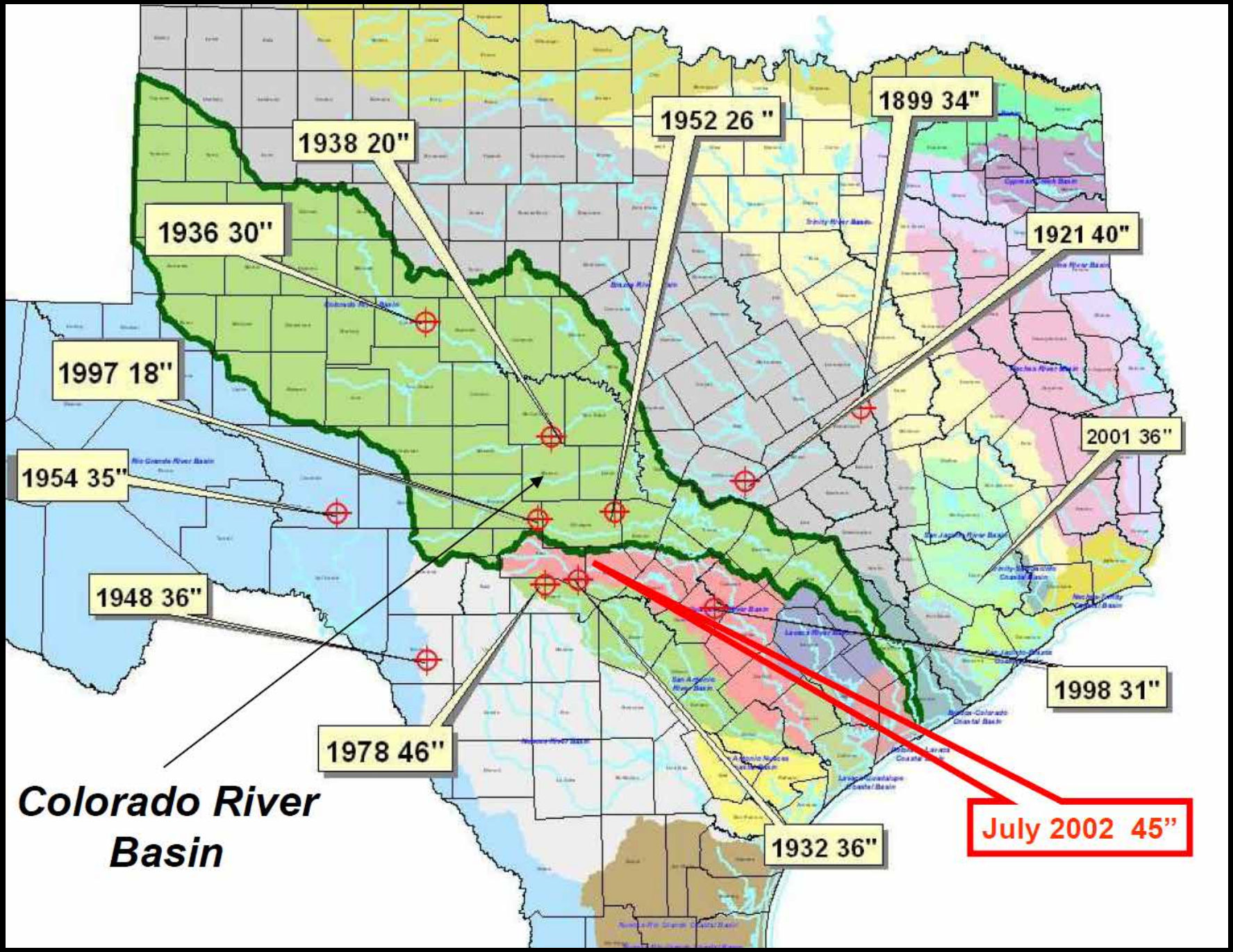


Figure 5. Block diagram representing geomorphic features that affect flood potential in the Balcones Escarpment area. From Baker (1975, fig. 3).


Flash Flood Alley
The Central Texas Hill Country is the most flash flood-prone area of North America.
Dallas
Waco
Temple
Austin
San Marcos
New Braunfels
San Antonio


Land Recycled Moisture
Gulf and Subtrop Moisture
Pacific Moisture


1938 20"
1952 26 "
1899 34"
1936 30"
1921 40"
1997 18"
2001 36"
1954 35"
1948 36"
1998 31"
1978 46"
Colorado River Basin
1932 36"
July 2002 45”

Colorado River Flood History

More than 80 flood events have been recorded in the lower Colorado River basin since the 1800s. These events range from isolated floods that affected local areas to basin-wide floods spawned by unusually heavy rainfalls.

February 1843: In the earliest flood for which there is a written account, floodwaters cause the Colorado River to crest at a stage of 36 feet at Austin.

July 1869: In what is considered to be the worst flood on record, the Colorado crests at 51 feet at Austin and produces record crests of 60.3 feet at Bastrop, 56.7 feet at La Grange, 51.6 feet at Columbus, 51.9 feet at Wharton and 56.1 feet at Bay City. Bastrop and La Grange are inundated.

Reports describe rainfall as incessant for 64 hours, the river at Austin more than 10 miles wide, and floating buffalo carcasses in the river (indicating that some of the floodwaters originated in the High Plains). Damage is estimated at $3 million.

1900: Flood destroyed the Austin Dam.

1913: Flood merged the mouths of the Colorado and adjacent Brazos rivers, forming a lake 65 miles wide.

1915: Floodwaters from storms in April and September severely damage the second Austin Dam, completed in 1912. The structure will lie unrepaired for more than two decades until it is rebuilt by LCRA in the late 1930s.

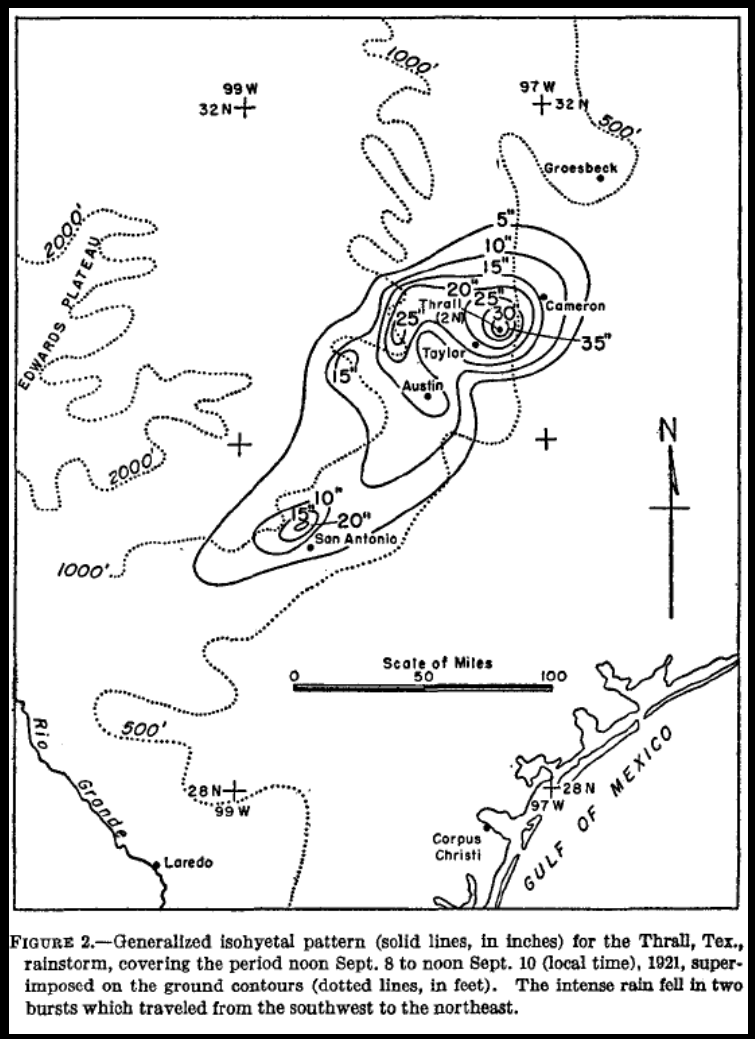


FIGURE 2.—Generalized isohyetal pattern (solid lines, in inches) for the Thrall, Tex., rainstorm, covering the period noon Sept. 8 to noon Sept. 10 (local time), 1921, superimposed on the ground contours (dotted lines, in feet). The intense rain fell in two bursts which traveled from the southwest to the northeast.

1921 Flood

This storm caused the most deadly floods in Texas, with a total of 215 fatalities.

On September 9 and 10, 1921, the remnants of a hurricane moved over Williamson County. The center of the storm became stationary over Thrall, dropping a storm total of 39.7 inches of rain in 36 hours.

The 24-hour rainfall total ending 7 AM on September 10, 1921 (38.2 inches) at a U.S. Weather Bureau station in Thrall.

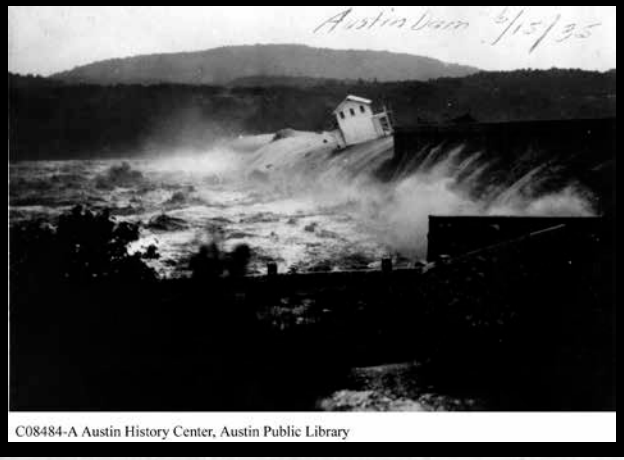
Eighty-seven people drowned in and near Taylor, and 93 in Williamson County.

Current Record 24 hour total rainfall

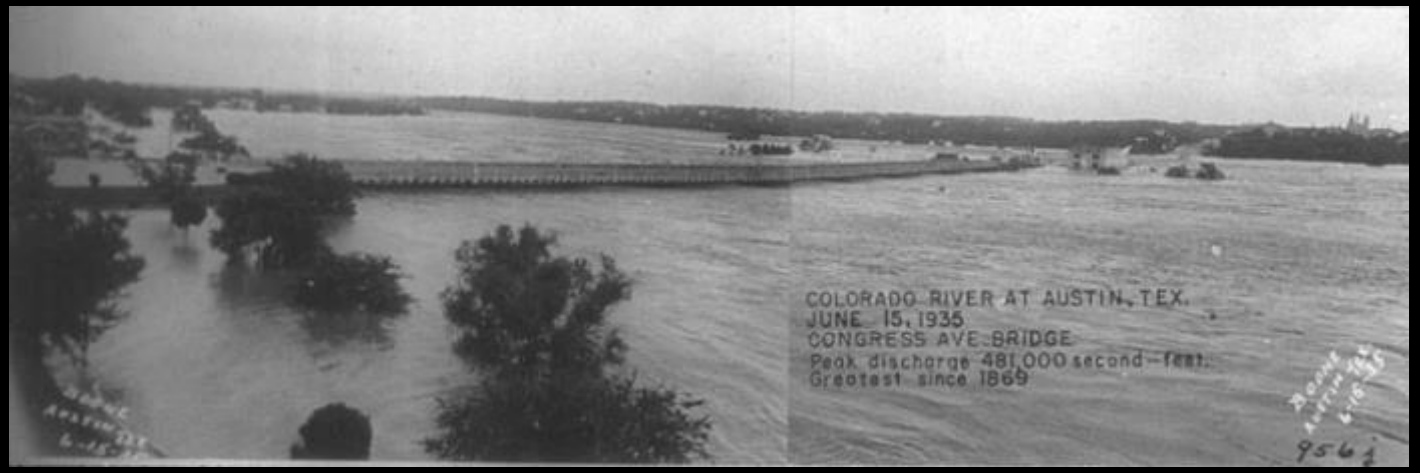
On July 25, 1979 Tropical Storm Claudette stalled over Alvin and inundated the region with 45 inches in 42 hours. That total included 43 inches in 24 hours, the maximum 24-hour rainfall in US history.

June 1935: Floodwaters from heavy Hill Country rains cause the Colorado River in Austin to crest at 50 feet, one foot below the 1869 record. The river overwhelms the Congress Avenue Bridge, cutting Austin in half. The Llano River rises to its highest recorded stage of 41½ feet, streamflow 388,000 cfs.

September 1936: The 1936 flood was created by two major storms in summer and early fall totaling 51 inches over the watershed of the Concho River. Floodwaters from heavy rains throughout the basin pour through the Colorado River at Austin for a 20-day period, cresting at 31.4 feet. Earlier, floodwaters from a 30-inch rain on the Concho River had washed away nearly 300 buildings in San Angelo.



C08484-A Austin History Center, Austin Public Library



July 1938

Twenty inches of rain over 12 counties pour more than 3 million acre-feet of floodwaters into newly completed Lake Buchanan.

Rains of up to 25 inches over a 10-day period at the storm's center near Brady, upstream of the newly completed Buchanan Dam.

LCRA opened 22 of Buchanan's 37 floodgates (still a record) to pass through the floodwaters.

Basinwide damages totaled roughly $39 million in today's dollars and left more than 4,000 homeless

Harnessing the River – Floods, Flows, and Dams

The Lower Colorado River Authority

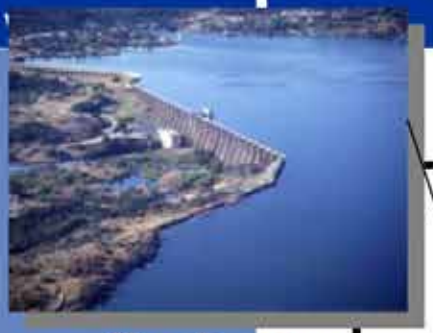
a multipurpose public agency instituted by the Texas legislature in 1934 as a conservation and reclamation district with a statutory authority covering ten counties through which the Lower Texas Colorado River flows. These counties extend from San Saba in Central Texas to Matagorda on the Gulf Coast.

Walter E. Long, *Flood to Faucet* (Austin: Steck, 1956)

LCRA
ENERGY • WATER • COMMUNITY SERVICES

LOWER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY
75 years
1935 - 2010

Highland Lake Dams



Buchanan Dam

Inks Dam

Wirtz Dam

Starcke Dam

Mansfield Dam

Tom Miller Dam

Chain of Highland Lakes and Dams

Buchanan Dam – Constructed from 1935 – 1937

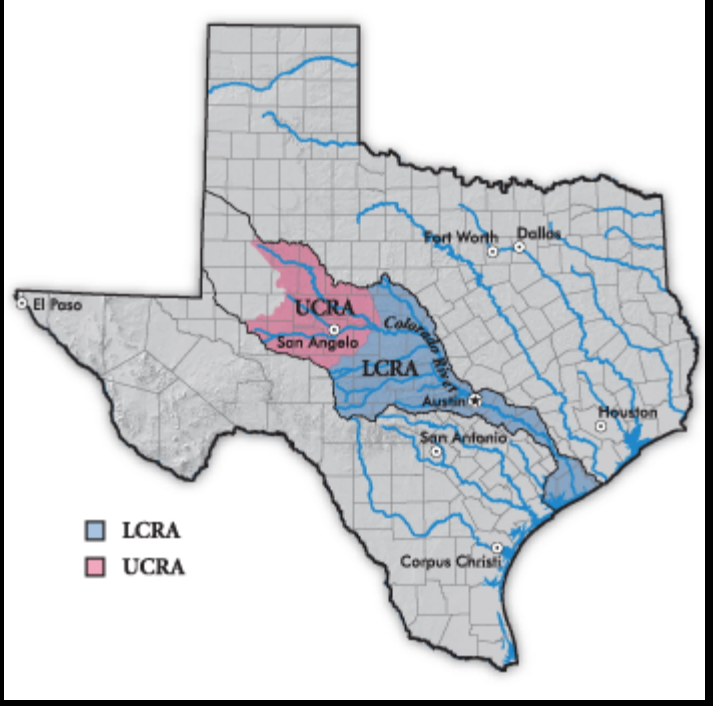
Inks Dam – Constructed from 1936 – 1938

Wirtz Dam – constructed from 1949 to 1950

Starcke Dam – Constructed 1949 – 1951

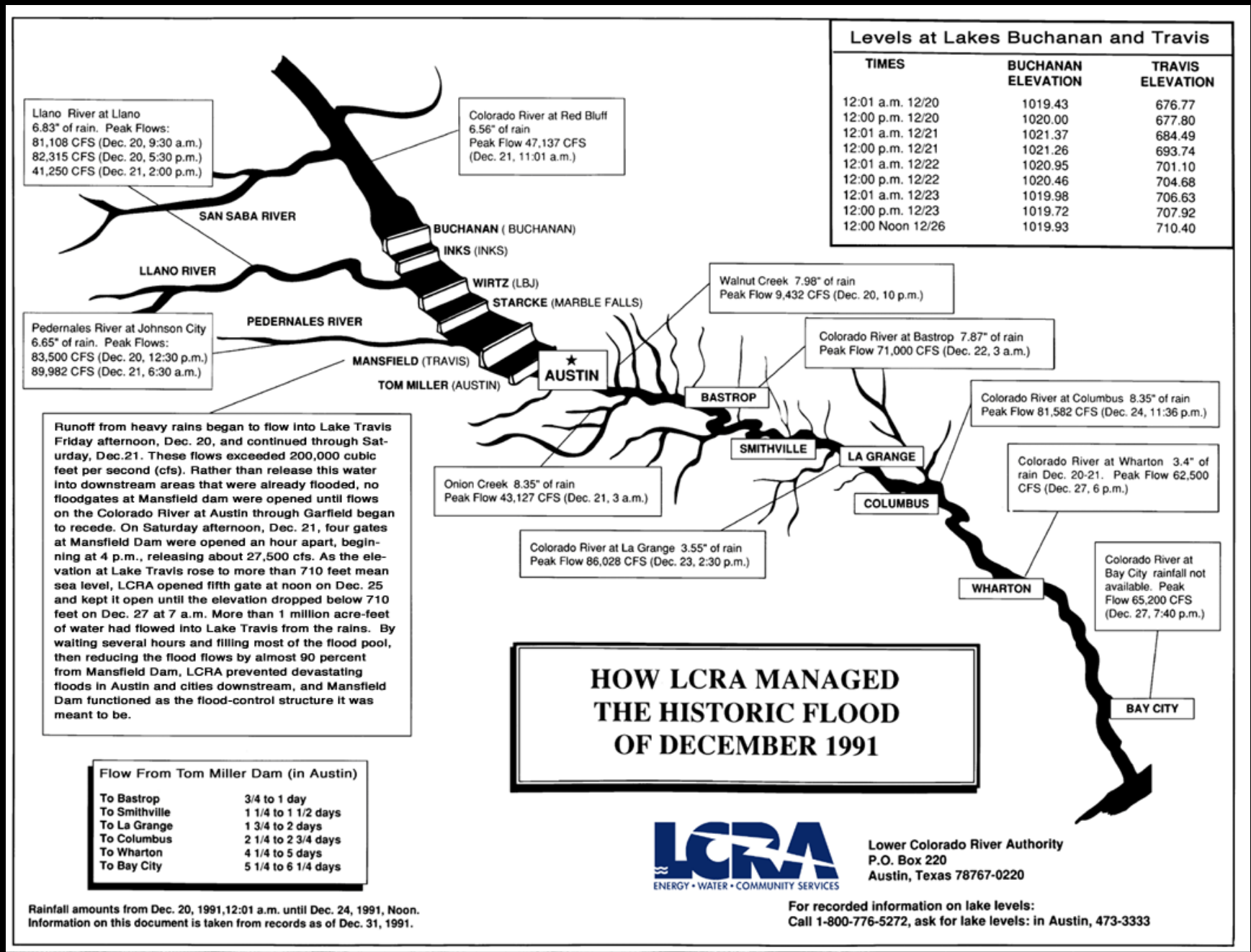
Mansfield Dam - Constructed from 1937 – 1941

Tom Miller Dam – Constructed from 1938 – 1940



[Longhorn Dam – Constructed 1960 by City of Austin and still operated by Austin Energy]

The “Christmas Flood” of 1991 pushed Lake Travis to its all-time high elevation of 710.4 feet, about 4 feet below the Mansfield Dam spillway.



Floodgate Tom Miller Dam

July 2007

ABIA Wettest
January to August
Periods
1943 TO 2007

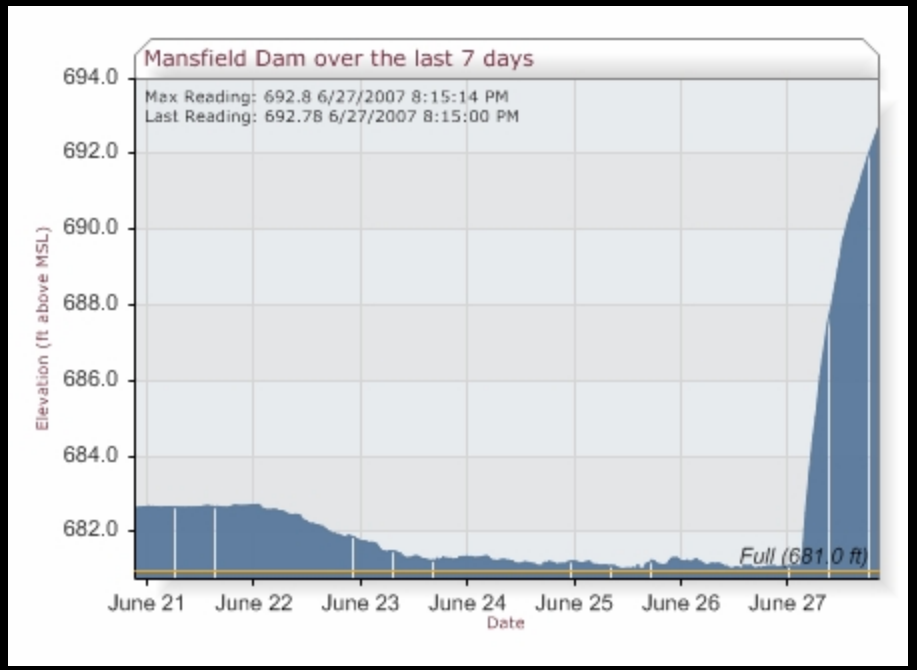
1.	2007	41.52
2.	1991	37.80
3.	1992	35.28
4.	2004	33.85
5.	1965	33.08

JANUARY TO OCTOBER 2008
RAINFALL

OF 15.49 INCHES IS THE 6TH
DRIEST JANUARY TO
OCTOBER

SINCE 1943

AT AUSTIN BERGSTROM.



Future Floods

The lower Colorado basin has come close in recent years to experiencing floods that would have rivaled those of the 1930s. Massive floods, such as those that devastated communities along the Guadalupe River in 1998 and 2002, could just as easily have occurred in the Colorado River, had the storm's center shifted only 85 miles northwest, into the Hill Country.

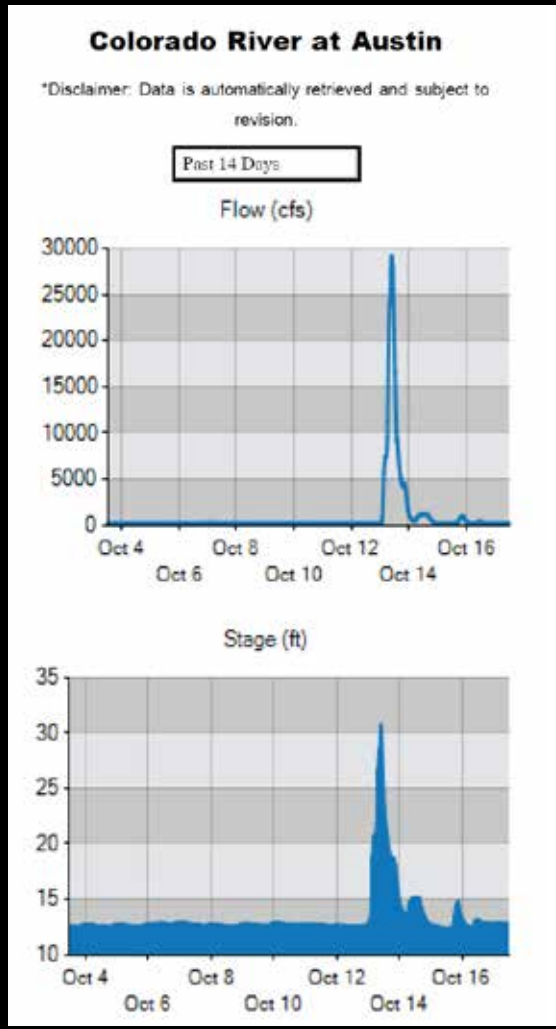
A worse impact would have come from a storm like Tropical Storm Allison, which swamped Houston in 2001 with rains of up to 37 inches. An LCRA study estimated that a Hill Country storm like Allison would have forced LCRA to open all 24 of Mansfield Dam's floodgates – something that has never happened. (The most that have been opened at one time was six, during a 1957 flood.)

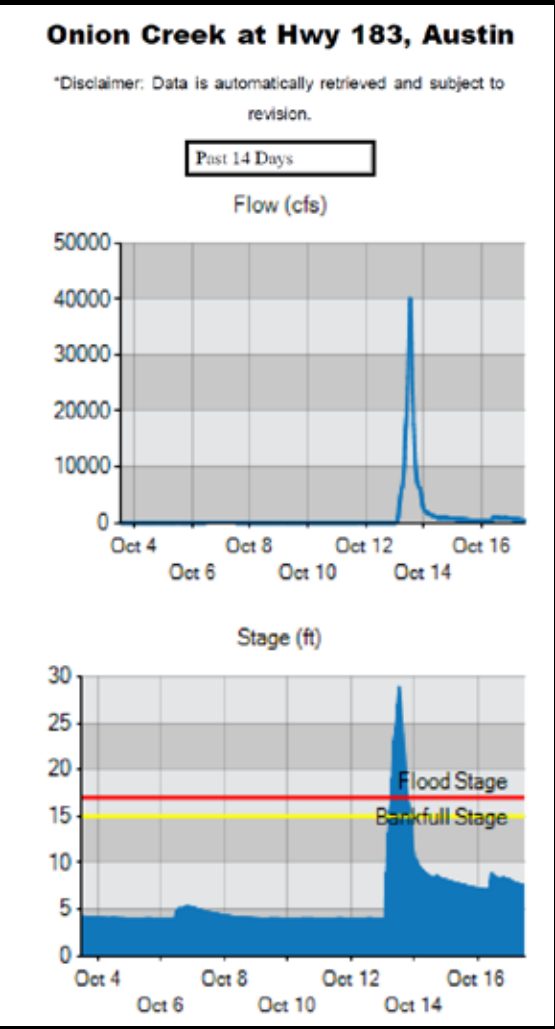
"The flood that occurred in summer 2007 was triggered by a 19-inch rain in the Marble Falls area," LCRA Chief Meteorologist Bob Rose noted. "If that heavy a rain had fallen over a much wider area of our watershed, it could have resulted in a catastrophic flood approaching those of the 1930s. One day, such a flood will occur, and its impact will be even more devastating to a basin that is much more heavily populated and urbanized than it was seven decades ago."

Barton Creek – Austin City Limits Festival Flood Oct 13, 2013

Over a 12-hour period, the Barton Springs Area got 12.1 inches of rain and downtown Austin received 10.6 inches.

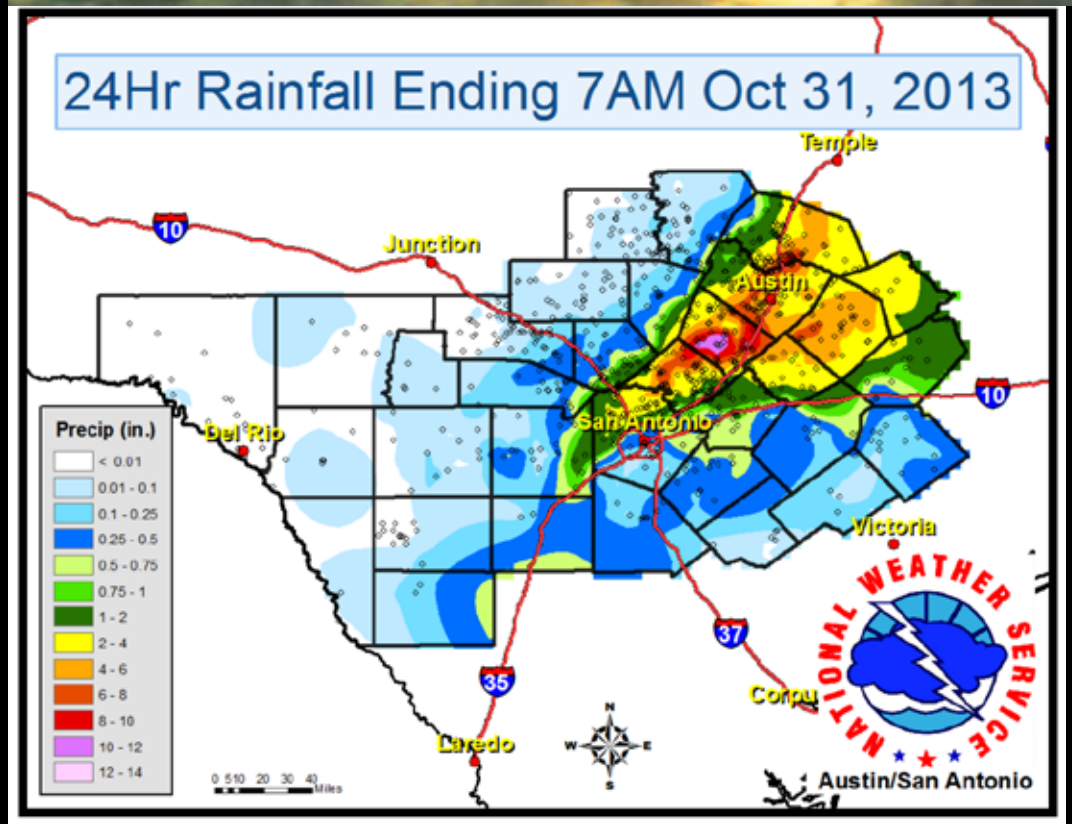
The deluge in Austin forced Austin City Limits Music Festival organizers to cancel the final day of the two-weekend event.





Halloween Flash Flood October 30-31, 2013

A typical, early fall, flood event occurred from the evening of October 30 through late afternoon on October 31, 2013. There was widespread rainfall of 2-4 inches across portions of eight counties; substantial areas of 6-10 inches across Hays, western Comal, and central Travis counties; and a bull's-eye of 12-14+ inches in a narrow swath from Wimberley to Driftwood.

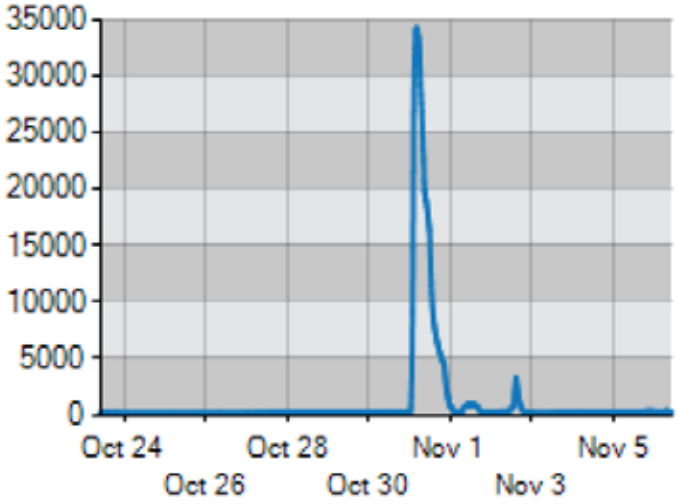


Colorado River at Austin

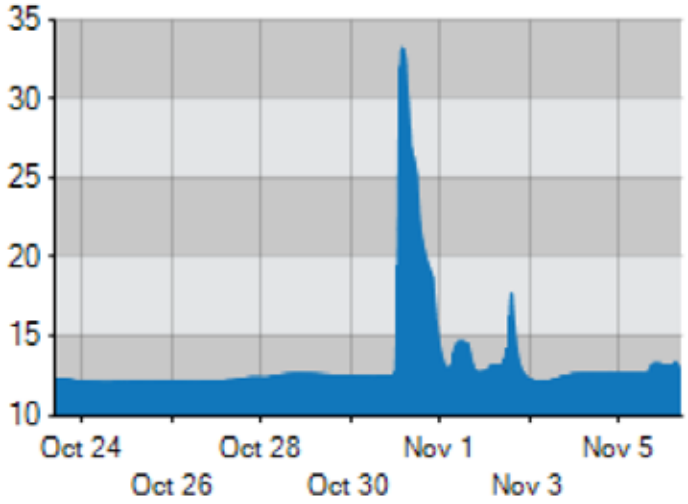
*Disclaimer: Data is automatically retrieved and subject to revision.

Past 14 Days

Flow (cfs)



Stage (ft)



Record flooding was measured at the USGS stream gage on Onion Creek at Highway 183 in Austin, Texas on Halloween morning around 10 a.m.

The creek level was measured at 40.97 feet; 36 feet higher than normal levels.

The previous highest measurement of 38 feet occurred more than 90 years ago in 1921.

USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 06:15	CDT	10400	P	21.32	P
USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 06:30	CDT	61700	P	32.32	P:I:T
USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 08:43	CDT	126000	P:*	39.43	P:T:*
USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 09:45	CDT	134000	P:*	40.09	P:h:*
USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 10:00	CDT			40.95	P:h:*
USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 10:07	CDT			40.97	P:h:*
USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 10:20	CDT	130000	P:*	39.76	P:T:*
USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 10:25	CDT	127000	P:*	39.54	P:*
USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 11:15	CDT	107000	P	37.65	P:T
USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 11:18	CDT	110000	P:*	37.95	P:*
USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 11:29	CDT	106000	P:*	37.53	P:*
USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 11:30	CDT	97500	P	36.71	P:D
USGS	08159000	2013-10-31 11:40	CDT	101000	P:*	37.08	P:*

On the other hand…

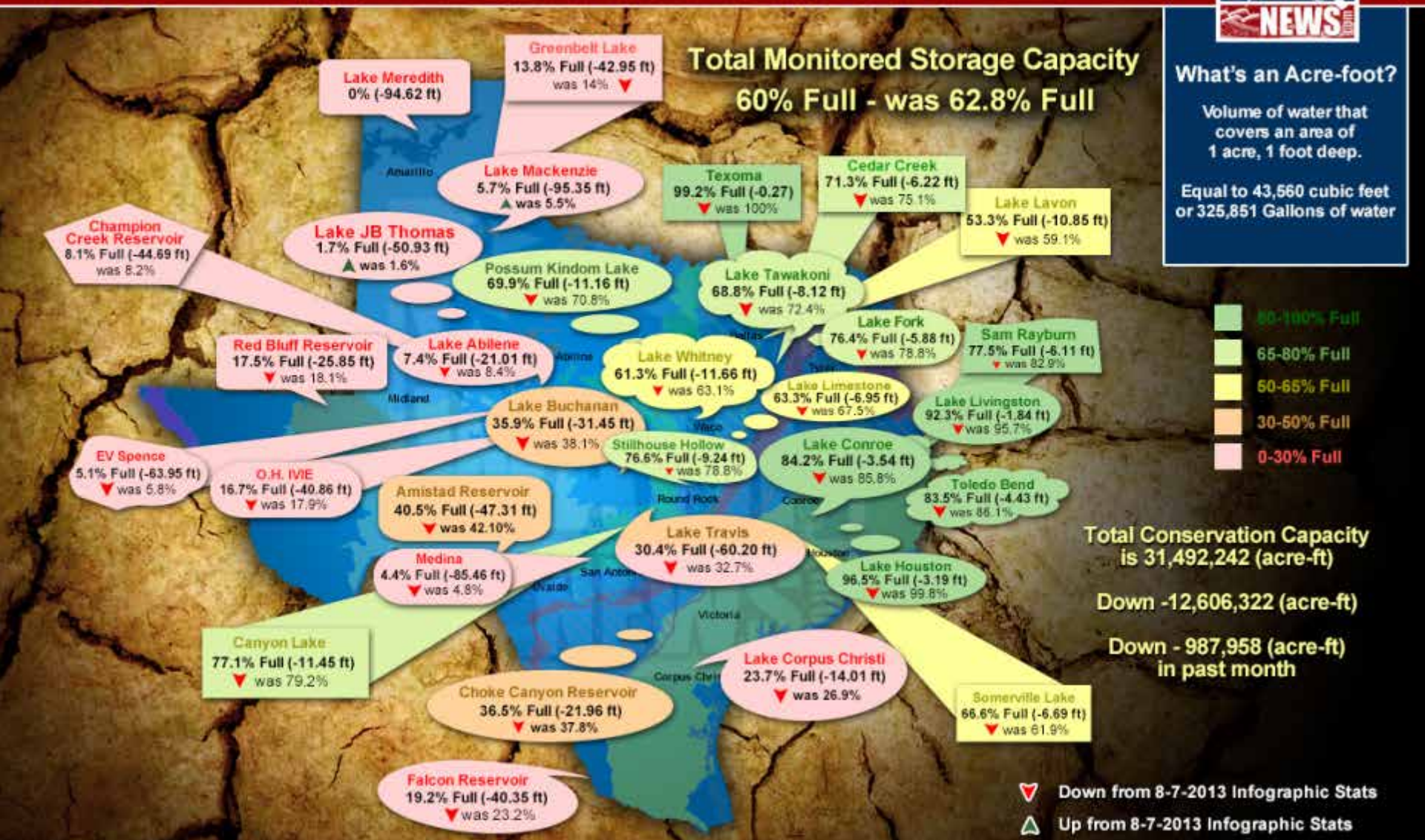
Drought Here To Stay, Could Last Another 15 Years, Says Texas A&M Expert

September 26, 2013

Despite recent rains, the historic Texas drought is still alive and well and about 93 percent of the state remains in drought conditions ranging from dry to exceptionally dry, says a Texas A&M University expert.

John Nielsen-Gammon, professor of atmospheric sciences who also serves as State Climatologist, says, most of Texas is still unusually dry and water levels are below normal.

Texas Lake Levels - Comparison of 8/7/2013 to 9/4/2013



Graphic by The Texas Network for Water News of Texas WATRnews.com
Reservoir Data provided by TWDB's waterdatafortexas.org - Dry earth by Piotr Krzeslak

In 1918, the whole current of the river plowed a narrow furrow through the silt above the dam, and the channel was so narrow that it was easy to hop across it at one jump. At this time, the whole discharge of the Colorado River was only nine second-feet immediately above the dam.

University of Texas Bulletin
No. 2439: October 15, 1924

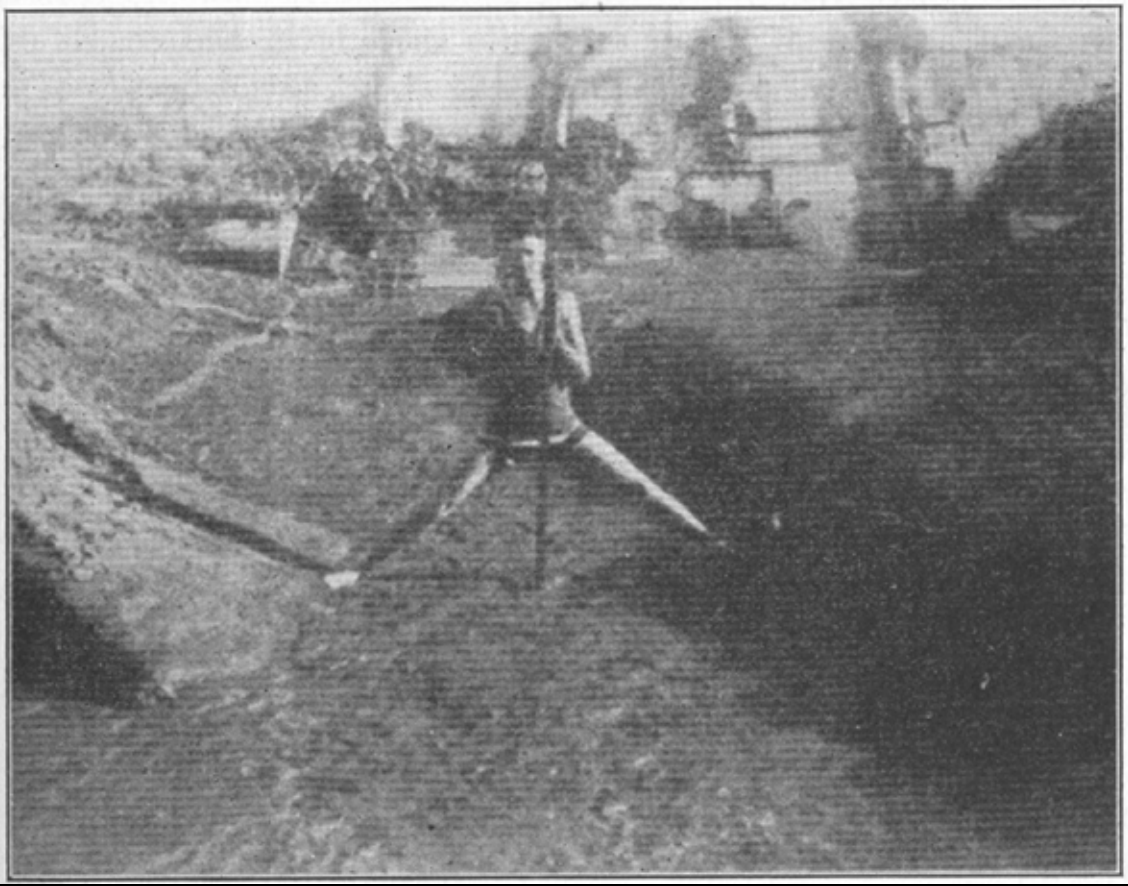
SILTING OF THE LAKE AT AUSTIN, TEXAS

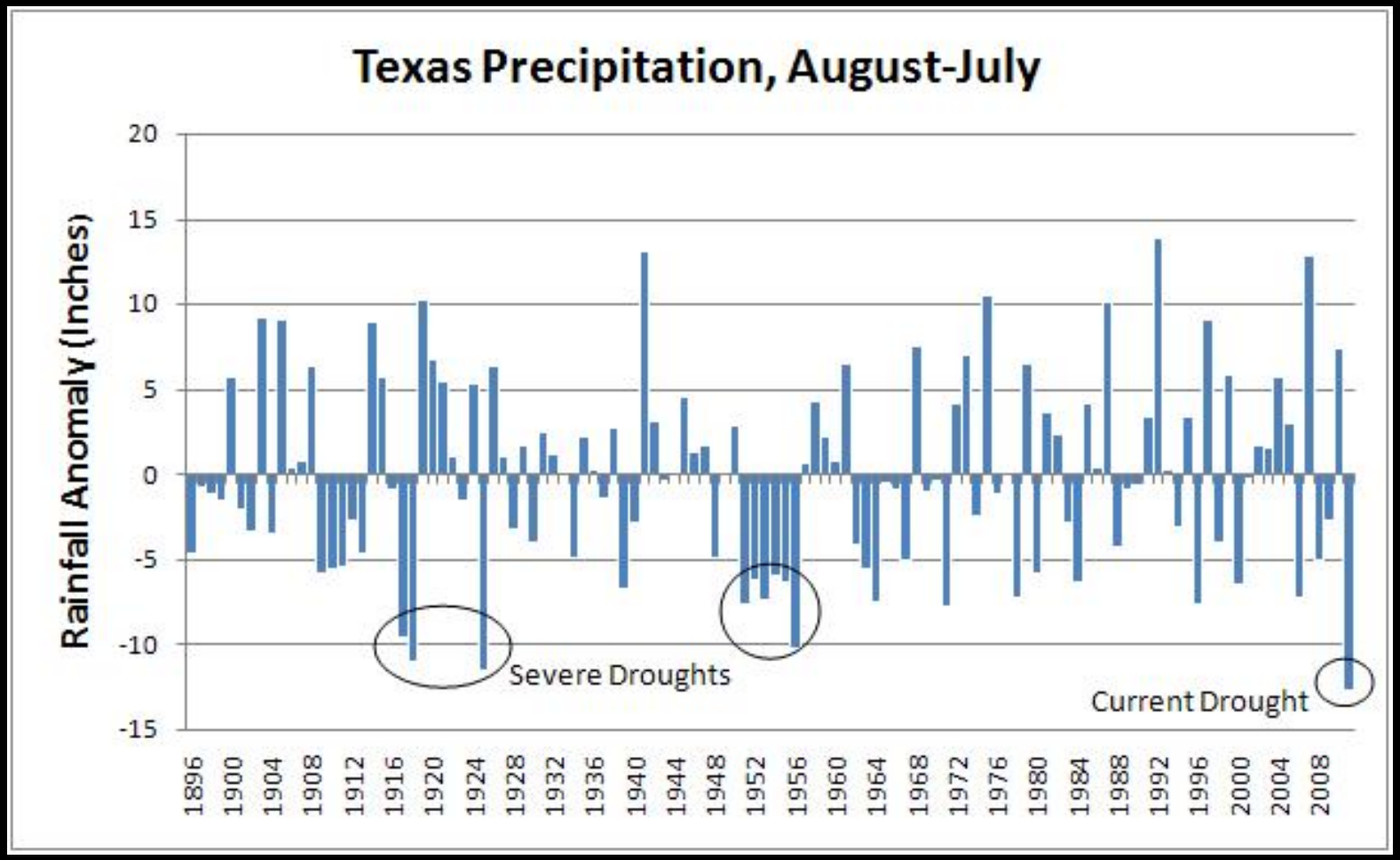
By

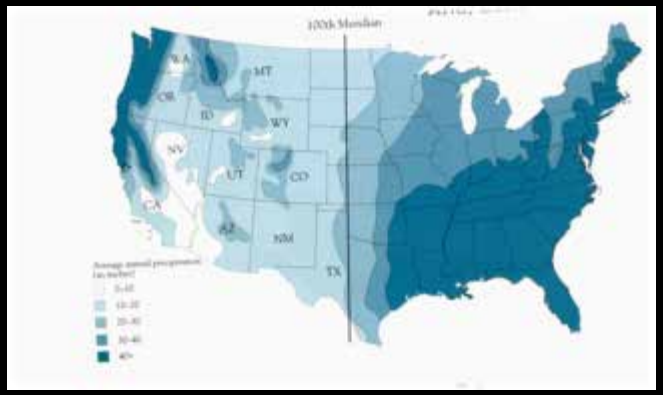
T. U. TAYLOR

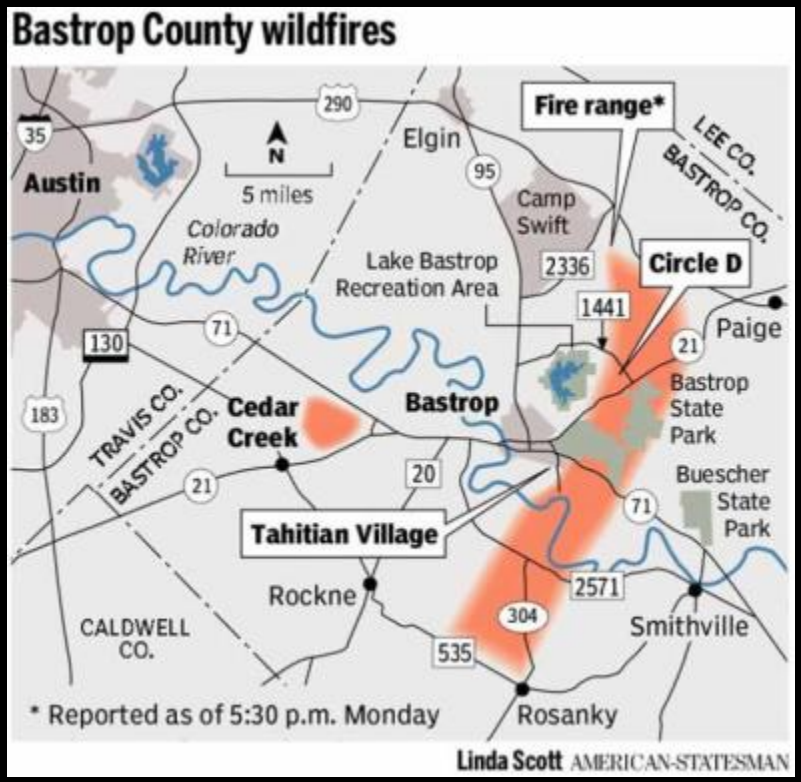
Professor of Civil Engineering

illustrates the width of the stream where the man in the bathing suit is astride the whole channel of the river, as it flowed along the narrow furrow that it had cut in the silt. The stream at this point was about four feet wide.

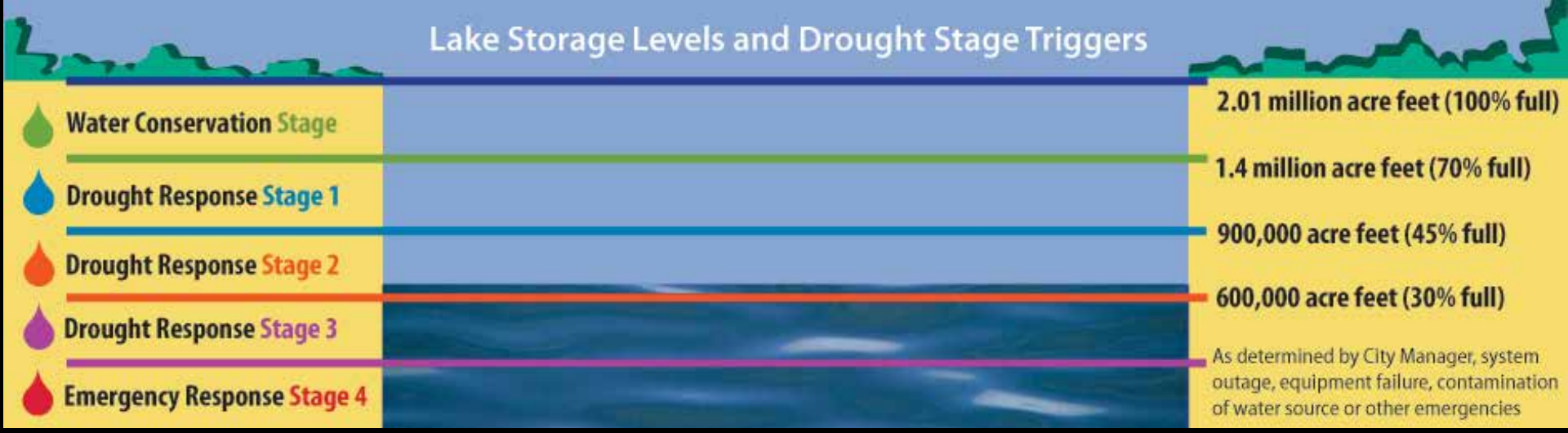



Texas Precipitation, August-July
Rainfall Anomaly (Inches)
20
15
10
5
0
-5
-10
-15
1896
1900
1904
1908
1912
1916
1920
1924
1928
1932
1936
1940
1944
1948
1952
1956
1960
1964
1968
1972
1976
1980
1984
1988
1992
1996
2000
2004
2008
Severe Droughts
Current Drought


100th Meridian
WA
OR
CA
ID
NV
MT
WY
UT
AZ
CO
NM
TX



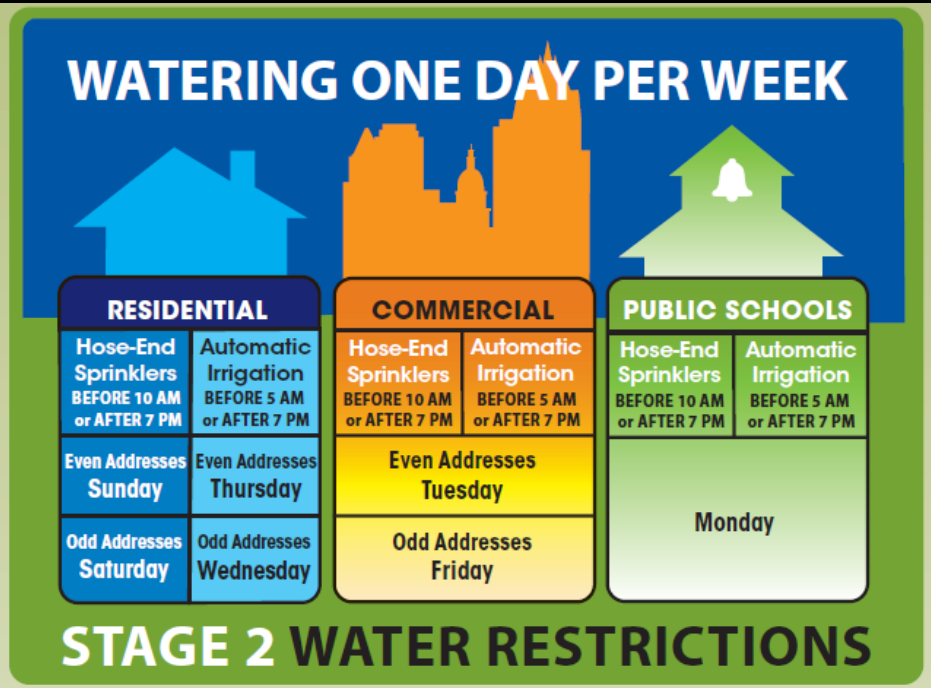
September 2011

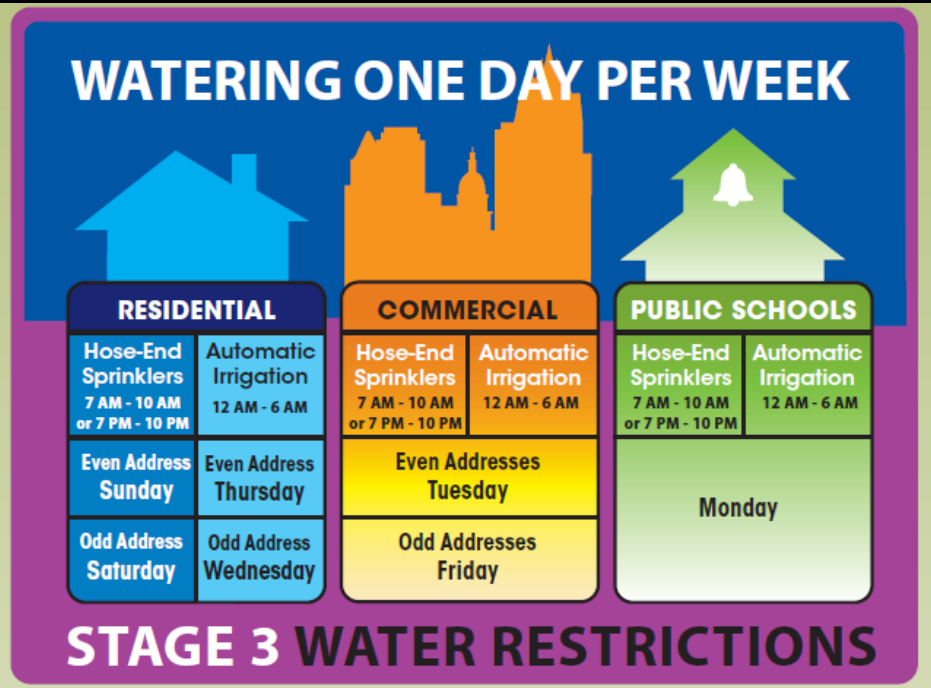


Currently, the combined storage in lakes Buchanan and Travis is at one of the lowest points in the history of the lakes.

Recent rains have pushed back the likelihood of hitting the drought of record until February 2014.

The lowest point ever was 621,221 acre-feet which occurred on September 9, 1952, during the "Drought of Record."


WATERING ONE DAY PER WEEK
RESIDENTIAL
Hose-End Sprinklers BEFORE 10 AM or AFTER 7 PM
Automatic Irrigation BEFORE 5 AM or AFTER 7 PM
Even Addresses Sunday
Even Addresses Thursday
Odd Addresses Saturday
Odd Addresses Wednesday
COMMERCIAL
Hose-End Sprinklers BEFORE 10 AM or AFTER 7 PM
Automatic Irrigation BEFORE 5 AM or AFTER 7 PM
Even Addresses Tuesday
Odd Addresses Friday
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Hose-End Sprinklers BEFORE 10 AM or AFTER 7 PM
Automatic Irrigation BEFORE 5 AM or AFTER 7 PM
Monday
STAGE 2 WATER RESTRICTIONS


WATERING ONE DAY PER WEEK
RESIDENTIAL
Hose-End Sprinklers 7 AM - 10 AM or 7 PM - 10 PM
Automatic Irrigation 12 AM - 6 AM
Even Address Sunday
Even Address Thursday
Odd Address Saturday
Odd Address Wednesday
COMMERCIAL
Hose-End Sprinklers 7 AM - 10 AM or 7 PM - 10 PM
Automatic Irrigation 12 AM - 6 AM
Even Addresses Tuesday
Odd Addresses Friday
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Hose-End Sprinklers 7 AM - 10 AM or 7 PM - 10 PM
Automatic Irrigation 12 AM - 6 AM
Monday
STAGE 3 WATER RESTRICTIONS


EMERGENCY RESPONSE STAGE 4
NO OUTDOOR WATERING

Urbanization and Landscape Ecology

Austin, Texas

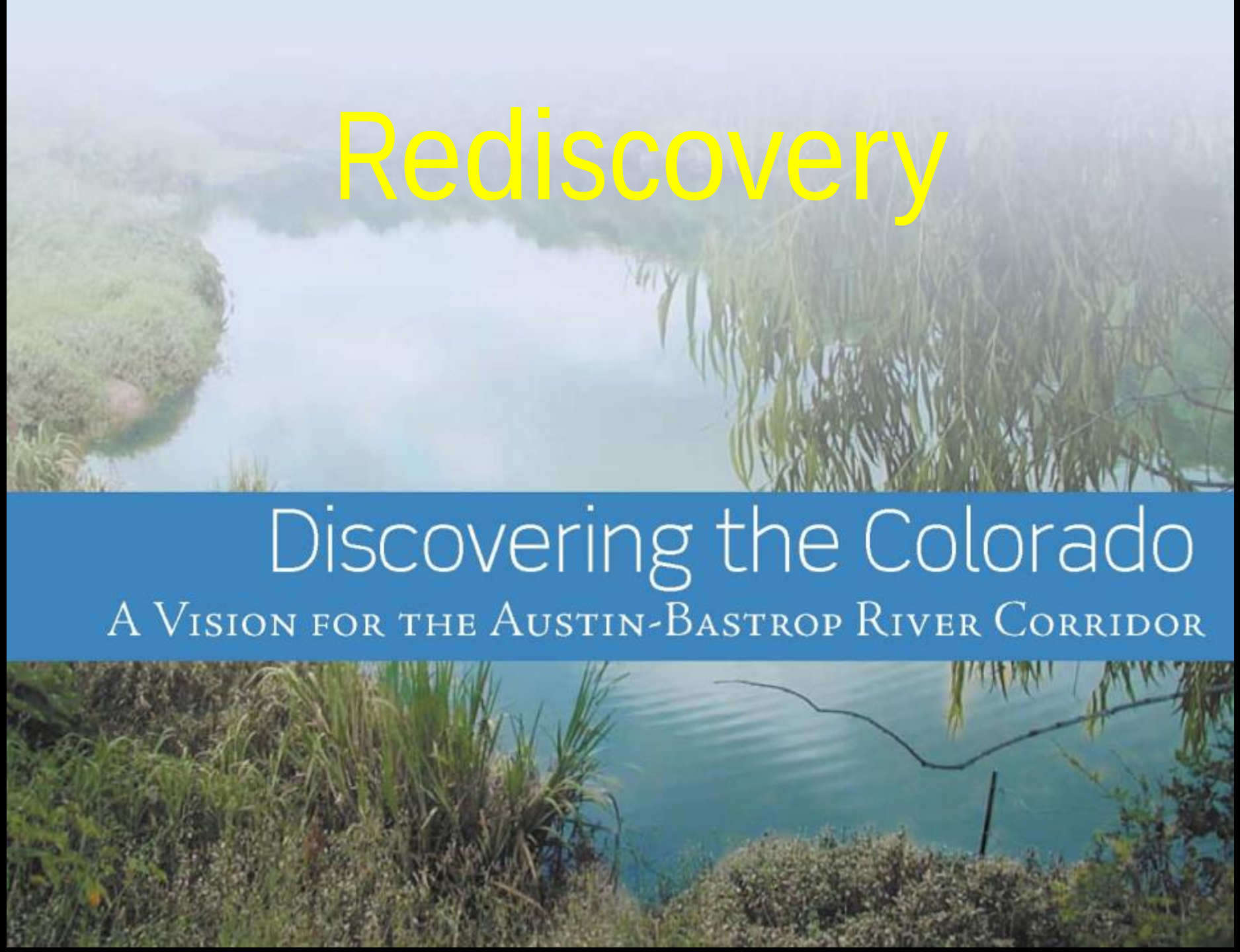
Population - Austin—MSA

1,870,872 (2013)

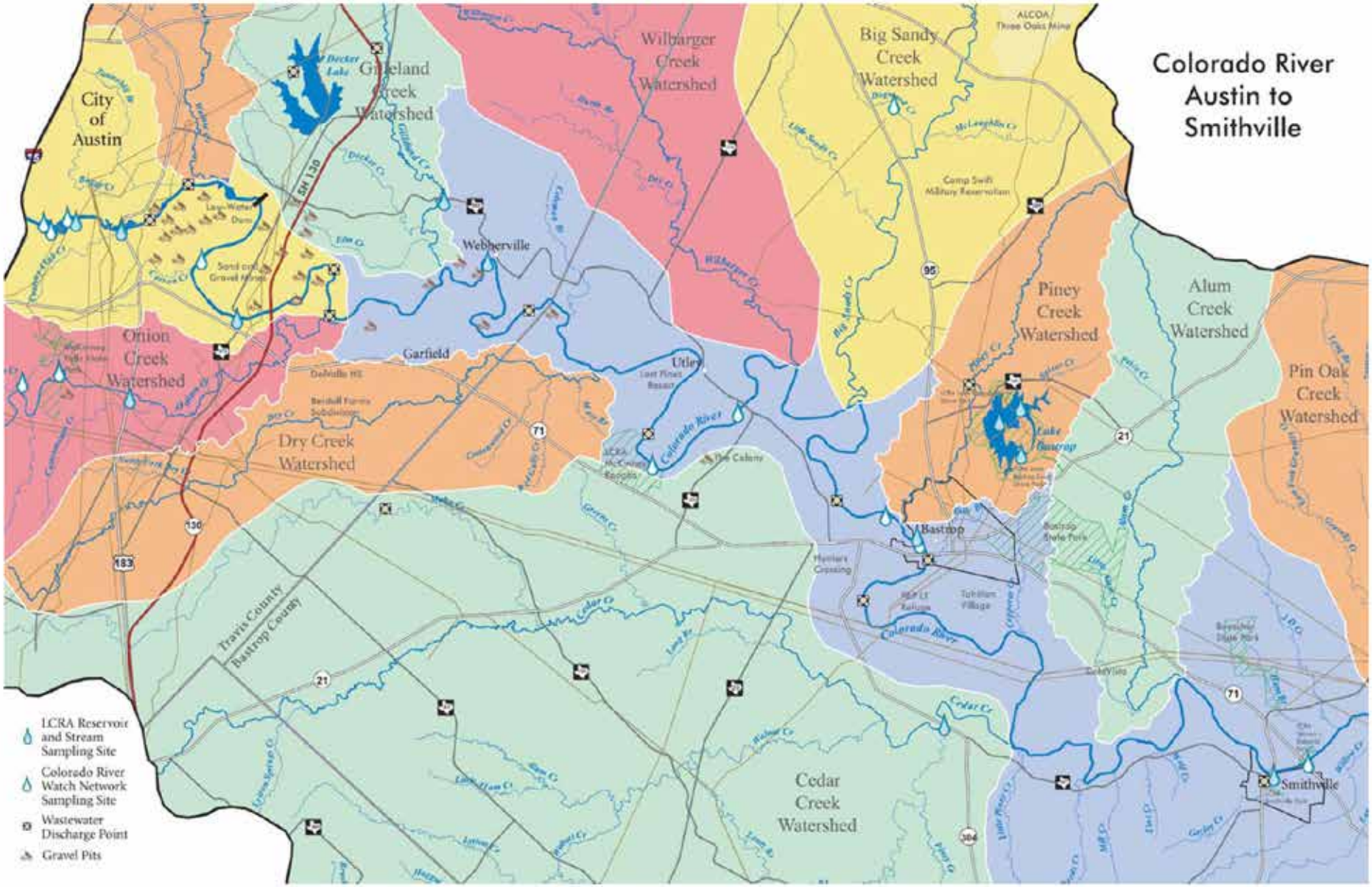
Austin Area Population Histories and Forecasts

Year	City of Austin Total Area Population	Annualized Growth Rate	City of Austin Full Purpose Population	City of Austin Limited Purpose Population	Travis County	Annualized Growth Rate	Five County MSA(1)	Annualized Growth Rate
1940	87,930				111,053		214,603	
1950	132,459	4.2%			160,980	3.8%	256,645	1.8%
1960	186,545	3.5%			212,136	2.8%	301,261	1.6%
1970	251,808	3.0%			295,516	3.4%	398,938	2.8%
1980	345,890	3.2%			419,573	3.6%	585,051	3.9%
1990	465,622	3.0%			576,407	3.2%	846,227	3.8%
2000	**656,562**	**3.5%**	**639,185**	**17,377**	**812,280**	**3.5%**	**1,249,763**	**4.0%**
2001	669,693	2.0%	654,019	15,674	830,150	2.2%	1,314,344	5.2%
2002	680,899	1.7%	667,705	13,194	844,263	1.7%	1,353,122	3.0%
2003	687,708	1.0%	674,382	13,326	856,927	1.5%	1,382,675	2.2%
2004	692,102	0.64%	678,769	13,333	874,065	2.00%	1,419,137	2.6%
2005	700,407	1.20%	687,061	13,346	893,295	2.20%	1,464,563	3.2%
2006	718,912	2.64%	707,952	10,960	920,544	3.05%	1,527,040	4.3%
2007	735,088	2.25%	724,117	10,971	948,160	3.00%	1,592,590	4.3%
2008	750,525	2.10%	739,543	10,982	978,976	3.25%	1,648,331	3.5%
2009	774,037	3.13%	765,957	8,080	1,008,345	3.00%	1,706,022	3.50%
2010	**790,390**	**2.11%**	**777,953**	**12,437**	**1,024,266**	**1.58%**	**1,716,289**	**0.60%**
2011	812,025	2.74%	799,578	12,447	1,049,873	2.50%	1,763,487	2.75%
2012	824,205	1.50%	811,746	12,459	1,076,119	2.50%	1,811,983	2.75%
2013	842,750	2.25%	830,278	12,472	1,108,403	3.00%	1,870,872	3.25%
2014	859,605	2.00%	847,121	12,484	1,138,884	2.75%	1,926,998	3.00%
2015	874,648	1.75%	862,151	12,497	1,170,203	2.75%	1,984,808	3.00%
2016	889,954	1.75%	877,445	12,509	1,202,384	2.75%	2,044,353	3.00%
2017	905,529	1.75%	893,007	12,522	1,238,456	3.00%	2,110,794	3.25%
2018	921,375	1.75%	908,841	12,534	1,275,609	3.00%	2,179,395	3.25%
2019	937,499	1.75%	924,953	12,547	1,313,878	3.00%	2,250,225	3.25%
2020	951,562	1.50%	939,002	12,559	1,350,009	2.75%	2,317,732	3.00%
2025	1,025,102	1.50%	1,012,484	12,618	1,546,129	2.75%	2,686,887	3.00%
2030	1,104,326	1.50%	1,091,695	12,631	1,749,304	2.50%	3,077,220	2.75%
2035	1,175,094	1.25%	1,162,450	12,644	1,955,158	2.25%	3,481,592	2.50%
2040	1,235,036	1.00%	1,222,379	12,656	2,158,652	2.00%	3,939,101	2.50%
2045	1,298,035	1.00%	1,285,366	12,669	2,325,481	1.50%	4,349,086	2.00%

SOURCE: Ryan Robinson, City Demographer, Department of Planning, City of Austin. January 2013.


Rediscovery
Discovering the Colorado
A Vision for the Austin-Bastrop River Corridor

The Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership



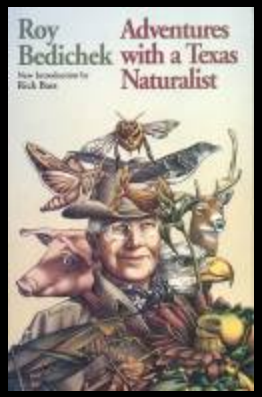
The Colorado River and Bedichek

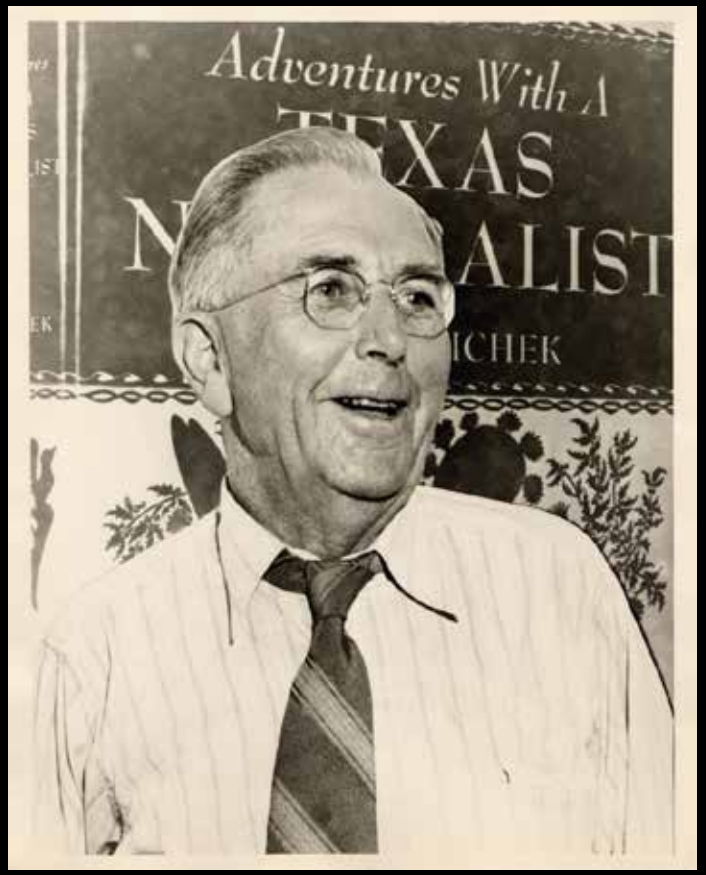
Roy Bedichek

1878-1959

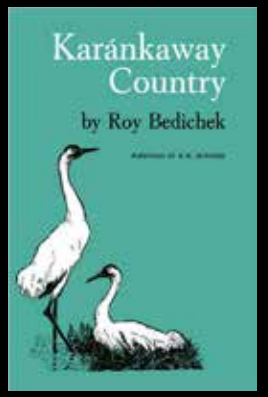
Rivers intrigue me. I can sit on a log and look upon a flowing stream for an hour at a time without feeling those twinges of conscience which come while idling in other environments.

1947



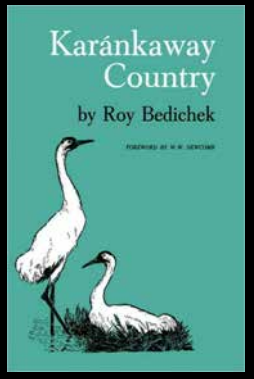


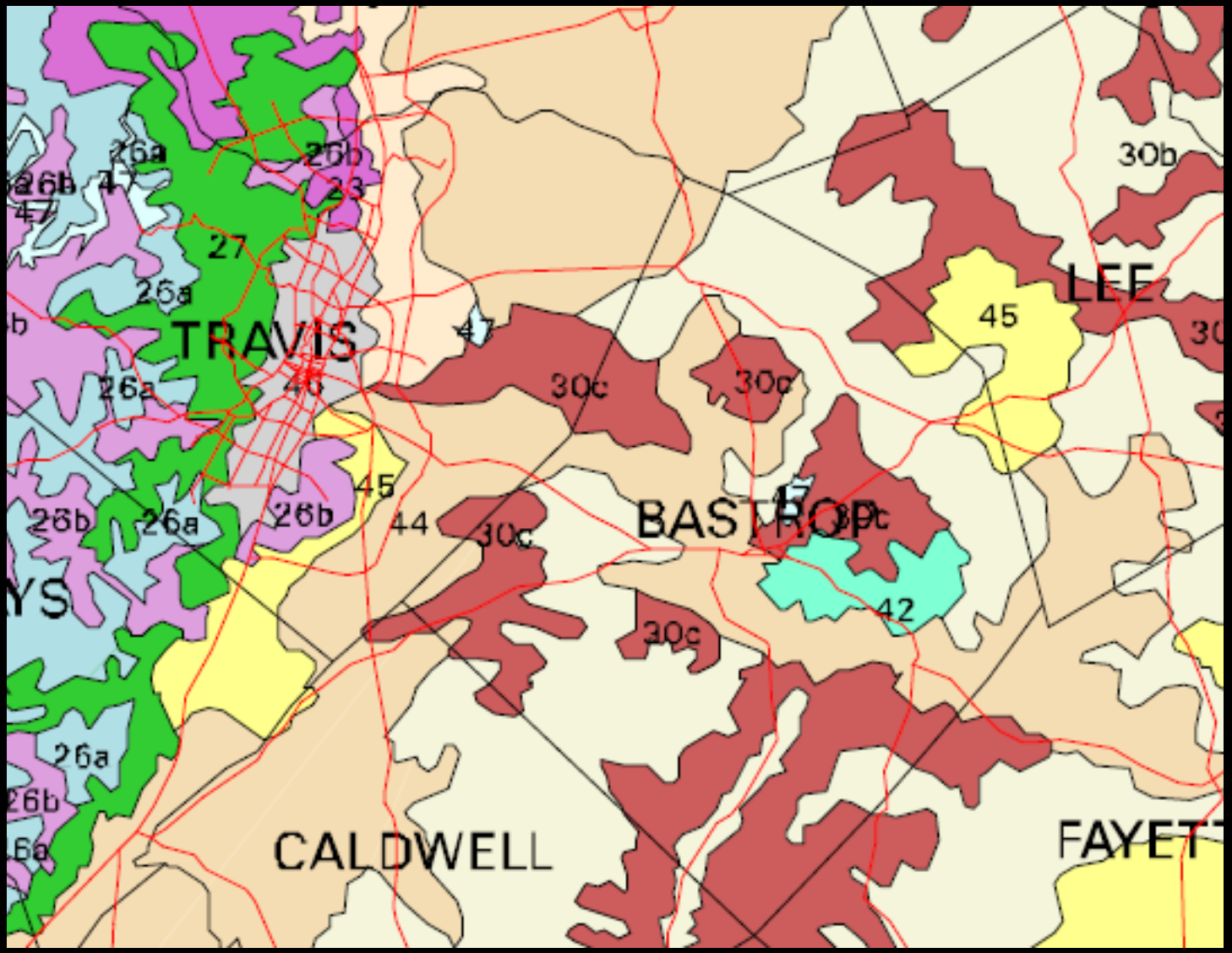
1950



Bedichek – Environmental Transformation

I have seen in my boyhood days the crown and upper slopes of gentle hills, on which the black soil is mixed with fragmented limestone, produce ninety bushels of oats to the acre. Now many of these slopes are all bleached out, pale as death, and really dead in so far as ability to support vegetable life is concerned. Many old-timers have seen bale-to-the-acre land in 1883 abandoned as worthless in 1903.




TRAVIS
LEE
BASTROP
CALDWELL
FAYETT
26a
26b
27
47
45
30c
30b
44
42
YS

44 *Crops*

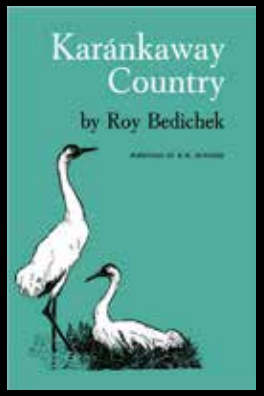
Bedichek - The Little Waters

Formerly, timbered bottoms, brushy hillsides, and wide grasslands, thickly sodded, soaked up rain water like a sponge.

It seeped into the subsoil and eventually filled sandy underground strata from which it found its way by devious paths into bubbling springs at lower levels, trickling off to join other trickles to form [on still lower levels] streamlets whose confluence made streams – all moving unhurried in a widespread network toward the river channel...

Nature was not interested in turning turbines or floating barges, but in producing just as much vigorous, varied, and abundant life as possible, dispersed along the way from plains to sea.

Some think this is a dream. Not so: the overwhelming proof lies in the land richness and life richness which we found here...Under natural conditions, the whole expansive watershed was a giant sponge.



The Colorado River

Forgotten Bottomland Forest

El Monte Grande (del Diablo!)

Early Spanish accounts of the Colorado

Monte – a sizable almost impenetrable forest – a thicket

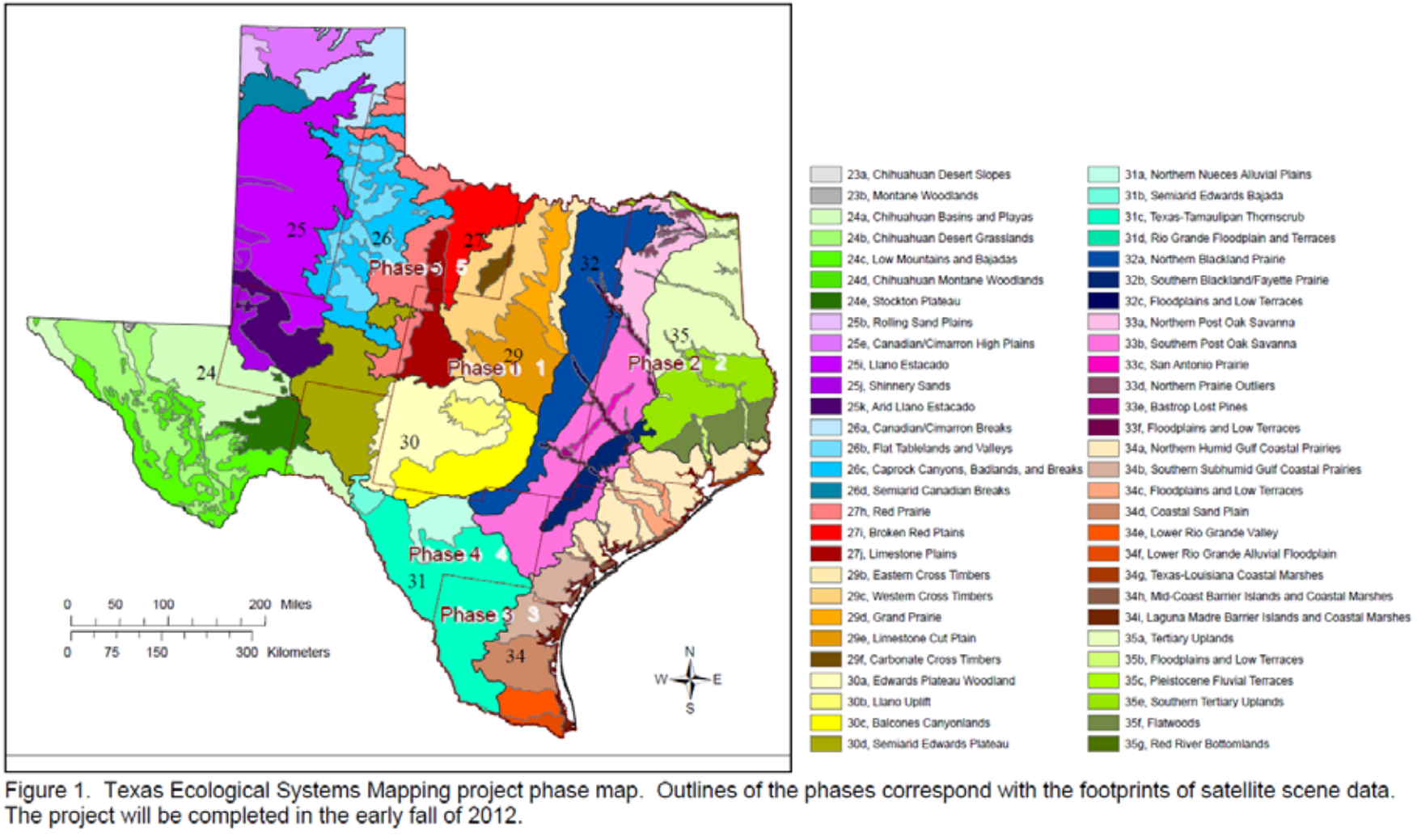


Figure 1. Texas Ecological Systems Mapping project phase map. Outlines of the phases correspond with the footprints of satellite scene data. The project will be completed in the early fall of 2012.

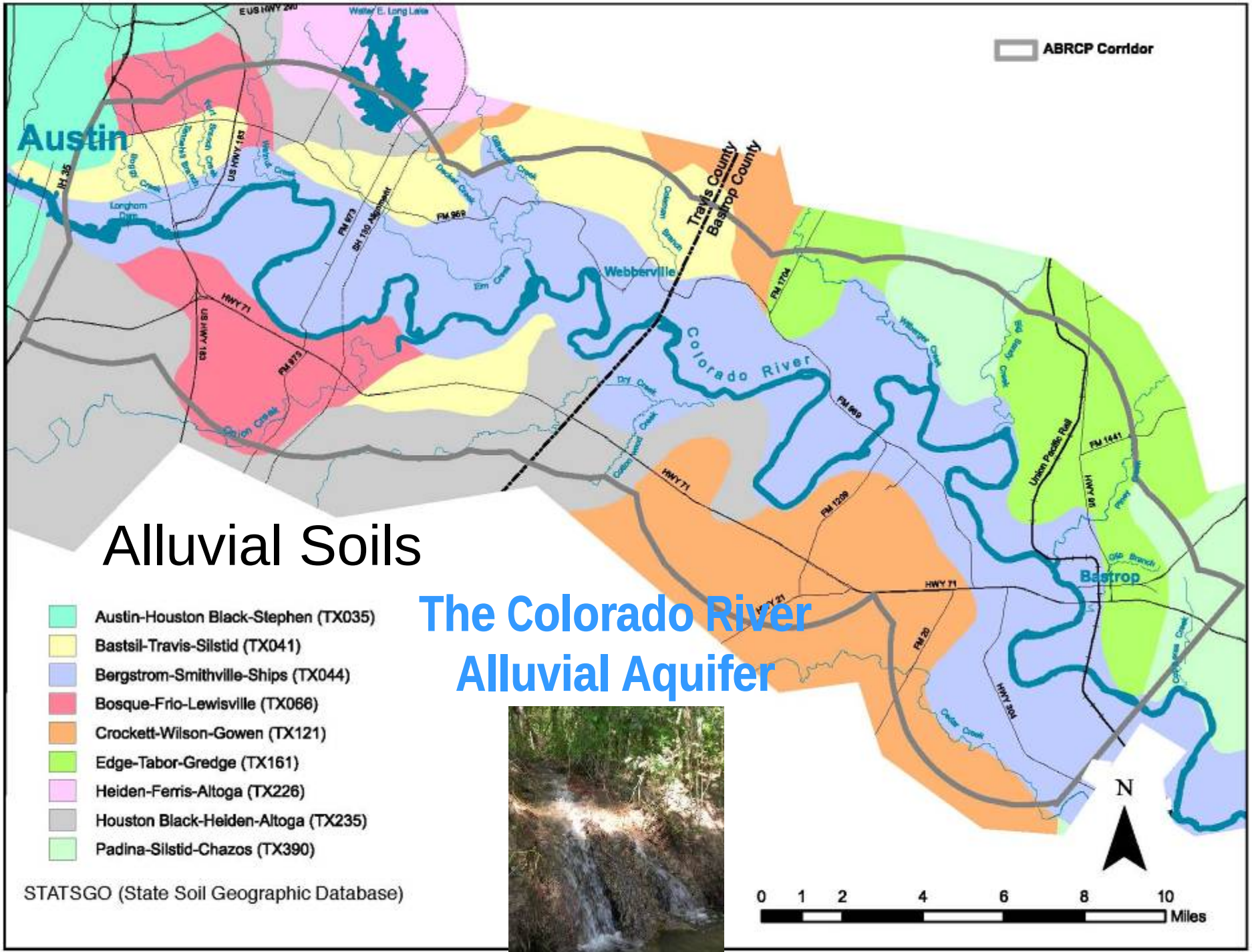
Texas Ecological Systems Project

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is cooperating with private, state, and federal partners to produce a new land cover map for Texas, using an expansion and modification of the original NatureServe Ecological System Classification System.

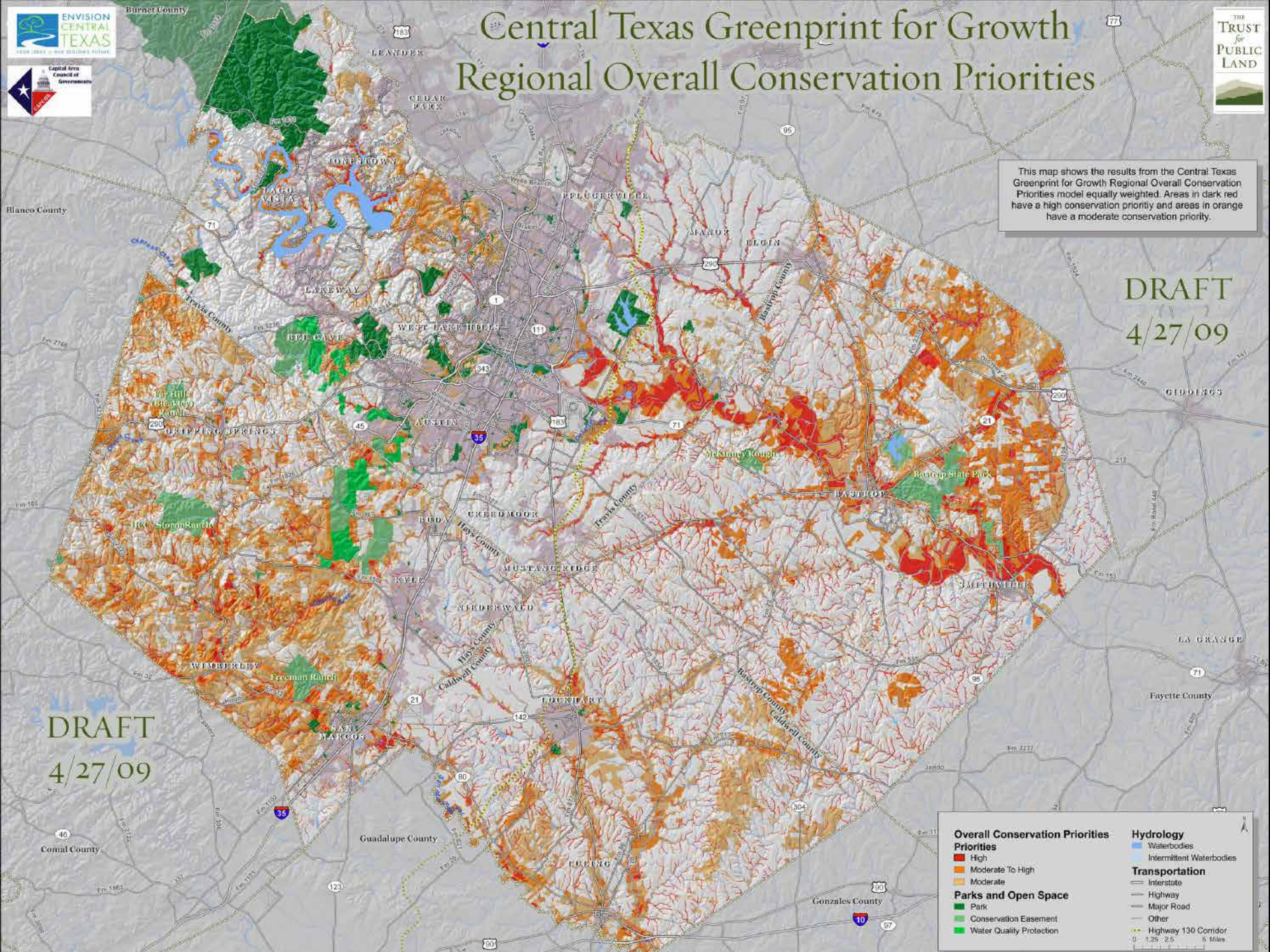
The resulting Mapping Subsystems are essentially land cover types within more broadly-defined ecological systems, which represent groups of related plant communities affected by similar processes, and occurring together within larger landscapes. Human-related cover types such as urban, row crops and native invasive vegetation types are also mapped.


Southeastern Great Plains Riparian Forest
Central Texas: Riparian Juniper Forest
Central Texas: Riparian Live Oak Forest
Central Texas: Riparian Hardwood / Evergreen Forest
Central Texas: Riparian Hardwood Forest
Central Texas: Riparian Evergreen Shrubland
Central Texas: Riparian Deciduous Shrubland
Central Texas: Riparian Herbaceous Vegetation


Southeastern Great Plains Floodplain Forest
Central Texas: Floodplain Juniper Forest
Central Texas: Floodplain Live Oak Forest
Central Texas: Floodplain Hardwood / Evergreen Forest
Central Texas: Floodplain Hardwood Forest
Central Texas: Floodplain Evergreen Shrubland
Central Texas: Floodplain Deciduous Shrubland
Central Texas: Floodplain Herbaceous Vegetation

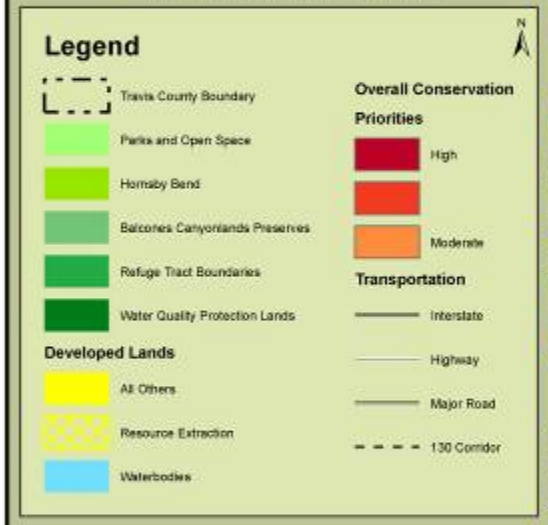

ABRCP Corridor
Austin
Travis County
Bastrop County
Webberville
Colorado River
Bastrop
Alluvial Soils
Austin-Houston Black-Stephen (TX035)
Bastsil-Travis-Silstid (TX041)
Bergstrom-Smithville-Ships (TX044)
Bosque-Frio-Lewisville (TX066)
Crockett-Wilson-Gowen (TX121)
Edge-Tabor-Gredge (TX161)
Heiden-Ferris-Altoga (TX226)
Houston Black-Heiden-Altoga (TX235)
Padina-Silstid-Chazos (TX390)
STATSGO (State Soil Geographic Database)
The Colorado River
Alluvial Aquifer
N
0 1 2 4 6 8 10
Miles

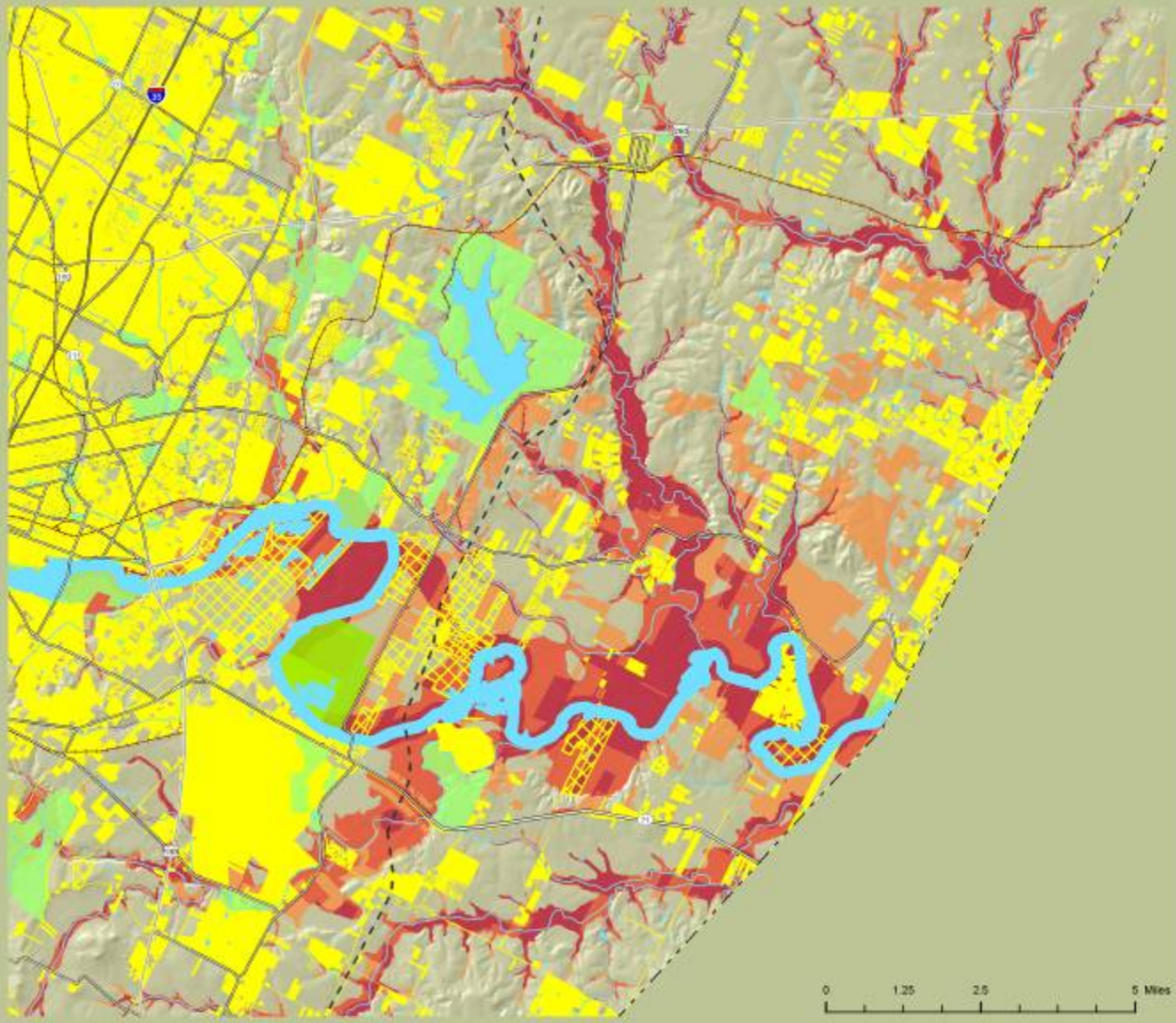
Central Texas Greenprint for Growth
Regional Overall Conservation Priorities



Travis County, TX Greenprint Overall Conservation Priorities

This map shows the Travis County, TX Greenprint and the overall conservation priorities. Areas in orange have a moderate conservation priority and areas in dark red have a high conservation priority.





Special thanks to the following data providers: City of Austin, Travis County, University of Texas at Austin, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Texas Historical Commission, CAPCOG, USGS

Map created by The Trust for Public Land on October 4, 2006

Created in ESRI ArcMap 9.1®
Map Projection: NAD 1983 State Plane Texas Central FIPS 4203


PLAN SUMMARY
Land Use | Acres | %
Rural Intensity | 7,544 | 24.7
Neighborhood Intensity | 3,880 | 12.7
Urban Intensity | 3,675 | 12.0
Civic/Institutional | 1,125 | 3.7
Recreation and Natural Areas | 6,006 | 19.7
Mining | 736 | 2.4
Post Mining Open Space | 3,655 | 12.0
Water Bodies | 2,529 | 8.3
Streets and ROW | 1,419 | 4.6
Roadway Classification
Major Arterial
Neighborhood Collector
Rural Arterial
Multi-Modal Trail
Future Transit Node
(Future segments dashed)
Travis County
Colorado River Corridor
CONCEPT PLAN
Miles
0 0.25 0.5
Walnut Creek Trail
Walter E. Long Metro Park
Walter E. Long Metro Park Trail
Elm Creek Trail
Gilleland Creek Trail
Decker Creek Trail
East Rattan Creek Greenbelt
Colorado River
City of Austin Morrison Ranch Metro Park
Airport Overlay Zone
Montopolis
Lance Armstrong Bikeway Trail
Carson Creek Trail
Hornsby Bend
SH 130
Hunters Bend
Webberville (historic)
Webberville County Park
to Bastrop County Colorado Trail
City of Austin Onion Creek Preserves
Travis County Southeast Metro County Park
Garfield
TRAVIS COUNTY
BASTROP COUNTY
to East Bergstrom Area
to Onion Creek Greenway
to Dell Valley Trails

River of Contrasts

THE TEXAS COLORADO

MARGIE CRISP

Another Colorado
Jimmie Dale Gilmore

Down by the banks of the Colorado
My true love and I one night did lie
And we laughed and played and made fun
Of the entire world spinning around the sun
Down by the banks of the Colorado

There is another Colorado
Wise men have told me, wise women too
That I may find sweet El Dorado
Down by the banks of one sweet Colorado...