

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT AND LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY WATERSHED ASSESSMENT

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US Army Corps
of Engineers®





AGENDA



Water Resource Development Act (WRDA)

Lower Rio Grande Valley Watershed Assessment

Why do Watershed Assessments

USACE and Watershed Assessments

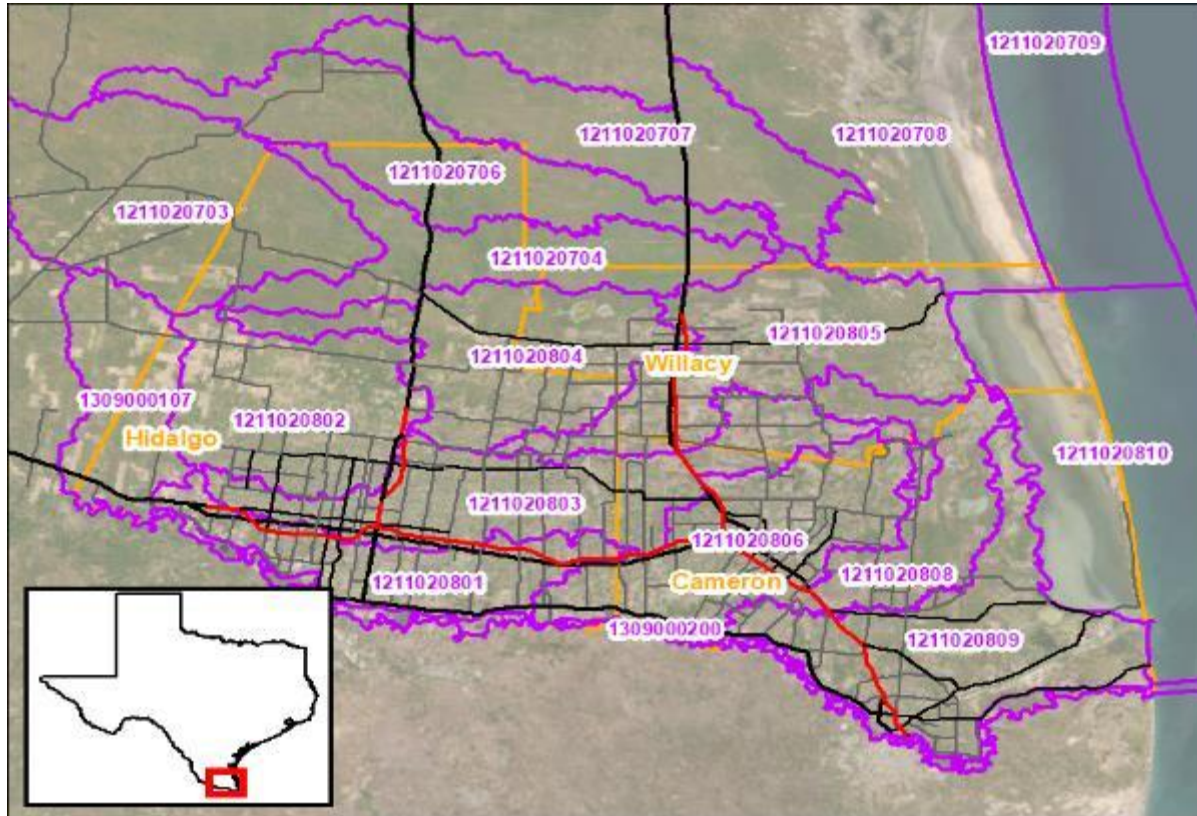
Current Status

Next Steps

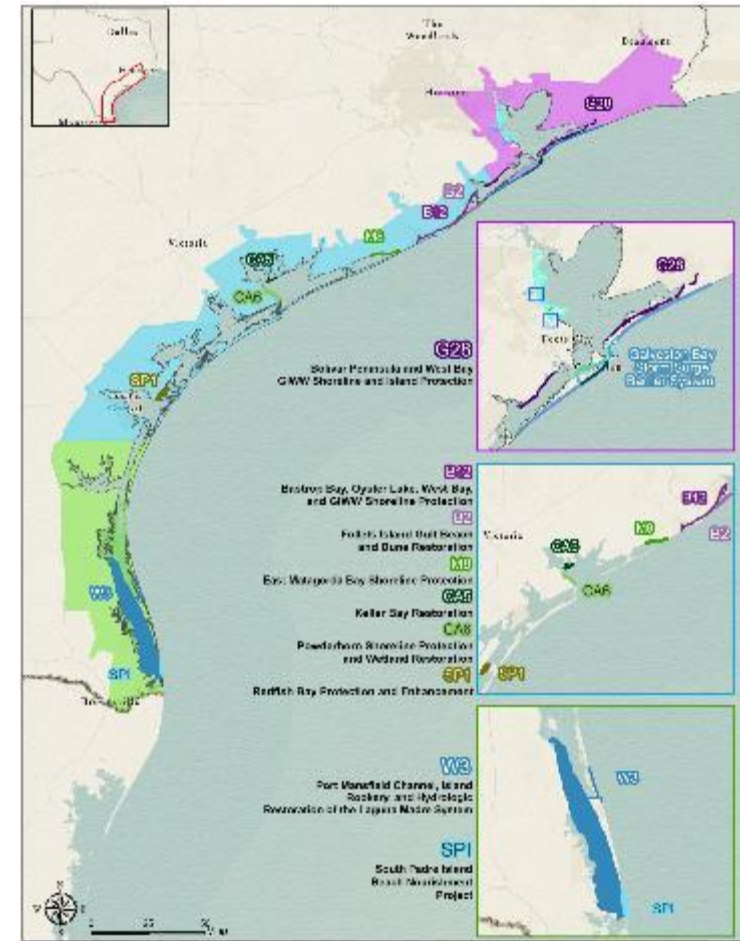


WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT

WRDA 2020



WRDA 2022





LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY WATERSHED



Photo Credit: Jim Gain

Photo Credit – Donna Burton





WHY DO WATERSHED PLANNING?



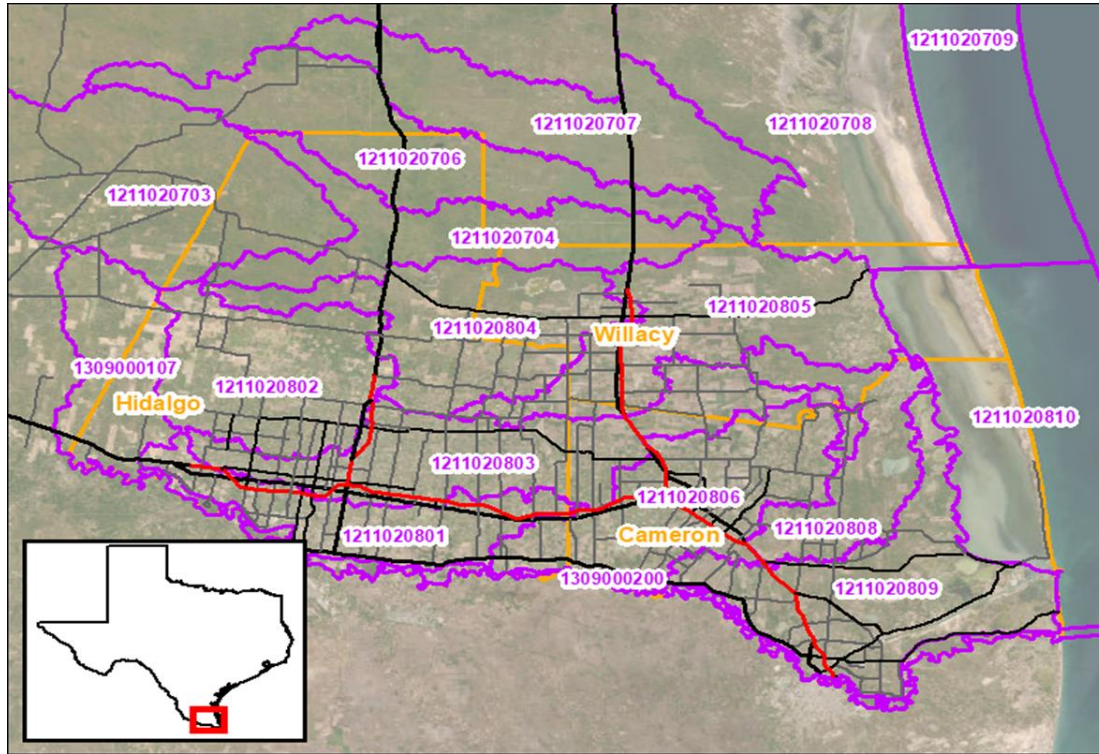


RESOURCES!





USACE AND WATERSHED ASSESSMENTS



Authorization:

Section 729 of WRDA 1986, as amended, allows USACE to study the water resources needs of river basins and regions of the United States.

Non-Federal Sponsor:

Cameron County



WATERSHED PLANNING PROCESS



Sign Cost-Share Agreement

Develop a PMP
Sponsor provides proportional share of funding and/or in-kind contributions

Draft Watershed Plan

Approval of Final Watershed Plan



PROJECT KICK-OFF – APRIL 12, 2023





TOP CONCERNS



- Capacity issues
- Coordination efforts
- Emergency Management
- Drought conditions
- Environmental Concerns
- Flood Control Structures
- Water Quality



SOCIAL VULNERABILITY



- Communities built to minimal flood standards
 - More affordable properties are in flood-prone areas
- Farmland susceptible to flooding
- Colonias
- Limited access to funding/resources
- Lack of community outreach and education
- Water-supply issues in under-represented communities



FUTURE DEVELOPMENT



- More National Flood Insurance Program participation
- Adoption Community Rating System policies
- Increased Economic Development
- Alignment of Developer and Community Interests
- Standardized codes and ordinances across region
- Regional Wastewater Treatment Program
- Education on flood zone development



NEXT STEPS...

1. Identify Problems and Opportunities

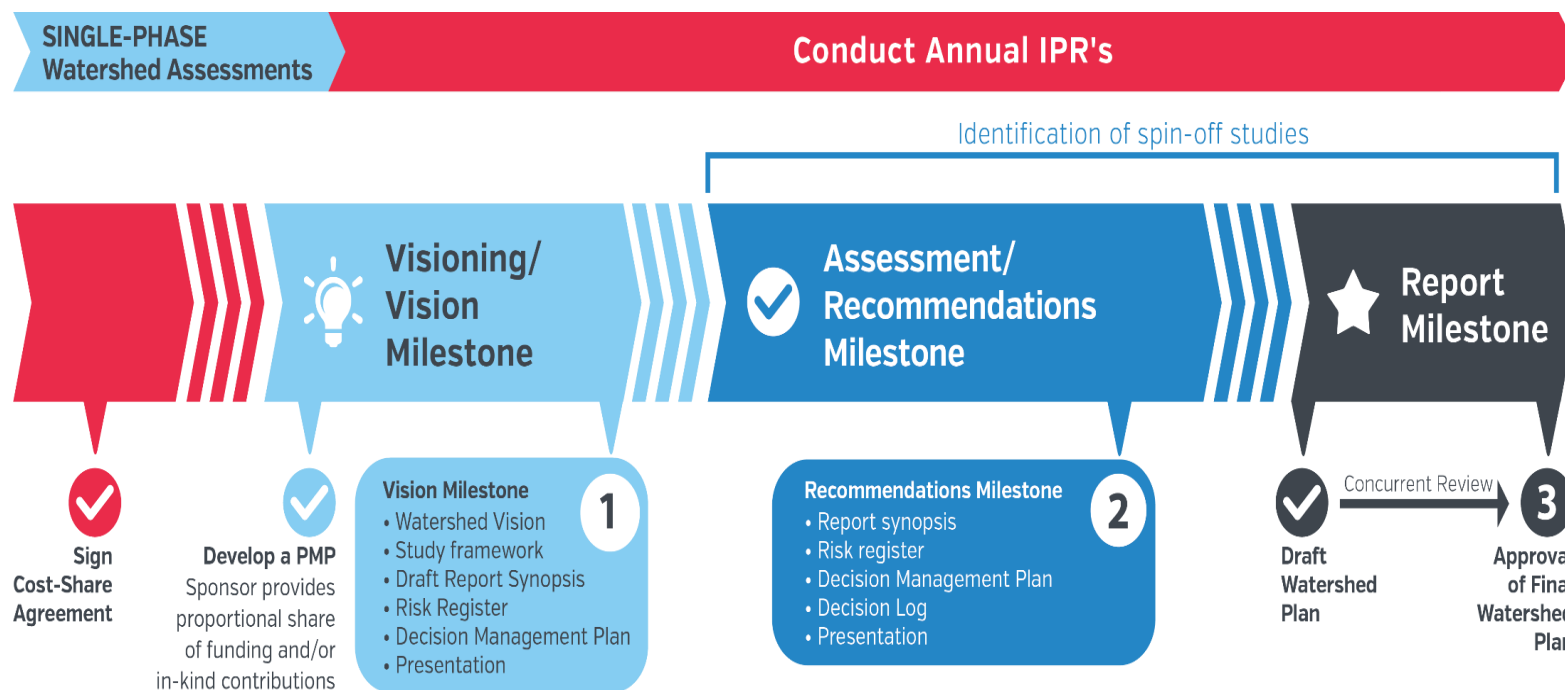
2. Inventory and Forecasting

3. Identify and Screen Measures

4. Formulate Initial Array of Alternatives / Strategies

5. Refine Initial Array & Evaluate Focused Array of Alternatives / Strategies

6. Strategy Comparison & Selection





QUESTIONS?

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