



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Texas Association of Watershed Sponsors (TAWs)

Annual Meeting

May 2025



FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center



State Engineering Staff

- Shane Ice – State Conservation Engineer
- Reed Poling – Assistant State Engineer
- **Vacant – Hydraulic Engineer**
- Karen Green – Dam Safety Engineer
- Ronald Gardner – Dam Safety Engineer
- **Vacant – Geologist**
- **Vacant – Geologist**
- **Vacant – Geologist**
- Stacie Rumfield – Administrative Assistant





State Engineering Staff

- Daniel Little – State Design Engineer
- Shawn Higgins – Design Engineer
- Gary Geraci – Design Engineer
- Victor Hulsey – Design Engineer
- Shon Owens – Civil Engineer Technician
- Michael Doyle – Soil Conservation Technician
- Nicolas Drummond – Civil Engineer Technician





State Engineering Staff

- Vacant – State Construction Engineer
- Joseph Forrest – Project Engineer
- Vacant – Project Engineer
- Sam Drummond – Civil Engineering Technician
- William Buswell - Surveyor
- Construction Inspectors (7)
- Desyria Miller – Administrative Assistant





State Engineering Staff

- Mark J. Northcut – Staff Leader
- Rocky Ingram – Soil Conservationist
- Michael Robison – Civil Engineer
- **Vacant – Civil Engineer**
- Adam Bentley – Economist
- **Vacant – Wildlife Biologist**
- Christopher Albanesi – Management Analyst

Angela Moody – Archeologist (shared staff with Soils)





Key Responsibilities

NRCS (STATE):

- STC is Responsible Federal Official and is fully responsible for content of the plan-environmental document regardless of the level of preparation by NRCS and/ or non-NRCS entities
 - Adherence to State and Federal Requirements
 - Assist Sponsors in preparation of Watershed Plan
 - Implementation (Technical and Financial)
 - Public Participation

SPONSOR:

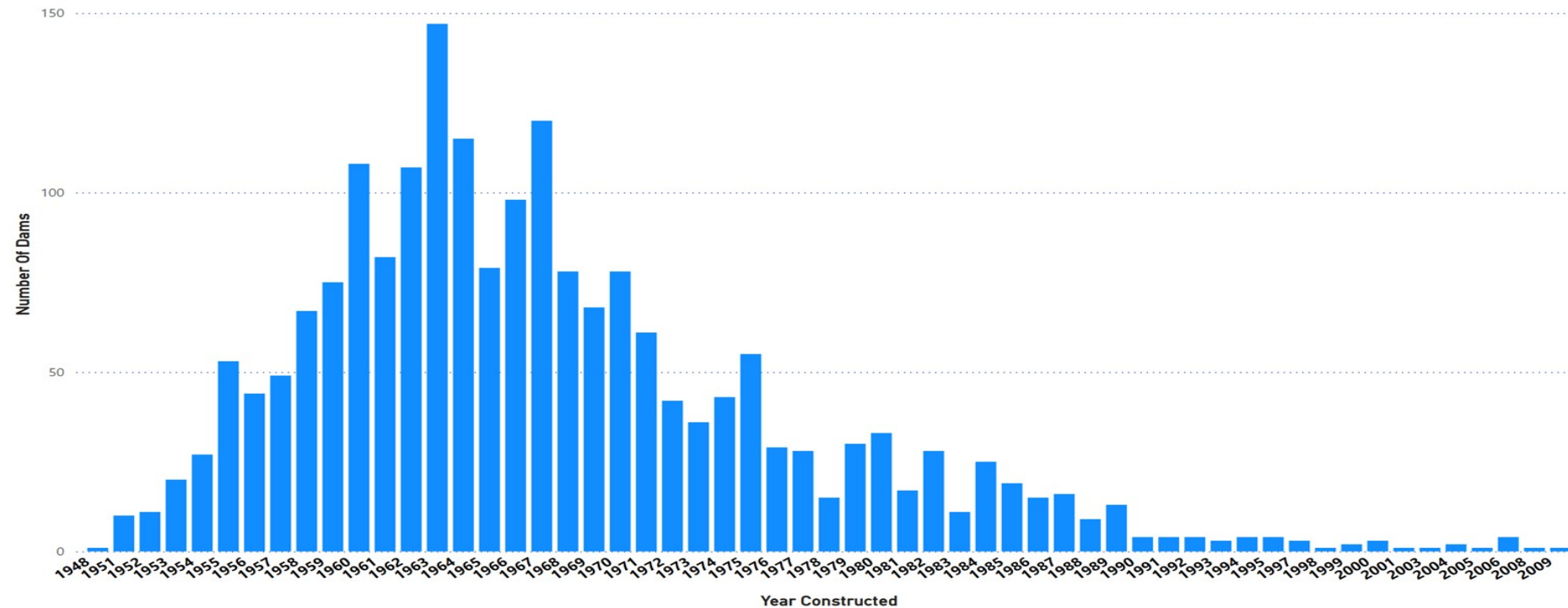
- Land Rights/Assurances(Eminent Domain)
- Permits and Licenses
- Authority to Levy Taxes
- Public Participation
- Financial
- Operation and Maintenance





Overview

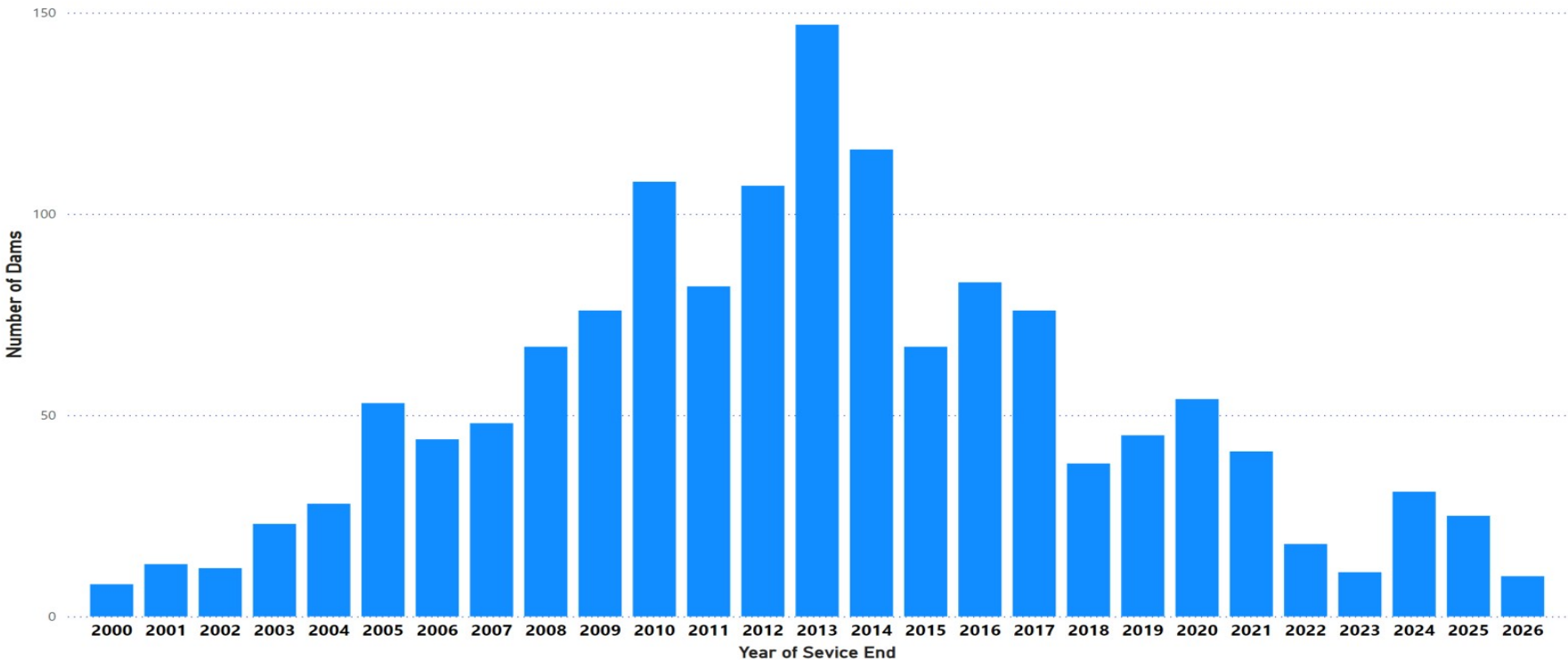
2005 Dams Constructed in 143 Watersheds Since 1948

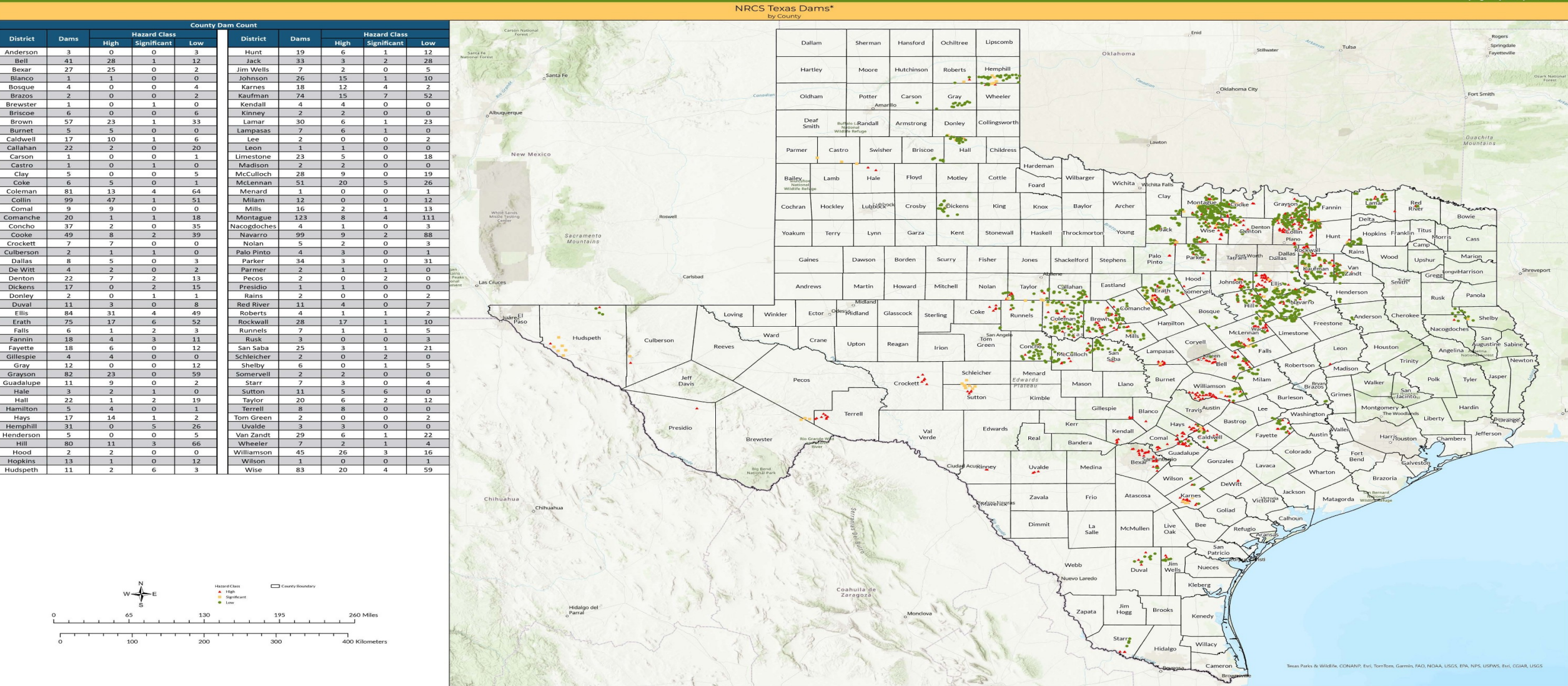




Overview

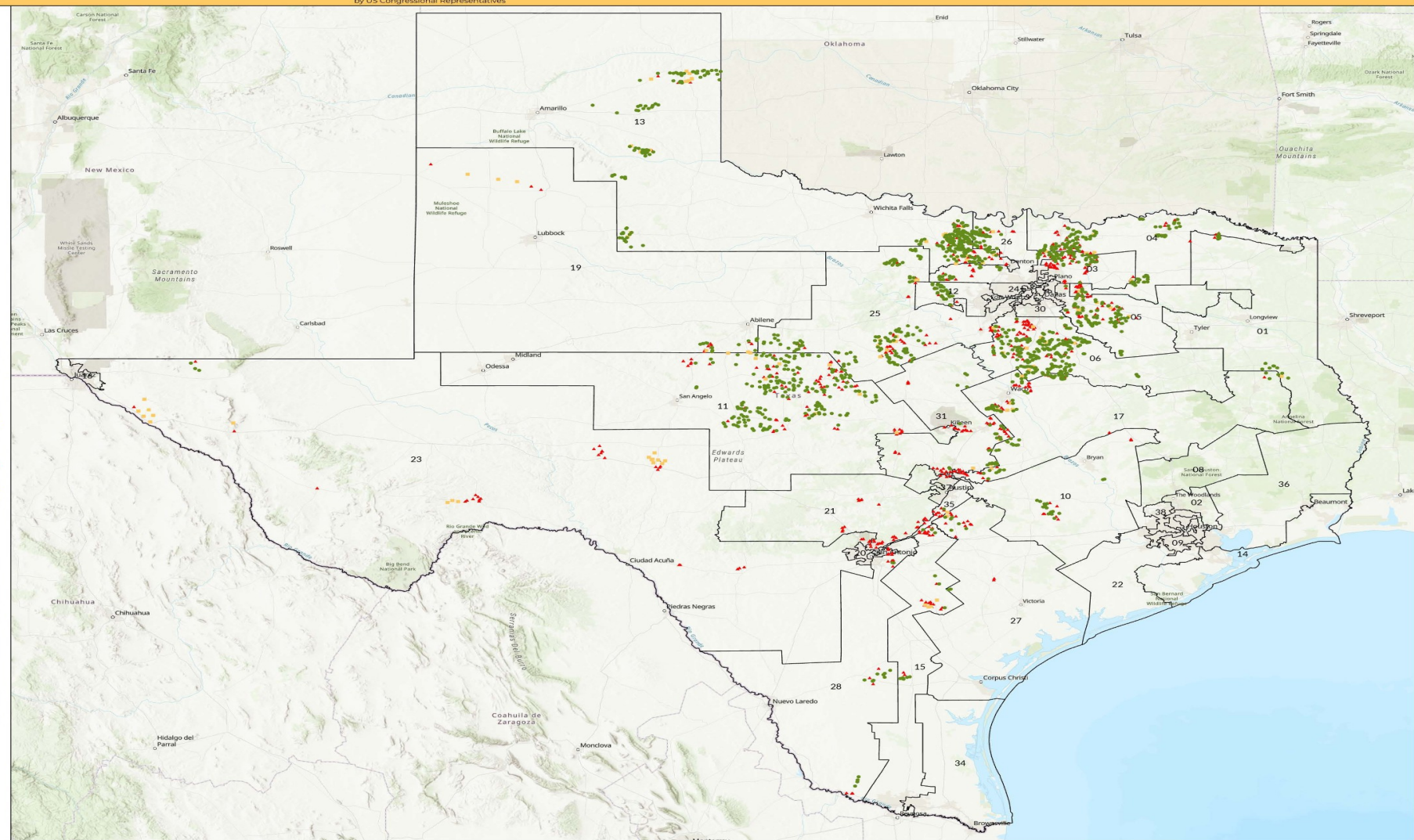
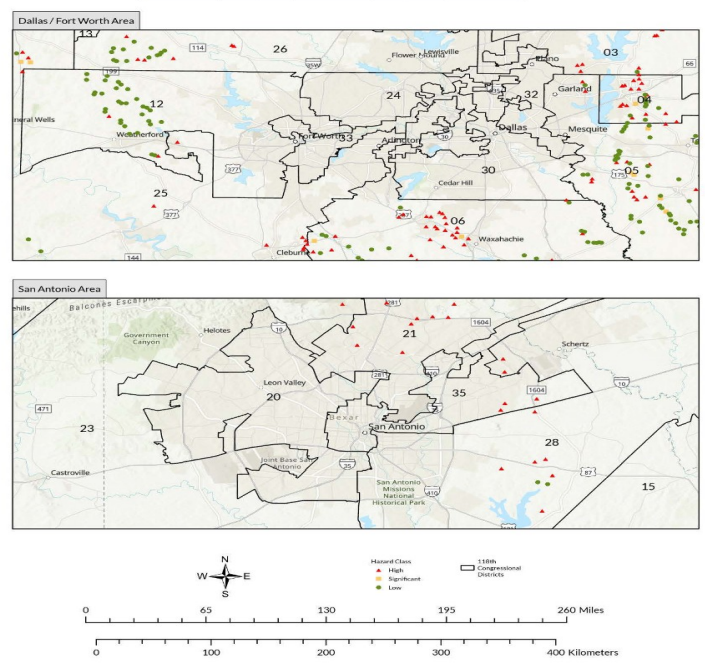
Number of Dams End of Service Life from 2000-2026





NRCS Texas Dams *
by US Congressional Representatives

Congressional Districts Dam Count				
District	Dams	Hazard Class		
		High	Significant	Low
1	16	1	1	14
3	105	50	1	54
4	189	56	6	127
5	116	26	8	82
6	286	60	10	216
10	26	10	0	16
11	270	67	9	194
12	33	2	0	31
13	302	28	22	252
15	38	24	4	10
17	115	38	8	69
19	31	11	5	15
21	31	31	0	0
23	54	33	18	3
25	165	37	9	119
26	82	19	2	61
27	21	12	1	8
28	28	14	0	14
30	1	1	0	0
31	76	47	3	26
35	16	13	1	2
37	1	1	0	0





NRCS High Hazard Dams

- **Total**

- Dams: 2,004
- High Hazard: 594
- High Hazard not originally classified as such: 484

- **Zone 1**

- Dams: 108
- High Hazard: 8
- High Hazard not originally classified as such: 7

- **Zone 5**

- Dams: 1441
- High Hazard: 397
- High Hazard not originally classified as such: 348

- **Zone 4**

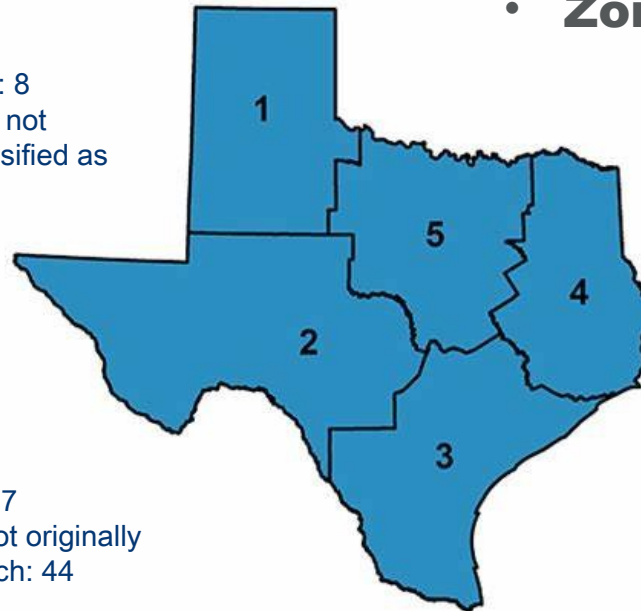
- Dams: 110
- High Hazard: 23
- High Hazard not originally classified as such: 16

- **Zone 2**

- Dams: 190
- High Hazard: 67
- High Hazard not originally classified as such: 44

- **Zone 3**

- Dams: 149
- High Hazard: 98
- High Hazard not originally classified as such: 68





High Hazard Classification

<u>NRCS</u>	<u>TCEQ</u>
HIGH HAZARD Dams where failure may cause: -loss of life -serious damage to: -homes -industrial buildings -commercial buildings -important public utilities -main highways -main railroads	HIGH HAZARD Dams where failure has: -loss of life expected (7 or more lives) (3 or more habitable structures) (in the breach inundation area downstream of dam) or -excessive economic loss expected -located primarily in or near urban areas where failure would be expected to cause extensive damage to: -public facilities -agricultural, industrial or commercial facilities -public utilities, including the design purpose of the utility -main highways, see def. def. - Roads classified as a <u>rural arterial system</u> by TxDOT, including interstate highways, US highways and state highways. -railroads used as a major transportation system





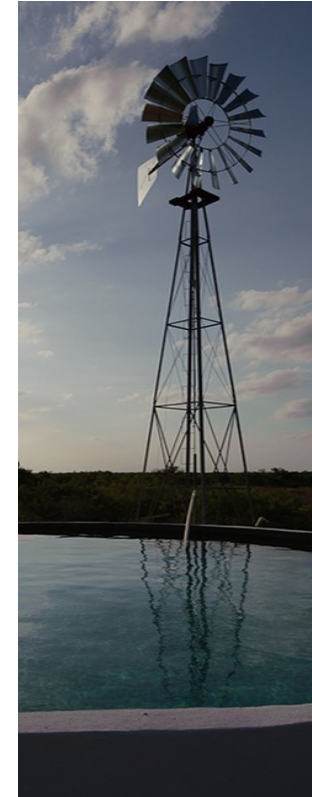
Watershed - Projects

EWP

- 4 Active Project Codes
- 12 Sponsors in 10 Counties (SE Texas Zone 03 and Zone 04)

WS - Operations

- 4 Remedial Repair Projects pending construction
- 11 Pending funding requests (Eng Investigation Completed)
- 4 Pending CED Concurrence
- 2 Finalizing Eng. Investigation
- Remedial Repair Projects
Collin, Dallas, Denton, Fannin, Hill, Hunt, Kaufman,
Navarro, Rockwall Counties

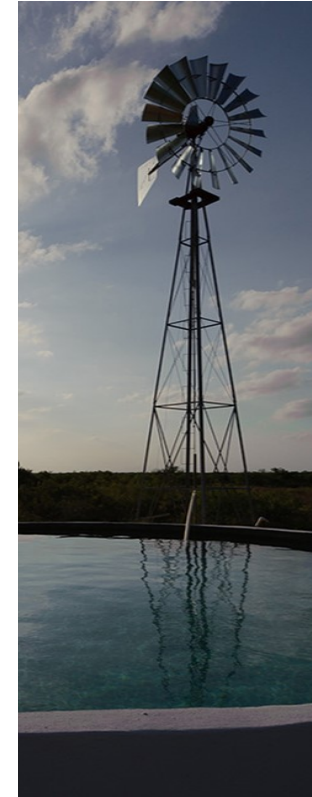




Watershed - Projects

WS – Rehabilitation

- 39 Dam Assessment completed (March 2025)
- 8 Planning Projects
Bell, Hays, Karnes, McLennan, Starr, Williamson Counties
- 7 Design Projects
Coke, Comal, Ellis, Gillispie, Kendall, Parker Counties
- 7 Construction Projects
Caldwell, Ellis, Hale, Hays, Kaufman Counties

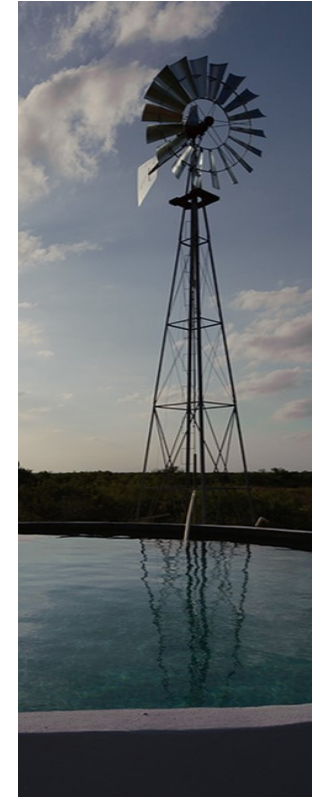




Watershed - Funding

WS – Operations Funding Request - 7 Yrs \$ 12 M

- 2017 Remedial- \$ 4,639,000 (8)
- 2018 Backlog- \$ 125,000
- 2019 Remedial- \$ 944,000 (6)
- 2021 Remedial- \$ 1,468,145 (3);
Backlog- \$ 350,000
- 2022 Remedial- \$ 303,826 (3);
Backlog- \$ 233,000
- 2023 Remedial- \$ 1,832,300 (3);
PIFR- \$ 110,000
- 2024 Remedial- \$ 1,792,000 (2);

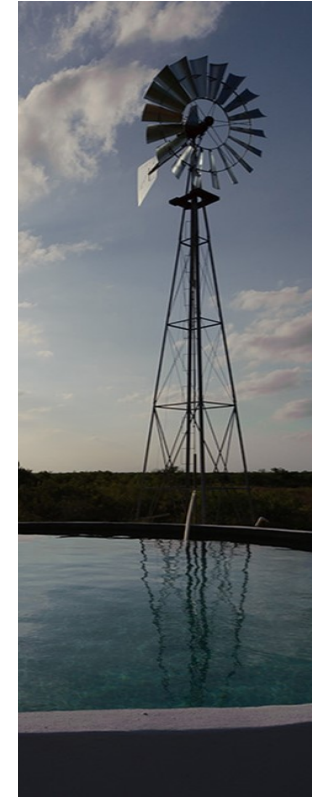




Watershed - Funding

WS – Rehabilitation Funding Request – 10 Yrs \$ 151.1 M

<u>2014</u>	Total- \$ 29,851,262
• <u>2015</u>	Total- \$ 10,851,050
• <u>2016</u>	Total- \$ 5,249,600
• <u>2017</u>	Total- \$ 4,548,700
• <u>2018</u>	Total- \$ 22,454,900
• <u>2019</u>	Total- \$ 19,432,232
• <u>2020</u>	Total- \$ 3,727,000
• <u>2021</u>	Total- \$ 8,860,894
• <u>2022</u>	Total- \$ 23,117,111
• <u>2023</u>	Total- \$ 12,142,736
• <u>2024</u>	Total- \$ 10,917,301
•	





Watershed – Rehab Program

•National Estimated Cost of Rehabilitation Phases

- Planning \$750,000
- Design \$750,000
- Construction \$5,000,000

•National Funds Needed to move current projects through the phases (Waitlisted Funds Requested)

- 55 Planning projects in have not yet been funded for estimated \$ 38,637,401.
- 23 Design projects in have not yet been funded for estimated \$ 11,998,605.
- 10 Construction projects in have not yet been funded for estimated \$ 21,1217,5581.





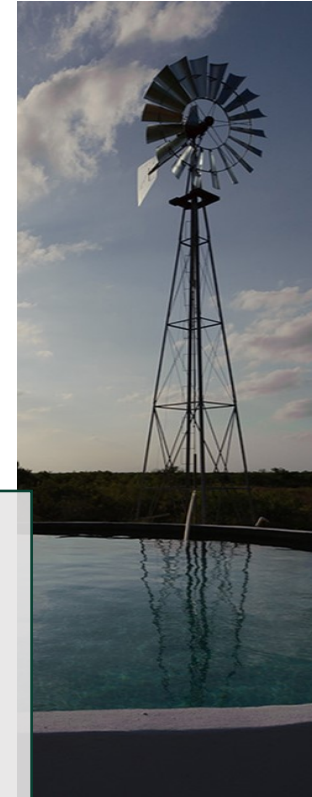
Watershed - Funding

Discretionary Funding

- Annual appropriation from congress. Can be Annual Funding or No Year funding. (WSRP, SWRP)

Mandatory Funding

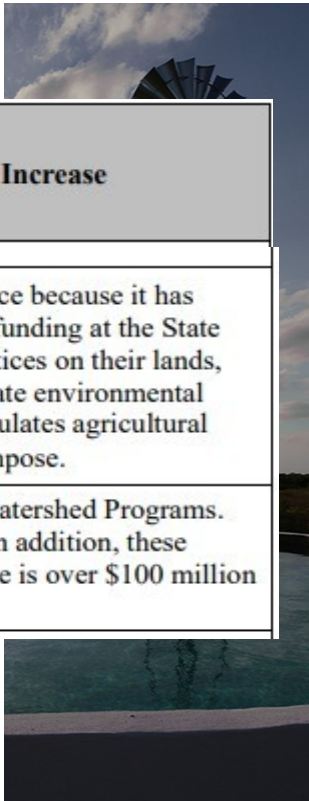
- Farm bill funding - \$50 million to be shared between WSOP and REHAB (WPFP annual funding)





Watershed - Funding

Program Name	\$ Change from 2025 Enacted (in millions)	Brief Description of Program and Recommended Reduction or Increase
		analysis and data collection continues.
Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)—Private Lands Conservation Operations	-754	The Budget eliminates discretionary funding for conservation technical assistance because it has historically received over a billion dollars in mandatory funding, in addition to funding at the State and local levels. While funding has helped producers deploy conservation practices on their lands, many have been forced to participate in the program in order to comply with State environmental regulations such as California’s Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program, which regulates agricultural runoff. These cost drivers should be connected to the resource demands they impose.
NRCS Watershed Operations	-16	The Budget eliminates funding to renovate locally owned dams in the NRCS Watershed Programs. Funding for this type of activity is the responsibility of the local dam owners. In addition, these programs received an enormous influx of funding through IIJA. Currently, there is over \$100 million in unobligated balances between the two programs.





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Questions?

**USDA is an
equal
opportunity
provider,
employer and
lender.**



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