## FLOOD EARLY WARNING SYSTEM OF THE UPPER MEDINA RIVER WATER SHED OF BANDERA COUNTY, TEXAS ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT FY-2023

Medina River FEWS, A.P.R.-2023-004



USGS Stream Gage (No. 0817887350) at Patterson Rd. Medina, TX

#### **Table of Contents**

Abstract
Annual Progress Report (cover page) Texas Water Development Board Contract Number 1600012035 for the Period – September 01, 2022, to August 31, 2023
USGS Tasks completions - September 01, 2022, to August 31, 20233-4
BCRAGD Task completions - September 01, 2022, to August 31, 20234-5
End of Medina River Flood Early Warning System, Annual Progress Report APR-2023-004, for the period September 01, 2022, to August 31, 2023
<u>Figures</u>
Figure 1 - Medina River Flood Early Warning System, Flood Visualization Control - interactive map (https://fim.wim.usgs.gov/fim/?site_no=08178880)
Figure 2 - Study area map with the USGS FEWS streamflow-gaging stations6
Figure 3 - Medina River at Bandera, Tx. USGS Station Number 08178880 flow data hydrograph September 01, 2022, through August 31, 2023
Figure 4- Medina River at Patterson Road USGS Station Number 0817887350 Flow (cfs) Hydrograph September 01, 2022, through August 31st, 2023
<u>Tables</u>
Table 1 - U.S. Geological Survey streamflow-gaging stations in the study area includes a 23-mile reach in the Medina River
Attachment
Attachment 1 - Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District – Flood Plan May 2017 – (Revised June 2023)

#### **Acronyms**

(APR) Annual Progress Report

(BCRAGD) Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District

(cfs) Cubic Feet per Second

(cfsm) Cubic Feet per Second per Square Mile

(DCP) Data Collection Platform

(FEWS) Flood Early Warning System

(FIMP) Flood Inundation Mapping Program

(FIMS) Flood Inundation Maps

(GHT) Water Surface Stage – Gage Height

(GOES) Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite

(HEC-RAS) Hydrologic Engineering Center-River Analysis System

(Lidar) Light detection and ranging

(NAVD 88) North American Vertical Datum of 1988

(NRA) Nueces River Authority

(NWIS) National Water Information Center

(NWS-AHPS) National Weather Service - Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service

(RFPG) Regional Flood Planning Group

(Rv) River

(SIR) USGS Scientific Investigations Report

(TWDB) Texas Water Development Board

(USACE) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

(USGS) United State Geological Survey

(WY) United States Geological Survey Water Year

#### **Abstract**

Floods are the leading cause of natural disaster losses in the United States. Although loss of life to floods during the past half century have declined, in part because of improved warning systems. Economic losses have continued to rise with increased urbanization in flood hazard areas throughout the nation (U.S. Geological Survey, 2006).

On June 1, 2016, the Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District, (BCRAGD) applied for, and received, a 50/50 cost shared funding grant from the Texas Water Development Board, (TWDB) for a total project cost of \$530,300.00, to contract with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) for development of a flood warning tool set for the Medina River, Bandera County, Texas. A contract agreement was approved and signed by both agencies, (TWDB and BCRAGD) on August 25, 2016.

The study area encompassed a 23-mile reach of the Medina River from the confluence of Winans Creek to English Crossing Road above Medina Lake. (Figure 2) A Hydrologic Engineering Center-River Analysis System (HEC-RAS) model, was utilized by the USGS to apply data from existing streamflow-gaging stations, including two newly installed 'stage only' streamflow-gaging stations with rainfall monitors along the headwaters of the North and West Prongs of the Medina River. A flood atlas, consisting of a library of flood-inundation maps for a range of streamflow conditions, was developed and were included on the USGS Flood Inundation Mapping Program (FIMP) website

at: <a href="https://wimcloud.usgs.gov/apps/FIM/FloodInundationMapper.html">https://wimcloud.usgs.gov/apps/FIM/FloodInundationMapper.html</a>. The Flood Inundation Maps (FIMS) depict estimates of the areal extent and depth of flooding corresponding to selected water levels (stages) at the USGS streamflow-gaging station 08178880 Medina River at Bandera, Texas.

Annual Progress Report for Medina River FEWS, No. APR-2023-004, summarizes task completions and accomplishments by the BCRAGD and USGS during the period September 1, 2022, through August 31, 2023.

Due to the continuing severe hydrologic drought conditions within the South Texas Region and inadequate related rainfall amounts to substantiate soil moisture and streamflow influence of the Medina River watershed, there were no events of flooding.

Several periods of flow data observations during October and November 2022, and July to August 31, 2023, including on-site visual observations, the Medina River flow at Bandera, Tx. USGS station No. 08178880 was zero (0.0 ft/s) flow at the Highway 173 USGS stream-gage location. (Figure 3)

Beginning August 12, 2023, to present date (August 31, 2023) the Medina River at Patterson Rd. USGS Station no. 0817887350 intermittent daily recorded flow data was less than one cfs (-1.0 ft/s) or zero (0.0 ft/s) flows, due to the continued drought related conditions. (Figure 4)

#### Flood Early Warning System of the Medina River for Bandera County, Texas

To: Marla Waters | Flood Mitigation Grant Coordinator Texas Water Development Board 1700 N. Congress Avenue 5th Floor Austin, TX 78711 | (512) 463-3509 marla.waters@twdb.texas.gov

From: Larry B. Thomas, CFM, NRS
Flood Early Warning System Project Manager
Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District
440 FM 3240, P.O. Box 177
Bandera, Tx. 78003-0177
Ithomas@bcragd.org

## Subject: Annual Progress Report for the Period – September 01, 2022, to August 31, 2023. Texas Water Devolvement Board -- Contract Number: 1600012035

- 1. Initial 3-year Project Development Period: August 25, 2016 May 31, 2019
- 2. Annual Progress Report Period: September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2023
- 3. A Five Year BCRAGD commitment to maintain the Medina River Flood Early Warning System (FEWS) operation and maintenance funding to USGS and provide annual progress reports to Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) project manager, no later than 30 days following August 31<sup>st</sup> each year. Beginning FY-2020 (September 01<sup>st</sup>, 2019) through FY-24 (August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024).
  - 1. APR #001, 9-1-2019 to 8-31-2020 FY-20 Submitted 09-01-2020.
  - 2. APR #002, 9-1-2020 to 8-31-2021 FY-21 Submitted 09-10-2021.
  - 3. APR #003, 9-1-2021 to 8-31-2022 FY-22 Submitted 09-22-2022.
  - 4. APR #004, 9-1-2022 to 8-31-2023 FY-23 Submitted 08-31-2023.
  - 5. APR #005, 9-1-2023 to 8-31-2024 FY-24 ------
- Due to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Fiscal Year beginning October 1, through September 30, and TWDB (FY) beginning September 01, through August 31, TWDB quarterly reports provided by BCRAGD during the initial 3-year installation and hydraulic modeling period of the Medina River FEWS, there are partial periods whereas quarterly reports overlapped.

# <u>USGS</u> - Completed contractual tasks 1 through 4 and percentage of task completions are referenced to the TWDB Final Report dated 8-20-2019 and updated or revised as needed for current annual progress report.

**Task 1**: Routine data collection and equipment maintenance; (Continual data collection)

<u>Task 1 is 100% complete</u> for the stream-gage installations. The ongoing routine maintenance is continuing, as USGS routinely performs preventative maintenance on a 6 to 8-week interval and is more frequent during storm related events when required.

#### <u>USGS Medina River FEWS Stations continued Operation and Maintenance (O&M):</u>

- West Prong Medina River at Carpenter Creek Rd nr Medina, TX. USGS No. 08178871
- N. Prong. Medina River at Brewington Crossing, FM-2107 nr Medina, TX. USGS No. 08178861
- Medina River at Patterson Rd at Medina, TX. USGS No. 0817887350
- **Task 2**: Development and calibration of a HEC-RAS model for the study area. Task 2 is 100% complete.
- Task 3: Model scenarios and development of a flood atlas.

  <u>Task 3 is 100% complete.</u>

  (http://wimcloud.usgs.gov/apps/FIM/FloodInundationMapper.html)
- **Task 4**: Reporting and integration with Flood Inundation Mapping Program (FIMP)

  <u>Task 4 is 100% complete</u>.

  Website. (http://water.usgs.gov/osw.flood\_inundation)

#### USGS Tasks Completed: September 01, 2022, through August 31, 2023

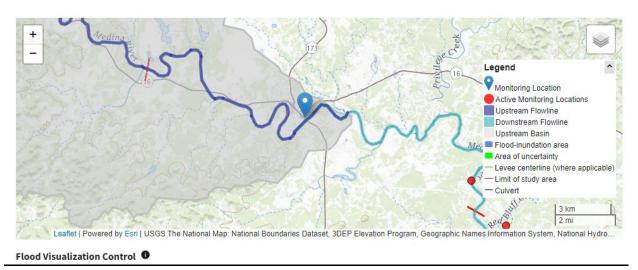
Routine on-site inspections and data collection activities by USGS have occurred as scheduled and typically are on a 6-to-8-week interval. Electronic data collections and satellite telemetry data are reviewed daily and processed for continued calibrations of the FIM.

USGS has maintained the operation and maintenance of all FEWS related equipment. All USGS hydrologic monitoring equipment has been fully operational and functioning correctly.

The USGS web site link at <a href="https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/08178880">https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/08178880</a> has incorporated a Flood Visualization Control interactive map of the Medina River study area and can be user edited from a gage-height of 10 ft/stage to a maximum of 38 ft/stage for flood inundations.

In addition, a user can view this monitoring location on the USGS Flood Information Inundation Mapper at: https://fim.wim.usgs.gov/fim/?site no=08178880.

**Figure 1** — Medina River Flood Early Warning System, Flood Visualization Control - interactive map.



• Stream Gage Elevation Levels for water surface stage above the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88) were completed by USGS at the FEWS stream-gage locations, including culverts, low water crossings and specific locations within the study area during the initial 3-year development period. Lidar elevations were applied to the Flood Inundation Map (FIM) created using the Hydrologic Engineering Center – River Analysis System (HEC-RAS) model by USGS and are on file at the USGS, South Texas Program Oklahoma -Texas Water Science Center, San Antonio, Tx.

## <u>Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District (BCRAGD) Tasks Completed:</u> <u>September 01, 2022, through August 31, 2023</u>

#### Presentations provided and task completions of the Medina River FEWS

Nueces River Authority (NRA) Region 13 - Regional Flood Planning Group (RFPG) at Tilden Tx. Emergency Response Headquarters on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022. December 12, 2022, and June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Utopia, Tx. Uvalde County - Community meeting overview of "Drought in Bandera County and Sabinal River Flood Early Warning System | June 2, 2023" and included discussions of the Medina River FEWS. The meeting was held at the Utopia, Tx Civic Center.

June 22, 2023, BCRAGD met with Bandera County Emergency Coordinator 'Judy Lefever' regarding (in-part) coordination of activities and combined efforts of BCRAGD and Bandera EMC during a flood event.

June 26th, Attended Region 12, San Antonio RFPG on-line meeting as part of BCRAGD responsibility representing Flood Districts of the Region 13 Nueces River Basin and liaison between Region 13 and Region 12 (San Antonio).

On August 3, 2023, a KSAT-12 news interview was held at the BCRAGD office describing the Medina River present water quality and drought related conditions, in addition an overview was provided of the Medina and Sabinal FEWS. BCRAGD provided specifics of the flood inundation tool set and included information of the Flood Inundation Mapping System (FIMS). A USGS Scientific Investigations Report (SIR-2019-5067), USGS Fact Sheets, were made available during the scheduled interview.

A BCRAGD internal document titled 'BCRAGD - Flood Plan' for internal use during significant storm events was revised June 06, 2023.

Routine monitoring of USGS satellite telemetry data of the instantaneous river streamflow, reported as cubic feet per second (cfs), water surface stage (gage-height / elevation ft) and rainfall totals (inches), when occurred are reported from the FEWS gages are reviewed daily. Continual review of the river streamflow and water surface elevation responses during rainfall events are compared by hydrographic relationships (drainage basin delineation signatures) of each station within the FEWS for determining river flow trends as well as travel times between upstream / downstream locations, specifically for use during a flooding occurrence. (http://waterdata.usgs.tx.gov)

BCRAGD received and paid as agreed, all outstanding USGS invoices to-date for the beginning FEWS three-year installation and development period which included the TWDB grant contribution, cost shared payments. BCRAGD contractual obligations for fully funding the operation and maintenance of the Medina FEWS with USGS as the third-party Federal contractor for a five-year period, post-2019, have been maintained as agreed.

The BCRAGD Final report of the initial 3-year data collection period and USGS development of the Flood Inundation map library was approved by TWDB on August 20, 2019. BCRAGD Annual Progress Reports (APR's) FY-20, 21, 22 and current FY-23, have been submitted to TWDB as required. Continued funding of the FEWS is planned beyond the 5-year conclusion.

Table 1 - U.S. Geological Survey streamflow-gaging stations in the study area includes a 23-mile reach in the Medina River.

Station number	Station name	Latitude and longitude	Data collected	Period of data collection	Changes made
0817887350	Medina River at Patterson Road at Medina, Texas.	29.79389, -99.2486	Discharge Gage height Precipitation	November 2, 2011–present November 2, 2011–present January 6, 2019–present	Added precip.
08178880	Medina River at Bandera, Texas.	29.72384, -99.0700	Discharge Gage height	October 20, 1982-present October 20, 1982-present	Period of record revised 9/14/22
08178980	Medina River above English Crossing near Pipe Creek, Texas.	29.69439, -98.9793	Discharge Gage height Precipitation	May 10, 2017–present May 10, 2017–present January 6, 2019–present	Added precip.
08178861	North Prong Medina River at Brewington Creek near Medina, Texas.	29.87533, -99.3488	Gage height Precipitation	October 12, 2017–present January 6, 2019–present	Added precip.
08178871	West Prong Medina River at Carpenter Creek Road near Medina, Texas.	29.78014, -99.3793	Gage height Precipitation	August 3, 2017–present January 6, 2019–present	Added precip.

Figure 2 - Study area map with the USGS FEWS streamflow-gaging stations

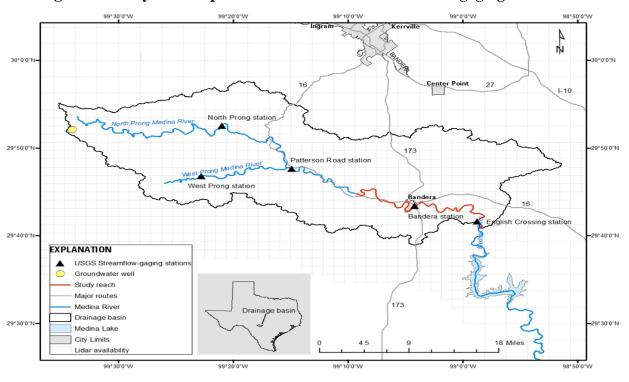


Figure 3 – Medina River at Bandera, Tx. USGS Station Number 08178880 Flow cfs) data Hydrograph September 01, 2022, through August 31, 2023.

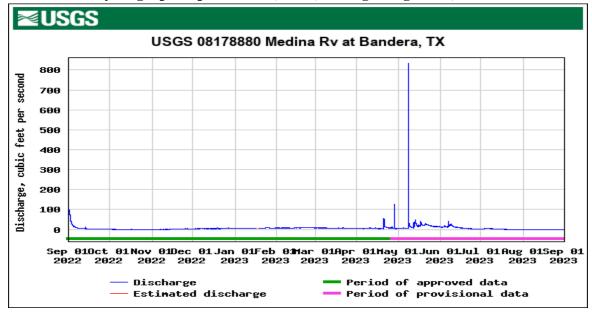
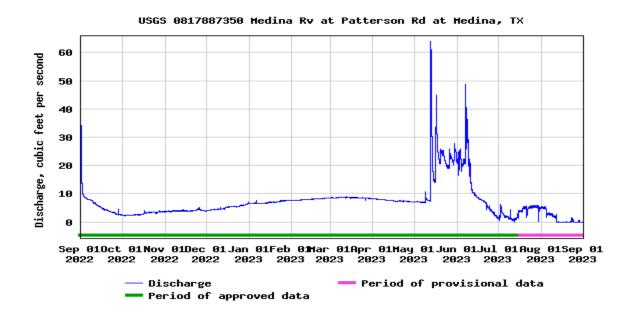


Figure 4 – Medina River at Patterson Road USGS Station Number 0817887350 Flow (cfs) Hydrograph September 01, 2022, through August 31st, 2023



the period <b>Septembe</b> no later than 30 days	following 08/31/202	<b>ust 31, 2023,</b> at 23.	ie io Texas Wal	si Development t	oudiü
Submitted on August	31, 2023.				



# **Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District, Flood Plan**

(revised) June 06, 2023



Photo courtesy of Jerry Sides

Prepared by:
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Flood Science Manager (<a href="mailto:lthomas@bcragd.org">lthomas@bcragd.org</a>)

#### **CONTENTS**

<u>Table of Contents</u>	2
<u>Acroynms</u>	3
Purpose	4
<u>Introduction</u>	4
Project Alert	5
BCRAGD Personnel / Agency Contacts	5
<u>Communications</u>	6
BCRAGD Operations During A Flood Event	7
Streamflow & Rainfall Stations For Review During Flood	8
Safety	9
Traffic Control Device Recommendations List	10
Post Flooding Procedures	11
BCRAGD Vehicle Safety Inspection Requirements	11
Watercraft and Trailer safety inspection checklist	12
TxDOT Traffic Control Plan	
Examples	1314

#### **ACRONYMS**

(BCRAGD) Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District

(CFM) Certified Floodplain Manager

(ERA) Emergency Response Agency

(FEWS) Flood Early Warning Systems

(FSM) Flood Science Manager

(GM) General Manager

(AGM) Assistant General Manager

(MUTCD) 2009 Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

(NWS) National Weather Service

**(PFD)** Personal Floatation Device

(TCD) Traffic Control Devices

(TCP) Traffic Control Plans

(TWDB) Texas Water Development Board

**(TxDOT)** Tx Department of Transportation

(USGS) U.S. Geological Survey

#### **PURPOSE**

The Bandera County River Authority Groundwater District (BCRAGD) has established a "Flood Plan" for use during significant rainfall runoff events resulting in minor to significant flooding conditions of the Medina River and Sabinal River within Bandera County, TX.

Floods can occur rapidly and with short notice. It is the purpose of this flood plan to outline a plan of operation to effectively coordinate employees and provide reliable information during flooding events to others.

This plan defines lines of communication, personnel assignments, safety, special flood conditions, and post-flood operations.

During various magnitudes of flood events, there may be significant areas of Bandera County affected which require evacuations and pre-planned coordination of activities to prevent loss of life and reduce property damage. These coordinated efforts of this flood plan are combined with BCRAGD employees, Bandera Emergency Response Agencies (ERA), National Weather Service (NWS), Tx Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Local residence, Visitors, and others.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Because of the extreme variability of the occurrence of floods in Bandera County, this plan is designed around BCRAGD office operations and designated employee responsibilities during a flood event.

BCRAGD received a funding grant from the Texas Water Development Board-(TWDB) to establish a Flood Early Warning System (FEWS) for Bandera County. BCRAGD established a cooperative agreement with the U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) for the installation and continuous operation of Streamflow and Rainfall stations within the upper watershed of the Medina and Sabinal River basins. These stations are designed to monitor continuous streamflow, water surface stage (elevations), and rainfall data.

This information is then transmitted hourly and every fifteen minutes during major flood events, via; satellite telemetry, which can be found on the USGS web site at 'usgstx.gov' for each station established. Data is also available through several web-based and cell phone communications.

#### **PROJECT ALERT**

The office of the BCRAGD may be called upon to furnish information on extreme hydrologic events to other agencies, local cooperators, ERA(s), the public, media, and local governments. The BCRAGD flood response coordinator is the primary Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM). It is the duty of the CFM to alert the BCRAGD General Manager (GM) of an occurrence or possibility of occurrence of such an event, who in turn will notify personnel and subject agencies as may be required.

## BCRAGD PERSONNEL / AGENCY CONTACTS Primary BCRAGD Personnel for flood response are denoted as (#)

BCRAGDOffice (830) 796-7260 - www.bcragd.org

BCRAGD President - Don Sloan - sloanmedina@cs.com

- (#) General Manager David Mauk, CFM dmauk@bcragd.org
- (#) Assistant General Manager Luke Whitmire, Ph.D. <a href="mailto:lwhitmire@bcragd.org">lwhitmire@bcragd.org</a>
- (#) Field Operations Manager Clint Carter ccarter@bcragd.org
- (#) Flood Science Manager Larry Thomas, CFM, NRS. <a href="mailto:lthomas@bcragd.org">lthomas@bcragd.org</a>
- (#) Aquatic Ecologist Levi Sparks <a href="mailto:lsparks@bcragd.org">lsparks@bcragd.org</a>

Education Outreach Manager - Corrina Fox - cfox@bcraqd.org

Education and Outreach Coordinator - Charley Curd - ccurd@bcragd.org

Inter-Governmental Affairs Manager - Hayli Hernandez - hhernandez@bcragd.org

Office Manager & Executive Assistant- Diane Irvin - dirvin@bcragd.org

Natural Resource Specialist – Shelby Sckittone – shelbys@bcragd.org

Groundwater Well Inspectors – Clint, Shelby, Levi, Larry

Environmental Hazards Compliance & Investigations – Luke, Clint, Levi, Larry

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

#### During an Emergency, Call 911 or phone direct to the following ERA's:

- NWS Forecast Office, Austin / San Antonio TxWarning Coordination Meteorologist Paul A. Yura paul.yura@noaa.gov / (830) 629 0130 or (830) 221 8595.
- USGS / San Antonio, TX. Program Office (210) 691 9200, https://tx.usgs.gov
- Bandera County, Tx. Emergency Management (830) 460 8299
- Bandera County, Tx. Sheriff Department (830) 796 3771
- Bandera, Tx. Fire Marshal Office (830) 796 3771
- Bandera, Tx. Fire Department (830) 796 3777
- Bandera County, TxDOT (830) 796 3731
- Medina, Tx. Fire Department (830) 796 3771
- Pipe Creek, Tx. Fire Department (830) 535 4511
- Utopia, Tx. Fire Department (830) 966 3333
- Uvalde County Sheriff Department (830) 278 4111
- Vanderpool, Tx. Fire Department (830) 966 5500
- TX. Dept. Public Safety Bandera County (830) 796 7274
- TX. Dept. Public Safety Uvalde County (830) 278 5630

#### **BCRAGD OPERATIONS DURING A FLOOD EVENT**

All BCRAGD personnel are subject to being contacted for assistance during a flooding event, regardless of their discipline specialty. Assistance may be required in the Office and or specific field-related assignments.

Key personnel are denoted with (#) on page 4 of this flood plan under the "BCRAGD Personnel / Agency Contacts" listings.

A pending hydrologic event, which may lead to flooding of any condition being of 'minor', 'significant', 'major' or 'catastrophic' occurrence, shall be reviewed prior to such an event as soon as reasonably possible by key personnel.

The projected storm approach and rainfall intensity as predicted by the NWS shall be reviewed and disseminated to all BCRAGD personnel.

The appropriate local ERA for each localized area(s) of predicted impact shall be notified as soon as possible by the BCRAGD GM, and communications maintained throughout the event duration contingent upon the predicted magnitude and intensity of the event.

Communications with BCRAGD personnel and appropriate local ERA(s) shall include specifics of the event data availability as obtained from, but not limited to, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Flood Warning stations located within the pending conditions area (as available). This data and information obtained shall be from real-time observations, USGS satellite telemetry, local residence, ERA staff, BCRAGD staff, and the NWS. The data shall be documented and dispersed on the BCRAGD home page web site.

Data may include, but not limited to, the following information:

- 1. Present real-time water stage level
- 2. Rate-of-change in stage
- 3. Flow rate measured as cfs/3 (as available)
- 4. Rainfall total amounts and intensity
- 5. Storm cell track and potential future track
- 6. Impacted areas / bridge or road closures
- 7. Other pertinent information

#### STREAMFLOW & RAINFALL STATIONS FOR REVIEW DURING FLOOD

<u>Primary Bandera County Flood Warning USGS Streamflow & Rainfall Stations Located</u> <u>within the Medina Rv Basin including the Upper Medina River Basin of the North and West</u> <u>Prongs</u>

- USGS 08178871, W Prong Medina Rv at Carpenter Ck Rd nr Medina, TX (Stage and Rainfall)
- USGS 08178861 N. Prong Medina Rv @ Brewington Crossing nr Medina, Tx (Stage and Rainfall)
- USGS 0817887350 Medina Rv at Patterson Rd at Medina,TX (Stage-River flow and Rainfall)
- USGS 08178880 Medina Rv at Bandera, TX (Stage and Riverflow)

<u>Primary Bandera County Flood Warning USGS Streamflow & Rainfall Stations within the Nueces River Basin on the Sabinal River above Utopia, Tx.</u>

- USGS 08197936 Sabinal Rv bl Mill Ck nr Vanderpool, TX (Stage-River flow and Rainfall
- USGS 08197970 Sabinal Rv below West Sabinal Rv at Utopia, TX (Stage-River flow and Rainfall)
- USGS 295204099340201, AS-69-12-206 N. W. Bandera County, Edwards GW Well 1 (Groundwater level and Rainfall)

Additional Monitoring Stations Available for Review During Pending Storm Conditions -

- Edwards Aquifer Authority <u>EAA Weather Station at Bandera County River Authority</u> Office 'www.bcragd.org'
  - Sensors are Temperature: F, Rain: inches, RH:%, Dew Point: F, Pressure: inHg, Wind Speed: mph, Wind Direction: NSEW, Solar Radiation: KW/m<sup>2</sup>
- USGS 08179500 Medina Lk nr San Antonio, TX (Lake Stage, Reservoir Capacity and Rainfall)
- USGS 08178980 Medina Rv above English Crossing near Pipe Creek, TX (River Stage -River Flow and Rainfall
- USGS 08179110 Red Bluff Crk. at FM 1283 near Pipe Crk., TX (Stage and Rainfall)

USGS Streamflow stations located within the following river basins and others may provide additional information for localized pre-storm planning and should be reviewed contingent upon the present storm track projections and predicted storm severity.

Hydrologic data from various USGS real-time satellite telemetry streamflow and rainfall stations, within the following water sheds and river basins can be found at <a href="https://tx.usgs.gov">https://tx.usgs.gov</a>.

- Upper Medina River Water Shed
- Sabinal River Water Shed
- Nueces River Basin
- San Antonio River Basin
- Guadalupe River Basin

#### **SAFETY**

It is the responsibility of every employee to take proper precautions to ensure his or her own safety as well as the safety of the public within the vicinity of assigned duties such as while working from the road surface or bridges.

Safety controls for alerting motorists and the public shall always be utilized while performing assigned field operations, specifically during periods of work requiring activities to be completed from a bridge or roadway.

The following recommendations of the Safety Officer, which have been approved by the BCRAGD GM, must be followed:

- (1) BCRAGD vehicles shall not park on a roadway, highway bridge, or otherwise impede normal traffic flow at any time unless approved by BCRAGD General Manager or designee.
- (2) Only during absolute essential circumstances shall a vehicle be parked within 7 ft minimum distance of the travel lane for short duration periods to complete assigned duties. At which time the vehicle flashers and recommended 360-degree visibility rotating or strobe warning light shall be used. Short duration is considered less than 30 minutes.
- (3) During periods which may require a vehicle to be parked within the 7 ft minimum spacing for longer than 30-minute periods, the operator or person in charge shall follow the 2009 Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Part VI. revisions 1 and 2 for the specific road design in which work is to be performed at. <a href="http://www.tx.dot.gov.txdotlibrary/publications/government/project\_development/traffic\_operations.ht">http://www.tx.dot.gov.txdotlibrary/publications/government/project\_development/traffic\_operations.ht</a>.

#### Modified TCP's and generic templates for use are attached.

- 1) The BCRAGD Safety Officer shall have in place specific Traffic Control Plans (TCP) for existing locations normally scheduled to visit by field personnel, in addition to approved generic TCP's to be utilized accordingly during non-routine site visits.
- All BCRAGD vehicles shall be equipped with a minimum of four (4) Traffic Control devices (TCDs), ie: TXDOT approved traffic cones. In addition to TCDs, all BCRAGD vehicles shall have approved First Aid kits, reflective vests, emergency throw ropes, personal floatation devices (PFDs), rain gear, throwable floatation, vehicle equipped with 360-degree visibility blue / yellow strobe lights, and communication capabilities for alerting BCRAGD personnel (and-or) Emergency response personnel if required.
- 6) Additional traffic control devices shall be readily available as needed and maintained in good working conditions. At a minimum the following TxDOT approved items shall be readily available.

two (2) - Workers Ahead Signs, two (2) - Right, and Left, Lane closed ahead signs, two (2) - Slow/Stop Signs, four (4) - handheld orange flags, ten (10) - traffic control cones, and six (6) portable sign holder stands.

#### TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **General National Traffic Cone Standards:**

All traffic device safety cones must be orange, fluorescent red-orange, or fluorescent yellow/orange. Daytime and low-speed area cones on roads at or below 40 miles per hour must be at least 18 inches tall; cones intended for use for locations with above 45 miles per hour - must be at least 28 inches tall. All cones must be stable enough to withstand environmental and traffic conditions, so they can be doubled up or weighted down as needed. Flashing light devices can be attached to cones if the lights increase visibility in bad weather, on curvy roads or in areas with many distractions.

#### **Night-Use Traffic Safety Cones:**

Night-use traffic device safety cones must be at least 28 inches tall and have reflectors or lighting devices. Cones measuring 28 to 36 inches must have two white reflector bands that measure six and four inches wide; if the cones are taller than 36 inches, they must have at least two white reflector bands measuring four to six inches creating alternating orange and white stripes with the top stripe being orange. Non-reflective gaps cannot exceed three inches.

#### **POST FLOODING PROCEDURE**

#### **Location Reconnaissance Plan & Call in Procedure:**

- Preliminary itinerary of site visits planned by BCRAGD personnel during a storm event, shall include at a minimum, the following information and approved by the GM prior to departure.
  - Written site visit (s) planned
  - Vehicle description and Texas License Plate ID
  - Date and Time of departure and anticipated return date and time
  - Personnel and responsible party in charge
  - Contact phone number (s)
- Post Flood Operations and required actions:
  - Post calls in to GM.
  - Sign written reconnaissance plan as completed with date and time of returning to BCRAGD office.
  - Notify ERAs of actions required if any.
  - Document reconnaissance findings and file digital photos of conditions found.

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#### BCRAGD Vehicle, Boat, and Boat Trailer Safety Inspection - Requirements

- State required Vehicle Inspections
- BCRAGD Annual Inspections / and Available Field use Equipment as needed.
- Fire extinguisher inspections
- First Aid Kit
- Traffic Control devices
- Traffic Control; written and description sketch (Tx-MUTCD revision 2 Oct. 2014)
- Swift Water rescue throw ropes
- Organized Secured Vehicles No loose tools or potential projectile objects in cab or open truck bed.
- <u>Vehicle overall condition including Tires, Spare Tire and manufactured</u> recommended-Jack Hoist
- Shovel Tow Strap
- Hip-Boots / Chest Waders / PFD when required
- Snake Chaps or protective boots
- Pre and Post trip schedule

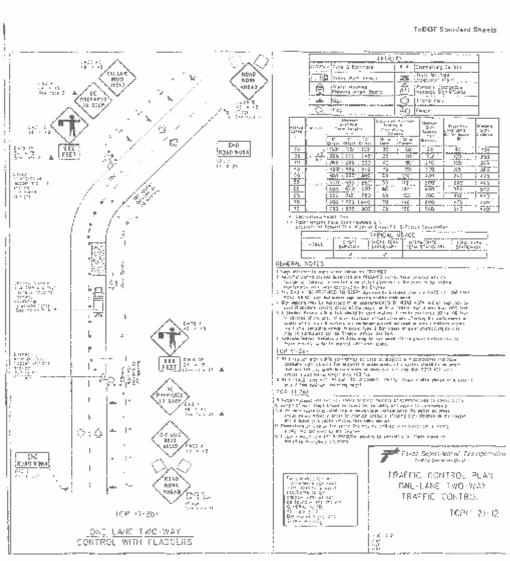
#### Watercraft and Trailer

### All required U.S. Coast Guard safety items as per impoundments of use and vessel type. Including a Pre-Trip Float Plan

- Float plan filed at BCRAGD office and physical copy accompanied with boat
- Waterproof first aid kit
- Approved watercraft fire extinguisher
- BCRAGD reflective decal / placard attached on Port and Starboard bow of boat
- Operational running lights, anchor light and proper stern light extension
- Anchor of correct type for channel bottom and proper length of rope and chain
- Whistle and Horn
- Navigable chart (electronic or channel map)
- Communication device, i.e., cell phone, marine radio
- Portable flood light
- Paddle and Gaff
- Spare boat drain plug
- Bilge pump in good working condition and insure a clean unobstructed pump intake
- GPS Navigational Chart Depth indicator
- Waterproof Toolbox with spare spark plugs
- Boat battery secured and in good condition. (Consider mounting 20 W solar panel and regulator for charging battery remotely if needed)
- Throwable floating ring or cushion
- Adequate and in good condition PFD's
- Spare prop with retaining key or nut
- Engine emergency cutoff lanyard in good condition and working properly.
- Battery jumper cables
- Reflective BCRAGD -Vi- on Starboard and Port sides near bow
- Diver flags and buoy when required
- Waterproof writing tablet and markers
- Fluorescent orange elastic flagging
- Anti-skid adhesive strips -or- anti-skid paint applied on Bow area working surface
- Trash Bags
- Change of clothing in waterproof bag

#### **Boat Trailer**

- Good condition tires
- Good condition trailer bunks or rollers
- Good condition Stern tie down buckles and watercraft mid-ship or Aft strap
- Good condition boat hitch safety chain and winch strap
- Trailer lights in good working condition
- Trailer hitch and safety chains in good condition
- Trailer tag with up-to-date registration



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