

# Be Flood SAF(ER)

Situational Awareness for  
Emergency Response

A River Flooding  
Extent Map Viewer

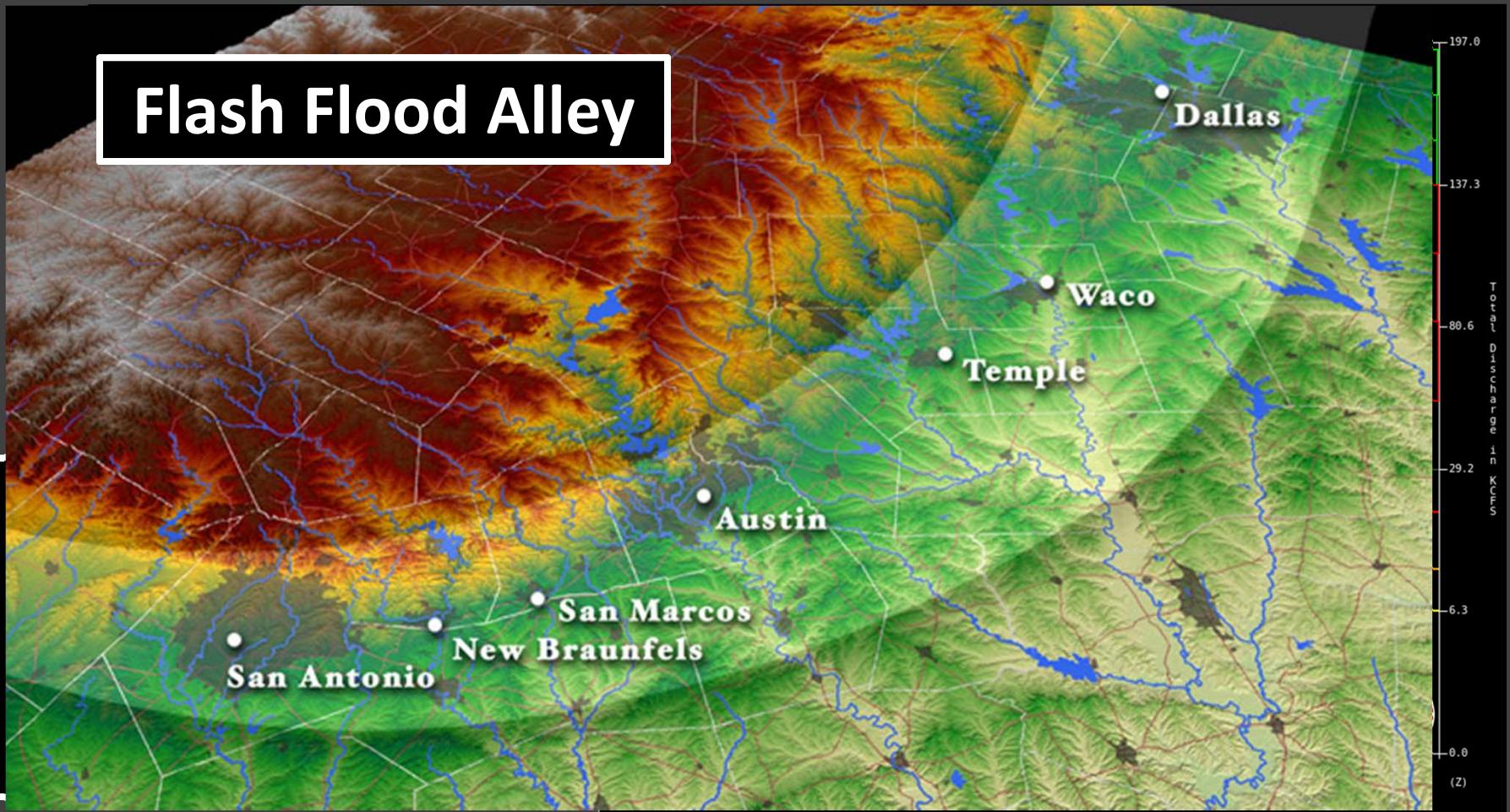


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26<sup>th</sup> Annual SCAUG  
Conference – Corpus Christi

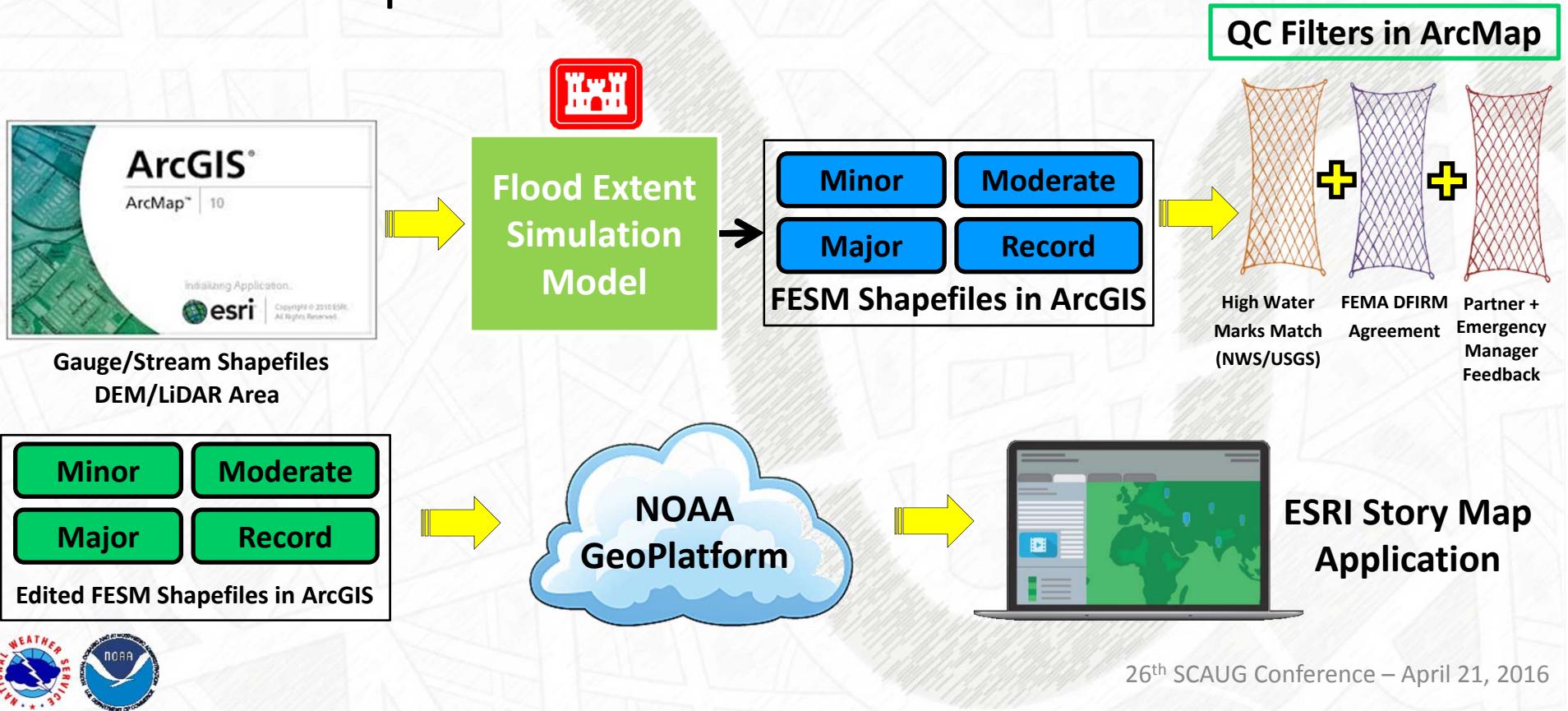
April 21<sup>th</sup>, 2016

# River & Creek Flash Flooding Reality



# Flood SAF(ER) Development

- NWS & U.S. Corps of Engineers Partnership
  - Flood Extent Simulation Model (FESM)
  - Developed a GIS workflow



# Flood SAF(ER) Application

**SAF(ER) Flood Viewer - Situational Awareness For Emergency Response**

Use this map viewer to remain river flooding aware for your area. Areas mapped will be outlined in red. Click the red outlined area of your choice to view the hydrograph and a direct link to the flood extent mapping page for that river. This will open a new viewer of that specific site where you can see flood extents for various river stages. Please use with caution and do not use for critical decisions. Always listen and heed local and county official warnings for evacuations. This is an experimental service and by using this map service, you agree to these terms and conditions as map accuracy can not be fully guaranteed. For more information concerning weather watches and warnings go to: <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/ewx/>

Turn Around, Don't Drown [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Email](#)



Situational Overview River Flooding Awareness - Hydrographs River Flood Extents

Click a river gauge site in the map to view its current Hydrograph/Streamflow.

Zoom-in (2x) to see river basins to see where water could flow.

Zoom-in (3x) to see all river flowlines.

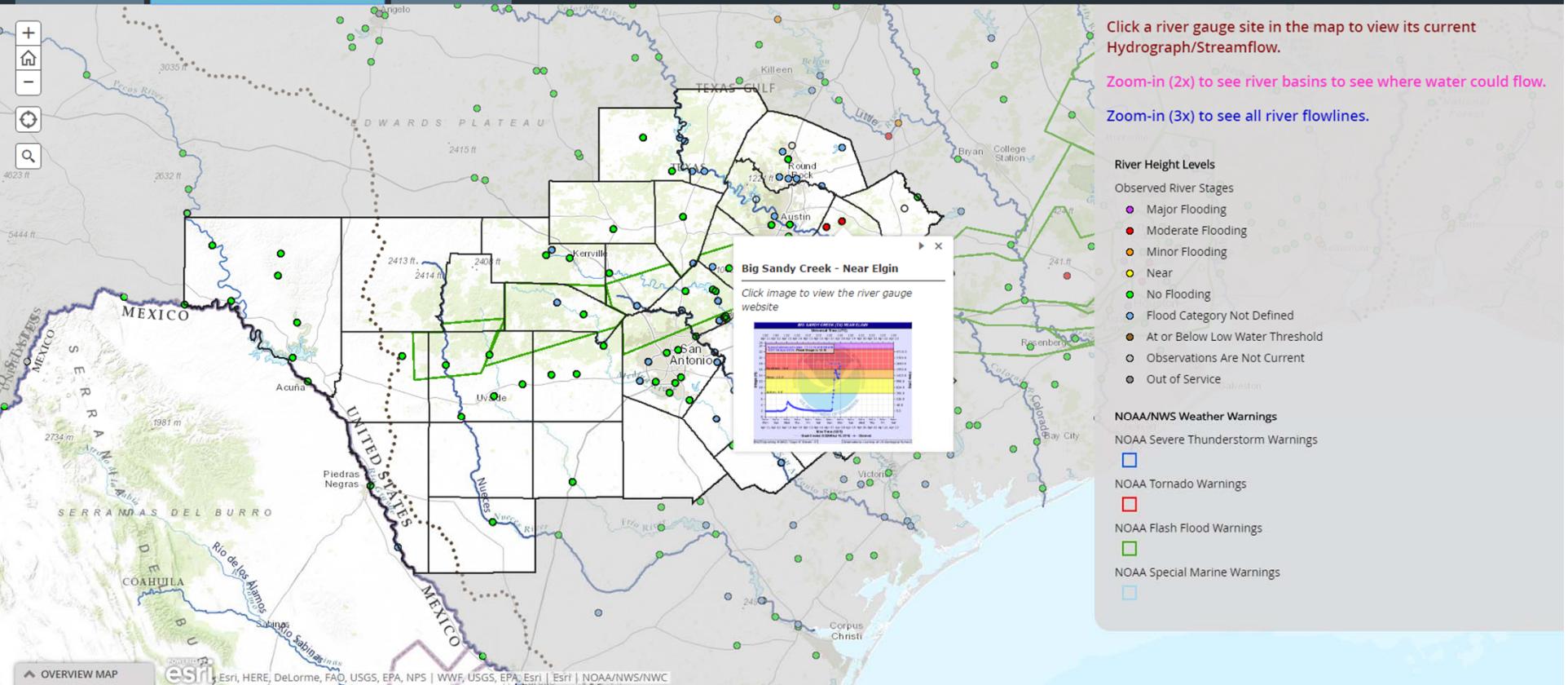
River Height Levels

- Observed River Stages
  - Major Flooding
  - Moderate Flooding
  - Minor Flooding
  - Near
  - No Flooding
  - Flood Category Not Defined
  - At or Below Low Water Threshold
  - Observations Are Not Current
  - Out of Service

NOAA/NWS Weather Warnings

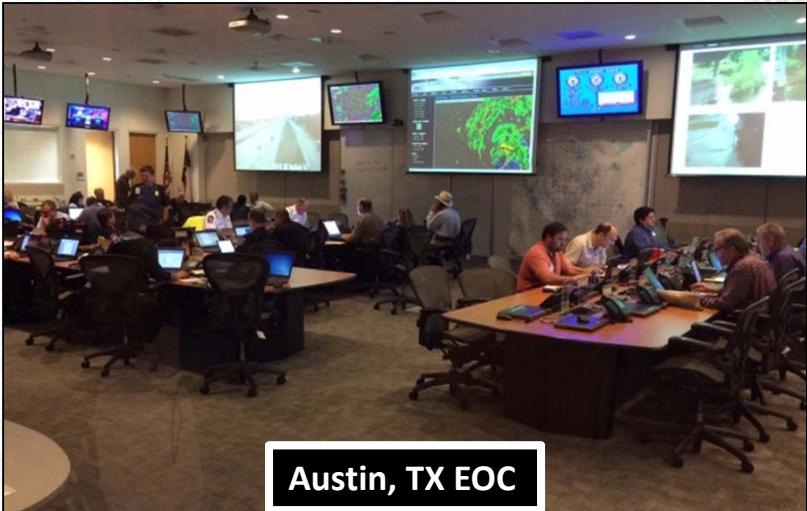
- NOAA Severe Thunderstorm Warnings
- NOAA Tornado Warnings
- NOAA Flash Flood Warnings
- NOAA Special Marine Warnings

  
esri Esri, HERE, DeLorme, FAO, USGS, EPA, NPS | WWF, USGS, EPA, Esri | Esri | NOAA/NWS/NWC

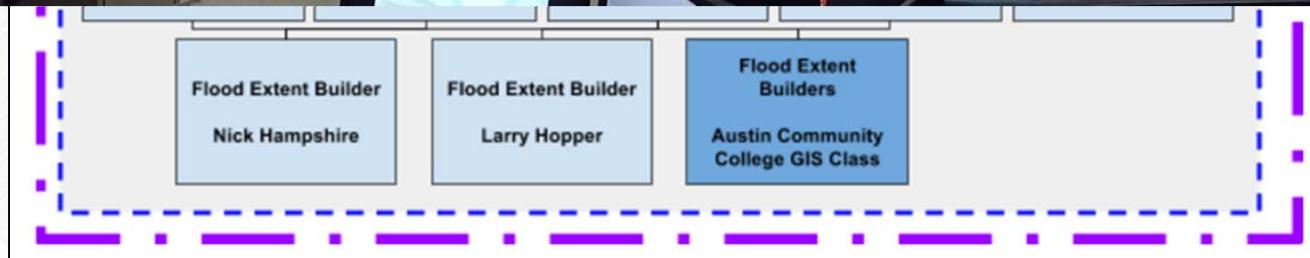
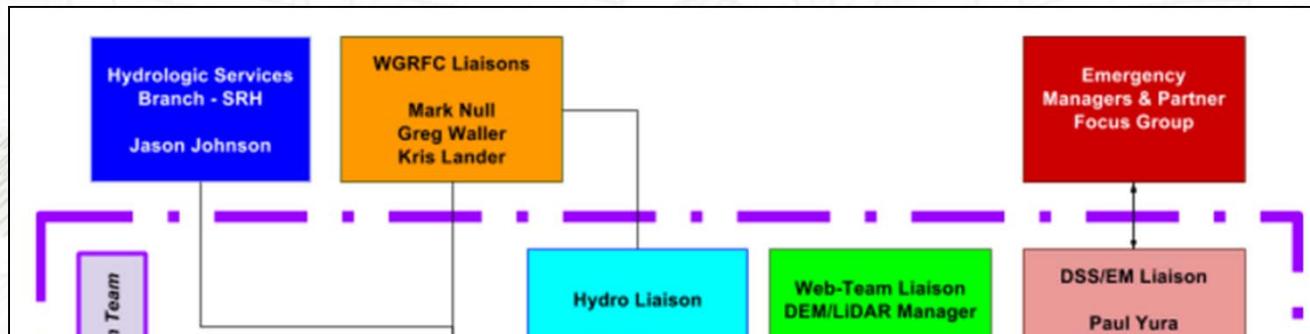


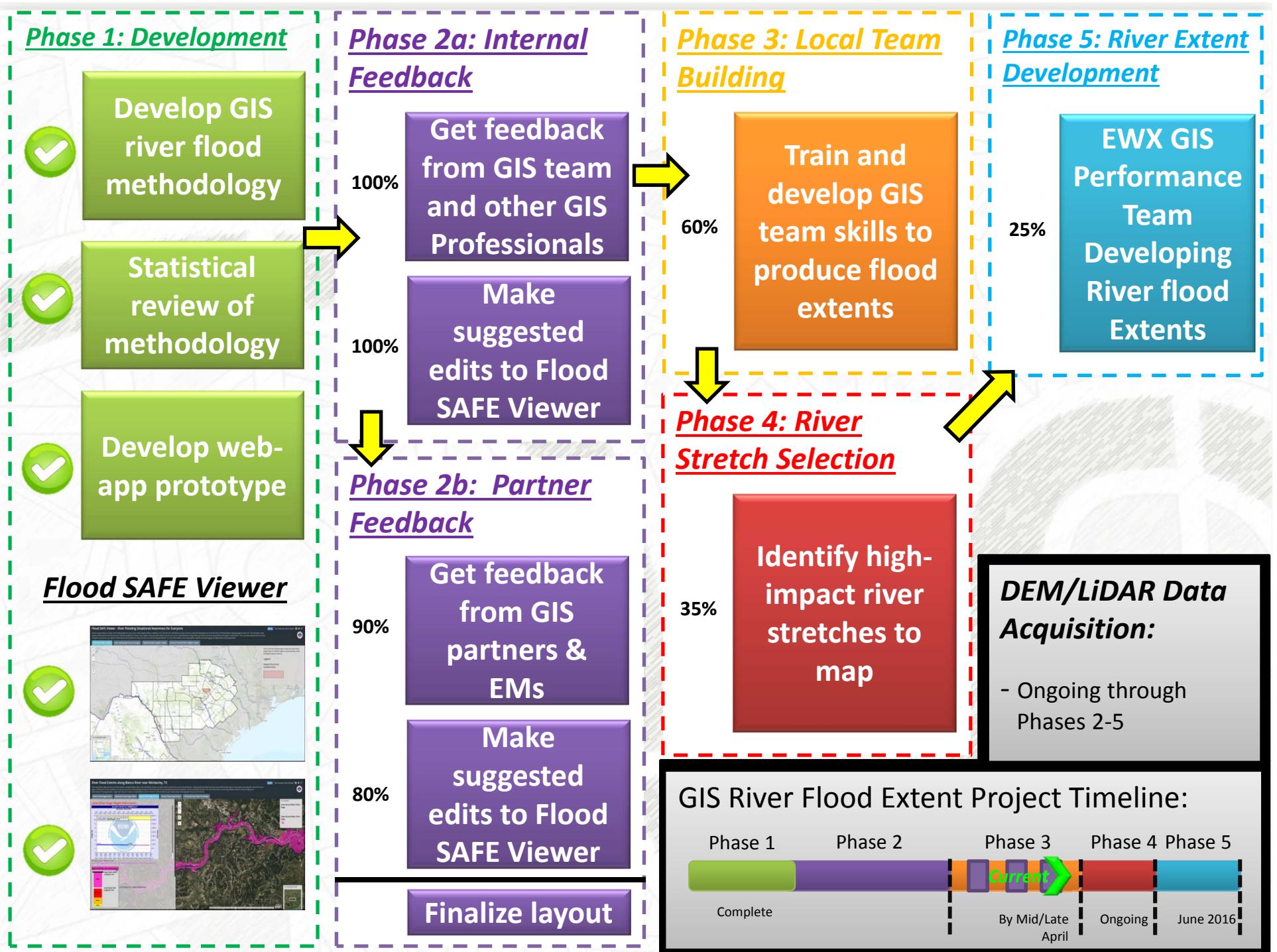
# Critical for:

- Preparation:
  - NWS sharing data before the next flood to GIS & EM partners
- Planning:
  - Key decision timelines
  - People and resource allocation
- Response & Recovery:
  - EOC awareness and service

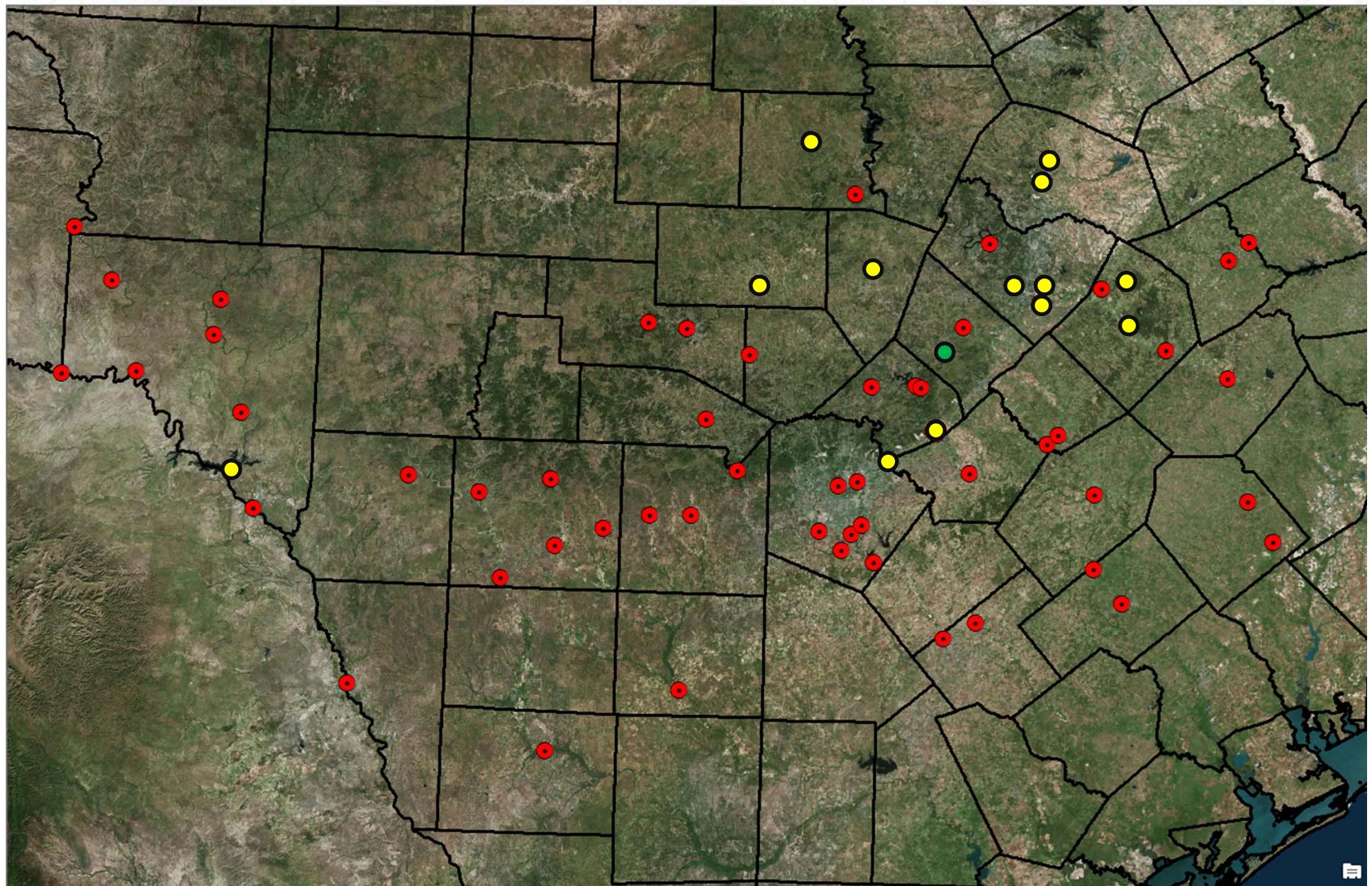


# Project Scope

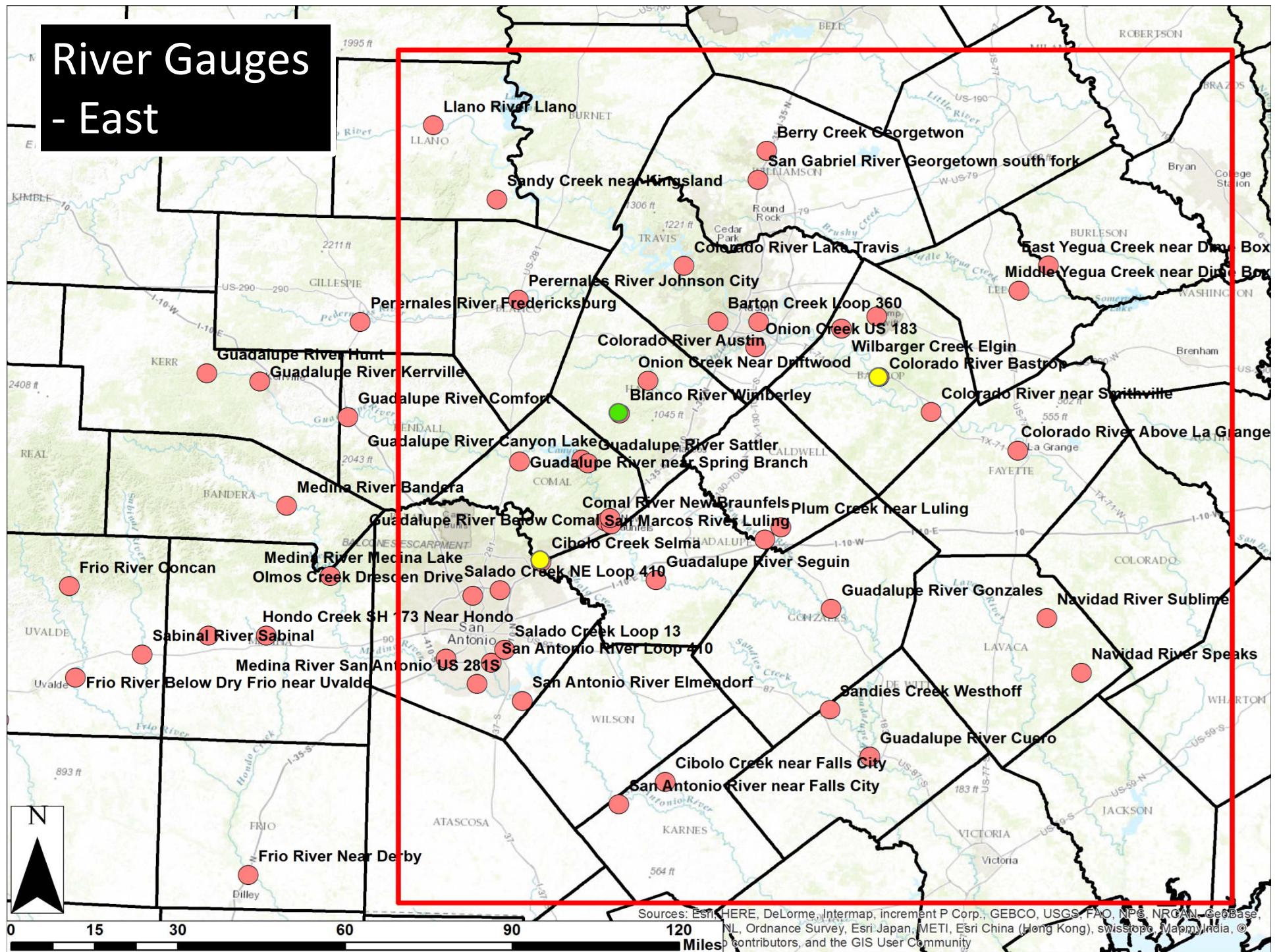


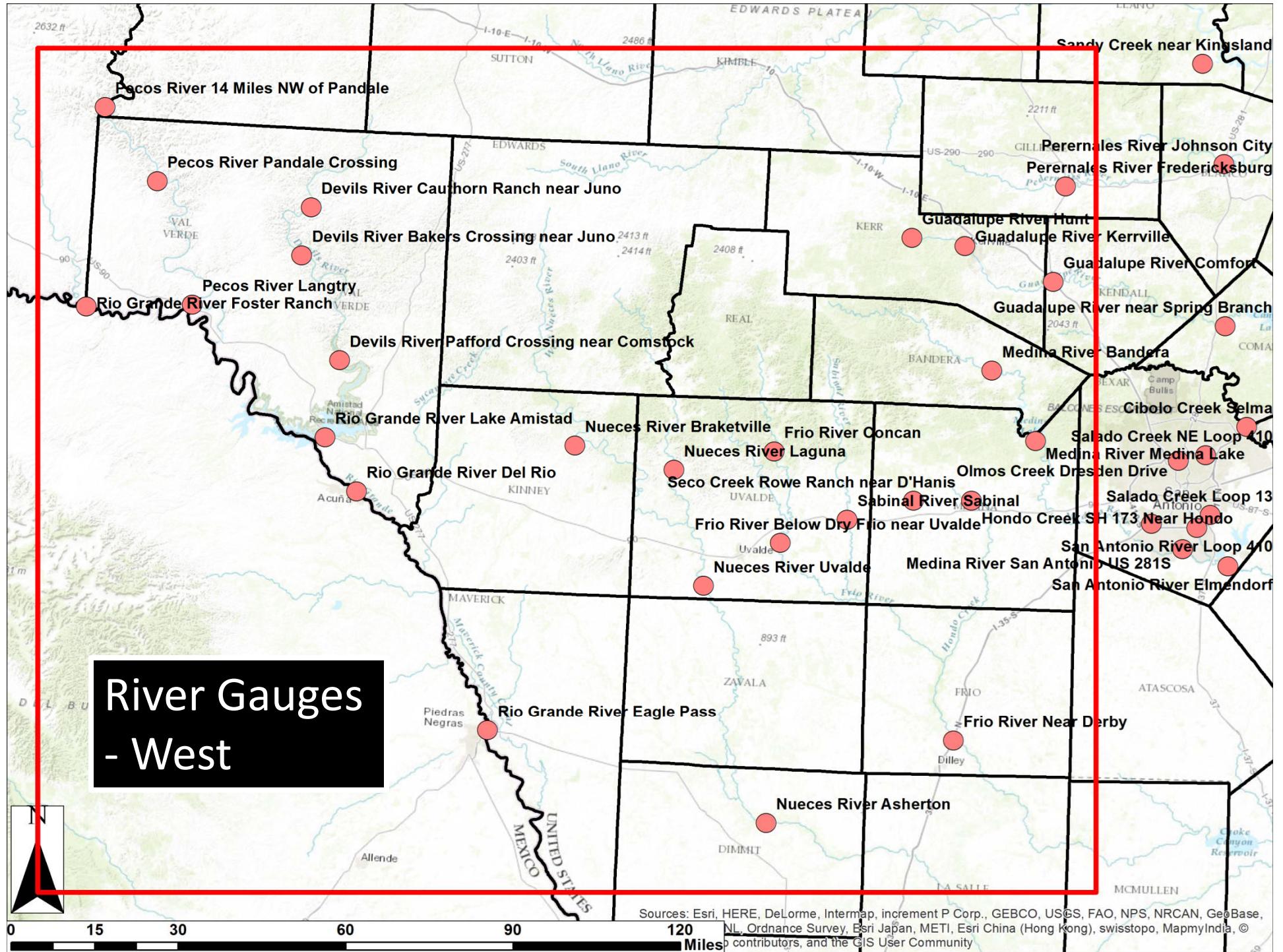


# Active sites being modeled

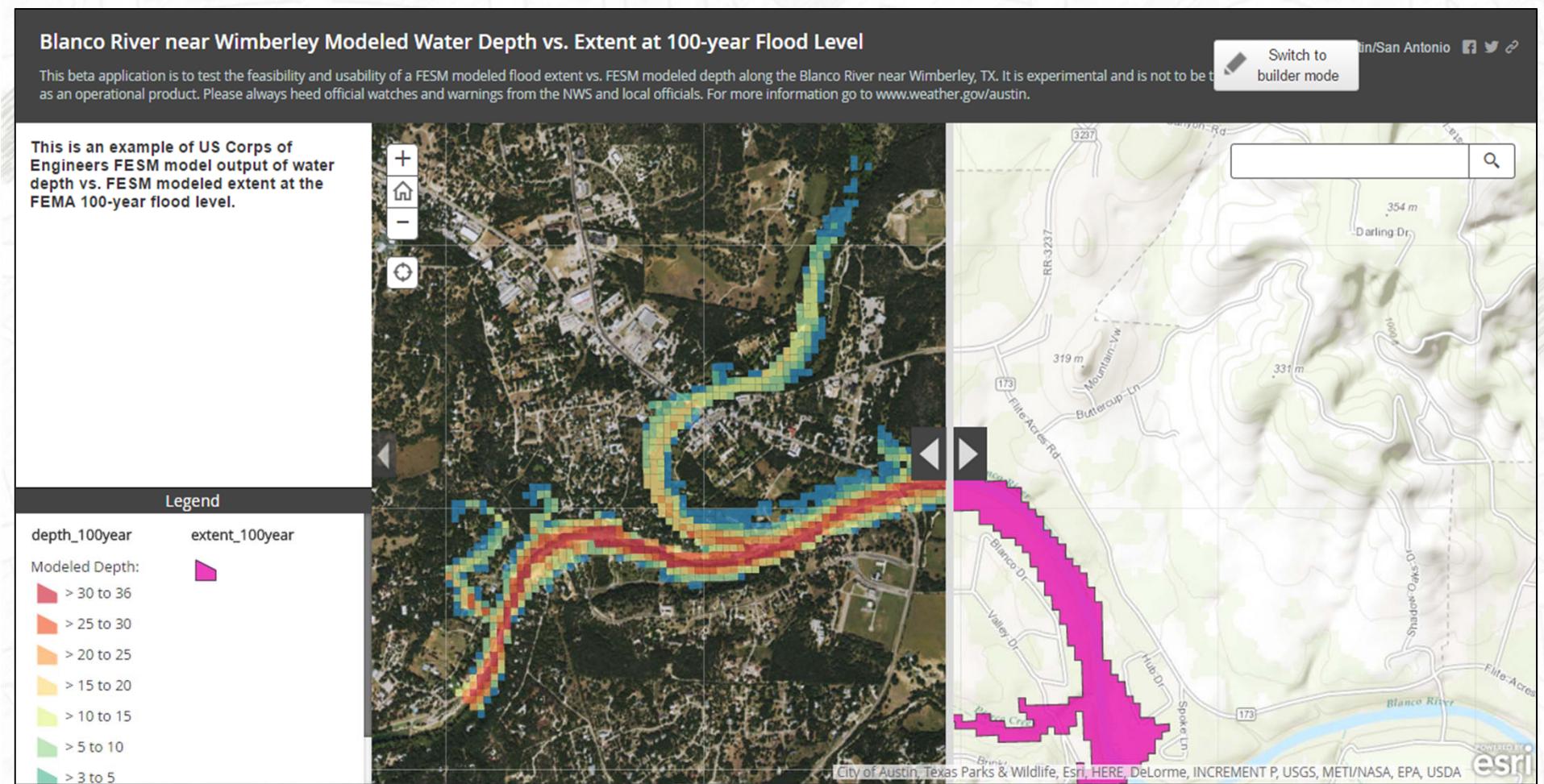


# River Gauges - East





# Future Developments



# Thank You



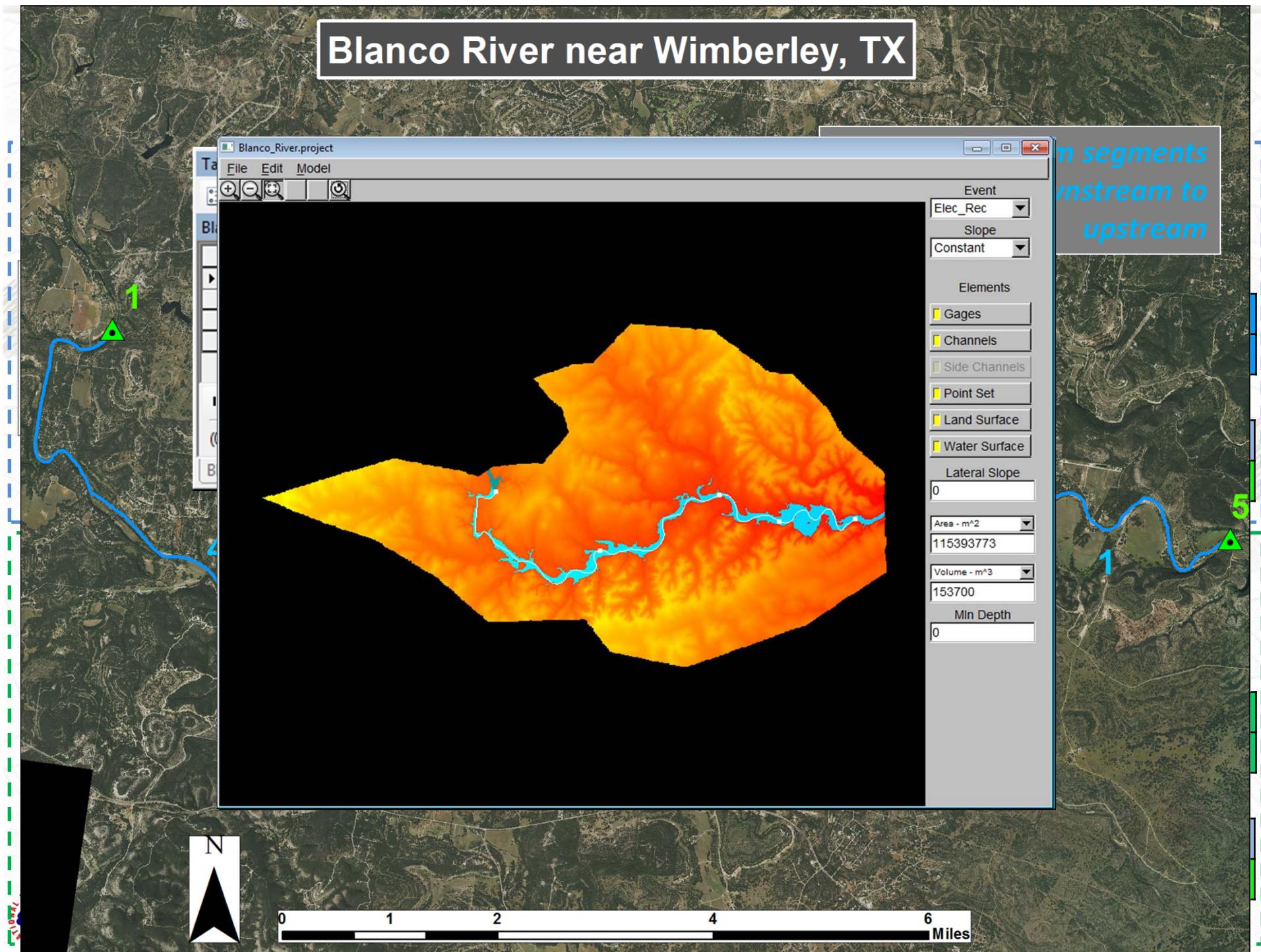
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# Blanco River near Wimberley, TX



# Sites Modeled and Statistics

- Six river sites tested at various elevation data resolutions:

River Site	LiDAR/DEM Resolution
Leaf River at Hattiesburg, MS	~ 9 Feet (3 Meter) LiDAR
Susquehanna River at Binghamton, NY	~ 6 Feet (2 Meter) LiDAR
Red River at Alexandria, LA	20 Feet LiDAR
Susquehanna River at Harrisburg, PA	30 Feet (10 meter) DEM
Kentucky River at Frankfort, KY	5 Feet LiDAR
Onion Creek at Austin, TX	30 Feet (10 Meter) DEM

- Spatial Statistical tests performed:
  - Cohen's Kappa Coefficient<sup>2,4</sup>
  - Overall pixel classification accuracy<sup>6</sup>
    - Computed for: **Minor**, **Moderate**, **Major**, and **Record** stages



# Cohen's Kappa Coefficient

- Assess inter-model reliability between two or more spatially observed/coded qualitative or categorical variables<sup>2</sup>.

$$\kappa = \frac{Pr(a) - Pr(e)}{1 - Pr(e)}$$

$Pr(a)$  = Relative Observed Agreement

$$20 + 15 = 35 \quad 35/50 = 0.7$$

$Pr(e)$  = Probability of Random Agreement

$$[(30/50) * (25/50)] + [(20/50) * (25/50)] = 0.5$$



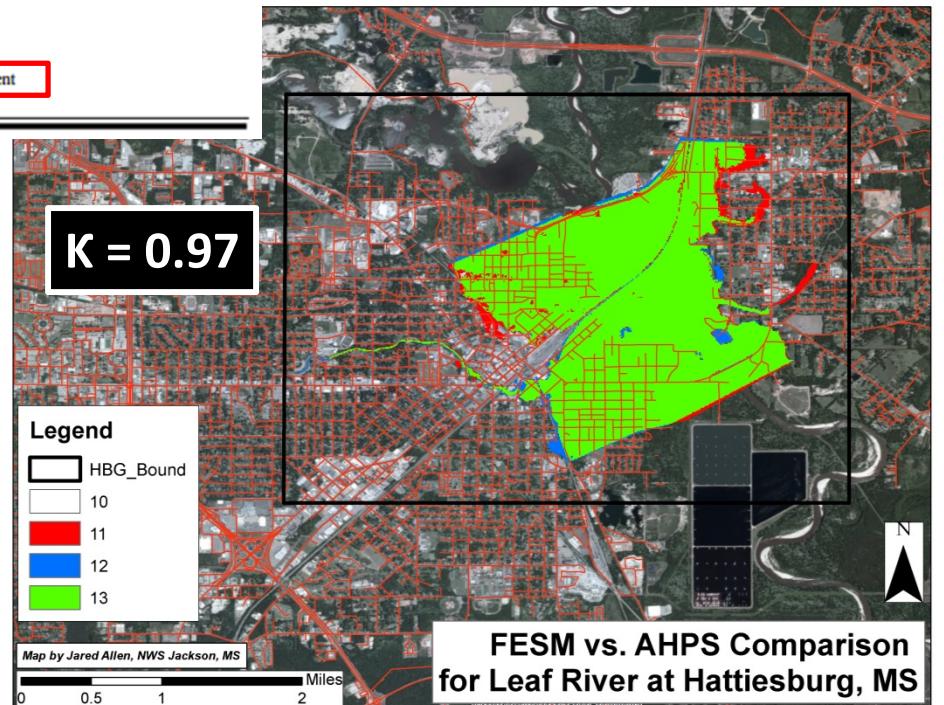
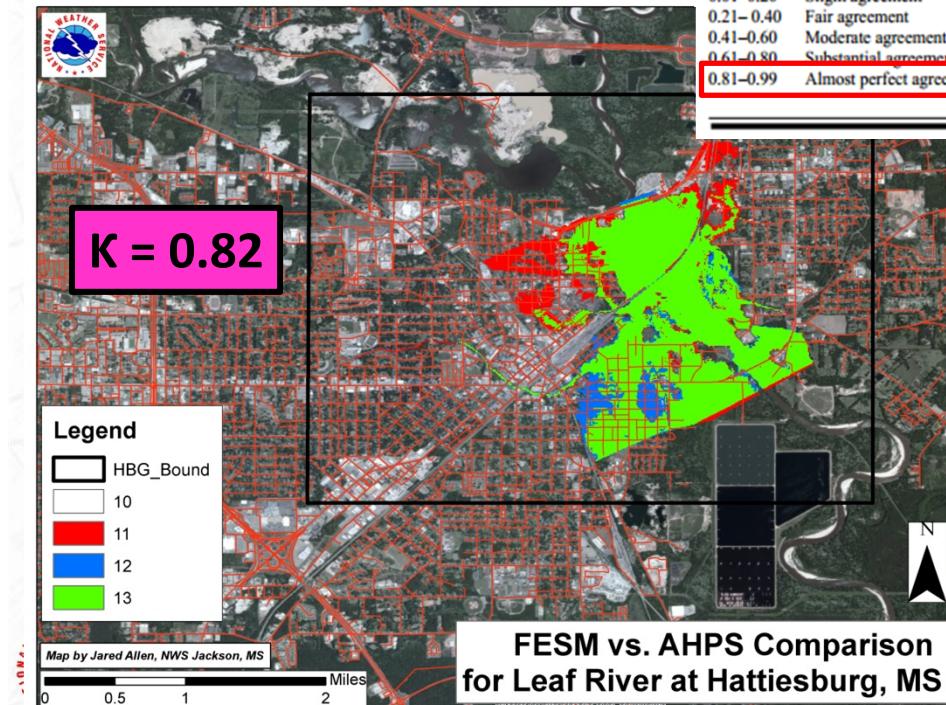
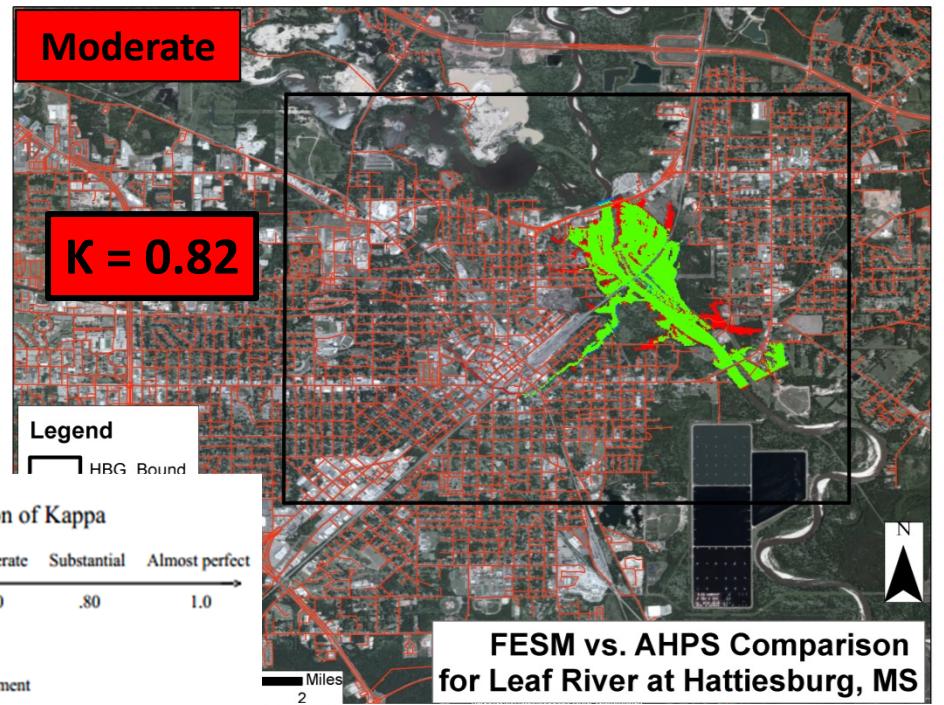
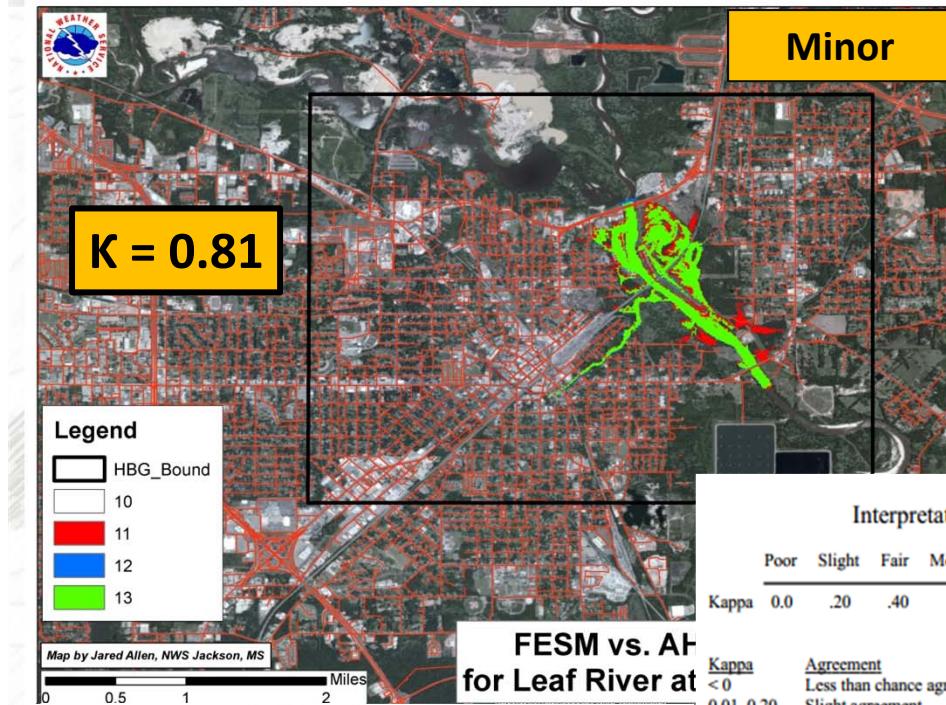
$$\kappa = \frac{0.7 - 0.5}{1 - 0.5} = 0.40$$

**B**

## Interpretation of Kappa

Kappa	Poor	Slight	Fair	Moderate	Substantial	Almost perfect
	0.0	.20	.40	.60	.80	1.0

Kappa	Agreement
< 0	Less than chance agreement
0.01–0.20	Slight agreement
0.21–0.40	Fair agreement
0.41–0.60	Moderate agreement
0.61–0.80	Substantial agreement
0.81–0.99	Almost perfect agreement



# Results

Fig. 1

## Unedited Flood Extents

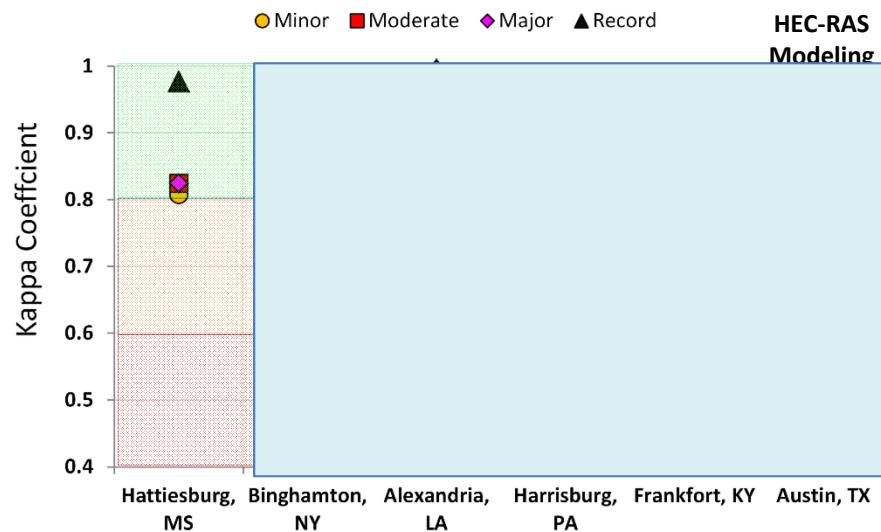
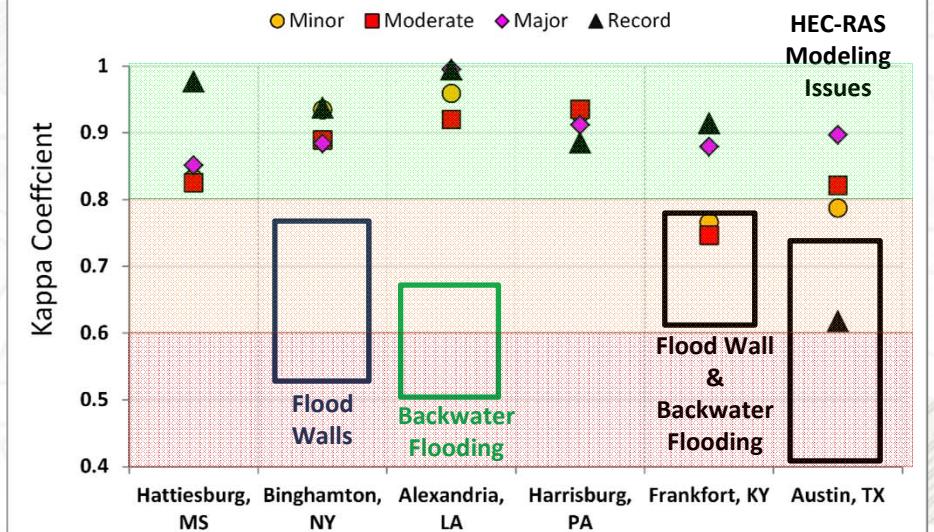


Fig. 2

## Edited Flood Extents



- Unedited FESM Flood Extents had substantial to near perfect agreement.
    - Record Stage performed the strongest on average across all sites (Austin, TX outlier)
    - Moderate Flood Stage was weakest on average across all 6 sites (moderate agreement)
  - Using water impact location descriptions & FEMA DFIRM maps, edited flood extents (Fig. 2) had near perfect to substantial agreement.
    - Excluding the minor and moderate stages for Frankfort, KY (*High substantial agreement*)
      - Kappa could be raised further with local knowledge of Trumbo Bottom Area.
    - Significant improvement for Alexandria, LA site in Bayou Maria Basin
- Moderate Flood Stage still lowest on average but above 0.8 (near perfect)

# Flood Pixel Classification Accuracy

$$\bullet \text{ FCA} = \frac{\text{Pixels of Flood}_{\text{Correct}}}{(\text{Pixels of Flood}_{\text{Correct}} + \text{Pixels of Flood}_{\text{Omission}} + \text{Pixels of Flood}_{\text{Commission}})}$$

$$FCA = \frac{\sum 13PixelCount}{(\sum 13PixelCount + \sum 12PixelCount + \sum 11PixelCount)}$$

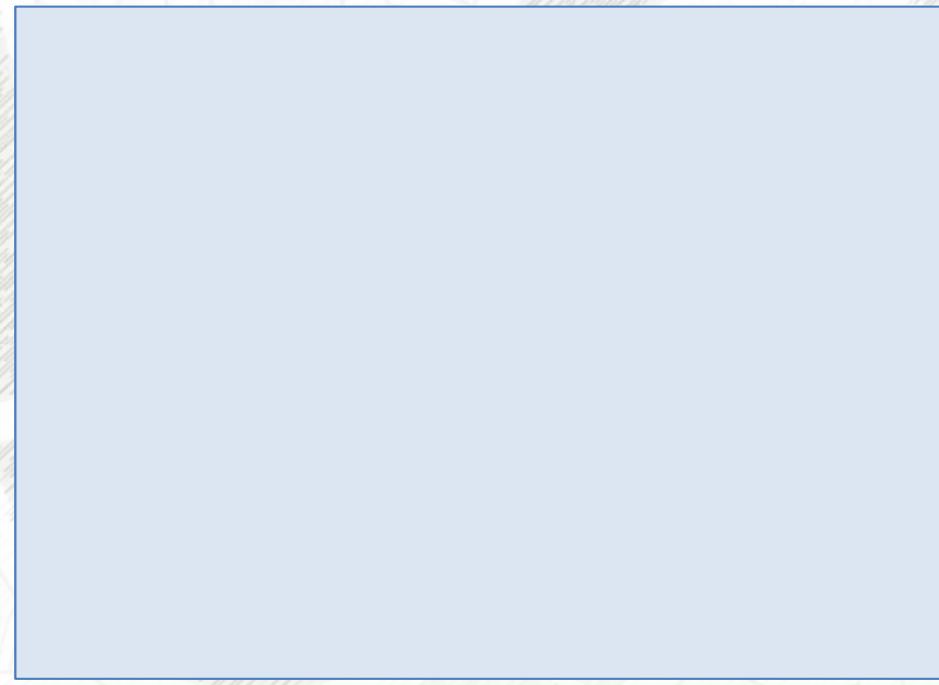
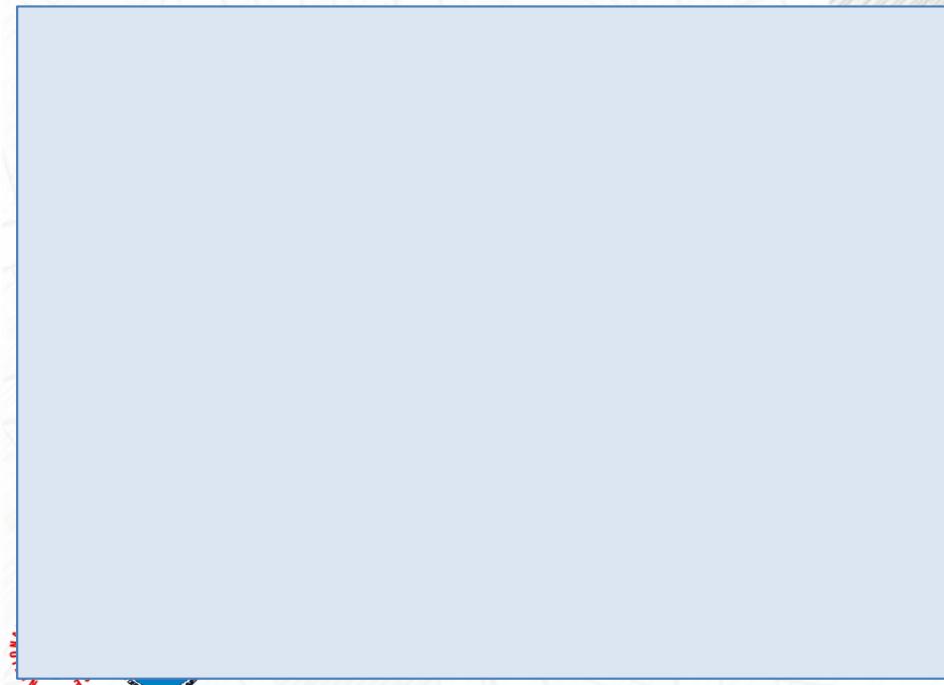
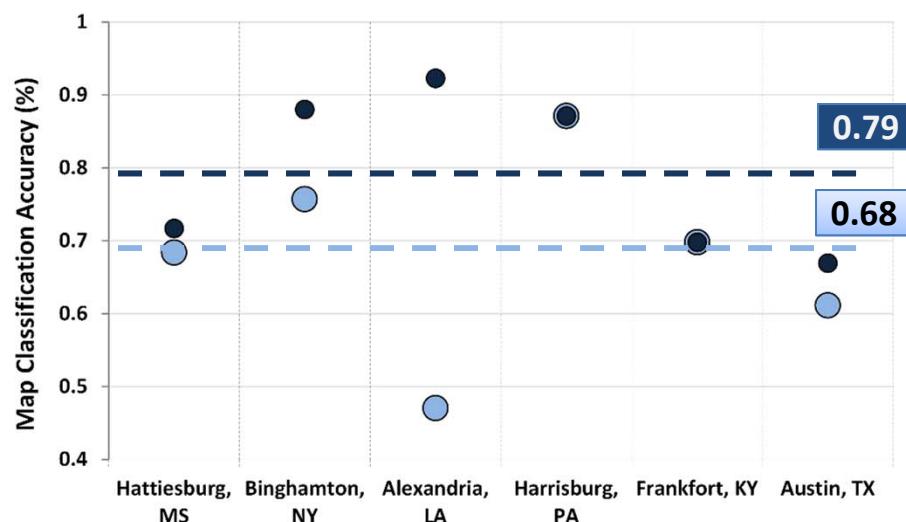
A series of flood classification accuracy graphs comparing unedited FESM Extents and edited FESM Extents against the accepted AHPS Extents were generated for:

- **Minor**    - **Moderate**    - **Major**    - **Record**



## Minor Flood Stage Map Classification

○ Unedited Flood ● Edited Flood



# Conclusions

- FESM/ArcGIS Methodology deemed spatially accurate
  - Effort vs. Cost Analysis
    - ***70-98% FCA accurate and acceptable statistically***
    - ***Completed in a week or less (starting from scratch)***
    - ***With data in place & practice, can be as fast as 1-3 hours for raw flood area output & no QC***
- Mapping Accuracy & Kappa can be successfully increased through quality control measures:
  - Set to match current Impact Statements – E19s
  - FEMA DFIRM Data
  - River Forecast Center Agreement
  - Emergency Manager & Local Water Authority Agreement
- Future Work
  - Test more sites with current methodology
    - Quantify QC improvements thru Classification and Kappa values
  - ***Develop internal AGOL website for critical partner access.***



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<http://arcg.is/1L00Wvm>

