

# Blanco-Cypress Watershed Protection Plan

## Interlocal Agreement Program Update

Hays County Commissioners Court, September 30, 2025



**Blanco River – Cypress Creek**  
**WATERSHED PROTECTION PLANNING**

*Let's keep our springs and streams clean, clear, and flowing!*



**David Baker** - Executive Director

The Watershed Association



THE  
WATERSHED  
ASSOCIATION  
LAND · WATER · CONNECTION

**Jenna Walker** - Director of Watershed Studies

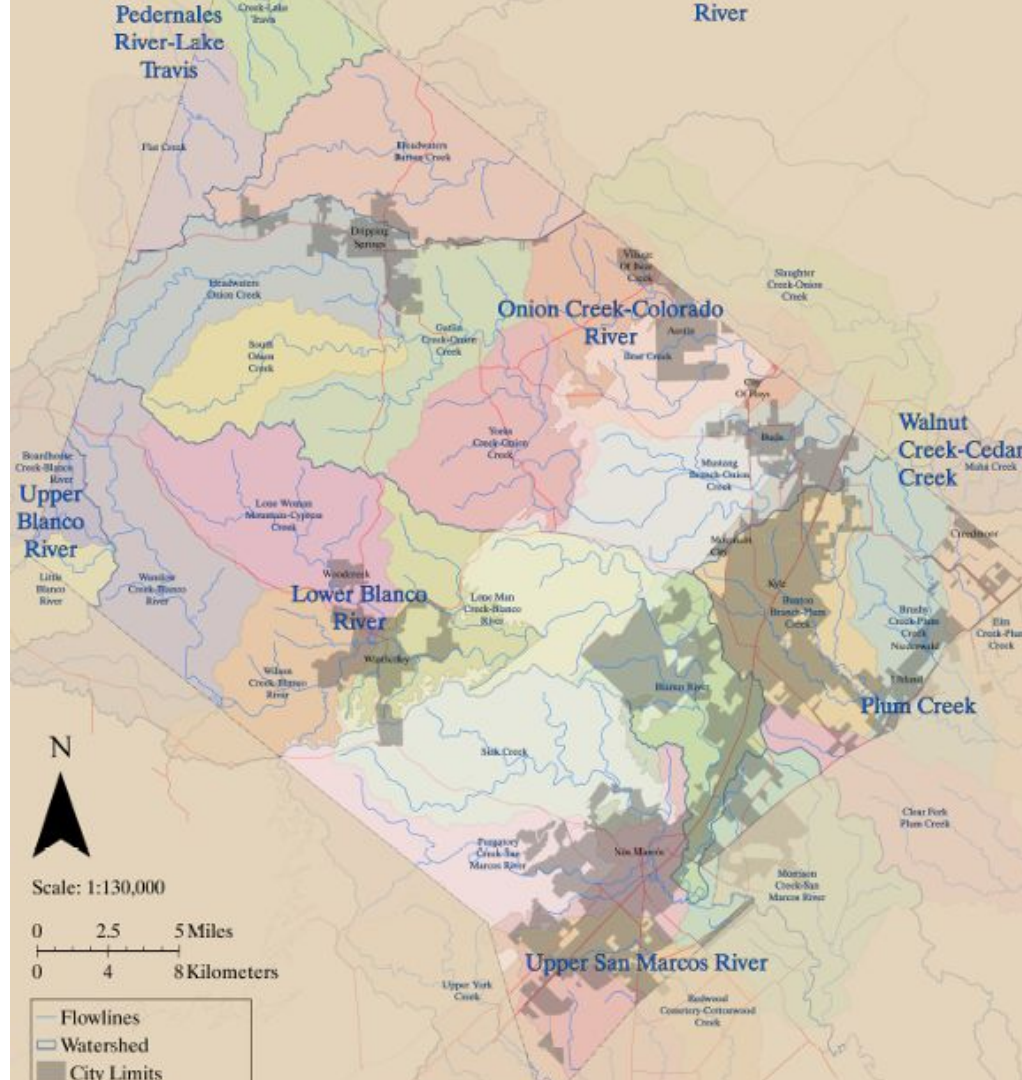
The Meadows Center for Water and Environment



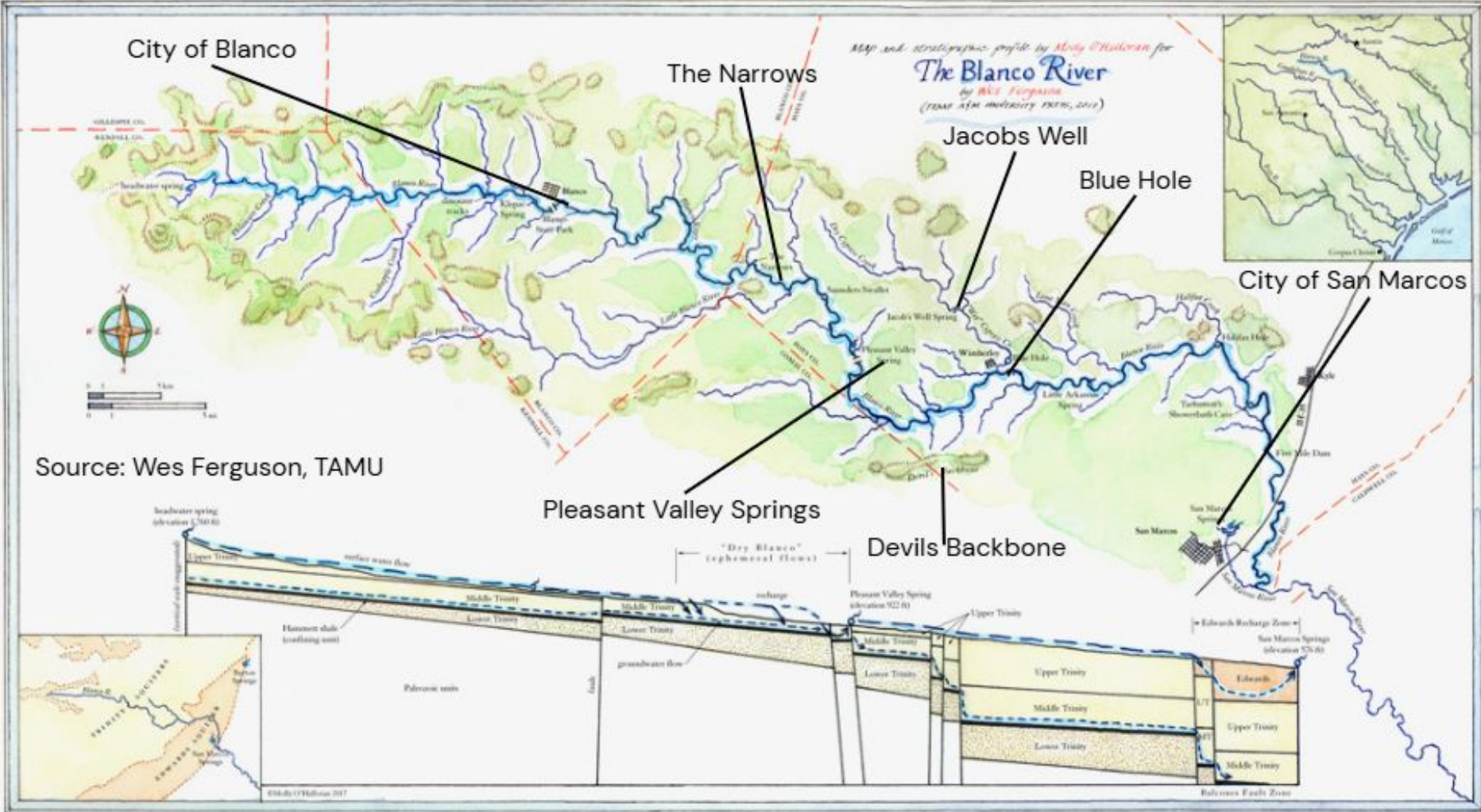
THE MEADOWS CENTER  
FOR WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

# Hays County Watersheds

Source: Hays County Development Services







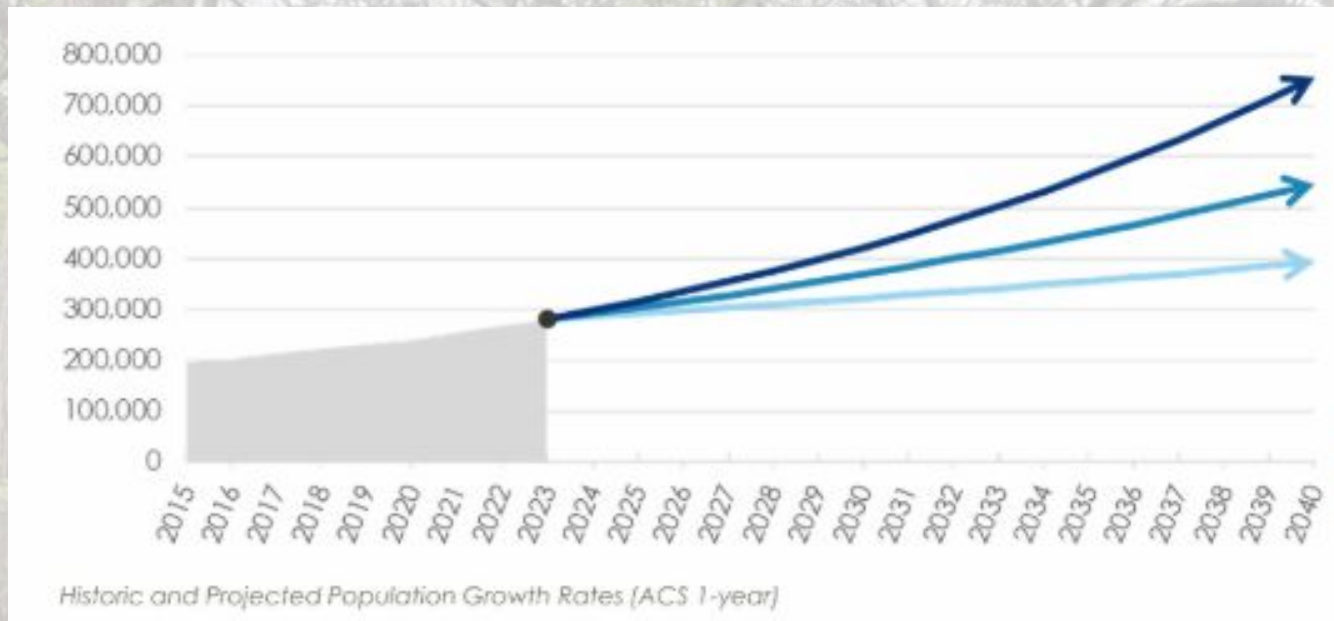






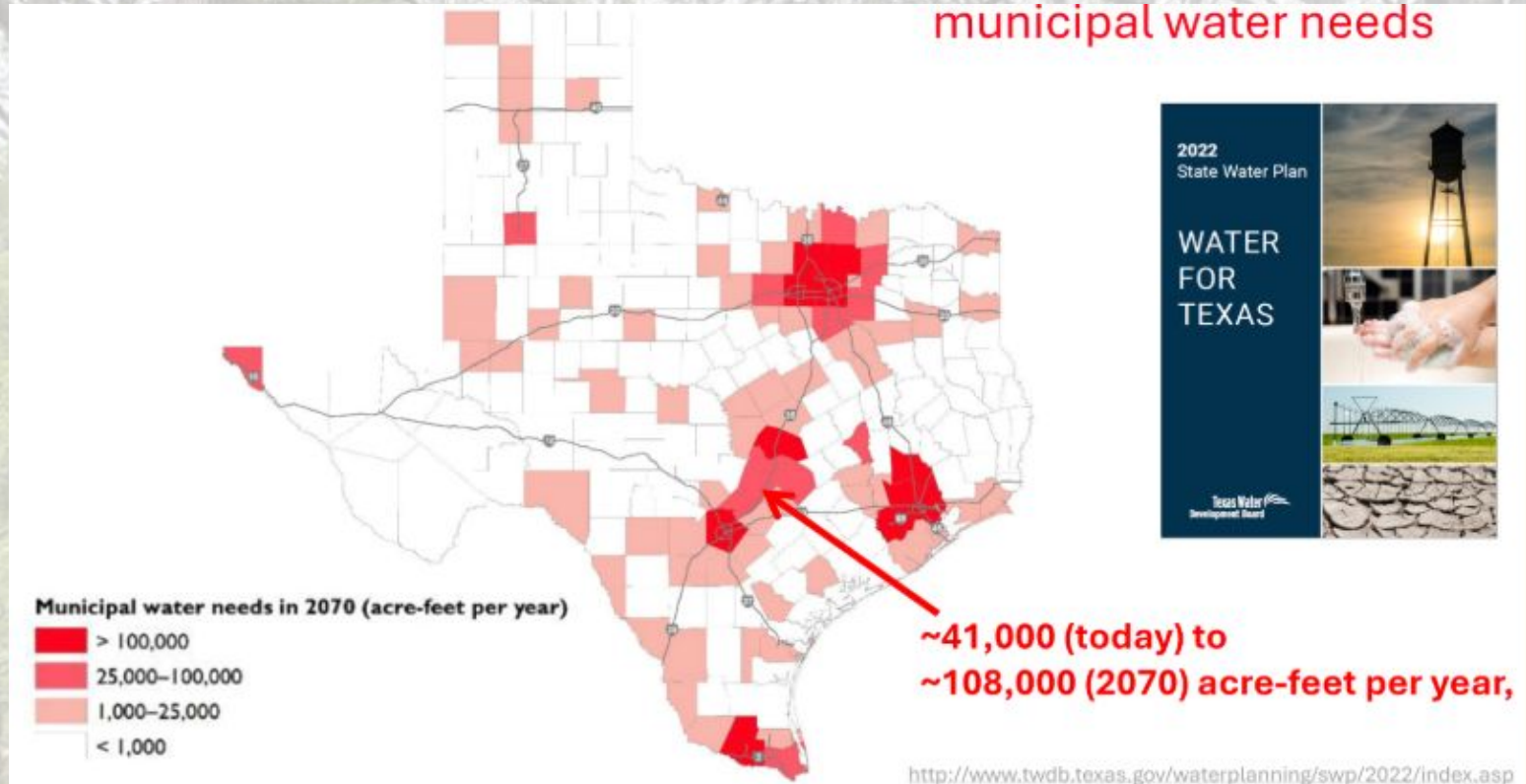


# Projected county population of 550,000 by 2040



2025 Hays County population estimated at 303,252

# Projected municipal water needs in 2070



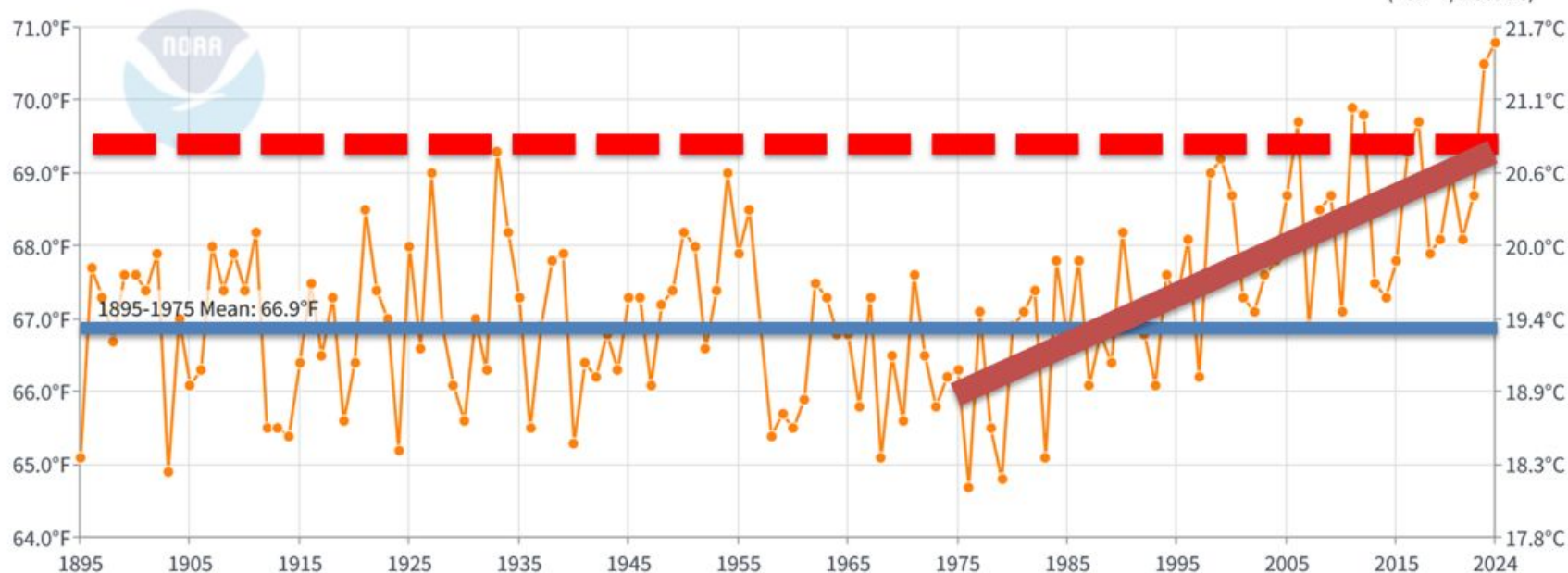
**Hays County 2023-2070 Water & Reuse \$437.026 million (Region L IPP)**



# average annual temperature in Hays County

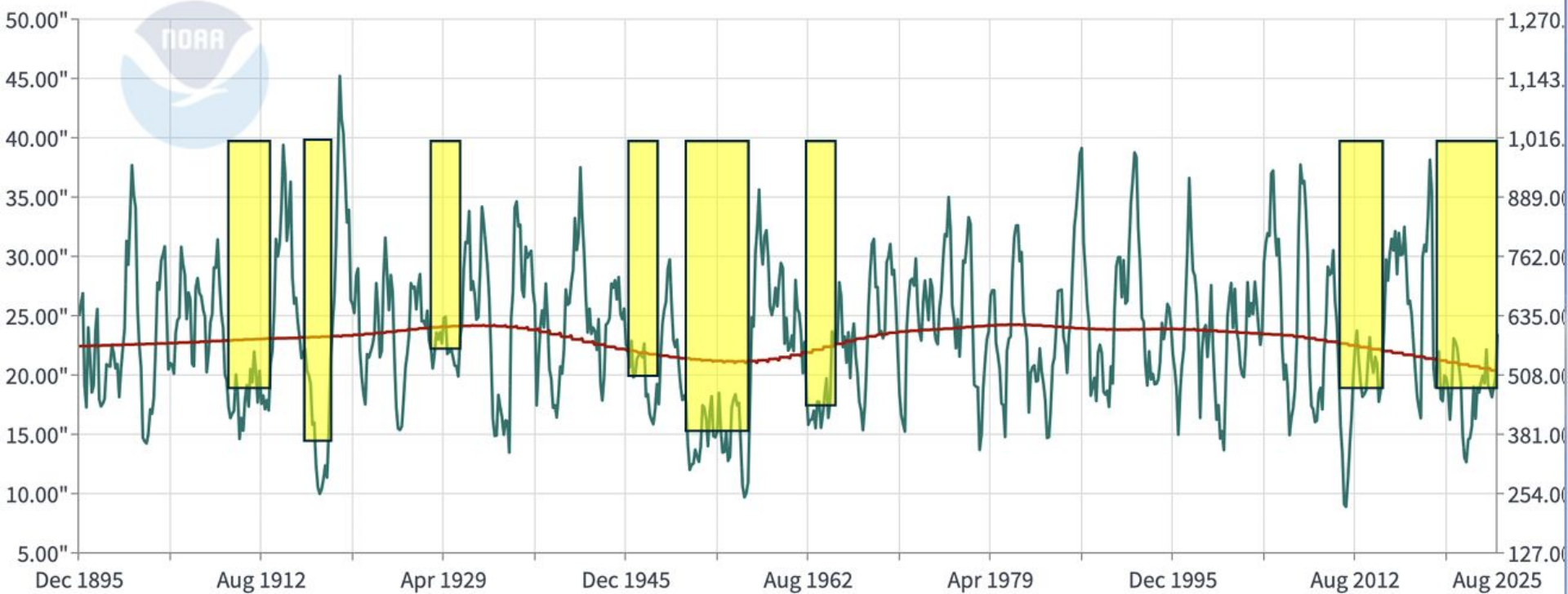
## Hays County, Texas Average Temperature

January-December



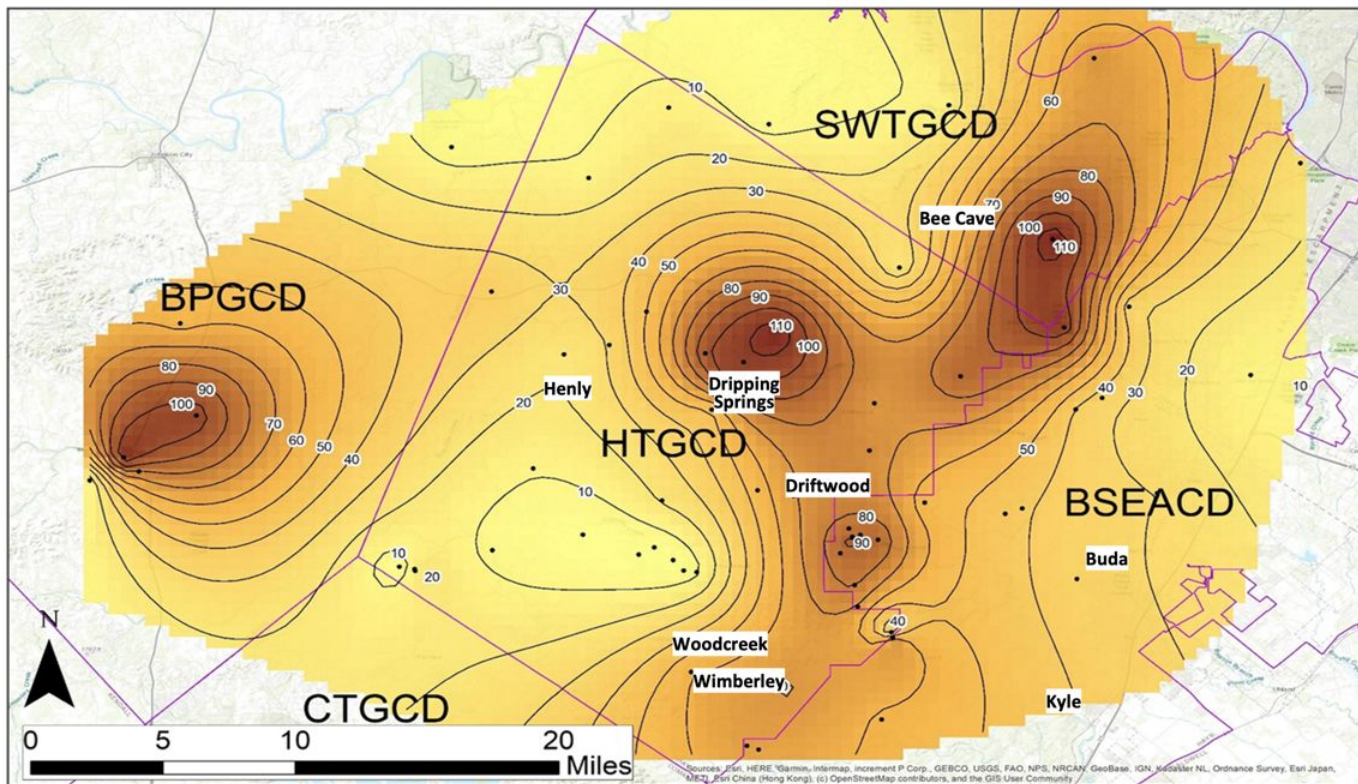
# Texas, Climate Division 6 Precipitation

12-Month Period





## 2018 vs 2023 Groundwater Levels in the Middle Trinity Aquifer



Provisional Draft- BSEACD

Drawdowns of 3–117 ft since 2018

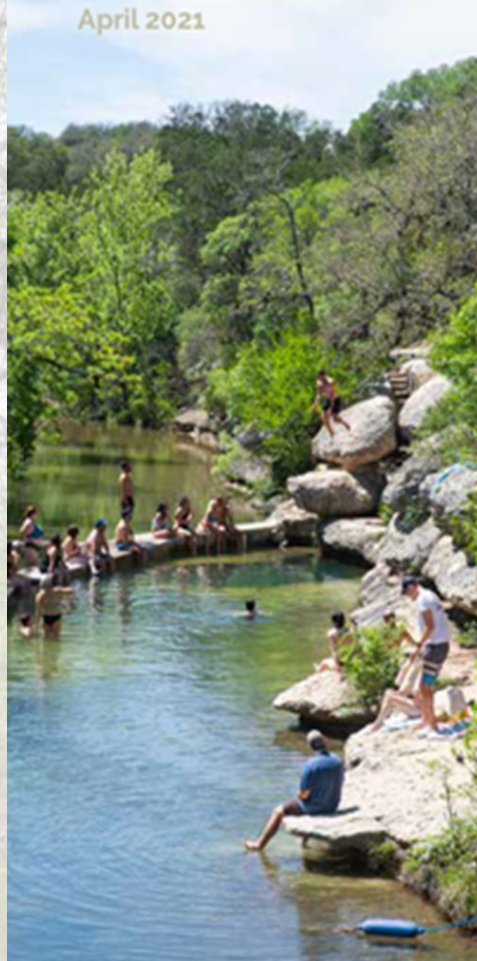
Jacob's Well saw only 2.4 ft drop—but flow ceased

April 2021

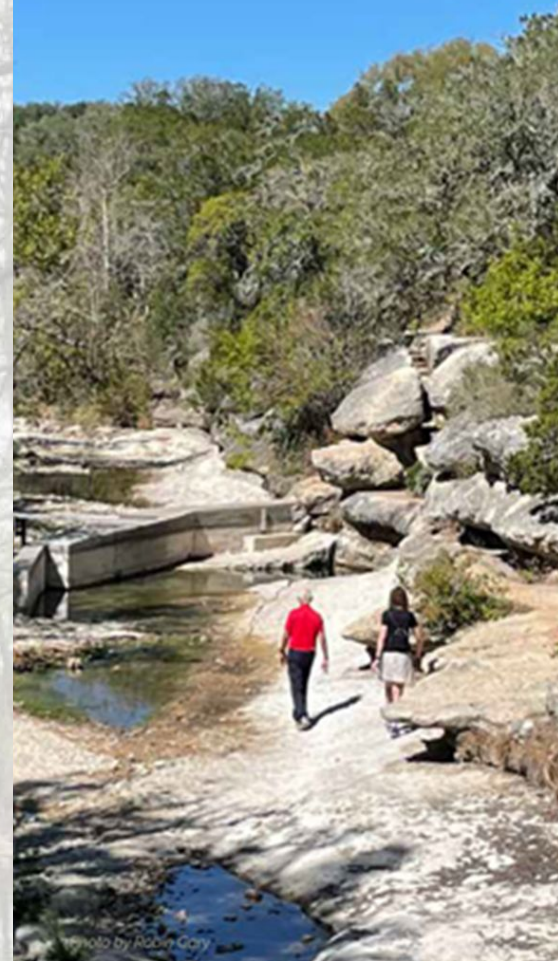
**Rapid growth** strains water resources.

**Clean water sustains** community health, tourism, and property values.

Jacob's Well serves as a **sentinel** of overall creek and aquifer health.



Normal Flow 4/21



Zero Flow 10/22





## Pathway to Collaboration

- **Clean Rivers Program monitoring started in 2003**
- **Watershed Protection Planning initiated 2004**
- **TCEQ WPP development grant 2008**
- **Implementation 2014-2023**
- **EPA-approved: includes groundwater & surface water**



# CYPRESS CREEK

Let's keep it **clean**, **clear** & flowing



## *Celebrating 10 Years*

Of stakeholder-driven watershed  
protection in the Cypress Creek  
Watershed



THE MEADOWS CENTER  
FOR WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

TEXAS STREAM TEAM





# **Local Commitment and the Interlocal Agreement**

**EPA funding ended 2023 – local leadership stepped in**

**Three year Interlocal Agreement (executed May 2024)**

**Partners: Hays County, City of Wimberley, City of Woodcreek,  
the Watershed Association, and the Meadows Center for Water  
and the Environment**





**Jonas Rosenthal - BCWPP Watershed Coordinator**



# Blanco-Cypress Watershed Coordinator

- **Headquartered in Hays County Parks & Natural Resources**
- **Leads plan delivery, partner coordination, permitting support, and engagement**
- **Links board-level vision with field implementation**





# Outreach and Engagement

- 1,775 students & teachers reached; 30+ events
- Storm-drain markers installed
- 480+ direct stakeholder engagements;
- 12,000+ community touchpoints
- Collaborations: BMP evaluations, stormwater, “no dumping” signage; community updates, One Water workshops



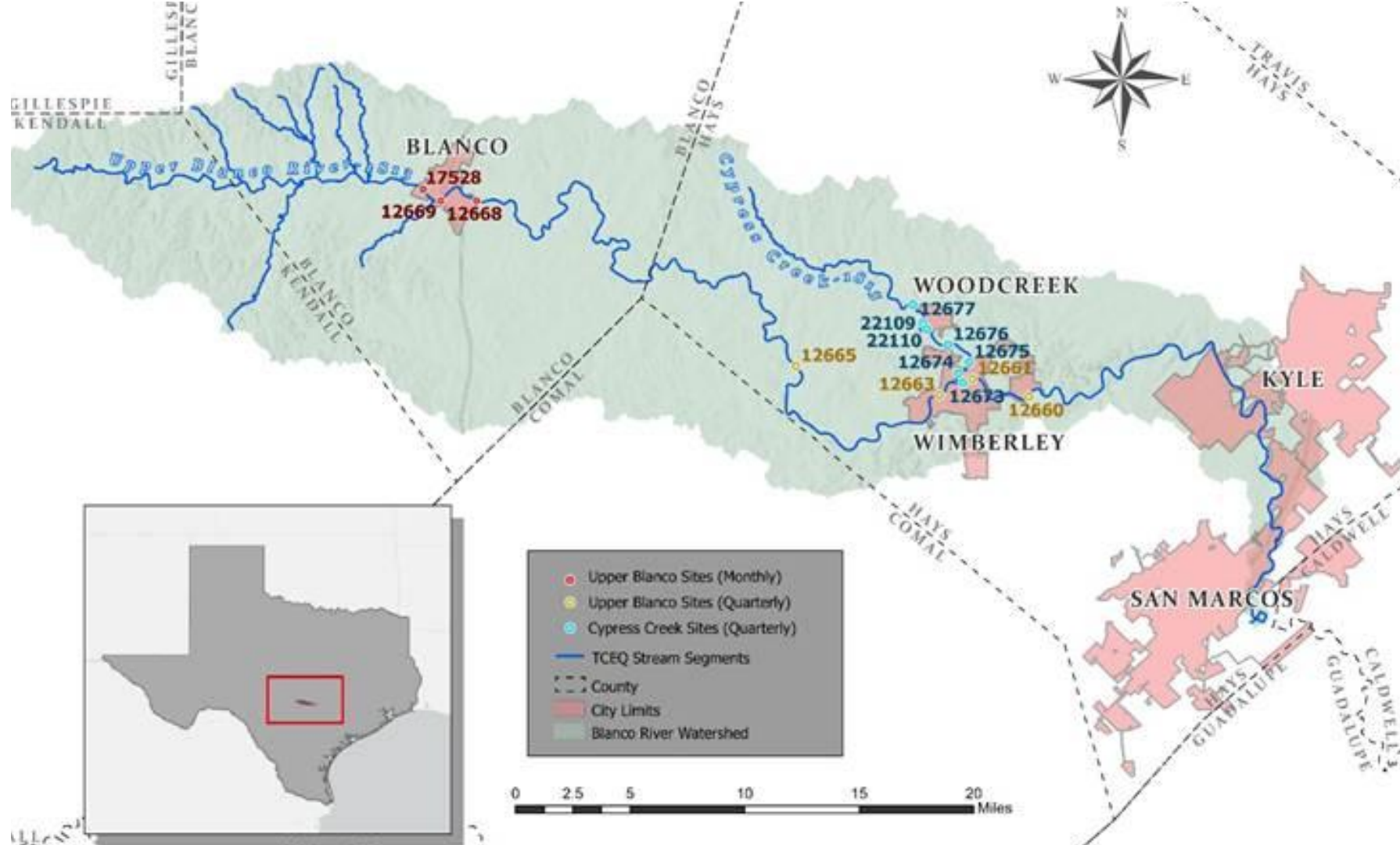
# Monitoring and Data Collection

Clean Rivers Program (CRP) - Blanco River and Cypress Creek

Wimberley Advisory Group (WAG) - Cypress Creek

Texas Stream Team - Blanco River and Cypress Creek







## **Ancillary Accomplishments**

- **PUC rate-case refund for Woodcreek rate payers**
- **Land conservation (Parks/Open Space/RHCP)**
- **One Water Resolutions adopted county-wide**
- **Subdivision rule participation, mapping, signage**
- **Green infrastructure, rain gardens, OSSF inspections**
- **Stormwater, wastewater, development planning integration**

# **Planned Actions**

- **Continue coordination with Executive Committee to assess priorities**
- **Hays County subdivision revision engagement**
- **Inspect and map stormwater/wastewater systems**
- **Launch Water Wise program Fall 2025 - series of events**
- **Riparian workshop October 28 (Wimberley) + events later in 2025-2026**
- **Addressing citizen water quality, development, and stormwater concerns**
- **Engage upper Blanco River stakeholders**
- **Returning for county budget request in next the cycle**





***Driving sustainable water management through collaboration, innovation, and expertise.***



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# THANK YOU

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