

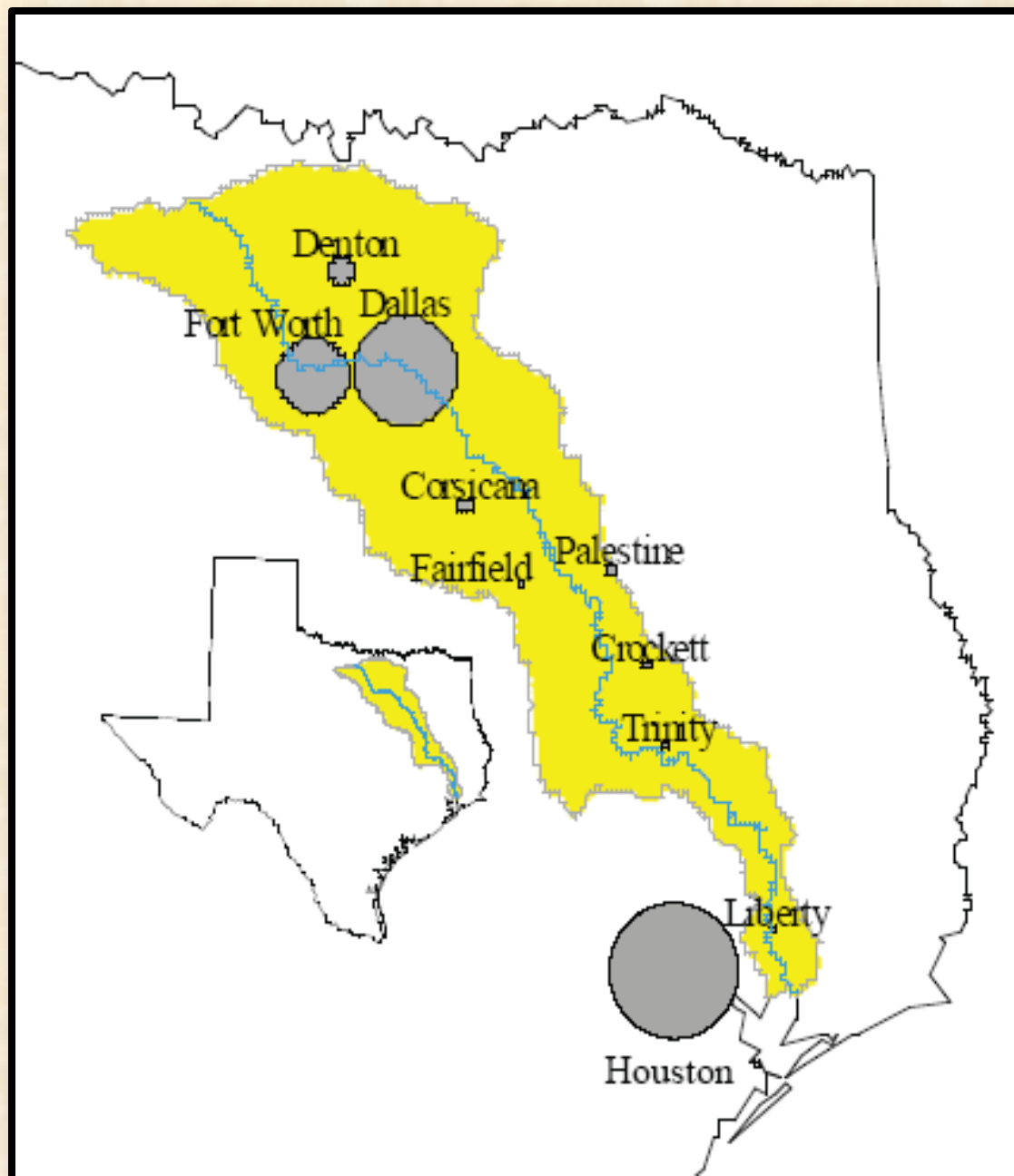
# Treasuring the Trinity: Challenges and Opportunities

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# Trinity Key Points

- Supplies water to ~45% of Texas population
- Connects D/FW to Houston
- 512 miles long, 1,983 miles of tributaries
- Rural land covers 75% of 18,000 square miles (7% of Texas)
- Municipal water use is 80%



# Water Quality

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- 2012 Water Quality

## Inventory and CWA 303(d) List

- 40 segments “impaired”
- 71 segments of concern
- 11 segments delisted from 303(d)
- 3 segments added
- 25 of 40 impaired segments due to bacteria

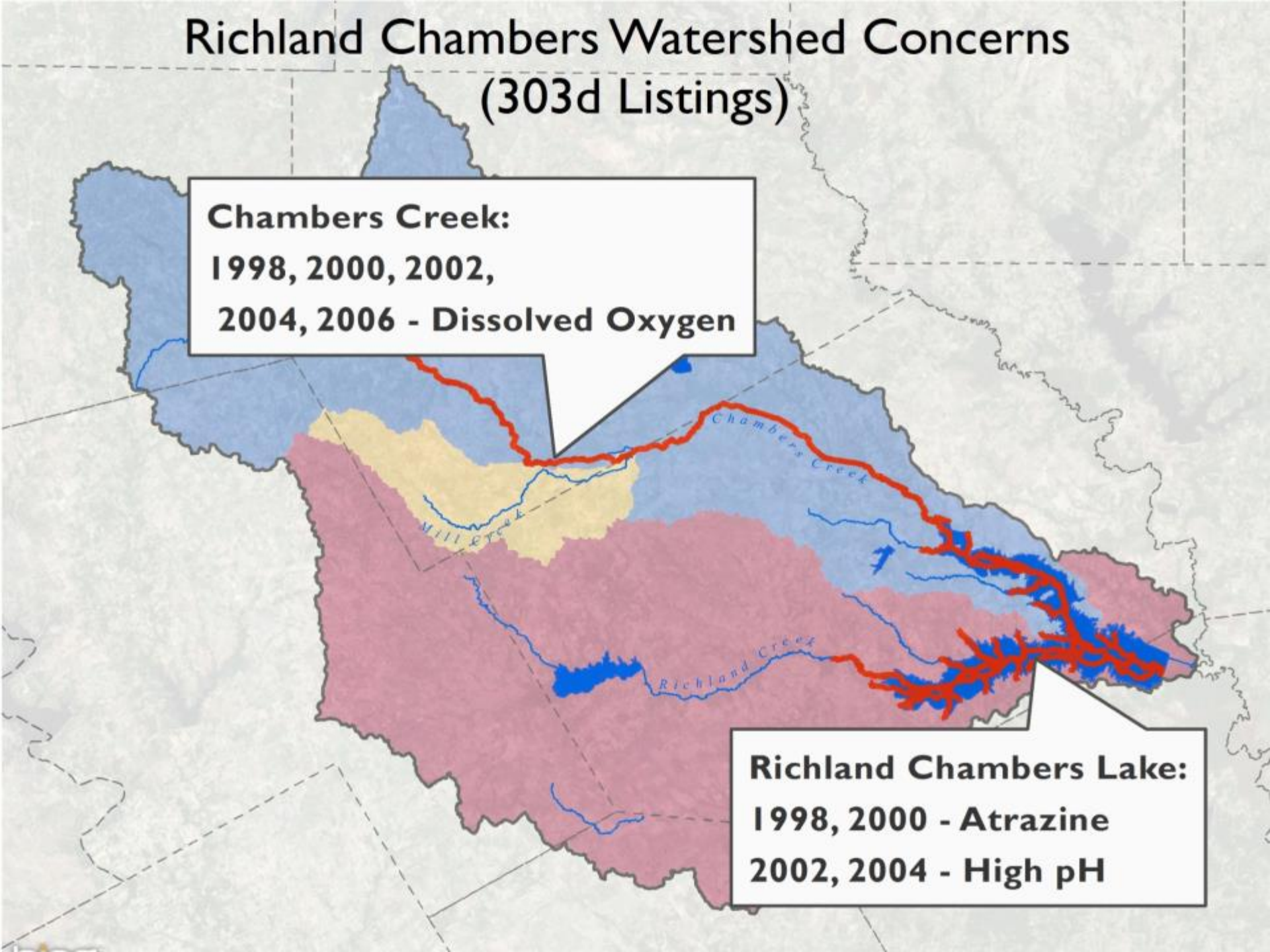




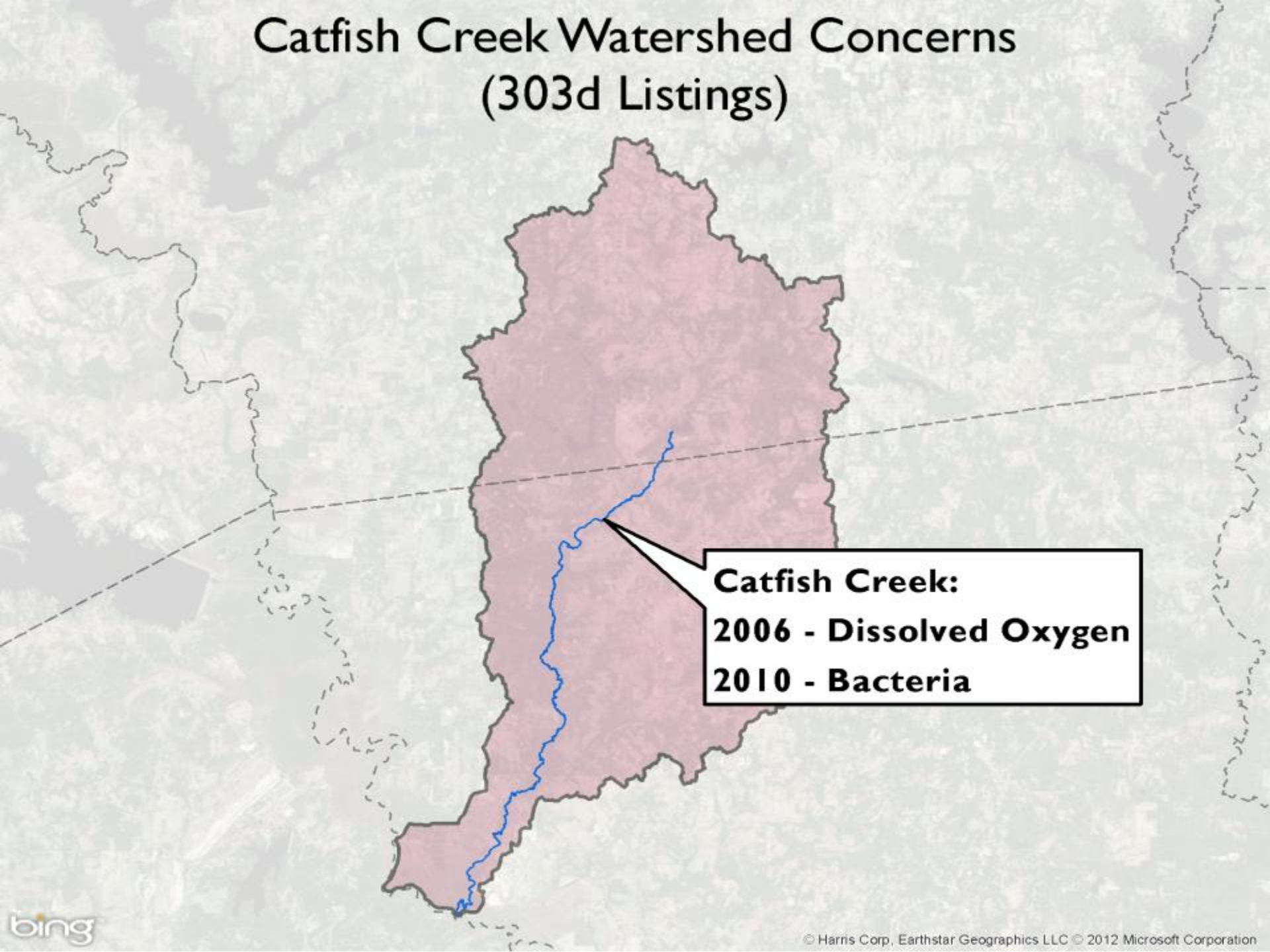
# Richland Chambers Watershed Concerns (303d Listings)

**Chambers Creek:**  
1998, 2000, 2002,  
2004, 2006 - Dissolved Oxygen

**Richland Chambers Lake:**  
1998, 2000 - Atrazine  
2002, 2004 - High pH

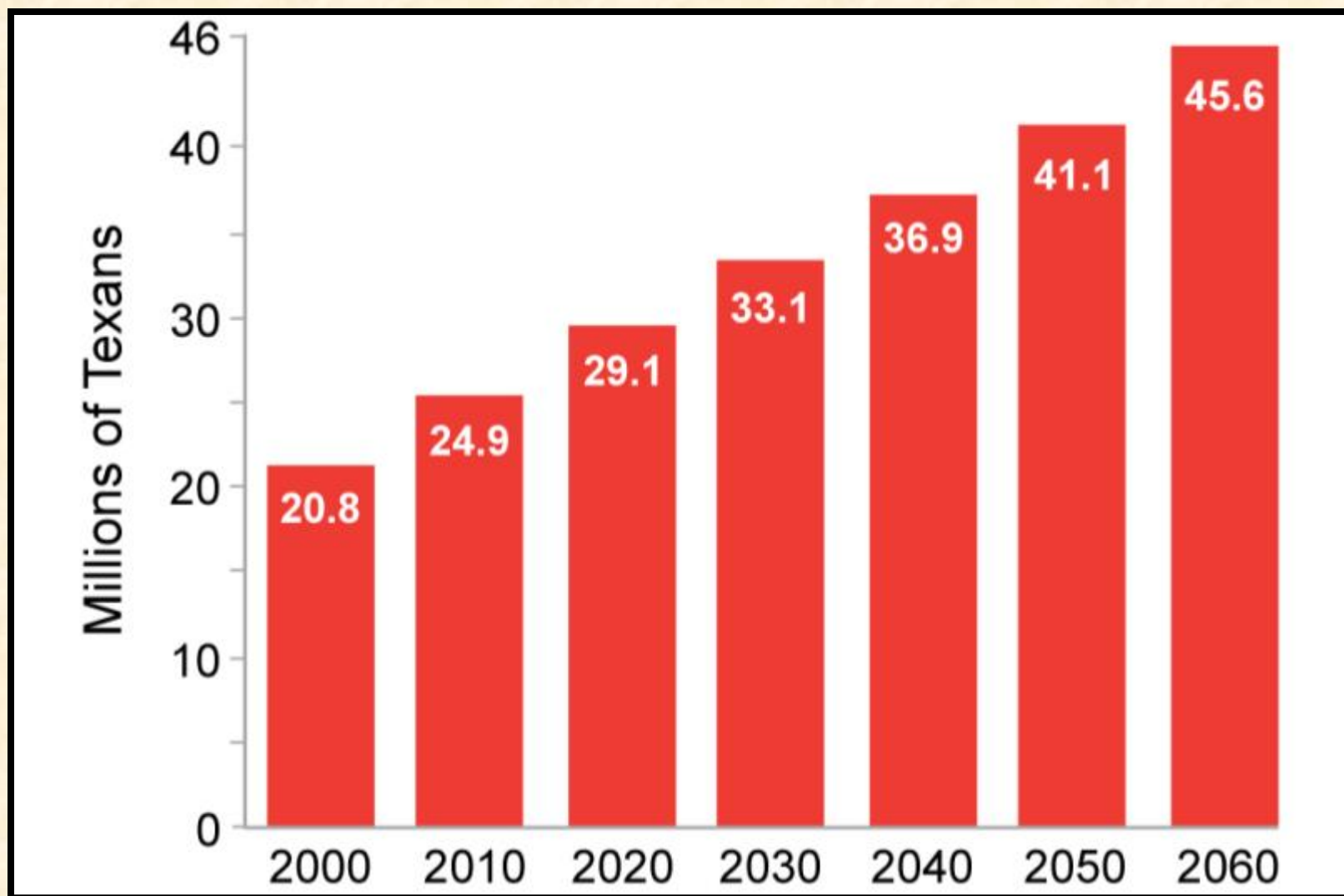


# Catfish Creek Watershed Concerns (303d Listings)



**Catfish Creek:**  
**2006 - Dissolved Oxygen**  
**2010 - Bacteria**

# Texas' Projected Growth





# The Challenges

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- Rapidly increasing population
- Poor water quality
- Fragmentation/  
Habitat loss
- Declining wildlife populations
- Reduced recreational opportunities



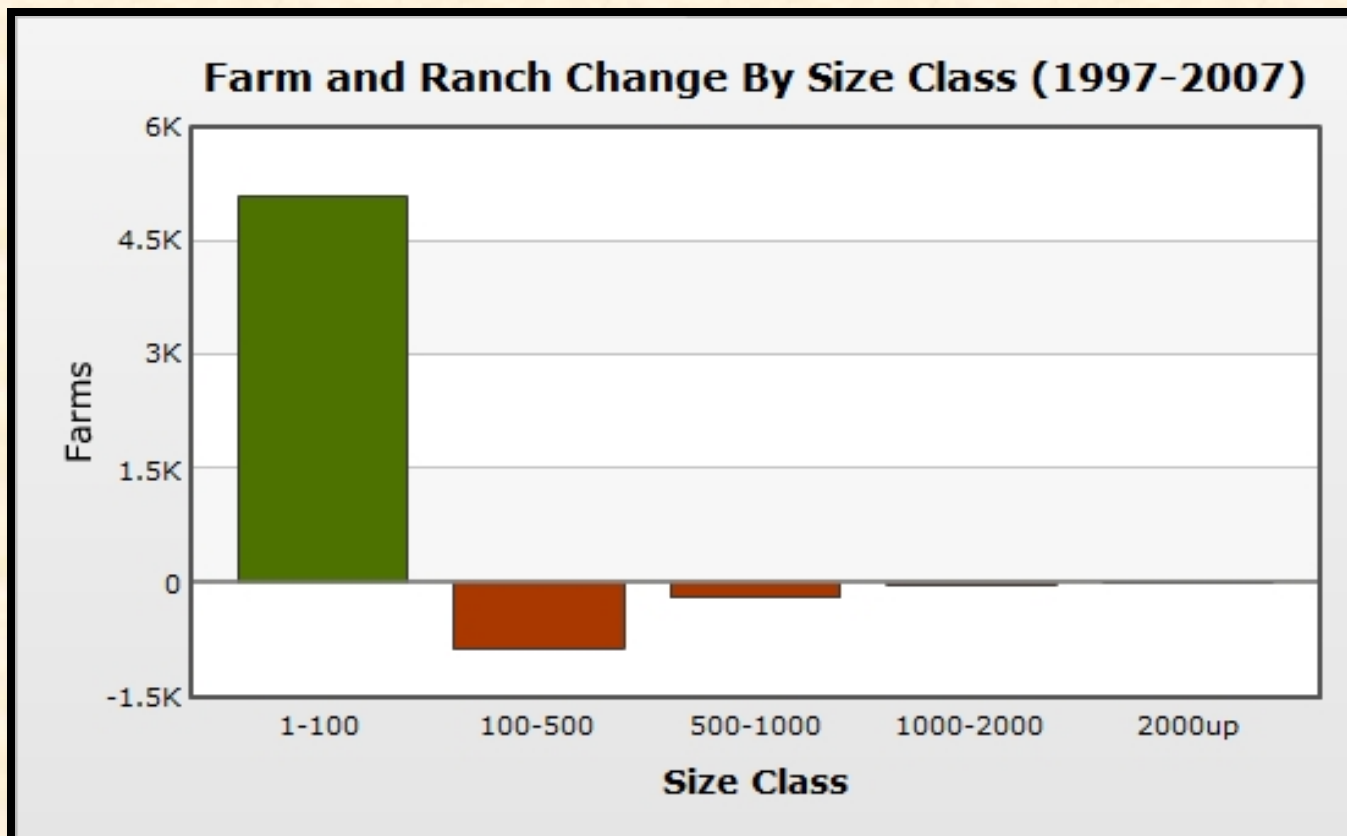
# Fragmentation





# Fragmentation

- 5,000 new properties in the 1-100 size class
- Resulting problems
  - Loss of sustainable wildlife habitat
  - Reduced agricultural productivity



# Trinity River Basin Restoration Initiative

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- Governor's 2006 Announcement
- Improve water quality by habitat restoration
- Build capacity of Trinity Waters
- Foster natural resources conservation culture





# Goals

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- Connect rural land stewardship to urban water resources
- Establish partnerships among landowners, conservation organizations, private companies, and agencies



# Goals

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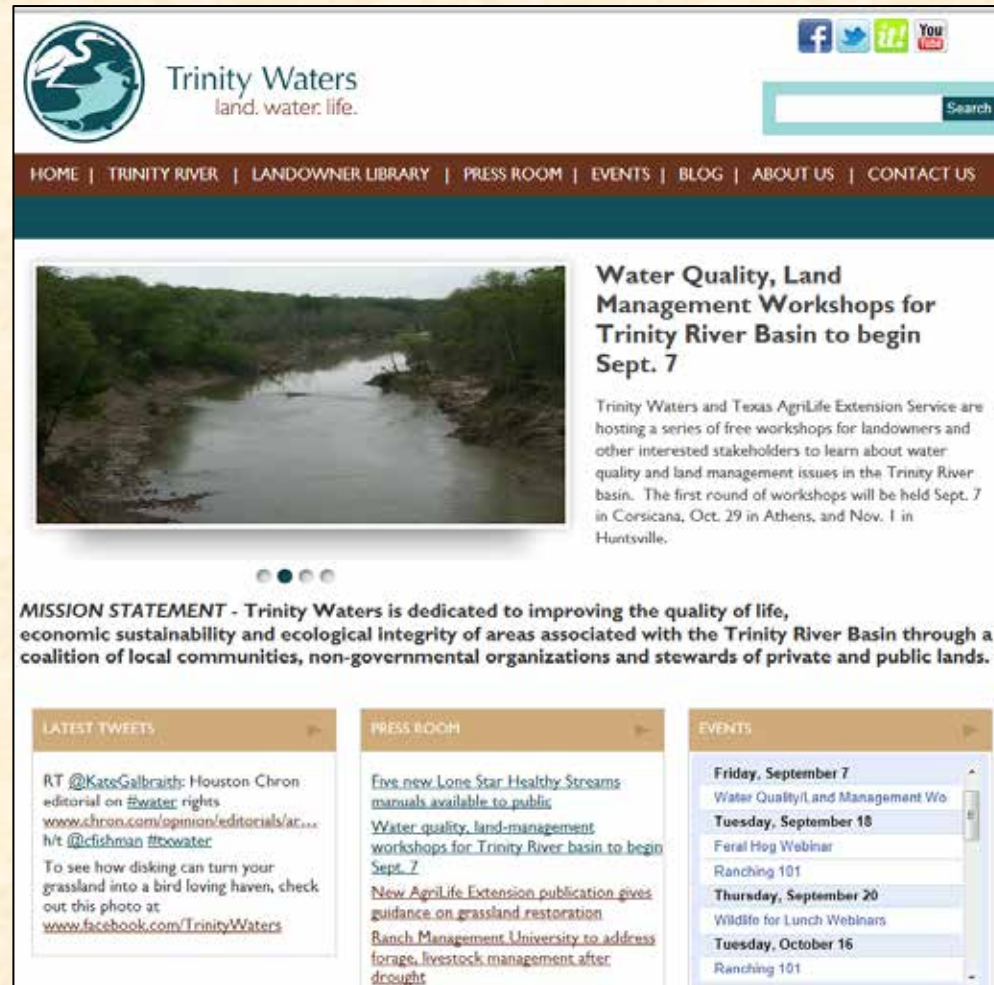


- Promote land stewardship practices
  - Improve ag production
  - Increase wildlife populations
  - Greater recreational opportunities
- Improve water resources
  - “Land Sponge”
  - Reduce pollutants



# Delivering Information to Landowners and the Public

- Website
  - Landowner Library with over 400 natural resource publications and links
  - Highlights projects, news, and events within the Trinity River Basin



The screenshot shows the Trinity Waters website with a header featuring the logo and tagline "land. water. life.". A navigation bar includes links for HOME, TRINITY RIVER, LANDOWNER LIBRARY, PRESS ROOM, EVENTS, BLOG, ABOUT US, and CONTACT US. A search bar is located in the top right. The main content area features a large image of a river and a headline about water quality workshops. Below this is a mission statement. The footer contains three columns: LATEST TWEETS, PRESS ROOM, and EVENTS.

**Trinity Waters**  
land. water. life.

HOME | TRINITY RIVER | LANDOWNER LIBRARY | PRESS ROOM | EVENTS | BLOG | ABOUT US | CONTACT US

**Water Quality, Land Management Workshops for Trinity River Basin to begin Sept. 7**

Trinity Waters and Texas AgriLife Extension Service are hosting a series of free workshops for landowners and other interested stakeholders to learn about water quality and land management issues in the Trinity River basin. The first round of workshops will be held Sept. 7 in Corsicana, Oct. 29 in Athens, and Nov. 1 in Huntsville.

**MISSION STATEMENT** - Trinity Waters is dedicated to improving the quality of life, economic sustainability and ecological integrity of areas associated with the Trinity River Basin through a coalition of local communities, non-governmental organizations and stewards of private and public lands.

**LATEST TWEETS**

RT @KateGalbraith: Houston Chron editorial on #water rights [#water](http://www.chron.com/opinion/editorials/article.html?h/t/@cfishman)

To see how disking can turn your grassland into a bird loving haven, check out this photo at [www.facebook.com/TrinityWaters](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityWaters)

**PRESS ROOM**

[Five new Lone Star Healthy Streams manuals available to public](#)

[Water quality, land-management workshops for Trinity River basin to begin Sept. 7](#)

[New AgriLife Extension publication gives guidance on grassland restoration](#)

[Ranch Management University to address forage, livestock management after drought](#)

**EVENTS**

**Friday, September 7**  
Water Quality/Land Management Wo

**Tuesday, September 18**  
Feral Hog Webinar  
Ranching 101

**Thursday, September 20**  
Wildlife for Lunch Webinars

**Tuesday, October 16**  
Ranching 101

# Delivering Information to Landowners and the Public

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- Social Media



Facebook



Twitter



Scoop.it!



WFSC AgriLife



Wild Wonderings  
Blog



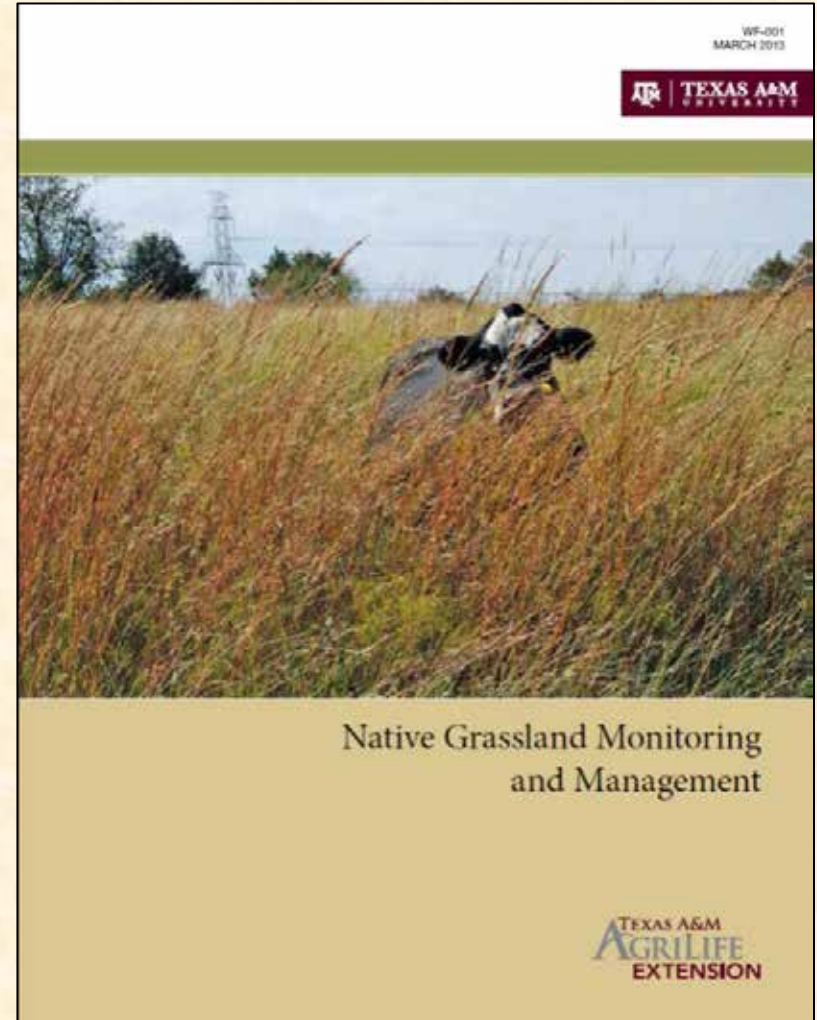
Photos



# Delivering Information to Landowners and the Public

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- Publications
  - Native Grassland Restoration
  - Native Grassland Monitoring and Management
  - Riparian Restoration and Grazing Management (coming soon)



# Delivering Information to Landowners and the Public

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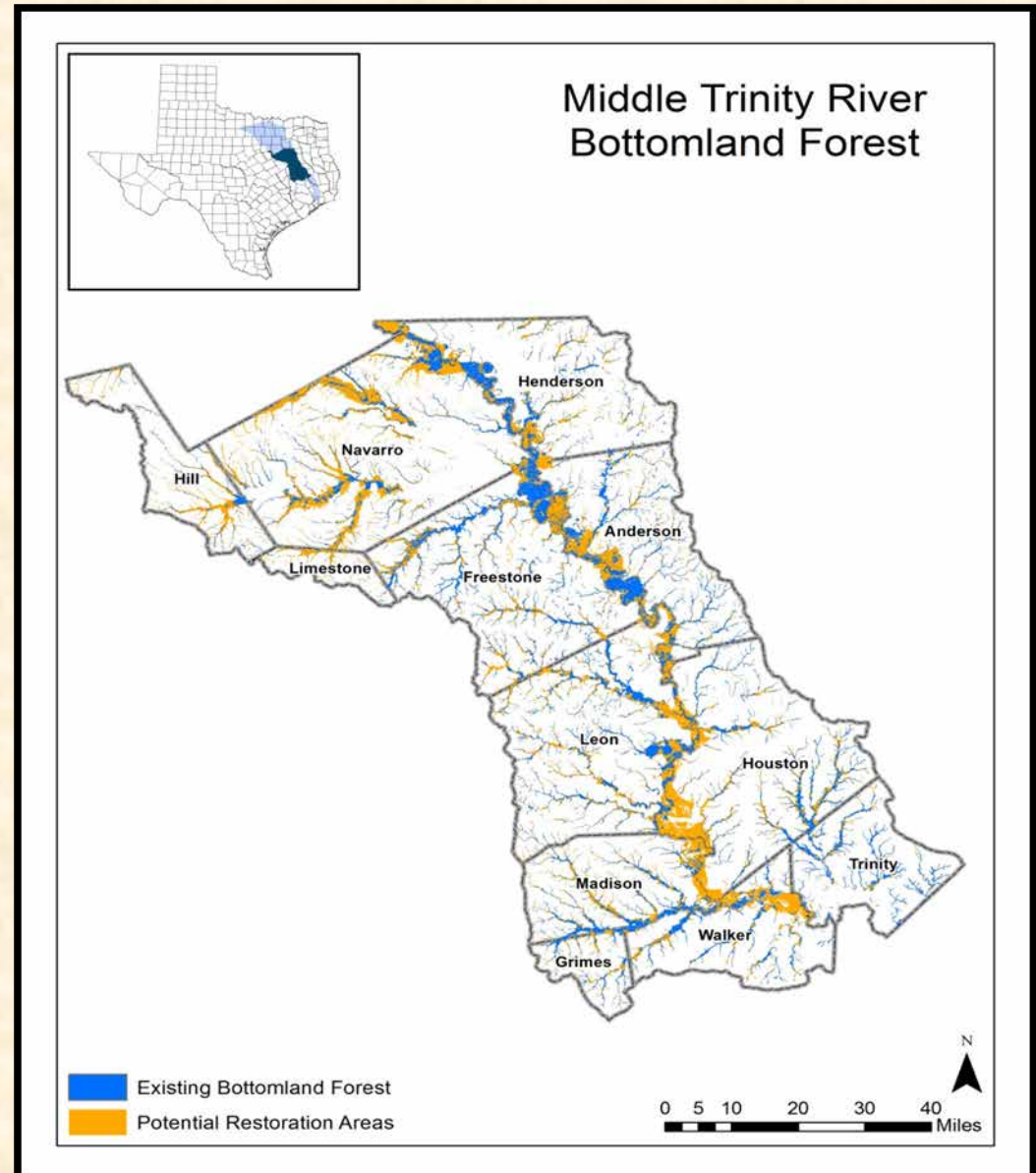
- Two riparian management workshops



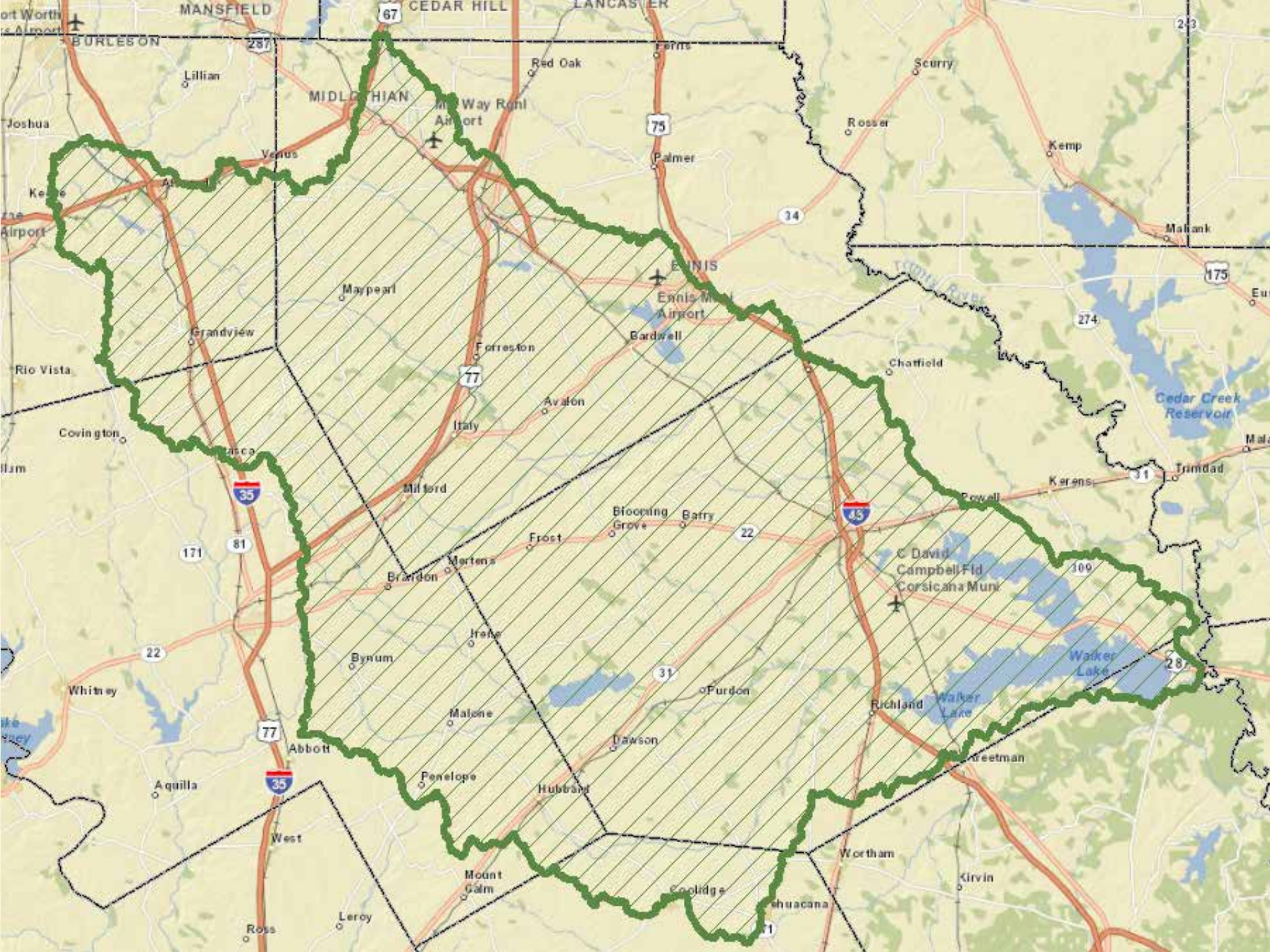
# Trinity River Information Management System (TRIMS)

- Accessible
- Interactive
- Watershed scale  
(local to regional)
- Soils, vegetation,  
elevation, stream  
data
- Restoration  
potential

[trims.tamu.edu](http://trims.tamu.edu)









# Conservation Example Youth Education

- Learning Across New Dimensions in Science (L.A.N.D.S.)
- Wide assortment of teachers and natural resource partners
- Outdoor classrooms to teach students the value of natural resource conservation



# Conservation Example



## A Strategic Approach to Bobwhite Recovery in the Western Trinity River Basin

Jay Whiteside

Technical Guidance Biologist  
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department



# Conservation Example

## Chambers Creek Water Quality Initiative

- Joint project (2012) with NRCS and local SWCDs
- \$8.5 million invested with landowners to carry out conservation practices that benefit water quality and soil health
- And thirsty Texans in Urban and Rural areas



# Richland Chambers Watershed

**Mill Creek  
Watershed**

Waxahachie

**Chambers Creek  
Watershed**

**Richland Creek  
Watershed**

Hubbard

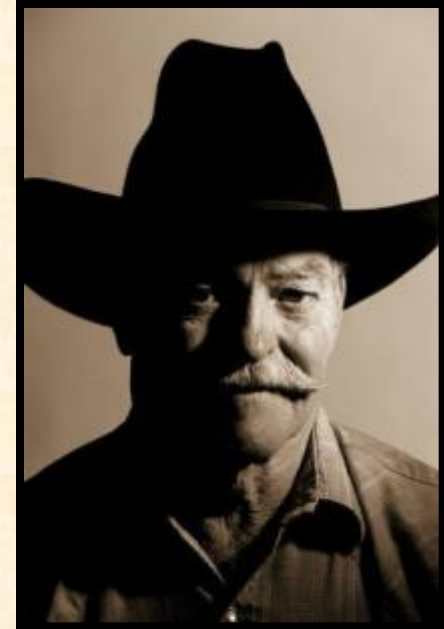
Corsicana

Alvarado





# Restoration of the Trinity Basin is a Common Link Between Urban and Rural Texans





# Funding by

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