Flood Control Easement Notification Area Map

A Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board attempt at Hazard Creep reduction through organized access to public information.

By: TSSWCB Flood Control Staff

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- What are we going to do about it?
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  - How do you ask a set of questions to a lot of people?
- So, what do we do?
- What do we want it to share?

Introduction

- **Hazard Creep-** The Association of State Dam Safety defines this as “the gradual increase in anticipated consequences of a dam failure due to infrastructure development either along the drainage below a dam or within the reservoir area upstream of the dam. Even though the physical condition of a dam may not have changed, hazard creep can result in an immediate adverse impact on the overall risk profile of a dam because the consequence component has increased. (1)”

Purpose

- **Title companies, typically, only look back 30 years for easements** on land that is sold. This often leaves out easements on dams in Texas (given that the average age of these dams exceed 50 years old) (2).

- Developers and landowners purchasing these properties are unaware that easements exist on the land they are purchasing, so they end up modifying/ tearing up dams as they develop.

- This not only degrades a dam's performance of its original function but also leads to this aforementioned **Hazard Creep** effect.

Why is this important Nationally?



The Evening Newspaper of Kansas

The Topeka State Journal.

UNSETTLED

HOME EDITION — TOPEKA, KANSAS, TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 13, 1928—TWELVE PAGES — TWO CENTS

DAM BREAKS, 200 DEAD

Water Rushes Down Santa Paula Valley, California, Drowning Hundreds While They Sleep

FEW GIVEN CHANCE TO ESCAPE AFTER SUDDEN OPENING OF RESERVOIR

Under Sheriff in Charge of Rescue Work Wires Los Angeles Office 100 Bodies Recovered Where Waters Entered Santa Paula and Santa Clara Rivers.

SOME ESTIMATE DEATH TOLL MAY GO AS HIGH AS 400

Others Believed Lying Under Yellow Sand of Canyon.

LATE FLOOD BULLETINS

FLYING WEST OVER ATLANTIC

CORNER IN RADIO

Common Stock in Overnight Gain of $21.50 a Share.

Has Advanced Nearly $45 in Seven Trading Sessions.

STOCK EXCHANGE IN PROBE

Move Is Accompanied by Turbulent Speculation.

Day's Sales Will Exceed 4,000,000, Is Indication.

MAP OF FLOODED VALLEY

GOAL IS IN SIGHT

President Womer Issues a Challenge to Workers.

Offers to Underwrite the Remaining $50,000 of Fund.

TOTAL TO DATE IS $163,061

Sixteen Teams Must Raise $37,000 in Two Days.

Workers in Special Meeting Wednesday Morning.

The Weather

A LIGHT FREEZE TONIGHT

NOTED BRITISH ACE IS HEADED FOR NEW YORK

Capt. W. R. Hinchcliffe Takes Off From London in Fog.

Keeps Destination Secret, But Wife Gives Away Plans.

LAST SEEN LEAVING IRELAND

Impression Prevailed That He Was on Way to India.

Mysterious Passenger May Be Honorable Elsie Mackay.



Somerset Herald.

SOMERSET, PA., MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1889.

AWFUL CALAMITY.

Johnstown Wiped Out!

THE CAMBRIA IRON WORKS A COMPLETE WRECK!

FRIENDS IN THE FLOOD.

The feeling of suspense that took hold of the community on receipt of the first rumors of the awful calamity at Johnstown, has grown and spread, until the whole town seems under a pall. Scarcely a family here but had one or more of its members living in Johnstown. All day long the streets have been filled with ashen-faced people asking for news from friends. Burgess Welfley consulted a number of the most prominent citizens in regard to calling a public meeting to see what it was possible for our people to do to relieve the suffering and destitution. It was thought best not issue the call until more definite news was received. Learning that the DAILY HERALD was sending a reporter to the scene, the

HUNDREDS OF LIVES SWEPT FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH.

A DAM GIVES WAY.

Carrying Death and Destruction With It.

JOHNSTOWN, PA., WIPED OUT

People Floating Down the River Shrieking for Help.

AN AWFUL SIGHT.

People Warned of Its Possibility of Bursting, but Too Late.



INDEX

WEATHER

The Daily Herald

PROVO, UTAH, SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 1976

Idaho Flood Spreads Wide Destruction As Teton Dam Breaks; Towns Evacuated

Rexburg, Sugar City Among Flooded Areas

American Party Nominates Two At County Meet

Carl Albert To Quit at Year's End

REP. CARL ALBERT

Last of Primaries

First Known Dam Of Reclamation Bureau to Collapse

Why is this important in Texas?



The Dallas Morning News.

VOL. XXIII. DALLAS, TEXAS, TUESDAY, MAY 26, 1908—FOURTEEN PAGES. NO. 239.

DALLAS FLOOD DAMAGE $1,000,000; FIVE ARE DROWNED; FOUR THOUSAND HOMELESS; WATERS SLOWLY RECEDING

RED RIVER FLOOD NOW THREATENING

WARNING MESSAGES ISSUED

VAST AREA SUBMERGED IN LESS THAN THREE HOURS

EARLY MORNING SCENE IN LOCAL FREIGHT YARDS OF THE MISSOURI, KANSAS AND TEXAS RAILROAD.

FAMILIES ROUSED FROM SLEEP NARROWLY ESCAPE

West Dallas Citizens Caught Suddenly by Flood Are Rescued by City Officials Who Seize a River Boat for Purpose.

LIGHT, POWER AND WATER SHUT OFF; SUBSTANTIAL RELIEF FUND STARTED

Panic Among Fifteen Thousand Spectators When Bridge Trestle Falls and Three Are Drowned. Factory Burns While Firemen Are Helpless—Soldiers and Police on Guard.

ANTI-BAILEY MEN HOLD CONFERENCE

PLANS OF THE BAILEY MEN

OAK CLIFF PLANS GREAT CAUSEWAY

MASS MEETING IS CALLED

STATE DEMOCRATS MAY MEET TODAY





...llas Morning News

...ER 11, 1921—SIXTY PAGES IN SIX PARTS—PART ONE. NO. 346

...E IN SAN ANTONIO FLOOD

DAMAGE IS EXPECTED TO RUN INTO MILLIONS WHILE THOUSANDS ARE HOMELESS

HURRICANE MOVING NORTHWEST

TRINIDAD IS DAMAGED

San Antonio River in Business District

Cloudburst at Night Sweeps People Away And Wrecks Homes

PERSHING TO MAKE TRIP TO EUROPE

SOUTHERN PACIFIC TRAIN IS WRECKED

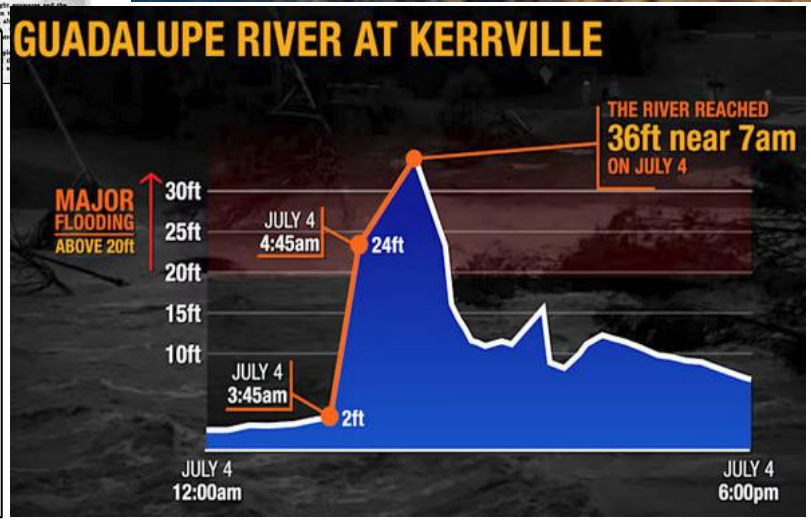
Death toll surpasses 100 from catastrophic Texas flooding

Nation Jul 7, 2025 6:19 PM EDT

KERRVILLE, Texas (AP) — The death toll from catastrophic flooding in Texas over the July Fourth weekend has surpassed 100 as the massive search continues for missing people.

READ MORE: These are just a few of the victims of the Guadalupe River flash flooding

In hard-hit Kerr County, home to Camp Mystic and several other summer camps, searchers have found the bodies of 84 people, including 28 children, Kerr County officials said.



Texas Officials Say They Didn't See the Flood Coming. Oral Histories Show Residents Have Long Warned of Risks.

After a tragedy, records from local archives can help us understand how a community understands itself. Here's some of what we learned following the devastating July 4 flooding in Texas.

What are we going to do about it?

What do we need to tell (or ask) everyone?

- Did you know that Texas has a dam or two in it? Did you know that some of these are flood control structures? ~2,039 of the almost 7,500.
- Did you know that your dam has a service life? It isn't a permanent benefit if it's not taken care of.

- Do you live near a dam?
- Do you know who to contact (the sponsor) if you notice an emergency with the dam?
- Is your property within the easement of a dam?
- Are you located upstream or downstream of a dam?
- Do you know what your evacuation time/ plan is if the dam fails?

How do you ask these questions to millions of people?

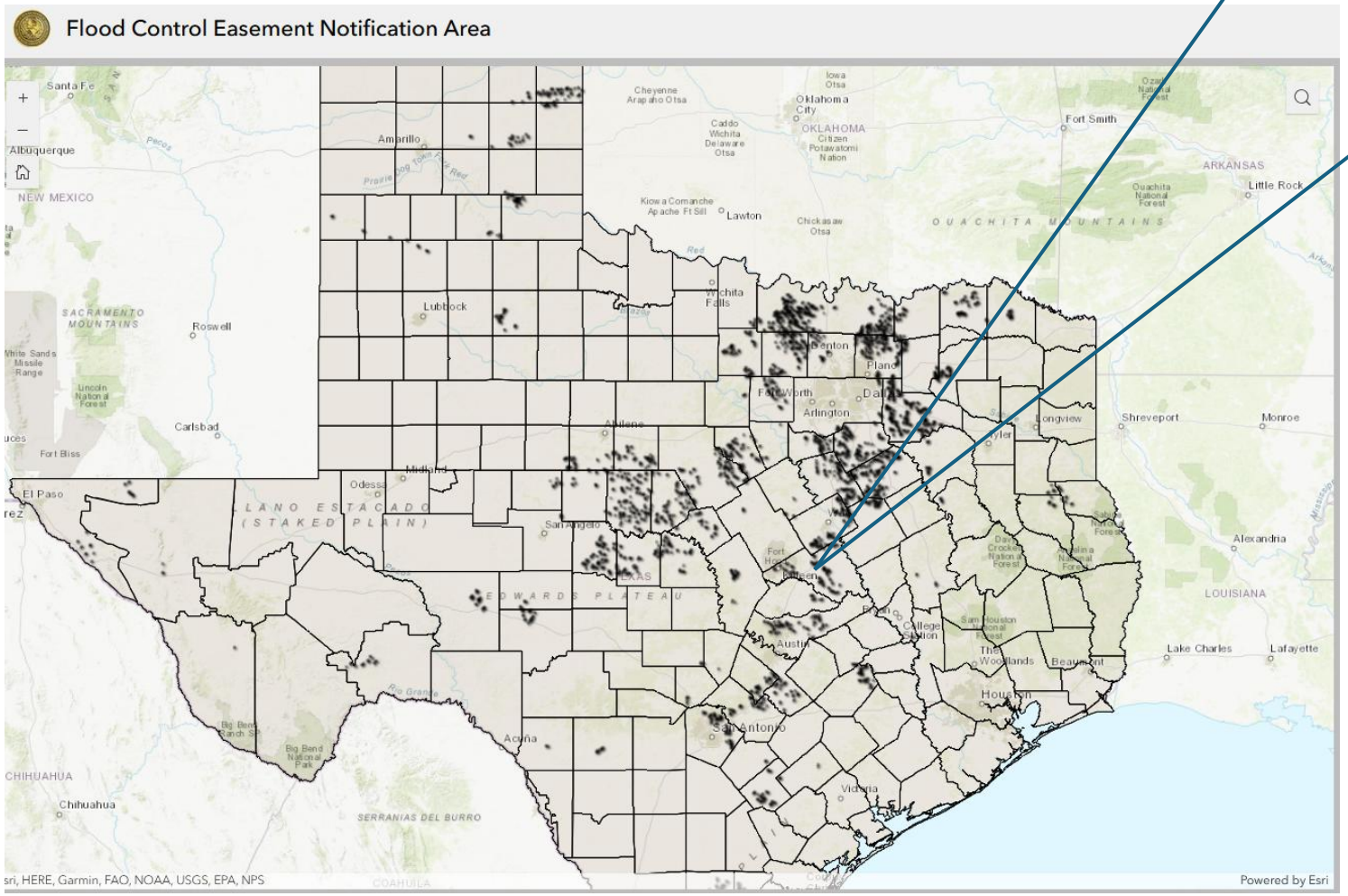
Top 10 Most Populous States: 2023

Rank	Geographic Area	April 1, 2020 (Estimates Base)	July 1, 2022	July 1, 2023
1	California	39,538,212	39,040,616	38,965,193
2	Texas	29,145,459	30,029,848	30,503,301
3	Florida	21,538,216	22,245,521	22,610,726
4	New York	20,202,320	19,673,200	19,571,216
5	Pennsylvania	13,002,788	12,972,091	12,961,683
6	Illinois	12,813,469	12,582,515	12,549,689
7	Ohio	11,799,331	11,759,697	11,785,935
8	Georgia	10,713,771	10,913,150	11,029,227
9	North Carolina	10,439,459	10,695,965	10,835,491
10	Michigan	10,077,674	10,033,281	10,037,261

Top 10 States by Numeric Growth: 2022 to 2023

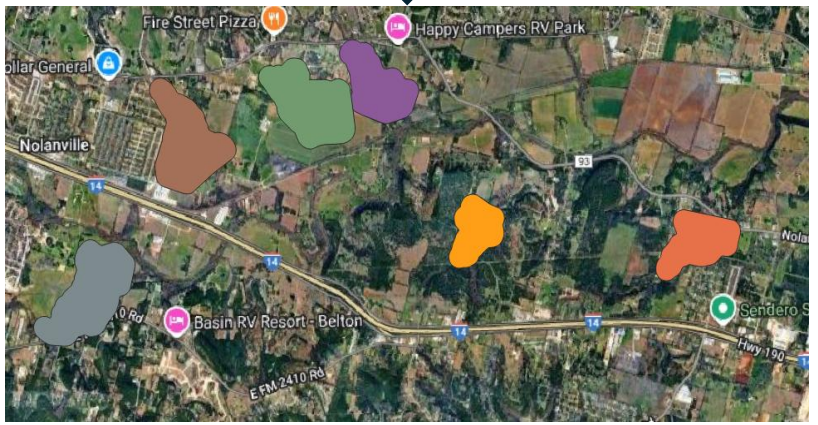
Rank	Geographic Area	April 1, 2020 (Estimates Base)	July 1, 2022	July 1, 2023	Numeric Growth
1	Texas	29,145,459	30,029,848	30,503,301	473,453
2	Florida	21,538,216	22,245,521	22,610,726	365,205
3	North Carolina	10,439,459	10,695,965	10,835,491	139,526
4	Georgia	10,713,771	10,913,150	11,029,227	116,077
5	South Carolina	5,118,422	5,282,955	5,373,555	90,600
6	Tennessee	6,910,786	7,048,976	7,126,489	77,513
7	Arizona	7,157,902	7,365,684	7,431,344	65,660
8	Virginia	8,631,373	8,679,099	8,715,698	36,599
9	Colorado	5,773,707	5,841,039	5,877,610	36,571
10	Utah	3,271,614	3,381,236	3,417,734	36,498

So, what do we do?





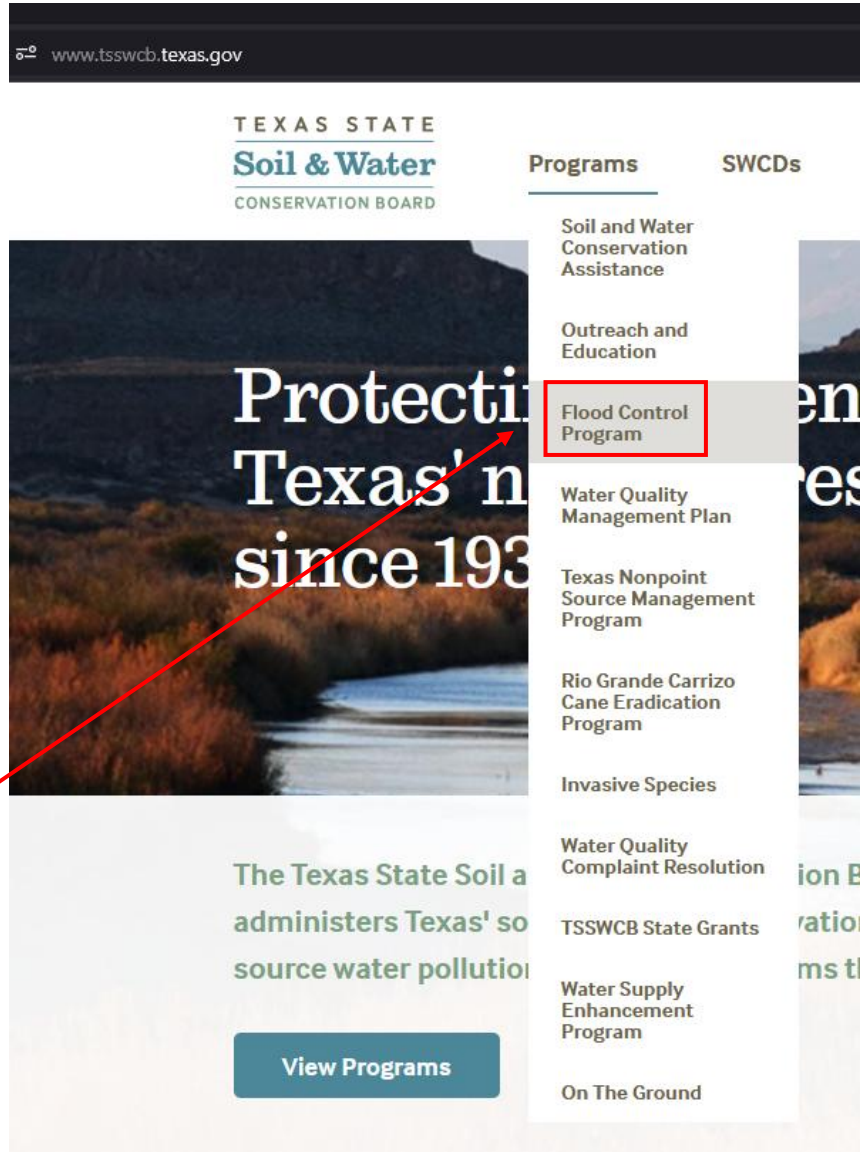




Flood Control Easement Notification Area Map- A How-To Guide

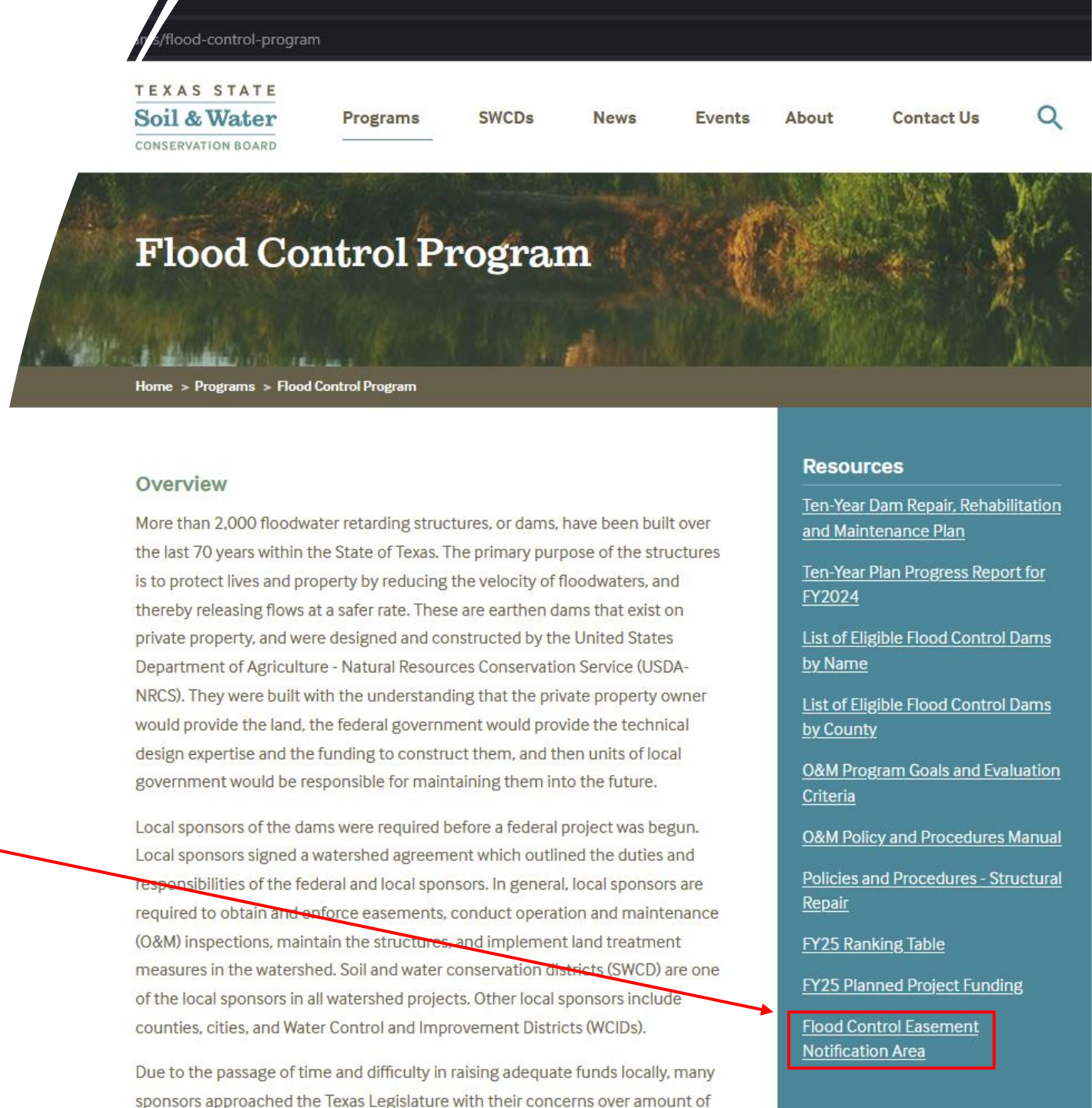
Go to https://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/

Find your way to the “Flood Control Program” page.

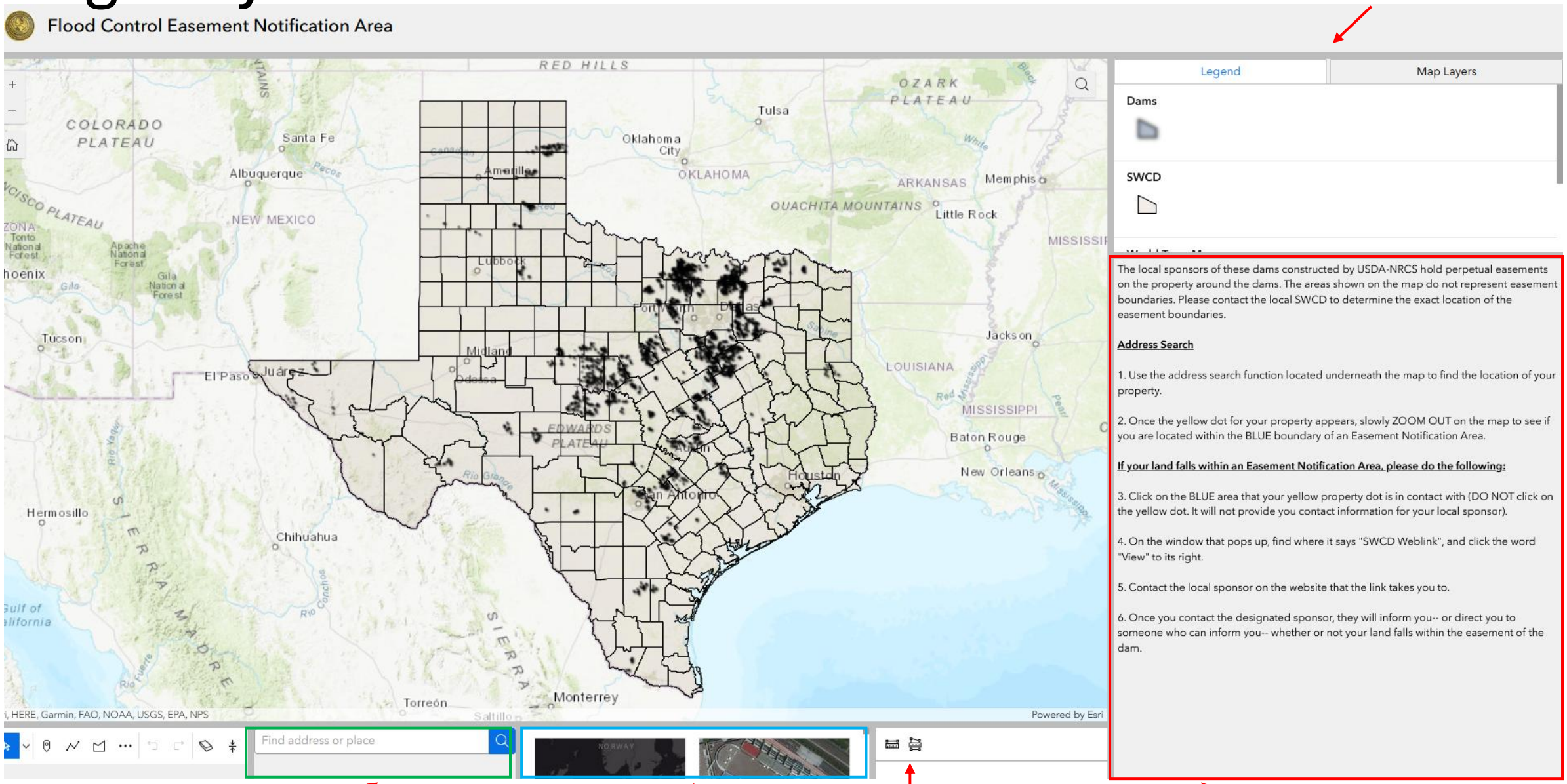


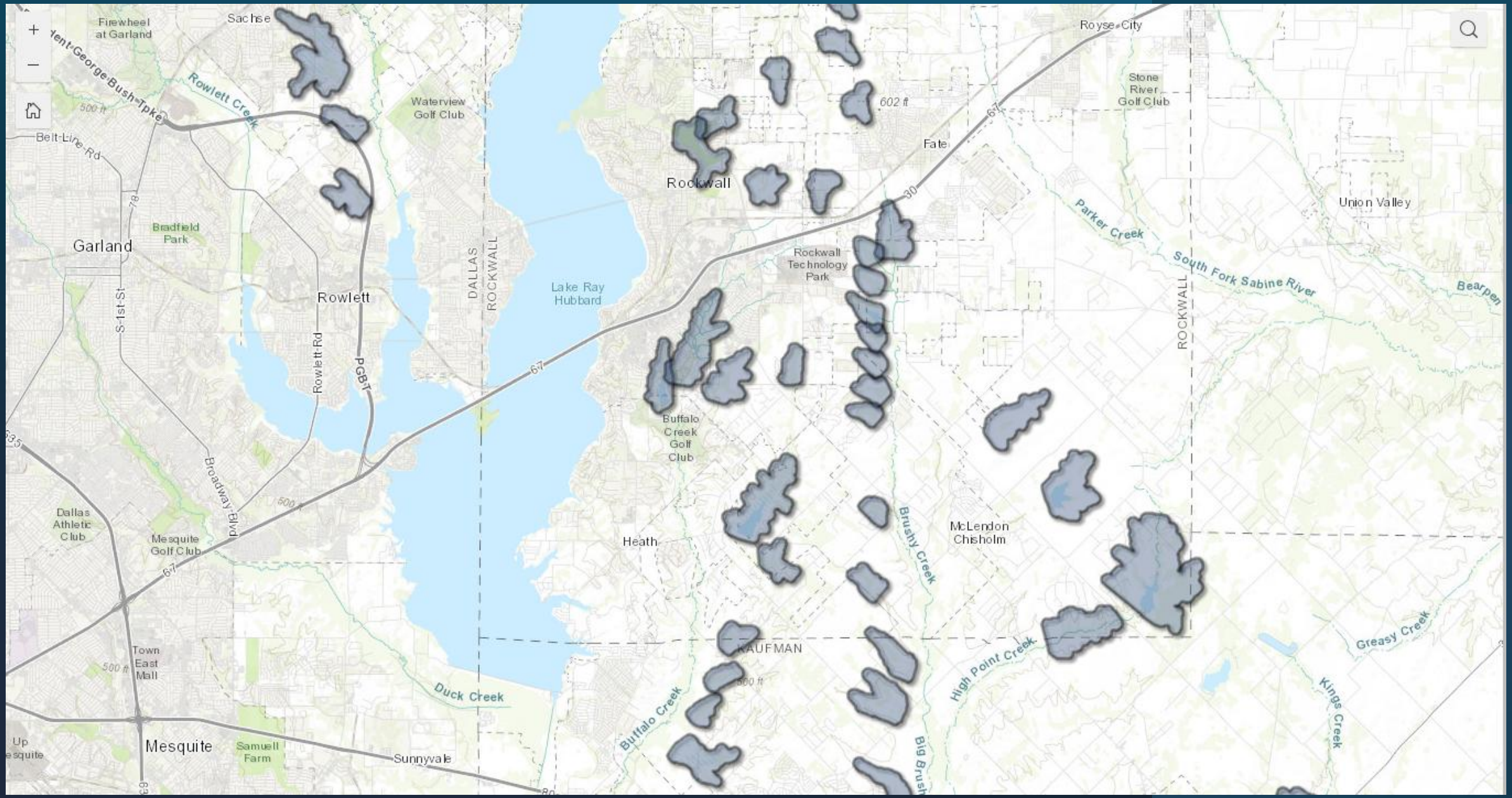
Flood Control Easement Notification Area Map- A How-To Guide

Find the “Flood Control Easement Notification Area” link in the Resources section on the right side of the webpage.



Page Layout


Flood Control Easement Notification Area
Legend
Legend
Map Layers
Dams
SWCD
The local sponsors of these dams constructed by USDA-NRCS hold perpetual easements on the property around the dams. The areas shown on the map do not represent easement boundaries. Please contact the local SWCD to determine the exact location of the easement boundaries.
Address Search
1. Use the address search function located underneath the map to find the location of your property.
2. Once the yellow dot for your property appears, slowly ZOOM OUT on the map to see if you are located within the BLUE boundary of an Easement Notification Area.
If your land falls within an Easement Notification Area, please do the following:
3. Click on the BLUE area that your yellow property dot is in contact with (DO NOT click on the yellow dot. It will not provide you contact information for your local sponsor).
4. On the window that pops up, find where it says "SWCD Weblink", and click the word "View" to its right.
5. Contact the local sponsor on the website that the link takes you to.
6. Once you contact the designated sponsor, they will inform you-- or direct you to someone who can inform you-- whether or not your land falls within the easement of the dam.
Find address or place
Address Search Bar
Different Map Layers
Measurement Tools
Map Use Instruction Box


Firewheel at Garland
Sachse
Royse City
George Bush Tpke
Rowlett Creek
Waterview Golf Club
Stone River Golf Club
602 ft
Belt Line Rd
Fate
Rockwall
Union Valley
Parker Creek
South Fork Sabine River
Bearpen
Bradfield Park
Garland
Rockwall Technology Park
DALLAS
ROCKWALL
Lake Ray Hubbard
Rowlett
S 1st St
Rowlett Rd
PGBT
67
30
Buffalo Creek Golf Club
Broadway Blvd
Dallas Athletic Club
Mesquite Golf Club
Heath
Brushy Creek
McLendon Chisholm
Town East Mall
KAUFMAN
High Point Creek
Greasy Creek
Duck Creek
Buffalo Creek
Kings Creek
Mesquite
Samuell Farm
Sunnyvale

Live Demonstration



For this demonstration I am saying that I live at Foxchase Park

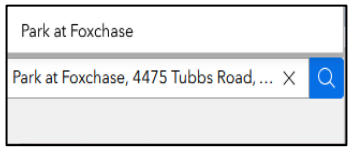


Address : Park at Foxchase, 4475 Tubbs Road, Rockwall, TX, 75032, USA

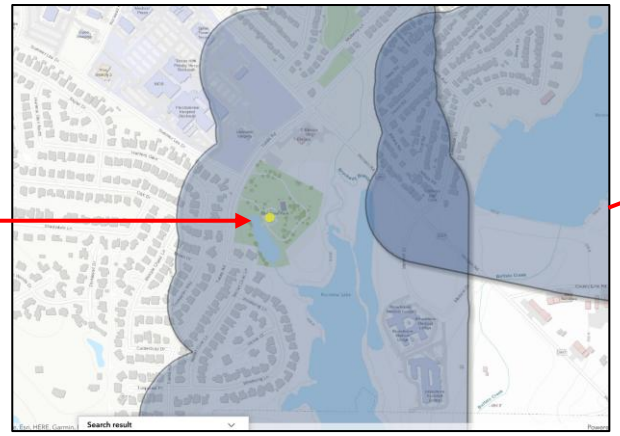


What should I do?

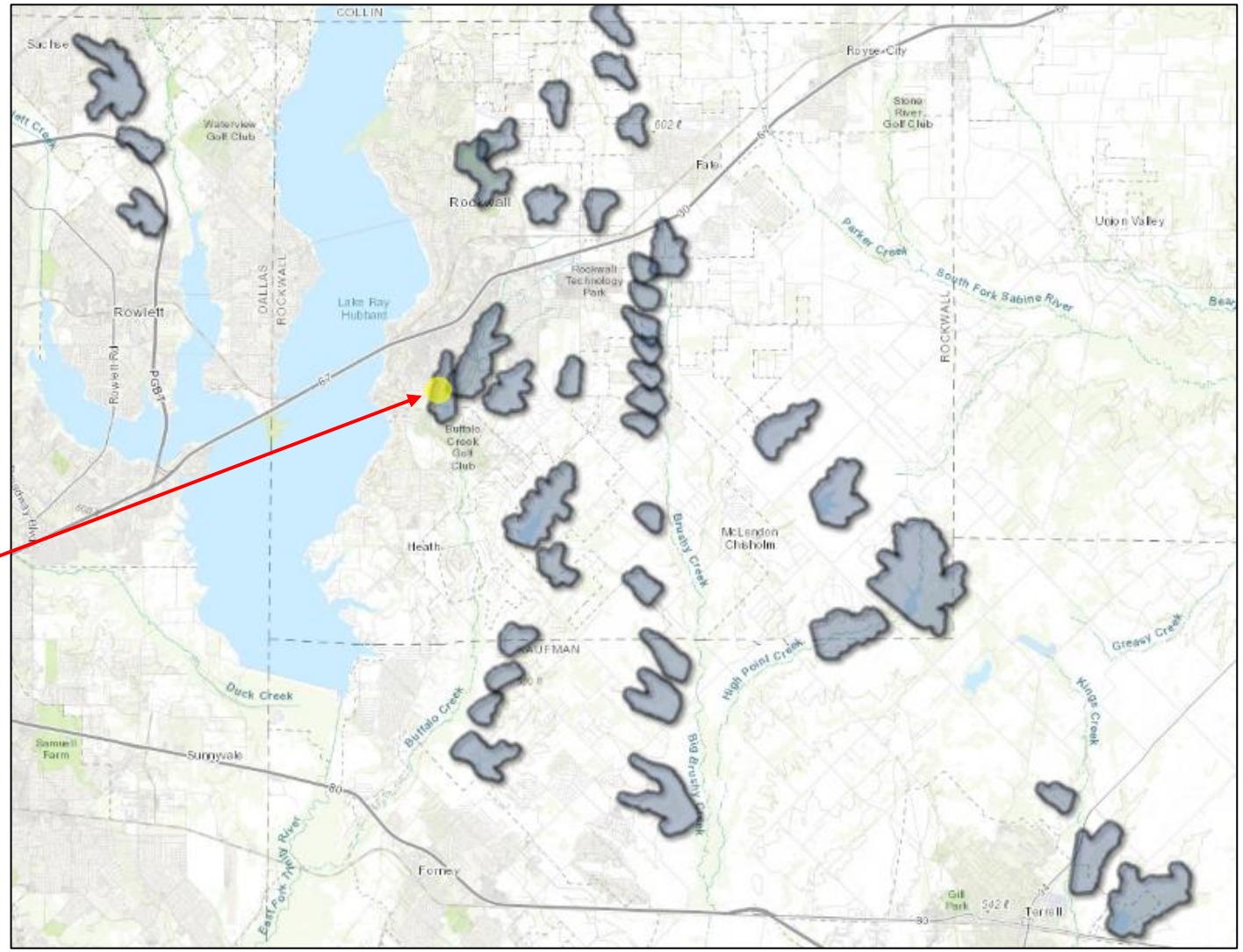
Is the address within an easement of a dam?



Search Address



Slowly zoom out, looking for any blue “dam” polygons.



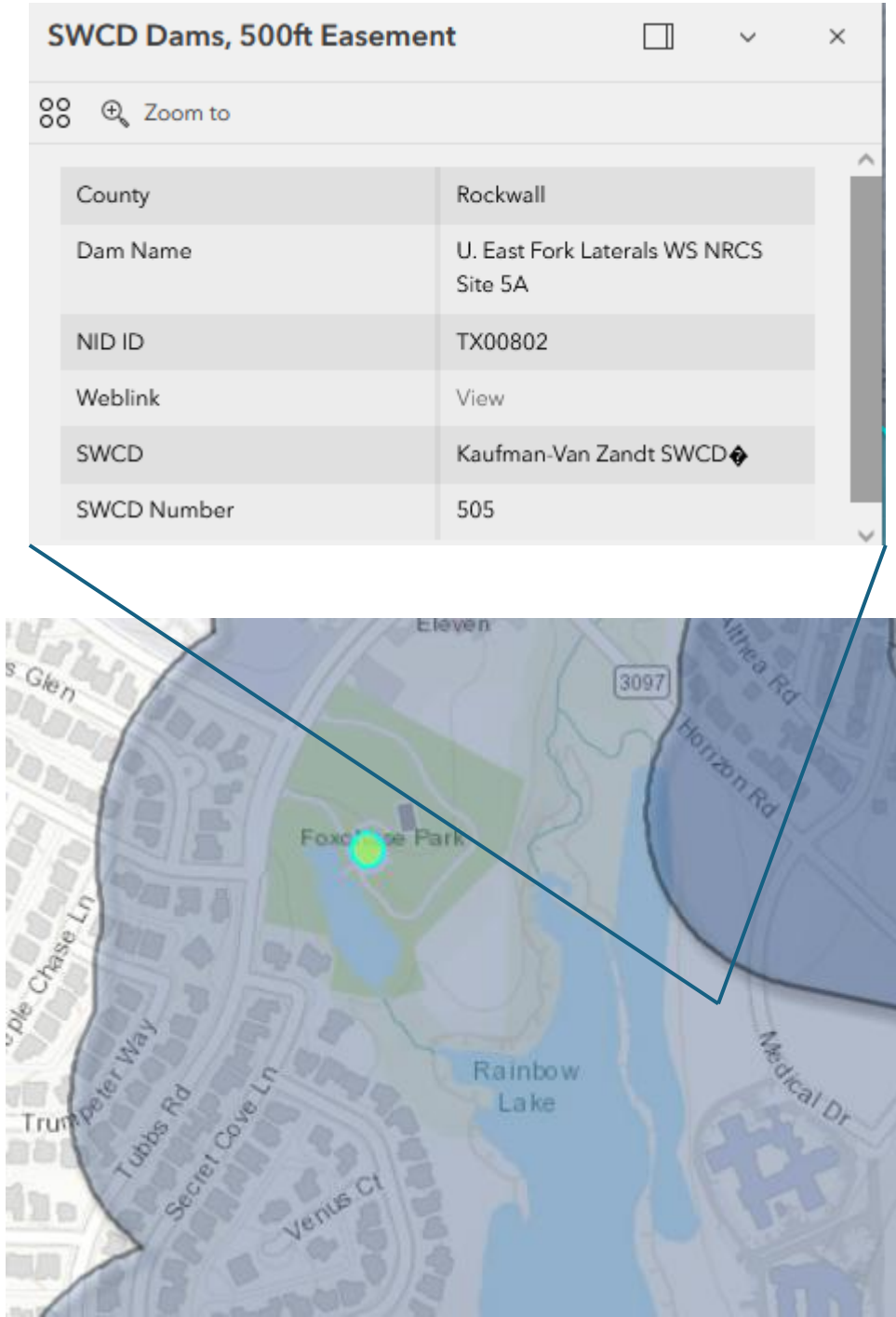
We know that we are within the easement of a dam.

Live Demonstration

I click the blue polygon.

The data that pops up tells me that this dam is “Upper East Fork Laterals WS NRCS Site 5A”.

I click the “View” button to take me to the weblink to get point of contact information about the dam.

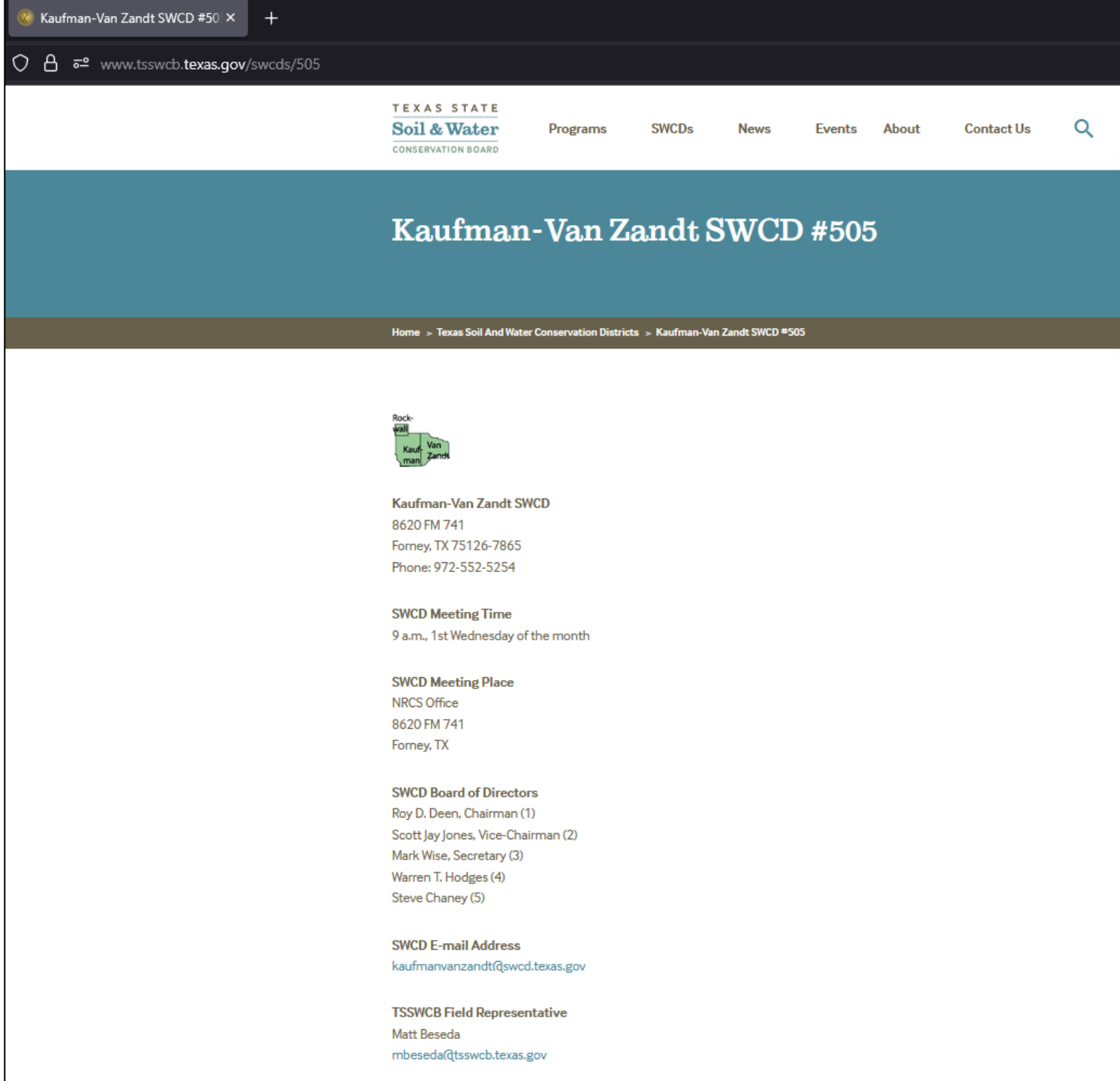


Live Demonstration

Clicking “View” takes me to a weblink that gives me the SWCD’s address, phone number, and email.

It tells me when the SWCD’s monthly meeting date and time is.

It gives me a Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) Field Representative should I have any issues contacting the SWCD.



Now I know who I need to talk to about easements before I start any type of construction work.

Conclusion

Questions?