Richland-Chambers Watershed Partnership

Stakeholder Meeting

February 24, 2021

Social Time – you are welcome to chat with your neighbors until the meeting starts

Microsoft Teams Crash Course

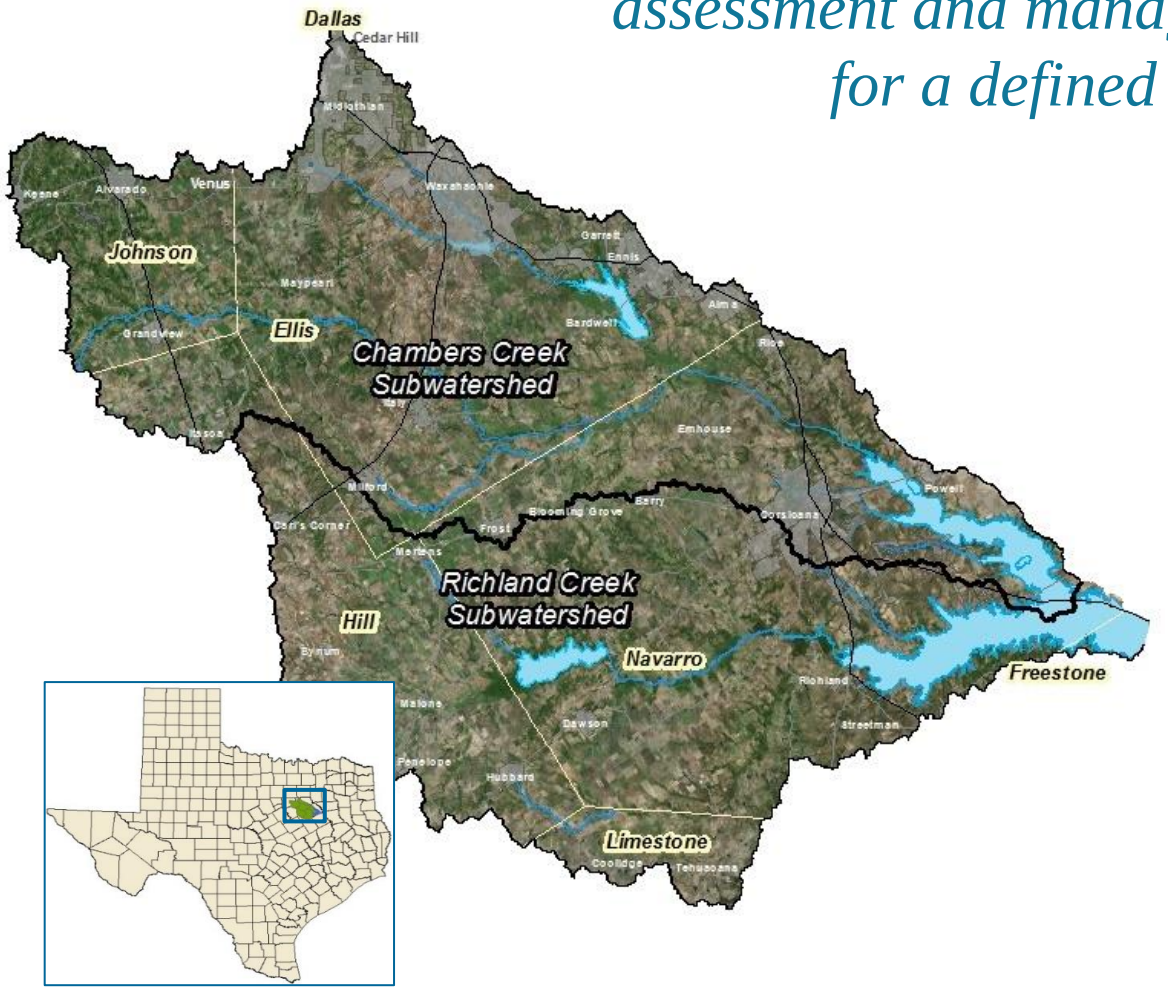
- Mics will be auto-muted – we will allow you to unmute for Q&A at the end
- Please type questions during the presentation in the chat window
- Keep cameras off during presentation – feel free to turn on during Q&A

AGENDA

- Review of Watershed Protection Planning (WPP) Process
- Richland-Chambers WPP Overview
- Assistance Programs
- Demonstration Projects
- Open Discussion

Background – What is a WPP?

Watershed Protection Plan: A strategy that provides assessment and management information for a defined watershed.

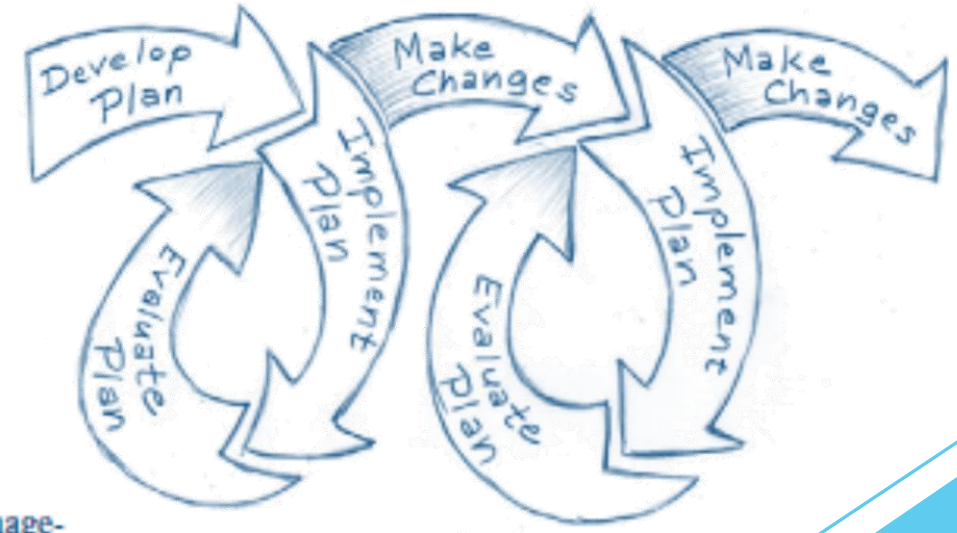


- Clean Water Act §319 → EPA Framework
  - TCEQ Integrated Report (303(d) List)
- Stakeholder involvement
- Actions supported by sound science
- Technical expertise from diverse sources

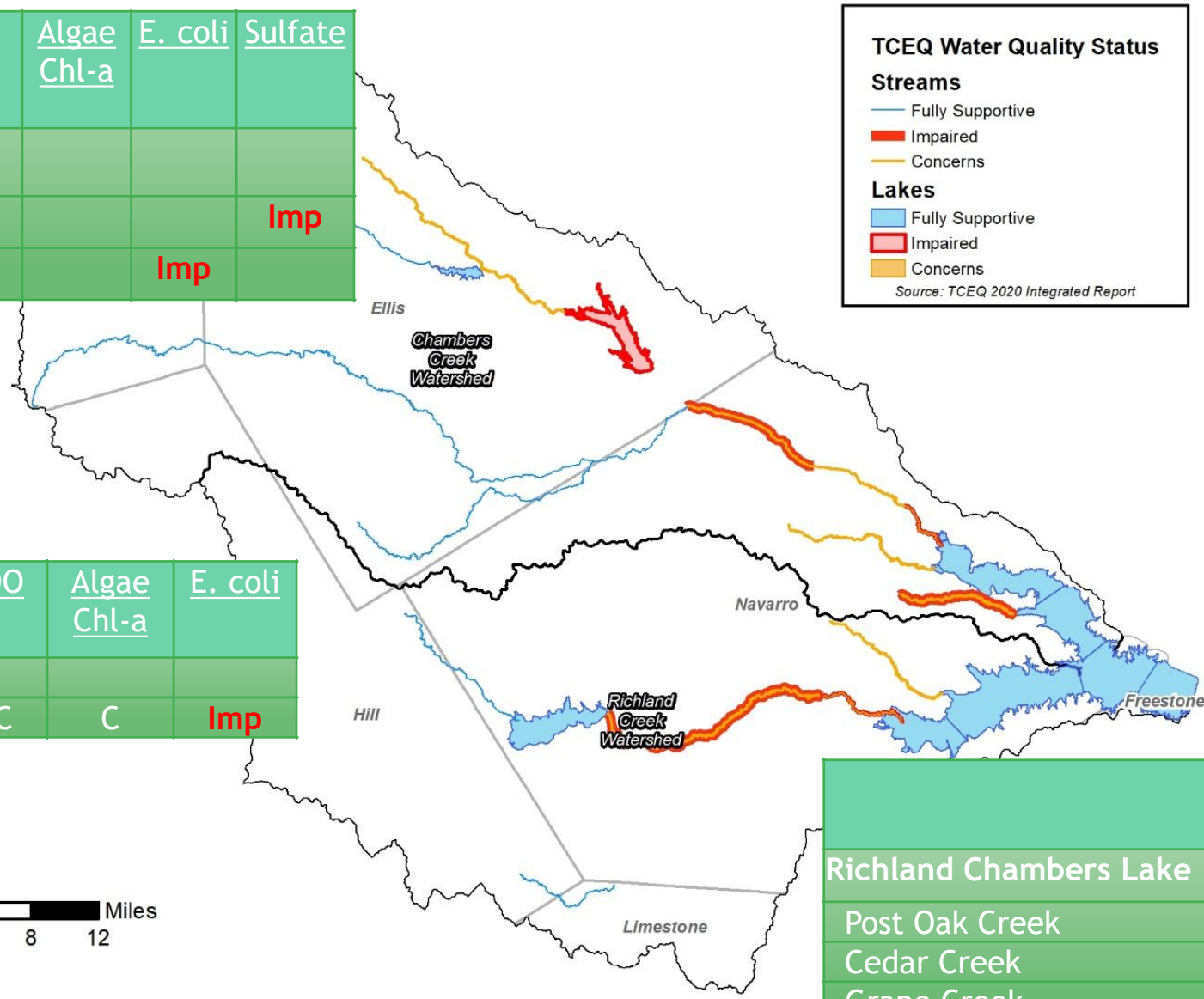
Background – What is a WPP?

Steps to Effective Watershed Management

1. Build partnerships
2. Characterize your watershed
3. Establish goals & identify solutions
4. Develop an implementation program
5. Implement your plan
6. Measure progress & make adjustments



Chambers Creek Subwatershed	N	P	Algae Chl-a	E. coli	Sulfate
Waxahachie Creek	C				
Bardwell Reservoir					Imp
Chambers Creek	C	C		Imp	

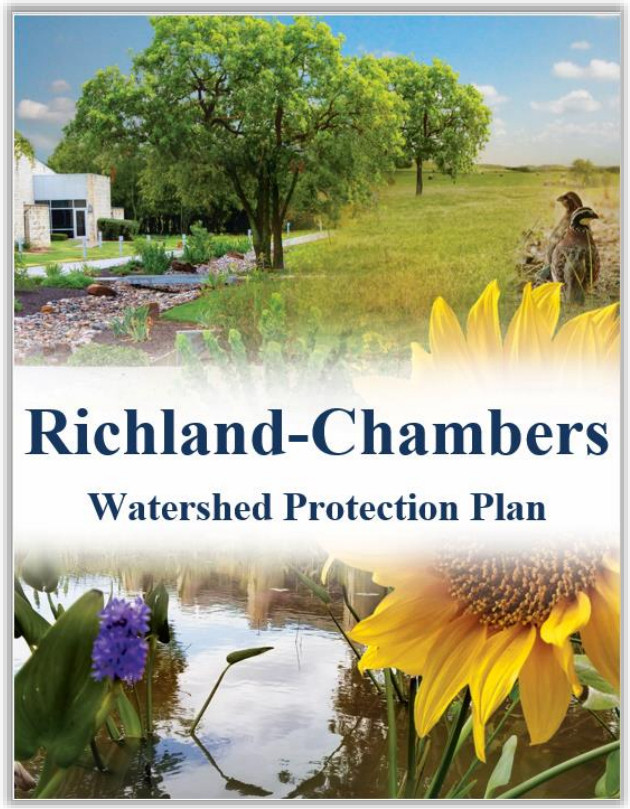


Richland Creek Subwatershed	DO	Algae Chl-a	E. coli
Navarro Mills Lake			
Richland Creek	C	C	Imp

	DO	Algae Chl-a	E. coli
Richland Chambers Lake	C		Imp
Post Oak Creek			C
Cedar Creek	Imp		
Grape Creek	C		

Background – Where We've Been

- Identified/created each of the 9 elements (see summary document in meeting packet for details)
- Wrote draft WPP
- Proposed revisions for length and clarity



A. Identify problem & sources

B. Reductions needed to reach goals

C. Identify measures needed to achieve reductions

D. Assistance needed

E. Education & outreach plan

F. Schedule

G. Milestones

H. Criteria for measuring progress

I. Monitoring Plan

WPP – Where we are right now

Issues

- Degraded lakes and streams
  - Nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus)
  - Dissolved oxygen
  - Chlorophyll-a
  - Bacteria
- Drinking water capacity
  - Sediment in lakes

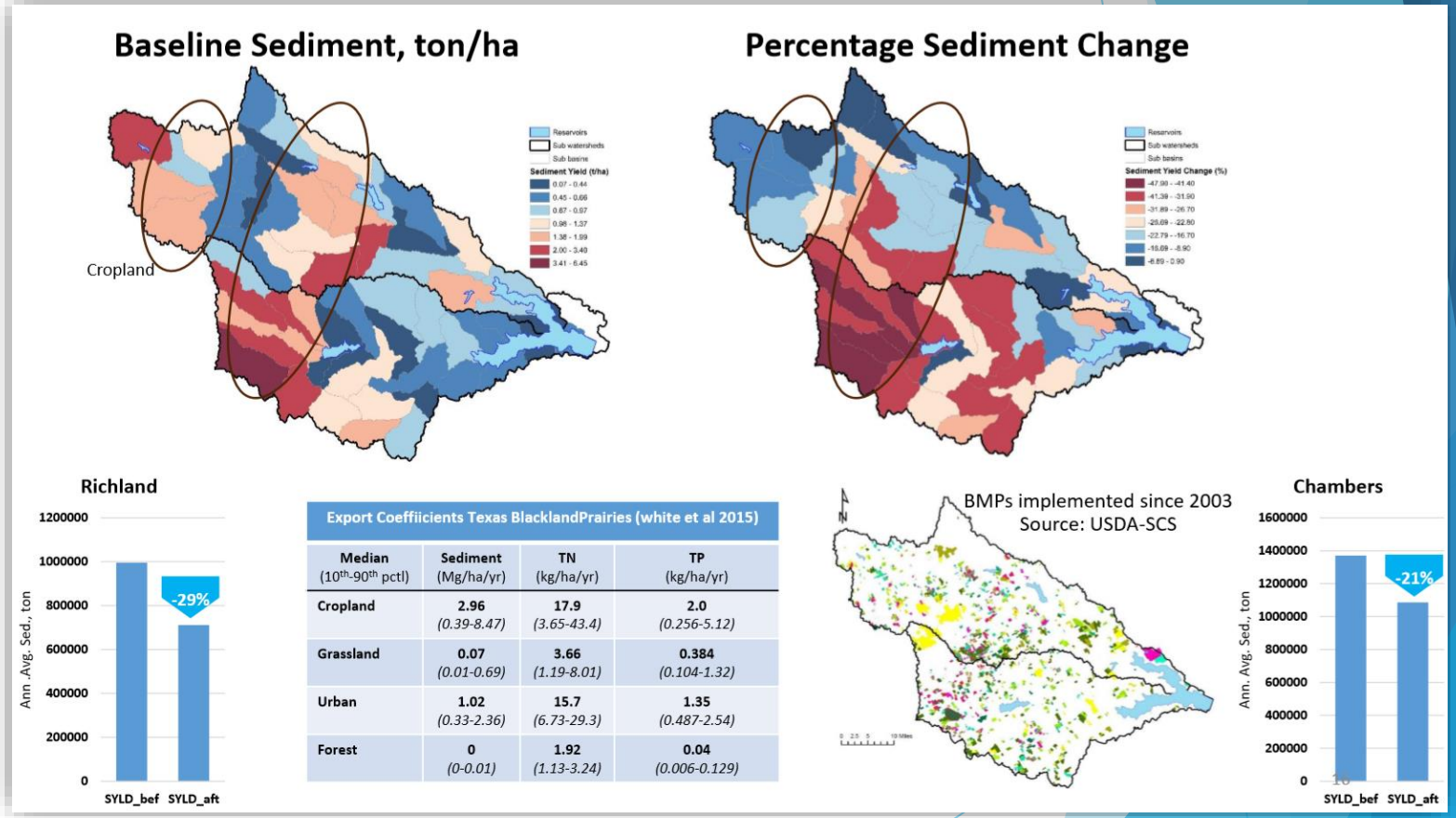
Causes

- Point Sources
  - WWTPs
  - Sewer overflows
  - Septic system malfunctions
- Nonpoint Sources
  - Channel erosion
  - Urban rainfall runoff
  - Ag/rural lands runoff

Solutions

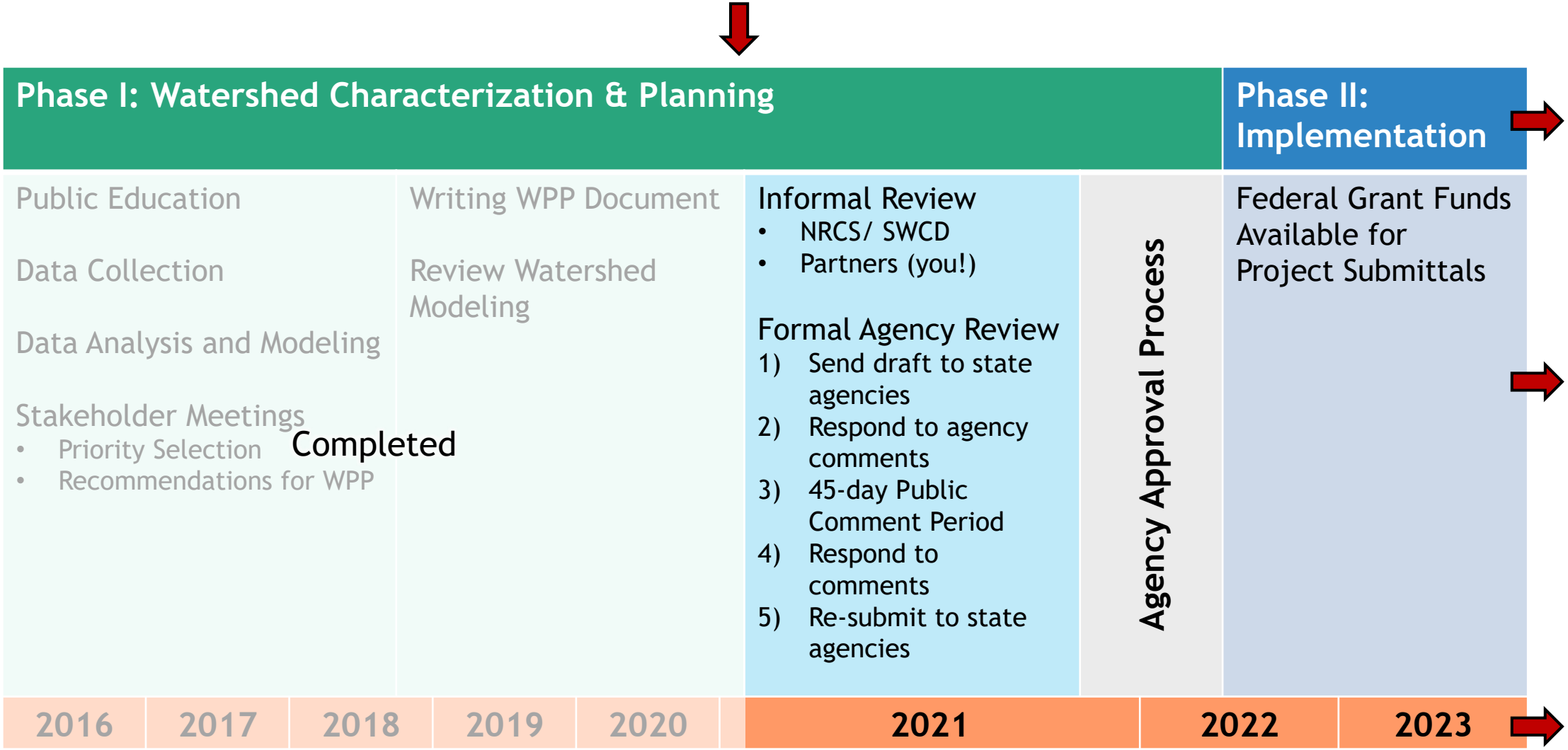
WPP – What's New

- Notable revisions
  - Updating modeling
  - Implementing revisions for length and clarity
- Provide "Road Map" for reviewers
  - Add EPA Elements to chapter headings
  - Speeds up review time

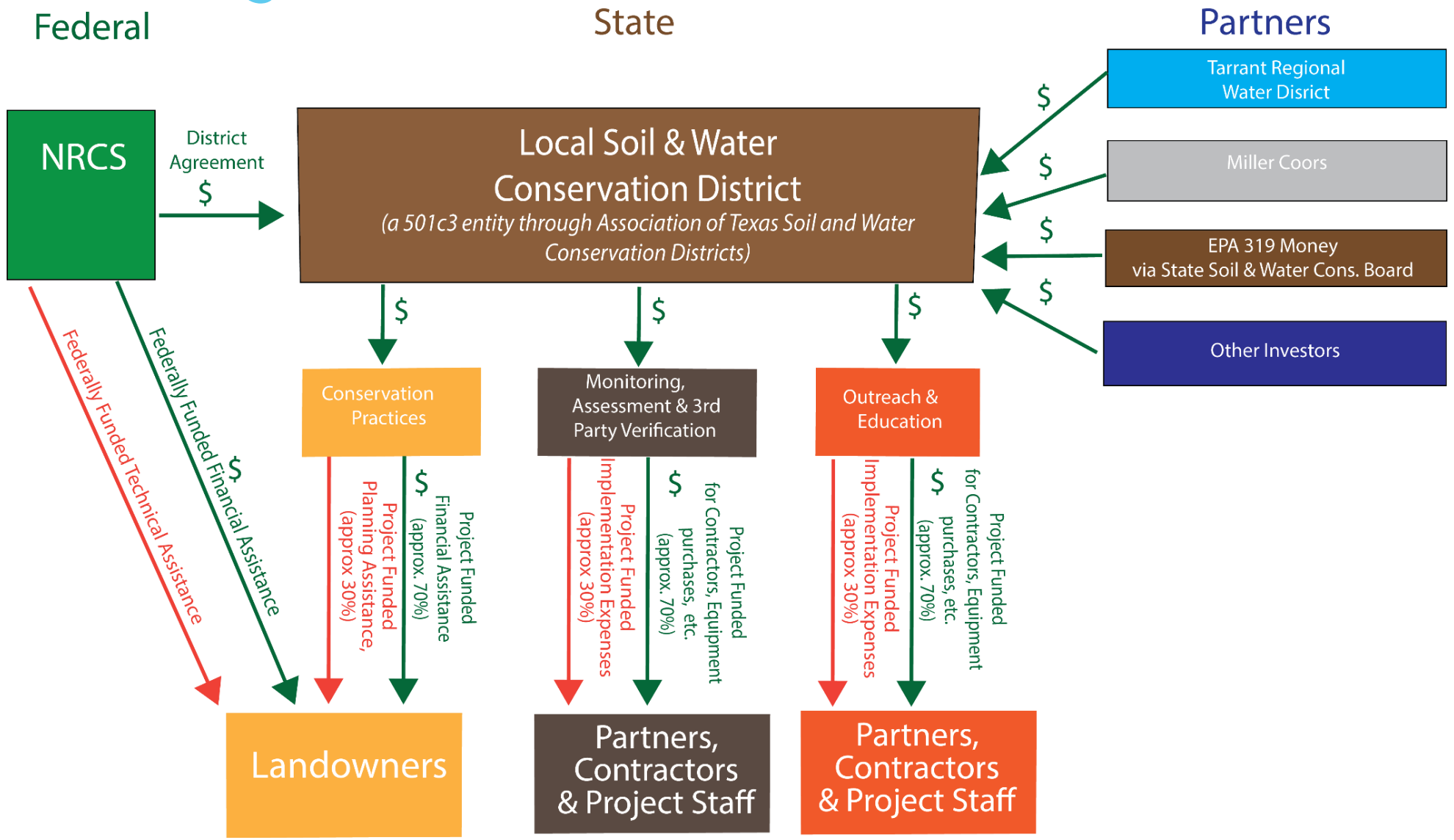


WPP – What's Next

We are here



Assistance Programs *Soil and Water Conservation Districts*



Assistance Programs *Soil and Water Conservation Districts*

EQIP Contract Cost-share

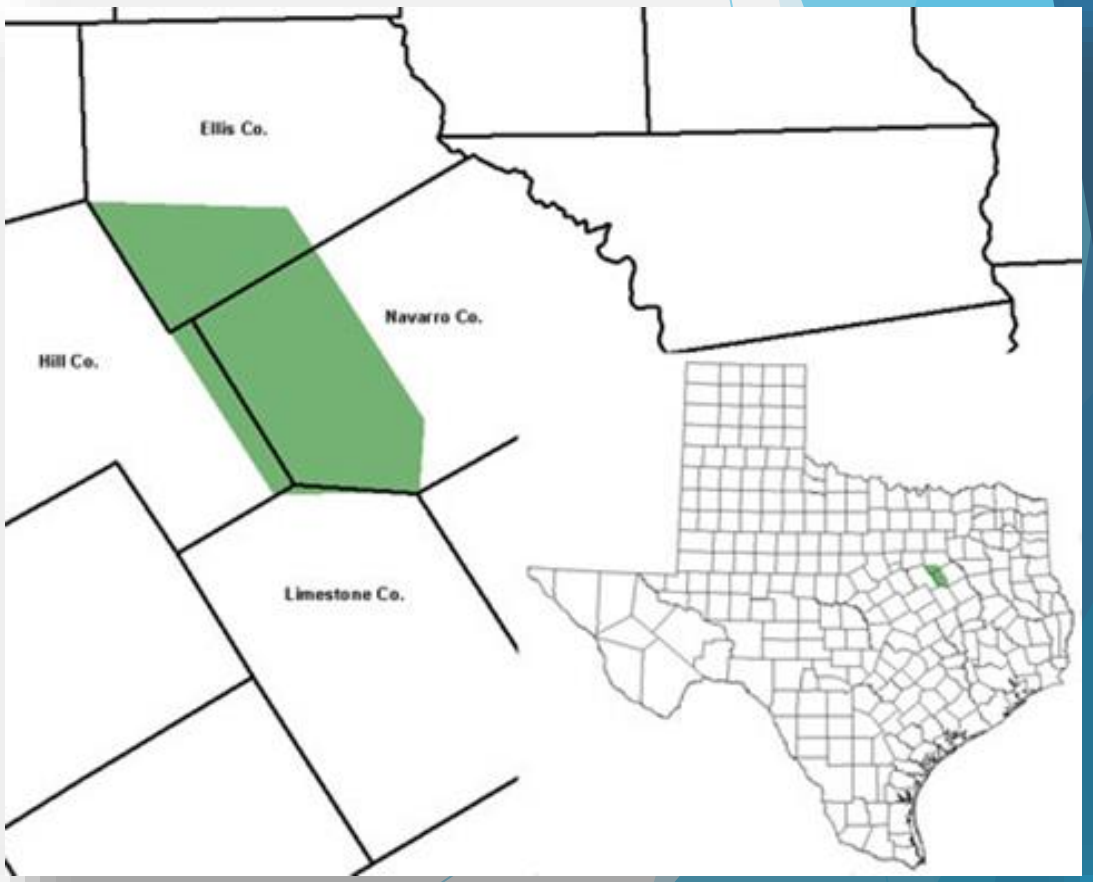
Lime Application

Staff

Assistance Programs

Western Navarro Bobwhite Recovery Initiative

- 2021 funding program for grassland restoration practices
- $5,000 total to be split among selected projects
- No match required
- Application period to start in late spring
- Must live in highlighted area
- If interested contact Jay Whiteside:
  - Jay.Whiteside@tpwd.texas.gov
  - (903) 426-1836



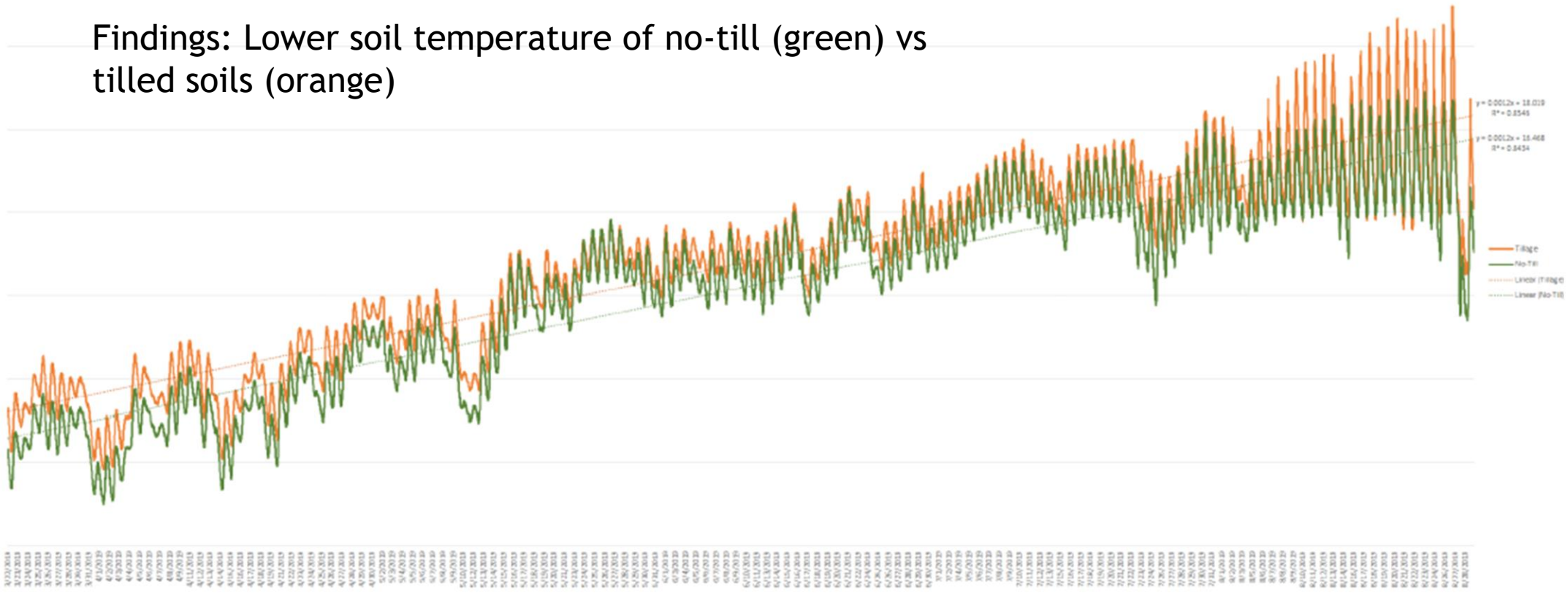
Demonstration Projects

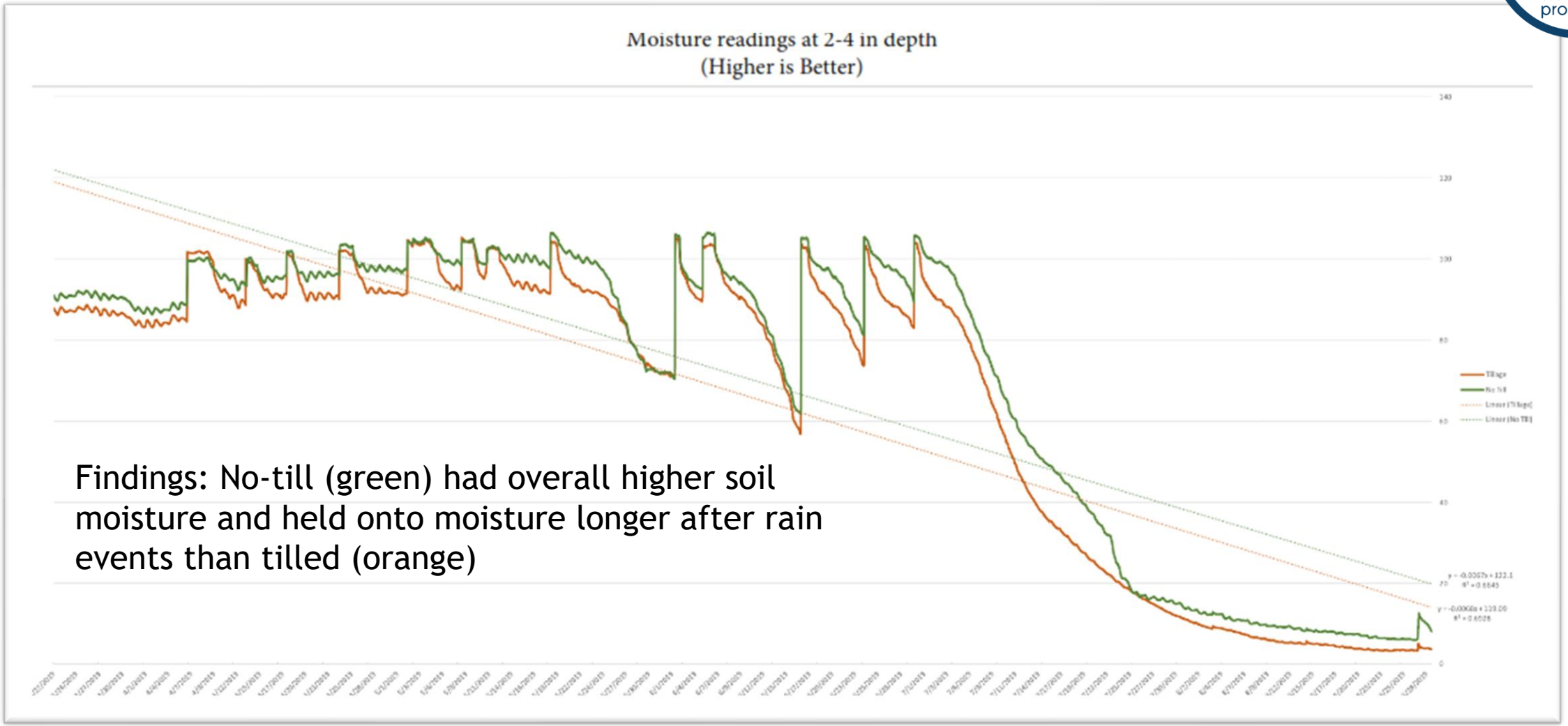
AquaSpy Soil Probes

- Partnership with NRCS
- Soil probes set up to test soil health effects of cover cropping and no-till/low-till
- TRWD is open to funding a similar project – if you are interested, please contact us or your local NRCS agent
  - watersheds@trwd.com

Temperatures 2-4 inches deep (Celsius)
(Lower is better)

Findings: Lower soil temperature of no-till (green) vs tilled soils (orange)




Moisture readings at 2-4 in depth
(Higher is Better)
Findings: No-till (green) had overall higher soil moisture and held onto moisture longer after rain events than tilled (orange)

Demonstration Projects

Planned Grazing Fencing Kit

- Partnership with Blackland Prairie Grazing Lands Coalition
- Electric fence to rotate grazing or create an exclusion zone
- Deployed as a livestock exclusion around a heavily eroded washout on a ranch near Dawson
- If interested in testing this technology, contact Watersheds@TRWD.com

Open Discussion

Three ways to participate:

- Enter questions in the chat
- Click the “raise hand” button to be called on
- Unmute and jump in

Contact Us

- Watersheds@TRWD.com
- Kathleen.Myers@TRWD.com