



Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority

Guadalupe River
Habitat Conservation Plan

Technical Advisory Group Kick-off Meeting

October 3, 2022

CHAD NORRIS

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE
MANAGER OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

DAN OPDYKE, PH.D., P.E.

TECHNICAL ADVISORY
GROUP CHAIR



Introductions



- Nathan Pence
Executive Manager of Environmental Science
npence@gbra.org
- Chad Norris
Deputy Executive Manager of Environmental Science
cnorris@gbra.org
- Jana Gray
HCP Coordinator
jgray@gbra.org

Technical Advisory Group



Dan Opdyke
Chair of Committee
Anchor QEA
Water quality and hydromodeling



Cindy Loeffler
Retired TPWD
Texas Water Policy and HCP's



Webster Mangham
Trinity River Authority
Mussel Policy and River Authority
operations



Ryan Smith
Texas Nature Conservancy
Texas water and ecosystems

Meeting Agenda

- Brief Overview of GRHCP
- Role of TAG
- Outline of TAG Review Process
 - Technical Memos vs HCP Chapters
- Upcoming Tech Memos
- Timeline and future meetings
- Comments from TAG members
- Public Comments



Role and Responsibilities of the TAG

- Attend a GRHCP TAG “kick-off” meeting
- Review and provide comments and input on GRHCP technical memoranda and working draft chapters as they become available
- Attend a GRHCP TAG closing meeting, where the TAG Chair will present a summary of their review



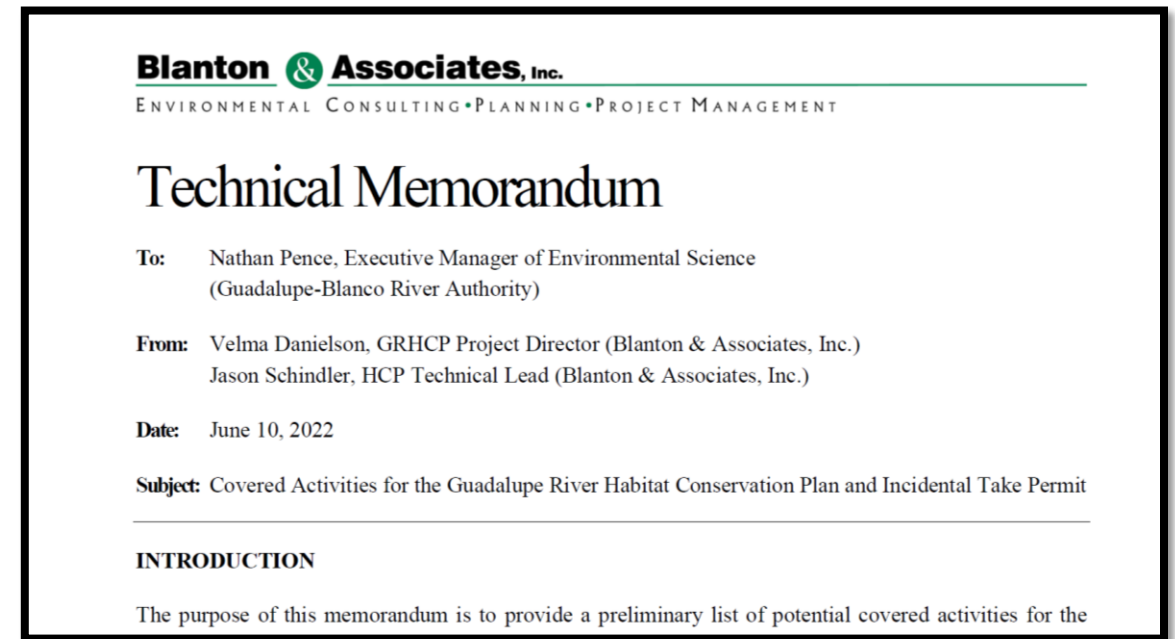
Review Process

- Tech Memos and Draft Chapters will be individually reviewed by TAG members
- Comments and GBRA responses will be submitted in a matrix for each document
- Matrix documents will be made into an appendix in the public draft and final HCP

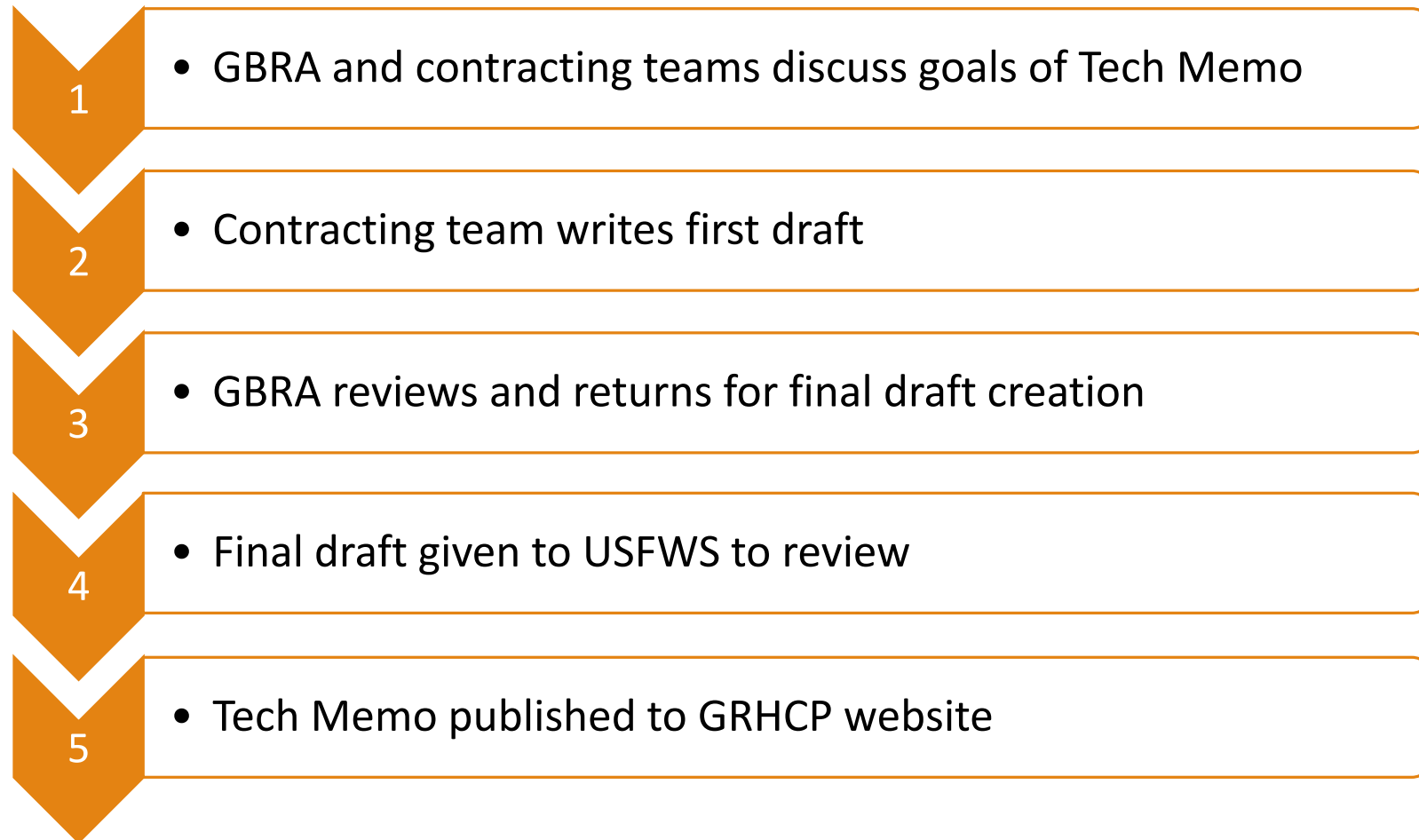
Guadalupe River Habitat Conservation Plan				
TAG Document Review				
Document: XXXXXX Technical Memorandum or GRHCP Chapter XXX Date of Document:				
Page Number	Section Number	Reviewer Name	Comment	GBRA Response

Technical Memorandums

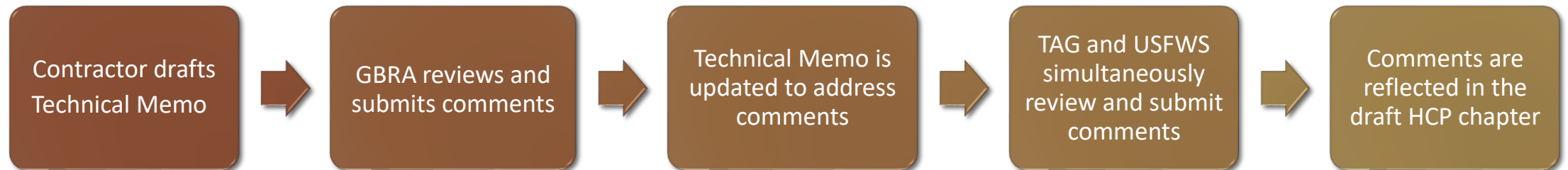
- **Tech Memos** give descriptive reviews of preliminary decisions made for the GRHCP and are intended to serve as an outline for HCP chapters
- These memos are draft, and are used to make preliminary decisions
- When the tech memos have finished the review process they will be published on the GRHCP website



Process of Tech Memo Review Before Formation of the TAG



TAG Tech Memo Review Process



Published Tech Memos



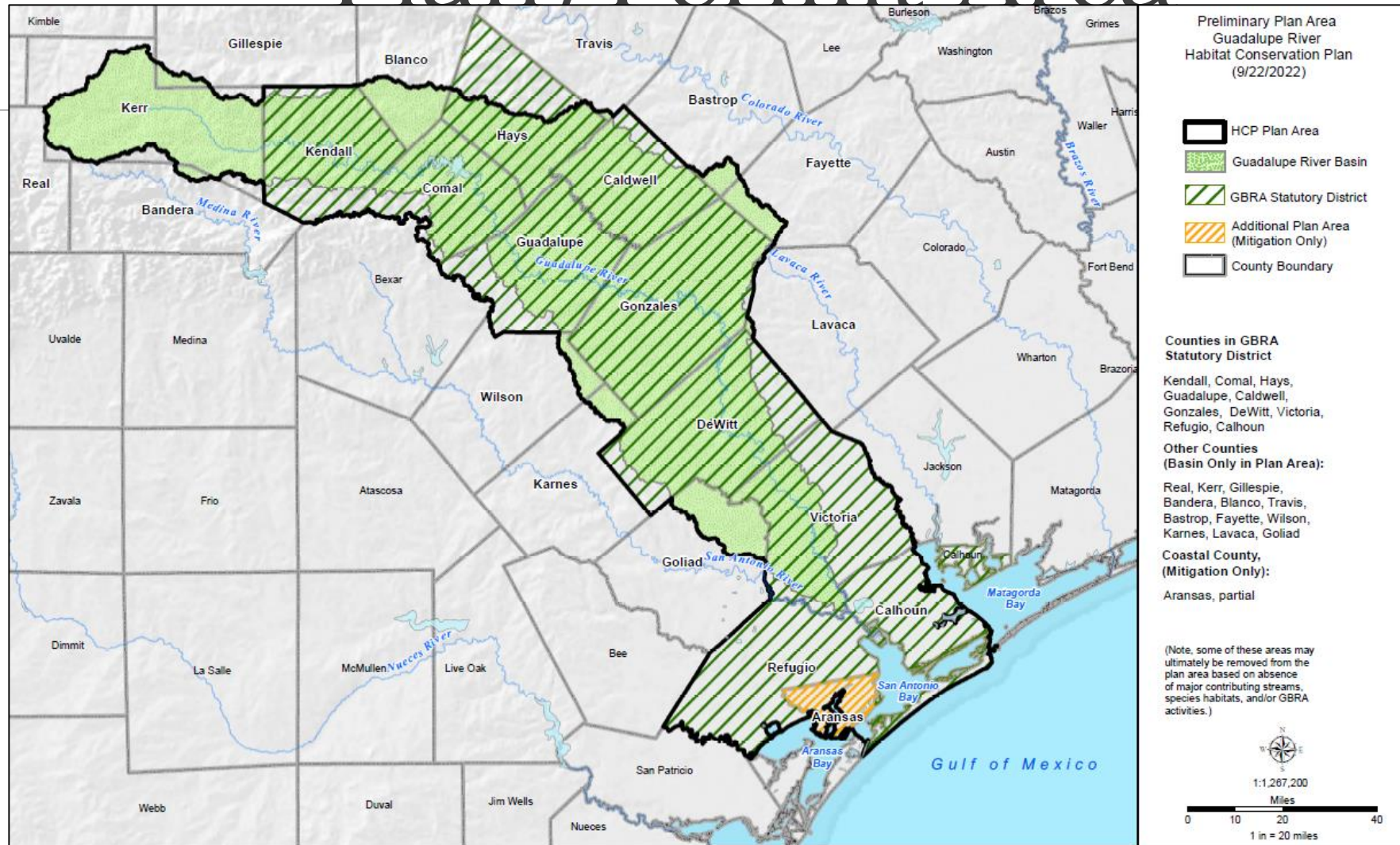
PROJECT GOALS

- GBRA activities have potential to cause take of federally protected species
- The GRHCP will help minimize and mitigate any take of endangered species
- The GRHCP will also allow for others in the basin to seek coverage under GBRA's permit

PERMIT TERM

- GBRA proposing 50-year permit term
 - Sufficient time to construct infrastructure projects, secure funding, and implement conservation measures
 - Certainty for GBRA construction and operations over a longer time period
 - Timeframe may provide more certainty to the USFWS that conservation strategy, monitoring, and adaptive management program contribute adequately to species recovery

Plan / Permit Area



Proposed Covered Species



Eastern Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis* ssp. *jamaicensis*)



Golden-cheeked Warbler (*Setophaga chrysoparai*)



Monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*)



Guadalupe Orb (*Cyclonaias necki*)



False Spike (*Fusconaia mitchelli*)



Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*)



Red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*)



Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*)



Guadalupe fatmucket (*Lampsilis bergmanni*)



Undescribed *Eurycea* Species 2 (Devitt, T.)



Cascade Caverns Salamander (*Eurycea latitans*) (Devitt, T.)



Fern Bank Salamander (*Eurycea pterophila*) (Devitt, T.)

HCP Chapter Review Process



Documents to be Reviewed



Technical Memoranda or Chapter to be Review by the TAG	Anticipated Date to TAG for Review
Technical Memoranda	
Plan/permit area and permit term (2)	To be provided to TAG for information only
Covered activities	Need TAG review
Covered species	To be provided to TAG for information only
Existing info on species and data gaps, preliminary species accounts, potential species modeling needs	To be provided to TAG for information only
Existing info/studies on potential hydrologic, hydrogeologic, and water quality modeling needs	10/15/22
Climate change summary	11/18/22
Surface water hydrological modeling/results (WAM)	11/18/22
Water quality modeling/results	1/4/23
Methods/models for determining species/habitat impacts, anticipated forms of take, and preliminary take metrics/triggers	2/14/23
Species/habitat impacts, take estimates	6/16/23
Anticipated benefits of flow-related conservation measures intended to minimize impacts	8/8/23
Preliminary biological goals/objectives, conservation measures, and adaptive management plan	10/20/23
GRHCP Chapter	
Chapter 1 – Introduction (Comments needed only on Section 1.2.5)	TBD
Chapter 2 – Environmental Setting (Comments needed only on Section 2.2.4)	TBD
Chapter 3 – Covered Activities (For information only, no comments needed)	TBD
Chapter 4 – Effects Analysis and Take Assessment	TBD
Chapter 5 – Conservation Strategy	TBD



**GUADALUPE-BLANCO
RIVER AUTHORITY**

TAG Comments



Public Comments



Next Steps:

Activities Planned for Second Half - 2022

- Next Stakeholder Meeting – December 2022
- Stakeholder input on:
 - Water quantity and water quality analysis
 - Modeling approaches
 - Climate change assessments
 - Impact assessment



Email questions or comments to GRHCP@GBRA.org

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