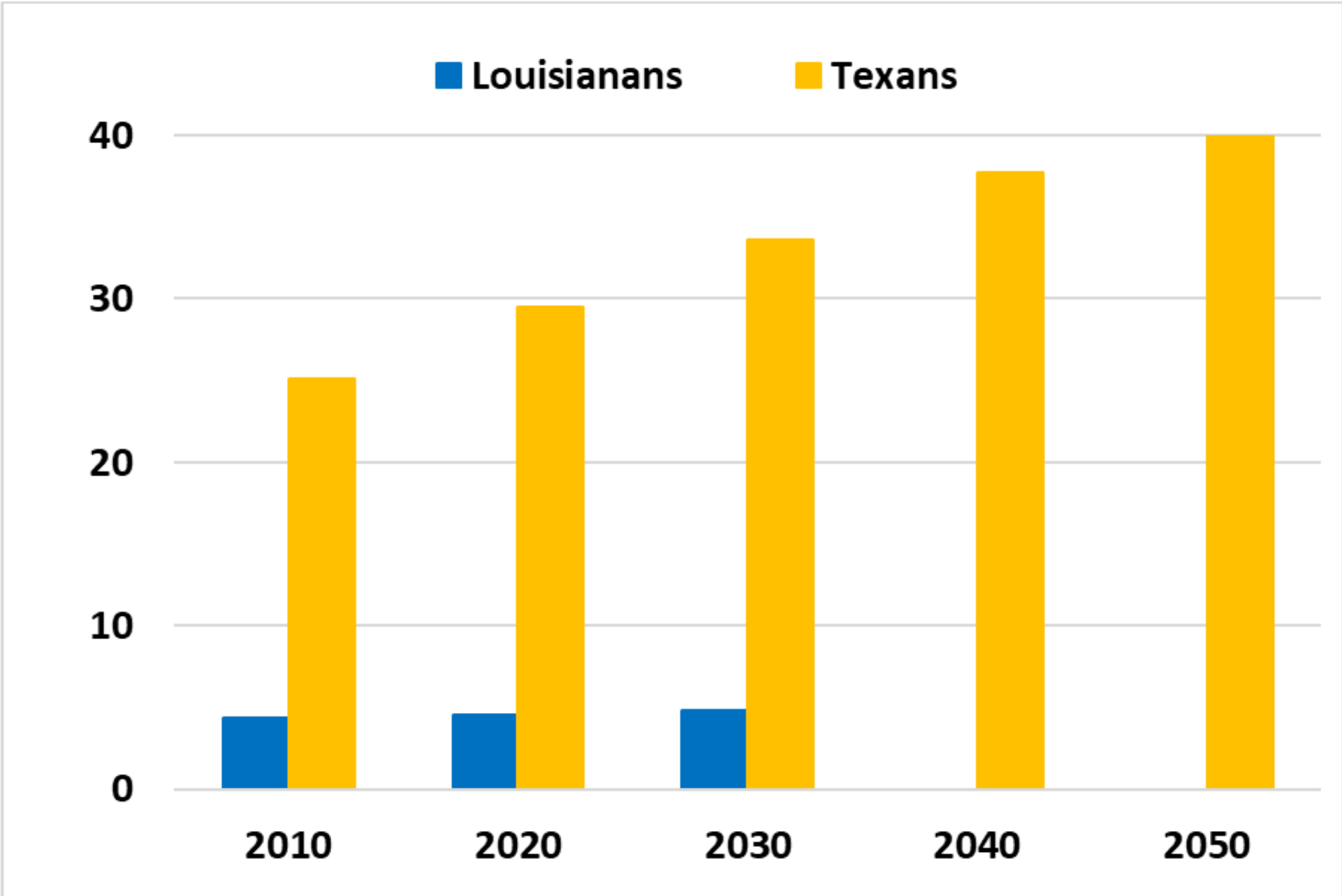


Environmental Flows in Texas: Successes and Lessons Learned

State of the Coast



David Buzan and Jason Shackelford
May 30, 2018





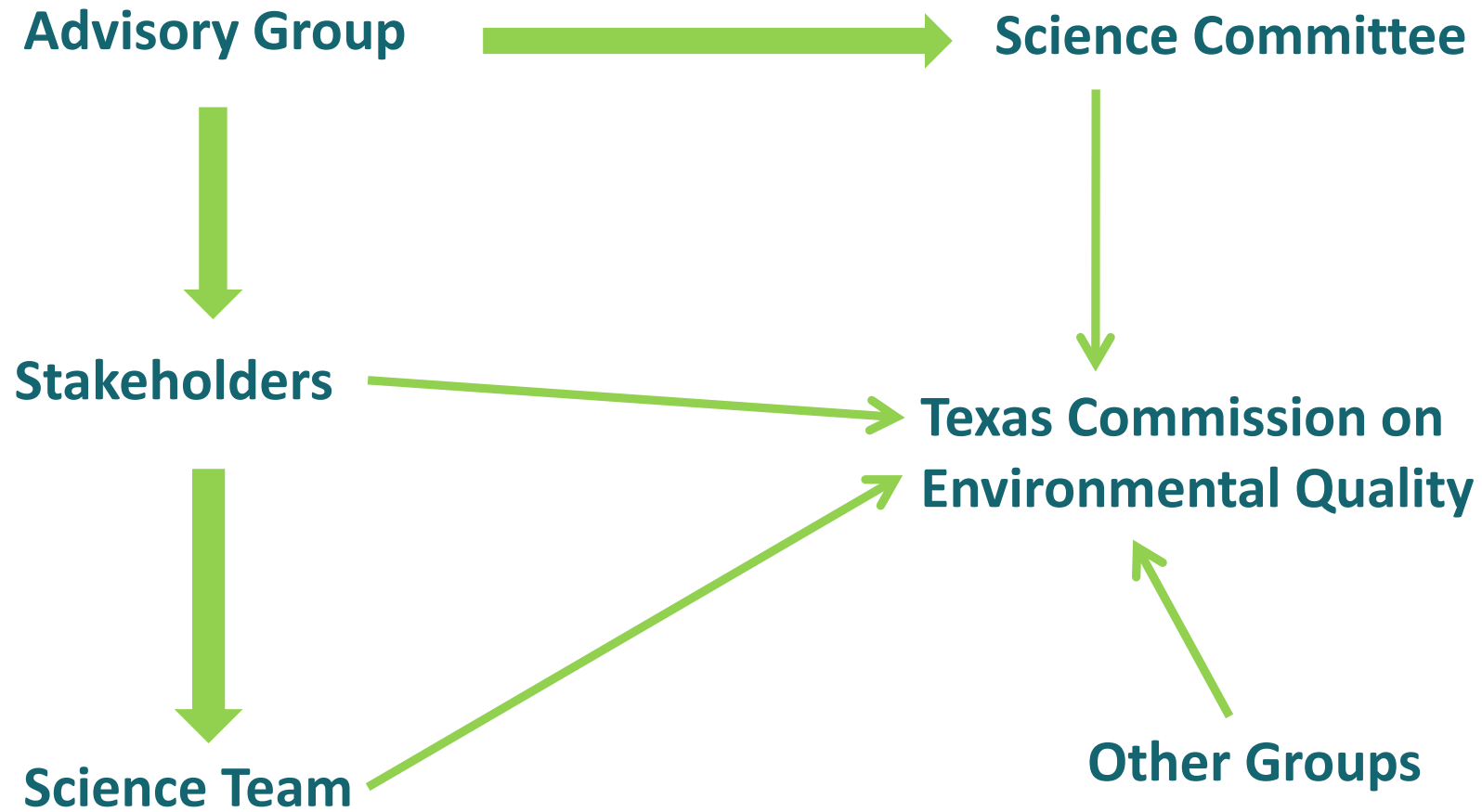
Water Planning Regions



*Despite Recent Floods, Texans
Fight Over Rights to Precious
Water of the Guadalupe River*

By Jim Yardley, July 21, 2002 , New York Times

Environmental Flows Process



Sound Ecological Environment

- **Native species**
- **Habitat**
- **Natural flow variability**
- **Ecosystem processes and services**

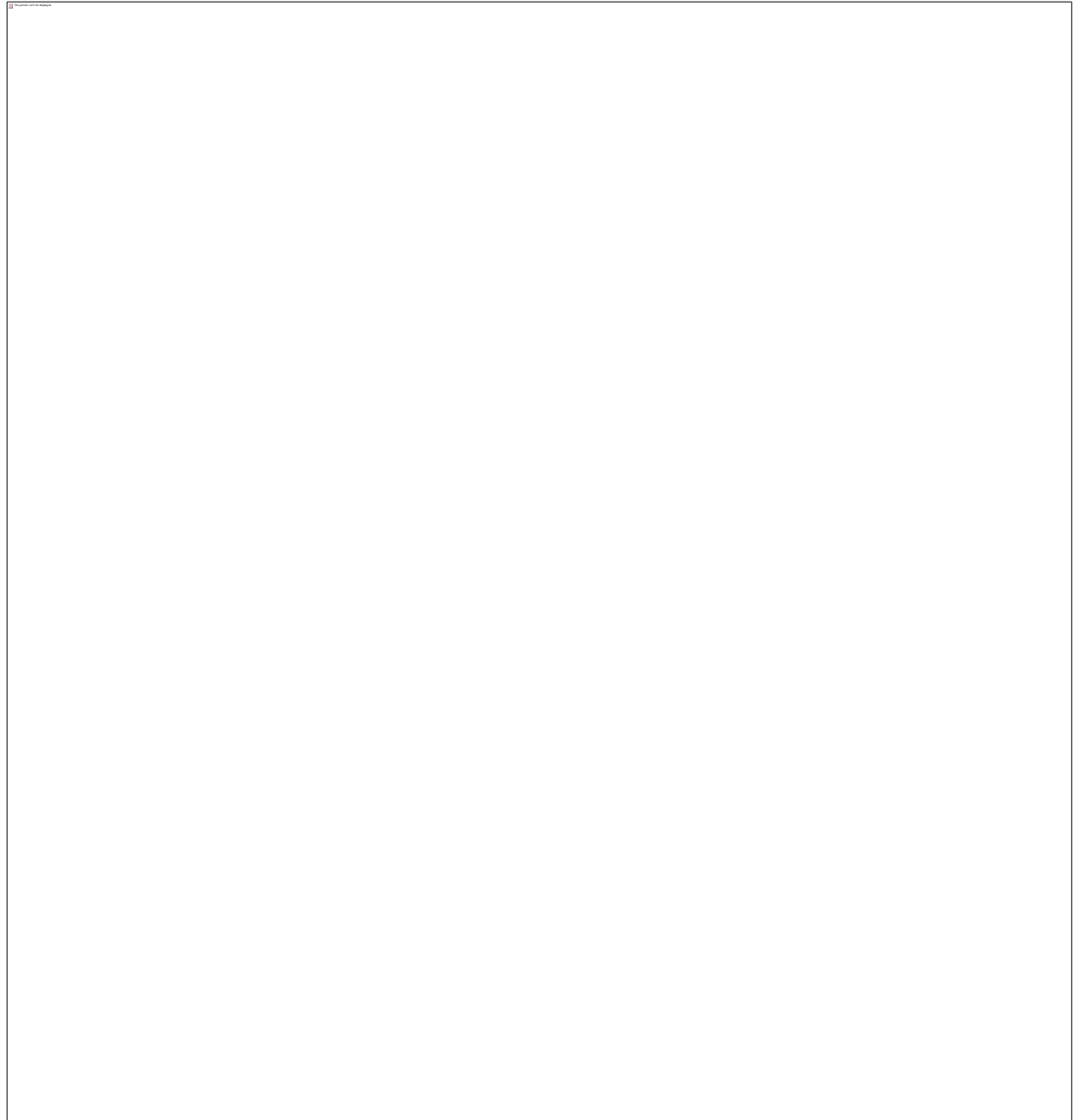
Environmental Flow Regime

“...schedule of flow...that reflects seasonal and yearly fluctuations that...vary geographically, by specific location...,...**support a sound ecological environment**.”

“... without regard to the need for the water for other uses,....”



Red River - Subsistence



Red River – Large flood





Flow Regime: Description not Prescription

Not –creating a new ecosystem

Flow standards \neq flow regime

Not –values that should never be changed

Successes and Lessons

Successes

- Flow standards: 11 basins
- Adaptive management: \$6 million since 2013

Lessons

- “Whiskey is for drinking, water is for fighting”
- No play, no pay
- 1-year deadline – work done quickly
- Ecological data related to flow very limited

“The state is facing a future in which water ... will be a scarce resource that will demand a well-thought-out and integrated approach to stewardship.”

Davis, M. and J. Wilkins. 2011. A Defining Resource: Louisiana's Place in the Emerging Water Economy. Loyola Law Review.

Questions

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