

The Future of San Antonio Bay



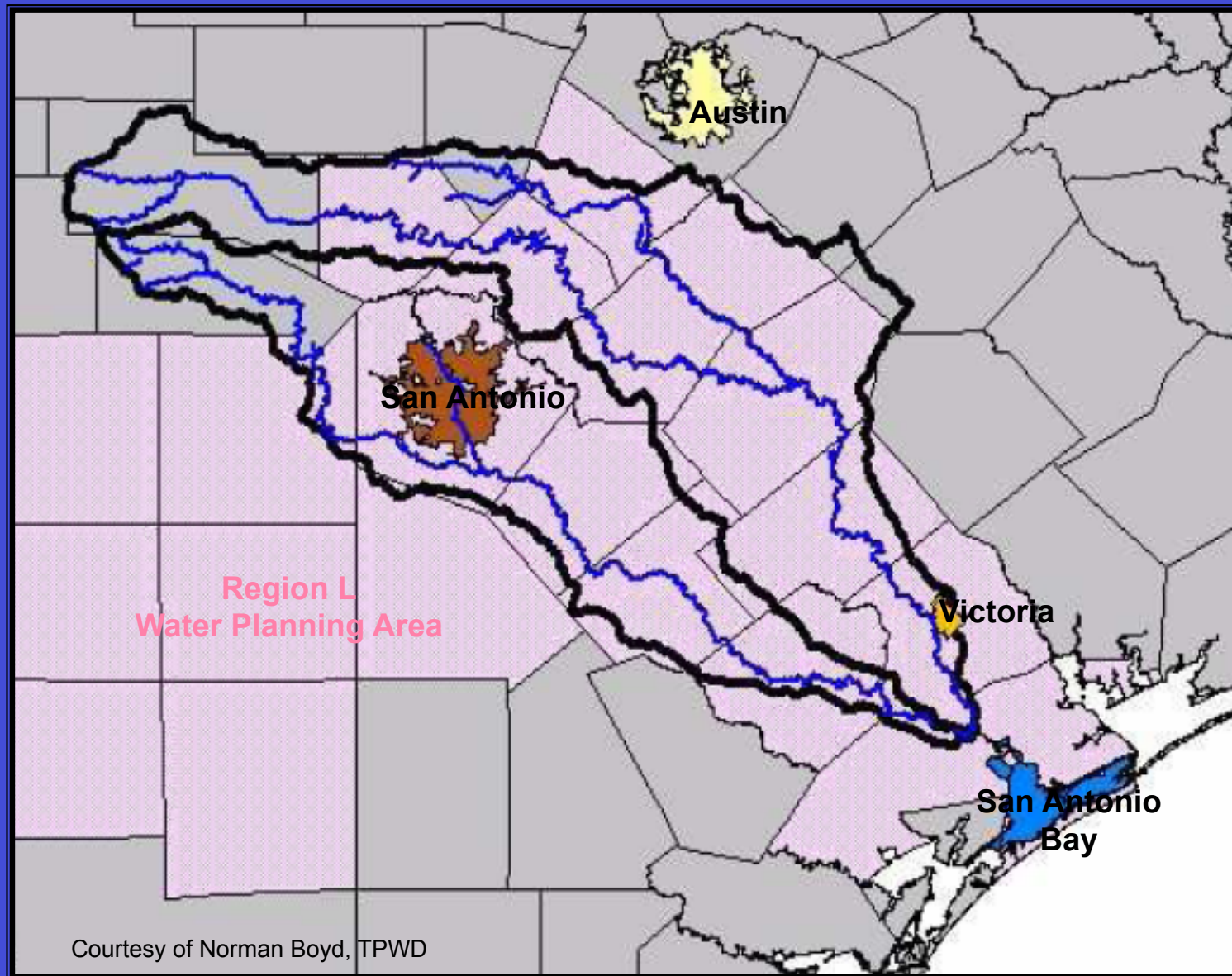
***Could a:
Stakeholder-based,
Collaborative,
Non-Regulatory
Management Program
Make a Difference?***

San Antonio Bay System (Guadalupe/ San Antonio Estuary)



San Antonio Bay

A large contributing watershed



Meeting Objectives

- Look at Models for Collaborative, Non-Regulatory Planning and/or Management of Natural Resources
- Identify Important Ecological and Human Use Issues in the San Antonio Bay System
- Solicit Stakeholder Input on San Antonio Bay Issues
- Discuss the Concept of Developing and Implementing a Planning/Management Program for the San Antonio Bay System
- Identify Steps Forward

San Antonio Bay

Issues/Goals

- **Maintaining/Improving a “Sound Ecological Environment”**
 - **Freshwater Inflows: Quantity and Timing**
 - **Habitat Loss: Wetlands Protection & Restoration**
 - **Endangered Species**
 - **Water Quality/Circulation/Exchange**
 - **Living Resources: Entire Food Chain**
 - **Human Health: Pathogens and Toxic Substances**
 - **NPS Control**
- **Maintaining/Improving Ecosystem Functions**
 - **i. e., Nutrient Cycling, Food Production**
- **Maintaining/Improving Human Uses**
 - **Commercial & Recreational Fishing**
 - **Public Access Points**
 - **Agriculture & Shoreline Development**
 - **Maritime Commerce: Dredging and Beneficial Uses**

The *Future* of San Antonio Bay: Management Options

- ***Status Quo:***
 - **Fragmented, non-programmatic approach**
 - **Little anticipated improvement in ability to address critical issues**
 - **Continued/potential conflict between user groups**
- **State/Federal Regulatory Intervention**
 - **Top-down approach**
 - **Utilizes command/control methodologies**
 - **Still fragmented approach**
 - **Limited in geographic/jurisdictional extent**
- **Community-based, collaborative management program**
 - **Promotes management at the “watershed” scale**
 - **Integrates science into decision-making**
 - **Fosters collaborative problem-solving**
 - **Broad-based, inclusive, stake-holder driven**
 - **Non-Regulatory**

The *Future* of San Antonio Bay: *Would you like to be a part?*



Courtesy of Steve Raabe, P.E.
San Antonio River Authority