## What is the Lower Brushy Creek WCID and Why do they need a 2 cent tax?



## Background

- **S** Original WCID created in 1957
- S 46 flood control structures built by USDA between 1959 and 1975
- **S** Original WCID split into two in 2001
- **S** Currently no taxing authority
- S Aging infrastructure average age is 48 years
- S Non-compliance with State Dam Safety Regulations





# District Map



## Benefits of Dams

- S Significantly reduce risk of loss of life and property damage
- **S** \$1.6 million in annual benefits according to USDA
- S Benefits include \$125,000 in annual flood damage reduction benefits to roads, bridges and culverts
- S Capture over 180,000 tons of sediment annually
- S Provide wetlands



## Current District Needs

Description	Estimated Cost
Deferred Maintenance (23 sites)	\$ 806,071
Major Repairs (4 sites)	\$ 2,824,025
Rehabilitation to meet State criteria (2 sites)	\$ 3,171,250
Total WCID needs	\$ 6,801,346



## Grant Funds Available

## **S USDA-NRCS**

- **S** Based on Funding from Congress
- S Rehabilitation Grants: 65% Federal / 35% Local

## **S** Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board

- S Maintenance Grants: 90% State / 10% Local
- S Repair Grants: 95% State / 5% Local



## Summary with Grant Funding

Description	<b>Total Needs</b>	Grants	Local Match
Maintenance	\$ 806,071	\$ 725,464	\$ 80,607
Major Repairs	\$ 2,824,025	\$ 2,682,824	\$ 141,201
Rehabilitation	\$ 3,171,250	\$ 3,115,753	\$ 55 <b>,49</b> 7
Total	\$ 6,801,346	\$ 6,524,041	\$ 277,305



## Choices for WCID Board

#### **S Do Nothing**

- S Lose any State and Federal grant funding
- S Increasing risk of loss of life or property damage as dams age

#### **S** Breach Dams

- S Lose all State and Federal grant funding
- S Increase flood damage downstream

#### **S** Approve Maintenance Tax of 2 cent per \$100 assessed valuation

- S Provide basic operation and maintenance on 23 dams
- S Provide local match for grants, repair and rehabilitation needs
- S Comply with State Dam Safety Regulations
- S Significantly reduce risk of loss of life and property damage

### **Typical Floodwater Retarding Structure**







### Site 32 east of Coupland



### Site 32 east of Coupland



### Site 32 east of Coupland



## Typical Failure of an Earthen Dam

### **Site 32 Floodwater Retarding Structure**



## How does this impact the Coupland?

### **S** Reduce downstream Property Damage

- S Private property
- S Public infrastructure
- **S** Reduce the Risk of Loss of Life
- **S** Allow rehabilitation project to proceed
  - S State and Federal funding available
  - S Provide required local match for grants
  - S Meet State Dam Safety Regulations
  - S Provide for another 50 years of useful life

# Thank You



S