

**NOTE: We will be recording this meeting to make it available on the project website.**

# Southeast Texas Hurricane Evacuation Study

**Presentation of the Transportation Analysis Evacuation Scenarios**

June 4, 2025



**HAZARD REDUCTION  
& RECOVERY CENTER**



**TDEM**  
THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

# Agenda:

- Introductions
  - Team and Participants\*
- Transportation Analysis Scenarios
  - Overview
  - Detail discussion of Baseline and Special Scenarios for each area
  - Evacuation regional destinations
  - Input request
  - Questions/comments
- Contacts

**\* Participants, please put your name, organization, county, and contact information in the chat**

Project website:



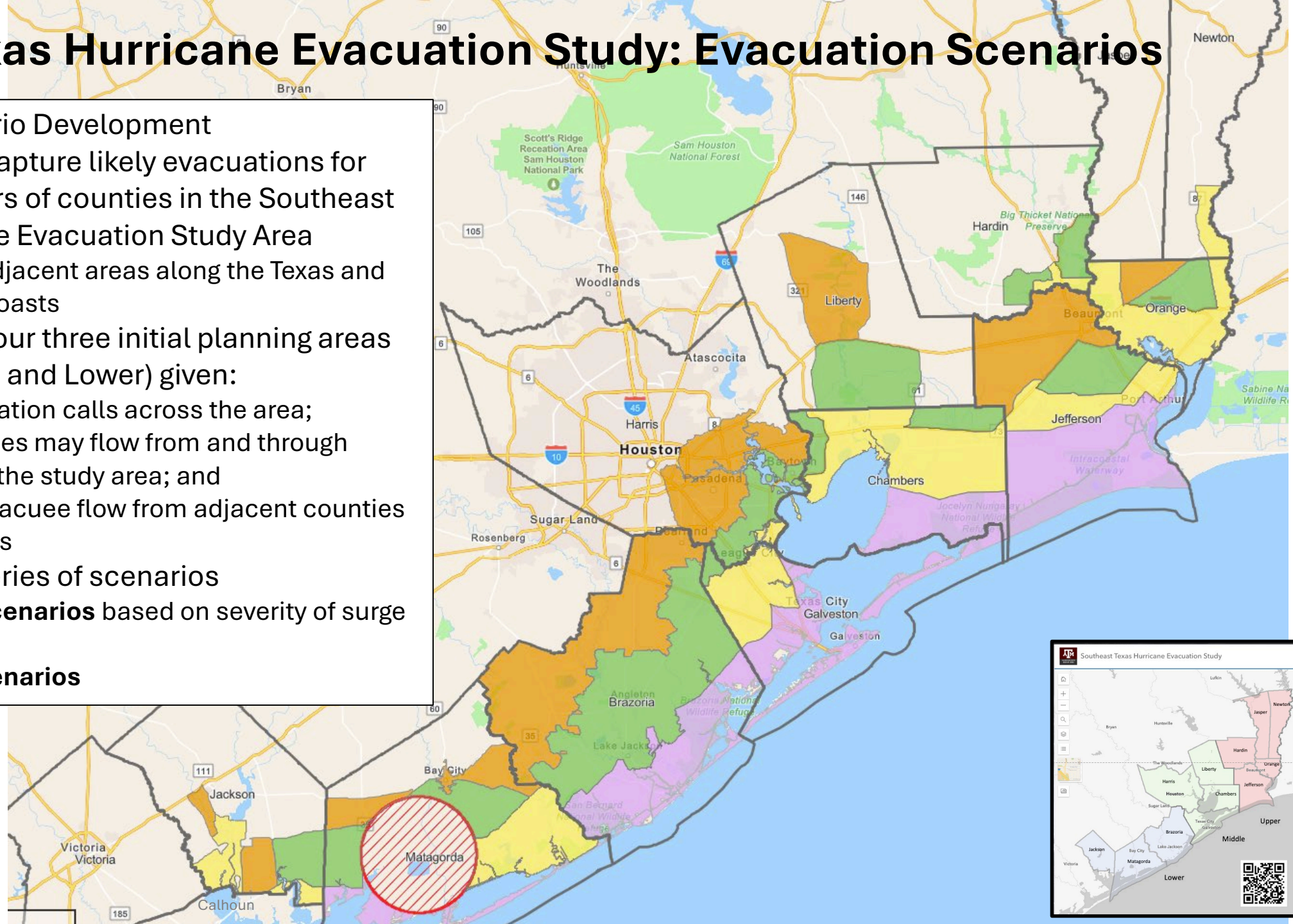
Atlas website:



# Southeast Texas Hurricane Evacuation Study: Evacuation Scenarios

## General goal in scenario Development

- Attempted to capture likely evacuations for regional clusters of counties in the Southeast Texas Hurricane Evacuation Study Area
  - Including adjacent areas along the Texas and Louisiana coasts
- Deviated from our three initial planning areas (Upper, Middle, and Lower) given:
  - likely evacuation calls across the area;
  - how evacuees may flow from and through counties in the study area; and
  - potential evacuee flow from adjacent counties and parishes
- Developed a series of scenarios
  - **Baseline scenarios** based on severity of surge risk
  - **Special scenarios**





# Southeast Texas Hurricane Evacuation Study: Evacuation Scenarios

1) Run a series of **Baseline** and **Special Scenarios** using RtePM that will provide you a range of likely clearance times given potential evacuation events

- **Baseline:** provide range of evacuation times given different surge events (limited, moderate, significant, & major)
- **Special:** provide potential evacuation times bases on special situations/additions.

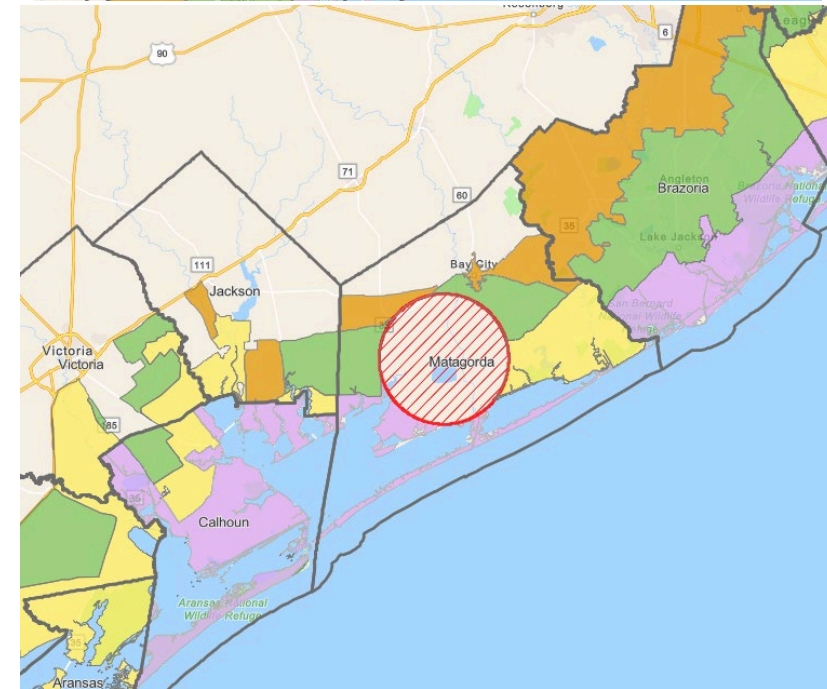
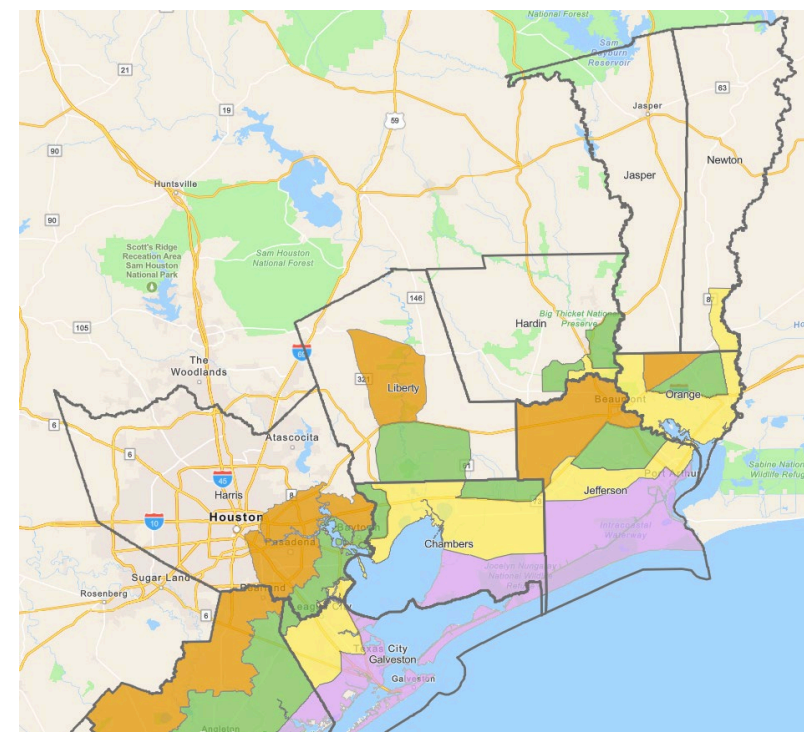
2) Variable assumptions:

- **Response times**
  - 8-hour
  - 2-day -- *70% day 1 and 30% day 2*
    - We can tweak start time (sun-up to sun-down)
- **Varying participation rates by zones**
  - evacuation zones called
  - shadow evacuation area (zones or outside)

3) Constant assumptions:

- No early or special calls for **mobile home residents**
- **Seasonal populations** included as part of residential populations (i.e., without early calls)
- No adjustments to **background traffic** or **traffic incidents**

4) Total of 85+ scenario runs.



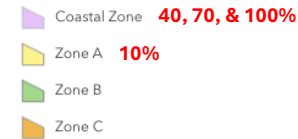
**Baseline Scenarios** will provide a range of clearance times for **four** different surge events with **varying participation rates**, and **varying participation rates**.

- **Surge Event Baseline Scenario sets (4):**
  - *Limited:* Coastal Zone
  - *Moderate:* Coastal and Zone A
  - *Significant:* Coastal and Zones A & B
  - *Major:* Coastal and Zones A, B, & C
- **Varying participation rates**
  - *Limited – Significant:* 40%, 70%, & 100%
  - *Major:* 70% & 100%
  - *Shadow evacuation* rates increase with surge events
    - Areas: adjacent zones to areas outside zones
    - Participation rates 10% - 30%
- **Response times:**
  - 8-hour and 2-day -- *70% day 1 and 30% day 2*
- **Minimum of 22 baseline scenarios for each sub-region**
  - Providing a range of clearance times for each
    - Surge event evacuation call
    - Given different participation rates
    - Response times
- **Sub-regions:** Three (3) sub-regions
- **Special Scenarios**
  - Upper/middle region with LA parishes (10)
  - Full Southeastern Regional evacuation call (5)
  - Potential Evaculanes/Contra-flow, middle region (2)
  - Brazoria Beach population (1-2)

# Baseline Evacuation Scenarios

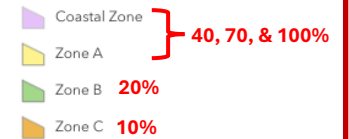
## Scenario set one (limited surge event)

**Scenario one set:** Coastal Zones, at 3 participation rates (40%, 70%, and 100%), with 10% shadow evacuation for Zone A, and run for 8-hour & 2-day (70/30) response times. (6-runs)



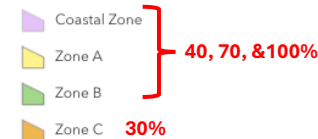
## Scenario set two (moderate surge event)

**Scenario two set:** Coastal & A Zones, at 3 participation rates (40%, 70%, and 100%) with shadow evacuation for Zone A & B at 20% & 10% respectively and run for 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (6 runs)



## Scenario set three (significant surge event)

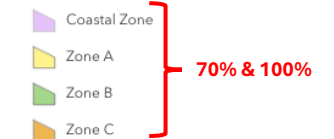
**Scenario three set:** Coastal, A, & B Zones at 3 participation rates (40%, 70%, & 100%) with shadow evacuation for Zone C at 30% & 20% for out of zones and run for 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (6-runs)



20% for out of zone areas

## Scenario set four (major surge event)

**Scenario four set:** Coastal, A, B, & C Zones, at 2 participation rates (70% & 100%) with 30% shadow evacuation rate for out of Zone areas and run for 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (4-runs)



30% for out of zone areas

Each **scenario set** will be run at two response times

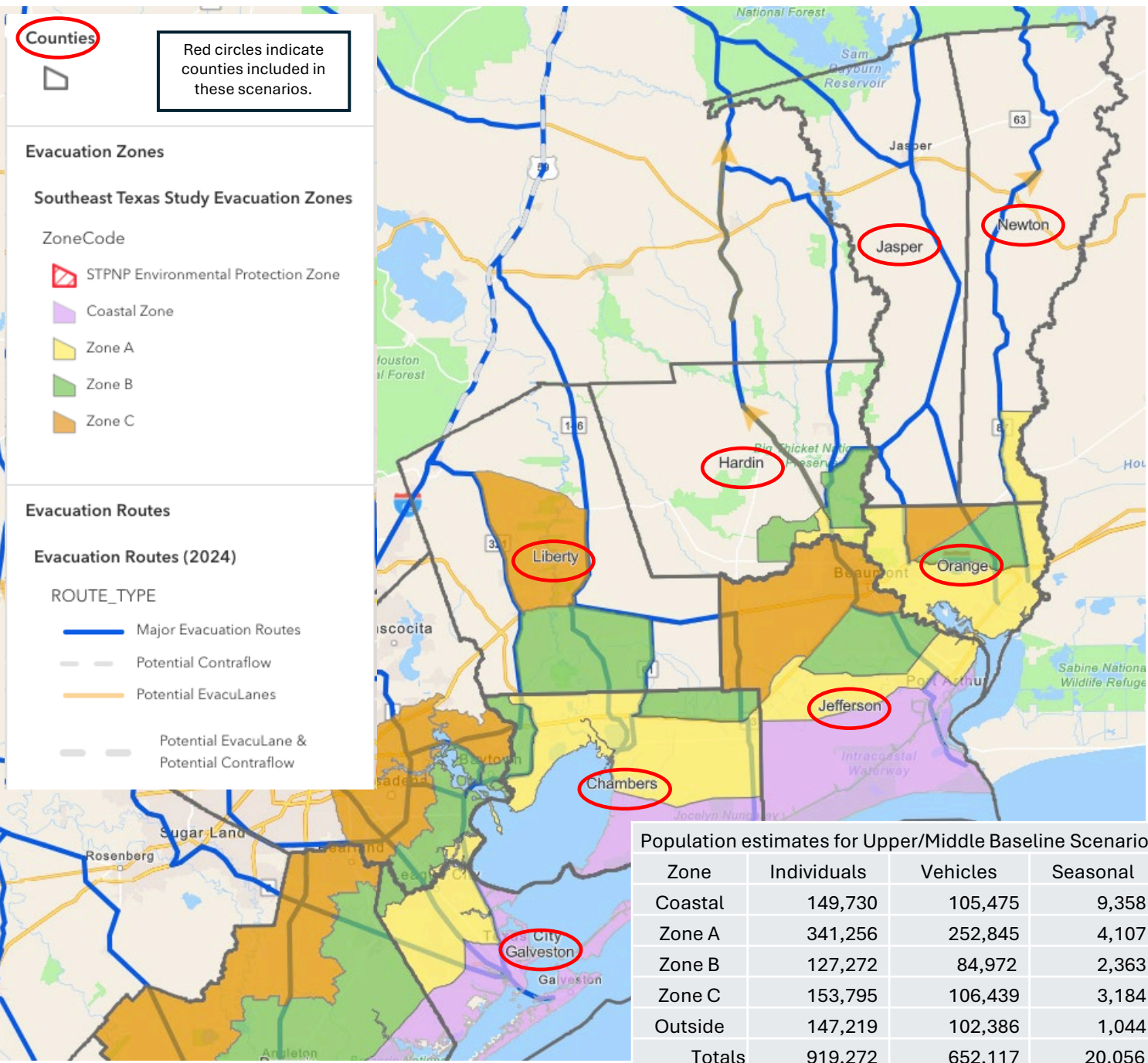
- - 8-hour Response time
- - 2-day response time (70% day 1 & 30% day 2)

All Scenarios will assume

- - Seasonal population included at full occupancy for each zone
- - No special calls for mobile home residents.
- - Background traffic and traffic incidents not adjusted







# The Southeast Texas Upper/Middle Regional **Baseline** Evacuation Scenarios

## Scenario one (limited surge event)

**Scenario one set:** Coastal Zones, at 3 participation rates (40%, 70%, and 100%), with 10% shadow evacuation for Zone A, and run for 8-hour & 2-day (70/30) response times. (6-runs)

- Coastal Zone 40, 70, & 100%
- Zone A 10%
- Zone B
- Zone C

## Scenario two (moderate surge event)

**Scenario two set:** Coastal & A Zones, at 3 participation rates (40%, 70%, and 100%) with shadow evacuation for Zone A & B at 20% & 10% respectively and run for 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (6 runs)

- Coastal Zone 40, 70, & 100%
- Zone A 40, 70, & 100%
- Zone B 20%
- Zone C 10%

## Scenario three (significant surge event)

**Scenario three set:** Coastal, A, & B Zones at 3 participation rates (40%, 70%, & 100%) with shadow evacuation for Zone C at 30% & 20% for out of zones and run for 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (6-runs)

- Coastal Zone 40, 70, & 100%
- Zone A 40, 70, & 100%
- Zone B 40, 70, & 100%
- Zone C 30%
- 20% for out of zone areas

## Scenario four (major surge event)

**Scenario four set:** Coastal, A, B, & C Zones, at 2 participation rates (70% & 100%) with 30% shadow evacuation rate for out of Zone areas and run for 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (4-runs)

- Coastal Zone 70% & 100%
- Zone A 70% & 100%
- Zone B 70% & 100%
- Zone C 70% & 100%
- 30% for out of zone areas

Each scenario set will be run for two response times

- 8-hour Response time
- 2-day response time (70% day 1 & 30% day 2)

All Scenarios will assume

- Seasonal population included at full occupancy for each zone
- Background traffic and traffic incidents not adjusted

A total of **22** baseline scenarios for the Upper/middle Region



# Southeast Texas Study Evacuation Zones

ZoneCode

- STPNP Environmental Protection Zone
- Coastal Zone
- Zone A
- Zone B
- Zone C

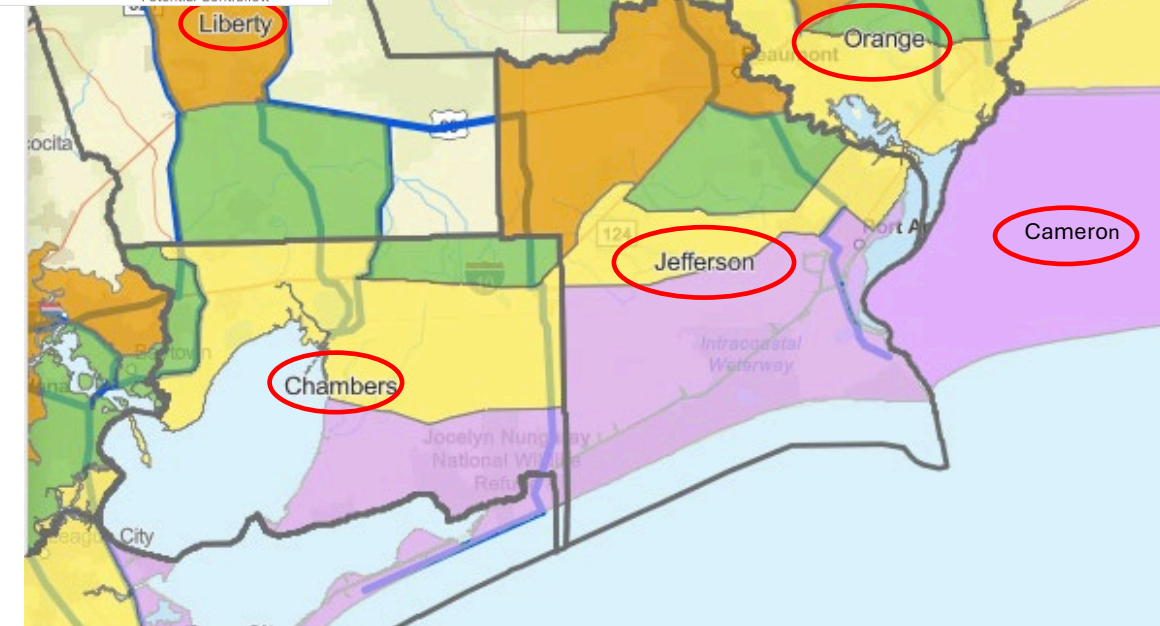
## Southwest Louisiana Evacuation Zones

- Out of Zone
- Phase I West
- Phase II Central

## Evacuation Routes

### Evacuation Routes (2024)

- ROUTE\_TYPE
- Major Evacuation Routes
  - Potential Contraflow
  - Potential EvacuLanes
  - Potential EvacuLane & Potential Contraflow



## The Southeast Texas Upper/Middle Regional Special Scenario

Red circles indicate counties and parishes included in these scenarios.

| Population estimates for Special Upper/Middle Scenario |             |          |           |
|--|-------------|----------|-----------|
| Zone   | Individuals | Vehicles | Seasonal* |
| Coastal  | 16,020      | 11,247   | 70        |
| Zone A   | 285,618     | 194,686  | 2,703     |
| Zone B   | 97,907      | 63,851   | 2,326     |
| Zone C   | 153,795     | 106,439  | 2,899     |
| Outside  | 232,735     | 161,076  | 1,366     |
| Totals   | 786,075     | 537,299  | 9,364     |

## 1. Significant surge event

**Significant Surge sett:** Coastal, A, & B Zones (40%, 70%, & 100%);shadow evac. for Zone C at 30% & 20% for outside zones; & 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (6-runs)

**25% for assumed participation rates for LA zones, moving west into Texas**

- Coastal Zone
  - Zone A
  - Zone B
  - Zone C
- 40, 70, & 100%**
- 30%**
- 20% for out of zone areas**

## 2. Major surge event

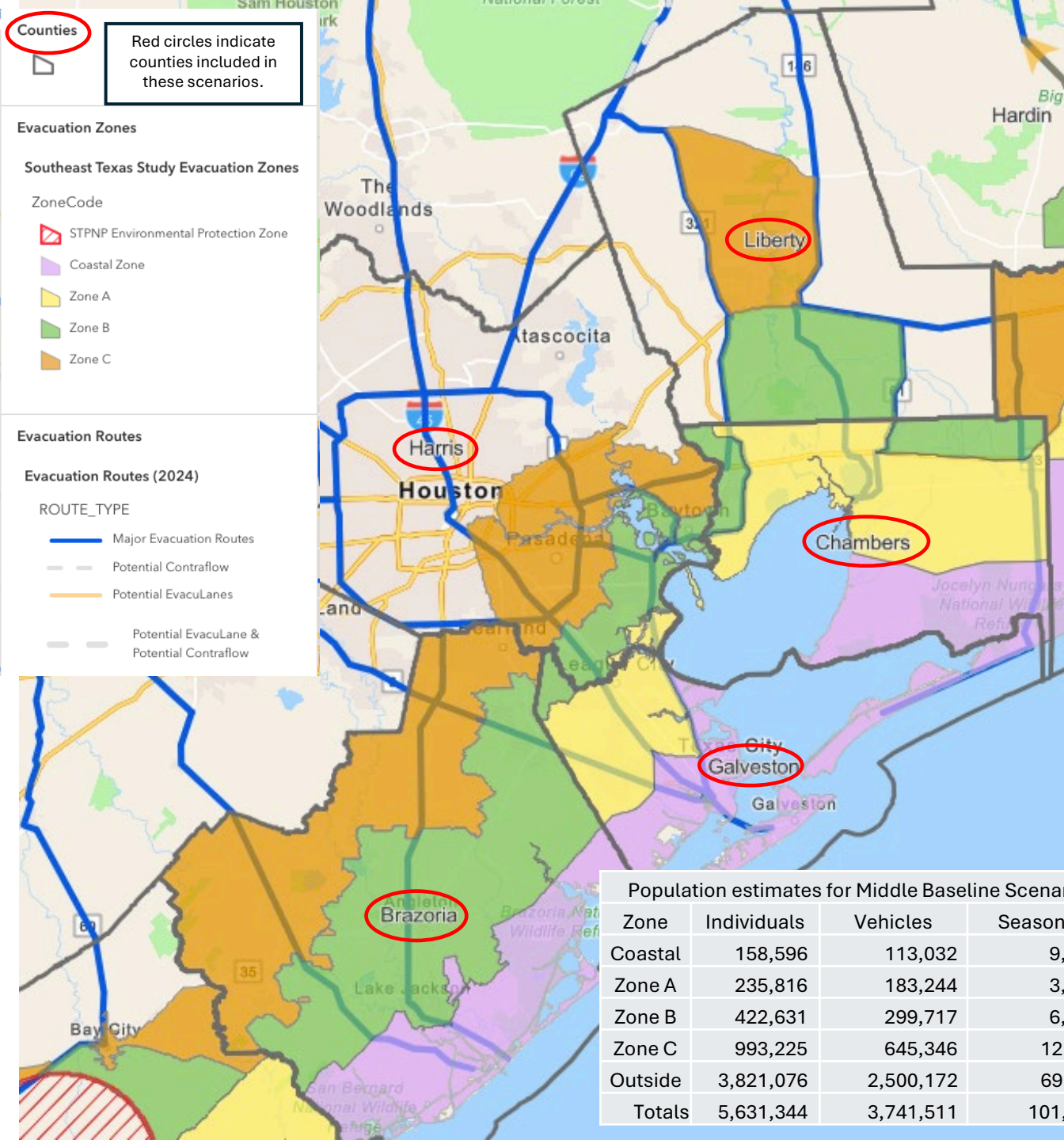
**Major Surge Scenario:** Coastal, A, B, & C Zones at 70% & 100% with 30% shadow evacuation rate outside zones; 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (4-runs)

**25% of assumed participation rates LA zones, all moving west into Texas**

- Coastal Zone
  - Zone A
  - Zone B
  - Zone C
- 70% & 100%**
- 30% for out of zone areas**

- Each scenario set will be run for two response times
  - 8-hour Response time
  - 2-day response time (70% day 1 & 30% day 2)
- All Scenarios will assume
  - Seasonal population included at full occupancy for each zone
  - Background traffic and traffic incidents not adjusted
- Evacuation from Louisiana will be constrained to 25% of assumed participation rates moving west from the two zones and shadow.
- Total of **10** runs





# The Southeast Texas **Middle Regional** Baseline Evacuation Scenarios

## Scenario one (*limited surge event*)

**Scenario one set:** Coastal Zones, at 3 participation rates (40%, 70%, and 100%), with 10% shadow evacuation for Zone A, and run for 8-hour & 2-day (70/30) response times. (6-runs)

Coastal Zone **40, 70, & 100%**  
Zone A **10%**  
Zone B  
Zone C

## Scenario two (*moderate surge event*)

**Scenario two set:** Coastal & A Zones, at 3 participation rates (40%, 70%, and 100%) with shadow evacuation for Zone A & B at 20% & 10% respectively and run for 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (6 runs)

Coastal Zone } **40, 70, & 100%**  
Zone A }  
Zone B **20%**  
Zone C **10%**

## Third scenario (*significant surge event*)

**Scenario three set:** Coastal, A, & B Zones at 3 participation rates (40%, 70%, & 100%) with shadow evacuation for Zone C at 30% & 20% for out of zones and run for 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (6-runs)

Coastal Zone } **40, 70, & 100%**  
Zone A }  
Zone B }  
Zone C **30%**  
**20% for out of zone areas**

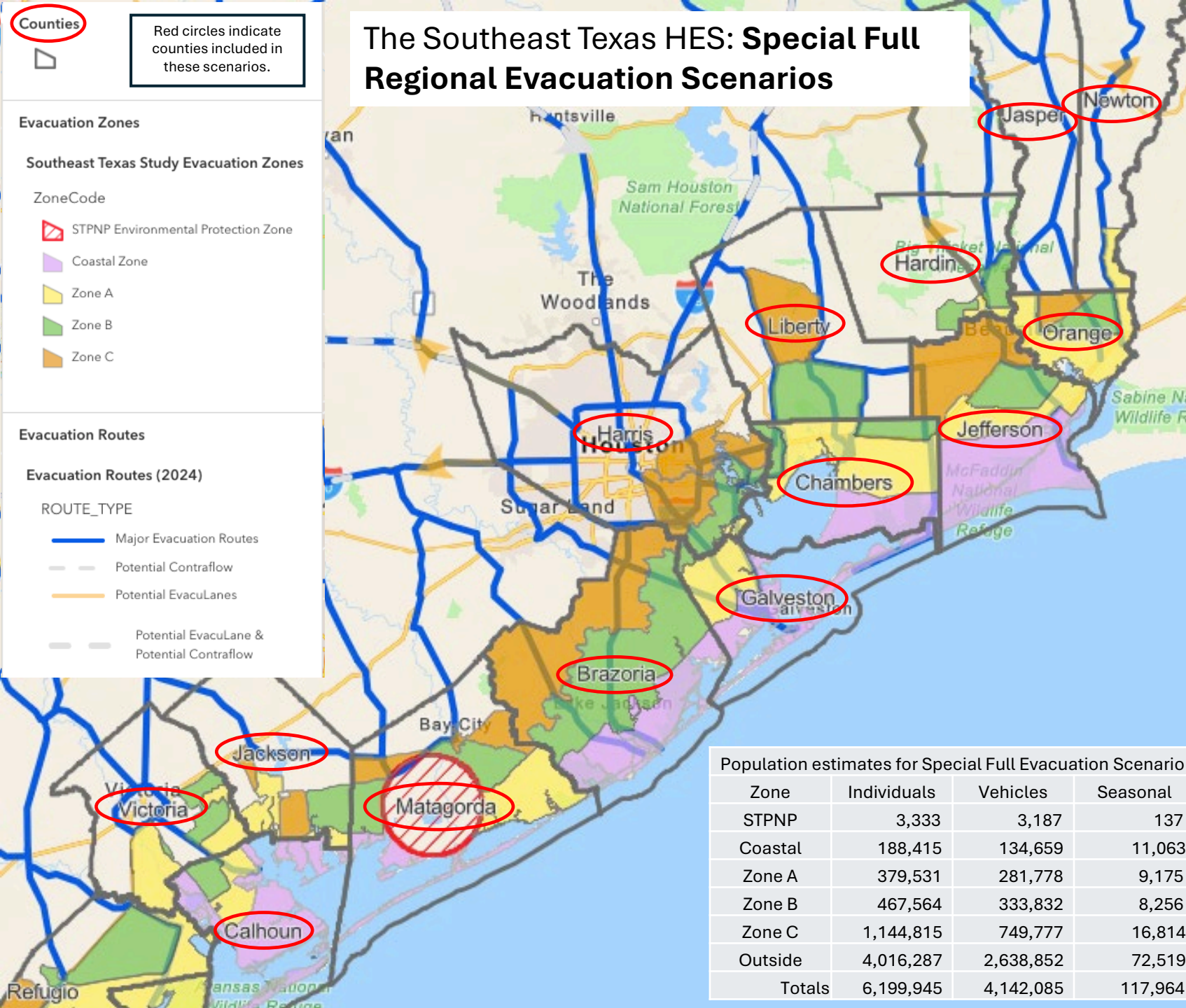
## Fourth scenario (*major surge event*)

**Scenario four set:** Coastal, A, B, & C Zones, at 2 participation rates (70% & 100%) with 30% shadow evacuation rate for out of Zone areas and run for 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (4-runs)

Coastal Zone } **70% & 100%**  
Zone A }  
Zone B }  
Zone C }  
**30% for out of zone areas**

- Each scenario will be run for two response times
    - 8-hour Response time
    - 2-day response time (70% day 1 & 30% day 2)
  - Scenario 4 will also be run with evaculanes and contra flow (only 2-day)
- All Scenarios will assume
- Seasonal population at full occupancy for each zone
  - Background traffic and traffic incidents not adjusted
- A total of **24** baseline scenarios for the Upper/middle Region

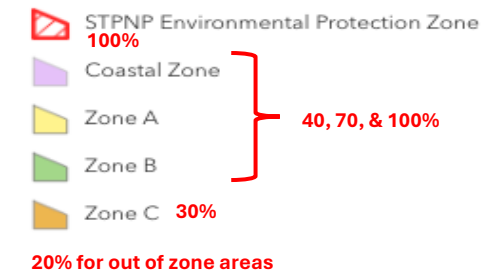




## Significant Surge Scenario

### Evacuation Zones

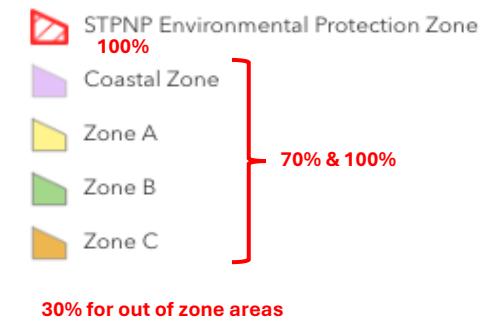
**Significant Surge Scenario set:** Coastal, A, & B Zones at 40%, 70%, & 100% participation rates with shadow evacuation for Zone C at 30% & 20% for out of zones and run for 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (3runs)



## Major surge Scenario

### Evacuation Zones

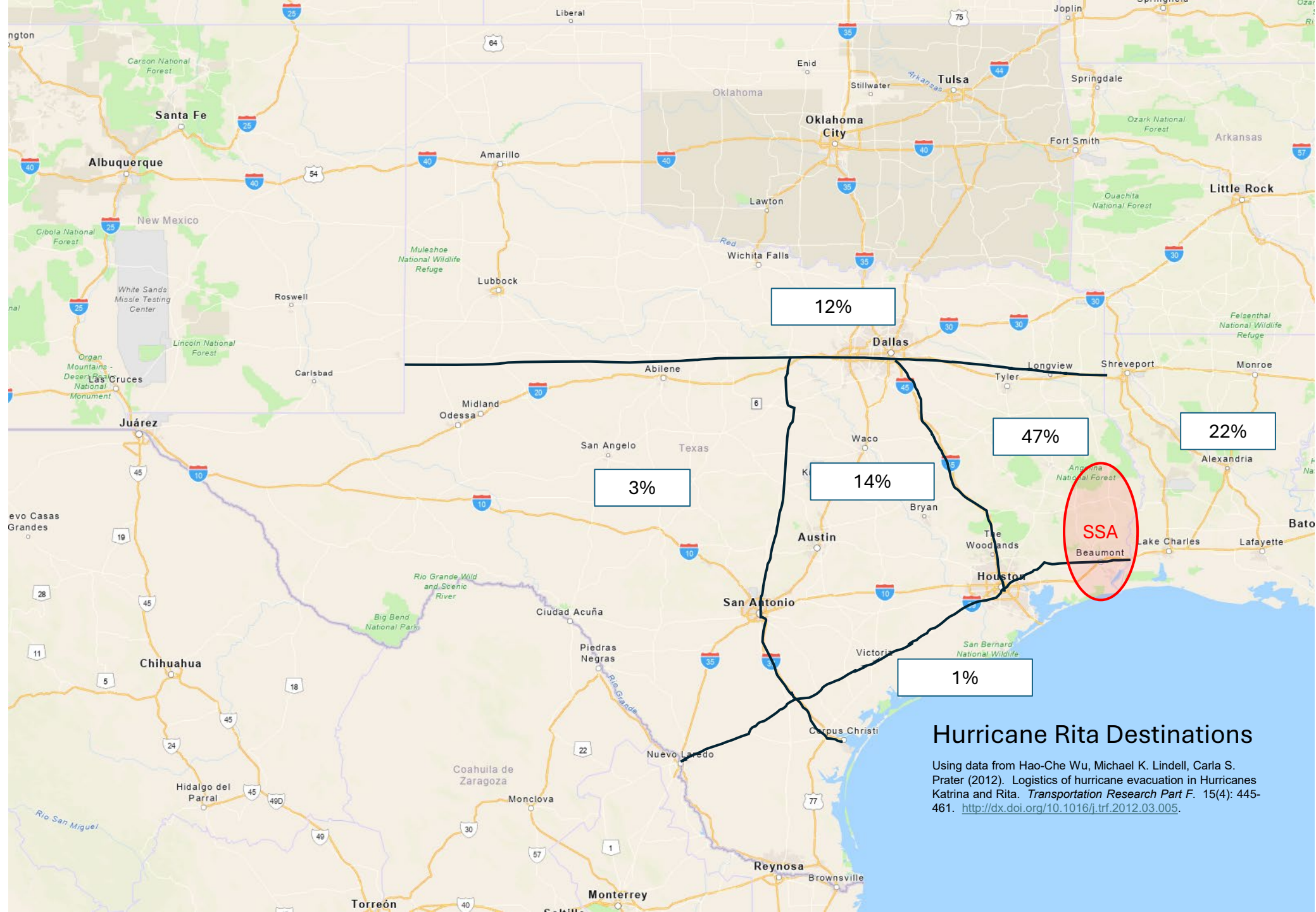
**Major Surge Scenario set:** Coastal, A, B, & C Zones, at 2 participation rates (70% & 100%) with 30% shadow evacuation rate for out of Zone areas and run for 8-hour and 2-days (70/30) response times. (2-runs)



- Scenario will be run assuming 2-day response time
  - (70% day 1 & 30% day 2)
- All Scenarios will assume
  - 100% participation for STPNP
  - Seasonal population at full occupancy for each
  - Background traffic and traffic incidents not adjusted
  - Evaculane and contra flow active
- A total of 5 full regional scenarios will be run.



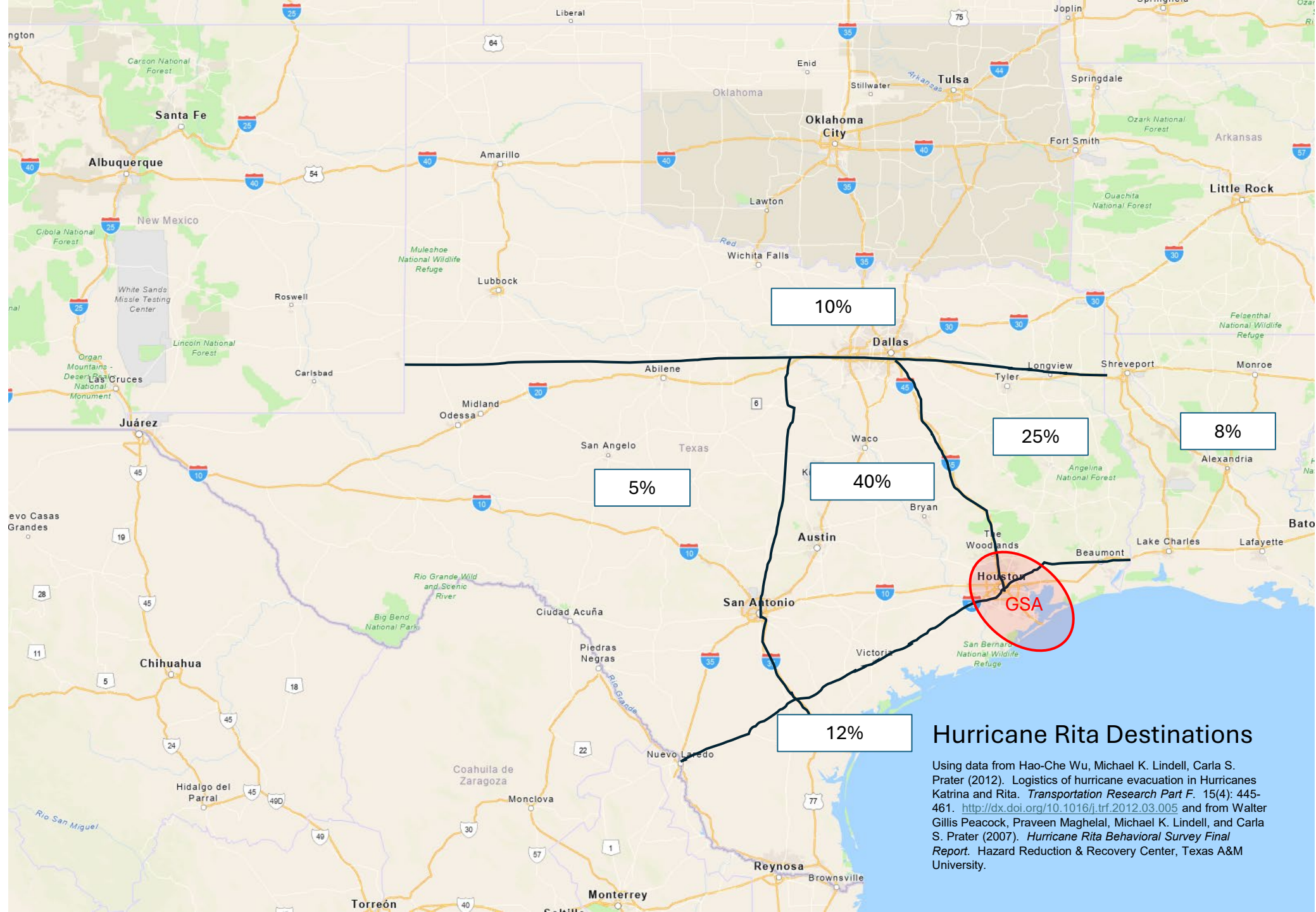




## Hurricane Rita Destinations

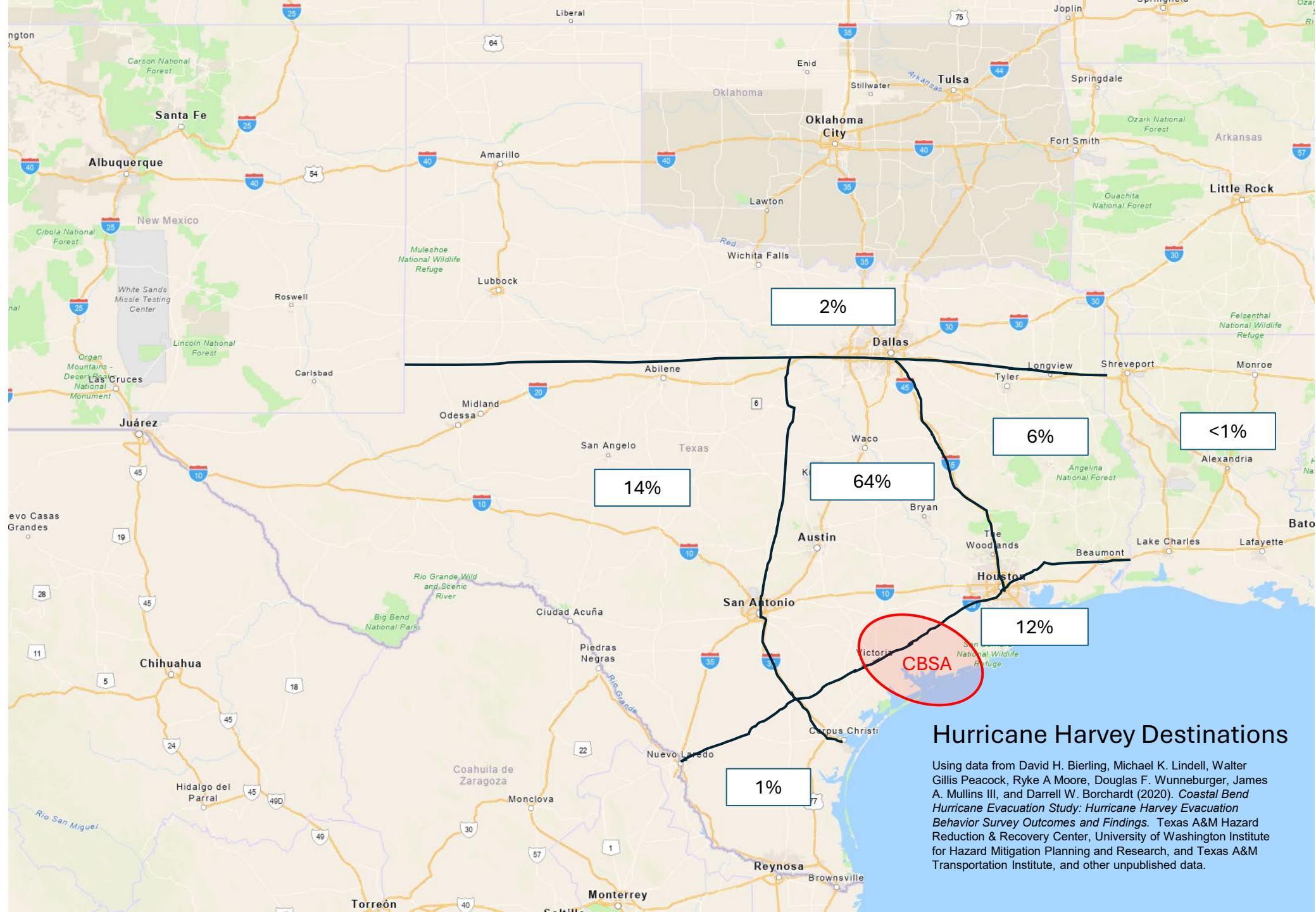
Using data from Hao-Che Wu, Michael K. Lindell, Carla S. Prater (2012). Logistics of hurricane evacuation in Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. *Transportation Research Part F*. 15(4): 445-461. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.trf.2012.03.005>.





## Hurricane Rita Destinations

Using data from Hao-Che Wu, Michael K. Lindell, Carla S. Prater (2012). Logistics of hurricane evacuation in Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. *Transportation Research Part F*. 15(4): 445-461. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.trf.2012.03.005> and from Walter Gillis Peacock, Praveen Maghelal, Michael K. Lindell, and Carla S. Prater (2007). *Hurricane Rita Behavioral Survey Final Report*. Hazard Reduction & Recovery Center, Texas A&M University.



## Hurricane Harvey Destinations

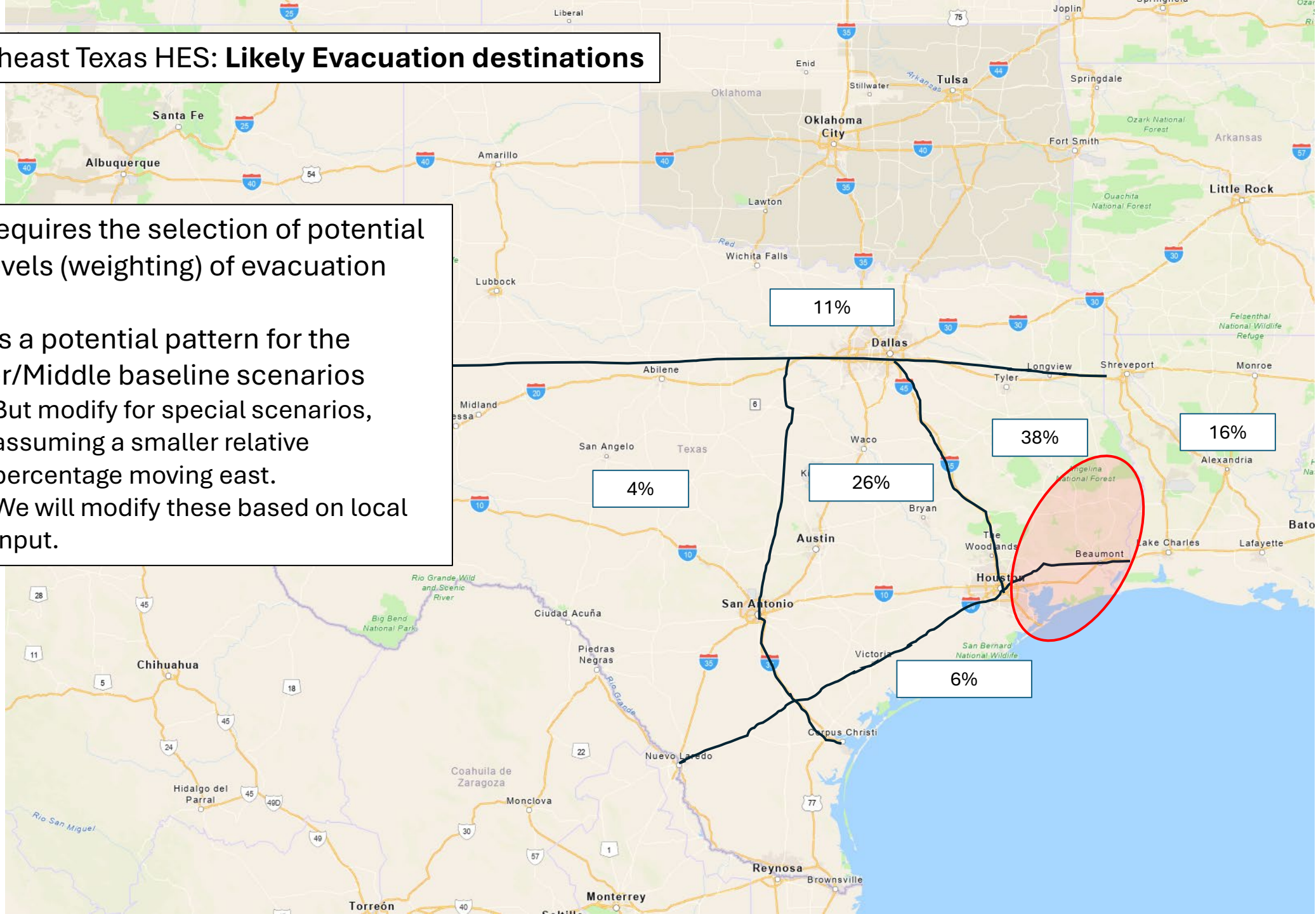
Using data from David H. Bierling, Michael K. Lindell, Walter Gillis Peacock, Ryke A Moore, Douglas F. Wunneburger, James A. Mullins III, and Darrell W. Borchardt (2020). *Coastal Bend Hurricane Evacuation Study: Hurricane Harvey Evacuation Behavior Survey Outcomes and Findings*. Texas A&M Hazard Reduction & Recovery Center, University of Washington Institute for Hazard Mitigation Planning and Research, and Texas A&M Transportation Institute, and other unpublished data.



## The Southeast Texas HES: Likely Evacuation destinations

RtePM requires the selection of potential usage levels (weighting) of evacuation routes.

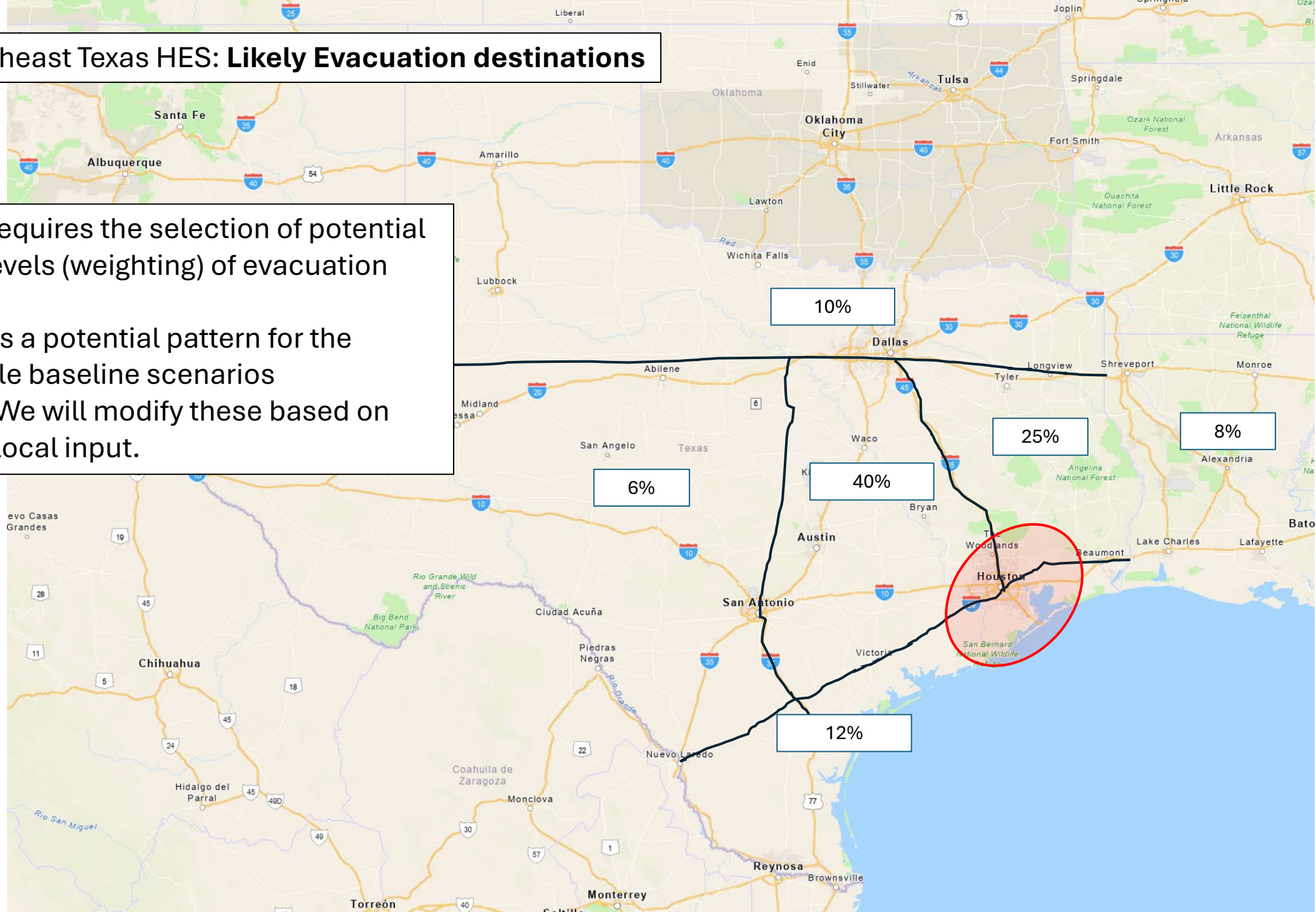
- This is a potential pattern for the Upper/Middle baseline scenarios
  - But modify for special scenarios, assuming a smaller relative percentage moving east.
  - We will modify these based on local input.



## The Southeast Texas HES: Likely Evacuation destinations

RtePM requires the selection of potential usage levels (weighting) of evacuation routes.

- This is a potential pattern for the Middle baseline scenarios
  - We will modify these based on local input.

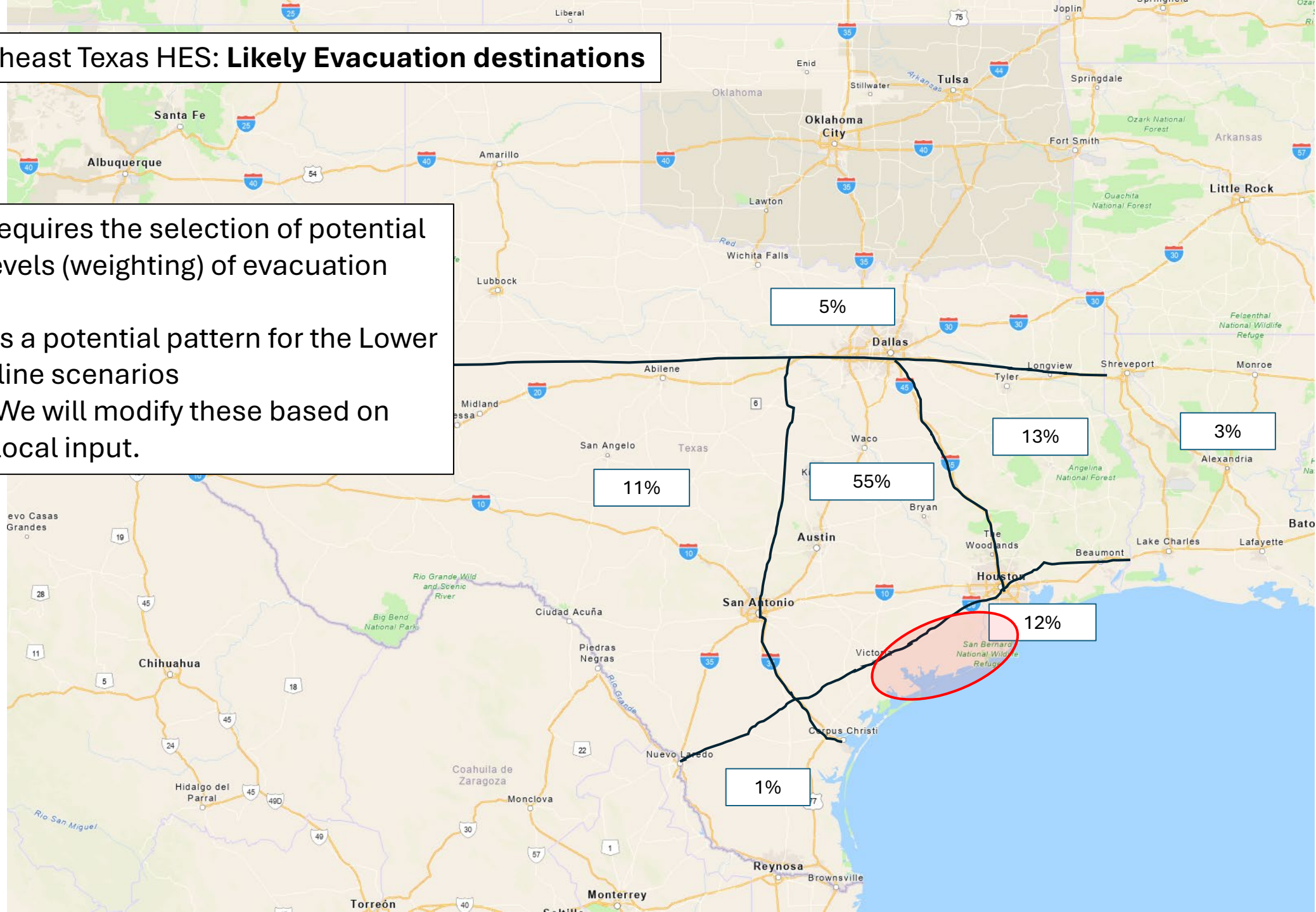




## The Southeast Texas HES: Likely Evacuation destinations

RtePM requires the selection of potential usage levels (weighting) of evacuation routes.

- This is a potential pattern for the Lower baseline scenarios
  - We will modify these based on local input.



# Southeast Texas Hurricane Evacuation Study: Input needed

## 1) Modifications to **Baseline** or **Special Scenarios**?

- **Baseline:** limited, moderate, significant, & major surge
- **Special:** Additional considerations or additions?
- **Counties/parishes** that should be included or excluded?

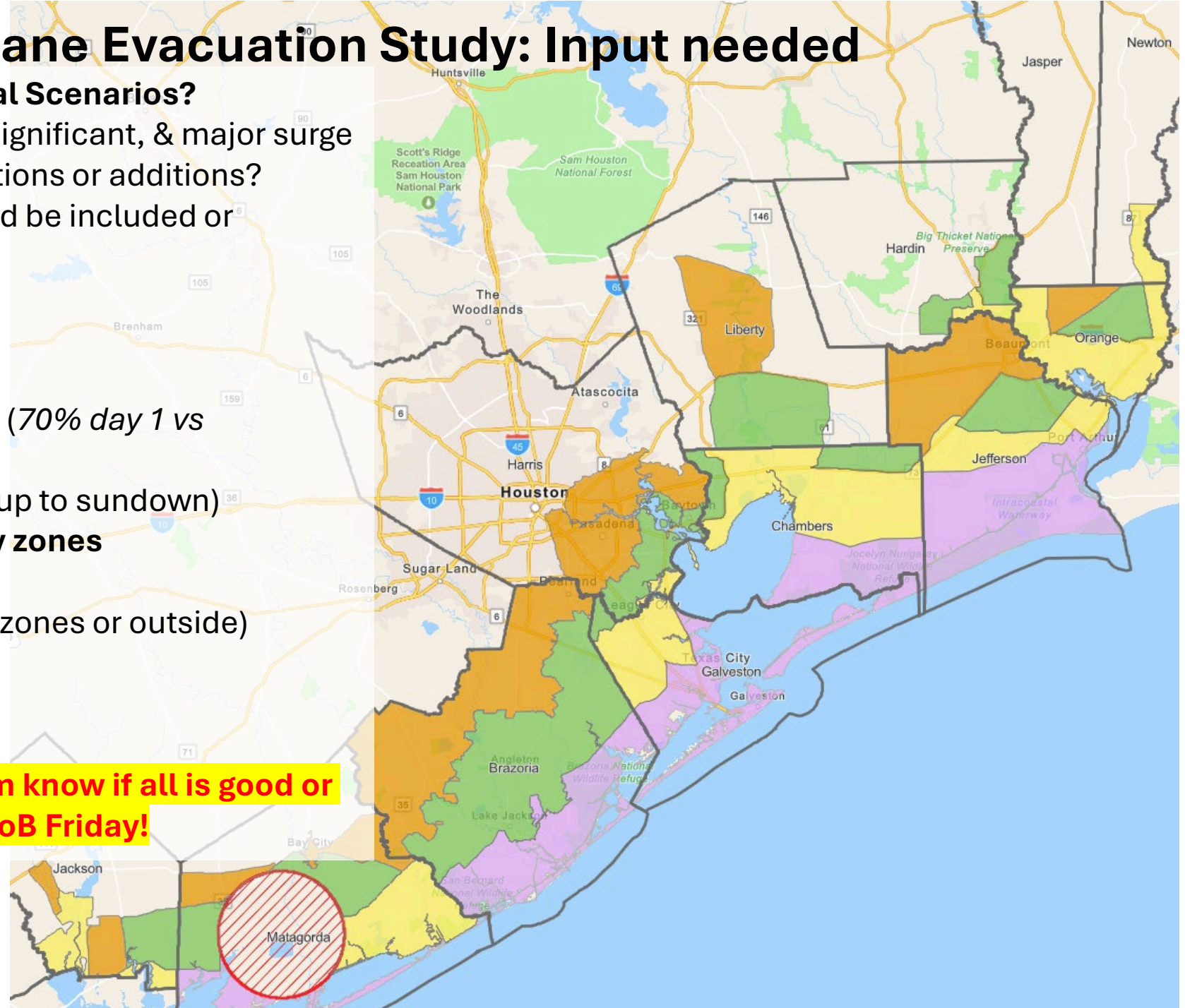
## 2) Variable assumptions?

- **Response times**
  - 8-hour vs 2-day
    - Tweaks across days? (70% day 1 vs 30% day 2)
    - start/end times (sunup to sundown)
- **Varying participation rates by zones**
  - evacuation zones called
  - shadow evacuation area (zones or outside)

## 3) Destination regions?

## 4) Other issues?

**Contact Kyle or Gerald letting them know if all is good or additional issues by CoB Friday!**

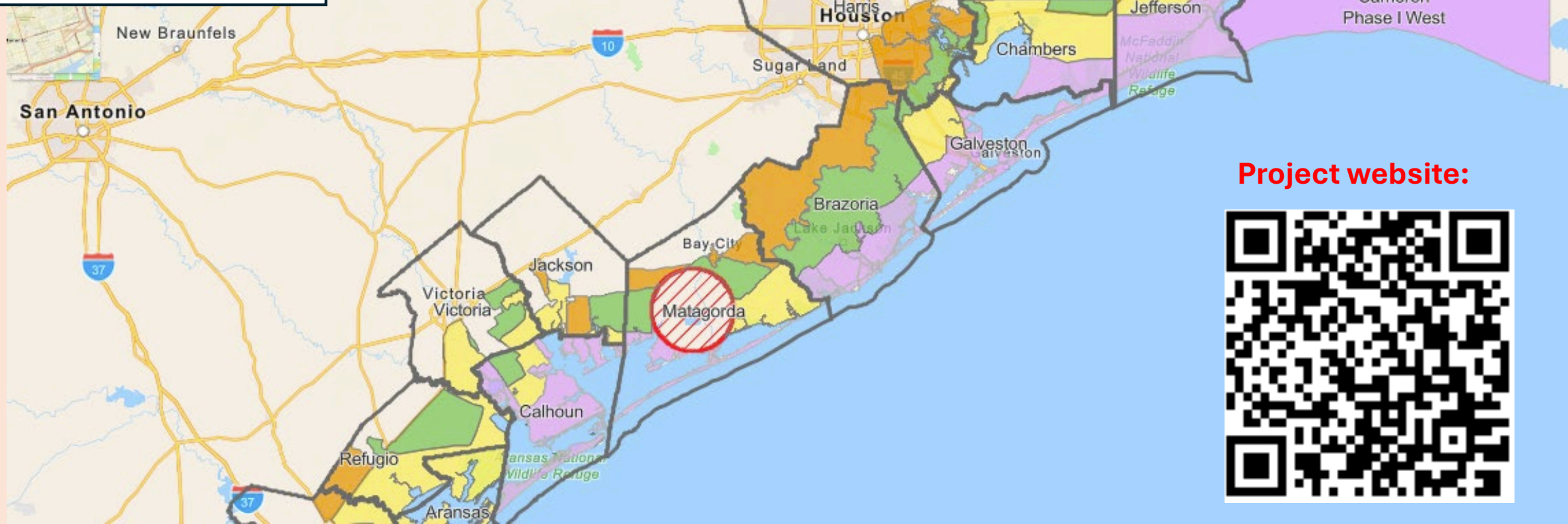




Atlas website:



# Additional Questions & Discussion



Project website:



# Contacts



- USACE Galveston District

- **Kyle Donlevy:** [kyle.a.donlevy@usace.army.mil](mailto:kyle.a.donlevy@usace.army.mil)
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  - Overall, HES Re-Study Manager and coordination



- FEMA Region 6

- **Arianne Thomas:** [arianne.deruise@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:arianne.deruise@fema.dhs.gov)
  - HES input and technical support

- Texas Department of Emergency Management



- **Blake White:** [blake.white@tdem.texas.gov](mailto:blake.white@tdem.texas.gov)
- **Carman Apple:** [carman.apple@tdem.texas.gov](mailto:carman.apple@tdem.texas.gov)
  - HES oversight, input and technical support, coordination with county, local, & regional government, agencies, and stakeholders.

- Texas A&M HRRC and TTI



- Conducting vulnerability, behavioral, shelter, and transportation analysis and providing technical assistance.
  - **Walt Peacock:** [peacock@tamu.edu](mailto:peacock@tamu.edu)
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  - **David Bierling:** [d-bierling@tti.tamu.edu](mailto:d-bierling@tti.tamu.edu)
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    - GIS and data development and analysis, website development
  - **Darrell Borchardt:** [d-borchardt@tti.tamu.edu](mailto:d-borchardt@tti.tamu.edu)
    - Transportation scenario development and analysis
  - **Alexander Abuabara:** [aabuabara@arch.tamu.edu](mailto:aabuabara@arch.tamu.edu)
    - GIS & data development and analysis and website development and maintenance