



REGIONAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

GOVERNANCE EXERCISE NO. 2

Oct. 13, 2020

Region 1

LOUISIANA
WATERSHED
INITIATIVE

working together for sustainability and resilience



AGENDA

1. Governance exercises overview
2. Exercise No. 1 recap
3. Gap Analysis
4. Watershed management options
5. Next steps





1. Governance exercises overview



How will we do this?



GOVERNANCE EXERCISE NO. 1

What is the work?

- Conduct root cause analysis
- Identify the need for regional roles, responsibilities and authorities

GOVERNANCE EXERCISE NO. 2

Who does it?

- Consider opportunities
- Build consensus around solutions

GOVERNANCE OUTCOMES

How?

- Recommend coalition structure
- Provide action items for implementation



What happens after recommendations?



PROVISIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

REFINED RECOMMENDATIONS

An iterative planning process requiring vetting and revisiting recommendations

November – January

Make recommendations based on best available data, practices, expertise and information

January – April

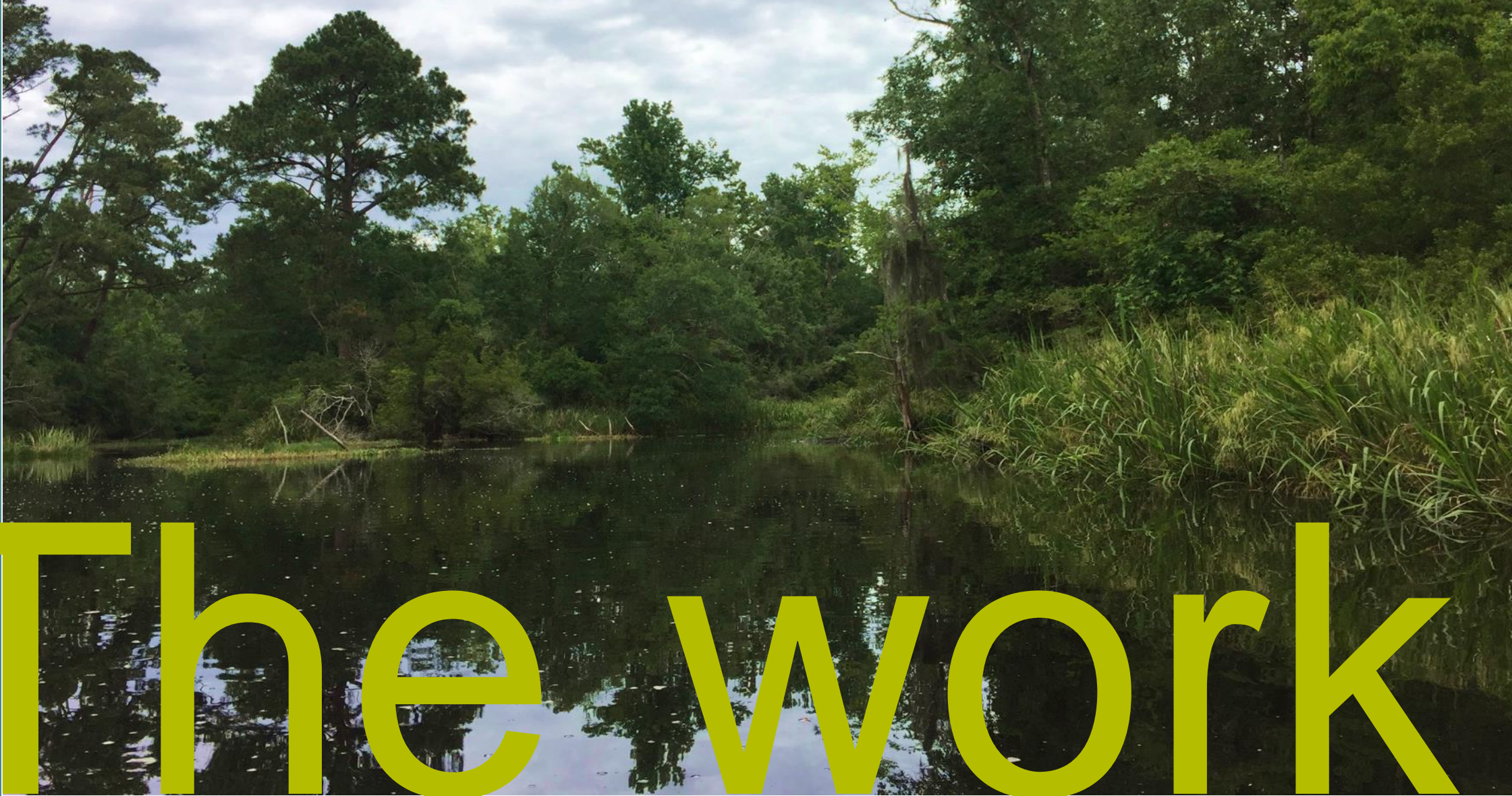
Engage parish leadership, stakeholders and the public to gather feedback

RESOURCE: O&E TOOLKIT

May – June

Consider feedback from outreach and engagement and refine recommendations





The work

2. Exercise No. 1 recap





The Region 1 Steering Committee met Sept. 25 to discuss watershed governance.



Region 1

CONNECTING ROOT CAUSES TO POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

Root causes



A lack of watershed-based governance leads to uncoordinated planning and project design throughout drainage basins.



A lack of regional or state consistency and guidance on higher standards hinders flood risk reduction efforts.



Inconsistent floodplain management has enabled construction of unprotected buildings in high-risk areas.



A lack of robust public education and outreach results in a general lack of public awareness about true flood risk.



Inadequate data collection and availability limit understanding in communities with the greatest need for flood risk mitigation.



Inadequate funding limits infrastructure maintenance, improvements and construction.

Potential solutions

Increased capacity and capability

Knowledge and skills are shared, and staff is not overworked or given unrealistic expectations.

Increased accountability

Roles and responsibilities are clearly defined.

Standardized process

Decision-making is based on best practices.

Increased authority

Leaders are empowered to make difficult choices.

Increased coordination

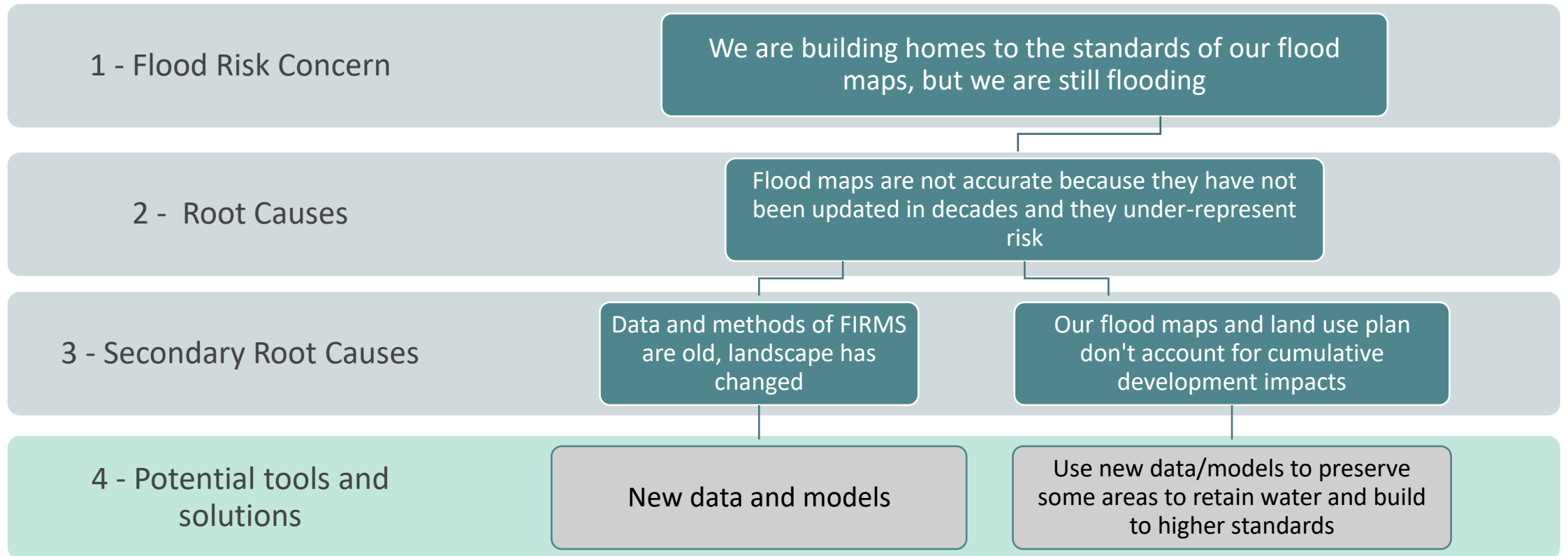
Agencies are encouraged to collaborate and streamline processes.



Region 1

CONNECTING ROOT CAUSES TO POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

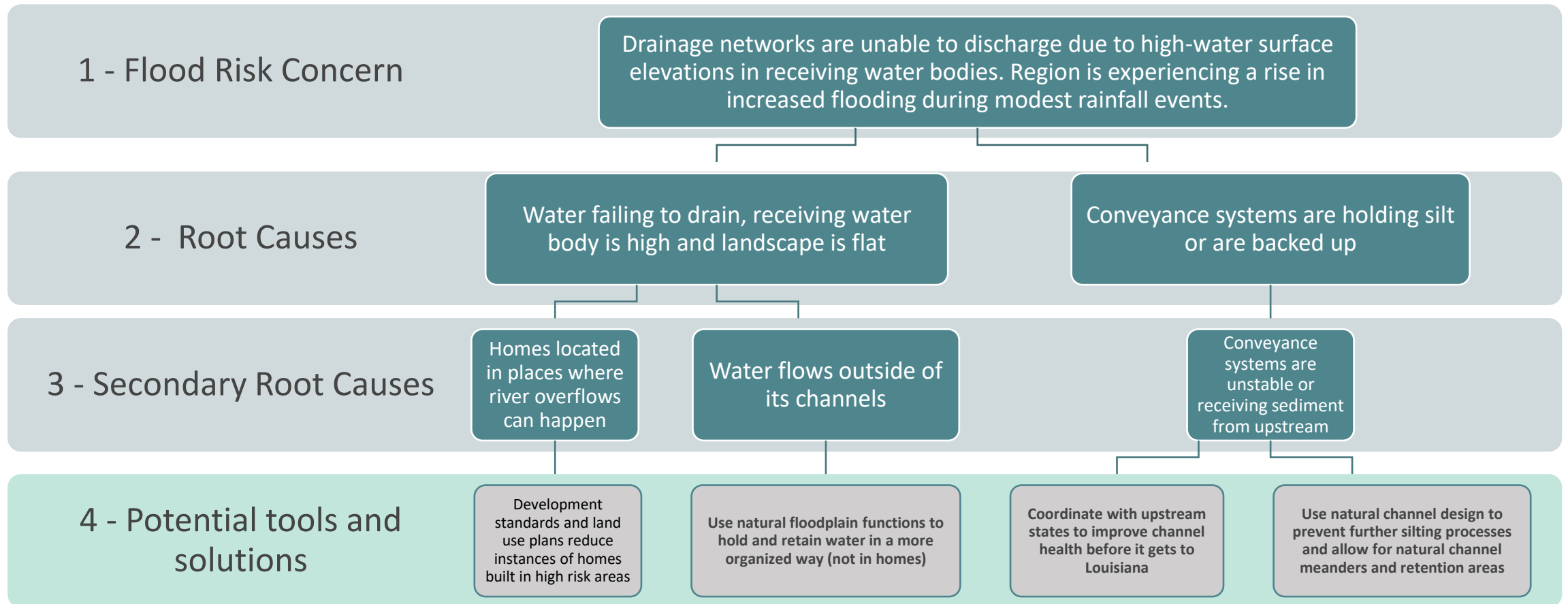
Analysis #1



Region 1

CONNECTING ROOT CAUSES TO POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

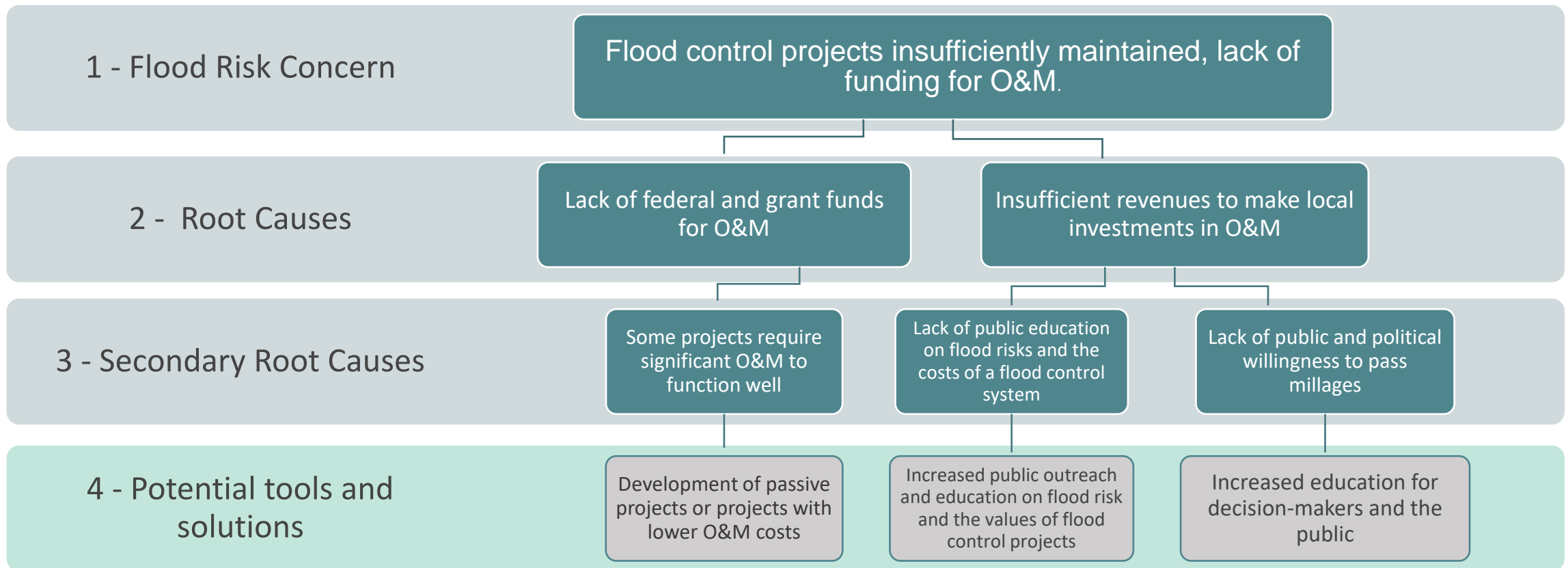
Analysis #2



Region 1

CONNECTING ROOT CAUSES TO POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

Analysis #3



What does this work look like?

PROVIDE PROJECT FUNDING,
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

CREATE CONSISTENCY IN
HIGHER STANDARDS

MANAGE PROJECT PLANNING

DEVELOP AND EXECUTE A
WATERSHED PLAN

PROVIDE DATA AND SUPPORT



What does this work look like?

★ = REQUIRES AUTHORITY

PROVIDE PROJECT FUNDING,
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE



Generate revenue and borrow money

CREATE CONSISTENCY IN
HIGHER STANDARDS



Adopt and enforce development codes

MANAGE PROJECT PLANNING

DEVELOP AND EXECUTE A
WATERSHED PLAN



Develop and adopt watershed plans and regulate development

PROVIDE DATA AND SUPPORT



What does this work look like in Region 1?

SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS (THE WORK)

- Development of passive projects or projects with lower O&M costs
- Increased public outreach and education on flood risk and the values of flood control projects
- Increased education for decision-makers and the public
- Use new data and models that address future risk; potentially update NFIP maps and building standards
- Use new data and models to conduct regional planning to preserve some areas, retain water, and coordinate and prioritize O&M of river systems in region
- Coordinate with upstream states to improve channel health before it gets to Louisiana
- Promote or require natural channel design to prevent further silting processes and allow for natural channel meanders and retention areas





3. Gap analysis



Who has the authority to do the work?

REGION 1 GAP ANALYSIS

Existing versus potential authorities for regional watershed coalitions

Entity type	Develop and adopt watershed plans	Regulate development	Develop and enforce higher standards	Fund, construct, operate and maintain flood risk reduction projects	Authority to operate throughout entire watershed region
Parish/municipal governing authorities	●	●	●	●	●
Planning and development districts	●			●	●
Levee districts		●		●	●
Water districts	●	●		●	●
Navigation districts	●			●	●

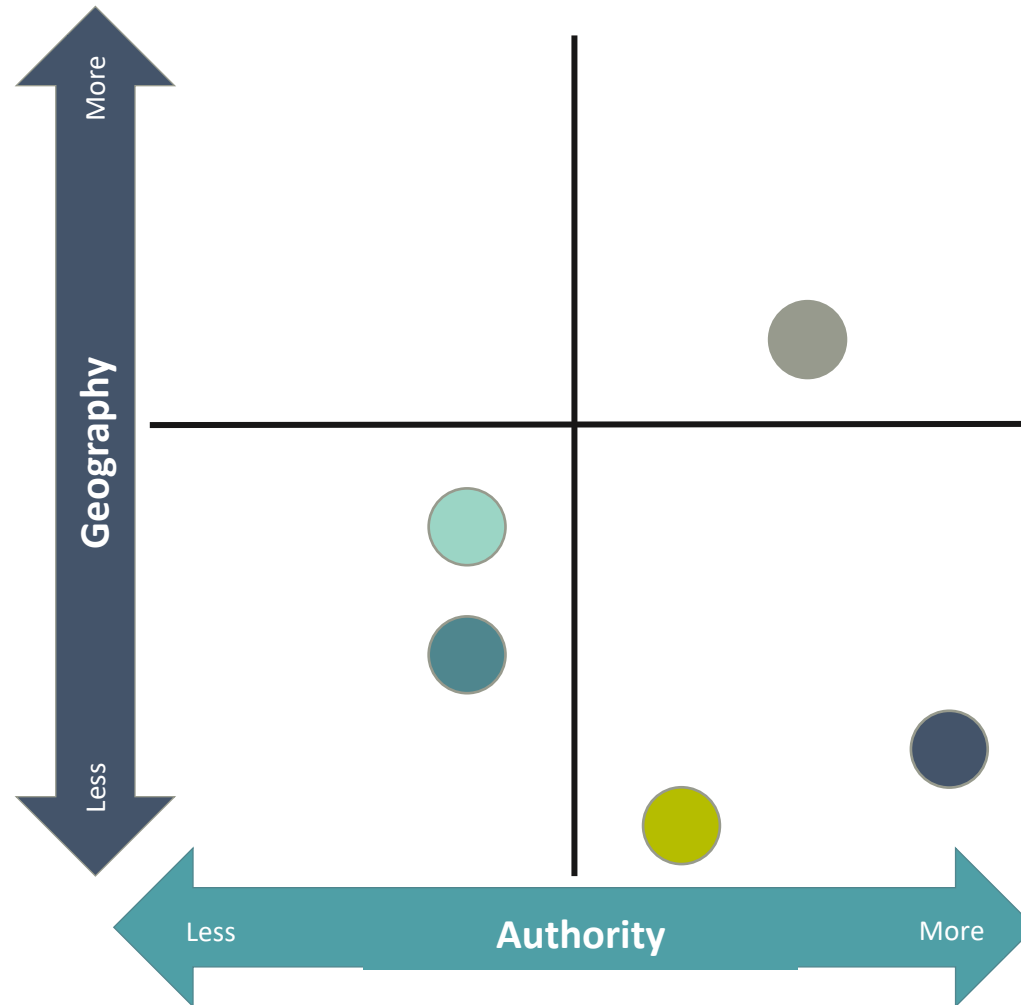
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- Local governments and water districts have the broadest authority but limited jurisdictions.
- The Coordinating and Development Corporation covers the largest geographic area within Region 1.



Who has authority to do the work?

- Parish and local governments
- Cane River Waterway District
- Red River Waterway District
- Coordinating and Development Corporation
- Dorcheat Soil and Water Conservation District



Inadequate and poorly maintained flood control infrastructure

TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE, WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING WOULD YOU SUGGEST OUR REGIONAL COALITION DO:

- A. Select, construct, operate and maintain **flood control projects**
- B. Serve as a **conduit for grant funds** to support local flood control projects
- C. Review major projects for **regional upstream and downstream impacts**
- D. All of the above
- E. Other



Uncoordinated planning

TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE, WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING WOULD YOU SUGGEST OUR REGIONAL COALITION DO:

- A. **Develop and adopt** regional watershed plans that coordinate maintenance of waterways, long term regional investments in flood control projects and encourage higher standards
- B. Develop, adopt and **enforce** regional watershed plans that coordinate maintenance of waterways, long term regional investments in flood control projects and encourage higher standards
- C. Provide **technical assistance** to local entities to develop floodplain management plans
- D. A and C
- E. Other



Inadequate data collection and availability

TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE, WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING WOULD YOU SUGGEST OUR REGIONAL COALITION DO:

- A. Use LWI models to review flood control projects for **upstream** and **downstream** impacts
- B. Review and recommend **higher standards** for the region based on model outputs
- C. Serve as **hub or clearinghouse** for other entities to submit and use collected data and modeling
- D. Use LWI models to support emergency response and preparedness efforts and advise local leaders and stakeholders with flood control responsibility
- E. All of the above
- F. Other



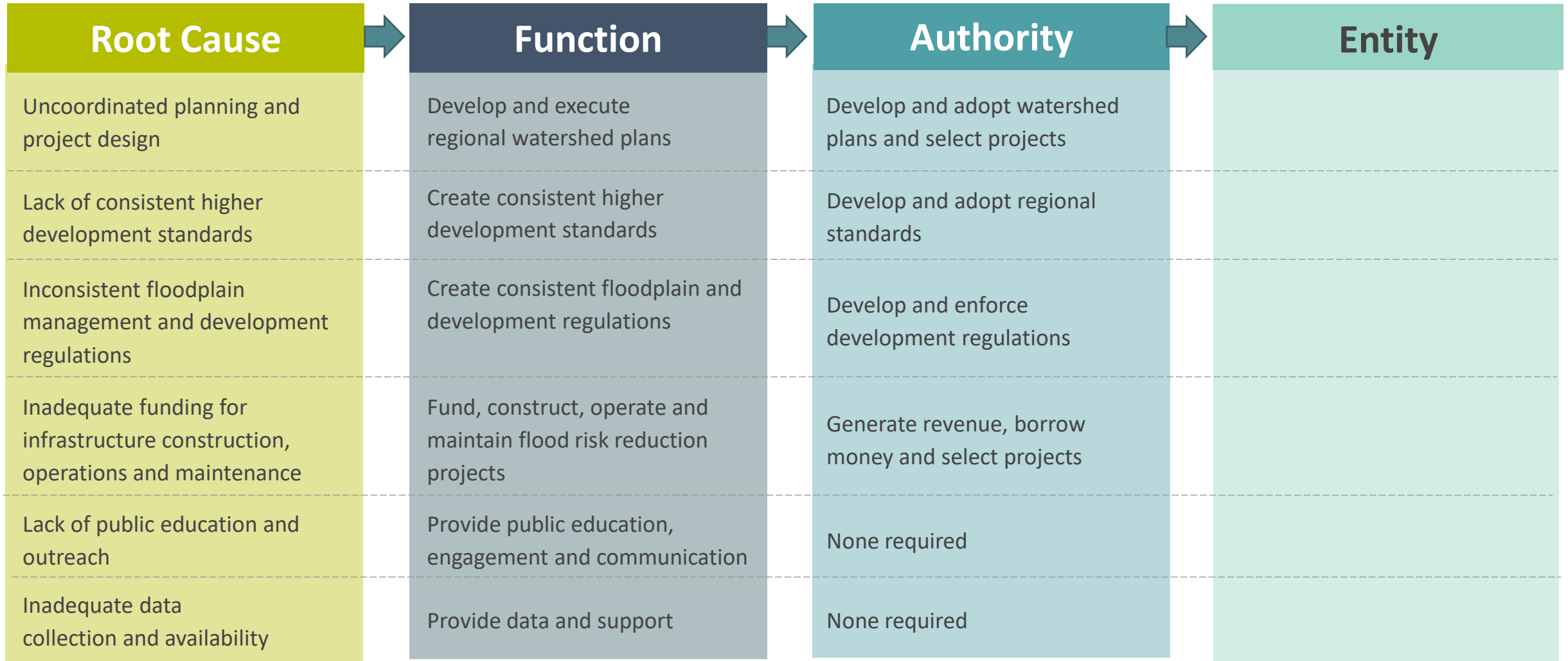
An aerial photograph showing a flooded forest. The water is a murky brown color, and numerous green trees are partially submerged. In the lower right quadrant, a small motorboat with several people on board is navigating through the water. The word "Who" is overlaid in large, bold, lime-green letters on the left side of the image.

Who

4. Watershed management options



Who can do this work **throughout** our region?



Coalition options and trade-offs

	Existing Entity 1	Existing Entity 2	Existing Entity 3
Does the entity have the authority to do the work we need? If not, how can it obtain that authority?			
Does the entity have the capability and capacity to do the work? If not, how can it gain the capability and capacity?			
Does this option help clarify regional roles and responsibilities?			
What are the risks associated with this option?			
How do the benefits balance with the risks?			
Other considerations			





5. Next steps



Next steps

1. Refine exercise outcomes.
2. Optional Governance Webinar
3. Governance Exercise #4
4. Prepare to make recommendations for a coalition structure.
5. Create a roadmap for implementation.



2019 BEST PRACTICES SUMMIT



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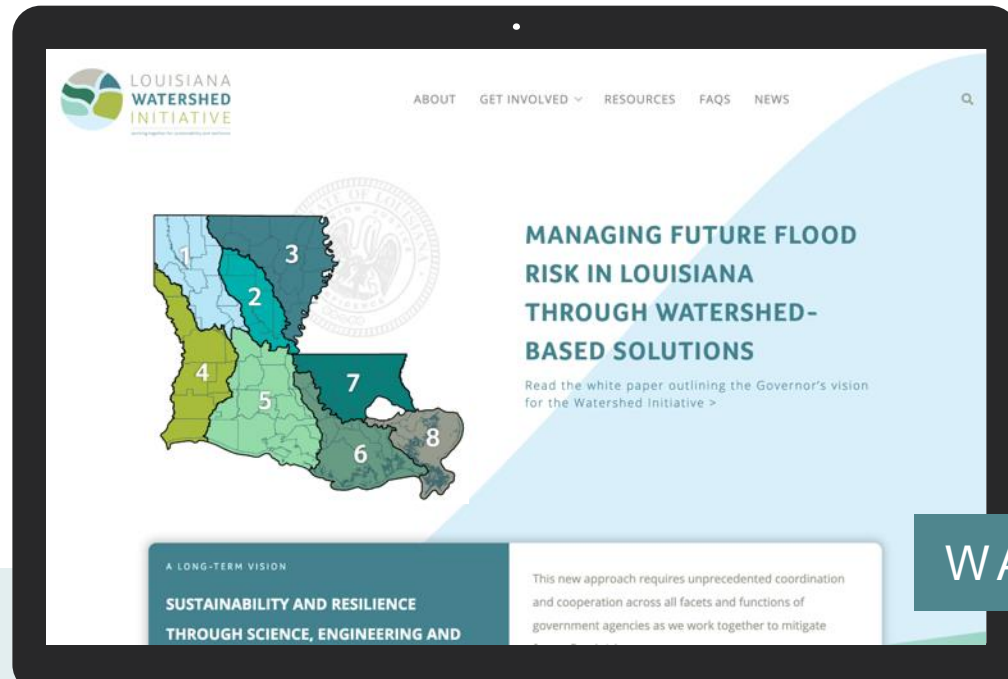
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THANK YOU



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