

Toledo Bend Project FERC No. 2305

Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority
September 17, 2014

Jim Pratt, Executive Director, SRA-LA
David Montagne, General Manager, SRA-TX

Sabine River Basin Facts

- **Length – 560 miles**
- **Drainage Area – 9,952 sq. mi.**
25% in Louisiana
75% in Texas
- **Boundary reach covered by Sabine River Compact.**
- **Available water from the boundary reach down is split equally between States.**
- **Toledo Bend Dam is located 147 miles from top of Sabine Lake.**
- **Average Inflow into Sabine Lake – 5,982,000 Ac-ft/yr**



Toledo Bend Project

- Owned jointly by
 - Sabine River Authority, State of Louisiana
 - Sabine River Authority of Texas
- Construction began in 1963
- Construction completed in 1968
- Operated by the Toledo Bend Project Joint Operation



Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

Because Toledo Bend is located on navigable waters of the United States it requires an operating license from FERC. In 1963, FERC's predecessor agency, the Federal Power Commission, issued the Authorities a 50-year license to construct, operate, and maintain Toledo Bend. The previous license expired in 2013 and the new license, with a 50-year term, was issued on August 29, 2014.



Office of
Energy
Projects

December 2013

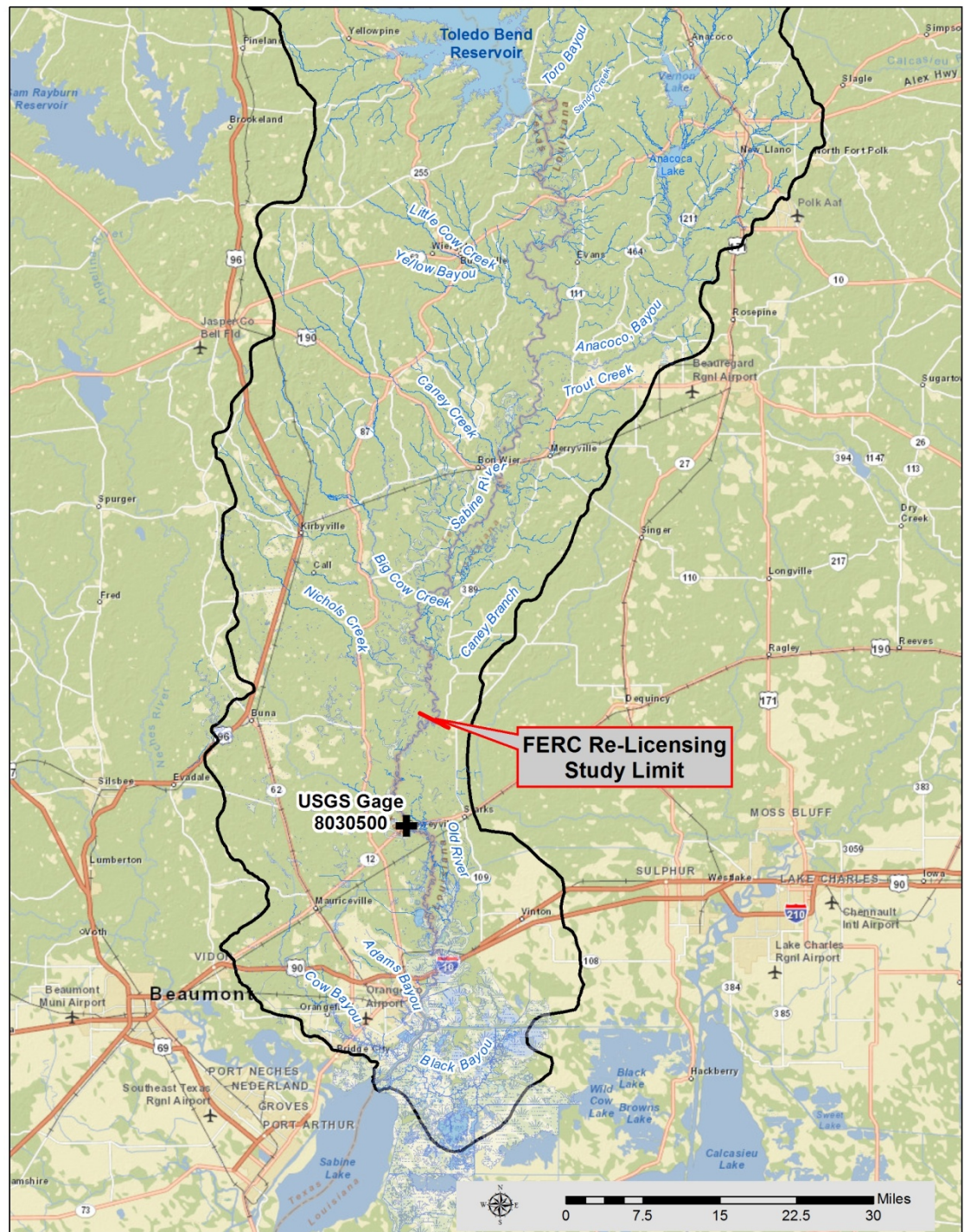
FERC/EIS-F-0245

Final Environmental Impact Statement For Hydropower License



Toledo Bend Hydroelectric Project
Project No. 2305-036 – Texas and Louisiana

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Office of Energy Projects
Division of Hydropower Licensing
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426





State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF COASTAL MANAGEMENT

August 29, 2011

Mel Swoboda, Licensing Manager
Toledo Bend Project Joint Operation
Sabine River Authority of Texas
P.O. Box 579
Orange TX, 77631-0579

RE: **C20090385, Coastal Zone Consistency**
Sabine River Authority of Texas
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Federal License or Permit
Revised Study Plan for the Relicensing of the Toledo Bend Project
DeSoto, Sabine and Vernon Parishes, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Swoboda:

The Louisiana Office of Coastal Management (LOCM) has reviewed the draft license application for the Toledo Bend Project (FERC No. 2305) (Project), located on the Sabine River in De Soto, Sabine, and Vernon parishes in Louisiana and Panola, Shelby, Sabine, and Newton counties in Texas. The Project is licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC or Commission) pursuant to the Commission's authority under the Federal Power Act.^[1] The Project's current license, for which the Authorities are co-licensees, expires on September 30, 2013. The Authorities are pursuing a new license for the Project in accordance with the Commission's Integrated Licensing Process, described at 18 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 5. It is our understanding that the Authorities intend to file a final application for a new license with the Commission on or before September 30, 2011.

Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)^[2] requires that federally licensed and permitted activities within or affecting resources within a state's designated coastal zone be consistent with approved state Coastal Zone Management Programs. La. Rev. Stat. § 214:24 delineates the coastal zone under the jurisdiction of the State of Louisiana. On the Sabine River, the inland boundary of the coastal zone extends to the northern line of the Intracoastal Canal in Calcasieu Parish, approximately 7 river miles (RM) upstream from the northern extent

[1] 16 USC § 791(a)–§25(r).

[2] 16 USC § 1451–1455.

of Sabine Lake, and more than 139 RM downstream from the Toledo Bend Dam. Therefore, the Project is located well outside the Louisiana coastal zone boundary as described in La. Rev. Stat. § 214.24.



Based on the location of the Project and the information described in the draft license application, the LOCM has concluded that the Commission's issuance of a new license for the continued operation and maintenance of the Project will not adversely affect coastal resources. The Project is not in and will not affect the coastal zone. Provided the operations remain unchanged, this action is not subject to a consistency review under La. Rev. Stat. § 214.32 and no consistency certification is required. Thus a Louisiana coastal use permit for this Project is not required.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Harris of the Consistency Section at (225) 342-7949 or Jeff.Harris@la.gov.

Sincerely,

Keith Lovell
Administrator
Interagency Affairs/Field Services Division

KL/jdh

cc: Dave Butler, LDWF
Kaili Mills, OCM FI

TEXAS



GENERAL LAND OFFICE

JERRY PATTERSON, COMMISSIONER

September 16, 2011

Sabine River Authority
P.O. Box 579
Orange, Texas 77631-0579

Re: Toledo Bend Project (FERC No. 2305)

To Whom It May Concern:

It has been determined that the project referenced above is outside the Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) boundary. Therefore, it is not subject to consistency review under the Texas CMP.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Kate Zultner
Consistency Review Coordinator
Texas General Land Office

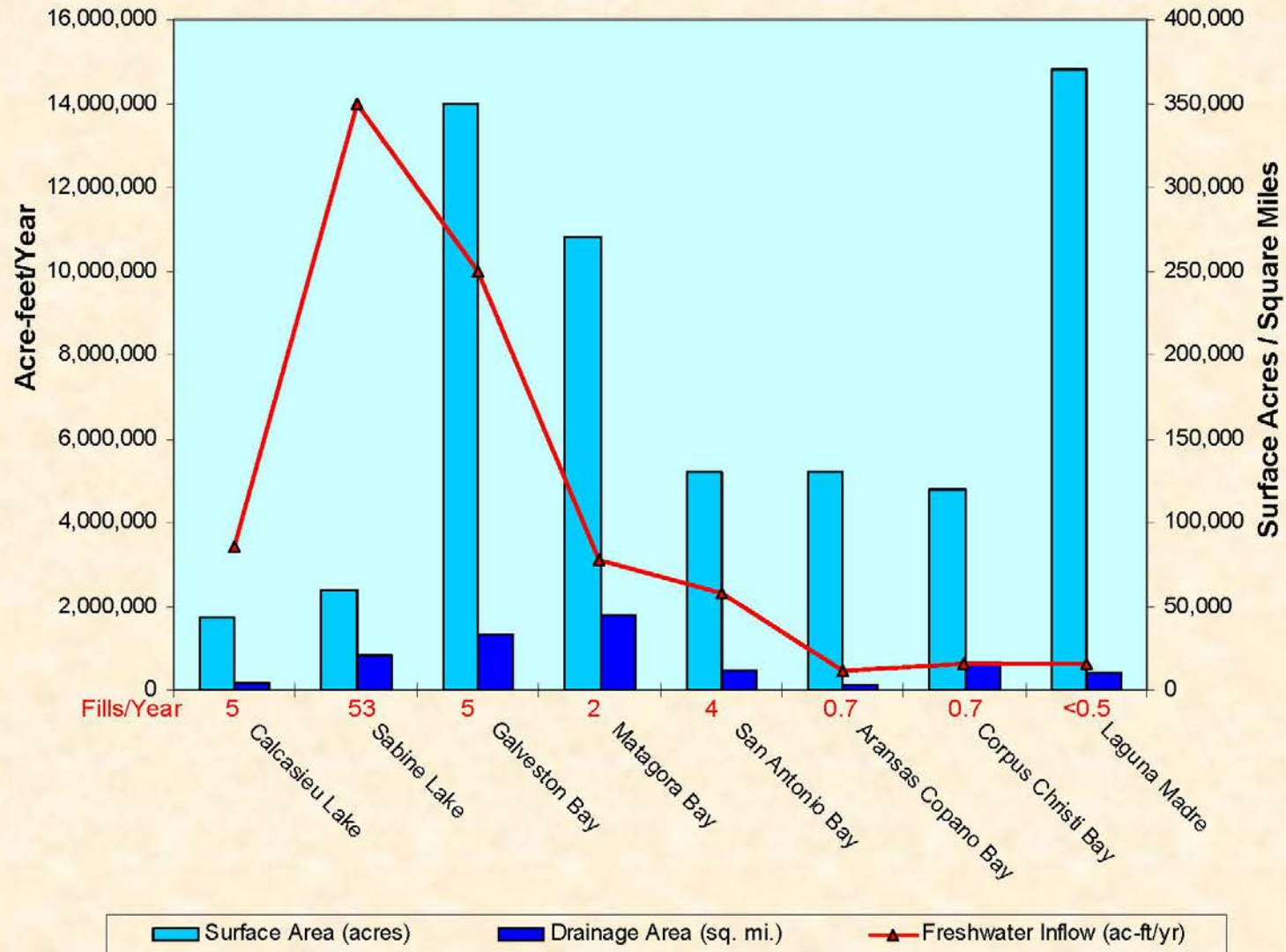
Texas Statewide Environmental Flows (SB3) Process

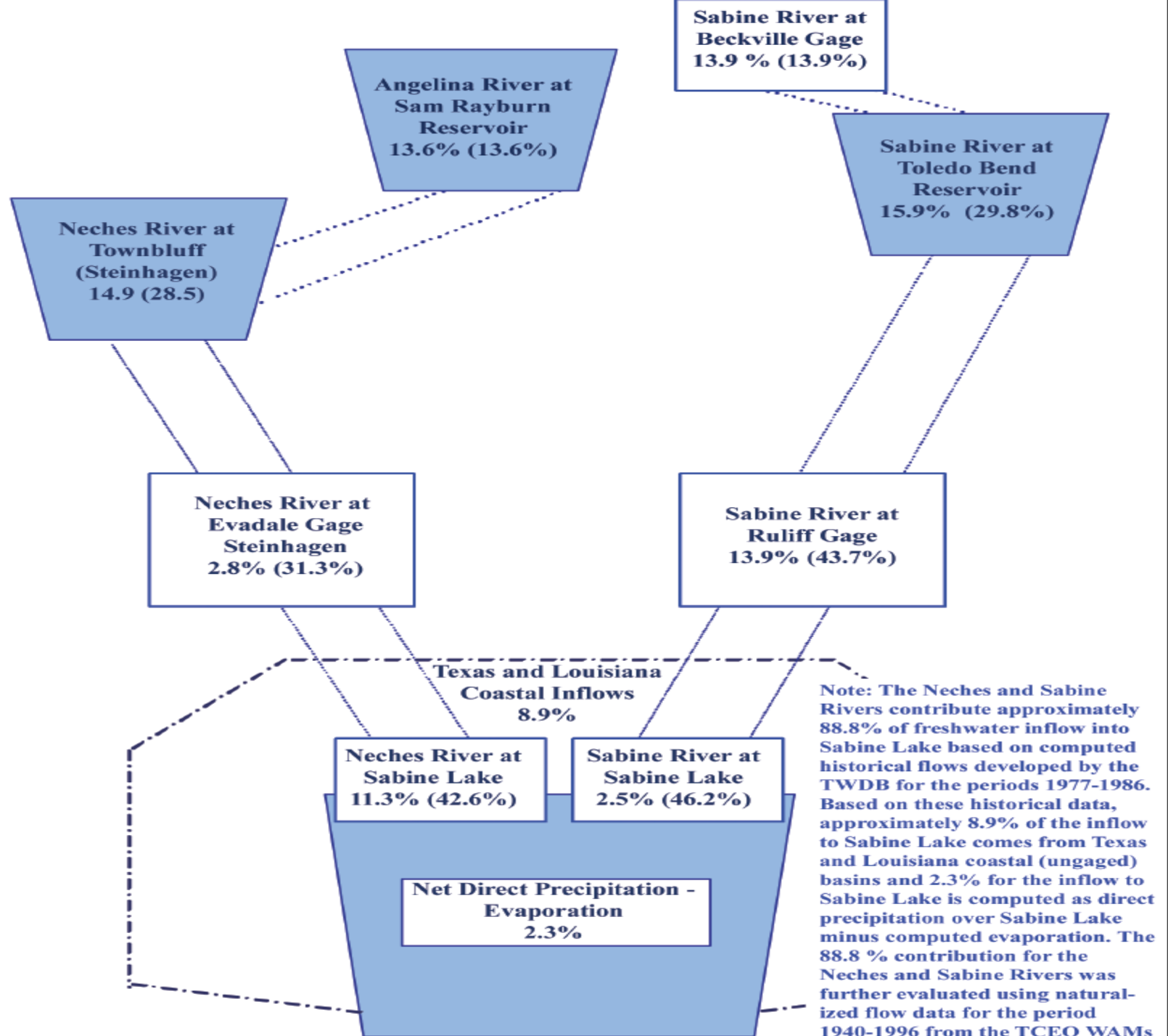
- The 80th Texas Legislature (2007) established the Senate Bill 3 process for environmental flows to determine environmental flow standards for all of the major river basins and bay systems in Texas.
- Senate Bill 3 established a scientific and stakeholder consensus process to establish environmental flow recommendations from which the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) could set standards.
- TCEQ adopted environmental flow standards for the Sabine and Neches Rivers, their associated tributaries, and Sabine Lake Bay effective May 11, 2011 (Texas Administrative Code §298.290).

Sabine-Neches Estuary: What the Sabine-Neches Science Team Determined

- Numerous man-made alterations have influenced the current ecological condition in the Sabine-Neches Estuary and the lower tidal reaches of the Sabine and Neches Rivers.
- The Sabine-Neches Estuary is by far the smallest major estuary on the Texas coast, yet it receives the largest annual freshwater inflow and has the lowest average salinity.
- The estuary system is generally sound, exhibiting good overall water quality and diverse fish and wildlife communities.
- Recommended that the inflows from the most downstream gages (Sabine River near Ruliff and Neches River at Evadale) are sufficient to meet estuary needs and maintain a sound ecological environment (the stakeholder group concurred).

Major Texas Estuaries

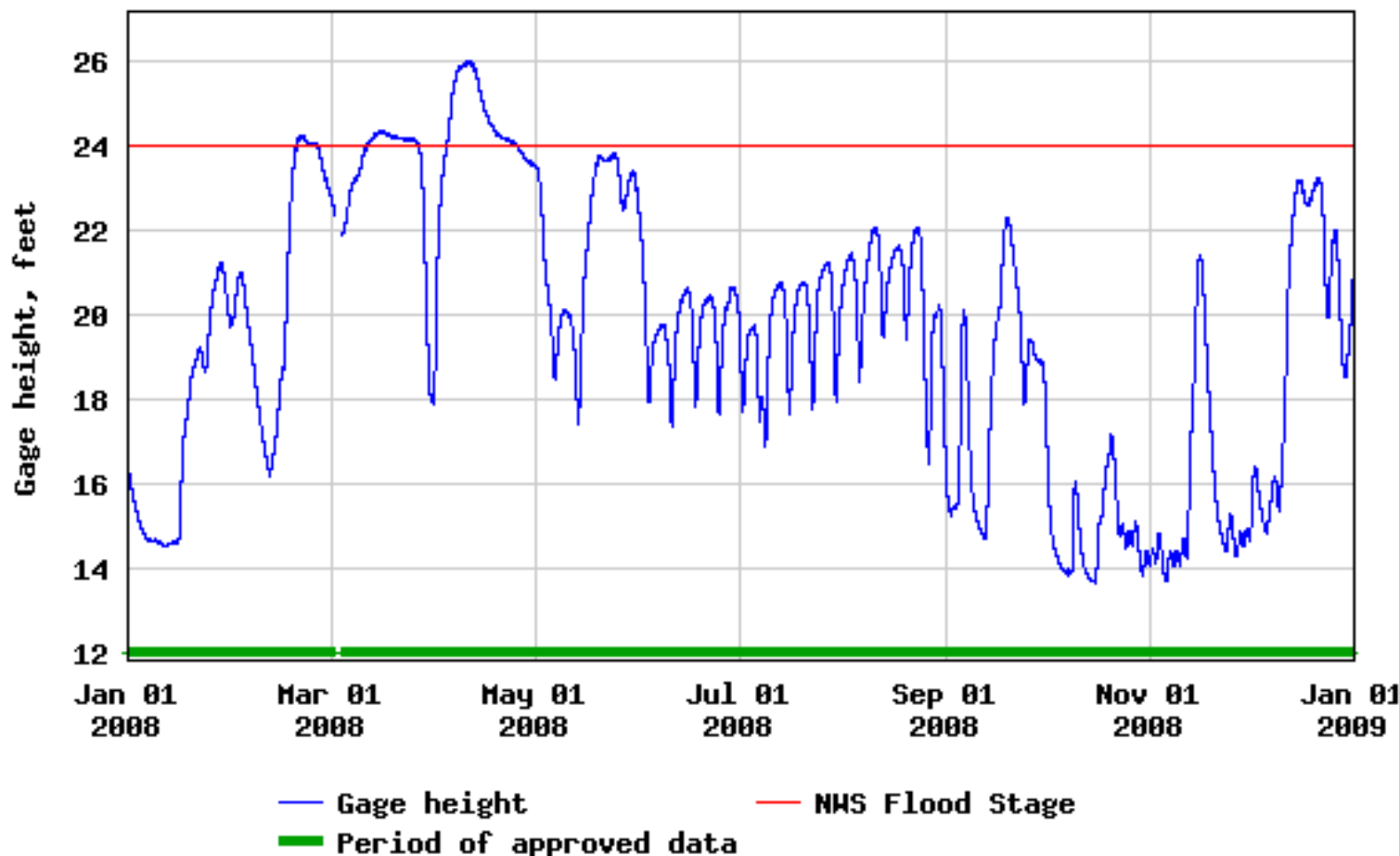




RULIFF 2008 GAGE HEIGHT



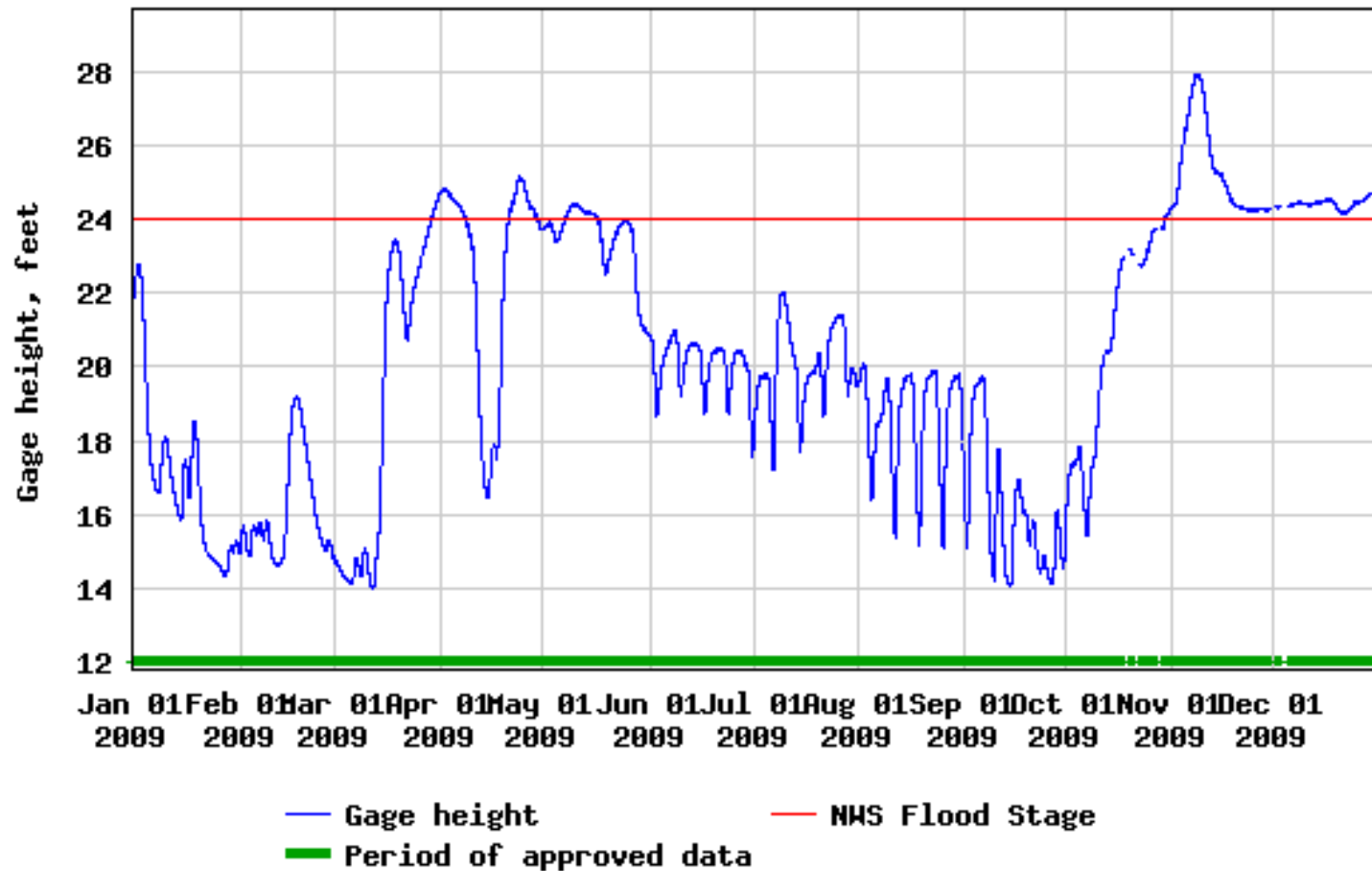
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RULIFF 2009 GAGE HEIGHT



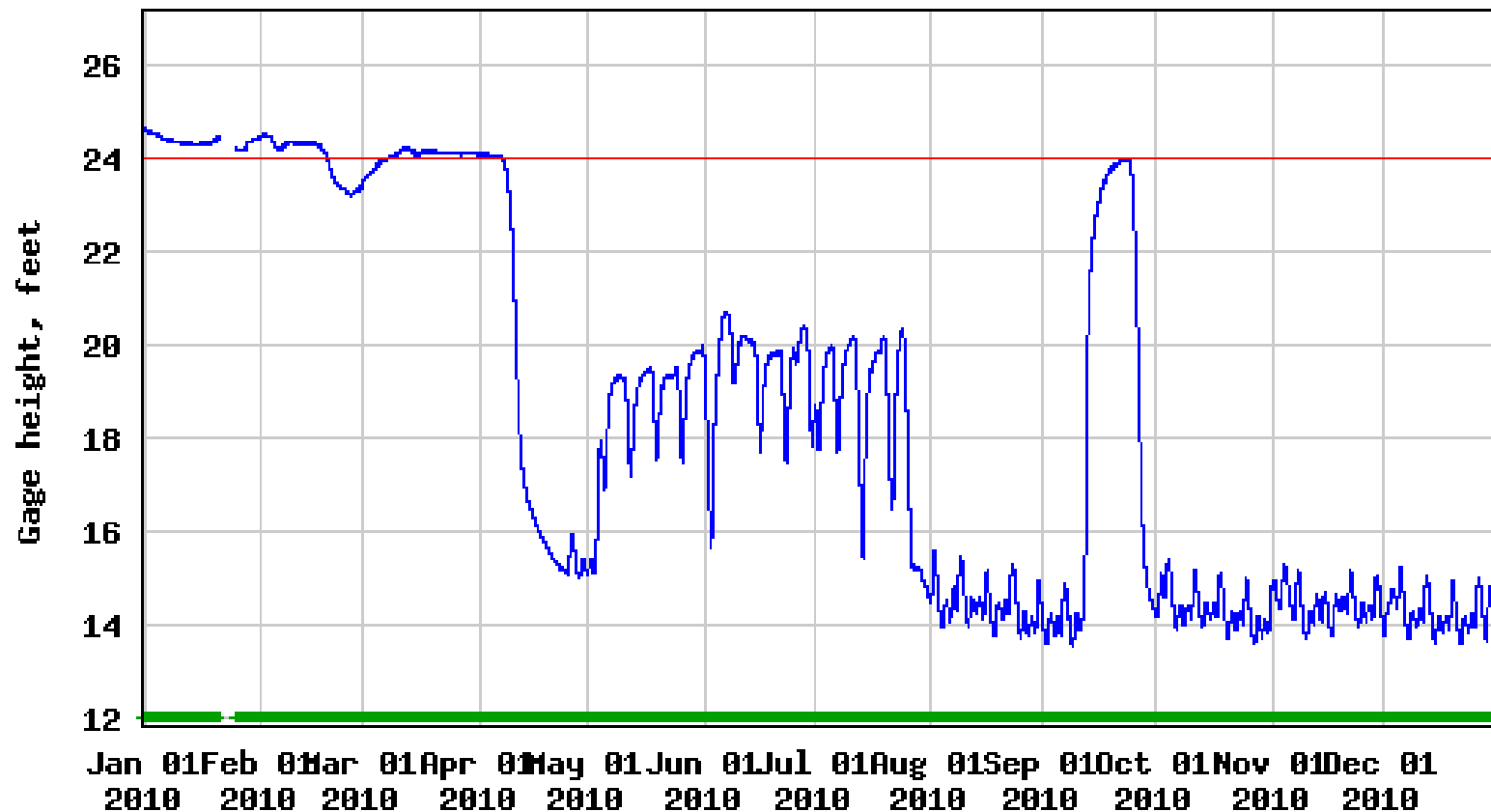
USGS 08030500 Sabine Rv nr Ruliff, TX



RULIFF 2010 GAGE HEIGHT



USGS 08030500 Sabine Rv nr Ruliff, TX



— Gage height

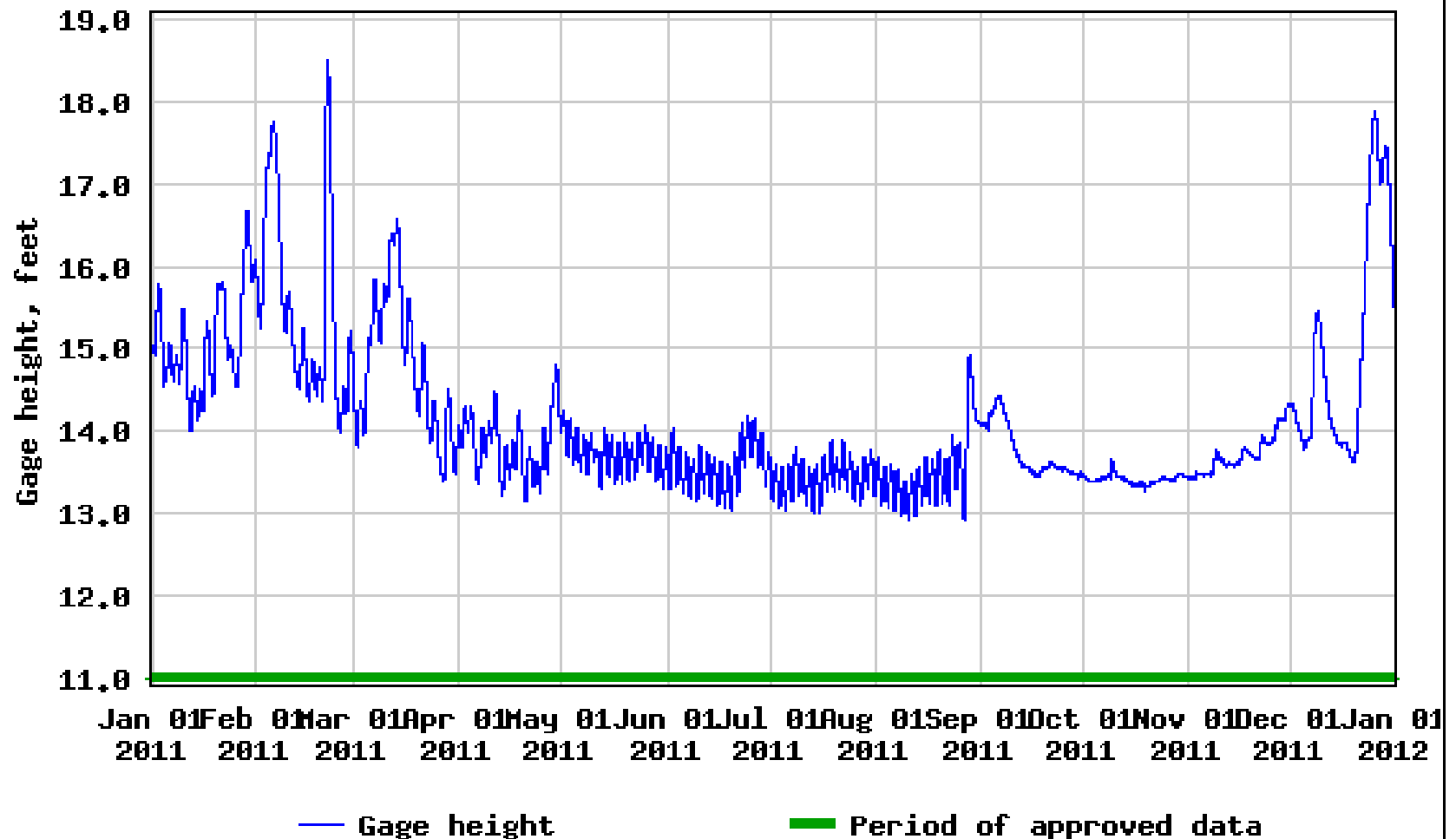
— NWS Flood Stage

— Period of approved data

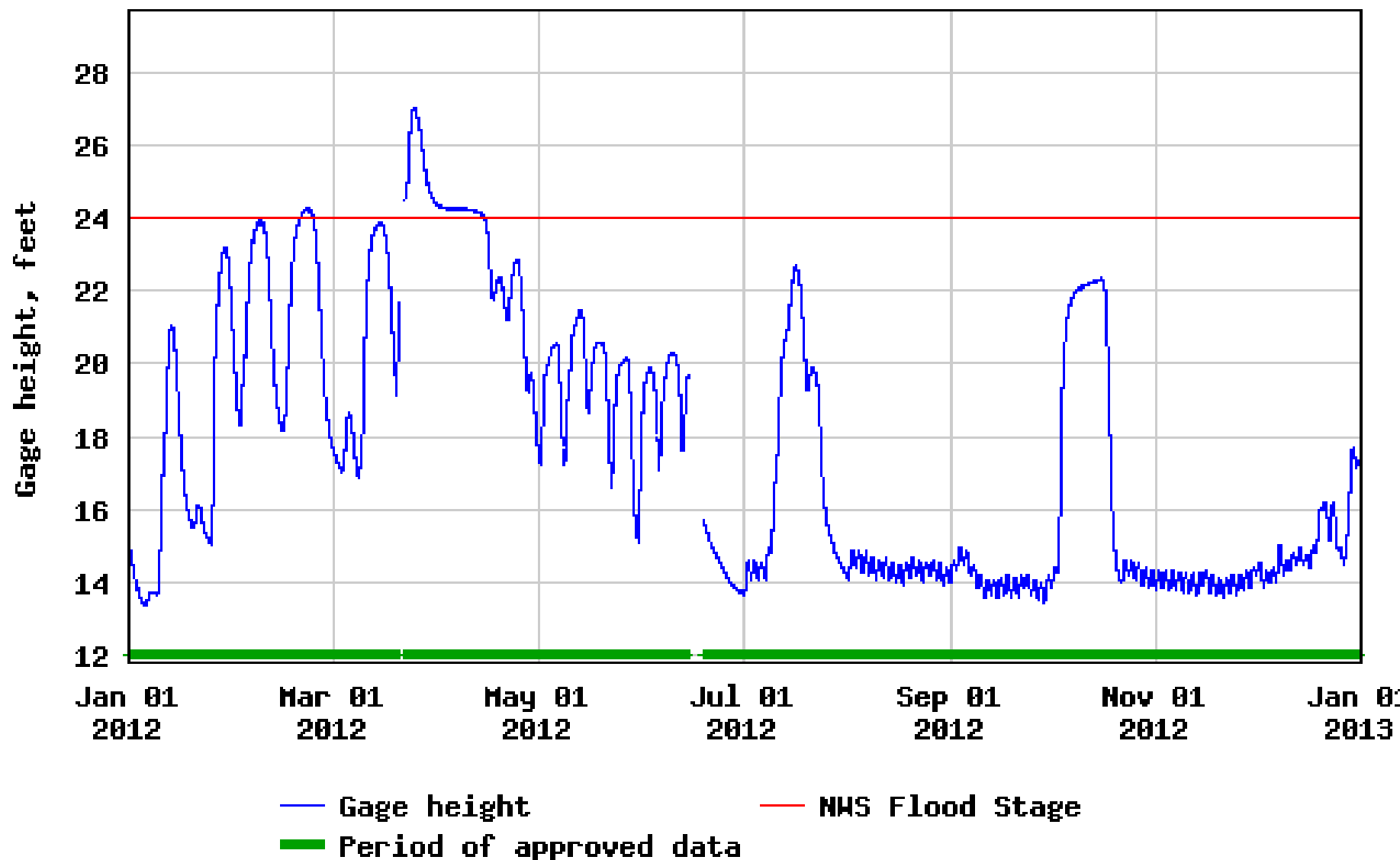
RULIFF 2011 GAGE HEIGHT



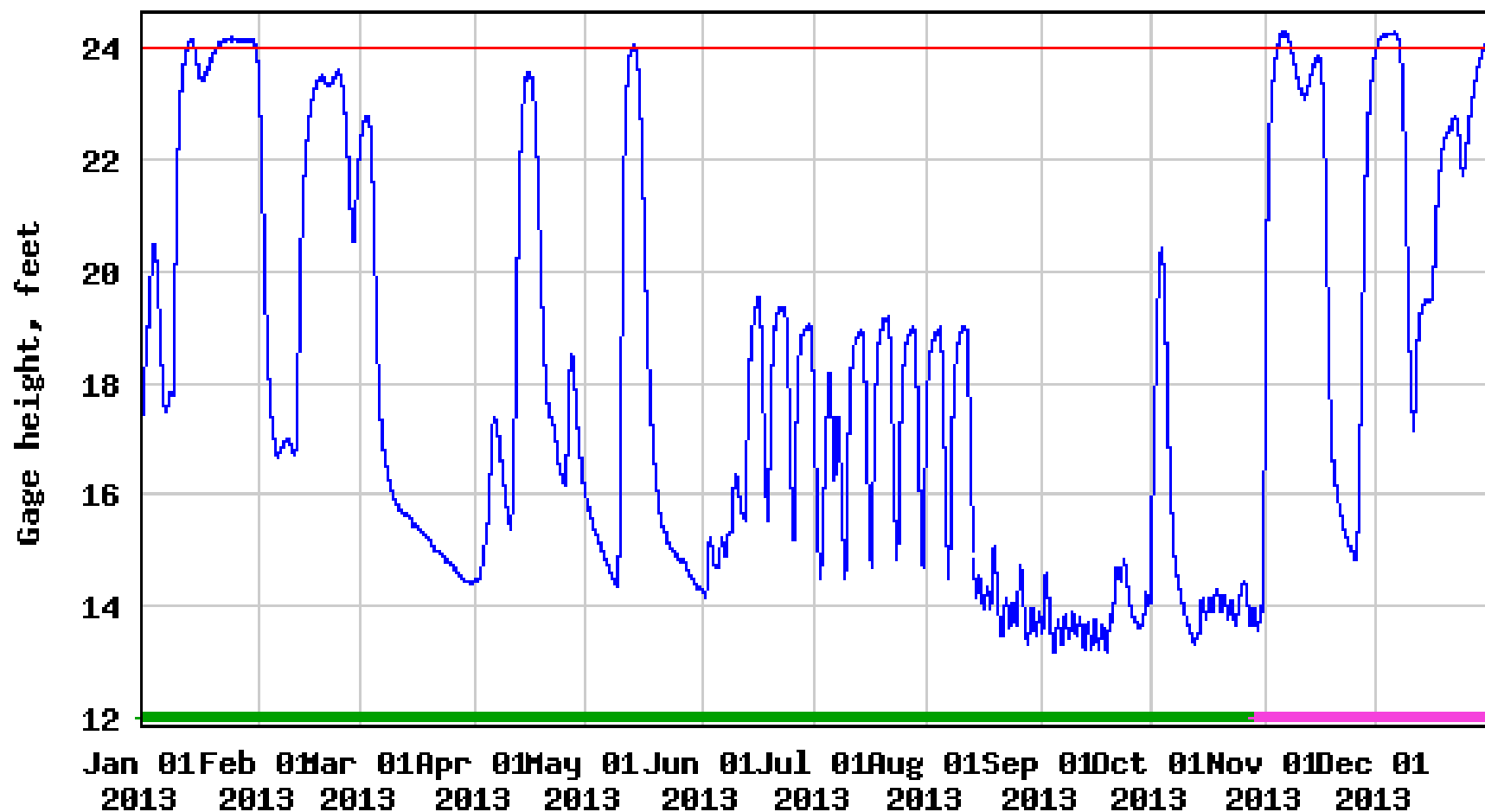
USGS 08030500 Sabine Rv nr Ruliff, TX



USGS 08030500 Sabine Rv nr Ruliff, TX



USGS 08030500 Sabine Rv nr Ruliff, TX



— Gage height

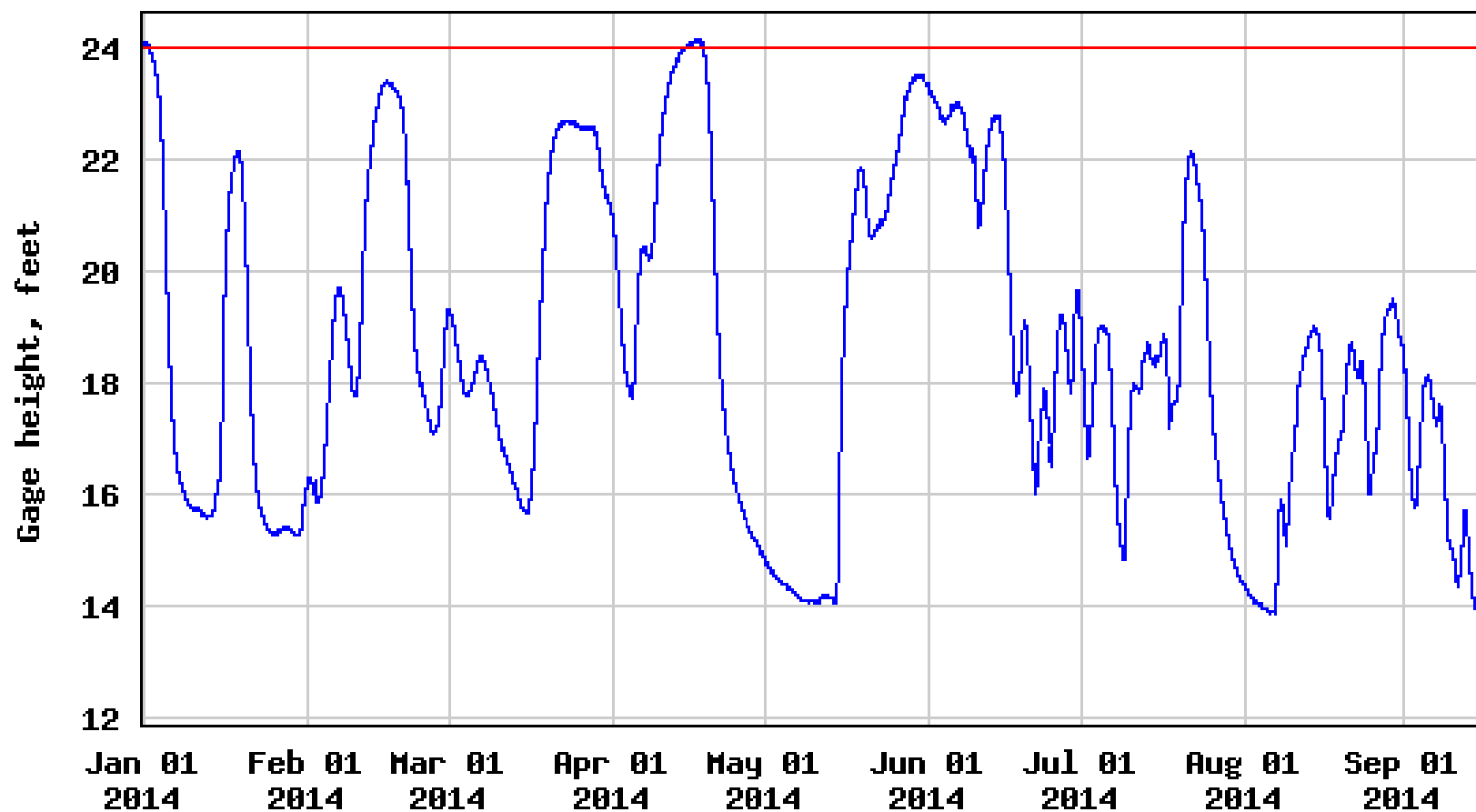
— Period of approved data

— Period of provisional data

— NWS Flood Stage



USGS 08030500 Sabine Rv nr Ruliff, TX



---- Provisional Data Subject to Revision ----

— Gage height

— NWS Flood Stage