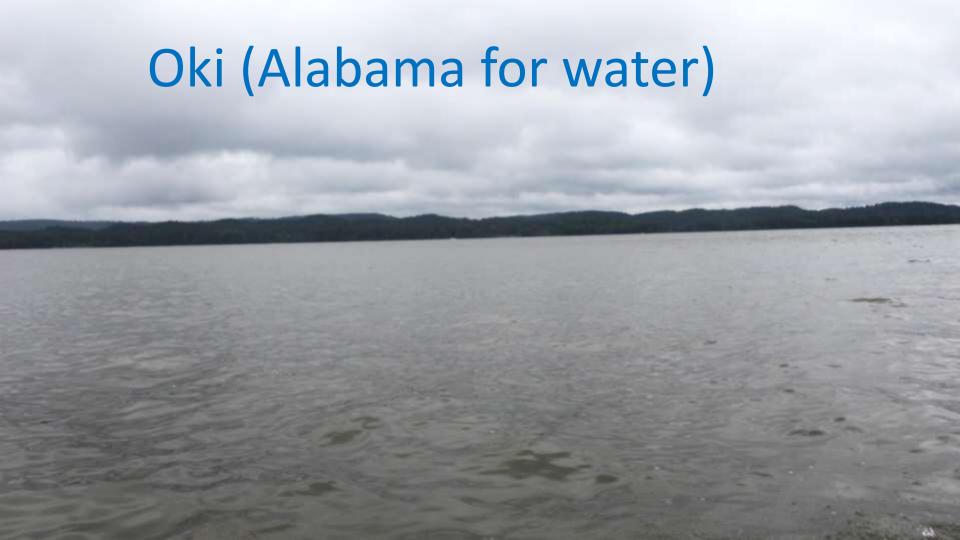




Presentation Abstract

The Alabama-Coushatta culture would not exist without water. From the ancestors to present day citizens, this natural resource has sustained our people and allowed the culture to survive despite Americanization. Mounds, villages, and trails; baskets, pottery, and tools; housing material, food, and cleansing; all attributed to water. From the heavens to under the earth, water has been a precious blessing to this life and beyond. Waterways even carry names of Alabama-Coushatta and the people.

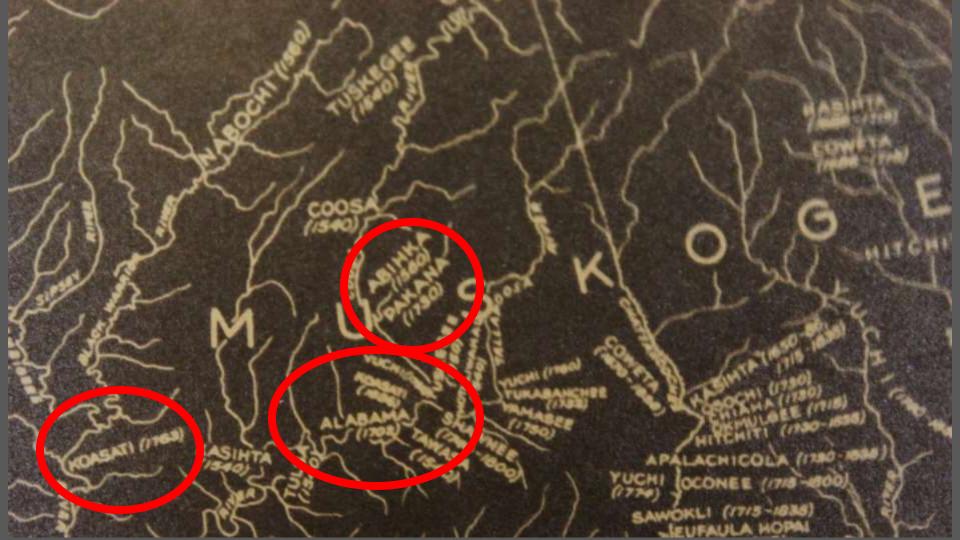
Sharing the Tribal relationship with this important resource will demonstrate better partnerships for longtime water conservancy.

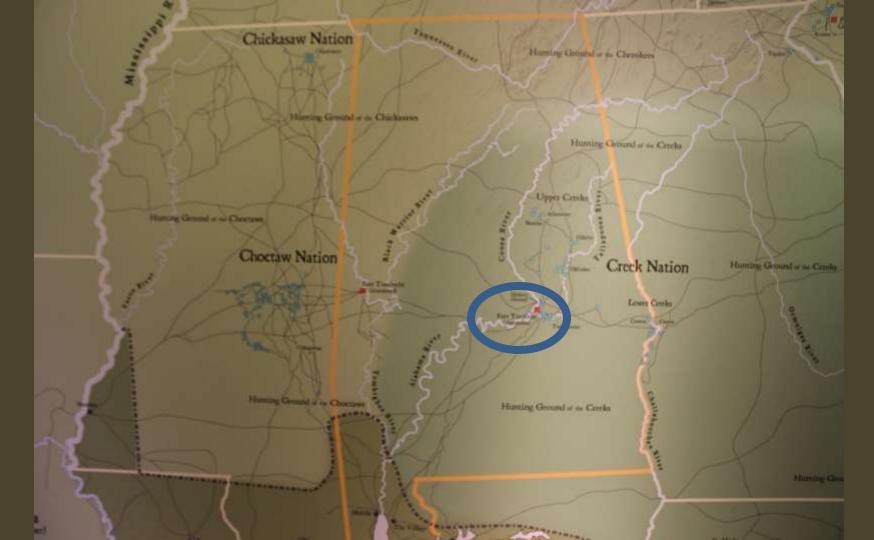












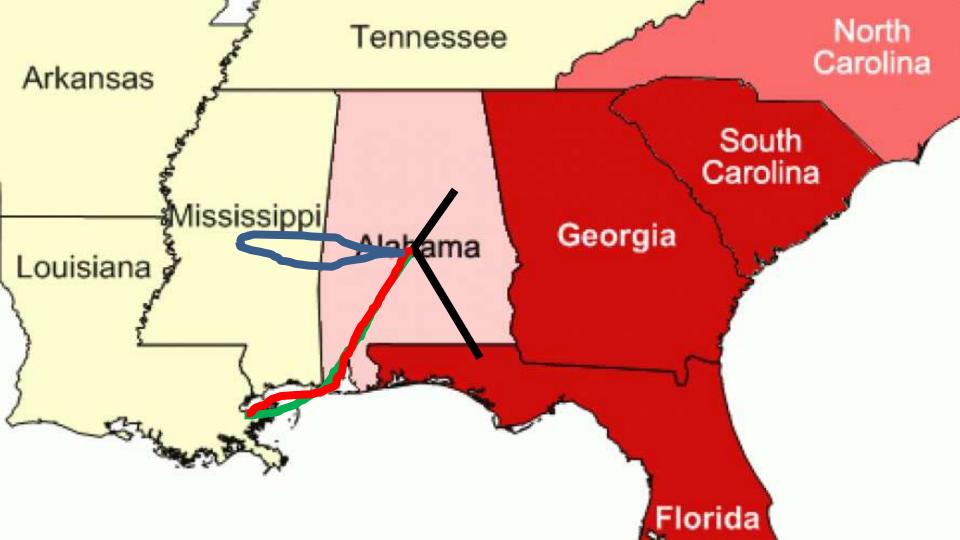
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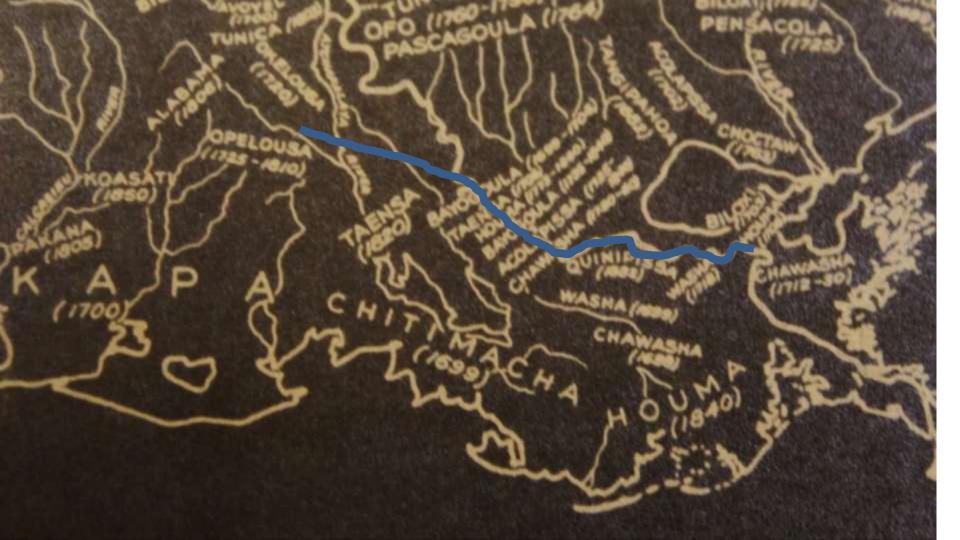
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OKLAHOMA

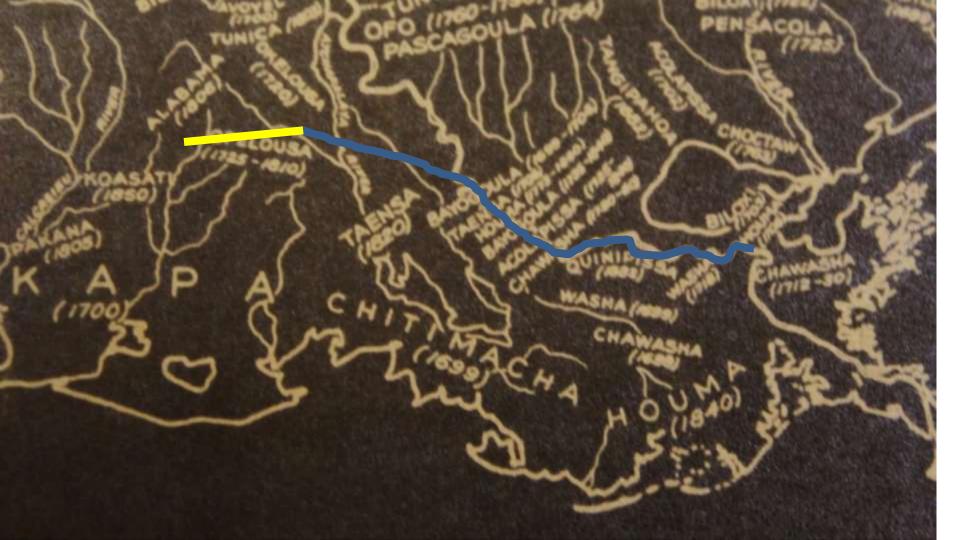
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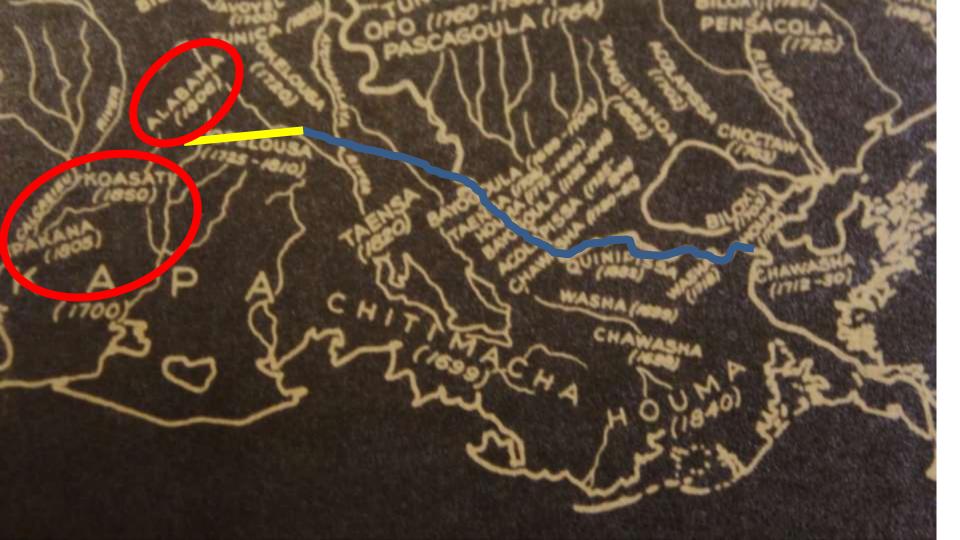
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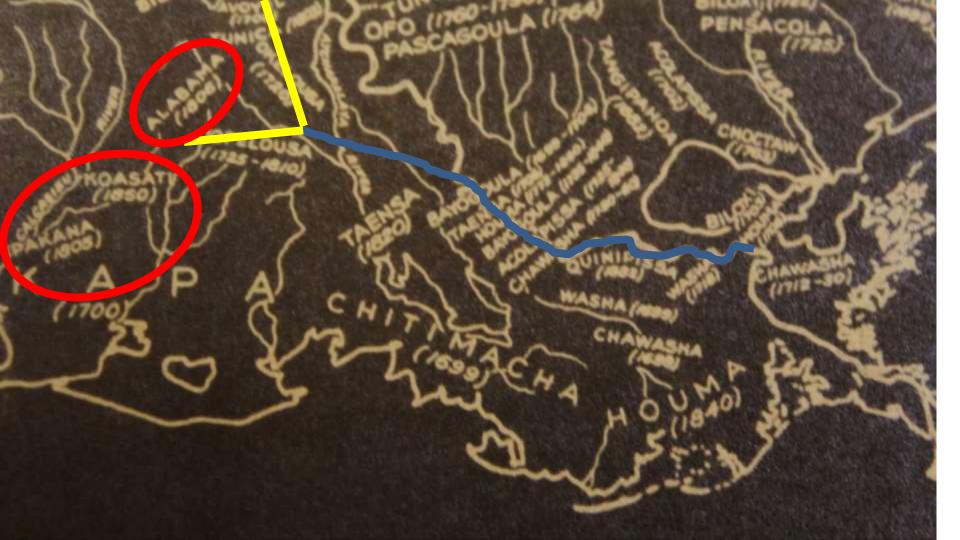
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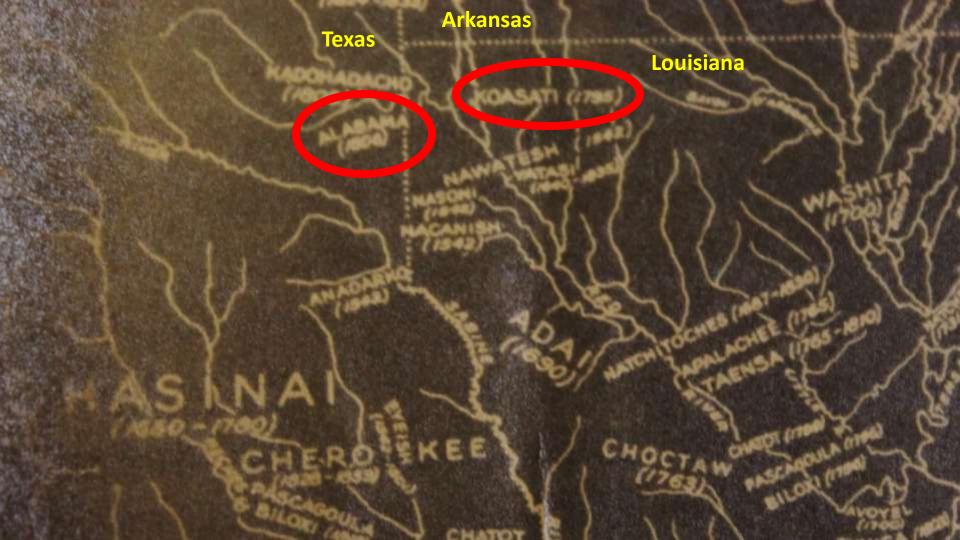












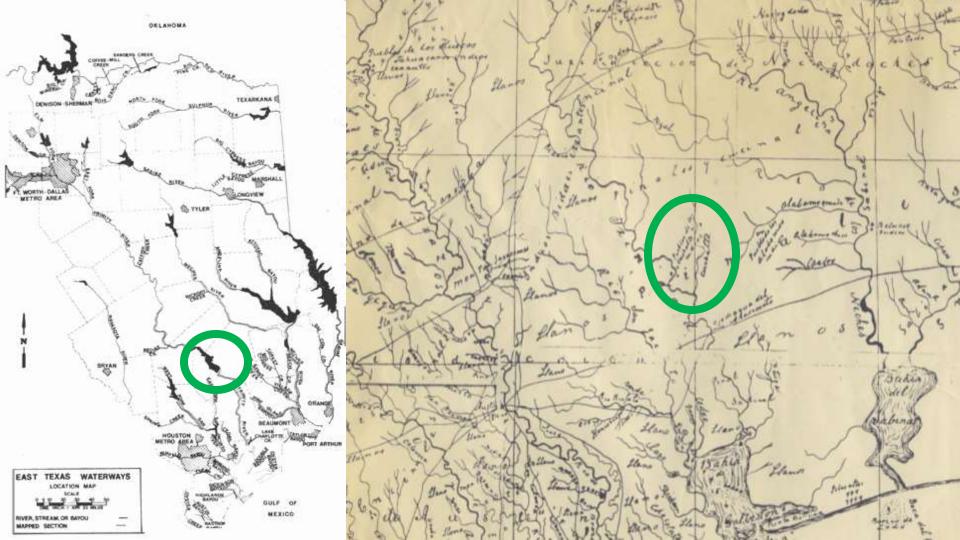


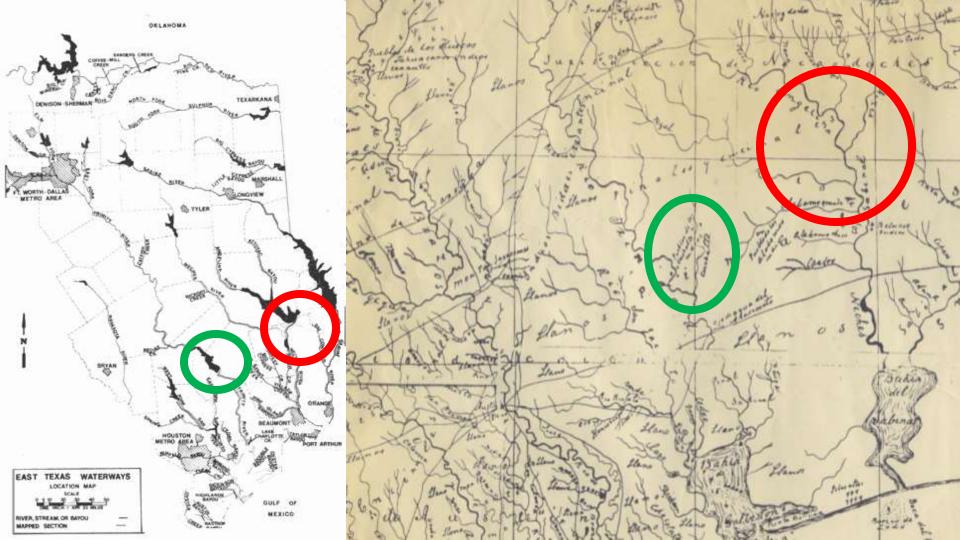


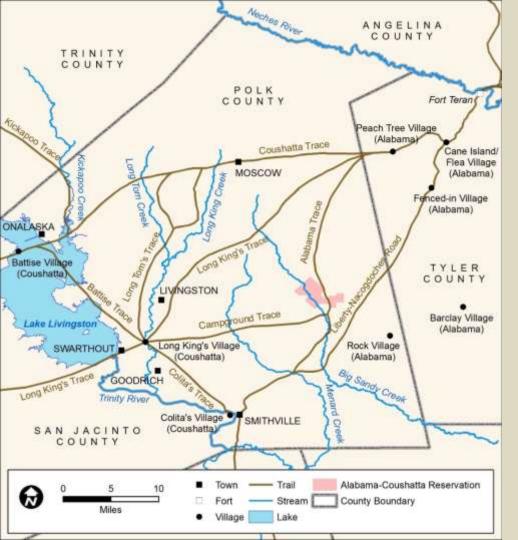




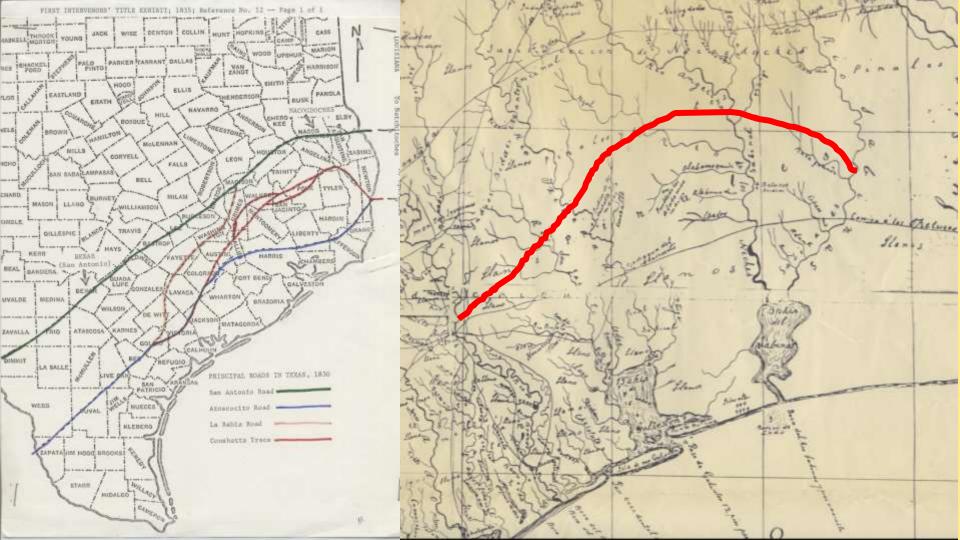


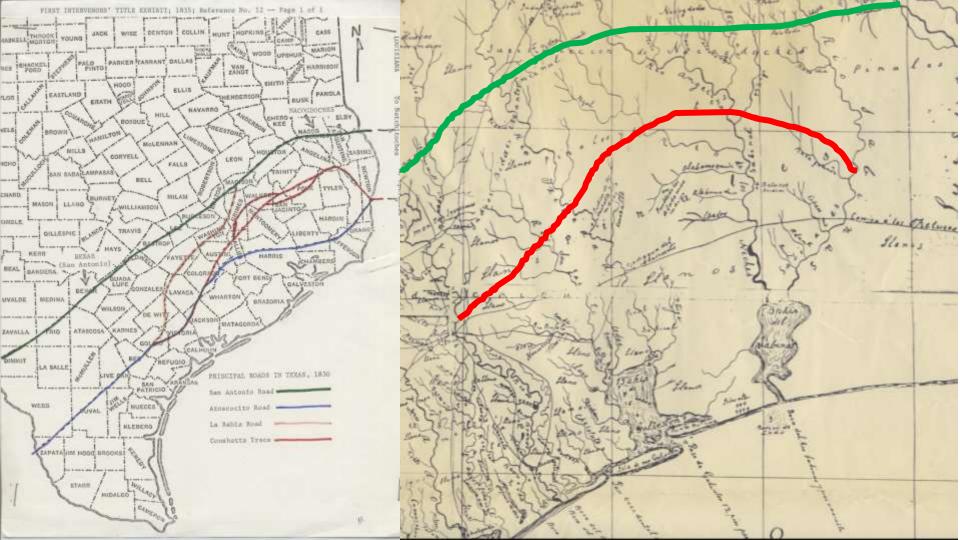






- Map shown recreated for TXDOT Tribal Histories Project 2019-2020
- Original map drawn by Howard N. Martin for 1980s Polk County highways project
- Martin was an unofficial Tribal Historian from 1970s to 1996
- Routes identified from historic Texas GLO maps





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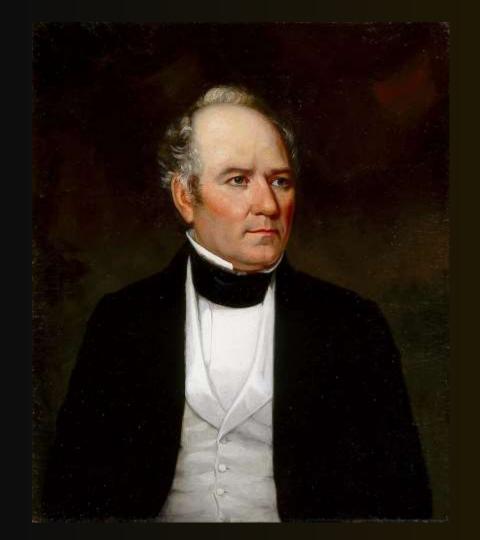
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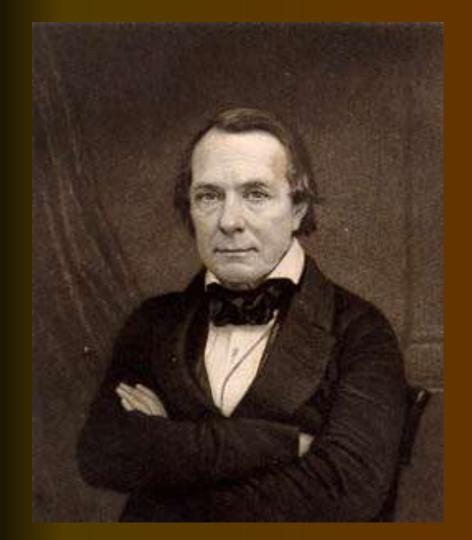
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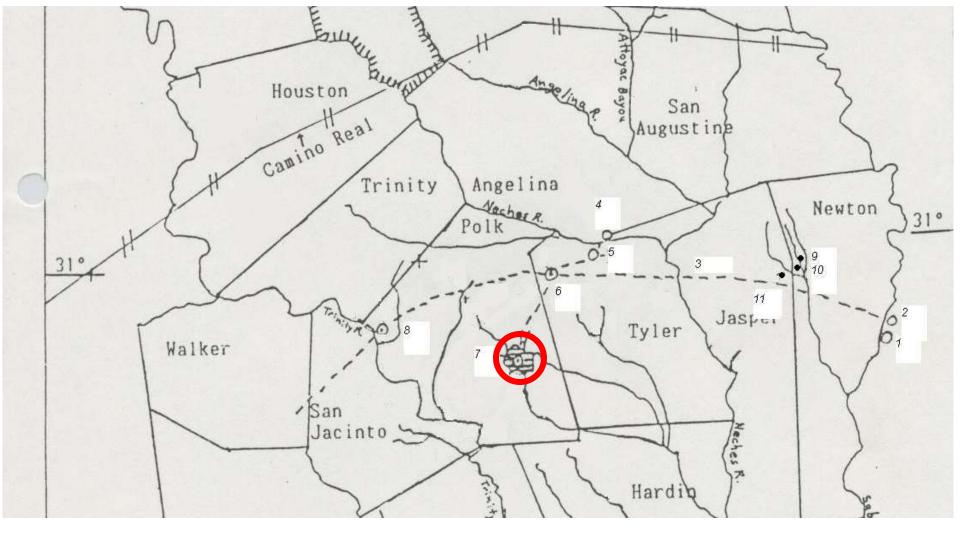
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"Presented to Alabama-Coushatta Indians in Recognition of the Services to the Confederacy by Robert E Lee Chapter UDC No. 186, Houston, Texas"





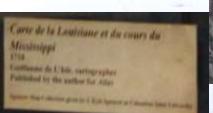


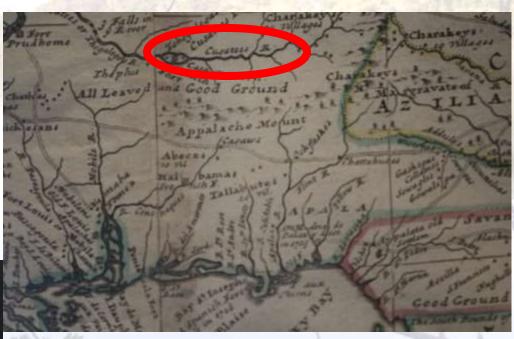
Which waterway was once bore a derivative of the Coushatta name?

- A) Trinity River
- B) Sabine River
- C) Mississippi River
- D) Tennessee River

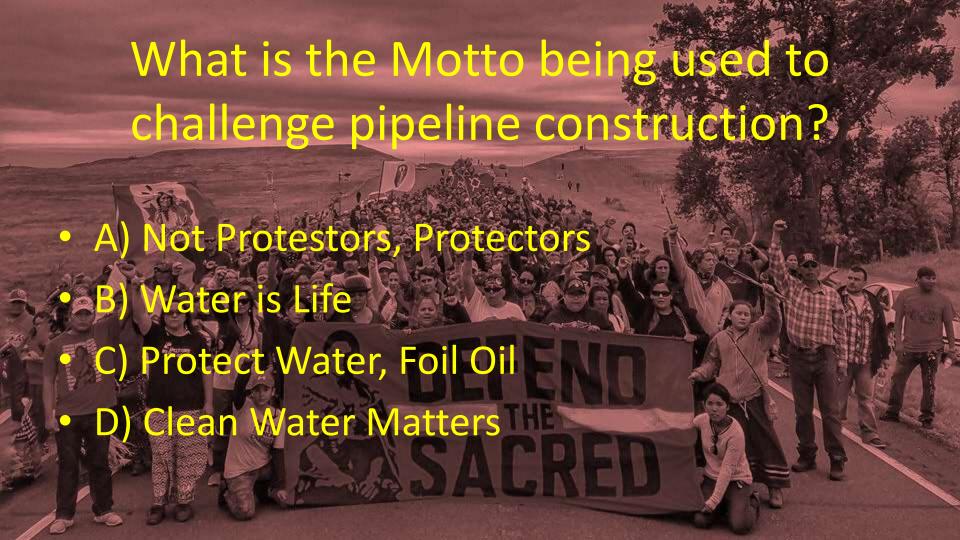
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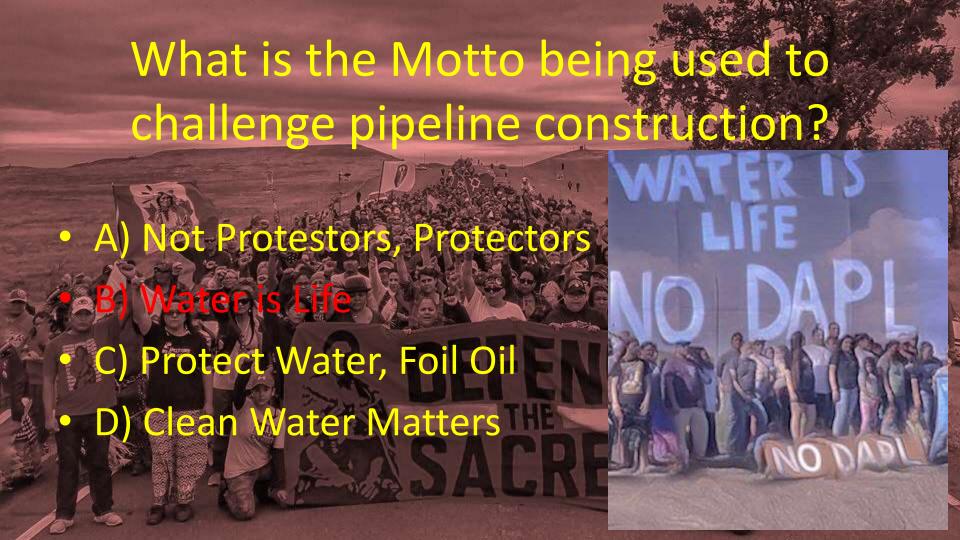
- A) Trinity River
- B) Sabine River
- C) Mississippi River
- D) Tennessee River























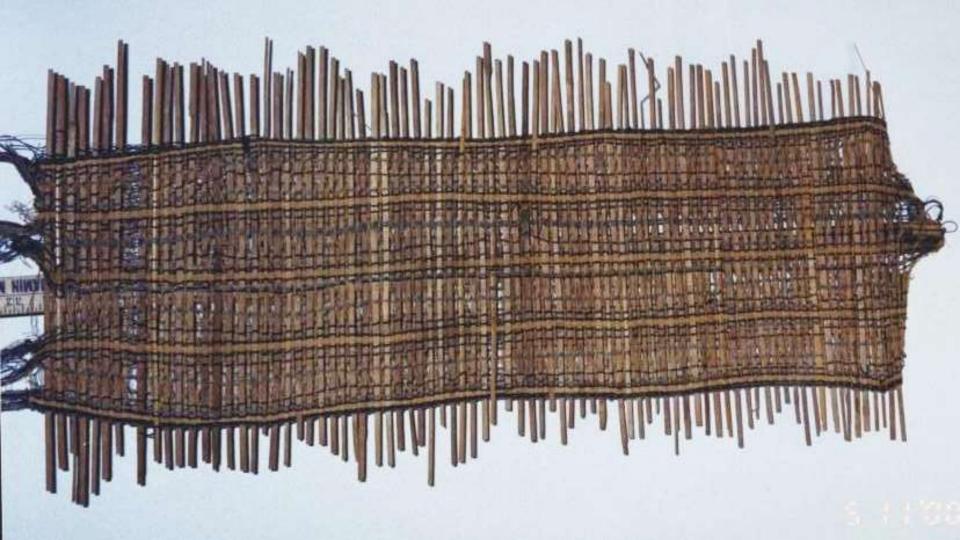


























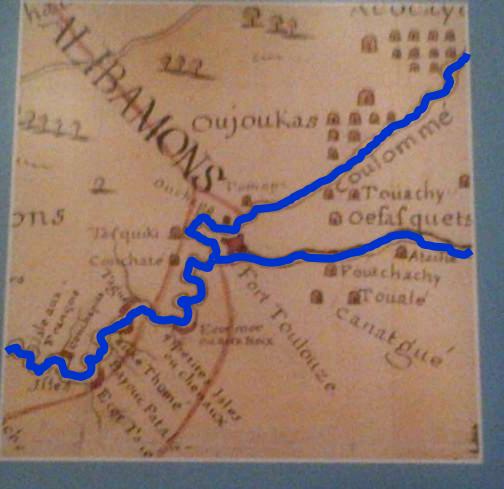








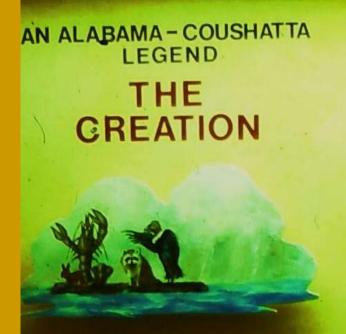




Detail showing Fort Toulouse, "Map of Louisiana," 1733 After Yan British tri alternativ establish to strend Creeks. challend

> By 1731 Tombe strengt





ONCE UPON A TIME EVERYTHING WAS COVERED WITH WATER AND THE ONLY LIVING THINGS WERE A FEW ANIMALS ADRIFT ON A RAFT. THEY WANTED LAND TO APPEAR AND ASKED FOR VOLUNTEERS AND CRAWFISH VOLUNTEERED. TWO TRIPS OVER THE SIDE FAILED TO REACH BOTTOM BUT THE THIRDTRY WAS A SUCCESS.

USING HIS TAIL AS A SPADE, CRAWFISH
BEGAN BUILDING A HUGE MUD CHIMNEY.
DAY AFTER DAY HE WORKED AND SOON
THE CHIMNEY ROSE ABOVE THE WATER,
FORMING A VAST MUD EARTH.



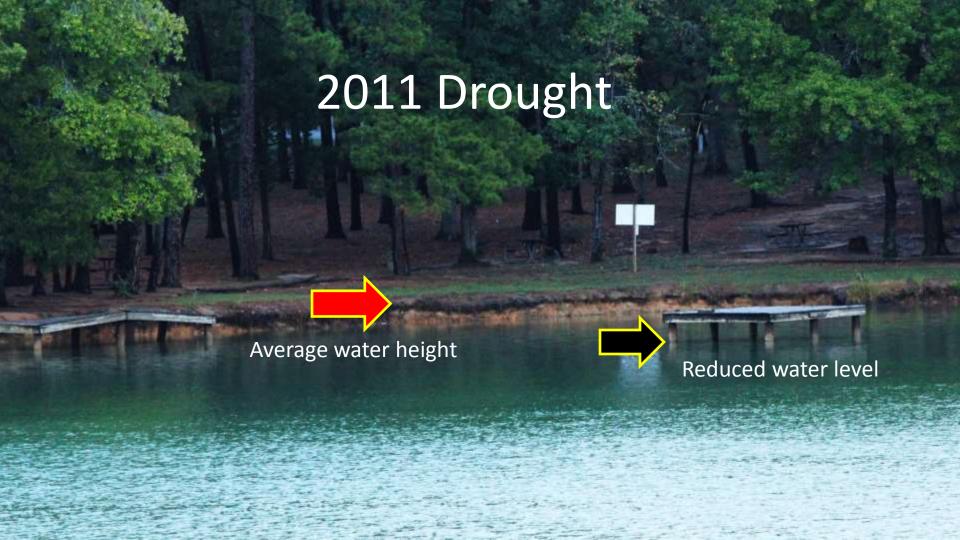


THE ANIMALS ALL AGREED THAT CRAWFISH HAD DONE HIS JOB WELL BUT THERE WAS TOO MUCH FLATNESS ON THE EARTH.THEY CALLED FOR BUZZARD, AN EXTREMELY HUGE AND POWERFUL BIRD, TO SHAPE THE EARTH.

FUL WINGS DUG THE VALLEYS, LAKES AND RIVERS. ON THE UPSWEEP, HE FORMED THE MOUNTAINS AND HILLS. AS BUZZARD GLIDED, THE VAST PLAINS REMAINED. THIS WAS THE CREATION OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE.



WHILE CRAWFISH WAS PUSHING THE MUD
TO THE SURFACE, HE ALSO CREATED A
MAMMOTH CAVE. IN THIS CAVE ABIDED
ABA MIKKO, THE GREAT CHIEF OF EARTH
AND SKY, WHO WAS VERY LONESOME. HE
TOOK THE CLAY AND CREATED MAN AND
WOMAN. THEY WERE NOT NEARLY AS LARGE
OR POWERFUL AS THE GREAT CHIEF, BUT
THEY GREW AND MULTIPLIED IN THE GREAT
CAVE.





















What is our word for water?

- A) Okchapi
- B) Akmi

- C) Oki
- D) Mahli



What is our word for water?

- A) Okchapi
- B) Akmi

- C) Oki
- D) Mahli







"We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children"

Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas





Bryant J. Celestine

Historic Preservation Officer

571 State Park Road 56 Livingston, Texas 77351 Office (936) 563 – 1100

Email: celestine.bryant@actribe.org