

May 2022

Lower Laguna Madre Brownsville Ship Channel Watershed 3D Model

UTRGV

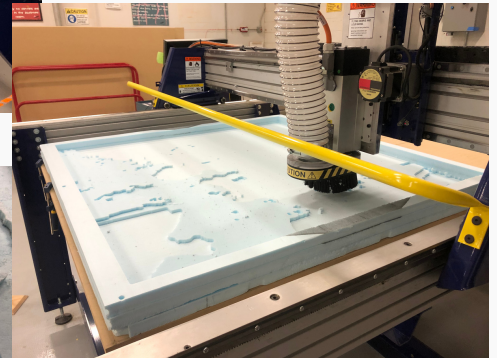
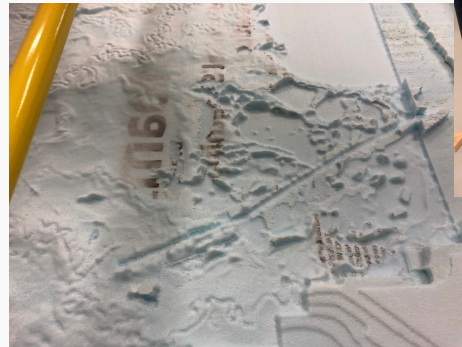
What is the 3D model?

University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV), a member of the Lower Laguna Madre Brownsville Ship Channel (LLMBSC) Partnership, has developed a 3D terrain model of the LLMBSC area. This model will be used in an extensive education and outreach program to inform stakeholders about the physical behavior of their watershed. As part of a larger project to develop a watershed protection plan (WPP) for the LLMBSC, UTRGV will use a variety of unique and innovative approaches to educate the public about water in the LRGV. Workshops and programs for children (K-12) will be offered by this project addressing topics ranging from water resources education to land stewardship

1 Early stages

Professor Timothy Gonchoroff was the artist responsible for bringing the 3d model to life, with the help of student assistant, Rebeca Santos.

They started working on the project on March 16th, 2022. The map was carved by a CNC machine on 44"x44" Styrofoam. It took more than 10 hours for the carving to be completed.



The development 2

After the map was completely carved, the model went through several processes: coats of paint, sealer, fiberglass resin layers, just to mention some.

The fiberglass resin layers helped the model to acquire the waterproof quality.



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Results

After waiting for the resin to dry, the next thing to do was to paint the model according to the colors of the map. This process took more than a week to be completed due to the complexity of it. The final step consisted on adding more layers of resin to make it waterproof.



For more information, visit:
<https://rgystormwater.org>



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