

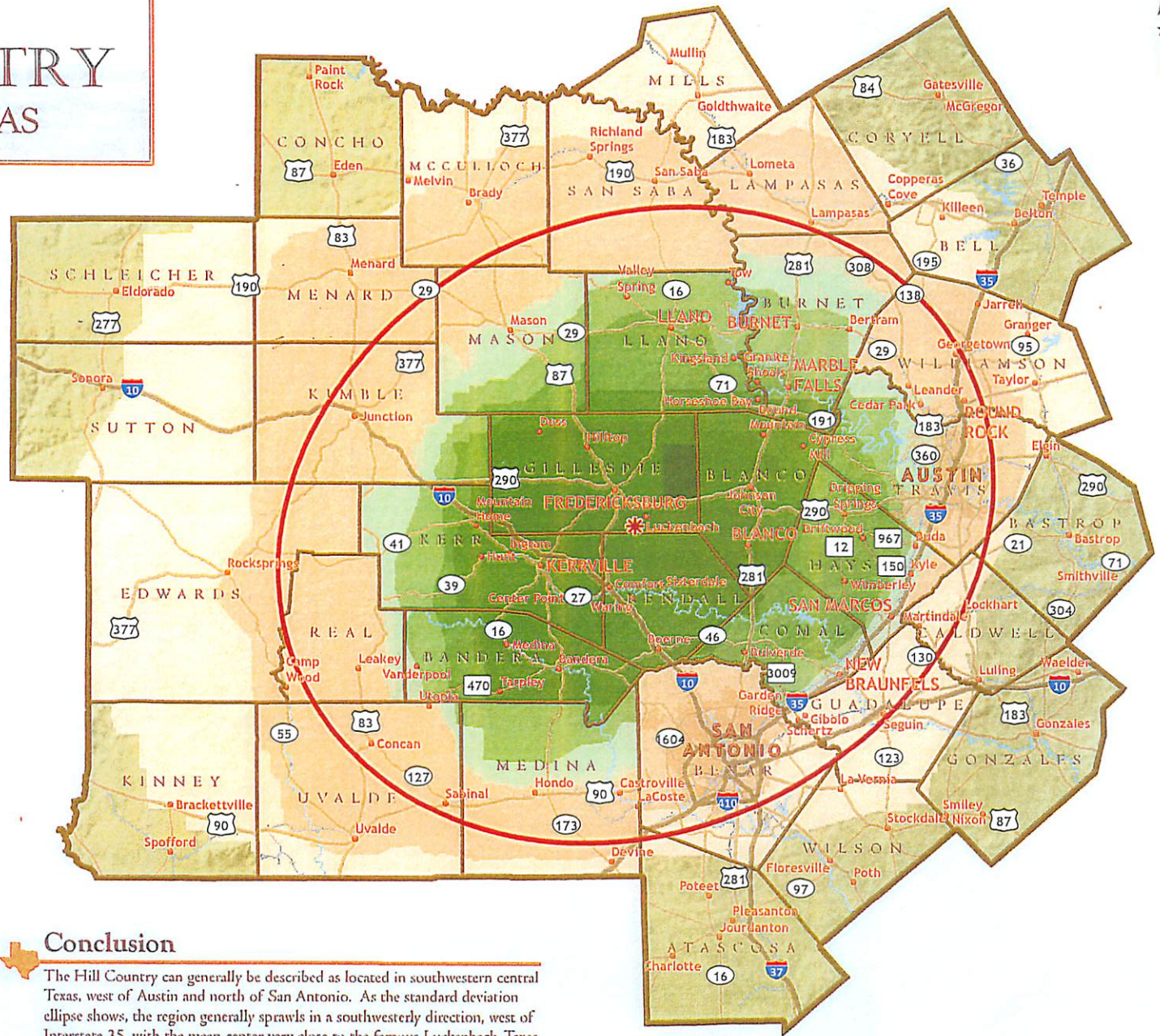
MAP OF THE HILL COUNTRY REGION OF TEXAS

Introduction

Many maps exist throughout Texas outlining the beautiful landscape referred to as the Texas Hill Country. Created by natural resource agencies, tourist companies, or even realtors, it is apparent that each agency or individual has its own personal definition of the Hill Country. Can a general consensus be reached on the boundary of this vernacular region? Where is the Texas Hill Country?

Methodology

Maps with the boundary of the Hill Country from 100 different sources were collected and imported into ESRI's ArcGIS software for geographic comparison. This data was overlaid to calculate the percentage of agreement for all areas between the selected maps. This map depicts areas in Texas where at least 25% of the selected maps were in consensus. Those areas with higher percentages give a better idea of the most agreed upon boundary of the Hill Country. Further analysis was conducted to determine the mean center and standard distribution ellipse of the region.



Conclusion

The Hill Country can generally be described as located in southwestern central Texas, west of Austin and north of San Antonio. As the standard deviation ellipse shows, the region generally sprawls in a southwesterly direction, west of Interstate 35, with the mean center very close to the famous Luckenbach, Texas. The heart of the Hill Country is considered to primarily be located in Gillespie and Blanco counties, along with portions of Kerr and Kendall counties.

