

REGION 15 LOWER RIO GRANDE

Regional Flood Plan Amendment

Pathway to State Funding for Your Community's Flood Mitigation Needs

Regional Flood Planning Background

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) recently adopted the inaugural 2024 State Flood Plan. This plan includes a list of flood mitigation needs which is used by the TWDB and the state legislature to make state funding decisions that address flood risk across the state. The State Flood Plan is a consolidation of 15 separate Regional Flood Plans, and your community is identified as being located within Region 15.

Amendment

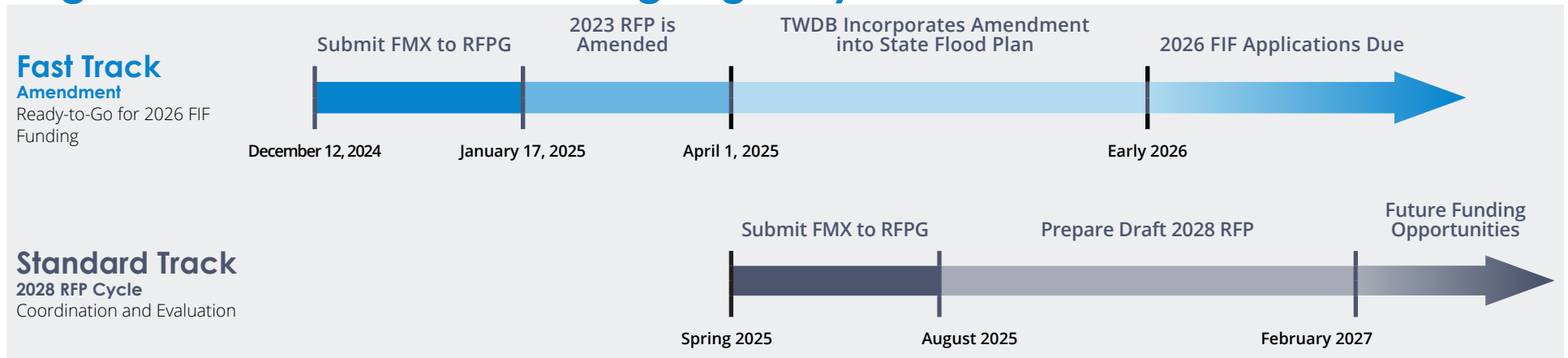
The Region 15 Lower Rio Grande Regional Flood Planning Group (RFPG) is providing a unique opportunity for Region 15 communities to incorporate their flood mitigation needs into the 2024 State Flood Plan, via an amendment.

If your flood mitigation need is not currently listed in the 2024 State Flood Plan, it is not eligible for state funding opportunities. A major state funding vehicle for flood mitigation needs is the Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) which

is managed by the TWDB. FIF funding runs on a two-year cycle with the next available application window initiating in 2026. If your community would like the opportunity to apply for 2026 FIF funding for a flood mitigation need, then it is critical for it to be listed in the 2024 State Flood Plan. This amendment provides an opportunity for your need to be included in the plan.

This amendment process must be completed by April 1, 2025. Due to the abbreviated timeline, flood mitigation needs must meet specific criteria to be included in the amendment (see next page) and information on flood mitigation needs must be provided to the RFPG no later than January 17, 2025 (see "Fast Tract" schedule in the timeline below). Please note, the RFPG is simultaneously commencing work on the next regional flood plan, the 2028 Regional Flood Plan (see "Standard Tract" schedule in timeline below). The RFPG requests that only needs that will be submitted to the TWDB for 2026 FIF funding be submitted for inclusion in this amendment. All other submittals can wait for inclusion in the 2028 RFP.

Region 15 Path to State Funding Eligibility



The RFPG is accepting, for consideration, flood mitigation needs that are classified as Flood Management Evaluation (FME), Flood Mitigation Strategy (FMS), or Flood Mitigation Projects (FMP). The figure below provides information on how a flood mitigation need is classified as either an FME, FMS, or FMP.

<h2>FME</h2> <h3>Flood Management Evaluation</h3>	<h2>FMS</h2> <h3>Flood Mitigation Strategy</h3>	<h2>FMP</h2> <h3>Flood Mitigation Project</h3>
 <p>FMEs are flood studies and evaluations performed to characterize flood risk, identify potential risk solutions and develop projects into FMPs.</p> <p>Potential FMEs Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Design (up to 30%)• Project Feasibility Study• Watershed Planning Study• Flood Risk Analysis	 <p>FMSs are big-picture strategies. This category can serve as a “catch-all” for flood management and mitigation efforts that do not align with either FMPs or FMEs.</p> <p>Potential FMSs Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Property Acquisition or Elevation• Drainage Criteria Development• Flood Warning Systems• Outreach and Educational Programs	 <p>FMPs are fully developed, constructable, flood mitigation projects.</p> <p>Potential FMPs Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Channel Improvements• Road Crossing Improvements• Detention Projects• Gauge Installation Projects

Should I Submit for an Amendment?

To qualify, a flood mitigation or management need **must meet the following criteria:**

- ✓ Classified as either an FME, FMS, or FMP.
- ✓ Will be submitted to the TWDB for 2026 FIF funding.
- ✓ Has the following supporting information immediately available:
 - Detailed description and service area
 - Estimated cost to perform the FME, FMS, or FMP
 - Benefit cost ratio for FMP
 - Project benefits (e.g., number of structures and length of roads removed from the 100-year flood risk)
 - No negative impact analysis as per TWDB guidelines (Exhibit C - Technical Guidelines for Regional Flood Planning, Section 3.6.A)
 - Supporting model and engineering report affirming the no negative impact analysis for all proposed FMPs

How to Submit for Amendment

To submit FME, FMS, or FMP information for consideration under the 2024 Regional Flood Plan amendment, please reach out to the Lower Rio Grande RFPG (Region 15) Technical Consultant at region15@halff.com or **956.292.7080**. To find out more about the Regional Flood Planning effort visit www.region15lrg.org.

To get involved in the 2028 Regional Flood Planning Cycle:

- Visit <https://www.region15lrg.org/page/contact> to sign up for email updates.
- Attend RFPG meetings in person or online as advertised at www.region15lrg.org.
- Be on the look out for upcoming data collection efforts and requests.