



2023 REGIONAL FLOOD PLAN
REGION 15
LOWER RIO GRANDE - *DRAFT*

Amendment No.3 (2026)

DRAFT Amendment to the 2023 Regional Flood Plan – Region 15 Lower Rio Grande

Prepared for:

Region 15 Regional Flood Planning Group and Texas Water Development
Board

Prepared by:

Halff Associates, Inc.

TBPELS Firm #312

March 2026

Summary of Changes

2023 Regional Flood Plan Amendment No. 3

Executive Summary

The Executive Summary was revised to incorporate the new amendment approved by the Regional Flood Planning Group

Chapter 1: Planning Area Description

The introduction was revised to incorporate the new amendment approved by the Regional Flood Planning Group.

Chapter 2: Flood Risk Analyses

No changes were made to Chapter 2.

Chapter 3

No changes were made to Chapter 3.

Chapter 4: Assessment and Identification of Flood Mitigation Needs

No changes were made to Chapter 4.

Chapter 5: Recommendation of FMEs, FMSs, & Associated FMPs

No changes were made to Chapter 5.

Chapter 6: Impact and Contribution of the Regional Plan

No changes were made to Chapter 6.

Chapter 7: Flood Response Information and Activities

No changes were made to chapter 7.

Chapter 8: Administrative, Regulatory, and Legislative Recommendations

No changes were made to chapter 8.

Chapter 9: Flood Infrastructure Financing Analysis

No changes were made to chapter 9.

Chapter 10: Public Outreach and Engagement

Table and text updated to reflect the additional RFPG meetings held for the amendment process.

Appendices:

Appendix B - Exhibit C Tables

Multiple Exhibit C Tables were modified to reflect updates made to the non-recurring non-capital cost designation for 32 FMSs that were added during the previous 2023 Regional Flood Plan Amendment. Summaries of the changes include:

Table 14: Potential Flood Management Strategies

Non-zero values were added to the Non-Recurring, Non-Capital Cost column for 32 FMSs (152000088 – 152000098 and 152000101 – 152000121)

Table 17: Recommended Flood Management Strategies

Non-zero values were added to the Non-Recurring, Non-Capital Cost column for 32 FMSs (152000088 – 152000098 and 152000101 – 152000121)

Table 19: Funding Survey

Modified non-construction costs for FMS 152000093 from \$10,000,000 to \$500,000

Modified non-construction costs for FMS 152000099 from \$200,000 to \$0

Modified construction costs for FMS 152000099 from \$0 to \$200,000

Modified non-construction costs for FMS 152000100 from \$3,000,000 to \$0

Modified construction costs for FMS 152000100 from \$0 to \$3,000,000

Appendix C – Fact Sheets

Fact sheets were updated for FMSs 152000088-152000098 and 152000101-152000121 (32 in Total) to reflect modifications to non-recurring, non-capital costs as described in Appendix B - Exhibit C Tables, Table 14 and 17.

Modifications to Geodatabase

The geodatabase was updated to account for the FMS cost changes noted in the Exhibit C tables above. The detailed log of changes is included in **Attachment B** for reference. The updated geodatabase is included as part of this submittal.

Table of Contents

A.1	Introduction and Planning Group Action	2
A.1.1	Summary of amendments and associated evaluations	2
A.2	Consistency with Rules and Statute	2
A.3	Modifications and additions to the 2023 Regional Flood Plan Report	2
A.3.1	Changes made to the Executive Summary	2
A.3.2	Changes made to Chapter 1	2
A.3.3	Changes made to Chapter 10	2
A.4	Modifications and Additions to Appendices	5
A.4.1	Exhibit C Tables	5
	Table 14: Potential Flood Mitigation Strategies	5
	Table 17: Recommended Flood Mitigation Strategies	5
	Table 19: Funding Survey	5
A.4.2	No Negative Impacts Table	5
A.4.3	List of Models Submitted/Uploaded to MS2	6
A.4.4	Maps	6
A.5	Modifications and Additions to the Geodatabase	6

A.1 Introduction and Planning Group Action

A.1.1 Summary of amendments and associated evaluations

In conjunction with Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) upcoming solicitation for applications for the 2026 Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) cycle to be awarded in 2027, the Lower Rio Grande RFPG voted on March 18, 2026 to submit an amendment to their 2023 Regional Flood Plan and ultimately the 2024 State Flood Plan. Only flood mitigation and management actions listed within the 2024 State Flood Plan are eligible for funding through the 2026-2027 FIF and future funding cycles. The amendment is being proposed to properly classify non-recurring, non-capital costs on 32 Flood Management Strategies (FMSs) that were adopted in the previous amendment to ensure their eligibility for the 2026-2027 FIF cycle.

The Draft Regional Flood Plan Amendment was posted for public comment on March 11, 2026, in accordance with Texas Administrative Code requirements (§ 361.21). Comments were reviewed during a subsequent RFPG meeting on March 18, 2026 where the RFPT formally approved and adopted the amendment for submittal to TWDB.

A.2 Consistency with Rules and Statute

The Lower Rio Grande 2023 Regional Flood Plan Amendment was developed in conformance with all relevant administrative rules and statute. The amendment was developed in accordance with 31 TAC §361.21 notice requirements and adheres to the requirements and guidance principles for regional flood plans as described in TWC §16.062(h)(1). The recommendations included in this amendment will not negatively impact neighboring areas and would adequately provide for the preservation of life and property.

A.3 Modifications and additions to the 2023 Regional Flood Plan Report

A.3.1 Changes made to the Executive Summary

The executive summary was updated to reflect the changes made to the report chapters and appendices. These changes incorporate the RFPG meeting date where the amendment was considered and approved for submittal to TWDB.

Sentence added to describe the process of the new amendment:

Page ES 2: “The RFPG met again on March 18, 2026 and voted to amend the plan for a third time. The proposed amendment was adopted at the same meeting after the required 7-day public comment period.”

Page ES-16: “Thirty two of the FMSs that were adopted in the second amendment were further modified in a third amendment in order to update the non-recurring, non-capital costs; the third amendment was approved by the RFPG on March 18, 2026.”

A.3.2 Changes made to Chapter 1

Chapter 1 was modified to include the amendment process.

Introduction – A statement was added to include the new amendment process.

Page 1-1: “Additional amendments were approved by the group on April 1, 2025 and March 18, 2026.”

A.3.3 Changes made to Chapter 10

Chapter 10 was updated to include the additional RFPG meetings that were held to approve the RFPGs intent to prepare a third amendment to the 2023 Lower Rio Grande Regional Flood Plan.

Page 10-1: “.....by January 10, 2023, and Amended Regional Flood Plans in July 14, 2023 and March 18, 2026.”

10.1 Regional Flood Planning Group Meetings (~~2022-2022~~ 2026) - Modified to include an additional entry to Table 10.1.

Page 10-2: **Table 10.1 RFPG and Technical Committee Meeting Calendar and Summary**

Year	Date	Meeting	Highlights
2020	November 5	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	RFPG convening hosted by TWDB
2020	December 3	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	Planning Group Sponsor (TWDB) hosts
2021	January 13	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	Pre-planning public comment Nominating members
2021	February 24	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	Pre-planning public comment Technical consultant selected/hired
2021	June 30	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	Award contract to Technical consultant Award contract for public website

Year	Date	Meeting	Highlights
2021	July 28	Pre-planning Virtual Meeting	The technical consultant presented and discussed the scope of work, goals, and strategies for public engagement and project completion.
2021	August 18	Planning Group Virtual Meeting & Pre-Planning Meeting	Pre-planning public comment and technical consultant provided updates on Regional Flood Plan Task 1-3
2021	October 13	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The technical consultant provided tasks 1, 3B,4A, and 4B updates.
2021	November 17	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The technical consultant presented the potential adoption of Region 15 overarching flood mitigation and floodplain management goals for the Lower Rio Grande Regional Flood Plan. The Regional Flood Plan approved the process used by the RFPG to identify and evaluate potential FMEs, FMPs, and FMSs. The technical consultant also discussed Floodplain management standards.
2021	December 15	Pre-Planning Virtual Meeting	The technical consultant presents the technical memo for approval to submit to the TWDB by January 7, 2022
2022	January 19	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The technical consultant provides an update on flood mitigation resolution and reaching out to different entities regarding missing data for the best models to reflect the information given
2022	March 9	Planning Group Hybrid Meeting	The technical consultant provides updates on Tasks 2A, 2B, 3A, and 4B.
2022	April 12	Planning Group Hybrid Meeting	The technical consultant introduces RATES to RFPG and provides updates on Tasks 3A.
2022	May 18	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The technical consultant introduces RATES to RFPG and provides updates on Tasks 3A.
2022	July 21	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The Technical consultant presents summaries of Chapters 3a, 4, 5, 6,7,8, and 9 of the draft Regional Flood Plan for comments and approval to submit to TWDB and post for Public Comment.

Year	Date	Meeting	Highlights
2022	September 21	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The Technical consultant presents plan for Task 12 for consideration and approval to the TWDB.
2022	November 16	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The Technical consultant presents revisions to Chapter 7, comments received on draft Regional Flood Plan, and reviewed responses for consideration and approval to the TWDB.
2022	December 7	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The Technical consultant presents Final Regional Flood Plan for approval to be submitted and FMEs to be studied further for FMPs for consideration and approval to the TWDB.
2023	February 21	Technical Sub-Committee Virtual Meeting	The Technical Sub-Committee reviewed and evaluated the expanded list of FMEs and models to recommend a short list of FMEs for approval to the RFPG for further study.
2023	April 26	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The Technical consultant presented new FMXs for evaluation and approval, received approval for additional FMEs for further study un Task 12, reviewed TWDB’s comments on the Final Plan and responses, and reviewed TWDB’s proposed ranking criteria for FMXs to provide comments.
2023	May 19	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The Technical consultant presented the plan and request for use of Task 13 funding, reviewed new possible FMXs for recommendation, and requested additional FMEs for further study. Additionally, consultant presented the proposed changes to Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 for the Amended RFP.
2023	June 28	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The Technical consultant presented new FMXs for evaluation and approval and presented the Draft of the Amended Regional Flood Plan for approval, subject to comments and final reconciliation revisions.
2024	December 4	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The technical consultant presented the optional amendment, and the group decided to proceed with the amendment process.
2025	February 19	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The Technical consultant presented the additional FMXs included in the amendment. The

Year	Date	Meeting	Highlights
			group approved incorporating the additional FMXs into the amendment.
2026	March 18	Planning Group Virtual Meeting	The technical consultant presented the amended plan based on modifications to the non-recurring, non-capital cost designation for 32 FMSs.

10.4 Outreach for the Amended Regional Flood Plan – Included a paragraph describing the meetings held for the third amendment process.

Page 10-9:

“Third Amended Plan

The RFPG met on March 18, 2026 and voted to amend the 2023 plan a third time and subsequently voted to approve the amended plan in the same meeting. The draft amended plan was posted to the Region 15 website on March 11, 2026, fulfilling the seven-day public comment period.”

A.4 Modifications and Additions to Appendices

A.4.1 Exhibit C Tables

The Lower Rio Grande Regional Flood Plan includes many deliverable components that support the narrative in the report. The TWDB prescribed Exhibit C Tables are one of these components. Several of the tables were updated to reflect the new FMEs, FMPs, and FMSs made during the amendment process. Summaries of the changes are provided in the subsequent sections.

Table 14: Potential Flood Mitigation Strategies

Table 14 was revised to update the non-recurring, non-capital cost designations on 32 of the FMSs that were incorporated during the previous Lower Rio Grande Regional Flood Plan Amendment.

Table 17: Recommended Flood Mitigation Strategies

Table 17 was revised to update the non-recurring, non-capital cost designations on 32 of the FMSs that were incorporated during the previous Lower Rio Grande Regional Flood Plan Amendment.

Table 19: Funding Survey

Table 19 was revised to update non-construction costs on three FMSs and construction costs on two FMSs.

A.4.2 No Negative Impacts Table

No modifications were made to the No Negative Impact table since the previous amendment.

A.4.3 List of Models Submitted/Uploaded to MS2

There are no new models to upload to MS2 as a result of this amendment.

A.4.4 Maps

There are no map updates in conjunction with this amendment.

A.5 Modifications and Additions to the Geodatabase

The Lower Rio Grande Flood Plan includes a geodatabase with relevant data presented in the report, maps, and appendices. Feature classes were updated to account for the modifications made to the non-recurring, non-capital cost designations for thirty-two FMSs. The detailed log of changes is included in **Attachment B** for reference. The updated geodatabase is included as part of this submittal.