

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
TO PREPARE A REGIONAL WATER PLAN FOR THE
REGION F REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP
AS DEFINED BY 31 TAC CHAPTERS 355, 357 & 358**

The Region F Regional Water Planning Group (Region F RWPG) invites qualified parties to submit a statement of qualifications for preparing the 2026 Regional Water Plan for the Region F Regional Water Planning Group, as defined by 31 TAC Chapters 355, 357 & 358.

BACKGROUND

Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), 75th Legislature, made significant changes in the manner in which state water planning is to be conducted. Notably, SB 1 shifts the emphasis of state water planning from a centralized approach to a regional planning approach. As part of that process, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) has designated 16 regional planning areas in Texas. Each region is to prepare a consensus-based regional water plan and submit that plan to the TWDB by October 10, 2025. The TWDB will then assemble those regional water management plans into a State Water Plan to be submitted to the Texas Legislature. The 2026 regional water plans represent the sixth round of regional planning since the passage of SB 1 in 1997.

Region F includes 32 counties in west Texas: Andrews, Borden, Brown, Coke, Coleman, Concho, Crane, Crockett, Ector, Glasscock, Howard, Irion, Kimble, Loving, Martin, Mason, McCulloch, Menard, Midland, Mitchell, Pecos, Reagan, Reeves, Runnels, Schleicher, Scurry, Sterling, Sutton, Tom Green, Upton, Ward and Winkler

Under the direction of the Region F RWPG, the consultant shall prepare a regional water plan. The consultant shall also assist the Region F RWPG in preparing an appropriate scope of work that adequately addresses all tasks in 31 TAC 357.7 and contains the elements for a scope of work as defined in 31 TAC 357.6 (3), i.e. the description of tasks, responsible parties, schedule, and description of deliverables.

In addition to the technical role, the consultant shall assist in the preparation of applications for financial assistance, design and implementation of public involvement activities, including conducting public meetings, reviewing and responding to public comments, and developing educational materials on regional water planning issues for presentation to both technical and non-technical audiences in the region. The consultant shall provide for electronic communication such as developing and maintaining a web site as requested by Region F RWPG.

Consultants submitting qualifications should be familiar with the rules for state and regional water planning and regional water planning grant assistance adopted by the TWDB (31 TAC Chapter 355, Subchapter C, Regional Water Planning Grant Rules; and 31 TAC Chapter 358, State Water Planning Guideline Rules). These rules contain procedures governing applications for financial assistance related to the

development or revision of regional water management plans, and guidelines for the development of the state water plan. Particularly, the rules contain specific time frames and requirements for making application for state financial assistance for the development of the scope of work and budget for the development of the regional water plan, as well as deadlines for the submittal of the scope of work and regional water plan. The schedule for completion and delivery of work products for the RFRWPG shall reflect these publication deadlines.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The purpose of this request for a statement of qualifications is to permit the evaluation of the relative professional and technical qualifications of respondents. The statement of qualifications should be no more than twenty (20) pages. The page limit excludes any information included in an appendix. The Region F RWPG requests that the information included in the appendix be limited to resumes of all team members not to exceed two pages each. Responses should address the following:

1. A list of no more than five (5) projects similar to the scope of work discussed herein, with descriptions of the projects, members of the project teams, time schedule, and contact persons who are able to verify the information presented. All projects must have been completed within the past seven (7) years. It is preferred that project descriptions demonstrate the following types of recent work experience:

- regional water planning for various sized regions and entities in Texas specifically including but not limited to water supply corporations, cities, counties, river authorities, power generation, entities with agricultural interests, mining;
- familiarity of water supply and demand issues specific to entities located within Region F including but not limited to environmental flows, ecologically unique stream segments, surface water availability and evaluation, interbasin transfers, availability and management of groundwater, desalination, aquifer storage and recovery and water quality;
- interactions with diverse interest groups and stakeholders participating in regional water planning with the description demonstrating the range of diversity involved;
- facilitating consensus-building and conflict resolution among stakeholders with diverse and potentially-conflicting interests;
- working with the TWDB in reviewing population forecasts and developing and gaining acceptance of alternative forecasts as necessary;
- familiarity with data and information available from the TWDB, TCEQ, TPWD, Texas Railroad Commission and other sources including but not limited to federal sources and special studies;
- familiarity with TWDB's planning grant administration and invoicing requirements;

- knowledge of state and federal statutory and regulatory policies affecting water supply, mitigation, water quality, water conservation, and drought management issues for both surface and groundwater; and
- experience with environmental issues and analyses related to water supply development specifically including any water quality experience such as involvement in the TCEQ's Clean Rivers Program in any of the basins in the area of RFRWPG.

2. Your firm's resources and capabilities: including the legal name of the firm, description of the business entity (i.e., individual, corporation, L.L.C.), organizational chart, location of firm, size, staffing, experience, evidence of being licensed to provide professional services in the state of Texas, and length of local office's existence in Texas.

3. Any planned subcontractor or teaming arrangement for the project. Information requested in Items 1 and 2 shall be submitted for teaming partner(s).

4. A description of your firm's approach to completing the Plan in accordance with 31 TAC Chapters 355, 357 and 358 and your firm's current workload and its ability to comply with the scope of work.

5. The capability of your firm to commit necessary resources to the project in order to meet the project schedule and the identity of those key individuals to be assigned to this project.

6. Any additional information you would like the Region F RWPG to be aware of or which you feel might have a direct bearing on your firm's qualification to perform on the project.

7. A statement of qualifications and the reasons why the regional water planning group should consider hiring your firm or team to prepare the 2026 Region F RWPG Water Plan.

The selection of the successful firm(s) shall be accomplished by a vote of the Region F RWPG. Before that vote is taken, it is anticipated that Region F RWPG will have some or all of its members participate in evaluating the Statements of Qualifications received. Any firm submitting a Statement of Qualifications should be prepared to meet with such members and provide a verbal presentation upon request by the Administrative Agent for Region F RWPG.

The Region F RWPG may use the following matrix in its evaluation:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Maximum Points</u>
Experience of Similar Work by Firm	20
Experience of Similar Work by Project Team Members	20
Knowledge of Region Specific Matters for Plan Elements	20

Knowledge of Additional Information	10
Resources & Availability of Firm	10
Project Approach	<u>20</u>
Total	100

By submitting a Statement of Qualifications, the respondent accepts the evaluation process as described in this document and acknowledges that the determination of the “most qualified” firm may require subjective judgments of the Region F RWPG. The process described in this document is intended to comply with Section 355.93 so that the selected firm will be secured on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualifications through a request for qualifications process.

SCHEDULE

June 3, 2021 Send notices for Request for Statement of Qualifications
 July 1, 2021 Statement of Qualifications Due
 To Be Determined Region F RWPG selects consultant.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The submittal, either as part of the Statement of Qualifications or the cover letter, shall provide the following acknowledgments:

- Acknowledgment that, if requested, you will prepare and make a presentation to the Region F RWPG;
- Acknowledgment that, if selected, the key individuals of the proposed team will not be changed without the written notification to the Region F RWPG and the Administrative Agency for Region F RWPG;
- Acknowledgment that, if selected, you will conform to TWDB rules and requirements for grant funding and invoicing;
- Acknowledgment that all information, documentation and other material submitted in response to this document are considered non-confidential and non-proprietary and are subject to public disclosure under the Texas Public Information Act after the solicitation has been completed and the contract executed with the selected firm.

The deadline for responses to this request is 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, June ____, 2021. One (1) electronic copy in PDF format and three (3) hardcopies of each submittal shall be delivered to Audra Hoback, Colorado River Municipal Water District, Administrative Agent for Region F RWPG, at the following address:

Mailing Address:

Audra Hoback
 CRMWD

Administrative Agent for Region F
P.O. Box 869
Big Spring, TX 79721

Physical Address

Audra Hoback
CRMWD
Administrative Agent for Region F
400 E. 24th Street
Big Spring, TX 79720