

# Border 2020 Binational Environmental Program



Improve Access to Clean and Safe Water  
Goal #2

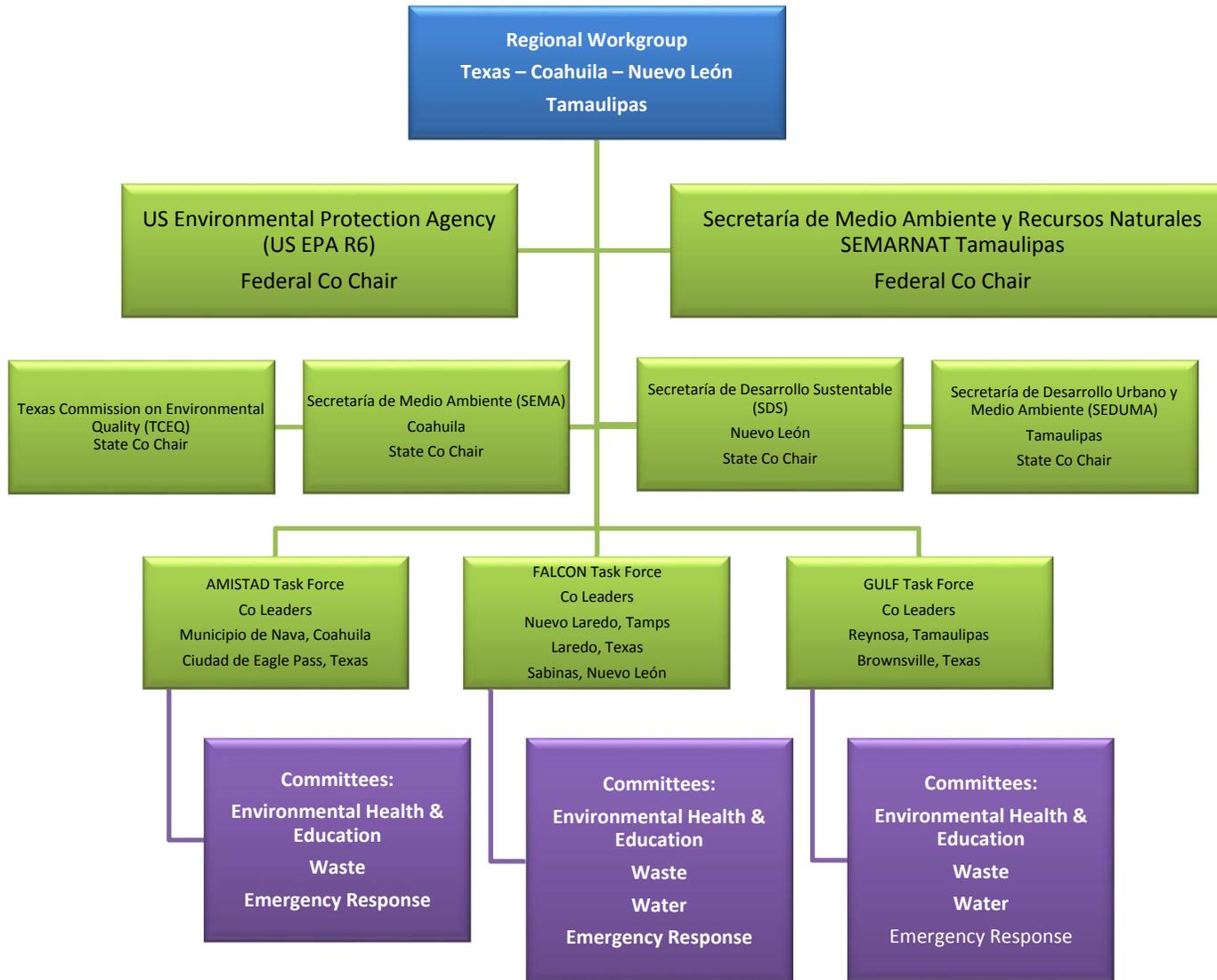
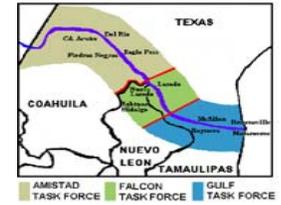
"4-State" Regional Workgroup  
**Texas – Tamaulipas - Nuevo León - Coahuila**

September 22, 2015

El Paso, Texas



# Grupo Regional de Trabajo Texas – Tamaulipas - Nuevo León - Coahuila





## “4-State” Regional Workgroup Texas – Tamaulipas - Nuevo León - Coahuila

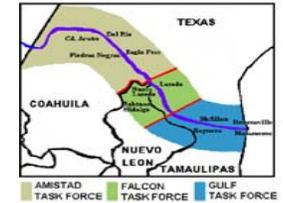


### Improve Access to Clean and Safe Water Task Force Priorities

- Evaluate the portion of the Rio Grande watershed that is in the 4-State regional workgroup area
- Establish enforcement programs to prevent water pollution to local and regional surface water bodies
- Improve water infrastructure with respect to wastewater treatment plants, drinking water, and water distribution to rural areas



## “4-State” Regional Workgroup Texas – Tamaulipas - Nuevo León - Coahuila



### Improve Access to Clean and Safe Water Priorities by Task Force

#### *Amistad Task Force*

- Develop water conservation and reuse programs for irrigation in Coahuila

#### *Falcon Task Force*

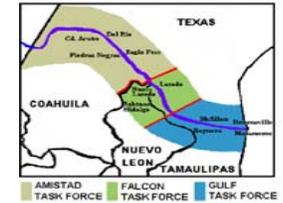
- Generate studies and projects for water reuse and conservation
- Monitoring of drilling operations in the Eagle Ford Shale and on the Mexican side

#### *Gulf Task Force*

- Collaborate with community to improve water quality of Rio Grande/Rio Bravo
- Improve or develop Industrial Pretreatment, Fats, Oil & Grease Management and Storm Water Programs



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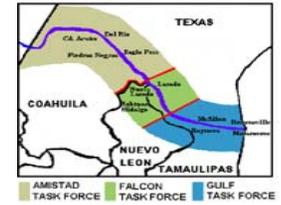
# Improve Access to Clean and Safe Water

**Objective 2: Help drinking water and wastewater providers in the border area to implement sustainable infrastructure practices to reduce operating costs, improve energy efficiency, use water efficiently and adapt to climate change.**

Project Description	Goal for 2015-2016	Progress towards Target
<p><b>Upgrade Sewer Line Infrastructure Nuevo Laredo</b></p> <p>Install new or upgrade selected existing sewer lines and connect them to Nuevo Laredo’s wastewater treatment plant to prevent contaminated discharges through the stormwater system to the Rio Grande.</p>	<p>Complete the project by January 2015.</p>	<p>The BECC certified the project in September of 2012. Of the five sewer lines one was completed during the first half of 2014. The remaining four lines are under repair and discharge approximately 1.6 MGD to the fluvial water system. Another discharge point was identified by COMAPA in the Arroyo La Joya and will be repaired.</p>
<p><b>Management of Fats, Oils, and Grease Nuevo Laredo</b></p> <p>Reduce the concentration of fats, oils, and grease in the effluent water coming from restaurants and hotels and industrial dining facilities in Nuevo Laredo.</p>	<p>Hold workshops and follow-up with commercial establishments on implementation of FOG programs</p>	<p>COMAPA organized workshops with the support of students from the Technical University to educate commercial establishments and residents on best practices.</p> <p>The last workshop was held in August of 2015 that included a tour of the International Waste Water Treatment Plant. All the establishments that participated in the workshops have grease traps and are applying control and operating techniques. COMAPA is drafting the final project report.</p>



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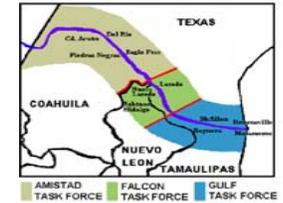
# Improve Access to Clean and Safe Water

**Objective 2: Help drinking water and wastewater service providers in the border region to implement sustainable infrastructure practices to reduce operating costs, improve energy efficiency, use water efficiently and adapt to climate change.**

Project Description	Goal for 2015-2016	Progress towards Target
<p><b>Ideal Biological Filtration Material South Texas Storm Management</b></p> <p>Identify the best locally available material for use in bio-swale in the Lower Rio Grande Valley &amp; South TX.</p>	<p>The proto-type bioswale will be tested in a newly constructed parking lot on the campus of UT Pan American.</p>	<p>The recycled ground recycled glass of medium porosity demonstrated good hydrologic performance in the biological filtration process.</p>



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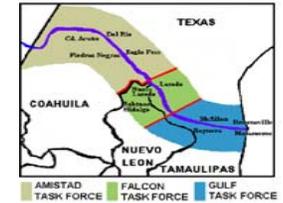
# Improve Access to Clean and Safe Water

**Objective 3: Work binationally to identify and reduce surface water contamination in transboundary waterbodies or watersheds.**

Project Description	Goal for 2015-2016	Progress towards Target
<p><b>Removal of Invasive Plants</b></p> <p><b>Implement a program to remove invasive plants in the Rio Grande.</b></p>	<p>Plant Control:</p> <p>2014: Tamarix 34 ha &amp; Carrizo 40 ha;</p> <p>2015: same as 2014</p> <p>2016: same as 2015</p>	<p>Since 2014 PROFAUNA and CONANP with the support of WWF and the Slim Foundation have annually protected 34 hectares from the Tamix plant and 40 hectares from Carrizo. To date they have continue to protect the same quantity of land and it is anticipated that they will maintain this amount in 2016.</p>
<p><b>Conservation of Las Vacas Stream</b></p> <p><b>Design and implement actions to improve water quality and promote an adequate habitat for flora and fauna species in the Arroyo Las Vacas.</b></p>	<p>Implement actions to improve water quality and promote an adequate habitat for flora and fauna species in Las Vacas stream.</p>	<p>Progress has been made on the Arroyo Las Vacas diagnostic, water quality monitoring, and identification and detection of pollutantns through a ITSA-UT Austin Knowledge Exchange. The group presented at the TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair in Austin May 2015. In October, a binational training is scheduled in Del Rio on surface WQ sampling techniques.</p>



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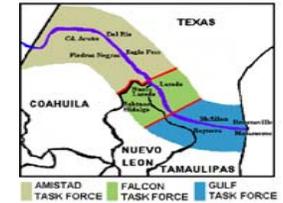
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**Objetivo 3: Trabajar en el ámbito binacional para identificar y reducir la contaminación de las aguas superficiales en cuencas o cuerpos acuíferos transfronterizos.**

Project Description	Goal for 2015-2016	Progress towards Target
<p><b>Lower Rio Grande Binational Water Quality Initiative (LRGWQI)</b></p> <p><b>Implement a binational Water Quality Initiative on the Lower Rio Grande (from Falcon dam to the Gulf of Mexico) that characterizes the state of the river, develops a strategic plan to improve environmental conditions, and proposes a monitoring plan to document progress.</b></p>	<p>Implement actions to improve water quality and promote an adequate habitat for flora and fauna in the lower Rio Grande/Rio Bravo.</p>	<p>In March the LRGWQI’s Binational Technical Work Group conducted the first of four binational water quality surveys scheduled for the project. They also developed a preliminary input file for a steady-state water quality model of the Rio Grande/Río Bravo (Falcon Dam to Gulf of Mexico).</p>



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**Regional Workgroup**  
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