**Template for Chapter 7 of the 2021 Regional Water Plans[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**Drought Response Information, Activities, and Recommendations**

1. **Drought(s) of Record in the Regional Water Planning Area (RWPA)** - 31 TAC § 357.30(9); Exhibit C Section 7.1
   1. Summary of current drought(s) of record (DOR) for the region (figures optional but helpful). May include sub-regional, basin-specific, or sub-basin DORs impacting existing RWPA supplies.
   2. Summary of potential new DORs for the region (figures optional but helpful). May include regional, sub-regional, and individual river basin or groundwater resource DORs impacting existing RWPA supplies.
2. **Current Drought Preparations and Response -** 31 TAC § 357.42(a),(b); Exhibit C Section 7.2
   1. Overall assessment of current drought preparations and planned responses to drought conditions in the RWPA, including consideration of information from local drought contingency plans (DCP).
   2. Summary of existing drought triggers used for initiating drought responses in the region.
   3. Description of how water suppliers in the region 1) identify the onset of drought, 2) respond to the onset of drought, including the role of DCPs, and 3) whether measures have been recently implemented in response to drought conditions.
   4. Summary table of results (tabular format by entity)
3. **Existing and Potential Emergency Interconnects -** 31 TAC § 357.42(d),(e); Exhibit C Section 7.3
   1. Description of the regional water planning group methodology used to collect emergency interconnects information and the number of existing and potential emergency interconnects in the RWPA, including who is connected to whom.
   2. A general description of local DCPs that involve making emergency connections.
   3. Detailed emergency interconnect information may be collected by political subdivision staff, designated planning group members, and/or consultants in a tabular format and kept confidential in accordance with Texas Water Code 16.053(r). This information should be provided separately and confidentially to the Executive Administrator of the Texas Water Development Board. Any information regarding the location or descriptions of facilities should be excluded from the plan.
4. **Emergency Responses to Local Drought Conditions or Loss of Municipal Supply -** 31 TAC § 357.42(g); Exhibit C Section 7.4
   1. Evaluation of municipal water user groups (WUG) with 2010 populations less than 7,500 and with a sole-source of water. The analysis must include WUGs served by a wholesale water provider that has only a single source of supply (figures optional but helpful).
   2. Evaluation of all county-other WUGs (figures optional but helpful).
   3. Summary table of results (example template in Table B of Appendix 1.0 of Exhibit C).
5. **Region-Specific Drought Response Recommendations and Model Drought Contingency Plans** -31 TAC § 357.42(c),(j); Exhibit C Sections 7.5 and 7.6
   1. Description of the process for selecting recommended triggers and actions.
   2. Recommended drought triggers and actions for surface water sources.
   3. Recommended drought triggers and actions for groundwater sources.
   4. Summary table of recommendations (example template in Table A of Appendix 1.0 of Exhibit C).
   5. Region-specific model DCPs (minimum of two model plans).
6. **Drought Management Water Management Strategies (WMS) -** 31 TAC § 357.42(f), Exhibit C Section 7.7
   1. Potentially feasible drought management WMSs considered.
   2. Recommended drought management WMSs and associated triggers, if applicable.
   3. Alternative drought management WMSs and associated triggers, if applicable.
   4. An explanation of the RWPG’s basis for not recommended drought management WMSs for WUGs that had identified water needs, if applicable.
7. **Other Drought-Related Considerations and Recommendations -** 31 TAC § 357.42(f),(h),(i); Exhibit C Section 7.8
   1. Consideration of relevant recommendations from the Drought Preparedness Council.
   2. Any other drought management measures recommended by the RWPG (and associated triggers, if applicable) not related to a recommended WMS.
   3. Recommendations regarding development, content, and implementation of DCPs in the region.
   4. Recommendations regarding current drought management preparation in the region (including triggers and actions).
   5. Recommendations regarding the Drought Preparedness Council and State Drought Preparedness Plan.
   6. Other general recommendations regarding drought management in the region or state.

1. Please review the Second Amended General Guidelines for Fifth Cycle Regional Water Plan Development (Exhibit C), [Section 7](http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/planningdocu/2021/doc/current_docs/contract_docs/2ndAmendedExhibitC.pdf#page=60), 31 Texas Administrative Code [§ 357.30](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=31&pt=10&ch=357&rl=30) and [§ 357.42](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=31&pt=10&ch=357&rl=42), and the standard [Scope of Work Task 7](http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/planningdocu/2021/doc/current_docs/contract_docs/2ndAmendedSOW.pdf#page=17) for full requirements regarding drought components in the regional water plans. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)