

From: [RegionalWaterPlanning](#)
To: [RegionalWaterPlanning](#)
Cc: [OOP-WSP-RWP](#); [Matt Nelson](#); [Temple McKinnon](#); [Sarah Backhouse](#)
Subject: TWDB adopts amendments to regional and state water planning rules
Date: Monday, April 11, 2022 11:55:19 AM

Dear RWPG Stakeholders,

On April 11th the TWDB Board adopted amendments to regional water planning rules (31 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 357) and state water planning rules (31 TAC Chapter 358).

You can view the adopted rules in the following TWDB Board item:

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/board/2022/04/Board/Brd04.pdf>.

Following the effective date, the revised rules will be available on the Secretary of State [website](#).

31 TAC Chapter 357 key changes:

- New requirements are added for RWPGs to discuss their process for conducting interregional coordination at the pre-planning public input meeting and summarize their interregional coordination efforts in the Technical Memorandum, Initially Prepared Plan (IPP), and adopted Regional Water Plan (RWP).
- Clarification is provided that the Technical Memorandum shall include a statement if applicable, that no infeasible water management strategies (WMS) or water management strategy projects (WMSP) were identified by the RWPG.
- The requirement for RWPGs to perform an infrastructure financing analysis is removed, and the total number of regional water plan chapters is reduced to 10 accordingly.
- The requirement for RWPGs to prioritize recommended WMSPs and submit the prioritization with an adopted RWP is removed.
- Clarification is provided that specific allowances for certain limited costs associated with delivery of water within a water user group service area after treatment are permissible for direct reuse and conservation WMSs.
- Several clarifications are made to align the rules more closely with statute and remove non-statutorily required reporting.
- An allowance is made for minor amendments to include an increase in unmet needs or new unmet needs if the amendment is the result of removing infeasible WMSs or WMSPs.
- Clarification is provided that the EA will establish a deadline for RWPGs to submit amendments associated with infeasible WMSs that may be identified in the previously adopted RWP and that these amendments must include a summary of changes to unmet needs, if applicable.
- An allowance is made for RWPGs to adopt errata to a final RWP to correct minor errors identified after adoption of the final RWP but prior to adoption of the corresponding State Water Plan.

31 TAC Chapter 358 key changes:

- Clarification is provided that RWPGs may, at the discretion of the RWPG, plan for drought conditions worse than the drought of record.
- The term 'water management strategy projects' is added through the section to align the

state water planning guidance principles terminology with regional water planning rules.

Please contact your TWDB Regional Water Planner with any questions. Thanks.

Ron

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