

INTRODUCTION

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Background

The Concho Valley Council of Governments (CVCOG) was established by the Texas Legislature in May of 1967 to address regional issues and opportunities. CVCOG is a voluntary association that encompasses twenty-eight jurisdictions, including thirteen counties and fifteen cities and towns. CVCOG was organized to strengthen local governments; provide a vehicle for joint and coordinated programs; and to create and enhance partnerships among local governments, private businesses and service organizations to collaboratively plan for and maintain the highest quality of life in the Concho Valley Region. The mission of the CVCOG is to:

Support each unit of local government in the Concho Valley Region. Seek to reach community goals and provide services in the most effective and efficient manner for the lowest possible cost. To assist in reaching this goal, the Concho Valley Council of Governments will strive to:

- *Share information about local community programs and initiatives that have successfully addressed and resolved problems experienced by one or more local governments;*
- *Identify areas where communities may wish to work together to achieve mutually desired goals and effective cost saving strategies;*
- *Learn about state and federal programs and how they may be accessed to further serve the citizens of each local unit of government; and*
- *Develop relationships among the various local government units that will serve to foresee and prevent future problems.*

CVCOG provides services for residents residing in the region for housing, workforce, and senior services programs. They also administer 2-1-1 Texas, planning and training for law enforcement, homeland security, head start, community and economic development, solid waste planning and grants, regional 9-1-1, and transportation planning and services.

In 2005, the CVCOG facilitated development of a Hazard Mitigation Action Plan (HMAP) approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) entitled, *“Towards a Disaster Resistant Concho Valley.”* This HMAP was formed with technical assistance

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provided by CVCOG and H2O Partners, Inc. of Austin, Texas. Twelve counties and fourteen cities and towns participated in the initial HMAP.

Consistent with this vision, CVCOG took the lead in sponsoring the development of a comprehensive Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (“Plan” or “Plan Update”) for the cities and counties that participated in the 2005 HMAP, as well as any additional communities that wished to join as part of the Plan Update. The mitigation planning regulation of the Disaster Mitigation Act requires that mitigation plans be reviewed and revised within five (5) years of approval to maintain eligibility for mitigation grant funding¹. Therefore, CVCOG began the planning process to renew the HMAP and completely update each section of the original Plan.

Although CVCOG’s District covers a thirteen-county area, the Plan Update consisted of the original twelve counties and incorporated communities that participated in the 2005 planning effort, except for the City of Brady in McCulloch County². Table 1-1 lists the participating and non-participating communities in the Plan Update, while Figure 1-1 presents an overview of the area and participating jurisdictions.

Table 1-1. Participating and Non-Participating Jurisdictions in the Study Area

PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS	NON-PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS
Coke County	
Town of Bronte	
City of Robert Lee	
Concho County	
City of Eden	
Town of Paint Rock	
Crockett County	
(No Incorporated Cities)	
Irion County	
City of Mertzon	
Kimble County	
City of Junction	
McCulloch County	

¹ 44 CFR §201.6(d)(3)

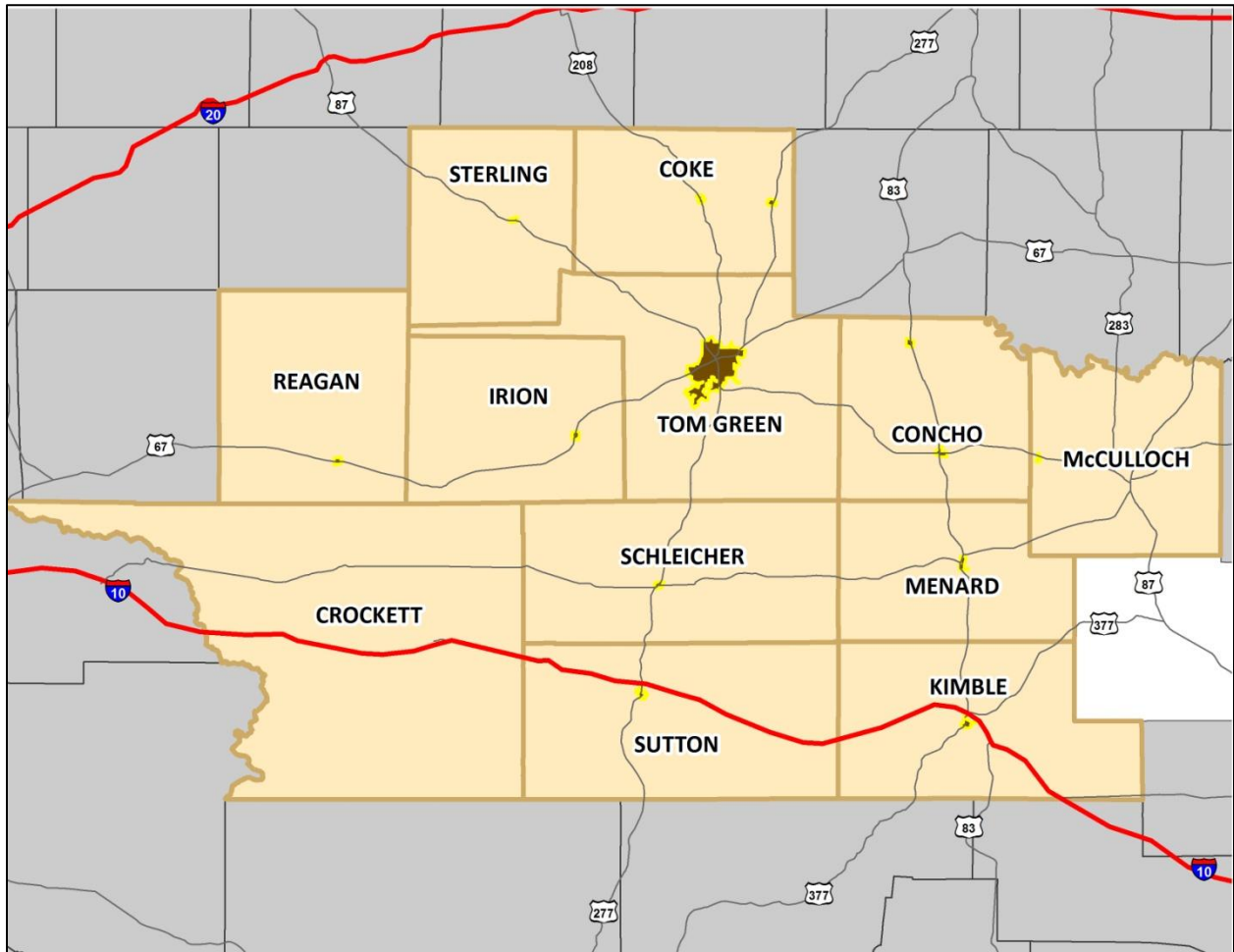
² The City of Brady participated in the Texas Colorado River Floodplain Coalition Plan Update, approved in 2011.

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PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS	NON-PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS
Town of Melvin	City of Brady
Menard County	
City of Menard	
Reagan County	
City of Big Lake	
Schleicher County	
City of Eldorado	
Sterling County	
City of Sterling City	
Sutton County	
City of Sonora	
Tom Green County	
City of San Angelo	
	Mason County

To give a comprehensive overview of the CVCOG Region in its entirety, some background information is included on Mason County and the City of Brady in McCulloch County, even though they are not participating in the Plan Update.

Figure 1-1. Overview of Jurisdictions Participating in the Plan Update



Scope

The focus of the Plan Update is to mitigate hazards that are classified as “high” or “moderate” risk as determined through a detailed hazard risk assessment conducted for the participating CVCOG jurisdictions. Hazards that pose a “low” or “negligible” risk will continue to be evaluated during future updates to the plan, but they may not be fully addressed until they are determined to be of high or moderate risk. This enables the CVCOG and its participating jurisdictions and partners to prioritize mitigation actions based on hazards which are understood to present the greatest risk to lives and property.

Purpose

This Plan Update was prepared by the CVCOG and H2O Partners, Inc. It is an opportunity for the CVCOG and participating jurisdictions to evaluate successful mitigation actions and explore opportunities to avoid future disaster loss.

In developing the Plan Update, CVCOG and Plan participants identified twelve natural and man-caused hazards (profiled in detail in Sections 5-14 and Appendix A) to be addressed, as the goal of the Plan Update is to minimize or eliminate long-term risks to human life and property from known hazards by identifying and implementing cost-effective mitigation actions. *Mitigation* is defined by FEMA as *sustained actions taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from hazards and their effects*. Therefore, the purpose of the Plan Update is to continue developing successful mitigation projects to bring together cities and counties in order to reduce future risk of loss of life or damage to property in the CVCOG Region.

Through this update process, the CVCOG and Plan participants seek to:

- Assess previous mitigation projects and develop unique mitigation strategies to meet future development and risks;
- Encourage improvements in floodplain management, participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); and qualifying for FEMA’s Community Rating System, thereby reducing flood insurance premiums for citizens;
- Devise solutions to strengthen emergency management by addressing moderate and high risk natural and man-caused hazards; and
- Develop and implement a comprehensive Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for the CVCOG Region.

Authority

The Plan Update will comply with all requirements promulgated by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) and all applicable provisions of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Section 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) (P.L. 106-390), and the Bunning-Bereuter-Blumenauer Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-264). It will also comply with FEMA’s February 26, 2002



Interim Final Rule (“the Rule”) at 44 CFR Part 201, which specifies the criteria for approval of mitigation plans required in Section 322 of the DMA 2000 and standards found in FEMA’s “Local Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning Guidance” (released July 1, 2008).

Summary of Sections

Sections 1 and 2 of the Plan outline the purpose of the Plan Update and the process of development. Section 3 profiles the region, while Section 4 provides an overview of the people and property at risk and hazards facing the area, including the process of identification and risk assessment methodologies utilized.

Sections 5 through 14 present information on individual hazards. For each hazard, the plan presents a description of the hazard, the hazard extent, a history of historical hazard events, the probability of future occurrences, and the results of the vulnerability and risk assessment process.

Section 15 presents mitigation goals and objectives. Section 16 provides the previous mitigation strategies submitted in the 2005 Plan and a current analysis for each action, while Section 17 contains all of the newly developed mitigation actions for the Plan Update. Section 18 identifies plan maintenance procedures including Plan incorporation and implementation.

Appendix A presents information on pipeline failure and hazardous material incidents, which includes a description of each hazard, the hazard extent, a history of historical hazard events, the probability of future occurrences, and the results of the vulnerability and risk assessment process. Appendix B contains a list of the planning team and stakeholders. Public survey results are analyzed in Appendix C. Appendix D contains a detailed list of toxic sites and critical facilities for the area. Appendix E contains documentation of meetings in the form of sign-in sheets³.

³ For privacy concerns, Appendices D and E will not be made available to the general public.