

Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Volume I

Regional Solid Waste Management Plans are required by Texas Health and Safety Code (THSC), §363.062, relating to Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP). Contents of the RSWMP are described in THSC §363.064 and in 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Chapter 330, Subchapter O.

Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Volume I

Regional Organization Information

Table 1. Organization Information

Name of Council of Government	Rio Grande Council of Governments
Mailing Address	8037 Lockheed, Ste. 100, El Paso, Texas 79925
Website	www.riocog.org
Phone Number	915-533-0998
Email Address	Annetteg@riocog.org or Cynthiam@riocog.org

Section I. Geographic Scope

Table I.I. Geographic Scope

Names of Member Counties in the Entire Planning Region	Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Presidio
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Section II. Plan Content

II.A. Regional Goals and Objectives

Table II.A. Regional Goals and Objectives

<p>Goal #1 Reduce the amount of municipal solid waste disposed of, through waste reduction, recycling, and reuse.</p>	<p>Objective 1.A. Encourage the development of local and/or regional facilities that reduce, reuse or recycle waste materials. Partner with other regional markets to reduce costs of program and to increase tonnage to assist in finding markets for recyclables.</p> <p>Objective 1.B. Encourage the development of yard waste reduction and composting programs.</p> <p>Objective 1.C. Develop and implement a regional recycling educational campaign focusing on buying recycled and recycling basics. Expand recycling educational campaigns to non-traditional audiences, including colonias residents.</p> <p>Objective 1.D. Increase recycling program for scrap tires to reduce disposal at landfills and to assist with the prevention of illegal dumping.</p> <p>Objective 1.E. Create reuse programs within the community to reduce materials disposed at the landfill. Can include give back program, community tool shed, and mulching of yard waste.</p> <p>Objective 1.F. In an effort to bring more recycled material and potentially-recycled materials to market, RCGCOG aims to catalyze the shift towards a more circular economy by helping bring early stage solutions for waste diversion and improvements in processing or utilization of waste as a raw material for new products or energy to market.</p> <p>A circular economy, as opposed to a linear economy puts raw materials back into reuse, again and again, limiting waste and preserving value. The circular economy depends on recycling and developing new model public-private partnership solutions for circular systems.</p>
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<p>Goal #2 Promote planning to ensure adequate services and facilities for the proper management and disposal of municipal solid waste.</p>	<p>Objective 2.A. Identify areas with less than 10 years of municipal solid waste disposal capacity, and implement programs or actions to develop more capacity.</p> <p>Objective 2.B. Support regional and local efforts to identify areas with litter and illegal dumping problems, and implement programs to address those problems.</p> <p>Objective 2.C. Review applications for municipal solid waste management facility permits for conformance with regional solid waste plans.</p> <p>Objective 2.D. Ensure that MSW Committee is involved in the review of application and provide comment to the Board of Directors (BOS) on proposed MSW facility application. RGCOG staff will notify elected officials outside the BOD regarding any proposed MSW facility application to be implemented within their jurisdiction.</p>
<p>Goal #3 Reduce disposal of Scrap Tires through recycling.</p>	<p>Objective 3.A. Develop a regional scrap tire collection and disposal contract.</p> <p>Objective 3.B. Encourage community members to participate in tire amnesty days in cooperation with local governments to discourage illegal dumping of tires.</p> <p>Objective 3.C. Support efforts to develop regional end-uses for scrap tires.</p>
<p>Goal #4 Determine additional methods for disposal for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW).</p>	<p>Objective 4.A. Develop and implement a regional HHW educational campaign that focuses on reduction and proper handling and disposal options.</p> <p>Objective 4.B. Promote local government efforts to establish ongoing HHW collection opportunities.</p> <p>Objective 4.C. Encourage Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) amnesty days in cooperation with local governments to discourage improper/illegal dumping of HHW.</p>

<p>Goal #5 Reduce illegal dumping.</p>	<p>Objective 5.A. Conduct assessment of illegal dumping problems in areas without an active local enforcement program.</p> <p>Objective 5.B. Encourage local governments to clean up illegal dumpsites and provide residents with legal, affordable, and convenient disposal opportunities such as community amnesty collections.</p> <p>Objective 5.C. Develop a regional environmental enforcement taskforce or similar organization to promote the sharing of information and resources, and the standardization of enforcement programs. Task Force dependent on each jurisdiction due to financial cost involved.</p> <p>Objective 5.D. Rio Grande Council of Governments (RGCOG) manages the Regional Solid Waste Grants Program through biannual contracts with TCEQ. Regional solid waste grant funds support: 1) Tire Collection and disposal; 2) Litter & illegal community cleanups; 3) Community awareness and education projects; 4) Household Hazardous Waste collection and disposal; and 5) procurement of eligible equipment to address illegal dumping of bulk waste (trailers, hydraulic dump trailers, & roll off containers) and recycling concerns (balers & tire shredders).</p>
<p>Goal #6 Provide opportunities for general permits and solid waste applications in the region.</p>	<p>Objective 6.A. The SWAC will review, conduct, and provide comment regarding MSW Pre-applications to ensure the facility's application is in conformance with the RSWMP.</p>

<p>Goal #7 Provide assistance for any medical waste facility interested in permitting in the region. Simultaneously, RGCOG will notify city and county representatives of any medical waste facility interest in locating within the region.</p>	<p>Objective 7.A. The SWAC will review, conduct, and provide comment regarding MSW Pre-applications to ensure the facility’s application is in conformance with the RSWMP.</p>
<p>Goal #8 Provide technical support and services to promote local and regional municipal solid waste planning.</p>	<p>Objective 8.A. The RGCOG shall serve as the central point of contact for solid waste management information, outreach, education and training programs.</p> <p>Objective 8.B. Assess waste disposal needs and service needs to identify the best approach to meet those needs.</p> <p>Objective 8.C. Continue to develop and maintain an inventory of solid waste management facilities and services in the planning region.</p> <p>Objective 8.D. Benchmark and track the effectiveness of regional and local waste reduction and recycling efforts.</p>

II.B. Efforts to Minimize, Reuse, and Recycle Waste

Table II.B. Waste Minimization, Reuse, and Recycling

Subject	Description
<p>Current Efforts to Minimize Municipal Solid Waste and to Reuse or Recycle Waste</p>	<p>Several municipalities within the region provide drop-off recycling collection service to their residents. In the El Paso sub-region, COEP provides every other week recycling collection to its residents. The COEP has five (5) citizen collection stations with recycling drop-off capabilities and allows drop off recycling material without needing to be a customer. COEP offers reuse programs with tools, furniture, mulch, paint and HHW. The types of waste where the greatest benefits and results could still be achieved through further waste reduction efforts include paper, yard waste, and Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste. In the El Paso sub-region, the City of El Paso has a large and successful collection program. Other communities and many of the school districts within El Paso County also participate in paper recycling programs, mainly through service contracts with the City of El Paso and Friedman Recycling. In total, COEP collects approximately 25,000 tons annually, per 2020 RGCOG survey.</p> <p>Additionally, Fort Bliss provides curbside recycling collection to nearly 5,000 homes and picks up 650 commercial containers at installation facilities. The “blue bin” program generates 2,000 tons/year</p>

Subject	Description
	<p>(paper/plastic/metal) and an additional 10,000 tons is recycled through scrap metal, brass, and battery programs.</p> <p>In the rural sub-region, City of Alpine, collects recyclable materials at the Hal Flanders drop-off recycling center in east Alpine. The center collects cardboard, plastics, glass, metals, and tires all for a fee provided on their website. Other municipalities in Brewster County, Big Bend and Terlingua, have a drop off recycling center, which transfer materials to Alpine and then to Midland/Odessa or Austin. Big Bend National Park has an extensive recycling program operating within the Park, which accepts a wide range of materials. Currently, BBNP gives away these recyclable products. In total, Brewster County collects approximately 730 tons annually, per 2020 RGCOG survey.</p> <p>The City of Marfa and Ft. Davis provide recycling drop-off collection centers for their residents. Marfa and Ft. Davis materials are transported to the Austin recycling center for processing. Both sites provide single stream recycling of cardboard, plastics, aluminum and paper. The City of Marfa also provides a Swap Shop in how they describe a new way for one person's "trash" to become another's "treasure" by dropping off working appliances and electronics, clothes, books, usable furniture, etc. for swapping with other residents. In total, Marfa and Ft. Davis collects approximately 70 tons annually, per 2020 RGCOG survey.</p> <p>The Town of Van Horn collects corrugated cardboard, which is collected from commercial businesses and is transported to El Paso for processing. In total, Van Horn collects approximately 60 tons annually, per 2020 RGCOG survey.</p>
<p>Recycling Rate</p>	<p>The established recycling rate goal for the region is 10%. This is based on the increase of partnerships with private industries region-wide; jurisdictions that currently do not have a recycling program or collection stations can be initiated and developed; and an increase in community awareness and participation. This will entail a combination of communitive activities rather than a focus on curbside pickup.</p>

Subject	Description
<p>Recommendations for Encouraging and Achieving a Greater Degree of Waste Minimization and Waste Reuse or Recycling</p>	<p>#1. Increase in education and outreach. Most residents in the RGCOG region know about their individual recycling programs. These programs require constant education and follow up to ensure residents know what and how to recycle. This will help keep contamination down and increase residential participation. In addition, education programs with the school systems will start residents at a young age to learn proper recycling techniques.</p> <p>#2. Increase enforcement activities with regional staff and coordination with RGCOG. This goes hand-in-hand with the educational outreach. It's understood most municipalities have limited staff to assist with enforcement, but it has been seen through monitoring and working with residents that recycling activities are improved.</p> <p>#3. Promote Joint Ventures; encourage partnerships among public and private entities in order to achieve a greater degree of waste minimization and waste reuse or recycling.</p> <p>#4. RGCOG will work with stakeholders (economic development agencies, municipal recycling programs, feedstock suppliers, local manufacturers, etc.) in the region to develop a working group, meeting quarterly, to advance the circular economy policy discussion as well as generate a census of existing recycling systems, feedstock and products. This will help support and further develop and scale products and services that contribute to the regional development of a vibrant circular economy.</p>
<p>Existing or Proposed Community Programs for the Collection of Household Hazardous Waste</p>	<p>In RGCOG Region 8, only COEP and Ft. Bliss have facilities to collect HHW outside of landfill disposal.</p> <p>The COEP provides five (5) Citizen Collection Sites (CCS) locations to collect HHW.</p> <p>Ft. Bliss provides one hazardous waste/recycling drop-off point for military and civilians.</p> <p>No other municipalities provide facilities for HHW collection. From the RGCOG survey results, all HHW outside of El Paso is collected and disposed of through residential collection and/or CCS drop-off. Although there are inadequate facilities for HHW collection, due to the volume produced by residents in the rural sub region, there is not a need to add collections/facilities outside of the El Paso region.</p>
<p>Composting Programs for Yard Waste</p>	<p>The recommended composting programs for yard waste and related organic wastes may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (I) creation and use of community composting centers; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (II) adoption of the "Don't Bag It" program for lawn clippings developed by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service; and

Subject	Description
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (III) development and promotion of education programs on home composting, community composting, and the separation of yard waste for use as mulch.
Public Education/Outreach	Most residents in the RGCOG region know about their individual recycling programs. These programs require constant education and follow up to ensure residents know what and how to recycle. This will help keep contamination down and increase residential participation. In addition, education programs within the school systems start residents at a young age to learn proper recycling techniques.

II.C. Commitment Regarding the Management of MSW Facilities

By checking the boxes below, the Council of Government makes a commitment to the following, regarding the management of MSW facilities:

- (i) encouraging cooperative efforts between local governments in the siting of landfills for the disposal of solid waste;
- (ii) assessing the need for new waste disposal capacity;
- (iii) considering the need to transport waste between municipalities, from a municipality to an area in the jurisdiction of a county, or between counties, particularly if a technically suitable site for a landfill does not exist in a particular area;
- (iv) allowing a local government to justify the need for a landfill in its jurisdiction to dispose of the solid waste generated in the jurisdiction of another local government that does not have a technically suitable site for a landfill in its jurisdiction;
- (v) completing and maintaining an inventory of MSW landfill units in accordance with Texas Health and Safety Code, §363.0635. One copy of the inventory shall be provided to the commission and to the chief planning official of each municipality and county in which a unit is located; and
- (vi) developing a guidance document to review MSW registration and permit applications to determine conformance with the goals and objectives outlined in *Volume II: Regional Solid Waste Management Plan Implementation Guidelines* as referenced in 30 TAC §330.643.

Section III. Required Approvals

Table III.I. Required Approvals

Solid Waste Advisory Committee	11/16/21
Public Meeting Dates	10/13/21
Executive Committee	1/28/22

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Regional Solid Waste Management Implementation Plan Volume II

Regional Organization Information

Table 1. Organization Information

Name of Council of Government	Rio Grande Council of Governments
Mailing Address	8037 Lockheed, Ste. 100, El Paso, Texas 79925
Website	www.riocog.org
Phone Number	915-533-0998
Email Address	Annetteg@riocog.org or Cynthiam@riocog.org

Section I. Geographic Scope

Table I.I. Geographic Scope

I.A. Names of Member Counties in the Entire Planning Region [Ref. 30 TAC §330.643(a)(1)]	Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Presidio
I.B. Geographic Planning Units Used in the Regional Implementation Plan [Ref. 30 TAC §330.643(a)(1)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Small geographic areas such as census tracts or city boundaries for the most detailed data collection and manipulation; <input type="checkbox"/> Planning areas to be used for the assessment of concerns and the evaluation of alternatives. These planning areas shall be aggregations of small geographic areas; <input type="checkbox"/> County boundaries for the summarization and presentation of key information; or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The entire planning region

Section II. Planning Periods

Table II.I. Planning Periods

II.A.1. Current and Historical Information	2021: Finalizing and updating RSWMP.
II.A.2. Short-range Planning Period	2022-2027
II.A.3. Intermediate Planning Period	2028-2032
II.A.4. Long-range Planning Period	2033-2042
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check box if additional details provided in <i>Attachment II.A.</i>	

- 1) Per TWDB County 2020-2070 Population Projections. Assumes 2019 Region Population follows 1.31% growth rate projection.
- 2) Per TCEQ 2019: Year in Review, pg. 25 “Disposal and Capacity Data for Texas COG Regions in 2019”.
- 3) Recycling Tons estimated to be 5.5% of disposed waste.

Section III. Plan Content

III.A. Demographic Information

Table III.A.I. Residential Waste Generation

Year	Growth Rate per Year	Current Population / Population Projection	Landfill Disposal (Tons)	Disposal Rate (lbs./Person/Day)	Recycling (Tons)	Recycling Rate (lbs./Person/Day)	Residential Waste Generation (Tons)
Current		952,900	484,656	2.79	28,233	0.16	456,423
2022	1.3%	979,411	492,561	2.83	29,416	0.16	463,145
2027	1.3%	1,045,464	525,557	2.82	31,387	0.16	494,170
2032	1.2%	1,109,524	557,564	2.82	33,298	0.16	524,266
2037	1.1%	1,170,597	588,087	2.82	35,121	0.16	552,965
2042	1.1%	1,231,455	618,503	2.82	36,938	0.16	581,565

Table III.A.II. Commercial Waste Generation

Year	Description of significant commercial activities affecting waste generation and disposal in the area.	Expected increase or decrease to Commercial Waste Generation
2022	City of El Paso is unaware of any significant commercial activities affecting waste generation and disposal in the area.	N/A
2027	City of El Paso is unaware of any significant commercial activities affecting waste generation and disposal in the area.	N/A
2032	City of El Paso is unaware of any significant commercial activities affecting waste generation and disposal in the area.	N/A
2037	City of El Paso is unaware of any significant commercial activities affecting waste generation and disposal in the area.	N/A
2042	City of El Paso is unaware of any significant commercial activities affecting waste generation and disposal in the area.	N/A

Table III.A.III. Industrial Waste Generation

Year	Description of significant industrial waste activities affecting waste generation and disposal in the area.	Expected increase or decrease to Industrial Waste Generation
2022	No data is available because all industrial waste is taken out of town for disposal. Industrial waste. Class 1 is not accepted at City of El Paso facilities.	N/A
2027	No data is available because all industrial waste is taken out of town for disposal. Industrial waste. Class 1 is not accepted at City of El Paso facilities.	N/A
2032	No data is available because all industrial waste is taken out of town for disposal. Industrial waste. Class 1 is not accepted at City of El Paso facilities.	N/A
2037	No data is available because all industrial waste is taken out of town for disposal. Industrial waste. Class 1 is not accepted at City of El Paso facilities.	N/A
2042	No data is available because all industrial waste is taken out of town for disposal. Industrial waste. Class 1 is not accepted at City of El Paso facilities.	N/A

III.B. Estimates of Current and Future Solid Waste Amounts by Type**Table III.B.1. Current and Future Solid Waste Amounts by Type**

Waste Type	Number of Landfills Accepting Waste Type	Percent of Total Tons Disposed	Current Year	5-year Projection (tons)	10-year Projection (tons)	15-year Projection (tons)	20-year Projection (tons)
Municipal	7	86.22%	417,870	447,054	476,220	503,637	530,616
Brush	7	0.15%	727	778	828	876	923
Construction or Demolition	7	11.30%	54,766	58,591	62,413	66,007	69,543
Litter		0	0	0	0	0	0
Class 1 Non-hazardous		0	0	0	0	0	0
Classes 2 and 3 Non-hazardous	7	2.3%	11,147	11,926	12,704	13,435	14,155

Waste Type	Number of Landfills Accepting Waste Type	Percent of Total Tons Disposed	Current Year	5-year Projection (tons)	10-year Projection (tons)	15-year Projection (tons)	20-year Projection (tons)
Incinerator Ash		0	0	0	0	0	0
Treated Medical Waste		0	0	0	0	0	0
Municipal Hazardous Waste from CESQGs		0	0	0	0	0	0
Regulated Asbestos-containing Material (RACM)		0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-RACM		0	0	0	0	0	0
Dead Animals	7	0.02%	97	104	110	117	123
Sludge		0	0	0	0	0	0
Grease Trap Waste		0	0	0	0	0	0
Septage		0	0	0	0	0	0
Contaminated soil		0.01	48	52	55	58	62
Tires (split, quartered, shredded)		0	0	0	0	0	0
Pesticides		0	0	0	0	0	0
Used Oil Filter		0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (identify other types reported as <i>Attachment III.B.</i>)	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		100%	484,655	518,505	552,330	584,130	615,422
<input type="checkbox"/> Check box if additional details provided in <i>Attachment III.B.</i>							

III.C. Description of Current and Planned Solid Waste Management Activities

Table III.C.I. Current Solid Waste Management Activities in the Region

Activity	Description
Generation	Waste generation information was provided to TCEQ for annual reporting which was calculated by adding the amount of waste disposal and subtracting any diversion from disposal due to resource recycling. Base year waste generation totals were established using the 2019 Municipal Solid Waste in Texas: A Year in Review. Recycling amounts were determined through surveys to all members of the Rio Grande Council of Governments (RGCOG), adjusting for future population growth projections provided by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB).
Source Separation	No source separation activities were reported in the region.
Collection	Collections in the region are performed through automated and manual collection through city employees and hired third party contractors. Most entities use standardized carts and dumpsters for collections. In addition, the Town of Van Horn collects its MSW waste through a Citizen Collection Station (CCS). For a breakdown of collections per entity, please refer to Attachment III.C.
Handling	The City of El Paso handles wastes at their five (5) citizen collection stations. They handle household hazardous (HHW) wastes, electronics, and other materials to remove from the waste stream for recycling and reuse. HHW is collected and items such as paint, pesticides, fertilizers, herbicides are provided to the community for reuse. Electronics are collected and packaged for a third party vendor to collect for recycling. Items like bikes, furniture, toys, beds, appliances, etc., are collected, refurbished, and given back to the community. Similar activities are performed with the City of Marfa, at their Swap Shop. They handle items like bikes, furniture and appliances, removing them from the waste stream and repurposing them for citizens to reuse again.
Storage	As of now there are two facilities in the region, the Delta Transfer station in El Paso and a low volume transfer station in Van Horn which stores MSW waste on site over the weekend. Storage of trash currently is limited to maximum 48-hour storage onsite. Recycle recovery facilities are allowed to store materials at a longer rate since waste won't include putrescible wastes.
Transportation	Transportation of solid waste outside of collections occurs through the transfer stations and the CCS in the region. When

Activity	Description
	waste is collected at these facilities, it is then transferred to the landfill for disposal.
Processing	<p>There are currently five processing facilities in the El Paso County Area. The facilities are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -City of El Paso Transfer Station (MSW waste) -Liquid Environmental Solutions of Texas - El Paso Liquid Waste Processing Facility -El Paso Construction & Demolition (C&D) Recycling Plant -Stericycle El Paso Medical Waste Transfer Station -Mediawaste Medical Waste Processing Facility
Treatment	No treatment activities were reported for the region.
Resource Recovery	<p>There are nine (9) communities participating in a recycling program. Most recycling in the region consists of cardboard and newspaper, aluminum, and plastics (1-3). The City of El Paso accounts for the majority of the recycling performed in the region. Recycling collection in the region is performed through curbside collection; drop off at citizen collection stations, and community cleanups. Materials are transferred to Friedman Recycling in El Paso or Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) recycling facility in Alpine and to Austin.</p>
Disposal of Solid Waste	<p>A landfill map provided in Figure Att.III.C.I. Indicates the eight (8) landfills currently operating. All but two (2) of the six (6) counties have some type of waste disposal facility within the county. Of the eight (8) landfills, six are Arid Exempt Landfill, limiting them to a maximum of 20 tons per day. A review of the most recent annual reports submitted to the TCEQ found that three had less than 20 years of disposal capacity. All current sites are listed at Type I landfills with two in Hudspeth County having an additional Type IV area for C&D wastes.</p>

Table III.C.II. Planned Solid Waste Management Activities in the Region

Activity	Description
Generation	All current waste generation activities in the region will remain the same with no new planned activities. The only changes in generation will occur with population growth and commercial activity changes in the region.
Source Separation	There are no planned source separation activities planned for the region.
Collection	Collection activities will remain the same for the region with the exception of the City of Alpine who will be going out for request for proposals for solid waste collections. No members have mentioned any changes to the current activities. This may

Activity	Description
	change in the future, due to finances or diminishing services provided by their provider. If new planned activities are determined in the future the plan will be revised to reflect.
Handling	There are no additional planned handling activities for the region.
Storage	As stated in the current activities, all storage occurs at the transfer stations or citizen collection stations. The only planned activities for storage is to upgrade the CCS facilities in El Paso. Three updated CCSs in EL Paso County are expected to be within the next 4 to 6 years.
Transportation	Transportation of solid waste outside of collections occurs through the transfer stations and the CCS in the region. When waste is collected at these facilities, it is then transferred to the landfill for disposal.
Processing	There have been attempts to add additional medical waste treatment facilities in El Paso County, but efforts have been unsuccessful. It is uncertain if there will be future attempts to permit a medical waste treatment facility, but there are no plans to develop any additional processing facilities in the region. If plans for processing change the management plan will be updated.
Treatment	No treatment activities were planned for the region.
Resource Recovery	The RGCOG would like to increase resource recovery in the rural sub-region. Although the municipalities have made no set plans, there is a unified focus on increase recycling collections and reduction of tires at the landfills/illegal dumping. Tres Pesetas, the largest tire recycler in the region, has begun conversations with RGCOG and its members to perform community collection of tires. This will be a future partnership to assist with recycling of tires.
Disposal of Solid Waste	<p>Dell City, Presidio and El Paso will be looking to expand or permit additional landfill space within the next 10 to 15 years. Presidio and El Paso have both purchased land adjacent to their current facilities for future permitting. El Paso has the option of moving its disposal activities to the McCombs landfill, located in Northeast El Paso. The facility has 39 years of capacity available but is currently lacking site infrastructure to run the facility. Presidio is planning to start permitting activities within 10 years but has not set any other plans as of yet.</p> <p>Dell City will be out of landfill capacity within 14 years. There are no set plans on future landfill disposal but they must start within the next 10 years.</p> <p>Big Bend National Park completed an impact study to determine</p>

Activity	Description
	their best options for solid waste disposal. The study results concluded that through source reduction, infrastructure improvement, employee training and the increase of its diversion rate would increase the current life of the landfill before the need to expand.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check box if additional information of solid waste management activities is provided as <i>Attachment III.C.</i>	

III.D. Description and Assessment of the Adequacy of Existing Solid Waste Management Facilities & Practices, and Household Hazardous Waste Programs

Table III.D.I. Adequacy of Existing Facilities and Practices

Program	Facility Adequacy	Practices Adequacy
Resource Recovery	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, description of facility inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, description of practice inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>
Storage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, description of facility inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, description of practice inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>
Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, description of facility inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, description of practice inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>
Treatment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, description of facility inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, description of practice inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>
Disposal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, description of facility inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, description of practice inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>

Program	Facility Adequacy	Practices Adequacy
Household Hazardous Waste Collection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, description of facility inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, description of practice inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>
Household Hazardous Waste Disposal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, description of facility inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No, description of practice inadequacy provided in <i>Attachment III. D.</i>

III.E. Assessment of Current Source Reduction and Waste Minimization Efforts, Including Sludge, and Efforts to Reuse or Recycle Waste

Assessment of current source reduction and minimization efforts, including activities to reduce sludge, and efforts to reuse or recycle waste is provided as *Attachment III.E.*

III.F. Identification of Additional Opportunities for Source Reduction and Waste Minimization, and Reuse or Recycling of Waste

Table III.F.I Additional Opportunities for Source Reduction and Waste Minimization, Reuse and Recycling of Waste

Category of Activity (Source Reduction and Waste Minimization, Reuse or Recycling of Waste)	Opportunity Name	Brief Description
Reuse	City of El Paso Country Stores	Over the next five years, City of El Paso (COEP) will be adding reuse stores, which they call country stores, at all of their CCS sites. The stores allow residents to drop off furniture, bikes, tools, and other equipment, then our staff cleans and fixes up to give back to residents in need. Currently we have one store currently running but would like to place them at all our sites. These country store activities can be used at the smaller communities.

Category of Activity (Source Reduction and Waste Minimization, Reuse or Recycling of Waste)	Opportunity Name	Brief Description
Reuse/Recycle	Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection	Offer HHW collection at the recycling facilities for each community. What can't be reused will be turned in for proper disposal. Some types of HHW can be reused. Since all landfills outside of El Paso County are arid exempt, meaning all cells have no liner systems, the HHW collection will prevent these materials from being buried and one day leaching into the ground.
Recycling	Tire recycling	With tire recycling companies in the El Paso region, there are opportunities for the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) to form partnerships to perform tire collections in the smaller communities. This will assist with illegal dumping that happens quite often and can provide materials for the tire recycling program. For example, Woodbrid, LLC, a scrap tire facility new to El Paso since 2019 serves the City/County of El Paso and surrounding communities. Woodbrid, LLC also produces decks that are wood-look-like or wood hybrid and do not utilize trees. Product is a single piece, not capped, and uses only organic and recycled materials. Company's vision is to get involved with community organizations that are interested in recycling.
Recycling/Reuse	Tire recycling	Tres Pesetas INC, located in El Paso is a scrap tire disposal facility established in 1982 and was acquired by Woodbrid, LLC in 2020. A vital stakeholder within this region for many years, Tres Pesetas serves as a member of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee contributing a wealth of knowledge and experience in the recycling business.

Category of Activity (Source Reduction and Waste Minimization, Reuse or Recycling of Waste)	Opportunity Name	Brief Description
Recycling/Reuse	Tire Shredding	<p>Road Masters IG LLC was established in May of 2009 in El Paso. Road Masters IG LLC operations include but is not limited to; scrap tires collection and the sale of recyclable or reusable tires. Scrap tires collected are sorted out by different classifications, from scrap tires to recyclable or reusable tires. Scrap tires are processed into Tire Derived Fuel (TDF) and recyclable or reusable tires are stored for resale.</p> <p>Road Masters, is a continual partner with regional solid waste stakeholders through its participation in the disposal of tire projects and serves as a member of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee adding significant value to the committee.</p>
Reuse	Glass Crushing	City of El Paso & City of Alpine are equipped with glass pulverizes; providing an effective reuse of glass for its communities.
<input type="checkbox"/> Check box if additional information of opportunities and source reduction and waste minimization, reuse and recycling of waste is provided in <i>Attachment III. F.</i>		

III.G. Recommendations for Encouraging and Achieving a Greater Degree of Source Reduction and Waste Minimization, and Reuse or Recycling of Waste

Table III.G.I. Recommendations for Greater Source Reduction and Waste Minimization, and Reuse or Recycling of Waste

<p>#1 - Increase in education and outreach. Most residents in the RGCOG region know about their individual recycling programs. These programs require constant education and follow up to ensure residents know what and how to recycle. This will help keep contamination down and increase residential participation. In addition, education programs with the school systems will start residents at a young age to learn proper recycling techniques.</p>
<p>#2 - Increase enforcement activities with regional staff and coordination with RGCOG. This goes hand in hand with the educational outreach. It's understood most municipalities have</p>

limited staff to assist with enforcement, but it has been seen through monitoring and working with residents recycling activities are improved.
#3 - Promote Joint Ventures; encourage partnerships among public and private entities in order to achieve a greater degree of waste minimization and waste reuse or recycling.
#4 - RGCOG will work with stakeholders (economic development agencies, municipal recycling programs, feedstock suppliers, local manufacturers, etc.) in the region to develop a working group, meeting quarterly, to advance the circular economy policy discussion as well as generate a census of existing recycling systems, feedstock and products. This will help support and further develop and scale products and services that contribute to the regional development of a vibrant circular economy.
<input type="checkbox"/> Check box if additional details are provided in <i>Attachment III.G.</i>

III.H. Identification of Public and Private Management Agencies and Responsibilities

- A list of public and private solid waste management agencies and their responsibilities that affect and impact solid waste management in the planning region is provided as *Attachment III.H.*

III.I. Identification of Solid Waste Management Concerns and Establishment of Priorities for Addressing Those Concerns

Table III.II Solid Waste Management Concerns and Priorities

Solid Waste Management Concern	Priorities to Address the Concern
Illegal Disposal of Tires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Reduce the amount of tires that are illegally dumped. -Need for additional community amnesty days for tire disposal. -Hiring personnel to perform labor for disposal. -Budgeting labor for disposal activities and keeping the budget sustainable for future disposal. -Need for regional disposal contract with vendors to reduce costs to communities City of Alpine solid waste contract with TDS is expiring in 2021. Will need to select a new provider to provide services for disposal including tires.

Solid Waste Management Concern	Priorities to Address the Concern
Illegal Dumping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Clean up illegal dumpsites and provide residents with community clean up opportunity to change disposal habits. -Hiring personnel to perform labor of cleaning illegal dumpsites. -Budgeting labor illegal dumping activities and keeping the budget sustainable for future activities. -Need for regional disposal contract with vendors to reduce costs to communities -Conduct assessment of illegal dumping problems in areas without an active local enforcement program. -Secure financial resources that will allow local law enforcement agencies to support personnel to enforce illegal dumping.
Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Development of local and/or cooperative regional household hazardous waste collection events and permanent collection facilities at the recycling facilities. -Develop educational programs for residents, which focuses on proper disposal and alternative uses.
Additional Medical Waste Treatment Facilities	<p>With the RGCOG geographical footprint and population it serves, discussions within the SWAC have been held regarding medical treatment facilities. The region has experienced an increase amount of medical waste produced in the area with limited treatment facilities capacity.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/> Check box if additional details are provided in <i>Attachment III.I</i>	

III.J. Planning Areas and Agencies with Common Solid Waste Management Concerns that Could be Addressed Through Joint Action

Table III.J.I Planning Areas and Agencies with Common Solid Waste Management Concerns

Solid Waste Management Concern	Names of Planning Areas and Agencies that Could Address the Concern via Joint Action(s)
Illegal Disposal of Tires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -RGCOG Region 8 jurisdictions (Brewster County, Culberson County, El Paso County, Hudspeth County, Jeff Davis County, & Presidio County) Community organizations -Ft. Bliss

Solid Waste Management Concern	Names of Planning Areas and Agencies that Could Address the Concern via Joint Action(s)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Public/Private Sector – TDS, Republic Services, Waste Management, El Paso Disposal -School Districts -Volunteers -Lower Valley Water District -El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 -Tres Pesetas -Road Masters IG LLC -Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) -SEP Program -Regional Landfills -SWAC
Illegal Dumping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -RGCOG Region 8 jurisdictions (Brewster County, Culberson County, El Paso County, Hudspeth County, Jeff Davis County, & Presidio County) -Regional Recycling Centers/Citizen Collection Stations -Ft. Bliss -Community organizations -Public/Private Sector -School Districts -Volunteers -El Paso Disposal -Keep Texas Beautiful -State of Texas Alliance for Recycling (STAR) -Texas Parks & Wildlife -SWAC
Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -RGCOG Region 8 jurisdictions (Brewster County, Culberson County, El Paso County, Hudspeth County, Jeff Davis County, & Presidio County) -Ft. Bliss -Private Sector -Citizen Collection Stations -TCEQ -SWAC
Additional Medical Waste Treatment Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -RGCOG Region 8 jurisdictions (Brewster County, Culberson County, El Paso County, Hudspeth County, Jeff Davis County, & Presidio County) -Private Sector -TCEQ -SWAC

III.K. Identification of Incentives and Barriers for Source Reduction and Waste Minimization, and Resource Recovery, Including Identification of Potential Markets

Table III.K.I Incentives and Barriers for Source Reduction and Waste Minimization, and Resource Recovery

Source Reduction and Waste Minimization	
Incentive: Reduce Landfill Airspace	The main incentive for resource recovery is to reduce the amount of airspace used at respective landfills. All landfills outside of the El Paso sub region are arid exempt, so with the reduction of the materials disposed at the site will increase the life of the facilities.
Barrier: Contamination and recycling program	Two main barriers seen in the region, recycling contamination and recycling program availability in the rural sub-region. Contamination is an issue seen everywhere but through education and enforcement a reduction can be seen. Due to the size of our region, population, costs of transportation, lack of infrastructure, it is difficult for the smaller/outlier communities to have an affordable recycling program. There have been discussions on creating regional recycling programs to assist with costs but members of the SWAC require further discussions and planning.
Resource Recovery	
Job creation	Job creation by recycling and reuse to continue the disposal of items in the landfill.
Limited access to recycling in some areas	While a large portion of the population within El Paso County have access to curbside or drop off recycling, there are still areas inside the county that don't have these two options. Many residents have to travel to drop off recycling items at Environmental Services. In regards to RGCOG rural jurisdictions, they offer few drop off options which make it difficult for residents to recycle.
Confusion around what can and can't be recycled	Lack of recycling education is a barrier throughout the Rio Grande Council of Governments (RGCOG).
Potential Markets	
Tire products	RGCOG will continue to endorse the partnering of vendors that produce equipment or supplies through the use of by-products of recycled tires.
Advances in technology	As new technologies emerge, RGCOG will maximize on these new opportunities in order to move towards a circular economy. This will bring solutions for waste diversion and improvements in

	processing or utilization of waste as a raw material for new products or energy to the market.
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III.L. Regional Goals and Objectives, Including Waste Reduction Goals

Table III.L.I Regional Goals and Objectives

<p>Goal #1 Reduce the amount of municipal solid waste disposed of, through waste reduction, recycling, and reuse.</p>	<p>Objective 1.A. Encourage the development of local and/or regional facilities that reduce, reuse or recycle waste materials. Partner with other regional markets to reduce costs of program and to increase tonnage to assist in finding markets for recyclables.</p> <p>Objective 1.B. Encourage the development of yard waste reduction and composting programs.</p> <p>Objective 1.C. Develop and implement a regional recycling educational campaign focusing on buying recycled and recycling basics. Expand recycling educational campaigns to non-traditional audiences, including colonias residents.</p>
	<p>Objective 1.D. Increase recycling program for scrap tires to reduce disposal at landfills and to assist with the prevention of illegal dumping.</p> <p>Objective 1.E. Create reuse programs within the community to reduce materials disposed at the landfill. Can include give back program, community tool shed, and mulching of yard waste.</p> <p>Objective 1.F. In an effort to bring more recycled material and potentially-recycled materials to market, RGCOG aims to catalyze the shift towards a more circular economy by helping bring early stage solutions for waste diversion and improvements in processing or utilization of waste as a raw material for new products or energy to market.</p> <p>A circular economy, as opposed to a linear economy, puts raw materials back into reuse, again and again, limiting waste and preserving value. The circular economy depends on recycling and developing new model public-private partnership solutions for circular systems.</p>

<p>Goal #2 Promote planning to ensure adequate services and facilities for the proper management and disposal of municipal solid waste.</p>	<p>Objective 2.A. Identify areas with less than 10 years of municipal solid waste disposal capacity, and implement programs or actions to develop more capacity.</p> <p>Objective 2.B. Support regional and local efforts to identify areas with litter and illegal dumping problems, and implement programs to address those problems.</p> <p>Objective 2.C. Review applications for municipal solid waste management facility permits for conformance with local and regional solid waste plans.</p> <p>Objective 2.D. Ensure that MSW Committee is involved in the review of application and provide comment to the Board of Directors (BOD) on proposed MSW facility application. RGCOG staff will notify elected officials outside the BOD regarding any proposed MSW facility application to be implemented within their jurisdiction.</p>
<p>Goal #3 Reduce disposal of Scrap Tires through recycling.</p>	<p>Objective 3.A. Develop a regional scrap tire collection and disposal contract.</p> <p>Objective 3.B. Encourage community members to participate in tire amnesty days in cooperation with local governments to discourage illegal dumping of tires.</p> <p>Objective 3.C. Support efforts to develop regional end-uses for scrap tires.</p>
<p>Goal #4 Determine additional methods for disposal for Household Hazardous Waste (HHW).</p>	<p>Objective 4.A. Develop and implement a regional HHW educational campaign that focuses on reduction and proper handling and disposal options.</p> <p>Objective 4.B. Promote local government efforts to establish ongoing HHW collection opportunities.</p> <p>Objective 4.C. Encourage HHW amnesty days in cooperation with local governments to discourage improper/illegal dumping of HHW.</p>

<p>Goal #5 Reduce illegal dumping.</p>	<p>Objective 5.A. Conduct assessment of illegal dumping problems in areas without an active local enforcement program.</p> <p>Objective 5.B. Encourage local governments to clean up illegal dumpsites and provide residents with legal, affordable, and convenient disposal opportunities such as community amnesty collections.</p> <p>Objective 5.C. Develop a regional environmental enforcement taskforce or similar organization to promote the sharing of information and resources, and the standardization of enforcement programs. Task Force dependent on each jurisdiction due to financial cost involved.</p> <p>Objective 5.D. RGCOG manages the Regional Solid Waste Grants Program through biannual contracts with TCEQ. Regional solid waste grant funds support: 1) Tire Collection and disposal; 2) Litter & illegal community cleanups; 3) Community awareness and education projects; 4) Household Hazardous Waste collection and disposal; and 5) procurement of eligible equipment to address illegal dumping of bulk waste (trailers, hydraulic dump trailers, & roll off containers) and recycling concerns (balers & tire shredders).</p>
<p>Goal #6 Provide opportunities for general permits and solid waste applications in the region.</p>	<p>Objective 6.A. The SWAC will review, conduct, and provide comment regarding MSW Pre-applications to ensure the facility’s application is in conformance with the RSWMP.</p>
<p>Goal #7 Provide assistance for any medical waste facility interested in permitting in the region. Simultaneously, RGCOG will notify city and county representatives of any medical waste facility interest in locating within the region.</p>	<p>Objective 7.A. The SWAC will review, conduct, and provide comment regarding MSW Pre-applications to ensure the facility’s application is in conformance with the RSWMP.</p>

<p>Goal #8 Provide technical support and services to promote local and regional municipal solid waste planning.</p>	<p>Objective 8.A. The RCGOG shall serve as the central point of contact for solid waste management information, outreach, education and training programs.</p> <p>Objective 8.B. Assess waste disposal needs and service needs to identify the best approach to meet those needs.</p> <p>Objective 8.C. Continue to develop and maintain an inventory of solid waste management facilities and services in the planning region.</p> <p>Objective 8.D. Benchmark and track the effectiveness of regional and local waste reduction and recycling efforts.</p>
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III.M. Advantages and Disadvantages of Alternative Actions

<p>Are alternative actions being considered in this plan for the regional area?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Provide details in <i>Attachment III.M.</i></p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. No further action required.</p>
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III.N. Recommended Plan of Action and Associated Timetable for Achieving Specific Goals and Objectives

Table III.N.I Plan of Action and Timetable for Achieving Specific Goals and Objectives

Goal/Objective	Plan of Action	Milestone Dates
<p>Goal #1 Reduce the amount of municipal solid waste disposed of, through waste reduction, recycling, and reuse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to achieve source reduction goals of one (1) percent by the year 2025 and two (2) percent by the year 2035. • Provide technical assistance to entities that would be interested in the development of yard waste reduction and composting programs. • Encourage public participation in waste reduction and Recycling to include composting programs through the start of educational outreach within the school districts. Participate in annual school outreach throughout the region. • Work with communities to develop public service advertisement flyers that may be distributed within the communities. 	<p>1% by 2025 & 2% by 2035</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p>

Goal/Objective	Plan of Action	Milestone Dates
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage existing facilities to develop material or resource recovery operations. • RGCOG will work with stakeholders (economic development agencies, municipal recycling programs, feedstock suppliers, local manufacturers, etc.) in the region to develop a working group, meeting quarterly, to advance the circular economy policy discussion as well as generate a census of existing recycling systems, feedstock and products. This will help support and further develop and scale products and services that contribute to the regional development of a vibrant circular economy. 	
<p>Goal #2 Promote planning to ensure adequate services and facilities for the proper management and disposal of municipal solid waste.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist communities that do not have 20 years disposal life with planning assistance to develop new sites. Work with SWAC members and regional governments to start planning for future development of regional landfill/transfer station facilities. • Support communities as much as possible to maintain adequate disposal capacity. Start discussions at SWAC meetings. 	<p>2023</p> <p>2023</p>
<p>Goal #3 Reduce disposal of Scrap Tires through recycling.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-Community Collaborating: Set policies that work towards “multijurisdictional contract” for the area. 	<p>2024</p>
<p>Goal #4 Determine additional methods for disposal of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-Community Collaborating: Set policies that work Foster recycling by encouraging RGCOG members to establish facilities for the collection of materials such as used motor oil, pesticides, herbicides, and cleaning products. • Organize multijurisdictional or regional HHW collection events. If full-time staffing of a HHW collection center, etc. is not feasible, provide a collection/pickup service monthly, quarterly, or semi-annually. 	<p>2024</p> <p>2024</p>

Goal/Objective	Plan of Action	Milestone Dates
<p>Goal #5 illegal dumping Reduce.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize community-wide cooperative programs of adopting areas for periodic cleanup efforts. • Work with local municipalities/counties/courts to enforce illegal dumping ordinances or laws to the fullest extent possible. • Educate citizens of problems caused by illegal dumping. • Manage the Regional Solid Waste Grants Program through biannual contracts with TCEQ. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Provide Solid Waste Grant Application Workshops b) Regional solid waste grant funds to support: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Tire Collection and disposal. 2) Litter & illegal community cleanups. 3) Community awareness and education projects. 4) Household Hazardous Waste collection and Disposal. 5) Procurement of eligible equipment to address illegal dumping of bulk waste (trailers, hydraulic dump trailers, & roll off containers) and recycling concerns (balers & tire shredders). 	<p>2024</p> <p>2025</p> <p>2024</p> <p>On-going</p>
<p>Goal #6 Provide opportunities for general permits and solid waste applications in the region.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with local municipalities/counties/courts on permit questions, Conformance Review policies and procedures. • Work with Solid Waste stakeholders regarding all aspects in applying for grant funds through the Solid Waste program. • RGCOG to provide Solid Waste Application Development Workshops within the region. 	<p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p>
<p>Goal #7 Provide assistance for any medical waste facility interested in permitting in the region. Simultaneously, RGCOG will notify city and county representatives of any medical waste facility interest in locating within the region.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide assistance by answering questions or concerns by facility; provide guidance on Conformance Review documents and its policies and procedures. • Work with local municipalities/counties/courts to determine the need for medical waste treatment in their region. Initiate meetings with local officials to discuss needs for these facilities. 	<p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p>

Goal/Objective	Plan of Action	Milestone Dates
Goal #8 Provide technical support and services to promote local and regional municipal solid waste planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize regional permits/registrations/notices and create an educational closet for all RGCOG members to use as a resource for members. 	On-going
<input type="checkbox"/> Check box if additional details are provided in <i>Attachment III.N.</i>		

III.O. Identification of the Process that Will be Used to Evaluate Whether a Proposed Municipal Solid Waste Facility Application Will be in Conformance with the Regional Plan

- The process that will be used to evaluate whether a proposed municipal solid waste facility application will be in conformance with the regional plan is identified in *Attachment III.O.*

Section IV. Required Approvals

Table IV.I Required Approvals

Solid Waste Advisory Committee	11/16/21
Public Meeting Dates	10/13/21
Executive Committee	1/28/22

- Check box if local government and jurisdiction resolutions, and letters of support are included in *Attachment IV.A.*
- Public notice, agenda, public comments, and the transcript of the required public meeting are included as *Attachment IV.B.*

Attachments

Attachment II.A. Planning Periods

1. Planning Periods

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) published their guidelines for all state Councils of Governments, including the Rio Grande Council of Governments (RGCOG), to update their regional solid waste management plans on September 22, 2020. The Rio Grande Council of Governments last developed a solid waste management plan

in 2002, with formal adoption on August 15, 2003. The RGCOG consists of the following counties in its planning region, also shown in Figure Att.II.A.1:

- Brewster
- Culberson
- El Paso
- Hudspeth
- Jeff Davis
- Presidio

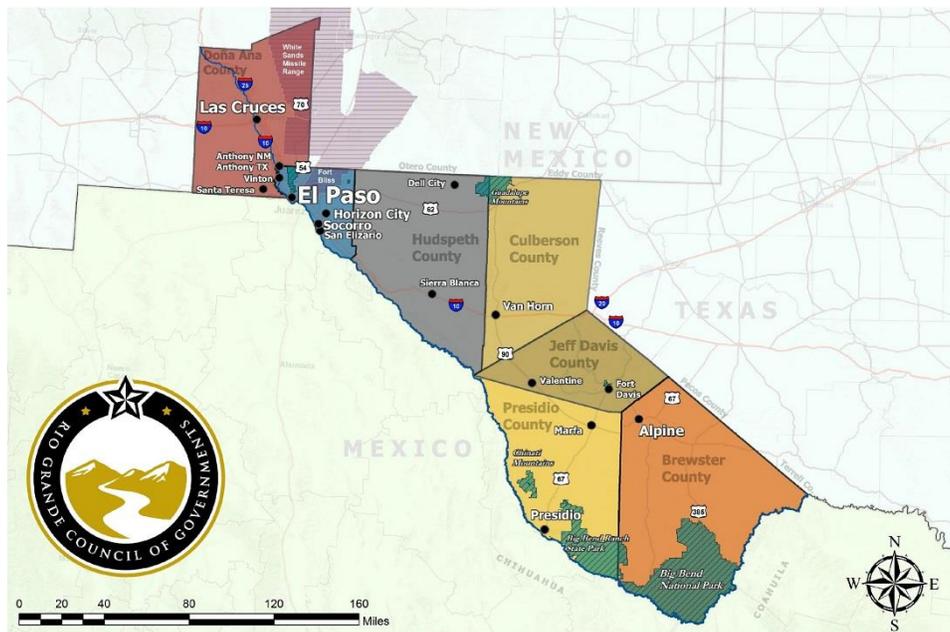


Figure Att.II.A.1. - RGCOG Planning Region Counties/Cities. Photo credited to RGCOG website.

The planning period for the updated management plan covers a 20-year period, starting January 1, 2022. The plan was completed following 30 TAC §330.643. These regulations contain the standards for the required content of the regional solid waste management plan update. There are four planning periods that the RGCOG is looking at, Current and Historical information (current with base year 2019), Short-range Planning (2022-2027), Intermediate Planning (2028-2032) and Long-range Planning (2033-2042). The plan was developed internally by the RGCOG and reviewed by NewGen Strategies and Solutions, LLC.

Information for planning was obtained through an initial meeting with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) and the results of a survey conducted by the RGCOG of its members. The information requested by the survey was to determine the current needs and challenges the region is facing. Following the receipt of survey responses, a summary was created by RGCOG and reviewed by the SWAC to determine if sufficient information was provided. The review indicated that there was a need for additional information in relation to recycling and overall goals in the region. RGCOG, Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB), Texas Parks & Wildlife (TPW) and National Parks Conservation Association collaborated to conduct a secondary survey to members. KTB summarized the survey results and provided the information to the SWAC to be included in the plan below.

a. Current and Historical Information

In 2019, there were seven (7) MSW landfill facilities operating in the region, with a capacity of 84.5 million cubic yards. The Van Horn landfill closed in 1997, but was reopened in 2020 through a permit amendment (permit number 693A), increasing the remaining cubic yards to 85 million and a total of eight (8) landfills, six (6) that were Type 1(AE) (Table Att.II.A.1).

Table Att.II.A.1. - Current Regional Waste Disposal Rates and Landfill Capacity					
Permit No.	Site Name	Facility Type	2019 Tons Disposed	Remaining Yards (CY)	Capacity (Years)
El Paso Subregion					
729B	City of El Paso Landfill	1	3	63,469,275	39
2284	Greater El Paso Landfill	1	456,049	16,276,396	19
		El Paso Total	456,052	79,745,671	58
Rural Subregion					
1276	Panther Junction Landfill	1AE	393	93,021	5
2197	City of Alpine Landfill	1AE & 4AE	14,479	2,781,405	39
495	Hudspeth County Dell City Landfill	1AE & 4AE	1,285	184,755	17
957A	Hudspeth County Sierra Blanca Landfill	1AE & 4AE	5,376	1,233,569	58
1737A	City of Presidio Landfill	1AE	7,071	519,890	14
693A	City of Van Horn	1AE	-	562,666	40
*Note: Information provided by 2019 TCEQ: A Year in Review					

El Paso County has 58 years of remaining capacity available at current disposal rates. All of the rural sub-regional facilities are arid-exempt landfills, which accept a limited amount of solid waste from a small population. Therefore, each new cell constructed adds a relatively large amount of capacity because of the small population each landfill serves. Conversely, the two landfills in El Paso County serve 97% of the region's population and accept 94% of the region's waste.

COEP is in the process of closing Cells 1-10 at the Greater El Paso Landfill. The closure will encompass a 94-acre footprint of the north half of the permitted facility. Construction activities started in April 2021 and are to be completed by February 2022. COEP is also currently in the process of starting construction of the updated Hondo Pass CCS which is located in northeast El Paso. Construction is expected to begin in the summer of 2021. The Atlantic CCS will begin design for a new CCS in the summer of 2021 with hopes for construction beginning in December 2021.

b. Short-range Planning - 2022-2027

The majority of sites in the region are set with landfill capacity and collection for at least the next 10 years; there are not any major planning activities currently in place. Panther Junction Landfill, which serves Big Bend National Park, has less than 5 years of capacity remaining. Currently Big Bend National Park is performing a study to determine the cost benefit of moving this operation off-site, keeping landfill activities in the park, or collaborating with a neighboring municipality for a regional facility. The plan will be amended when the study is completed and a decision will be made on future disposal options.

The City of Presidio has purchased land outside the city for a future landfill, which is adjacent to their wastewater treatment plant. Their current landfill has approximately 14 years of capacity based on current disposal conditions. The city will begin the planning process for the new facility in 2025, with permitting to follow.

The Lower Valley Water District would like to develop multiple citizen collection stations within their collection region. They are in the early planning stages looking for land, funding, and operation of the facilities. They are hoping to have their first site completed within the next 3 to 5 years. Waste from the proposed facilities will be taken to the Greater El Paso Landfill.

COEP will be developing four new cells (approximately 45-acres) at the Greater El Paso Landfill. Design/construction of the new cells is estimated for fiscal year 2023-2024. The 45-acres will provide COEP with a minimum of 6 years of landfill capacity at current disposal rates. City of El Paso is looking into designing and building a new citizen collection station on the east side of town. Currently, the city is looking for available land as the majority of growth in the city is on the eastside. Design/construction for the facility is expected for fiscal year 2026-2027.

c. Intermediate Planning - 2028-2032

As mentioned in Short-range Planning, the City of Presidio will begin planning for a new landfill in 2025. With the current landfill having a remaining life of 14 years per the 2019 TCEQ: Year in Review, permitting will need to start in 2028, as it takes an average of 1.5 to 3 years to complete a permit and construct new cells. The total acreage of the new property was not provided, but once the RGCOG receives the information, the plan will be updated.

COEP will start looking into expansion of its current permit at the Greater El Paso landfill or the use of the McCombs landfill in 2028. COEP currently owns 1,200-acres adjacent to the current Greater El Paso site. Due to the size and location of the facility, planning must occur in this period. The city will also be developing two new cells (approximately 22-acres) at the Greater El Paso Landfill. Design/construction of the new cells is estimated for fiscal

year 2030-2031. The 22-acres will provide the City an estimated 3 to 4 years of landfill life until new cells are needed.

d. Long-range Planning - 2033-2042

Dell City currently operates a type I-AE landfill with 17-years of landfill capacity as of 2019. Planning, permitting and construction typically takes 1.5 to 3 years to complete, so activity will need to start in 2033. Due to the size of the community, Dell City will once again be able to request an arid exemption for its landfill.

The RGCOG members, per surveys and discussions, have pointed out no other activities for long-range planning. This section may be amended if other activities are determined necessary in the future.

Attachment III.A. Demographic Information

1. Demographic Information

Regional population is concentrated in El Paso County, the only heavily urbanized county in the planning region. El Paso County accounts for 97% of the regional population, with the five counties of the rural sub-region comprising only 3% of the regional total. Population in El Paso County is concentrated in the City of El Paso, and the communities of Socorro, Clint, Horizon City, Anthony, Canutillo, Fort Bliss, Fabens, and San Elizario. Population in the rural counties is concentrated in the communities of Presidio, Alpine, Marfa, Fort Davis, and Van Horn. Population projections are shown in Table Att.III.A.1.

Table Att.III.A.1. - Population Projections						
County	2019 Base Year ¹	2022*	2027*	2032*	2037*	2042*
Brewster	9,691	9,799	9,980	10,119	10,188	10,251
Culbertson	2,670	2,745	2,874	2,977	3,034	3,090
El Paso	913,451	950,277	1,014,983	1,079,072	1,139,243	1,200,019
Hudspeth	3,876	3,988	4,183	4,328	4,388	4,441
Jeff Davis	2,398	2,398	2,398	2,398	2,398	2,398
Presidio	8,620	8,838	9,212	9,586	9,950	10,329
Regional Total	940,707	978,045	1,043,631	1,108,480	1,169,201	1,230,527
Note *: Estimated population based on Texas Water Development Board 2020-2070 County Population Projections. ¹ 2019 Population Assumes same annual growth rate as 2020-2030 period.						

Regional and county population growth estimates were determined using the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) – Water Plan Projection Data. TWDB provides population projections through 2070, well past the 2042 management plan limit. Long-term projections show an approximate population increase of 25.8%, between 2022 and 2042. Over the 20-year plan period, the estimated population stays consistent in all counties except El Paso County, where it is expected to increase by 26.3%. Figure Att.III.A.I. illustrates the RGCOG region population for planning dates between 2022 and 2042.

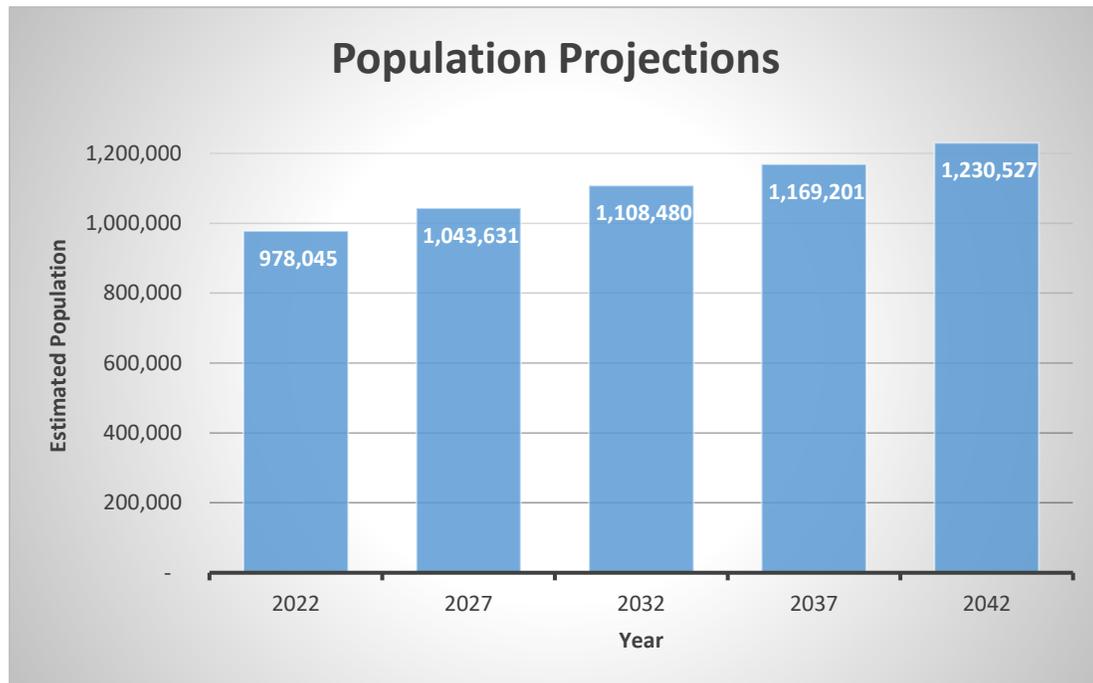


Figure Att.III.A.1. - Population Projections 2022 to 2042

Based on the 2019 figures reported to TCEQ, the overall disposal rate for the region is 2.82 pounds/person/day. This is approximately the disposal rate for El Paso County (2.66 pounds/person/day), 97% of the region's population and 94% of the waste disposed of regionally. The higher rates in the rural sub-region are consistent with the original findings during preparation of the regional plan, and have been explained as a result of the impact of tourism on this part of the region. In particular, nearly 465,000 people visit Big Bend National Park in Brewster County annually.

Attachment III.B. Estimates of Current and Future Solid Waste Amounts by Type

1. Estimates of Current and Future Solid Waste Amounts by Type

As El Paso County makes up 94% of the waste generation in the RGCOG region, percentages used in Table III.B.1. were based on the percent totals disposed in El Paso County.

Attachment III.C. Description of Current and Planned Solid Waste Management Activities

1. Generation

Current Activities

According to the 2019 TCEQ: Year in Review Annual Reporting Program for Permitted MSW Facilities, the RGCOG region disposed of 484,656 tons of municipal solid waste (MSW). El Paso County, the major metropolitan area in the region, accounted for 456,052 tons of the waste disposed. The remaining 28,604 tons of waste were contributed by the five rural counties of Hudspeth, Presidio, Brewster, Jeff Davis and Culberson. Based on recycling totals by RGCOG members, it was estimated that 5.5% of the waste generated in the region was recycled, with the El Paso region recycling 25,101 tons of materials.

In 2019, the per capita landfill disposal rate increased for the region. The population and economy are projected to continue growing and, as a result, the per capita landfill disposal rate will continue to show increases. In 2019, the per capita landfill disposal rate for this region was 2.82 pounds/person /day. This is up from the 2.51 pounds/person/day disposal rate reported in 2002.

Planned Activities

The only changes in generation will occur with population growth and commercial activity changes in the region.

2. Source Separation

There were no current or planned source separation activities reported in the region.

3. Collection

Current Activities

COEP, residential MSW collection is provided by the City's Environmental Services Department. Multiple third party vendors serve commercial accounts within the city. In El Paso County, several large and small private service providers, including El Paso Disposal and Heist, serve residents and businesses. Many residents in El Paso County, outside El Paso city limits, get service through their water supply district, such as the Lower Valley Water District. These water supply entities perform self-collection or contract with private solid waste service providers to serve the residents within their district. In unincorporated areas of the county lacking water service, there are often no waste collection services available. Residents must haul their own waste to the City of El Paso's Greater El Paso Landfill, and pay a disposal fee based on tonnage.

The rural sub-region has a combination of self-collection and third party collection. A breakdown of collection services is provided in Table Att.III.C.1. for residential services and Table Att.III.C.2. for commercial services.

Table Att.III.C.1. - Residential Collection Services		
Entity	Collection Provided By	Type of Service
Big Bend National Park	Self-Collection	Automated Collection
City of Alpine	Performed by Texas Disposal Systems (TDS)	Semi-Automated Collection
City of El Paso	Self-Collection	Automated and Semi-automated Collections
City of Marfa	Performed by Republic Services	Automated Collection
City of Presidio	Self-Collection	Automated Collection
Hudspeth County	Self-Collection	Automated Collection
Jeff Davis County	Performed by TDS and Republic Services	Automated Collection
Lower Valley Water District	Self-Collection	Automated Collection
Town of Clint	Performed by Lower Valley Water District	Automated Collection
Town of Van Horn	Waste taken to Citizen Collection Station	Residents Drop off at CCS
Village of Vinton	Performed by El Paso Disposal	Automated Collection
<p>Note :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manual Collection – Materials are loaded entirely by worker 2. Semi-automated Collection – Materials are placed in standardized carts/dumpsters that are manually attached to a tipper on the collection vehicle 3. Automated Collection – materials are placed in standardized carts/dumpsters that are tipped with an automated, hydraulic arm on the side of the collection vehicle 		

Table Att.III.C.2. - Commercial Collection Services		
Entity	Collection Provided By	Type of Service
Big Bend National Park	Self-Collection	Automated Collection
City of Alpine	Performed by Texas Disposal Systems (TDS)	Semi-Automated Collection
City of El Paso	Entities contract individually with a collection company	Automated and Semi-automated Collections
City of Marfa	Performed by Republic Services	Automated Collection
City of Presidio	Self-Collection	Automated Collection Dumpster
Hudspeth County	Self-Collection	Automated Collection
Jeff Davis County	Performed by TDS and Republic Services	Automated Collection

Table Att.III.C.2. - Commercial Collection Services		
Entity	Collection Provided By	Type of Service
Lower Valley Water District	Self-Collection	Automated Collection
Town of Clint	Performed by Lower Valley Water District	Automated Collection
Town of Van Horn	Self-Collection	Commercial accounts rent a roll off from Town and collection occurs when full and pick up is requested
Village of Vinton	Entities contract individually with a collection company	Automated Collection
<p>Note :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manual Collection – Materials are loaded entirely by worker 2. Semi-automated Collection – Materials are placed in standardized carts/dumpsters that are manually attached to a tipper on the collection vehicle 3. Automated Collection – materials are placed in standardized carts/dumpsters that are tipped with an automated, hydraulic arm on the side of the collection vehicle 		

Planned Activities

Collection activities will remain the same for the region with the exception of the City of Alpine who will be releasing a request for proposals for solid waste collection.

4. Handling

Please refer to main report.

5. Storage

Current Activities

Temporary storage occurs at the transfer stations, citizen collection stations and processing facilities in the region. Any MSW waste collected at either the Delta Transfer Station, the five (5) CCSs in El Paso, or the Van Horn Transfer station will be transported to an MSW regulated facility within 48 hours. Typically, this length of storage only occurs on weekends when sites close Saturday and reopen Monday. This is the longest MSW waste will be stored at any facility in order to prevent the formation of vector and to stay within permitted/registration requirements.

Planned Activities

The only planned activity for storage is to upgrade the CCS facilities in El Paso. Three (3) CCSs in El Paso County are expected to be updated within the next 4 to 6 years.

6. Transportation

Please refer to main report.

7. Processing

Current Activities

There are five MSW processing facilities in the region all within El Paso County, as shown in Table Att.III.C.3. The table provides the amount of waste each site handled in 2019.

Table Att.III.C.3. - Processing Facilities				
County	Permit No.	Site	Facility Type	2019 Tons
El Paso	728	City of El Paso - Delta Transfer Station	5TS	15,345
El Paso	2355	Liquid Environmental Solutions of Texas El Paso Liquid Waste Processing Facility	5GG	17,474
El Paso	40237	El Paso C&D Recycling Plant	5RR	1,275
El Paso	40261	Stericycle El Paso Medical Waste Transfer Station	5MWTS	2,345
El Paso	40262	Mediwaste Medical Waste Facility	5AC	284
Note: Information provided by 2019 TCEQ: A Year in Review				

Planned Activities

There have been attempts to add additional medical waste treatment facilities in El Paso County, but efforts have been unsuccessful. As such, there are no future plans to develop any additional processing facilities in the region.

8. Treatment

Please refer to main report.

9. Resource RecoveryCurrent Activities

There are nine (9) communities participating in a recycling program. Most recycling in the region consists of cardboard, newspaper, aluminum, and plastics (1-3). The City of El Paso accounts for the majority of the recycling performed in the region. Recycling in the region is collected by curbside collection; drop off at citizen collection stations, and community clean-up events. Materials are transferred to Friedman Recycling in El Paso or to Texas Disposal Systems (TDS) recycling facility in Alpine and then transported to Austin.

Planned Activities

Recycling has been a topic of discussion with all members of the RCGOG Solid Waste Advisory Council. It is difficult for many of the members of the COG to start up recycling programs due to the size of their community and the cost to run the

program. There have been discussions initiated to establish partnering programs throughout the region, but these discussions are in the discussion stages. The goal is to create regional recycling programs throughout the RGCOG, which would allow communities to split the costs and produce a sufficient amount of recyclable material.

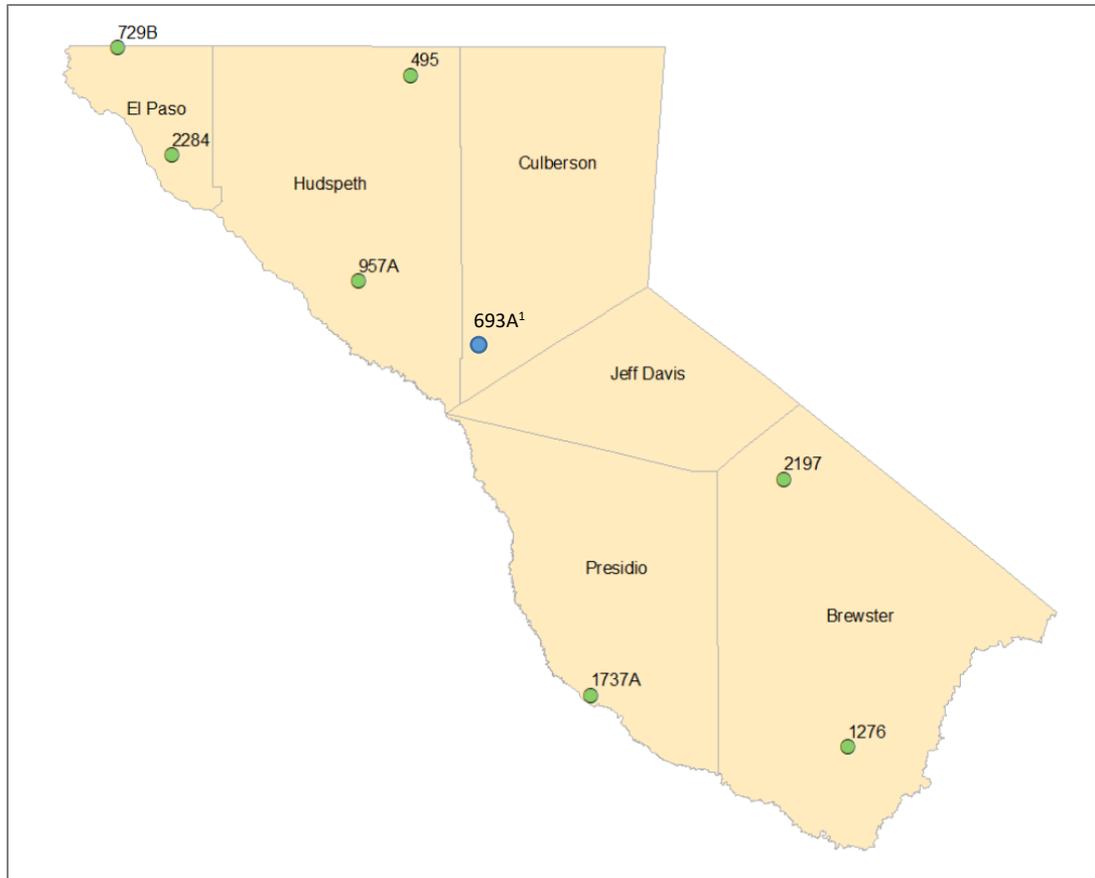
The other issue brought up by the majority of members, outside El Paso County, is recycling/disposal of tires. Tires seem to be the biggest cause of illegal dumping in the region causing communities to utilize resources on clean-ups and disposal. Currently, the main recycler of tires in the region is Tres Pesetas LLC, located east of El Paso, outside city limits. They receive tires for recycling and reuse. The company breaks down tires to produce rubber chips for fuel and landscaping, extracts metal for sale, and uses reclaimed rubber for faux wood planks and furniture production. The company has been in touch with many communities to discuss collection of tires and transportation to their El Paso County plant. Future planning is focused on creating a long-term partnership with Tres Pesetas and/or a tire recycling/reuse company to assist the rural communities in the region.

10. Disposal of Solid Waste

Current Activities

In 2019, there were seven (7) MSW landfill facilities operating in the region, with a capacity of 84.5 million cubic yards. The Van Horn landfill closed in 1997, but was reopened in 2020 through a permit amendment (permit number 693A), increasing the remaining cubic yards to 85 million and a total of eight (8) landfills, six (6) that were Type 1(AE) (Table Att.II.A.1).

Table Att.III.C.4. - Current Active Landfills			
Permit No.	Site Name	Facility Type	Capacity (Years)
El Paso Sub-region			
729B	City of El Paso Landfill	1	39
2284	Greater El Paso Landfill	1	19
El Paso Sub-region Total			58
Rural Sub-region			
1276	Panther Junction Landfill	1AE	5
2197	City of Alpine Landfill	1AE & 4AE	39
495	Hudspeth County Dell City Landfill	1AE & 4AE	17
957A	Hudspeth County Sierra Blanca Landfill	1AE & 4AE	58
1737A	City of Presidio Landfill	1AE	14
693A	City of Van Horn Landfill	1AE	40



1) The City of Van Horn Landfill (693A), opened in 2020, has been added to the map above.

Figure Att.III.C.1. - RCGOG Landfill Locations.
Photo credited to TCEQ - A Year in Review 2019

Planned Activities

In addition to the activities described in the main report, Big Bend National Park (BBNP) recently completed an impact study to determine their best options for solid waste disposal. BBNP is a remote national park located in Brewster County, Texas along the Rio Grande River on the U.S.-Mexico border. The park's location and minimal regional waste management infrastructure necessitated the use of an on-site landfill for management of the park's solid waste; one of the only landfills in operation on the National Park Service (NPS) property. Big Bend National Park has estimated that the landfill will reach capacity by 2024. The National Sustainable Operations and Maintenance Branch (SOMB), with the support of environmental contractors (ERG and Greener Solutions), conducted a National Concessions Visitor Waste Impact Study in 2019 to better understand the opportunities for optimizing solid waste management associated with concessioner operations in NPS parks. Key objectives of the study were to identify opportunities across NPS parks to:

- Improve solid waste diversion rates (e.g., through optimized recycling) to reduce the amount of waste going to the park's landfill.
- Optimize standard operating procedures.
- Capture more complete and granular data related to solid waste generation and management.

- Improve communication and education related to solid waste management. The final report was submitted to Big Bend National Park on March 30, 2021. The challenges and opportunities identified in the study's findings offer opportunities for the concessioner to solve issues through source reduction, infrastructure improvement, employee training, and guest engagement. Additionally, by implementing some of the opportunities and following the suggested next steps in the report, Big Bend National Park should be able to increase its diversion rate, extending the life of the landfill, while finalizing a plan for the park's waste.

Attachment III.D. Adequacy of Existing Facilities and Practices

1. Resource Recovery - Facility Adequacy

Based on a survey of the RGCOG, El Paso County is the only county that has a recycling processing facility. All other counties/municipalities that participate in recycling, transfer their materials to either El Paso, Alpine, Midland/Odessa or Austin. This practice makes it difficult, expensive and inefficient for these municipalities to operate a successful recycling program. Due to the population size of the municipalities outside of the El Paso region, it is doubtful recycling facilities will operate in those areas. The best approach to increase facility adequacy would be for neighboring municipalities to collaborate with one another to collect material and reduce travel costs.

2. Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection/Disposal - Facility Adequacy

In RGCOG Region 8, only COEP has facilities to collect Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) outside of landfill disposal. The COEP provides five (5) CCS locations to collect (HHW). No other municipalities provide facilities for HHW collection. According to the RGCOG survey results, all HHW outside of El Paso is collected and disposed of through residential collection and/or CCS drop-off. Although there are inadequate facilities for HHW collection, due to the volume produced by residents in the rural sub-region, there is not a need to add collections/facilities outside of the El Paso region.

Attachment III.E. Assessment of Current Source Reduction and Waste Minimization Efforts, Including Sludge, and Efforts to Reuse or Recycle Waste

Several municipalities within the region provide drop-off recycling collection service to their residents. In the El Paso sub-region, the COEP provides every-other-week recycling collection to its residents. The COEP has five (5) citizen collection stations with recycling drop-off capabilities and allows drop off of recycling material without needing to be a customer. COEP offers reuse programs for tools, furniture, mulch, paint and Household Hazardous Waste (HHW). The greatest benefits and results could be achieved through further waste reduction efforts of paper, yard waste, and C & D waste. In the El Paso sub-region, the City of El Paso has a large and successful collection program. Other communities, and many of the school districts within El Paso County, also participate in paper recycling programs, mainly through service contracts with the City of El Paso and Friedman Recycling.

In total, COEP collects approximately 25,000 tons annually, per 2020 RGCOG survey.

In the rural sub-region, City of Alpine collects recyclable materials at the Hal Flanders drop-off recycling center in east Alpine. The center collects cardboard, plastics, glass, metals, and tires for a fee provided on their website.

The City of El Paso and the City of Alpine are equipped with glass pulverizers; providing an effective reuse of glass for its communities.

Other municipalities in Brewster County, Big Bend and Terlingua have a drop-off recycling center, which transfers materials to Alpine and then to Midland/Odessa or Austin. Big Bend National Park has an extensive recycling program operating within the Park, which accepts a wide range of materials. Currently, BBNP gives away these recyclable products. In total, Brewster County collects approximately 730 tons annually, per 2020 RGCOG survey.

The City of Marfa and Ft. Davis provide recycling drop-off collection centers for their residents. Materials from Marfa and Ft. Davis are transported to the Austin recycling center for processing. Both sites provide single-stream recycling of cardboard, plastics, aluminum and paper. The City of Marfa also provides a Swap Shop, described as a new way for one person’s “trash” to become another’s “treasure” by dropping off working appliances, electronics, clothes, books, usable furniture, etc. for swapping with other residents. In total, Marfa and Ft. Davis collect approximately 70 tons annually, per 2020 RGCOG survey.

The Town of Van Horn collects corrugated cardboard from commercial businesses which is transported to El Paso for processing. In total, Van Horn collects approximately 60 tons annually, per 2020 RGCOG survey.

Attachment III.H. Identification of Public and Private Management Agencies and Responsibilities

Table Att.III.H.1. - Public and Private Management Agencies and Responsibilities				
Company	Address	Phone	Service Area	Services Offered
El Paso County				
City of El Paso - Environmental Services Department	7968 San Paulo, El Paso, Texas 79907	(915) 212-6000	City of El Paso	Residential MSW and Recycling Collection, Citizen Collection Station, Landfill
El Paso Disposal	5539 El Paso Dr. El Paso, TX 79905	(915) 772-7495	El Paso County	Commercial Collection

Table Att.III.H.1. - Public and Private Management Agencies and Responsibilities				
Company	Address	Phone	Service Area	Services Offered
El Paso Medical Waste Disposal Solutions	5307 El Paso Drive El Paso, TX 79905	(855) 399-9208	El Paso County	Medical Waste
Liquid Environmental Solutions	11961 Railroad Dr. El Paso, TX 79934	(866) 694-7327	El Paso County	Non-hazardous liquid waste management
Heist Disposal	10225 Woodway Dr. El Paso, TX 79925	(915) 594-3610	El Paso County	Commercial Collection
Bronco Disposal	7713 Alameda Ave, El Paso, TX 79915	(915) 778-9548	El Paso County	Commercial Collection
Demcon Disposal Management	6966 Market Ave, El Paso, TX 79915	(915) 443-4539	El Paso County	Commercial Collection
Moore Service Inc.	10540 Montwood Dr. El Paso, TX 79935	(915) 592-5558	El Paso County	Commercial Collection
Rhino Environmental	350 Valley Chili Rd, Vinton, TX 79821	(915) 886-4355	El Paso County	Hazardous Material Disposal
Lower Valley Water District	1557 FM1110, Clint, TX 79836	(915) 791-4480	Socorro, San Elizario, Clint, Sparks Addition and El Paso County	Residential and Commercial Collection
Brewster County				
Big Bend National Park	PO Box 129 Big Bend National Park, TX 79834	(432) 477-2251	Big Bend National Park	Park Collections
Texas Disposal Systems	2501 E, US-90, Alpine, TX 79830	(432) 837-0845	Brewster County	Residential and Commercial Collection
Culberson County				
Town of Van Horn	1801 W Broadway Street, Van Horn, TX 79855	(432)-283-2050	Town of Van Horn	Residential and Commercial Collection, Citizen Collection Station, Landfill
Hudspeth County				
Hudspeth County	109 Millican St Sierra Blanca, TX 79851	(915) 369-2321	Hudspeth County	Residential and Commercial Collection
Jeff Davis County				
Texas Disposal Systems	2501 E, US-90, Alpine, TX 79830	(432) 837-0845	Jeff Davis County	Residential and Commercial Collection

Table Att.III.H.1. - Public and Private Management Agencies and Responsibilities				
Company	Address	Phone	Service Area	Services Offered
Republic Services	3001 Old Marathon, Highway, Alpine, TX 79830	(432) 561-7600	Jeff Davis County	Residential and Commercial Collection
Presidio County				
City of Presidio	P.O. Box 1899 Presidio, TX 79845	(432) 229-3517	Presidio	Residential and Commercial Collection
Republic Services	3001 Old Marathon, Highway, Alpine, TX 79830	(432) 561-7600	Marfa	Residential and Commercial Collection

Attachment III.O. Identification of the Process that Will be Used to Evaluate Whether a Proposed Municipal Solid Waste Facility Application Will be in Conformance with the Regional Plan

TCEQ requires each Council of Governments, through its Solid Waste Advisory Committee, to review applications for municipal solid waste facility permits within its region. The process for evaluating proposed MSW facilities will be based on the 30 TAC 330 rules and must conform to adopted regional solid waste management plans. Each application must be reviewed for conformance with the regional solid waste management plan goals.

- The RGCOG recommendation to the TCEQ shall be consistent with the regional solid waste management plan.
- The regional plan established by the RGCOG will not address technical aspects of whether a facility will be constructed to be protective of human health and the environment, as these are factors to be considered by the TCEQ in their technical review of the application.
- The RGCOG does not approve or deny municipal solid waste management permit applications, as this is the responsibility of the TCEQ.

The regional plans and the COG's conformance review are used by the TCEQ to assist the agency. Proposed facilities within a planning region which conform to its regional solid waste plan provide an opportunity to achieve regional goals.

Attachment IV.A.**RGCOG Board of Directors Resolution****RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, under provision §361.014 (b), Texas Health and Safety Code, and §330, Subchapter O, Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Regulation;

WHEREAS, the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) will serve for the Rio Grande Council of Governments region for the next twenty-years, 2022-2042;

WHEREAS, the Rio Grande Council of Governments held a public meeting via GoToMeeting on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 9 AM;

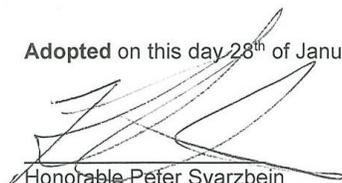
WHEREAS, the Rio Grande Council of Governments made the RSWMP available to the public for thirty days at the Rio Grande Council of Governments; and

WHEREAS, the Rio Grande Council of Governments completed RSWMP has been reviewed by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC).

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Rio Grande Council of Governments:

1. The Rio Grande Council of Governments Regional Solid Waste Management Plan is hereby officially adopted.
2. That the Rio Grande Council of Governments staff is hereby authorized to submit the revised Regional Solid Waste Management Plan to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for approval.

Adopted on this day 28th of January, 2022.


 Honorable Peter Svarzbein
 RGCOG Board President


 Ms. Annette Gutierrez
 RGCOG Executive Director

January 28, 2022

Attachment IV.B.
I. RGCOG Public Notice



NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
RIO GRANDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP)
Virtual Public Meeting

The Rio Grande Council of Governments (RGCOG) is updating the current Regional Solid Waste Management Plan 2002-2022 for the next twenty (20) years, as per Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) requirements. The plan addresses all solid waste activities within the region.

The public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 9 am MDT via GoToMeetings <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/842146805>

You can also dial in using your phone

+1 (646) 749-3122

Access Code: 842-146-805

Written comments may be submitted via email to cynthiam@riocog.org and/or via mail to Cynthia Mendez, Rio Grande Council of Governments, 8037 Lockheed, Ste. 100, El Paso, TX 79925 and must be received no later than 4 p.m. MDT, November 15, 2021.

Notes:

- Notice of Public Comment and Meeting was advertised in the following newspapers: Big Bend Sentinel (10/7/22); El Paso, Inc. (10/1/22); Jeff Davis Mountain Dispatch (10/7/22); Hudspeth County Herald (10/8/22); & Van Horn Advocate (10/7/22).
- Virtual Public Meeting was held on October 13, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m. (MDT) via GoToMeetings; no agenda; no one called in, thus no comments received.
- No written comments were received by RGCOG.

II. Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) Meeting November 16, 2021 - Agenda



Rio Grande Council of Governments

Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Tuesday, November 16, 2021
10:00 am (MST)

Webinar/Conference Call

AGENDA

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/365733917>

Call-In Number: +1 (571) 317-3122

Access Code: 365-733-917

DISCUSSION WITH ACTION AS APPROPRIATE ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Roll Call, Determination of Quorum, and Introductions
3. Consider, discuss, and take appropriate action regarding 2022-2042 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP)
4. Adjournment

III. Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) Meeting November 16, 2021 - Minutes



Rio Grande Council of Governments

**Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Tuesday, November 16, 2021
10am (MST)**

Minutes

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/365733917>

Call-In Number: +1 (571) 317-3122

Access Code: 365-733-917

Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Ms. Ellen Smyth

GoToMeeting due to COVID-19

Members Present: Roll Call conducted by Ms. Ellen Smyth

Committee Members Present:	Others Present:
Ms. Ellen Smyth, City of El Paso	Michael Flores, Lower Valley Water District
Representative Alexandra Annello, City of El Paso	
Mayor Becky Brewster, Town of Van Horn	
Mayor Manuel Leos, Village of Vinton	
Alderman Adan Ruiz Proxy for Mayor Dora Aguirre, Town of Clint	
Ms. Kelly Perez Proxy for Mayor Manny Baeza, City of Marfa	
Mr. Cristian Benitez, City of El Paso	
Ms. Adelina Beall Proxy for Ms. Megan Antrim, City of Alpine	
Mr. Chuck McMahon, Dona Ana County	
Mr. Scott Berry, El Paso Disposal	
Mr. Armando Magallanes, Lower Valley Water District	
Dr. Victor Valenzuela, Keep El Paso Beautiful	
Dr. Carlos A. Rincon, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/El Paso Border Office	
Mr. Kurt Fenstermacher, Ft. Bliss/Public Works Sustainability & Energy Division	
Mr. Nicholas Ybarra, City of El Paso	
Ms. Marisa Quintanilla, RGCOG	
Ms. Cynthia Mendez, RGCOG	

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order

Ms. Ellen Smyth called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Item 2: Roll Call and Determination of Quorum and Introductions

Roll call, determination of quorum, and introductions was completed by Ms. Ellen Smyth.

Item 3: Consider, discuss, and take appropriate action regarding 2022-2042 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP)

Mr. Nicholas Ybarra, City of El Paso Environmental Services Engineering Division Manager reviewed the eight goals of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) and outlined objectives. Mr. Ybarra responded to member inquiries and/or clarified items pertaining to the process. It was suggested by Dr. Carlos Rincon to include the statement, “through private/public partnership” to Goal 3: Reduce disposal of Scrap Tires through recycling - Objective 3A: Develop a regional scrap tire collection and disposal contract. Objective will be revised to read, “Develop a regional scrap tire collection and disposal contract through private/public partnerships.”

Ms. Marisa Quintanilla informed Committee that a regional virtual Public Meeting was held October 13, 2021. Additionally, public notices were placed throughout regional newspapers to include City of El Paso. Lastly, the RSWMP was available to the public for thirty days.

Dr. Carlos Rincon motioned to approve the RSWMP as proposed with addendum to be included as suggested. Representative Alexandra Annello seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Item 4: New Business

Dr. Carlos Rincon stated that once the RSWMP is submitted to and approved by TCEQ in January 2022, he would have Ms. Cristina Viescas, EPA Region 6 Co-Leader to the Border 2025 U.S.-Mexico Environmental Program contact Ms. Cynthia Mendez in order to work jointly on goals and objectives that cross-over both the RGCOG Solid Waste program and the Border 2025 program.

As per the National EPA Coordinators, “The U.S.-Mexico Environmental Program: Border 2025 is a five-year (2021-2025) binational effort designed to “Protect the environment and public health in the U.S.-Mexico border region for the long-term economic, cultural and social well-being of present and future generations, and acknowledge the importance of engaging with these groups in the long-term conservation of the environment.” Its implementation will be accomplished within the framework of the respective laws and regulations of the U.S. and Mexico.”

Ms. Ellen Smyth suggested that an agenda item be placed for the next SWAC meeting and have Dr. Rincon provide an update of joint effort to maintain mutual support of these two programs.

Item 5: Adjournment

Mayor Leos motioned to adjourn the meeting. Representative Annello seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. The SWAC meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.