

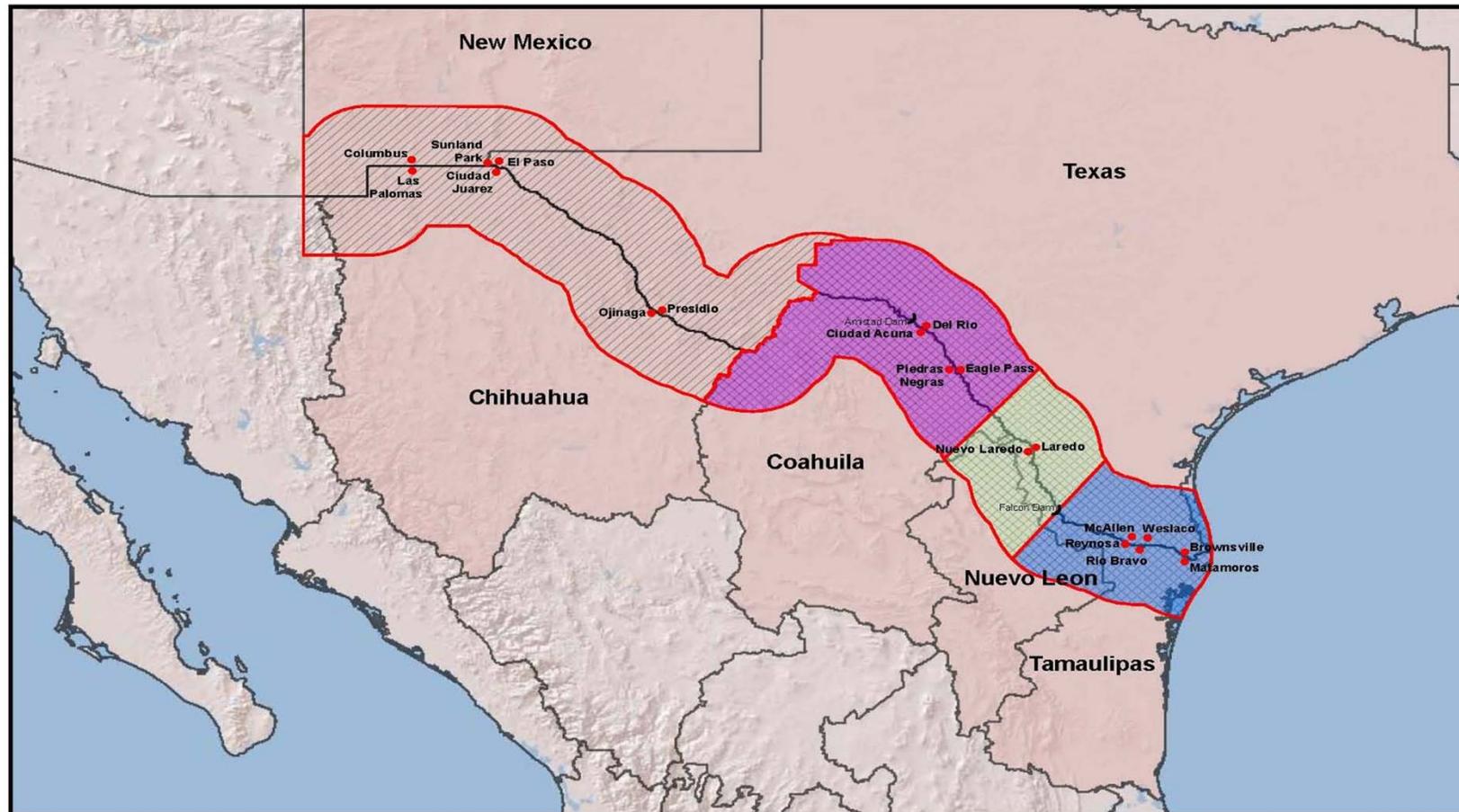
US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

*JRT 2009*

EPA Region 6 / Mexico  
Border

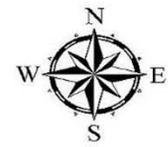
Texas/New Mexico/Chihuahua  
Texas/Coahuila /Nuevo Leon/ Tamaulipas

Emergency Preparedness and  
Response Program



- Region**
- Tri-State— Sam Coleman (Chair)  
 Maria Cisneros (EPA), Jhana Enders (EPA)  
 Gina Posada (TCEQ)
  - Four-State— Miguel Flores (Chair)
- Task Forces**
- Amistad— Brandi Todd (EPA), Victor Wong (TCEQ)
  - Falcon— Brandi Todd (EPA), Victor Wong (TCEQ)
  - Gulf— Palge Degado (EPA), Claudia Lozano (TCEQ)

# EPA Region 6 Border Designations



Map Created: 08/06/2009 @ EPA Region 6 RRC

# Region 6 Emergency Preparedness and Response Border Team



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**Program Coordinator**

Jim Staves

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**Gulf Task Force**

Paige Delgado

**Falcon Task Force**

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**Amistad Task Force**

Brandi Todd

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**Tri-State Task Force**

Jhana Enders  
Maria Sisneros

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**Special Projects**

Valmichael Leos

# Region 6

[www.epaosc.org/region6borderoperations](http://www.epaosc.org/region6borderoperations)

**OSC** On-Scene Coordinator | profile | bulletins | images | documents | POLREPs | contacts | links | login | profile | Navigate epa osc

**USEPA Region 6 Border Activities**  
Dallas, TX - EPA Region VI

Site Contact:  
**Jim Staves**  
Superfund Border Coordinator  
[staves\\_james@epa.gov](mailto:staves_james@epa.gov)

Dallas, TX  
[www.epaosc.org/region6borderoperations](http://www.epaosc.org/region6borderoperations)

KML | [RSS](#) | [area map](#) | [bookmark](#)

This site serves as a working tool for the Region 6 On Scene Coordinators and the Region 6 Emergency Response Border Team. This site includes a monthly Situation Report, information on scheduled events for all Border activities, Contingency Plans, Policies and Agreements, OSC Authority, Insurance information, MOAs, Training Documents and Contact Information of Border personnel. In order to access the majority of documents on this website you must have a Login ID.

**US EPA Region 6 Border 2012 Activity Calendar**

Today | September 2009 | Print | Week | Month | Agenda

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	Sep 1	2	3	4	5
		8:30am US-Mexico J	US Mexico Border Governors Conference, Emergency an			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
				Amistad Task Forc		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3

Events shown in time zone: Central Time

Right sidebar navigation:  
[Bulletins](#)  
 None for this site.  
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[Documents](#)  
[May 2009 Activity Schedule for...](#)  
[April 2009 Activity Schedule f...](#)  
[Border Operation Ma](#)  
[Border 2012 Program Overview S...](#)  
[List All...](#)  
[POLREPs](#)  
 None for this site.  
[Contacts](#)  
[Knowledge Exchang and JRT Team Lead](#)  
[leos.valmichael@epa](#)  
[EPA Superfund Bord Support](#)  
[brescia.nicolas@epa](#)  
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[Links](#)  
[Laredo/Nuevo Laredo Interagenc](#)

# Region 6 BECC Grants



## Border Environment Cooperation Commission Grants

FY 09 grant awards announced in October

### Proposed Projects include:

- Eagle Pass/Piedras Negras 1998 'Cross Border Contingency Plan Revision  
*submitted by City of Eagle Pass*
- Brownsville/Matamoros Training, Exercise and Sister City Plan update  
*submitted by City of Brownsville*
- Del Rio/Acuna Sister City Plan Update  
*submitted by UANL & Rio Grande Institute*
- Laredo/Nuevo Laredo Expansion of Sister City Plan  
*submitted by UANL & Rio Grande Institute*

# What is OSHA's HAZWOPER standard?

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The Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standard (HAZWOPER) **specified by 1910.120(a)(1)(i-v) and 1926.65(a)(1)(i-v):**

Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 264 and 265 pursuant to RCRA, or by agencies **under agreement with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** to implement RCRA regulations; and emergency response operations for releases of, or substantial threats of releases of, hazardous substances regardless of the location of the hazard.

# Requirements for HAZWOPER trainers?

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The "Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response" standard (HAZWOPER), 29 CFR 1910.120, states in paragraph (e)(5) that "Trainers shall be qualified to instruct employees about the subject matter that is being presented in training".

**academic degrees, completed training courses and/or work experience**

**OSHA does not have any specific requirements to certify an instructor**



# EPA certified Hazmat Training

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## **EPA Training topics completed:**

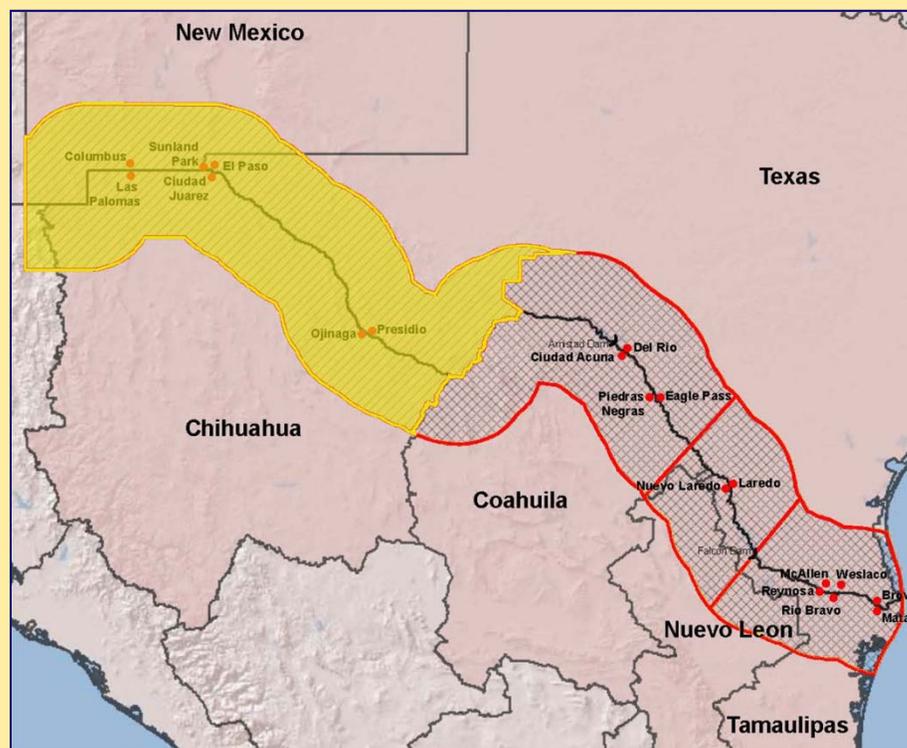
- Incident/Unified Command  
100-400 level
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Decontamination  
Identification of Hazardous  
Materials
- FRP, NRP, NIMS
- CBRN Response
- Spanish CAMEO
- FOG Manual Spanish
- Hazmat Awareness, Tech., and Operations  
Training
- Mass Causality Hospital  
Decontamination

## **Types of certified training offered by EPA:**

- 8 hour Awareness level
- 24 hour Technician level
- 40 hour Operations level
- 24 hour Specialist (e.g. Incident  
Commander) level

# Tri-State Regional Workgroup

## Texas/New Mexico/Chihuahua



# Tri-State Regional Workgroup New Mexico/Chihuahua Task Force



## Accomplishments

- **Capacity Building:**

Palomas received 2 Fire Trucks from Hurley & Columbus. Aug 2008

- **Binational Exercise Palomas, Sept 2008**  
450 participants including:

- |            |                            |  |
|------------|----------------------------|--|
| •EPA       | •Mexican Customs           | •Junta de Aguas Rural                    |
| •PROFEPA   | •New Mexico DHS            | •Palomas Health Clinic                   |
| •PEMEX     | •Mexican Army              | •New Mexico Department of Health         |
| •TCEQ      | •City of Juarez Fire Dept. | •New Mexico Sunland Park Fire Department |
| •Red Cross | •Palomas Elementary School |  |





# Tri-State Regional Workgroup Texas/New Mexico/Chihuahua Task Force



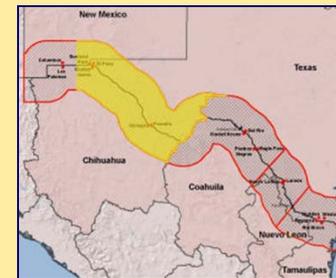
## Accomplishments

### Equipment Exchange and Training Santa Teresa, June 2009

- Hosted by EPA, NORTHCOM & PROFEPA, Proteccion Civil
- 24 Juarez responders Hazmat Technician trained
- Juarez received hazmat response equipment



# Tri-State Regional Workgroup Texas/New Mexico/Chihuahua Task Force



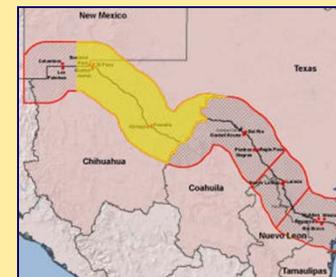
## Accomplishments

### Capacity Building El Paso, July 2009

El Paso trained 6 Juarez Airport ER Firefighters



# Tri-State Regional Workgroup Texas/New Mexico/Chihuahua Task Force



## Current Projects

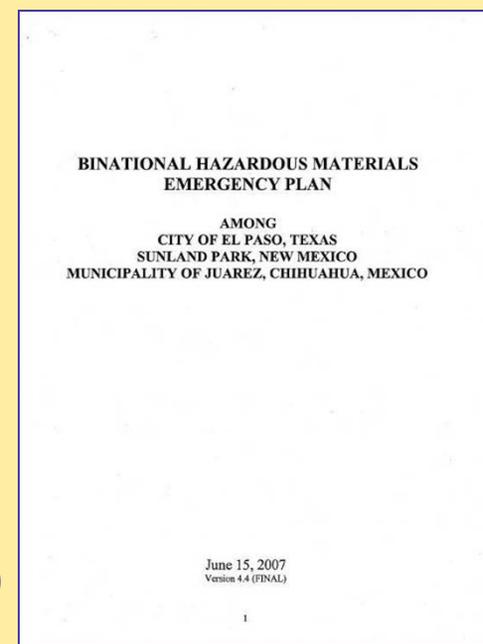
**El Paso/Sunland Park/Juarez/Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe  
Communications MOU Aug 2009**

- Originally signed 2007
- Tabletop exercise April 2008

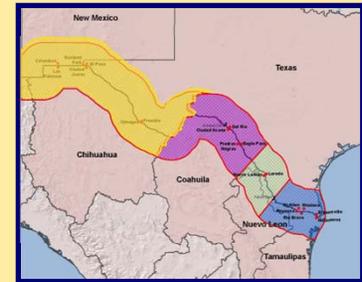
## Future

**El Paso/Sunland Park/Juarez/Ysleta del Sur Pueblo  
Communications MOU Signing Ceremony Sept 2009**

- Discussions of Response MOU to follow
- Task Force Annual Public Meeting October/November 2009

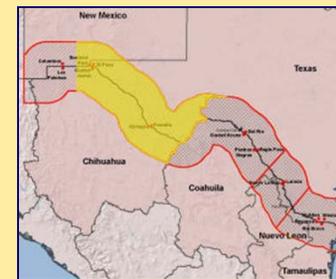


# Tri-State Regional Workgroup Texas/New Mexico/Chihuahua Task Force



- **EPA ETV Program Test of RFID Technologies for Hazardous Waste Tracking Across International Borders**
  - RFID Verification test conducted near El Paso, TX in March
    - US-Mexico and US only routes
    - Testing involved evaluation of tag and reader performance
      - GPS Tracking of the material
      - RFID Identification (tagged individual drums and cargo)
      - Panic button
      - Route deviation alerts
  - Report Available at end of September 2009
  - Potential use of this technology to assist responders identify material that may be involved in possible incidences that could occur

# Tri-State Regional Workgroup Texas/New Mexico/Chihuahua Task Force



## Contacts

**Maria Sisneros**                      **EPA**                      [Sisneros.Maria@epa.gov](mailto:Sisneros.Maria@epa.gov)

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**Jhana Enders**                      **EPA**                      [Enders.Jhana@epa.gov](mailto:Enders.Jhana@epa.gov)

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**Gina Posada**                      **TCEQ**                      [eposada@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:eposada@tceq.state.tx.us)

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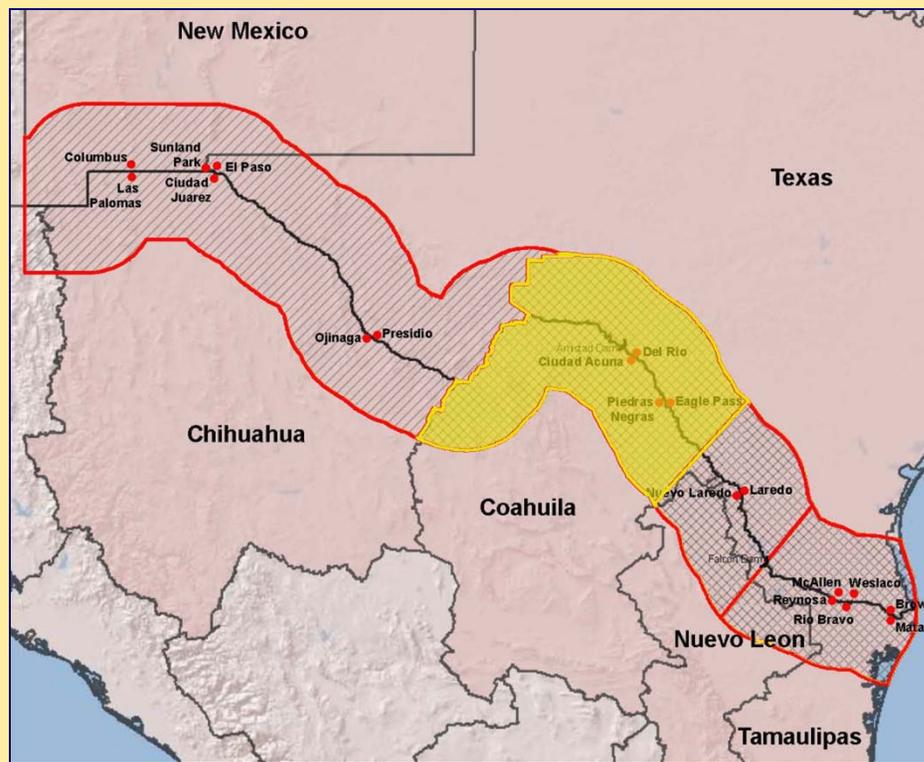
**Robert Monsivaiz**              **US Co-leader**      [robertm@donaanacounty.org](mailto:robertm@donaanacounty.org)

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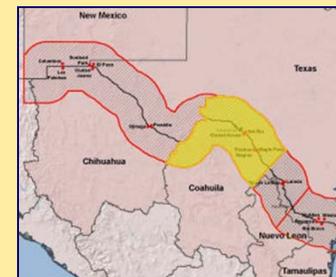
**Bernardo Escudero**      **MX Co-leader**      [bescudero@juarez.gob.mx](mailto:bescudero@juarez.gob.mx)

# Amistad Task Force

## Texas/ Coahuila



# Amistad Task Force



## Accomplishments

**International Exercise Workshops:** ICS, Equipment, & Hazmat training

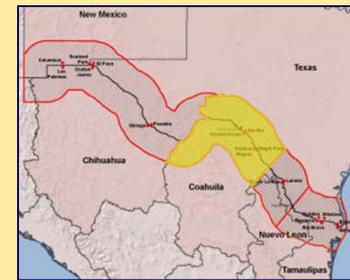
**2006 Piedras Negras Tri-National Biological Tabletop & Field exercise**

**2007 Del Rio-Acuna Tabletop & Field Exercise:** *Chlorine tank explosion*

**2008 Piedras Negras Exercise:** *Railcar collision*



# Amistad Task Force



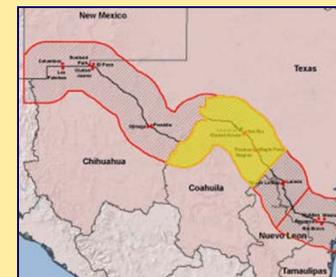
## Accomplishments

### Equipment Exchange and Training Acuna, June 2009

- Hosted by EPA, NORTHCOM & PROFEPA
- Emergency responders Hazmat Technician trained
- Acuna received hazmat response equipment



# Amistad Task Force



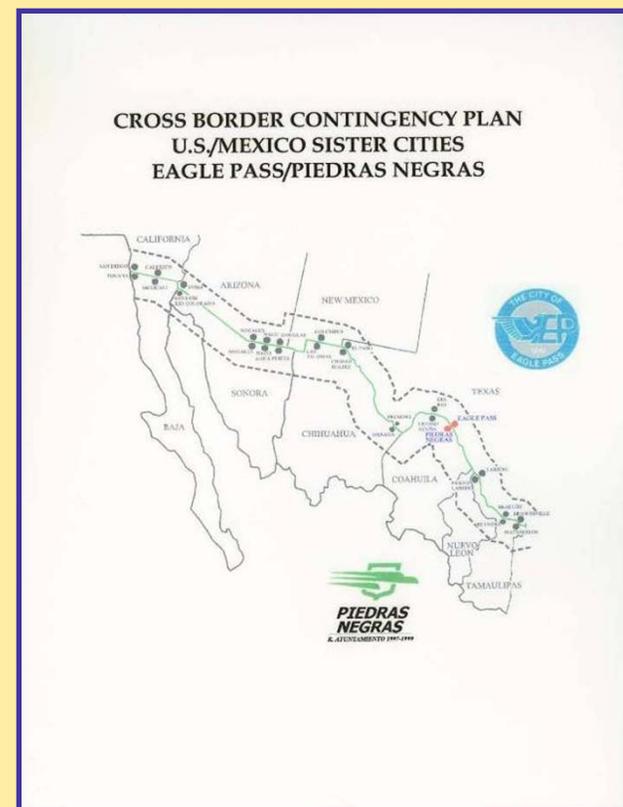
## Current Projects

**Eagle Pass / Piedras Negras applied for BECC grant to update Sister City Plan**

Last revised 1998

**Del Rio / Acuna updating Sister City Plan**

- Last revised 2001
- Acuna Civil Protection & Del Rio Municipality



# Amistad Task Force



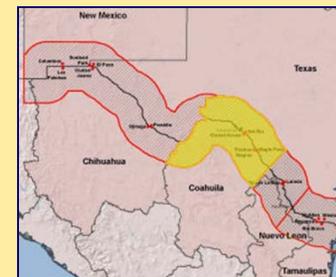
## Future

Knowledge Exchange Eagle Pass or Del Rio, 2010

Equipment Exchange and Training



# Amistad Task Force



## Contacts

**Rafael Ortiz**      **Civil Proteccion Piedras Negras**      [xe2or@hotmail.com](mailto:xe2or@hotmail.com)

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**Jesus Rodriguez**      **Eagle Pass Fire Dept.**      [jrodriguez@cityofeaglepass.com](mailto:jrodriguez@cityofeaglepass.com)

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**Brandi Todd**      **EPA**      [Todd.Brandi@epa.gov](mailto:Todd.Brandi@epa.gov)

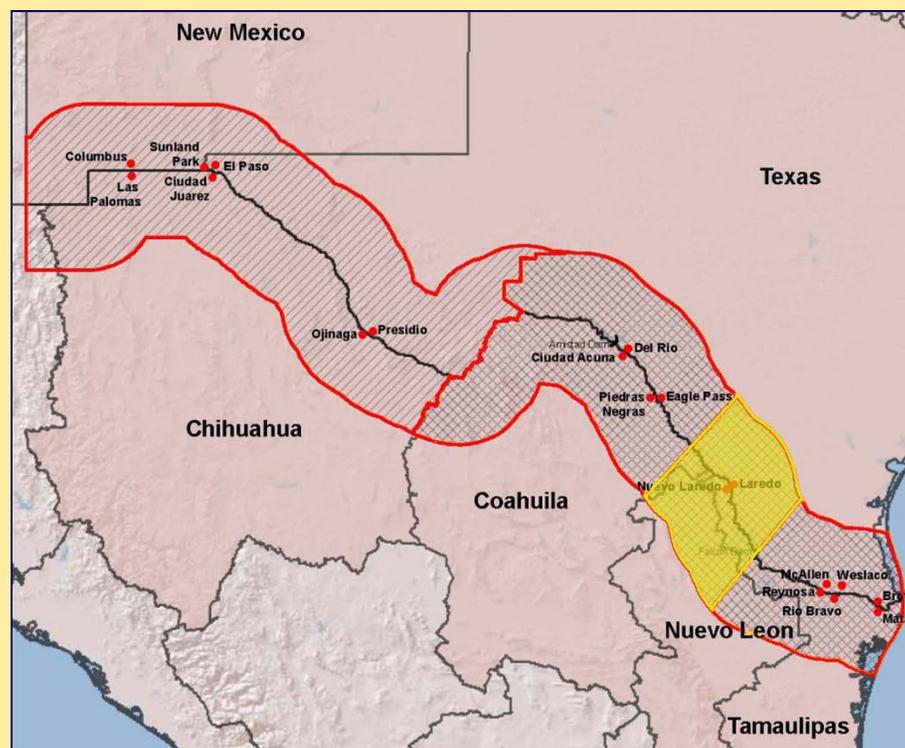
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**Victor Wong**      **TCEQ**      [VWong@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:VWong@tceq.state.tx.us)

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# Falcon Task Force

## Texas/ Nuevo Leon / Tamaulipas



# Falcon Task Force



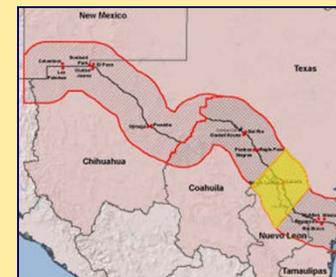
## Accomplishments

### Knowledge Exchange & Tabletop Exercise April 2009

- ICS Training
- Weapons of Mass Destruction Awareness Course
- Laredo Fire Dept. equipment demonstration
- Tabletop Exercise of current Sister City Plan



# Falcon Task Force

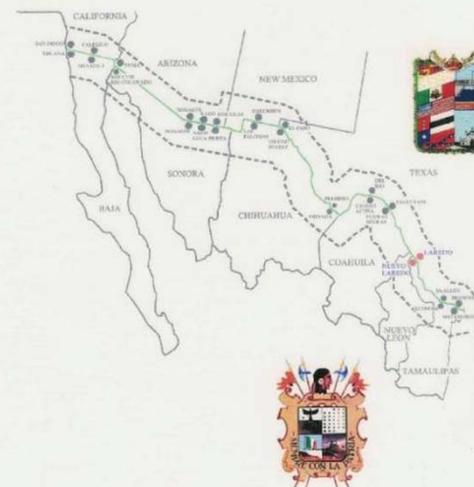


## Current Projects

### Drafting Update Laredo / Nuevo Laredo Sister City Plan

- Plan developed 1998
- Leads: Proteccion Civil Nuevo Laredo & Laredo Fire Dept.
- Draft near completion
- Possible contractor support via BECC grant
- Future regional expansion

### CROSS BORDER CONTINGENCY PLAN U.S./MEXICO SISTER CITIES LAREDO/NUEVO LAREDO



# Falcon Task Force



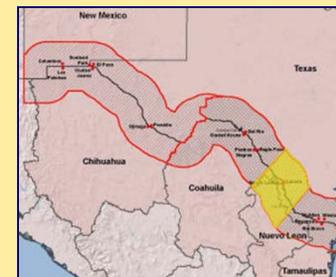
## Future

### Equipment Exchange & Training 2010 Nuevo Laredo,

- Hosted by EPA, NORTHCOM, PROFEPA. Proteccion Civil
- ICS & Hazmat Technician training



# Falcon Task Force



## Contacts

**Lic. Juan Rivera**   **Civil Protection Nuevo Laredo**   [proteccioncivil@nuevolaredo.gob.mx](mailto:proteccioncivil@nuevolaredo.gob.mx)

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**Eloy Vega**   **Laredo Fire Dept.**   [evega@ci.laredo.tx.us](mailto:evega@ci.laredo.tx.us)

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**Brandi Todd**   **EPA**   [Todd.Brandi@epa.gov](mailto:Todd.Brandi@epa.gov)

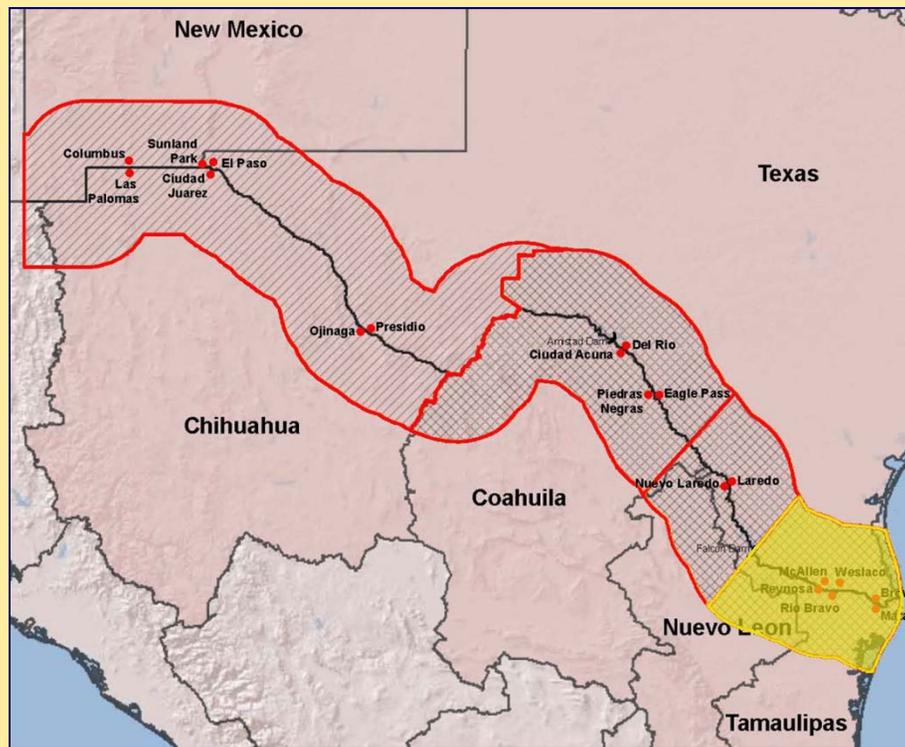
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**Victor Wong**   **TCEQ**   [VWong@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:VWong@tceq.state.tx.us)

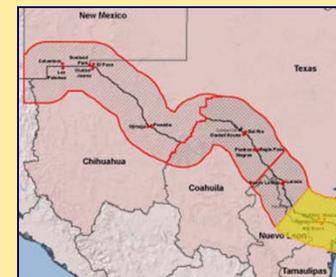
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# Gulf Task Force

## Texas / Tamaulipas



# Gulf Task Force



## Lead Agencies

- Municipal Fire Departments
- PROFEPA
- SEMARNAT
- Civil Protection
- Texas Department of Health
- Lower Rio Grande Valley Council of Governments
- EPA
- TCEQ

## Goals

- Maintain up-to-date contacts & capabilities for response agencies
- Develop communications network using most effective technology
- Improve bi-national partnerships

# Gulf Task Force



## Accomplishments

**Bi-National Tabletop Exercise  
McAllen, June 2009**



# Gulf Task Force



## Accomplishments

McAllen/Reynosa Sister-City Plan Signing  
McAllen, June 2009



# Gulf Task Force



## Accomplishments

### Updated & Regionalized McAllen/Reynosa Sister City Plan

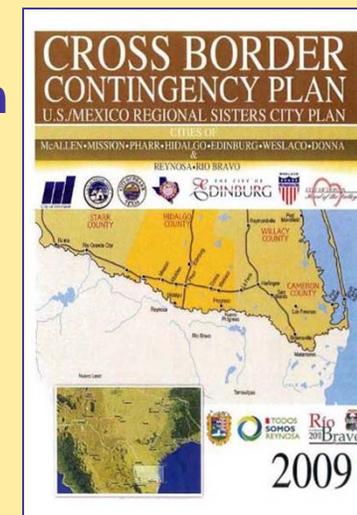
Signed on June 4, 2009

#### Regional plan includes:

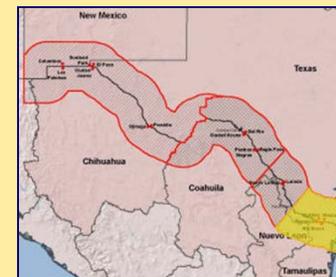
- Edinburg, Hidalgo, Mission, and Pharr
- Current contact/resource information
- Strategy for activation and emergency response
- Public health emergencies and natural disasters (in addition to HAZMAT)

Revisions generated from January 2009 training, results of risk analysis, and input from first responders from U.S. and Mexico.

Planning bi-national exercise in 2010



# Gulf Task Force



## Current Projects

### Regional Emergency Communications Plan

#### Goals:

- Updated bi-national contact data and capabilities
- Federal, state, and local response agency coordination
- Communication network using the most effective technology
- Use of compatible communications equipment

#### Status:

- Border 2012 Funds applied for
- Negotiating funding for radio equipment and mobile communications trailer
- Hidalgo County (lead) working with Lower Rio Grande Valley Council of Governments Interoperability Communication Plan



# Gulf Task Force

## Current Projects

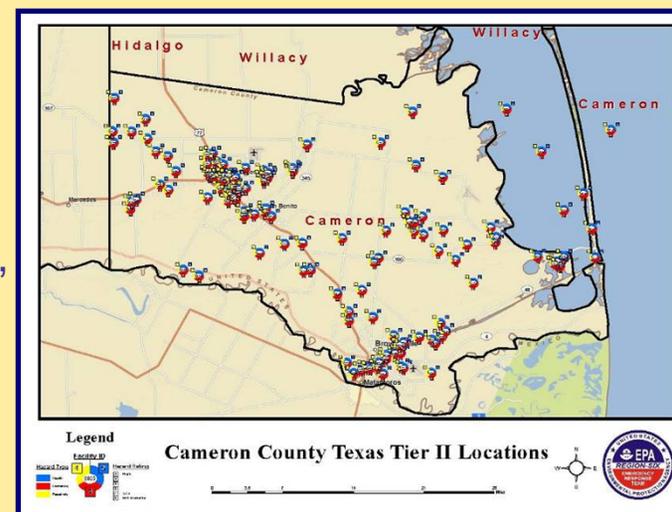
### Regional Hazardous Materials Risk Map

#### Goals:

- Electronic GIS HAZMAT Risk Map showing storage, transportation, and disposal locations
- Provide to first responders and emergency management personnel

#### Status:

- Identifying/acquiring HAZMAT information along the border
- Coordinating with:
  - Texas Department of Health
  - Texas DPS
  - Director of Civil Protection (Tamaulipas)
  - Region 6 EPA (E-Plan)
  - Maquilador Associations of Matamoros and Reynosa



# Gulf Task Force



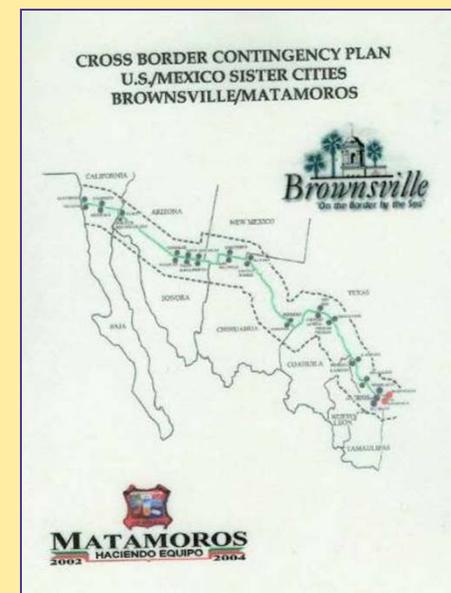
## Future

### Update/Regionalize Matamoros/Brownsville Sister City Plan

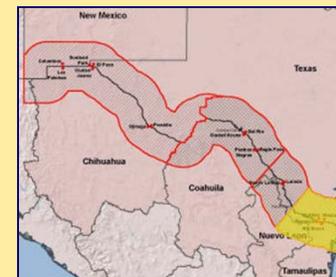
#### Regional plan will include:

- Harlingen, San Benito, and Los Indios
- Current contact/resource information
- Strategy for activation and emergency response
- Public health emergencies and natural disasters (in addition to HAZMAT)
- Execution of bi-national exercise

**Status:** Proposal submitted for BECC Grant through the Border 2012 Grant Program to update 2002 Plan.



# Gulf Task Force



## Future

### Develop Roma-Aleman & Rio Grande City-Camargo Sister City Plans

#### Goal:

- Attain Sister-City designation in Border 2012 Program
- Create Sister-City Joint Emergency Plans for these cities by interagency, multi-state, and bi-national coordination

#### Status:

- Proposed to appropriate officials after Gulf Task Force Meeting in November 2008.

# Gulf Task Force



## Contacts

**Manuel Montiel**      **Association of Maquiladoras**

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**Rick Saldana**      **Mission Fire Dept.**

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**Paige Delgado**      **EPA**      [Delgado.Paige@epa.gov](mailto:Delgado.Paige@epa.gov)

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**Claudia Lozano**      **TCEQ**      [CLozano@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:CLozano@tceq.state.tx.us)

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# Gulf Task Force



## FY 2010 Goals

- Provide HAZMAT Equipment and HAZMAT Technician/  
Equipment Training
  - Matamoros, Tamaulipas
  - Reynosa, Tamaulipas
- Knowledge Exchange
  - Sister-City Location To Be Determined