

# **Rider Comparison Packet**

**Conference Committee on Senate Bill 1**

## **2026-27 General Appropriations Bill**

**Article 6 – Natural Resources**

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Differences Only - Excludes Capital

Senate

House

**4. Transfer Authority.** Notwithstanding provisions relating to appropriation transfers contained in Article IX, Section 14.01, Appropriation Transfers, of this Act, the Department of Agriculture (TDA) may not transfer amounts identified for cost recovery programs in Rider 19, Appropriations Limited to Revenue Collections: Cost Recovery Programs, between strategies nor may TDA transfer appropriations from non-related programs into cost recovery programs.

**11. Administrative Allocation: Councils of Governments.** From the federal administrative monies made available to the Department of Agriculture under the Community Development Block Grant Program, an amount up to 19 percent of such monies shall be allocated for the councils of government, based upon agreements between the Department of Agriculture and each council of government, for technical assistance services that comply with the rules, policies, and standards established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**20. Texas Economic Development Fund No. 183.** Amounts in excess of the estimated appropriation above from all available earnings from the Texas Economic Development Fund No. 183 are appropriated to the Department of Agriculture, except that the department shall retain in the fund a minimum balance of \$2,225,593, as required by Agriculture Code, Section 12.0273. In the event that amounts available for distribution are less than the estimated appropriated amount, this Act may not be construed as appropriating funds to make up the difference.

**20. Texas Economic Development Fund No. 183.** Amounts in excess of the estimated appropriation above from all available earnings or unobligated fund balances from prior years from the Texas Economic Development Fund No. 183 are appropriated to the Department of Agriculture, except that the department shall retain in the fund a minimum balance of \$2,225,593, as required by Agriculture Code, Section 12.0273. In the event that amounts available for distribution are less than the estimated appropriated amount, this Act may not be construed as appropriating funds to make up the difference.

**23. Plant Disease.** Out of funds appropriated above, the Department of Agriculture shall compile a report no later than December 1st of each even number calendar year to the Legislature detailing the plant disease strategies employed by the agency, identify the most likely pathways for new pests and disease to affect Texas agriculture, what diseases represent the greatest threat to agriculture, and what specific surveillance and mitigation efforts are underway to combat each disease currently in Texas as well as those likely to spread to Texas.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
(Continued)

Senate

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### 25. Rural Nursing Retention and Recruitment.

- (a) Amounts appropriated above to the Department of Agriculture in Strategy A.2.2, Rural Health, include \$925,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$925,000 in fiscal year 2027 from the General Revenue Fund to provide funding for Rural Nursing Recruitment and Retention stipends.
- (b) It is the intent of the legislature that recipient rural health facilities use funding to incentivize eligible nurses who shall commit to a minimum of two years in their position in order to receive a stipend. Funds may be prorated and disbursed on an annual basis.

**27. Agriculture Statewide Biosecurity Enforcement/Road Station Program.** Amounts appropriated above to the Department of Agriculture in Strategy B.1.1, Plant Health and Seed Quality, include \$3,514,101 in fiscal year 2026 and \$3,514,101 in fiscal year 2027 from the General Revenue Fund to operate five regional agricultural entry point inspection teams. The Department of Agriculture shall work with the Animal Health Commission as necessary for the operation of the stations and to allow the Animal Health Commission to conduct livestock inspections at these stations as needed.

**29. Travel Expenses of the Commissioner within the Continental United States.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, the Department of Agriculture may not expend more than \$5,000 each fiscal year for payment or reimbursement for expenses related to the travel of the Commissioner of Agriculture within the continental United States. None of the amounts appropriated above shall be spent for any international travel expenses of the Commissioner of Agriculture. The Department of Agriculture shall submit a report to the Legislative Budget Board, the Senate Finance Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee no later than August 31st of each fiscal year detailing the travel expenses of the Commissioner of Agriculture for that fiscal year.

### 26. Rural Nursing Retention and Recruitment.

- (a) Amounts appropriated above to the Department of Agriculture in Strategy A.2.2, Rural Health, include \$925,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$925,000 in fiscal year 2027 from the General Revenue Fund to provide funding for Rural Nursing Recruitment and Retention stipends.
- (b) It is the intent of the legislature that grant recipients be required to commit to a minimum of three years in their position in order to receive a stipend.

**28. Agricultural and Livestock Entry Point Inspection Stations.** Amounts appropriated above to the Department of Agriculture in Strategy B.1.1, Plant Health and Seed Quality, include \$3,514,101 in fiscal year 2026 and \$3,514,101 in fiscal year 2027 from the General Revenue Fund and 60.0 FTEs each fiscal year for the Department of Agriculture to operate five regional agricultural entry point inspection teams. The Department of Agriculture shall work with the Animal Health Commission as necessary for the operation of the stations and to allow the Animal Health Commission to conduct livestock inspections at these stations as needed.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
(Continued)

Senate

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**30. Appropriation: License Plate Receipts.** Amounts appropriated above in Strategy A.1.1, Maintain Trade and Promote Texas Agriculture and Economic Opportunities, include all revenues collected, interest earned, and available balances on or after September 1, 2025, estimated to total \$138,062 for the 2026-27 biennium out of the License Plate Trust Fund No. 0802. The following is an informational listing of estimated collections per plate from specialty license plate sales totaling \$138,062 for the biennium and estimated available balances totaling \$0.

Specialty Plates	Revenue	Balance
American Quarter Horse Association specialty plates	\$21,000	\$0
Masonic Grant Lodge of Texas specialty plate	\$78,000	\$0
Order of the Eastern Star, Grand Chapter of Texas specialty plates	\$9,750	\$0
Texas Honey Bee Education Association specialty plates	\$9,750	\$0
GO TEXAN specialty plates	\$19,562	\$0

Any unexpended balances remaining as of August 31, 2026, are appropriated for the same purpose in the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2026.

**31. Department of Agriculture Grant Funding: Free Lunch.** Amounts appropriated above to the Department of Agriculture in strategy C.1.2, Nutrition Assistance for at-Risk Children and Adults, include \$6,600,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$6,600,000 in fiscal year 2027 from the General Revenue Fund that shall be used to provide free lunch in lieu of reduced price lunch to qualified students.

**ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

Differences Only - Excludes Capital

Senate

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**2. Laboratory Testing.**

- (a) Laboratory testing for animal diseases shall be performed at the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL), the state's regulatory animal health laboratory. The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) shall utilize the services at TVMDL to the extent required by Agriculture Code, Section 161.0603. TAHC shall use funds appropriated by this Act to enter into an interagency memorandum of understanding (MOU) with TVMDL, to be reviewed annually, that establishes the scope of laboratory services needed, reporting and data sharing requirements, and a fee structure. No later than October 1 of each year, the agency shall report to the Legislative Budget Board (LBB) and the Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA) the estimated total contract amount agreed to in the MOU. No later than November 1 of each year, the agency shall report to the LBB and the CPA the testing costs it was billed for by TVMDL in the previous fiscal year.
- (b) In addition to the amounts appropriated above, General Revenue Fund amounts (estimated to be \$0) shall be appropriated to TAHC in amounts necessary to cover laboratory testing costs incurred where such costs exceed 10.0 percent of the estimated total contract amount agreed to in the MOU between TAHC and TVMDL each fiscal year contingent upon (1) the occurrence of an animal disease outbreak; (2) the Executive Director and State Veterinarian of TAHC certifying the outbreak occurrence and laboratory costs exceeding the estimated contract amount by 10.0 percent; and (3) the Executive Director and State Veterinarian of TAHC issuing a finding of fact to that effect to the LBB and the CPA. Upon receiving the finding of fact, the contingent appropriation shall be made available to fund the additional laboratory costs.

**2. Laboratory Testing.**

- (a) Laboratory testing for animal diseases shall be performed at the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL), the state's regulatory animal health laboratory. The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) shall utilize the services at TVMDL to the extent required by Agriculture Code, Section 161.0603. TAHC shall use funds appropriated by this Act to enter into an interagency memorandum of understanding (MOU) with TVMDL, to be reviewed annually, that establishes the scope of laboratory services needed, reporting and data sharing requirements, and a fee structure. No later than October 1 of each year, the agency shall report to the Legislative Budget Board (LBB) and the Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA) the estimated total contract amount agreed to in the MOU. No later than November 1 of each year, the agency shall report to the LBB and the CPA the testing costs it was billed for by TVMDL in the previous fiscal year.
- (b) In addition to the amounts appropriated above, General Revenue Fund amounts (estimated to be \$0) shall be appropriated to TAHC in amounts necessary to cover laboratory testing costs incurred where such costs exceed 10.0 percent of the estimated total contract amount agreed to in the MOU between TAHC and TVMDL each fiscal year contingent upon (1) the occurrence of an animal disease outbreak; (2) the Executive Director and State Veterinarian of TAHC certifying the outbreak occurrence and laboratory costs exceeding the estimated contract amount by 10.0 percent; and (3) the Executive Director and State Veterinarian of TAHC issuing a finding of fact to that effect to the LBB and the CPA. Upon receiving the finding of fact, the contingent appropriation shall be made available to fund the additional laboratory costs.
- (c) None of the funds identified in subsections (a) or (b) of this rider may be used for salaries and wages or other personnel expenditures.

**10. Report on Livestock Threats Over Ten Years.** Included in amounts appropriated above in Strategy A.1.1, Field Operations, the Texas Animal Health Commission is \$100,000 in General Revenue Funds in fiscal year 2026 to be used for no other purpose than to create and submit a report on threats to livestock over the next ten years, including recommendations on ways to combat the threats to the Legislative Budget Board, the House Appropriations Committee, the House Committee on Agriculture & Livestock, the Senate Committee on Water, Agriculture and

**ANIMAL HEALTH COMMISSION**  
Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
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Rural Affairs, and the Senate Finance Committee no later than December 1, 2026.

Any unexpected balances of these funds remaining as of August 31, 2026, are appropriated to the Texas Animal Health Commission for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2026, for the same purpose.

COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Differences Only - Excludes Capital

Senate

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7. Air Quality Planning.

- (a) Amounts appropriated above include \$4,500,000 out of the General Revenue-Dedicated Clean Air Account No. 151 in Strategy A.1.1, Air Quality Assessment and Planning, for air quality planning activities to reduce ozone in “affected counties” (as defined in Health and Safety Code, Section 386.001(2)) not designated as nonattainment areas for the O3 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) as of September 1, 2025, and other areas at significant risk of being designated nonattainment for the O3 NAAQS in the future as approved by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). These activities may be carried out through interlocal agreements.

Expenditure of these funds is limited to: inventorying emissions, monitoring of pollution levels, and administration of the program. TCEQ shall allocate a base amount of \$281,250 to each state planning region containing such areas and the remaining funds proportionally to each state planning region with a combined population of affected counties in excess of 350,000. Grants issued from appropriations identified in this rider should require that no more than 10 percent of the allocation be used for administrative purposes and prohibit the expenditure of the following: marketing and outreach activities, bicycle use programs, carpooling awareness, environmental awareness campaigns, and locally enforceable pollution reduction programs. The grant recipients shall channel the funds to those projects most useful for the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

For informational purposes, the affected counties that are not designated “nonattainment” for the O3 NAAQS as of September 1, 2025, include Bastrop, Caldwell, Comal, El Paso, Gregg, Guadalupe, Hardin, Harrison, Hays, Henderson, Hood, Hunt, Jefferson, Nueces, Orange, Rusk, San Patricio, Smith, Travis, Upshur, Williamson, and Wilson Counties. Additional "attainment/unclassifiable” areas may also be added by TCEQ to this grant program based on their status as being part of a core-based statistical area (CBSA) with O3 design values in excess of 60 parts per billion (ppb).

- (b) Amounts appropriated above include \$2,500,000 out of the General Revenue-Dedicated Clean Air Account No. 151 in Strategy A.1.1, Air Quality Assessment and Planning, for air quality planning activities to reduce fine particulate matter (PM2.5) in “affected counties” (as defined in Health and Safety Code, Section 386.001(2)) not designated as nonattainment areas for PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) as of September 1, 2025, and other areas at significant risk of being designated nonattainment for PM2.5 NAAQS in the future as approved by the TCEQ. These activities may be carried out through

7. Air Quality Planning.

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Expenditure of these funds is limited to: inventorying emissions, monitoring of pollution levels, air pollution data analysis, modeling pollution levels, regional air quality planning, and administration of the program. TCEQ shall allocate a base amount of \$281,250 to each state planning region containing such areas and the remaining funds proportionally to each state planning region with a combined population of affected counties in excess of 350,000. Grants issued from appropriations identified in this rider should require that no more than 10 percent of the allocation be used for administrative purposes and prohibit the expenditure of the following: marketing and outreach activities, bicycle use programs, carpooling awareness, environmental awareness campaigns, and locally enforceable pollution reduction programs. The grant recipients shall channel the funds to those projects most useful for the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

For informational purposes, the affected counties that are not designated “nonattainment” for the O3 NAAQS as of September 1, 2024, include Bastrop, Caldwell, Comal, El Paso, Gregg, Guadalupe, Hardin, Harrison, Hays, Henderson, Hood, Hunt, Jefferson, Nueces, Orange, Rusk, San Patricio, Smith, Travis, Upshur, Williamson, and Wilson Counties. Additional "attainment/unclassifiable” areas may also be added by TCEQ to this grant program based on their status as being part of a core-based statistical area (CBSA) with O3 design values in excess of 60 parts per billion (ppb).

- (b) Amounts appropriated above include \$4,500,000 out of the General Revenue-Dedicated Clean Air Account No. 151 in Strategy A.1.1, Air Quality Assessment and Planning, for air quality planning activities to reduce fine particulate matter (PM2.5) in “affected counties” (as defined in Health and Safety Code, Section 386.001(2)) not designated as nonattainment areas for PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) as of September 1, 2024, and other areas at significant risk of being designated nonattainment for PM2.5

COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
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Senate

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interlocal agreements.

Expenditure of these funds is limited to: inventorying emissions, monitoring of pollution levels, air pollution and data analysis; modeling pollution levels; and administration of the program. The TCEQ may allocate a base amount up to \$118,750 to each state planning region containing such areas and the remaining funds proportionally to each state planning region with a combined population of affected counties in excess of 350,000. Grants issued from appropriations identified in this rider should require that no more than 10 percent of the allocation be used for administrative purposes and prohibit the expenditure of the following: marketing and outreach activities, bicycle use programs, carpooling awareness, environmental awareness campaigns, and similar locally enforceable pollution reduction programs. The grant recipients shall channel the funds to those projects most useful for the SIP.

Additional "attainment/unclassifiable" areas may be added by TCEQ to this grant program contingent on available resources based on their status as being part of a core-based statistical area (CBSA) with an annual PM2.5 design value in excess of 8 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m³), or 24-hour PM2.5 design value in excess of 25 µg/m³.

NAAQS in the future as approved by the TCEQ. These activities may be carried out through interlocal agreements.

Expenditure of these funds is limited to: inventorying emissions, monitoring of pollution levels, air pollution data analysis; modeling pollution levels; regional air quality planning, and administration of the program. The TCEQ may allocate a base amount up to \$281,250 to each state planning region containing such areas and the remaining funds proportionally to each state planning region with a combined population of affected counties in excess of 350,000. Grants issued from appropriations identified in this rider should require that no more than 10 percent of the allocation be used for administrative purposes and prohibit the expenditure of the following: marketing and outreach activities, bicycle use programs, carpooling awareness, environmental awareness campaigns, and similar locally enforceable pollution reduction programs. The grant recipients shall channel the funds to those projects most useful for the SIP.

Additional "attainment/unclassifiable" areas may be added by TCEQ to this grant program contingent on available resources based on their status as being part of a core-based statistical area (CBSA) with an annual PM2.5 design value in excess of 8 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m³), or 24-hour PM2.5 design value in excess of 25 µg/m³.

**32. Emergency Response On-Call (Standby) and Overtime Pay.** The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), to the extent permitted by law, may pay compensation for on-call time for staff with emergency response duties at the following rates: credit for one hour worked per day on-call during the normal work week, and two hours worked per day on-call during weekends and holidays; this credit would be in addition to actual hours worked during normal duty hours or while on-call. Nonexempt employees who work a normal forty-hour work week, and work on-call duty, will receive Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) overtime rates for the on-call duty.

The TCEQ, to the extent permitted by law, may also pay FLSA exempt and FLSA nonexempt employees on a straight- time basis for work on a holiday or for regular compensatory time hours



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Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
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for duties related to the response, recovery, or support during emergency response events when directed by the Executive Director of the agency.

**33. Water Quality Model Update.** Amounts appropriated above include \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2026 from the General Revenue Fund in Strategy A.1.2, Water Assessment and Planning, that shall be used for the purpose of updating a water quality stream model to reflect current conditions of a segment of the Neches River. The agency may contract with an entity to conduct the assessment and rebuild of the model. Any unexpended balances remaining as of August 31, 2026, are appropriated for the same purpose in the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2026.

**34. Municipal Utility District Report.** Out of the amounts appropriated above, the Commission on Environmental Quality shall develop a report analyzing Municipal Utility Districts (MUDs). The report should include information on what current statutory authority exists over MUDs, local governance concerns, infrastructure impacts, the financial liability of MUDs on taxpayers including tax rates, and anything else the agency deems applicable. The report shall include recommendations on legislation to address the issues and include an evaluation on how to align MUDs with Municipal Management Districts (MMDs) interlocal development agreements. The agency shall submit the report to the Legislature by December 1, 2026.

**35. Monitoring and Report on Upper San Saba River.** Amounts appropriated above include \$500,000 from the General Revenue Fund in fiscal year 2026 in Strategy A.1.2, Water Assessment and Planning, that shall be used for the purpose of the Commission on Environmental Quality to provide comprehensive reports in three-month intervals on the Upper San Saba River from its headwaters to Richland Springs from March 2026 through November 2026. The comprehensive report should contain information including the monitoring of streamflow levels, observed irrigation practices, observed variations in vegetation that indicate overuse or misuse of water rights, suspected misuse of alluvial wells, the impact to low-to-zero-flows on flora and fauna including species listed on the Endangered Species list, and any enforcement actions taken by the

COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
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commission to protect superior riparian and appropriated water rights flora and fauna. The reports will be sent to the members of the Senate Water, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs and the House Natural Resources committees. Any unexpended balances remaining as of August 31, 2026, are appropriated in the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2026, for the same purposes.

- 36. Interbasin Transfer Permit Guidance.** Out of funds appropriated above, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality shall expend no staff time or resources of any type for the purpose of preparing, planning, or issuance of any permits related to an interbasin transfer of water from the Cypress Basin to any entity in or that services Regional Planning Group C as defined by the 2022 State Water Plan.
- 37. Existing Environmental Remediation Agreements.** It is the intent of the Legislature that the Commission on Environmental Quality, pursuant to its authority under Section 361.133(c-1), Health and Safety Code, or other law, use money appropriated by this Act that is available for the purpose to abide with the Remediation Funding Trust Agreement for remediation at the site of the former Exide Battery Recycling Center.
- 38. Release of Water Quality Studies on Salinity.** Out of existing appropriations, by September 1, 2026, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality shall publish on an Internet website a report on the results of long-term studies conducted between 2003 and 2025 by the commission and other state agencies of estuarine salinity gradients. The report should assess, based on available information from stakeholders and the studies, the effects of additional wastewater loading, desalination, and changes in hydrological conditions and rainfall on estuarine salinity gradients and estuarine dependent wildlife.

**COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
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**Senate**

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**39. Study on Desalination.**

- (a) Out of funds appropriated above, the Commission on Environmental Quality, in cooperation with the Parks and Wildlife Department and the General Land Office, shall conduct a desalination study. The study must evaluate, for the purpose of protecting marine organisms, local industries dependent on coastal resources, and the health of coastal ecosystems:
  - (1) whether diversion of marine seawater from bays or arms of the Gulf of America for desalination is appropriate; and
  - (2) tolerances that are appropriate for the discharge of waste from the desalination of treated marine seawater or brackish water into bays or arms of the Gulf of America.
- (b) The study must analyze relevant factors, including:
  - (1) acceptable brine concentrate salinity;
  - (2) brine concentrate toxicity;
  - (3) ambient temperature of brine concentrate;
  - (4) water velocity in the mixing zone;
  - (5) the cumulative volume of discharged desalination waste relative to bay circulation and exchange; and
  - (6) discharge location factors to minimize potential:
    - (A) harm to marine organisms; and
    - (B) impairment of benefits for marine organisms provided by freshwater inflows.
- (c) Not later than December 31, 2026, the commission shall submit to the legislature a report on the results of the study. The report must:

COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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- (1) determine whether diversion of marine seawater from any bay or arm of the Gulf of America for desalination is appropriate and whether discharge of waste from the desalination of treated marine seawater or brackish water into a bay or arm of the Gulf of America is appropriate;
- (2) recommend tolerances for the discharges described by Subdivision (1) according to the factors listed in Subsection (b);
- (3) propose standard modeling to be used to evaluate discharge permit applications; and
- (4) make any other recommendations for measures necessary to protect marine organisms, local industries dependent on coastal resources, and the health of coastal ecosystems from potential effects of desalination diversion and discharge.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE AND VETERANS' LAND BOARD

Differences Only - Excludes Capital

Senate

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**9. Appropriation of Receipts: Real Property Sales and Mineral Royalties.** In addition to the amounts appropriated above, the General Land Office is appropriated all additional receipts from real property sales of the Real Estate Special Fund Account of the Permanent School Fund (PSF) No. 44 conducted by the General Land Office, all revenue received from the sale or lease of PSF land or real property holdings, and all receipts received from mineral or royalty interests or other interests, including revenue received from the lease of mineral estate in riverbeds, channels, and the areas within tidewater limits, including islands, lakes, bays, and the bed of the sea which belong to the state for the purpose of purchasing fee or lesser interests in real property for the use and benefit of the PSF, for the purpose of purchasing easements for access to PSF land as authorized by Natural Resources Code, Section 11.079, and for all purposes allowed under Natural Resources Code, Section 51.402.

**28. Real Property Transactions Reporting Requirement.** Out of amounts appropriated above, the General Land Office (GLO) shall report to the Legislative Budget Board information including the purpose and expenditures of any real property acquisitions or sales transactions made by the GLO through the appropriation authority provided by Rider 9, Appropriation of Receipts: Real Property Sales and Mineral Royalties, in a format specified by the Legislative Budget Board within 30 calendar days of the transaction. GLO shall include all such acquisition and transaction expenditures in amounts reported in its Operating Budget and Legislative Appropriation Request.

**9. Appropriation of Receipts: Real Property Sales and Mineral Royalties.** In addition to the amounts appropriated above, the General Land Office is appropriated all additional receipts from real property sales of the Real Estate Special Fund Account of the Permanent School Fund (PSF) No. 44 conducted by the General Land Office, all revenue received from the sale or lease of PSF land or real property holdings, and all receipts received from mineral or royalty interests or other interests, including revenue received from the lease of mineral estate in riverbeds, channels, and the areas within tidewater limits, including islands, lakes, bays, and the bed of the sea which belong to the state for the purpose of purchasing fee or lesser interests in real property for the use and benefit of the PSF, for the purpose of purchasing easements for access to PSF land as authorized by Natural Resources Code, Section 11.079, and for all purposes allowed under Natural Resources Code, Section 51.402. The General Land Office shall report to the Legislative Budget Board information including the purpose and expenditures of any real property acquisitions made by the General Land Office through the appropriation authority provided by this rider in a format specified by the Legislative Budget Board within 30 calendar days of the transaction. The General Land Office shall publish this report on its website after notifying the Legislative Budget Board.

**30. Study on Private Landowner Participation in Border Security.**

- (a) Using funds appropriated above, the General Land Office shall conduct a study to identify methods to increase private landowner cooperation with state border security activities, including cooperation with law enforcement, permission granted to a state entity for the temporary placement on a landowner’s property of personnel, equipment, and infrastructure relating to border security; or property modification for the purpose of supporting border security.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE AND VETERANS' LAND BOARD

Differences Only - Excludes Capital

(Continued)

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- (b) The study must consider methods of incentivizing private landowner participation.
- (c) In conducting the study, the General Land Office shall collaborate with any agency assisting in border security efforts.
- (d) Not later than September 1, 2026, the General Land Office shall prepare and submit to the legislature a written report that includes the results of the study.

# PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Differences Only - Excludes Capital

Senate

House

## 14. Sporting Goods Sales Tax (SGST).

- (a) **Appropriations.** Amounts appropriated above to the Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) include \$251,230,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$258,338,000 in fiscal year 2027 (including End-of-Article Appropriations for Benefits, Transfers to ERS for Retiree Insurance, and Debt Service for Statewide Park Repairs) from limited sales, excise, and use tax revenue identified as Sporting Goods Sales Tax (SGST) as reflected below in Subsection (c) to comply with Texas Constitution, Article VIII, Section 7(d). This appropriation represents the statutory maximum allocation of SGST revenue to TPWD, pursuant to Tax Code, Section 151.801 (93.0 percent of the total SGST revenue), as calculated in the Comptroller of Public Accounts' Biennial Revenue Estimate (BRE), net of appropriations made elsewhere in this Act for benefits and debt service.

If the Comptroller determines that the maximum allocation of SGST revenue available to TPWD for the 2026-27 biennium exceeds the amounts appropriated in this Act to TPWD and elsewhere for benefits and debt service, the difference is appropriated to TPWD. This appropriation of additional SGST revenue shall be allocated to the strategies and accounts that receive SGST revenue transfers by the Legislative Budget Board in consultation with TPWD based on a current assessment of needs, excluding totals for benefits and debt service. Notwithstanding the capital budget provisions in Rider 2, Capital Budget, and Article IX, Section 14.03, to the extent any of the additional SGST is directed by the Legislative Budget Board for state and local park related capital budget purposes as a result of the allocation determined by the above process, TPWD's capital budget authority is increased for these purposes and such increase shall not count towards the limitations imposed by capital budget provisions elsewhere in this Act.

- (b) **SGST Method of Financing Changes.** TPWD may request approval from the Legislative Budget Board to change SGST methods of financing provided in initial strategy appropriations above within the following accounts to which SGST may be transferred to: (1) State Parks Account No. 64, (2) Texas Recreation and Parks Account No. 467, (3) Parks and Wildlife Conservation and Capital Account No. 5004, and (4) Large County and Municipality Recreation and Parks Account No. 5150. This provision does not apply to initial SGST appropriations provided in strategies for capital budget projects included in TPWD's Rider 2, Capital Budget. TPWD shall request approval for any changes from the

## 14. Sporting Goods Sales Tax (SGST).

- (a) **Appropriations.** Amounts appropriated above to the Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) include \$251,230,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$258,338,000 in fiscal year 2027 (including End-of-Article Appropriations for Benefits, Transfers to ERS for Retiree Insurance, and Debt Service for Statewide Park Repairs) from limited sales, excise, and use tax revenue identified as Sporting Goods Sales Tax (SGST) as reflected below in Subsection (c) to comply with Texas Constitution, Article VIII, Section 7(d). This appropriation represents the statutory maximum allocation of SGST revenue to TPWD, pursuant to Tax Code, Section 151.801 (93.0 percent of the total SGST revenue), as calculated in the Comptroller of Public Accounts' Biennial Revenue Estimate (BRE), net of appropriations made elsewhere in this Act for benefits and debt service.

If the Comptroller determines that the maximum allocation of SGST revenue available to TPWD for the 2026-27 biennium exceeds the amounts appropriated in this Act to TPWD and amounts designated elsewhere for benefits and debt service, the difference is appropriated to TPWD. This appropriation of additional SGST revenue shall be allocated to the strategies and accounts that receive SGST revenue transfers by the Legislative Budget Board in consultation with TPWD based on a current assessment of needs, excluding totals for benefits and debt service. TPWD proposed plans for use of additional SGST shall be considered approved unless the Legislative Budget Board issues a written disapproval within 90 calendar days after the date the plan was submitted. Notwithstanding the capital budget provisions in Rider 2, Capital Budget, and Article IX, Section 14.03, to the extent any of the additional SGST is directed by the Legislative Budget Board for state and local park related capital budget purposes as a result of the allocation determined by the above process, TPWD's capital budget authority is increased for these purposes and such increase shall not count towards the limitations imposed by capital budget provisions elsewhere in this Act.

In the event Comptroller updated SGST estimates are lower than the General Appropriations Act (GAA) or other subsequent SGST estimated amounts for the biennium, TPWD may fund any resulting shortfalls from existing SGST balances and/or the State Parks Account No. 64. If State Parks Account No. 64 is used, necessary amounts are appropriated from State Parks Account No. 64, provided that: (1) sufficient balances exist in the State Parks Account No. 64 to support such appropriations, (2) amounts are used for the same purposes

PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT  
Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
(Continued)

Senate

House

Legislative Budget Board in a format prescribed by the Legislative Budget Board that provides information regarding the purposes and the projected impact of the changes and expenditures. A request submitted under this provision shall be considered to be approved unless the Legislative Budget Board issues a written disapproval within 30 business days after the date on which the staff of the Legislative Budget Board concludes its review of the request. Additional information requested by the Legislative Budget Board regarding a request submitted by TPWD pursuant to this rider shall be provided in a timely manner. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the Legislative Budget Board may suspend the approval of a request at any time pending the receipt of additional information requested of TPWD.

- (c) **Informational Listing - Allocation of SGST.** Amounts appropriated and allocated in this Act include all amounts authorized in Texas Constitution, Article VIII, Section 7(d) and Tax Code, Section 151.801, estimated to be \$270,140,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$277,783,000 in fiscal year 2027 in sales tax receipts deposited to the General Revenue Fund generated by sales of sporting goods items. These appropriations shall be allocated for the purposes specified, and the Comptroller shall make transfers, including for direct appropriations, benefits, debt, and any amounts necessary for estimated transfers to other agencies, as shown below.

Amounts for benefits, retiree insurance, and debt service are estimated. Amounts may be shifted between these categories as necessary to cover actual costs for these items.

Appropriations for debt service payments are made in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, Section 17.07 of this Act, Use of the Sporting Goods Sales Tax Transfer to the General Revenue-Dedicated State Parks Account No. 64.

In the event that the sum of the actual costs for benefits, retiree insurance, and debt service exceeds SGST amounts available for these purposes, the additional amounts shall be funded from the available remaining balance of the State Parks Account No. 64.

as the SGST was originally approved in the GAA or subsequent approvals; and (3) TPWD coordinates with and provides advance notification to the Legislative Budget Board and Comptroller before initiation the required method-of-finance change to use State Parks Account No. 64 for such purposes.

- (b) **SGST Method of Financing Changes.** TPWD may request approval from the Legislative Budget Board to change SGST methods of financing provided in initial strategy appropriations above within the following accounts to which SGST may be transferred to: (1) State Parks Account No. 64, (2) Texas Recreation and Parks Account No. 467, (3) Parks and Wildlife Conservation and Capital Account No. 5004, and (4) Large County and Municipality Recreation and Parks Account No. 5150. This provision does not apply to initial SGST appropriations provided in strategies for capital budget projects included in TPWD's Rider 2, Capital Budget. TPWD shall request approval for any changes from the Legislative Budget Board in a format prescribed by the Legislative Budget Board that provides information regarding the purposes and the projected impact of the changes and expenditures. A request submitted under this provision shall be considered to be approved unless the Legislative Budget Board issues a written disapproval within 30 business days after the date on which the staff of the Legislative Budget Board concludes its review of the request. Additional information requested by the Legislative Budget Board regarding a request submitted by TPWD pursuant to this rider shall be provided in a timely manner. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the Legislative Budget Board may suspend the approval of a request at any time pending the receipt of additional information requested of TPWD.

- (c) **Informational Listing - Allocation of SGST.** Amounts appropriated and allocated in this Act include all amounts authorized in Texas Constitution, Article VIII, Section 7(d) and Tax Code, Section 151.801, estimated to be \$270,140,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$277,783,000 in fiscal year 2027 in sales tax receipts deposited to the General Revenue Fund generated by sales of sporting goods items. These appropriations shall be allocated for the purposes specified, and the Comptroller shall make transfers, including for direct appropriations, benefits, debt, and any amounts necessary for estimated transfers to other agencies, as shown below.

Amounts for benefits, retiree insurance, and debt service are estimated. Amounts may be

For the Years Ending  
August 31, 2026      August 31, 2027

Agency Bill Pattern Appropriations



PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT  
Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
(Continued)

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Article I  
Texas Historical Commission (THC)  
General Revenue (Sporting Goods Sales Tax)

A.1.4, Historic Sites	\$	18,910,000	\$	19,445,000
Subtotal	\$	18,910,000	\$	19,445,000

Article VI  
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)  
SGST Transfer to the General Revenue-Dedicated State Parks Account No. 64

B.1.1, State Park Operations	\$	117,557,163	\$	113,021,385
B.1.2, Parks Minor Repair Program	\$	15,859,201	\$	15,859,201
B.1.3, Parks Support	\$	7,371,298	\$	7,371,298
D.1.3, Infrastructure Administration Program	\$	657,000	\$	657,000
Subtotal	\$	141,444,662	\$	136,908,884

SGST Transfer to the Texas Recreation and Parks Account No. 467

B.2.1, Local Park Grants	\$	10,712,812	\$	10,622,837
B.2.2, Boating Access and Other Grants	\$	3,415,882	\$	3,505,856
Subtotal	\$	14,128,694	\$	14,128,693

SGST Transfer to the Large County and Municipality Recreation and Parks Account No. 5150

B.2.1, Local Park Grants	\$	7,448,760	\$	7,386,235
B.2.2, Boating Access and Other Grants	\$	2,424,256	\$	2,486,780
Subtotal	\$	9,873,016	\$	9,873,015

SGST Transfer to the Conservation and Capital Account No. 5004

D.1.1, Improvements and Major

shifted between these categories as necessary to cover actual costs for these items.

Appropriations for debt service payments are made in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, Section 17.07 of this Act, Use of the Sporting Goods Sales Tax Transfer to the General Revenue-Dedicated State Parks Account No. 64.

In the event that the sum of the actual costs for benefits, retiree insurance, and debt service exceeds SGST amounts available for these purposes, the additional amounts shall be funded from the available remaining balance of the State Parks Account No. 64.

For the Years Ending  
August 31, 2026 August 31, 2027

Agency Bill Pattern Appropriations

Article I  
Texas Historical Commission (THC)  
General Revenue (Sporting Goods Sales Tax)

A.1.4, Historic Sites	\$	18,910,000	\$	19,445,000
Subtotal	\$	18,910,000	\$	19,445,000

Article VI  
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)  
SGST Transfer to the General Revenue-Dedicated State Parks Account No. 64

B.1.1, State Park Operations	\$	117,557,163	\$	113,021,385
B.1.2, Parks Minor Repair Program	\$	15,859,201	\$	15,859,201
B.1.3, Parks Support	\$	7,371,298	\$	7,371,298
D.1.3, Infrastructure Administration Program	\$	657,000	\$	657,000
Subtotal	\$	141,444,662	\$	136,908,884

SGST Transfer to the Texas Recreation and Parks Account No. 467

B.2.1, Local Park Grants	\$	10,712,812	\$	10,622,837
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PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
(Continued)

Senate

House

Repairs	\$	40,000,000	\$	51,650,000
D.1.2, Land Acquisition	\$	13,128,110	\$	13,121,890
Subtotal	\$	53,128,110	\$	64,771,890
End-of-Article Appropriations for Benefits, Estimated	\$	26,272,377	\$	26,272,377
Transfers to ERS for Retiree Insurance, Estimated	\$	562,979	\$	787,542
Transfer to ERS for Retiree Insurance,				
Debt Service for Statewide Park Repairs, Estimated				
SGST Transfer to the General Revenue-Dedicated State Parks Account No. 64				
General Obligation Bond Debt Service Payments at the Texas Public Finance Authority	\$	5,820,162	\$	5,595,599
Subtotal, TPWD 2026-2027 SGST Allocations	\$	246,648,724	\$	109,068,220
Subtotal, TPWD 2026-2027 SGST Allocations	\$	251,230,000	\$	258,338,000
SGST Appropriated and Estimated Total	\$	270,140,000	\$	277,783,000

B.2.2, Boating Access and Other Grants	\$	3,415,882	\$	3,505,856
Subtotal	\$	14,128,694	\$	14,128,693
SGST Transfer to the Large County and Municipality Recreation and Parks Account No. 5150				
B.2.1, Local Park Grants	\$	7,448,760	\$	7,386,235
B.2.2, Boating Access and Other Grants	\$	2,424,256	\$	2,486,780
Subtotal	\$	9,873,016	\$	9,873,015
SGST Transfer to the Conservation and Capital Account No. 5004				
D.1.1, Improvements and Major Repairs	\$	40,000,000	\$	51,650,000
D.1.2, Land Acquisition	\$	13,128,110	\$	13,121,890
Subtotal	\$	53,128,110	\$	64,771,890
End-of-Article Appropriations for Benefits, Estimated				
Transfers to ERS for Retiree Insurance, Estimated	\$	26,272,377	\$	26,272,377
Transfer to ERS for Retiree Insurance,	\$	562,979	\$	787,542
Debt Service for Statewide Park Repairs, Estimated				
SGST Transfer to the General Revenue-Dedicated State Parks Account No. 64				
General Obligation Bond Debt Service Payments at the Texas Public Finance Authority	\$	5,820,162	\$	5,595,599
Subtotal, TPWD 2026-2027 SGST Allocations	\$	251,230,000	\$	258,338,000

SGST Appropriated and

## PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
(Continued)

## Senate

House

**Estimated TOTAL**

**\$ 270,140,000**

**\$ 277,783,000**

### 34. Battleship Texas.

- (a) The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) shall submit annual reports based on information provided by the Battleship Texas Foundation to the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor's Office related to the repair, renovation, operation, and maintenance of the Battleship Texas. The reports shall be provided no later than September 1 of each fiscal year and in a manner prescribed by the Legislative Budget Board. The report shall include, at minimum:
  - (1) A copy of the most recent draft or fully executed Memorandum of Understanding developed between the agency and the Battleship Texas Foundation;
  - (2) The status of state funds granted to the Battleship Texas Foundation from TPWD;
  - (3) Performance indicators and timelines for activities related to Battleship Texas preservation efforts; and
  - (4) Performance indicators for educational outreach programs conducted by the Battleship Texas Foundation.
- (b) Out of funds appropriated above in Strategy D.1.1, Improvements and Major Repairs, the Parks and Wildlife Department shall use \$7,000,000 in General Revenue for the repair, renovation, operation and maintenance of the Battleship Texas. Any unexpended balances as of August 31, 2026, are appropriated for the same purpose for fiscal year 2027.

**41. Appropriation: Boater Education Fees.**

- (a) Amounts appropriated above to the Parks and Wildlife Department in Strategy C.1.1, Enforcement Programs, include an estimated \$391,000 in fiscal year 2026 and an estimated

**34. Battleship Texas.** The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) shall submit annual reports based on information provided by the Battleship Texas Foundation to the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor's Office related to the repair, renovation, operation, and maintenance of the Battleship Texas. The reports shall be provided no later than September 1 of each fiscal year and in a manner prescribed by the Legislative Budget Board. The report shall include, at minimum:

- (1) A copy of the most recent draft or fully executed Memorandum of Understanding developed between the agency and the Battleship Texas Foundation;
- (2) The status of state funds granted to the Battleship Texas Foundation from TPWD;
- (3) Performance indicators and timelines for activities related to Battleship Texas preservation efforts; and
- (4) Performance indicators for educational outreach programs conducted by the Battleship Texas Foundation.

**41. Appropriation: Boater Education Fees.** Included in the amounts appropriated above in Strategy C.1.1, Wildlife, Fisheries and Water Safety Enforcement/Education, are any boater education fee revenues, including boater education deferral fee revenues, deposited into the Game, Fish and Water Safety Account No. 9, estimated to be \$782,000 over the 2026-27 biennium. Such

PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
(Continued)

Senate

House

\$391,000 in fiscal year 2027 from boater education exam and course fees (Revenue Object Code 3462) collected and deposited to the credit of the Game, Fish and Water Safety Account No. 9 for the purpose of enhancing boater and water safety through the boater education program as provided by Parks and Wildlife Code, Section 31.108. This amount includes any revenues received during the 2026-27 biennium from boater education exam and course fees (Revenue Object Code 3462) in excess of the amount included in each fiscal year in the Comptrollers Biennial Revenue Estimate are appropriated for the same purpose.

- (b) Any unexpended balances remaining in the Parks and Wildlife Department Strategy C.1.1, Enforcement Programs, as of August 31, 2026, are appropriated for use in the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2026, for the same purposes.

amounts shall be used for the purpose of enhancing boater and water safety through the boater education program, including salaries, operating and the purchase of necessary capital transportation and equipment items. Any unobligated or unexpended balances remaining as of August 31, 2026, are appropriated for the same purposes in the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2026.

**45. Grant for the Robb Elementary Memorial.** Amounts appropriated above to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in Strategy B.2.1, Local Parks Grants, include \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2026 from the General Revenue Fund for the purpose of providing a grant to construct and maintain a memorial for the victims of the Robb Elementary shooting. Any unexpended balances remaining as of August 31, 2026, are appropriated for the same purpose in the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2026.

**46. Texas State Aquarium Wildlife Recovery and Rehabilitation.** Amounts appropriated above to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in Strategy B.2.2, Provide Boating Access, Trails and Other Grants, \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2026 from the General Revenue Fund for the purpose of providing grants to the Texas State Aquarium to develop a Wildlife Recovery and Professional Development Training Center, increase capacity and rehabilitation capabilities for rescued wildlife, and develop the Texas Coastal Resiliency Center. Any unexpended balances remaining as of August 31, 2026, are appropriated for the same purpose in the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2026.

**47. Study on Game, Fish and Water Safety Account No. 9 Revenues and Balances.** Out of

**PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT**  
Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
(Continued)

**Senate**

**House**

amounts appropriated above, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department shall conduct a study of Game, Fish and Water Safety Account No. 9 revenues and balances. TPWD shall report any findings, as well as recommendations to promote the long term health of the Game, Fish and Water Safety Account No. 9, to the Legislative Budget Board and Governor's Office by no later than September 1, 2026.

**RAILROAD COMMISSION**

Differences Only - Excludes Capital

Senate

House

- 19. Hydrogen Sulfide Mapping Study.** Out of the amounts appropriated above, the Railroad Commission shall conduct a mapping study and assessment that determines and shows in a geographic manner:
- (a) A list and map of oil and gas wells with hydrogen sulfide levels that are greater than 100 parts per million (PPM);
  - (b) A list and map of oil and gas infrastructure, including storage tanks that contain products that have hydrogen sulfide levels that are greater than 100 PPM;
  - (c) A list of those wells or infrastructure that are located within 5 miles of residential properties.

The Commission shall provide a report with the information required in this rider to the Legislative Budget Board and all members of the Legislature by September 1, 2026.

- 20. Report on Oil-Field Electric Infrastructure.** Using money appropriated above to the Railroad Commission for Strategy C.1.1, Oil and Gas Monitoring and Inspections, not later than August 31, 2026, the commission shall develop and submit to each member of the legislature a report on oil-field electric infrastructure in this state. The report must include:
- (1) information on:
    - (A) the location of oil-field electric infrastructure; and
    - (B) the risks posed by not modifying oil-field electric infrastructure;
  - (2) recommendations for improving or removing oil-field electric infrastructure; and
  - (3) any additional information the commission considers necessary.

**RAILROAD COMMISSION**  
Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
(Continued)

Senate

House

- 21. Report on Inactive Oil and Gas Wells.** Using money appropriated above to the Railroad Commission for Strategy C.2.1, Oil and Gas Well Plugging and Remediation, not later than August 31, 2026, the commission shall develop and submit to each member of the legislature a report on inactive oil and gas wells in this state. The report must include:
- (1) information on the location of each inactive oil and gas well;
  - (2) the risks posed by not plugging each inactive oil and gas well;
  - (3) a plan to plug or restore each inactive oil and gas well; and
  - (4) any additional information the commission considers necessary.

WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Differences Only - Excludes Capital

Senate

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- 26. Economically Distressed Areas Program (EDAP) Needs Assessment Study.** Included in amounts appropriated above to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) out of the General Revenue Fund is \$800,000 in fiscal year 2026 in Strategy C.1.2, Economically Distressed Areas Program, that may not be transferred to another purpose and shall be used only for the purposes of conducting an EDAP needs assessment study to evaluate the effectiveness and future needs of the EDAP. TWDB may contract with an entity as necessary to complete and fulfill the purposes of the study. Any unexpended balances remaining as of August 31, 2026, are appropriated in the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2026, for the same purposes. TWDB shall provide a report regarding the results of the study to the Legislative Budget Board no later than November 1, 2026.
- 28. Statewide Floodplain and Grant Management System.** Amounts appropriated above include \$994,000 from the General Revenue Fund in each fiscal year in Strategy A.4.1, State and Federal Flood Programs, for the purpose of implementing and maintaining a statewide floodplain management and grant management system. The funding shall be used to support:
- (a) Floodplain Management and National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) workflows for the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to support local communities;
  - (b) Statewide grant management for the TWDB Flood Mitigation Assistance grant-making process;
  - (c) A public-facing portal to facilitate local government and resident engagement on flood risk mitigation;
  - (d) Inclusion of geospatial mapping and flood damage assessment tools; and
  - (e) Monitoring and assessment of sensitive datasets with advanced user permissions and activity logging.
- Any unexpended balances remaining as of August 31, 2026, are appropriated for the same purpose in the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2026.



**WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD**  
Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
(Continued)

Senate

House

- 29. Study on North American Development Bank (NADB) Collaboration.** Amounts appropriated above include \$250,000 from the General Revenue Fund in fiscal year 2026 in Strategy C.1.1, State and Federal Financial Assistance Programs, that shall be used for the purpose of the Water Development Board (TWDB) conducting a study that assesses the current and potential future collaboration between TWDB and the North American Development Bank (NADB). The study shall include recommendations on how future collaboration can expand the efficiencies and resources of TWDB. TWDB may contract with an entity as necessary to complete and fulfill the purposes of the study. A report regarding the findings of the review shall be prepared and submitted by TWDB to the Legislative Budget Board, the House Natural Resources Committee, the Senate Water Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, the House Agriculture and Livestock Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the Senate Finance Committee no later than December 1, 2026. Any unexpended balances remaining as of August 31, 2026, are appropriated in the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2026, for the same purposes.
- 30. Recycled Municipal Wastewater for Aggregate Production Operations.** Out of the amounts appropriated above, it is the intent of the Legislature that the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) conduct and publish a study of the technical and economic feasibility of the use of recycled municipal wastewater and dry plant operations by aggregate production operations currently using Edwards and Trinity groundwater wells that includes:
- (a) The groundwater savings that would result from aggregate production operations (APOs) switching from groundwater to recycled wastewater for their mining, processing, and dust suppression needs;
  - (b) The water savings that would result in APOs switching from wet processing to dry processing of their products;
  - (c) The cost, to the public and to the APOs, of using recycled municipal wastewater, as compared to the cost of groundwater withdraws for operators;
  - (d) The impact of recycled wastewater on APO machinery and production;

WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
Differences Only - Excludes Capital  
(Continued)

Senate

House

- (e) The feasibility of connecting APOs to recycled wastewater supply sources in the most beneficial places, where APO activity and municipal wastewater production are high; and
- (f) Potential funding strategies for building the infrastructure to connect APOs to municipal wastewater facilities.