



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
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THIRD INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION FIELD OFFICE RECEIVES LEED CERTIFICATION

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) Amistad Dam Field Office, located in Del Rio, Texas, was recently awarded the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver certification on April 15, 2020.

LEED is a rating developed by the U.S. Green Building Council that recognizes best-in-class building strategies to achieve improved water efficiency, energy use, and materials to reduce the carbon footprint. The program provides the framework to create highly efficient and cost-saving buildings.

Recent enhancements to the administration building, originally dedicated in 2016, fulfilled the final LEED requirements. The building features 3,725 square feet of office space. The LEED certification was achieved for earning certification points in water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality, and innovative design.

The reduction of potable water use by 39 percent was achieved through the installation of automatic faucets and auto control lavatory faucets with a reduced flush rate. Additionally, the xeriscape landscaping, including turf and a drip system for irrigation, was designed to reduce water consumption by 52 percent.

The use of automatic light sensors, occupancy sensors, solar panels, a domestic water heater, and an energy efficient HVAC system will provide an energy cost savings of 40 percent annually.

“The IBWC is committed to the protection of natural resources in all our projects,” said Jayne Harkins, Commissioner, USIBWC. “The construction of this field office is an example of our commitment by achieving LEED Silver, which reduces our impact to the environment.”

The USIBWC has two other Field Offices that are LEED Certified. The San Diego Field Office in San Diego, California is LEED Gold certified. The reduced use of water and energy, generation of solar power, improved indoor environmental quality using environmentally friendly materials and improved air filtration are among the requirements to be LEED certified. The Falcon Dam Field Office in Falcon Heights, Texas, is LEED Silver certified.

Amistad Dam is the largest of the storage dams and reservoirs built on the international reach of the Rio Grande. The primary purposes of the dam are flood control and water conservation storage for the benefit of the United States and Mexico.

The International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, is responsible for applying the boundary and water treaties between the two countries and settling differences that arise in the application of the treaties.



The International Boundary and Water Commission’s Amistad Dam Field Office was recently awarded LEED Silver when measured against the LEED certification checklist published by the U.S. Green Building Council. (Photo by: Elsayyid Ibrahim, USIBWC)

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