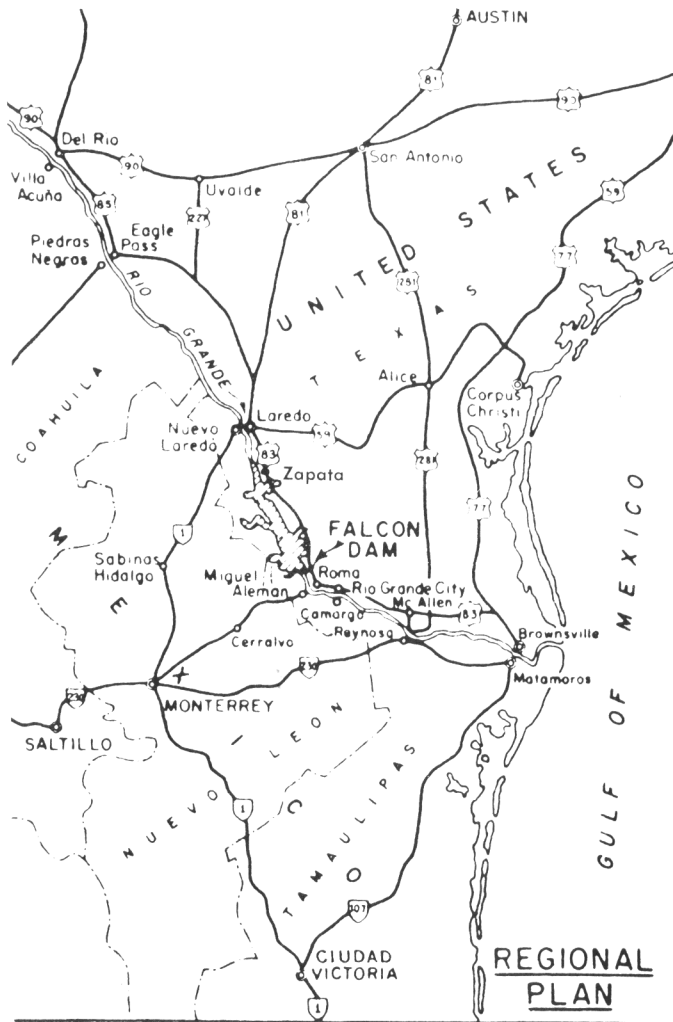


# FALCON DAM AND POWER PLANT



**REGIONAL  
PLAN**

## HIGHWAY DISTANCES TO THE DAM FROM POINTS IN:

### UNITED STATES

AUSTIN . . . . .	305 MILES
BROWNSVILLE . . . . .	130 MILES
CORPUS CHRISTI . . . . .	177 MILES
LAREDO . . . . .	80 MILES
SAN ANTONIO . . . . .	229 MILES
ZAPATA . . . . .	30 MILES

### MEXICO

CIUDAD VICTORIA . . . . .	273 MILES
MATAMOROS . . . . .	131 MILES
MONTERREY . . . . .	96 MILES
NUEVO LAREDO . . . . .	76 MILES
SALTILLO . . . . .	140 MILES



Under Supervision of the  
**INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY  
AND WATER COMMISSION**  
**UNITED STATES & MEXICO**

# THE INTERNATIONAL FALCON DAM AND RESERVOIR

## UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

### GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

#### For Public Use of Reservoir by United States Residents

1. Boating on the U.S. portion of reservoir is subject to applicable laws of the United States and the State of Texas as administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.
2. Persons operating boats from the U.S. shore are not subject to special boating restrictions on the Mexican portion of reservoir unless they land on the Mexican shore, in which case they must register the boat and motor with the Direccion General de Pesca e Industrias Conexas at Nuevo Guerrero.
3. Residents of the United States boating on the reservoir are not subject to U.S. Immigration or Customs inspection provided they do not land in Mexico or take aboard anything from Mexico.
4. Persons fishing and hunting on the U.S. portion of the reservoir are subject to applicable Federal and State laws, and on the Mexican portion to the applicable laws of that country.
5. With the exception of the State Park near the dam, all lands on the U.S. side above Elevation 307 are privately owned.
6. Fishing from the channel below the United States Powerhouse is extremely dangerous and prohibited. Sudden surges in river stages occur due to remote operation of the generators. Warning signs have been placed in affected areas.

### DAM

Location — 80 miles southeast of Laredo, Texas, 30 miles southeast of Zapata, Texas, 150 miles above the mouth of the Rio Grande.

Purpose — Flood control, conservation, and hydroelectric power.

Constructed by U.S. and Mexico pursuant to Water Treaty of 1944.

Dedicated October 19, 1953.

Type — Rolled earth fill embankment.

Length — 10,133 ft. in U.S., 16,161 ft. in Mexico.  
Total 26,294 ft.

Height — 150 ft. above river bed.

Crest elevation — 323.0 ft. above mean sea level.

Maximum width at base — 1,000 ft.

Width at top — 35 ft.

Earth fill — 12,600,000 cu. yds.

Riprap — 360,000 cu. yds.

Concrete — 282,000 cu. yds.

Reinforcing steel — 10,300 tons.

River closure made December 29, 1952.

Cost \$35,000,000 U.S. share.

Construction started December 15, 1950 and completed April 8, 1954.

First power generated commercially — October 11, 1954.

U.S. flood control benefits to January 1, 1986 approximately \$130,000,000.

### RESERVOIR

Elevation--314.2 maximum water surface;  
306.7 top of normal flood control pool;  
301.2 top of conservation pool; 203.33  
lowest water outlet for downstream use.  
Storage capacity--1972 survey:

Superstorage	801,000 a.f.
Flood Control	509,000 a.f.
Conservation & Silt	<u>2,668,000 a.f.</u>
Total	3,978,000 a.f.

Impoundment of lake began August 25, 1953  
Area (top of conservation--elevation 301.2)  
87,000 acres.  
Area (maximum elevation of 314.2)  
115,400 acres.  
100 acre-feet dead storage below elevation  
203.33.

### SPILLWAY

Crest elevation — 256.7.  
Ogee type crest with 6-50'x50' fixed wheel gates.  
Crest width at gates — 350 ft.  
Width at stilling basin — 600 ft.  
Chute length — 1,300 ft.  
Discharge capacity — 456,000 c.f.s. at reservoir  
elevation 314.2.  
Top of gates — elevation 306.7.

### PENSTOCKS

United States — 4-13' dia.  
Mexico — 1-22' dia., 4-13' dia. branches.

### GENERATORS —

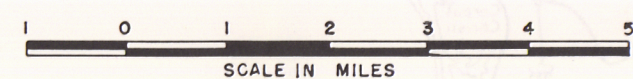
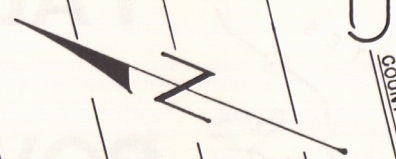
— U. S. and Mexico,  
3-10,500 k.w. each plant.

### TURBINES —

— U. S. and Mexico,  
3-14,750 h.p. each plant, Francis type.

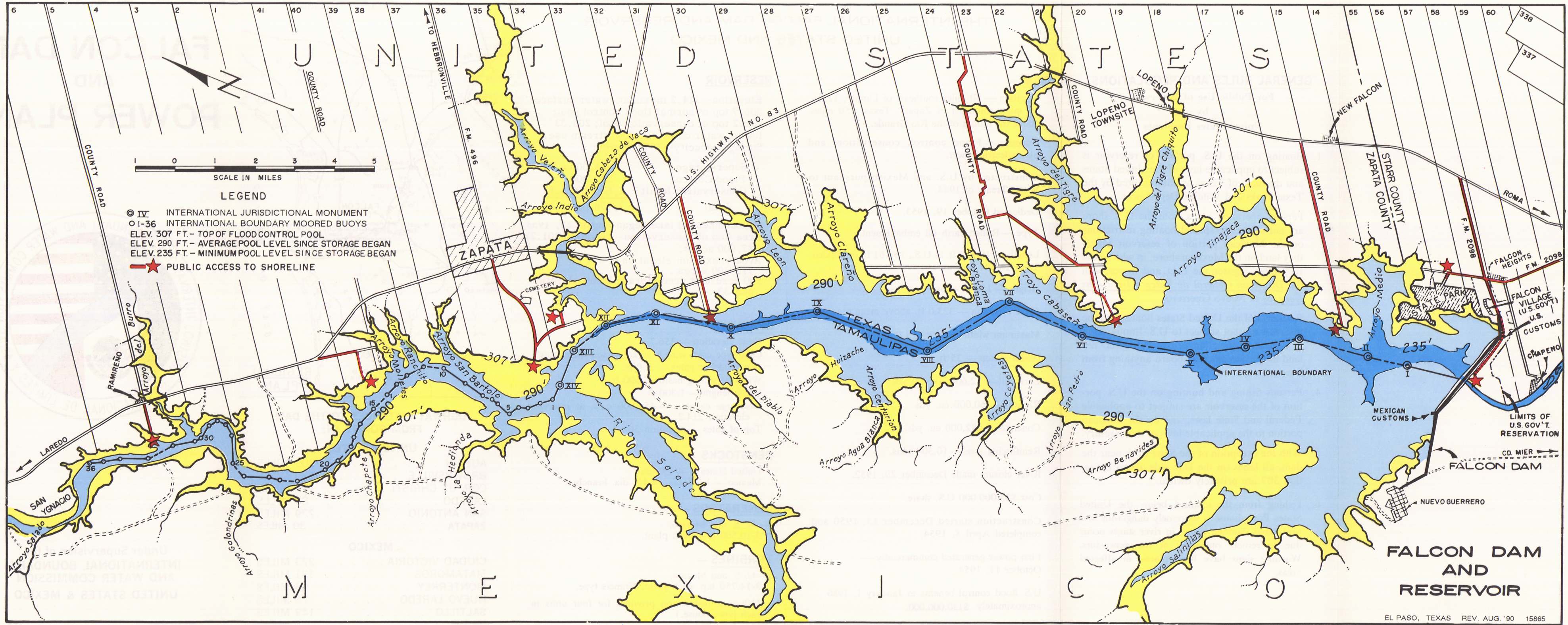
(Ultimate installation provides for four units in each powerhouse.)





**LEGEND**

- Ⓧ IV INTERNATIONAL JURISDICTIONAL MONUMENT
- 1-36 INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY MOORED BUOYS
- ELEV. 307 FT. - TOP OF FLOOD CONTROL POOL
- ELEV. 290 FT. - AVERAGE POOL LEVEL SINCE STORAGE BEGAN
- ELEV. 235 FT. - MINIMUM POOL LEVEL SINCE STORAGE BEGAN
- ★ PUBLIC ACCESS TO SHORELINE



**FALCON DAM AND RESERVOIR**