



## International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release  
July 28, 2016

### **RIO GRANDE WATER QUALITY TO BE DISCUSSED DURING AUGUST 10 PUBLIC MEETING IN MERCEDES, TEXAS**

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) will discuss water quality and supply issues at the next public meeting of the Lower Rio Grande Citizens Forum on **Wednesday, August 10, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.** at the **USIBWC Field Office Conference Room, 325 Golf Course Road, Mercedes, Texas.**

USIBWC Environmental Protection Specialist Leslie Grijalva will discuss the water quality of the Rio Grande in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The USIBWC Texas Clean Rivers Program collects water quality information throughout the basin. Ms. Grijalva will discuss bacteria and salinity, monitoring activities, outreach activities, and both ongoing and future projects in the Lower Rio Grande Valley affecting water quality.

In other business, Supervisory Hydrologist William Finn with the USIBWC's Water Accounting Division will provide an overview of the 1944 Water Treaty, which requires Mexico to deliver water to the United States from Mexican tributaries of the Rio Grande. Mr. Finn will also review how the previous five-year water delivery cycle ended last year with a water debt to the United States, and actions taken by Mexico to pay off its debt from that cycle in early 2016. He will also discuss the status of Mexico's water deliveries in the present cycle and concepts being discussed to assure equitable distribution of Rio Grande waters in the future.

The USIBWC established the Lower Rio Grande Citizens Forum in 2003 to facilitate the exchange of information between the USIBWC and members of the public about Commission projects and related activities in the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas.

A complete agenda follows. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may call 956-565-3150 or email [shellie.munoz@ibwc.gov](mailto:shellie.munoz@ibwc.gov).

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## **LOWER RIO GRANDE CITIZENS FORUM**

**Wednesday, August 10, 2016**

**3:00 - 5:00 P.M.**

**USIBWC Conference Room**

**325 Golf Course Road\***

**Mercedes, TX 78570**

### **AGENDA**

- Welcome and Introductions – Lawrence Drake, Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- Water Quality in the Lower Rio Grande: Annual Water Quality Update and Basin Advisory Meeting – Leslie Grijalva, Environmental Protection Specialist, USIBWC Texas Clean Rivers Program
- Status Update on Mexico's Rio Grande Water Deliveries to the US under the 1944 Water Treaty – William Finn, Supervisory Hydrologist, USIBWC Water Accounting Division
- Public Comment
- Board Discussion
- Suggested Future Agenda Items

**\*Directions:** From Expressway 83, exit Mile 2 W. Travel south for approximately 1.5 miles to Golf Course Road. Turn left. The USIBWC is the first building on your left.

If you have a disability that you wish to self-identify confidentially that requires accommodation, please advise us ahead of time. For more information, call 956-565-3150.