USIBWC CITIZENS FORUM ORIENTATION

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Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum
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CITIZENS FORUM PURPOSE

• To facilitate the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the local community regarding ongoing and future USIBWC projects in the area

• The Citizens Forum is intended to bring together community members enabling the early and continued two-way flow of information, concerns, values, and needs between the USIBWC and the general public, environmentalists, water managers, government agencies, etc.
BOARD MEMBER DUTIES

• Attend public meetings three times per year
• Meetings alternate between Cochise, Pima, and Santa Cruz Counties
• Board term is for two years
• Board members are expected to be available to the public to facilitate the exchange of information
BOARD MEMBER DUTIES

• CF is not a federal advisory board; goal is to exchange information and to receive feedback from a diversity of viewpoints

• Review and comment on technical documents and activities associated with USIBWC projects in the area

• Discuss plans and issues related to ongoing and future USIBWC projects

• Board Members will not serve as spokespeople for the IBWC

• Members serve as volunteers. There is no reimbursement for expenses
BOARD MEMBER DUTIES

• Board Members understand that being on the Citizens Forum Board entails a willingness to work cooperatively with other members to ensure the efficient and effective use of time.

• Board Members will discuss topics ideas for the next meeting and the Co-Chair will send requests to the Public Affairs Officer no later than 2 weeks after the meeting.
PAST TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

• Cured in Place Pipe Repairs
• Aquatic species in the Santa Cruz River
• PFAS—a classification of contaminants in groundwater, surface water, soil, etc.
• Los Alisos Wastewater Treatment Plant operations and its current condition
• U.S.-Mexico transboundary stormwater control issue in and around Nogales, AZ and Nogales, Sonora, Mexico
• Management of the Santa Cruz River and the Nogales Wash
• Cochise County using stormwater recharge to benefit the San Pedro River
• Transboundary Aquifer Assessment Program (TAAP)
• Financing, construction, operation and maintenance of environmental projects along the border
PAST TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

- Metals in wastewater treated at the Nogales International Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Health of the binational Santa Cruz River
- Cooperative water-sharing between the U.S. and Mexico
- Minute 320—efforts to restore and monitor habitat in the Colorado River Delta through 2026 by committing the U.S. and Mexico to provide water and funding
- Sustainable water vision to meet community and environmental needs
BOARD ITEMS TO DISCUSS

• Currently, meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday quarterly

• Meeting time is 5:00-7:00

• Alternating locations
  • Pima County
  • Santa Cruz County
  • Cochise County

• Meeting Minutes

• Notices go out 2 weeks prior to meeting via email

• Board Member tours

• Reminder phone call the day prior

• Name tags/name tents
INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION, UNITED STATES AND MEXICO
UNITED STATES SECTION

https://www.ibwc.gov/Citizens_Forums/CF_SE_AZ.html

www.ibwc.gov

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