Rio Grande Canalization Collaborative Project

Background

• Rio Grande Canalization Project Final EIS issued July 9, 2004

• Record of Decision on hold pending further stakeholder input and technical evaluations
Rio Grande Canalization Collaborative Project

Corps of Engineers

- Conduct Studies and Coordinate Stakeholder Input via Workshops
- Hydraulic evaluation of Potential Restoration Sites – FLO-2D Model
Corps of Engineers

• ~20 sites have been identified
• Currently defining target habitats and project footprint
• Developing Restoration prescriptions (cost, excavation, quantities)
• Draft Restoration Plan – 3rd Stakeholder Meeting
Canalization EIS Status

• Issuance of Record of Decision (no later than August 2009)
• Complete Collaborative Study
• Formalize EBID - Water-Rights Safeguards
  – Water based Safe Harbor Agreement
  – Identify willing landowners and potential water rights
Flood Control Projects
Programmatic EIS

- Rio Grande Flood Control Projects
  - Rectification Project – El Paso to Fort Quitman
  - Presidio-Ojinaga Project
  - Lower Rio Grande Project – from Peñitas to the Gulf of Mexico

- Tijuana River Flood Control Project (San Diego, California) separate PEIS document
Flood Control Projects
Programmatic EIS

- PEIS evaluated 3 Action Alternatives
  - Enhanced Operation and Maintenance
  - Integrated Water Resources Management
  - Multipurpose Project Management
- Evaluated maintenance improvements
- Mandate for flood protection, boundary stabilization, and water deliveries
Flood Control Projects
Programmatic EIS

- Final Programmatic EIS issued January 2008
- Record of Decision signed February 2008
- Multipurpose Project Management Alternative Selected
- Goals: Improve water-use, water quality, multi-purpose use of projects for recreational and environmental improvements