For immediate release
March 7, 2019

STORMWATER RECHARGE AND TRANSBOUNDARY WASTEWATER TO BE DISCUSSED AT MARCH 21 PUBLIC MEETING IN SIERRA VISTA

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) has scheduled a public meeting of the Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum for Thursday, March 21, 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Sierra Vista City Hall—Council Chambers, 1011 N. Coronado, Sierra Vista, Arizona. The purpose of the forum is to promote the exchange of information between the USIBWC and the community regarding Commission projects and related activities in Pima, Cochise, and Santa Cruz Counties, Arizona.

Karen C. Riggs, P.E., L.S., Cochise County Special Projects Engineer, will discuss how Cochise County has been an innovator in using stormwater recharge to benefit the San Pedro River near Sierra Vista, Arizona since its first recharge project in 2014. The Palominas Recharge Project was privately grant funded and used sheetflow stormwater to recharge near the San Pedro River. That project has led to four County-owned recharge properties along the upper San Pedro River. A brief history of the projects and their development will lead to discussion of the current project: Bella Vista/Coyote Wash Urban Enhanced Runoff Recharge-- a design project funded by a $550,000 grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The purpose of the current project will be to recharge Urban Enhanced Runoff.

Roberto Molina, Program Manager, West Region, Grants Project Development and Implementation, North American Development Bank (NADB) will discuss NADB’s efforts in the
Naco region. NADB works to strengthen cooperation among interested parties and to facilitate the financing, construction, operation and maintenance of environmental infrastructure projects in the border region. This presentation will focus on efforts to help mitigate transboundary wastewater flows in Naco, Sonora and to provide a better understanding of the nature of the issues and community needs.

A complete agenda follows. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may call 520-281-1832 extension 103 or e-mail lori.kuczmanski@ibwc.gov.

News media may contact:

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Welcome and Introductions – John Light, Area Operations Manager, and Citizens Forum Co-Chair

Stormwater Recharge to Benefit the San Pedro River near Sierra Vista, Arizona —Karen C. Riggs, P.E., L.S., Cochise County Special Projects Engineer

Projects to Assist Naco, Sonora to Mitigate Transboundary Wastewater Flows to Arizona – Roberto Molina, Program Manager, West Region, Grants Project Development and Implementation, North American Development Bank

Public Comment

Board Discussion

Suggested Future Agenda Items

*Directions: Take I-10 East. Take AZ-90S exit 302 toward Ft. Huachuca/Sierra Vista. Turn Right onto S. Highway 90/AZ-90. Turn left onto Highway 90 Byp/AZ-90. Turn Right onto Coronado, destination is on the right.

To enhance efficiency and cost-effectiveness, we are pleased to announce that Citizens Forum stakeholders may now choose to receive their meeting notifications via email. Simply send an email to lori.kuczmanski@ibwc.gov with the subject line of "SEAZ Opt-in"

If you have a disability that you wish to self-identify confidentially that requires accommodation, please advise us ahead of time. For information, call 520-281-1832 or e-mail lori.kuczmanski@ibwc.gov