



## **International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section**

For immediate release  
June 10, 2019

### **JUNE 20 PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS TRANSBOUNDARY STORMWATER AND AN INTERACTIVE MAP OF THE SANTA CRUZ RIVER**

U.S.-Mexico transboundary stormwater flows and an interactive map of the Santa Cruz River will be discussed at the next public meeting of the Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum of the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) on **Thursday, June 20, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Nogales City Hall Council Chambers, 777 N. Grand Ave., Nogales, Arizona.**

Laura Norman, Ph.D., Supervisory Research Physical Scientist, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Western Geographic Science Center, Tucson, AZ., will be speaking on the USGS's role in the U.S.-Mexico transboundary stormwater control issue in and around Nogales, AZ, and Nogales, Sonora, Mexico (also known as "Ambos Nogales"). Floodwaters travel north from Mexico to the U.S. and are treated for bacteria and laden with sediment and debris. Flash flooding causes expensive emergencies, damage to livelihoods, and loss of lives; also, at risk to rupture is a cross-border tunnel that carries wastewater binationally for treatment and eventual use in riparian ecosystems. Dr. Norman began modelling Ambos Nogales in 1998, to identify hot spots of erosion and compare urban growth scenarios; this expanded to quantify the impacts of large detention structures to reduce flooding and consider ecosystem services in the twin city over time. USGS has provided rainfall/runoff modelling, geologic and soils maps, and discharge/precipitation gages to support a Nogales Early Warning Flood Hazard Project.

Amanda Smith, Program Associate, Sonoran Institute, will share results from 2017 workshops about river values and will introduce an online interactive map about specific river locations that are important to Santa Cruz County community members. Responses from these studies can inform decisions about how the river will be managed in the future.

In spring of 2019, Sonoran Institute launched an online, interactive map that collects feedback on specific areas of interest along the Santa Cruz River and Nogales Wash. Anyone can add their suggestions for as many locations as they wish, and then explore responses from other community members. The survey takes only a few minutes per location of choice and is available in English and Spanish until mid-summer.

The USIBWC established the Southeast Arizona 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 Southeast region of Arizona.

A complete agenda follows. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may call 520-281-1832 or email [lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov](mailto:lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov).

News Media Contact:

Lori Kuczanski  
915-832-4106  
[lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov](mailto:lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov)

## **SOUTHEAST ARIZONA CITIZENS FORUM**

**Thursday, June 20, 2019**

**5:00 - 7:00 P.M.**

**Nogales City Hall – Council Chambers**

**777 N. Grand Avenue\***

**Nogales, AZ 85621**

### **AGENDA**

- **Welcome and Introductions** – Ben Lomeli, Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- **Engaging Communities Along the Santa Cruz River** – Amanda Smith, Program Associate, Sonoran Institute
- **U.S.-Mexico Transboundary Storm Water Flows and Sediment Transportation at Ambos Nogales** – Laura Norman, Supervisory Research Physical Scientist, U.S. Geological Survey
- Public Comment
- Board Discussion
- Suggested Future Agenda Items

**\*Directions:** Directions: Take I-19 south to Exit 4 (AZ-189) toward Border Truck Route. Turn left on AZ-189/W. Mariposa Road. Go 0.8 miles to Grand Avenue. Turn right and travel 1.6 miles to City Hall, on the right.

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 520-281-1832.