



INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

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USIBWC Awards Contract for Arroyo Colorado Dredging Design Project

The U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) has awarded a \$1,632,136.48 contract to Stantec Inc., of Denver, Colo., to design the dredging of approximately 6.3 miles of the Arroyo Colorado, a critical component of the Lower Rio Grande Flood Control Project (LRGFCP).

The contract is for two years and focuses on the stretch of the arroyo between U.S. Business Highway 77 and Cemetery Road within Harlingen, Texas.

“During my recent visit to some of the hardest hit areas from last month’s historic rainstorm, I observed first-hand the Arroyo Colorado’s reduced capacity. I promised government officials as well as irrigation managers that we would do everything possible to help improve the Lower Rio Grande Valley’s flood control system,” said Dr. Maria-Elena Giner, P.E., USIBWC Commissioner. “This award is a big step in that direction. Removing accumulated sediment from the Arroyo Colorado will reestablish its design capacity and help communities get rid of excess water before it can cause damage.”

Although the USIBWC flood control project worked as it was supposed to during the recent heavy rain, the Arroyo Colorado’s flood conveyance capacity has been gradually diminishing due to sediment build-up.

The LRGFCP starts in Peñitas and extends downstream along the Rio Grande to Brownsville.

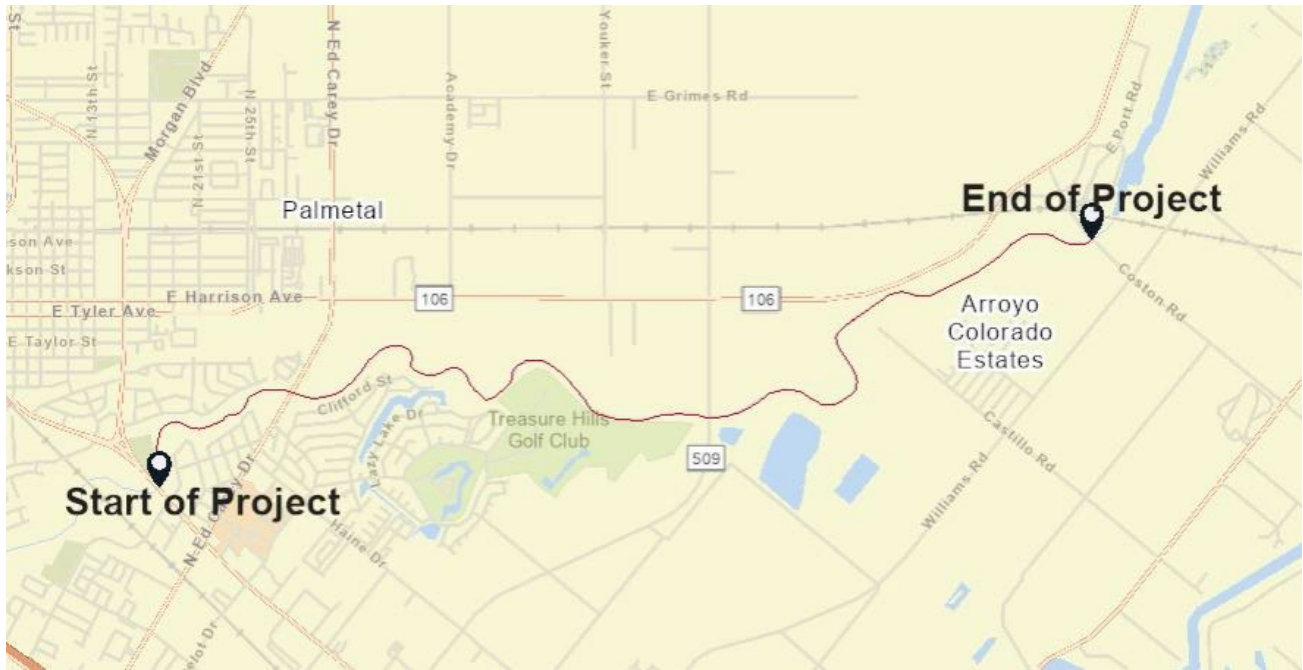
During heavy rainfall, the system is designed to divert up to 105,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) into the Main Floodway, upstream of Anzalduas Dam.

From the Main Floodway, 20 percent of the flow, or 21,000 cfs, goes into the Arroyo Colorado. The remaining 80 percent goes into the North Floodway.

Flows from the North Floodway and Arroyo Colorado drain into the Laguna Madre.

More information about the Lower Rio Grande Flood Control Project can be found at: [Lower Rio Grande Flood Control Project \(LRGFCP\) - IBWC](#)

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