



International Boundary and Water Commission
United States Section

Southeast Arizona Citizens Forum Board Orientation



March 14, 2013
Sally Spener, Secretary



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

Citizens Forum History

- Program started in 1999 in El Paso, TX by Commissioner John Bernal
- Program of U.S. Section
- Expanded to other regions in 2000s
- Citizens Forum Boards
 - Upper Rio Grande (TX & NM)
 - Lower Rio Grande (TX)
 - Colorado River (CA & AZ)
 - Southeast Arizona
 - San Diego, CA



Colorado River Citizens Forum Meeting

Excellence through teamwork.



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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 and related issues in Pima, Cochise, and Santa Cruz Counties, AZ



USIBWC water quality presentation

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Citizens Forum Purpose

- 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, ranchers/farmers, government agencies, etc.



Citizens Forum meeting in Sahuarita

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Board Member Duties

- Attend public meetings four times per year
- Meetings to be held in Pima, Cochise, 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



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Board Member Duties

- Review and comment on documents and activities
- Discuss plans and issues related to USIBWC projects
- The Citizens Forum is not a federal advisory committee; goal is to exchange information and to include a diversity of viewpoints
- Volunteer service with no expense reimbursement





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Citizens Forum Information

- Meetings are open to the public with opportunity for public comment
- Regular communication with board via e-mail
- Meeting announcements, notes, and presentations are available online at:

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

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Citizens Forum Leadership

- Two Co-Chairs
- USIBWC Co-Chair
 - Field Office Manager John Light
- Community Co-Chair
 - Selected by the board



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Citizens Forum Discussion Items

- Selection of a co-chair
- Meeting Logistics
 - Days of the week
 - Time of day
 - Locations
- Tours or field trips



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www.ibwc.gov

sally.spener@ibwc.gov

(915) 832-4175