

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

**Rio Grande Canalization Project Collaborative  
and  
Rio Grande Flood Control Projects PEIS**



June 4, 2008

# 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



# Rio Grande Canalization Collaborative Project

## Corps of Engineers

- ~20 sites have been identified
- Currently defining target habitats and project footprint
- Developing Restoration prescriptions (cost, excavation, quantities)
- Draft Restoration Plan – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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