



# International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

## USIBWC



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### Update on the USIBWC's Levee Certification Efforts in Doña Ana County, NM and El Paso County, TX

### October 16, 2012



## **PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION:**

- Provide an update on the USIBWC's levee certification efforts for levees along the Rio Grande from Hatch, New Mexico to American Dam in El Paso, Texas
- Discuss the challenges that will be a part of the FEMA levee accreditation process



## FROM LEVEE REHABILITATION TO LEVEE CERTIFICATION COMMON QUESTIONS

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- **What happens after levee rehabilitation is completed?**

USIBWC assembles levee certification package for submission to FEMA in accordance with National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements as described in Title 44, Chapter 1, Section 65.10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (44 CFR Section 65.10) .

- **What's the next step?**

FEMA will review the USIBWC's certification package.



## WHEN WILL USIBWC SUBMIT LEVEE CERTIFICATION PACKAGES TO FEMA:

### Anticipated Dates:

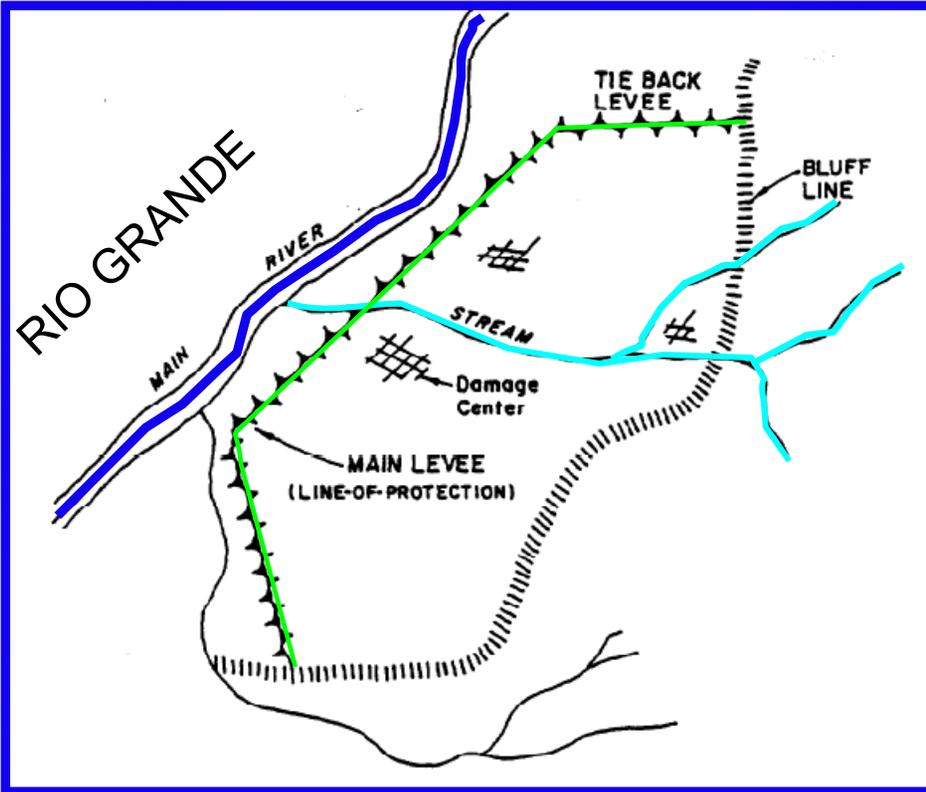
- **West Hatch Levee Reach – Late May 2013**
- **Mesilla Phase 1 – Late January 2013**
- **Canutillo Phase 1 – Late April 2013**
- **Mesilla Phase 2 – Late May 2013**
- **Sunland Park – Late August 2013**

**NOTE: FEMA may provide a response to the USIBWC's levee certification package within 90-180 days after submittal. FEMA response may indicate that (1)additional information is needed or (2) that additional time will be required for review.**



## USIBWC LEVEL ACCREDITATION CHALLENGES:

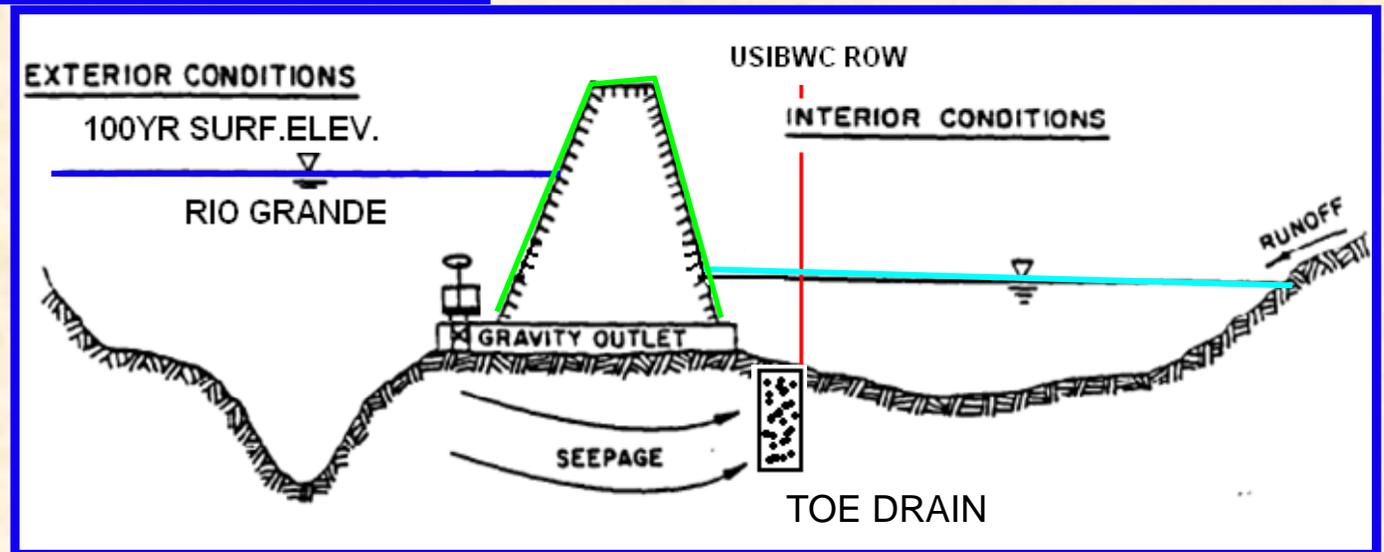
- **Interior Drainage** - FEMA requires an Interior Drainage Analysis. To date, no analysis exist.
- **Segments of levee that are under design** –Currently have multiple levee segments that are under design. Construction of respective levee segments will be required to complete the levee system.



PLAN  
VIEW

INTERIOR  
DRAINAGE

PROFILE  
VIEW





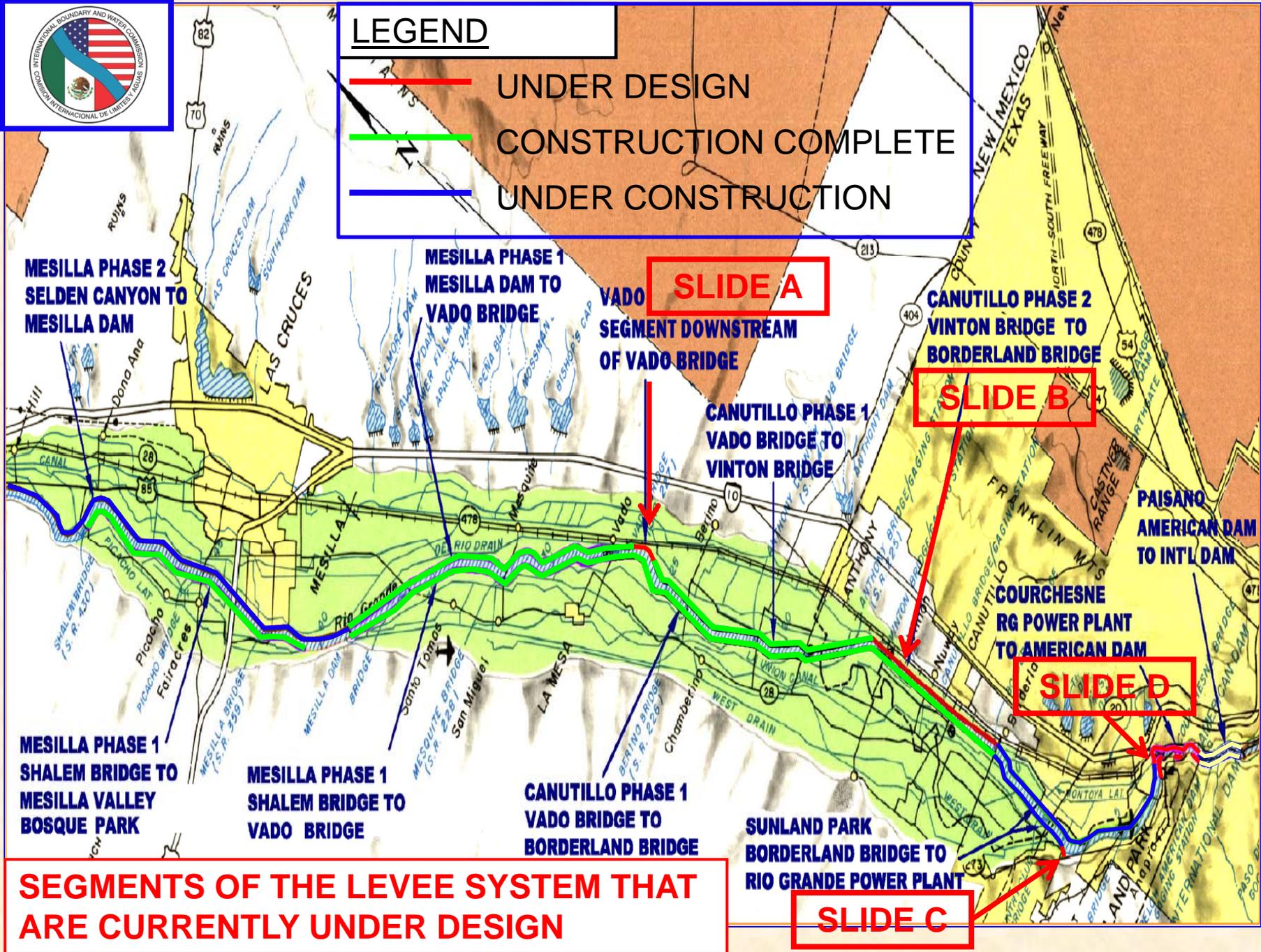
## USIBWC LEVEE ACCREDITATION CHALLENGES:

- **Interior Drainage** - FEMA requires an Interior Drainage Analysis. To date, no analysis exist. USIBWC is only authorized to do work on the levees within USIBWC ROW and does not have authority in assessing the interior drainage issues.
- FEMA Region 6 is coordinating with the local Communities on how to address this issue and establish responsibility for the interior drainage analysis.
- Lack of an Interior Drainage Analysis will affect the levee accreditation of the Hatch West Levee, Mesilla Phase 1, Mesilla Phase 2, Canutillo Phase 1 and Sunland Park projects



## LEGEND

-  UNDER DESIGN
-  CONSTRUCTION COMPLETE
-  UNDER CONSTRUCTION



**SEGMENTS OF THE LEVEE SYSTEM THAT ARE CURRENTLY UNDER DESIGN**

**SLIDE A**

**SLIDE B**

**SLIDE D**

**SLIDE C**

**MESILLA PHASE 2  
SELDEN CANYON TO  
MESILLA DAM**

**MESILLA PHASE 1  
MESILLA DAM TO  
VADO BRIDGE**

**VADO  
SEGMENT DOWNSTREAM  
OF VADO BRIDGE**

**CANUTILLO PHASE 2  
VINTON BRIDGE TO  
BORDERLAND BRIDGE**

**CANUTILLO PHASE 1  
VADO BRIDGE TO  
VINTON BRIDGE**

**PAISANO  
AMERICAN DAM  
TO INT'L DAM**

**MESILLA PHASE 1  
SHALEM BRIDGE TO  
MESILLA VALLEY  
BOSQUE PARK**

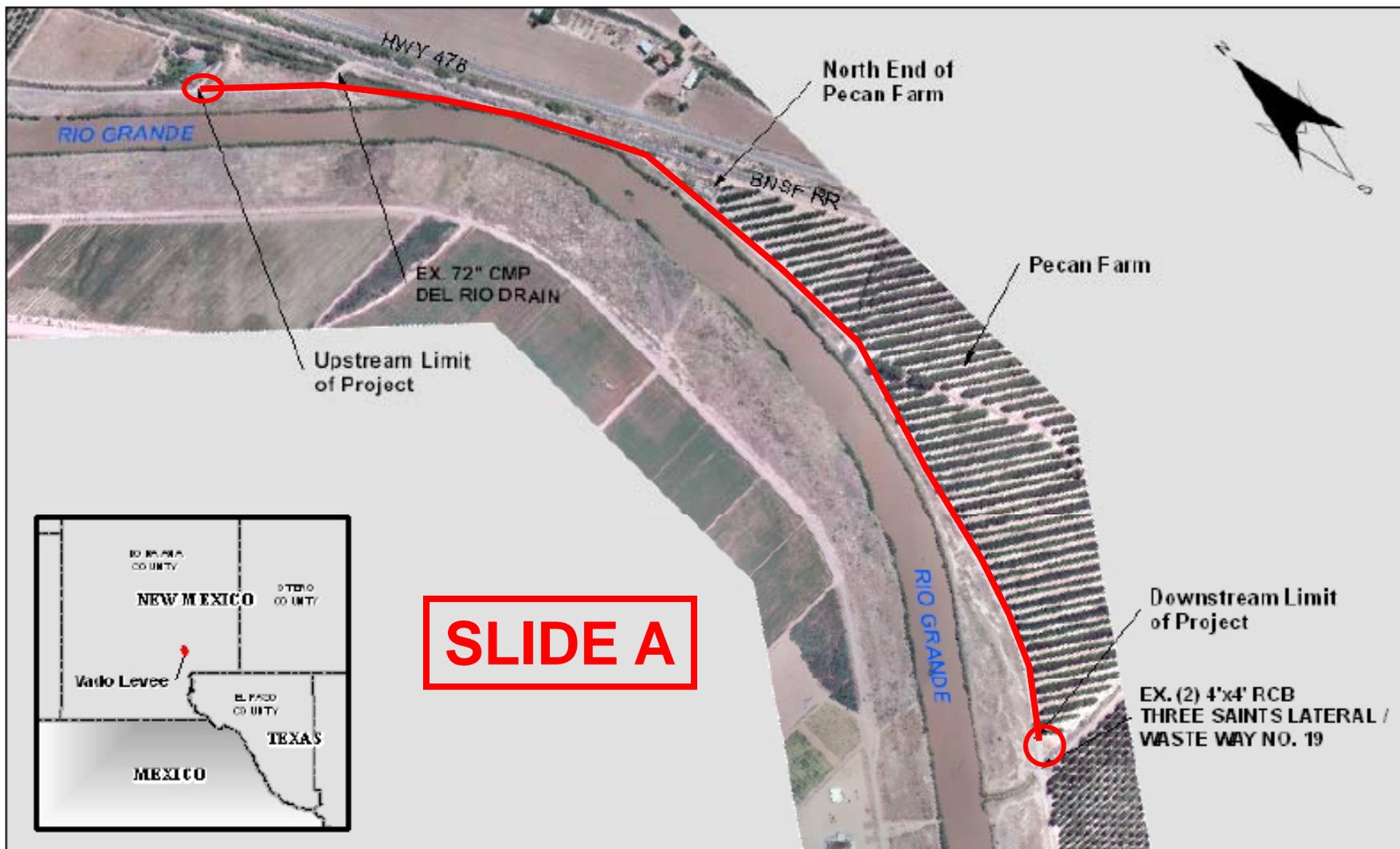
**MESILLA PHASE 1  
SHALEM BRIDGE TO  
VADO BRIDGE**

**CANUTILLO PHASE 1  
VADO BRIDGE TO  
BORDERLAND BRIDGE**

**SUNLAND PARK  
BORDERLAND BRIDGE TO  
RIO GRANDE POWER PLANT**

**COURCHESNE  
RG POWER PLANT  
TO AMERICAN DAM**

# Doña Ana County, NM

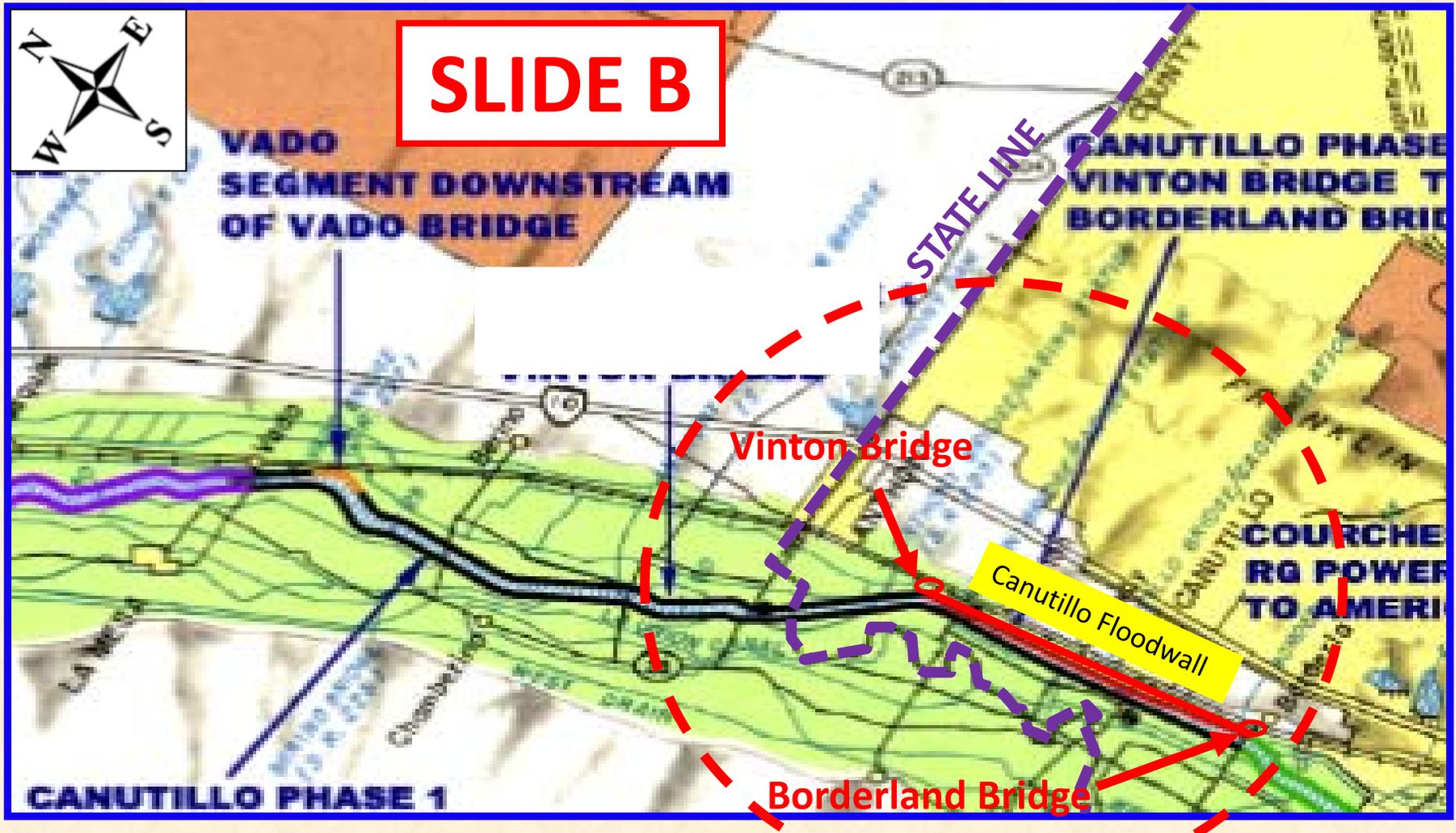


**SLIDE A**

**NAME - VADO EAST LEVEE SEG.**  
**LOCATION- APPROX. 1 MILE DOWNSTR. FROM VADO BRIDGE--**  
**LENGTH-1.06 MILES ---DESIGN COMPLETE / CONSTRUCTION IS ESTIMATED TO BEGIN MID 2013**

# El Paso County, TX

## SLIDE B



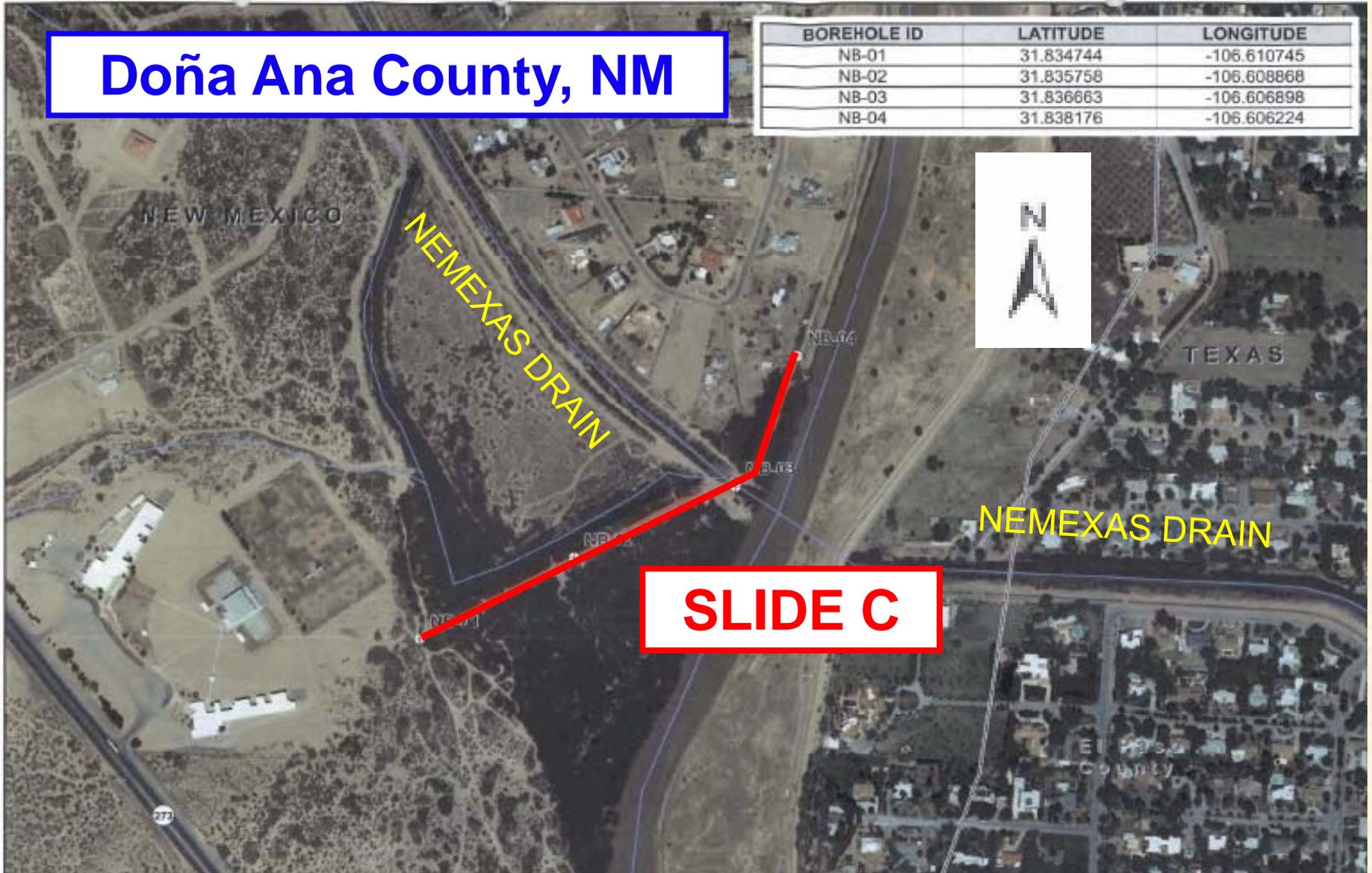
NAME – CANUTILLO EAST FLOODWALL

LOCATION-APPROX.FROM VINTON BRIDGE TO BORDERLAND BRIDGE

LENGTH-5.66 MILES ---90% DESIGN COMPLETE/CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATED IN 2014 THRU 2017

# Doña Ana County, NM

BOREHOLE ID	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
NB-01	31.834744	-106.610745
NB-02	31.835758	-106.608868
NB-03	31.836663	-106.606898
NB-04	31.838176	-106.606224



**SLIDE C**

**NAME – NEMEXAS WEST LEVEE SEGMENT**

**LOCATION-APPROX.1/2 MILE DOWNSTREAM OF THE COUNTRY CLUB BRIDGE (NEAR NEXAS DRAIN SIPHON)**

**LENGTH-1/3 OF A MILE---90% DESIGN DUE 12/15/12 / CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATED IN 2018 THRU 2020**





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- **SEGMENTS (slides A,B,C,D) MAY AFFECT LEVEE ACCREDITATION** of the Hatch West Levee, Mesilla Phase 1, Mesilla Phase 2, Canutillo Phase 1 and Sunland Park projects
- **FEMA ACCREDITATION REQUIRES A COMPLETE LEVEE SYSTEM.** As per FEMA, a levee system must constitute a “complete system” not reliant on any segments/systems that are not accredited.





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**FEMA**

### **FIRM UPDATE?**

- **When will FEMA complete FIRMs? FEMA has FIRMs on hold until FEMA completes revising its “Levee Analysis and Mapping Approach”, and such date is currently unknown to the USIBWC.**
- **Draft FEMA guidelines may be found at:**  
**<http://www.fema.gov/living-levees-its-shared-responsibility/fema-revising-its-levee-analysis-and-mapping-approach>**



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### FIRM UPDATE?

- FEMA is currently working with the local Community in order to address the levee accreditation/de-accreditation process as it relates to the FIRMs in Doña Ana County, NM and El Paso County, TX and to clarify roles of responsibility among the local Community.
- FEMA's vision is to have a future meeting with the local Community in Doña Ana County, NM and El Paso County, TX.
- **ANOTHER CHALLENGE:** FEMA timeline to finalize flood insurance rate maps (FIRMs) versus USIBWC levee certification process in Doña Ana County, NM & El Paso County ,TX



## **FROM LEVEE REHABILITATION TO LEVEE CERTIFICATION COMMON QUESTIONS**

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- **What is USIBWC doing to assist the local community?**
  - **Meeting with Stakeholders in Doña Ana County, NM and El Paso County, TX.**
  - **USIBWC is aware that Counties are updating their respective FIRMs**
  - **USIBWC hosts Citizens Forum Meetings once every three months. Stakeholders are invited.**



International Boundary and Water Commission  
United States Section

## FROM LEVEE REHABILITATION TO LEVEE CERTIFICATION

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# QUESTIONS?