



## International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

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### **WORK BEGINS TO REPAIR NOGALES WASH**

The United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) has begun work to repair damage to the Nogales Wash from a 2007 storm. High flows in the concrete-lined Nogales Wash channel in August 2007 damaged a 150-foot long segment. The storm washed out the floor of the channel and left a void behind a portion of the channel wall in a section located 1.5 miles north of the U.S.-Mexico border.

The repair work will be carried out under an agreement between the USIBWC and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) using \$500,000 in USIBWC funds. MRM Construction Services, a USACE contractor, will actually perform the work. To repair the Nogales Wash, the damaged concrete will be removed and new reinforced concrete will be installed. The work is scheduled to be completed in July 2008.

Immediately following last year's storm, USIBWC personnel provided technical assistance to the City of Nogales, Arizona to implement temporary repairs to stabilize the channel as more storms approached. Emergency repairs were considered critical in order to protect the International Outfall Interceptor (IOI), a sewage pipe located in the damaged section of the wash. Had the pipe ruptured, it could have released untreated wastewater, creating a potential public health threat.

The work being initiated this week will consist of permanent repairs to ensure the IOI does not sustain damage during future storms affecting the Nogales Wash.

“We understand the importance of repairing the Nogales Wash to protect the international sewage pipe located there,” said Carlos Marin, USIBWC Commissioner. “Through our partnership with the Corps of Engineers, the federal government is taking action to protect residents in the City of Nogales before the next monsoon season.”

For more information:

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