



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section



For immediate release
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CANUTILLO BRIDGE TO CLOSE FOR TWO WEEKS DUE TO LEVEE CONSTRUCTION; BORDERLAND BRIDGE TO REOPEN THIS WEEK

Canutillo Bridge across the Rio Grande at Canutillo, Texas will close for approximately two weeks beginning on Monday, April 16 due to Rio Grande levee construction. During construction, detour signs will direct vehicles to Doniphan Drive or Westside Road to cross the river using Borderland Bridge or Artcraft Bridge, which are located approximately two miles to the south, or Vinton Bridge approximately three miles north of Canutillo Bridge. The closure is needed so that automatic flood control gates can be installed at the bridge. Borderland Bridge, which has been closed since April 2 for work on the flood gates, is scheduled to reopen by Friday, April 13.

The construction at both bridges is being done by Milestone Excavation, Inc. under contract to the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) as part of a project to rehabilitate Rio Grande flood control levees between Vado Bridge in Doña Ana County, New Mexico and Borderland Bridge in El Paso, Texas.

The work is being carried out with funding appropriated to the USIBWC from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The purpose of the Recovery Act is to create and save jobs, promote economic recovery, and invest in infrastructure that will provide

long-term economic benefits. The USIBWC received \$220 million in Recovery Act appropriations for levee rehabilitation in New Mexico and Texas. The funds have already created or preserved an estimated 2500+ jobs.

Construction of the flood gates at Canutillo Bridge is expected to be completed by April 29. The USIBWC is rehabilitating 122 miles of Rio Grande flood control levees between Hatch, New Mexico and Fort Hancock, Texas. The work is intended to bring the levees into compliance with standards established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). USIBWC is also constructing levee improvements in Presidio, Texas and South Texas. All construction is expected to be completed in 2012.

For more information:

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