

CBP Office of Administration  
**Facilities Management and Engineering**

**Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team  
Visioning Workshop #1**

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Border Protection



# Introduction

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# Custom and Border Protection's (CBP) Mission

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- CBP is one of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) largest and most complex components, with a priority mission of keeping terrorists and their weapons out of the U.S.
  
- The U.S. Border Patrol's (USBP) priority mission is preventing terrorists and terrorist weapons from entering the United States. The USBP continues to advance its traditional mission by preventing illegal aliens, smugglers, narcotics, and other contraband from entering the United States.
  
- CBP's Border Infrastructure System (BIS) in proximity to the estuary (Areas V and VI) consists of approximately 15,600 linear feet of tactical infrastructure (roads, fencing, lights, drainage) in the Smuggler's Gulch and Border Field State Park areas
  - The BIS has greatly improved Border Patrol's ability to meet its mission and gain effective control of this section of the border



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# What Have We Done?

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Improved the “post construction” hydro geologic, hydraulic and sediment yield characteristics of the watershed

- Hydro geologic conditions have been improved through placement/compaction of structural fill reducing “on-site” erosion
- Peak hydraulic flows and velocities reduced, which will decrease downstream erosion and scour
  - Energy dissipaters installed to further reduce velocities at culvert outlet structures
- Sediment yield into the Tijuana River and estuary reduced as a result of reduced flow velocities and “on-site” erosion controls



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# What Have We Done?

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Funded the award of a Maintenance & Repair (M&R) contract to remove and properly dispose of debris that collects in the box culverts in Smugglers Gulch and Goat Canyon to maintain the conveyance capacity after storm events

- Reducing quantity of debris that otherwise would have been conveyed into the estuary
- Note that IBWC is responsible for debris removal in the diversion structures

Funded the award of a 2<sup>nd</sup> M&R contract to provide sediment and erosion control, and continuation of re-vegetation activities including irrigation

Total estimated cost: \$5M-\$10M per year



Photos depict debris/silt deposits in Smuggler's Gulch and Goat Canyon after major storm event on Dec 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009



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# Where Do We Want to Go?

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- Complete re-vegetation of temporarily disturbed areas in Areas V and VI
  - Increase the presence of native perennials and improve the balance of native annuals and perennials present within the footprint
- Develop and implement an invasive species plan that focuses on aggressive exotic species that could adversely impact the estuary
- Be good overall environmental stewards of the BIS footprint
  - Seek input/assistance from external stakeholders and subject matter experts (SME)
- Be viewed as a transparent, proactive partner relative to the recovery of the river valley and estuary



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# How Do We Get There?

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- Assemble an external stakeholder/SME advisory group to provide input and assistance to CBP relative to “on-going” re-vegetation activities and the development of a plan that focuses on aggressive exotic species that could adversely impact the estuary



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# Opportunities and Conflicts

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CBP willing to discuss the construction and operation “by others” of sediment and debris collection devices within the BIS footprint as long as they do not adversely impact Border Patrol’s ability to secure the border

- *However, we cannot commit to funding any of these efforts*



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# The Information We Can Provide

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- Environmental Assessments prepared for the BIS
  - Environmental Impact Statement
    - *Note ROD never prepared because of waiver*
- Drainage studies prepared for the BIS Areas V and VI
  - Michael Baker Jr. prepared December 2007
  - HNTB prepared September 2008



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Questions?

