



INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION  
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

OCT 16 2003

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER  
UNITED STATES SECTION

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C) Field Operations Supervisor  
Environmental Resource Officer  
United States Border Patrol  
(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Sonoita, AZ 85637

Re: Border Road San Rafael Valley

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

It is our understanding that the United States Border Patrol, Department of Homeland Security is planning to perform emergency maintenance (motorized grading) to an existing border road between Monument 102, located at the southern end of the Huachuca Mountains, Cochise County and Monument 114, located at the southern end of the Patagonia Mountains, Santa Cruz County. This covers an area approximately 25 miles of rough mountainous terrain adjacent to the international boundary. We are aware that the road is presently impassable and in desperate need of repair. We also understand that you are in the process of completing a Biological and Cultural Survey to comply with National Environmental Policy Act as required by the U.S. Forest Service in order to complete this work.

The International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, United States Section, (USIBWC) maintains the international monuments in this area, and access is essential to perform the required maintenance. The USIBWC also makes periodic inspections of said monuments, which require access. Any improvements to the existing road will assist USIBWC in facilitating ingress and egress to the existing monuments, and we support your efforts. Please inform your contractor to maintain a safe distance from our monuments, so that no impacts will occur. Also, please insure that the minor grading of the road not impact on drainage either to the U.S. or Mexico. Finally, please include the USIBWC in any review process regarding the National Environmental Policy Act. The contact person for this, is Mr. Doug Echlin, Chief Environmental Division, same address as below. You can also call him at (915) 832-4741.

The USIBWC appreciates any maintenance performed along the international boundary between the United States and Mexico which will assist us in maintaining our monuments. Please call me at (915) 832-4147 or Manuel Rubio, Jr., at (915) 832-4137 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

*Debra Little*  
Debra Little  
Acting United States  
Commissioner