

CBP Office of Administration Facilities Management and Engineering

Border Patrol Tactical Infrastructure Program
IBWC Coordination Activities
August 29th, 2011

Meeting notes by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



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Agenda



- Levee Crest/Road Maintenance MOA
- B.I.S. Surf Fence/Friendship Circle Fencing
- B.I.S. Bunker Hill Road
- Tijuana River North Levee Road Paving
- PF225 B-4 Playa & Alamo Areas
- Calexico West POE Improvements
- Nogales Tunnels Gates
- Testing of Nogales Wash Gate
- Mexican Levee/Road @ Silvercreek wash
- Douglas Fence Replacement
- Anapra Area-CBP/Corps Drainage Study
- IBWC Monument #1 VF
- PF225 K-1B Fence
- Yselata-Fabens Crossovers
- El Paso Vega Ramps
- El Paso Vega Mowing
- Ft Hancock/Zac Dominguez Field Office Vehicle Gates
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- L-1 Wash#4 & Concrete Trenches Study
- Eagle Pass River Bank Reconstruction
- Laredo Boat Ramp-Phase 2
- Laredo Cane Removal Pilot
- PF225 O-1, O-2 & O-3
- Penitas Pump Station Levee Wall (PF225 O-4B)
- Hidalgo Levee/wall M&R
- Hidalgo POE PH 2
- RGV Vehicle Gates-Phase 1
- Cameron County East Loop Project
- Additional Miscellaneous Items



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Levee Crest/Road Maintenance MOA



- CBP drafted MOA amendment to address levee crest maintenance in the El Paso sector.
- Final draft of MOA submitted to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) on June 1st for IBWC signature
- MOA is reportedly with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for signature. No known issues
 - (b) (6) *(IBWC) to check on status*



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B.I.S. Surf Fence

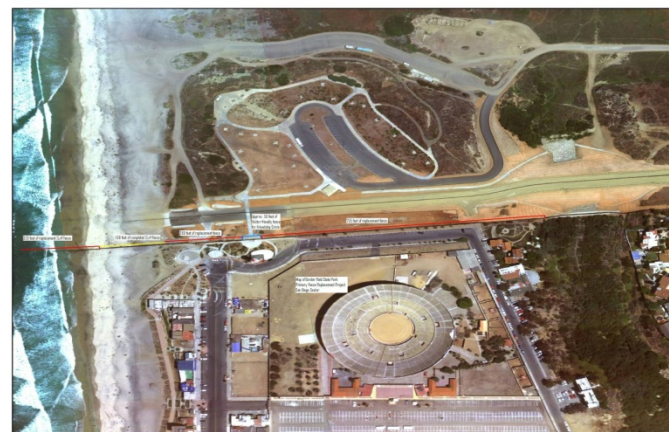
- “In-kind” replacement of existing surf fence (extends (b) (7)(E) into ocean)
- All environmental permits/approvals obtained
- Contract award imminent; NTP planned for September
- Copies of the environmental permits/approvals obtained for this project provided to IBWC on Aug 26th for their records



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B.I.S. Friendship Circle Fencing

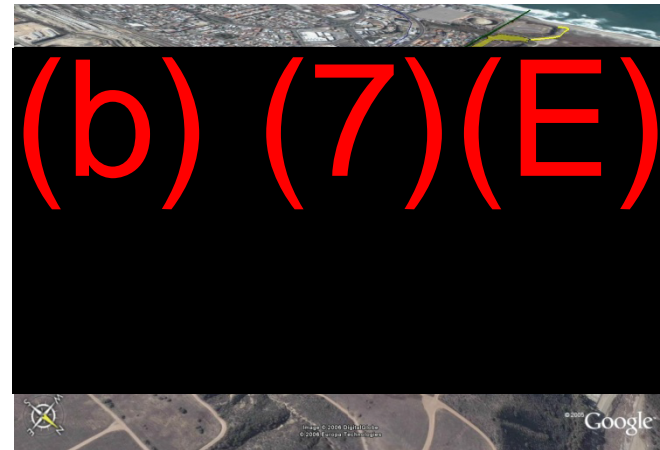
- Replacement of border fencing in proximity to Friendship Circle (b) (7)(E)
- Installation of new secondary fencing to facilitate public access to border monument-deleted from this phase of work
- IBWC issued concurrence letter on Draft Concept Report
- 100% design documents delivered to IBWC on March 16th
- Contract award imminent; NTP planned for September
- *Project has be broken into two phases. Phase 1 consists of the primary fence replacement, which is addressed above. Phase 2 consists of enhancements to the Friendship Circle area in general (e.g. canopy). Phase 2 is at 35% design stage and has been submitted to IBWC*



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B.I.S. Bunker Hill Road

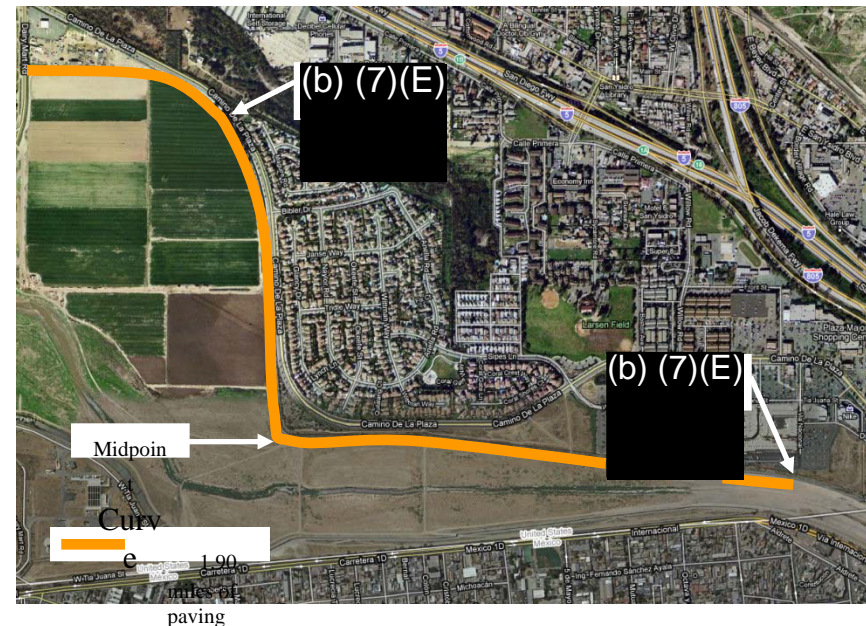
- Construction of a new road (0.5 mi) and border lighting that will connect the west and east side of Bunker Hill with the existing B.I.S.
- Project to be constructed by a military training deployments
- CBP received IBWC “concurrence” letter on June 27th
- Construction to begin in April 2012



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Tijuana River North Levee Road Paving

- Project will provide an asphalt roadway surface over the existing granular surface levee road, just east of the Las Americas premium outlets
- Primary purpose of paving is dust control
- Construction contract awarded on July 21
- NTP issued; “local” IBWC rep attended pre-construction meeting
- Construction should start around mid-September
- *CBP reiterated that the proposed finish grades on top of the levee will not change as a result of the installation of asphalt surface coarse versus tar & chip*



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PF225 B-4 Playa & Alamo Areas

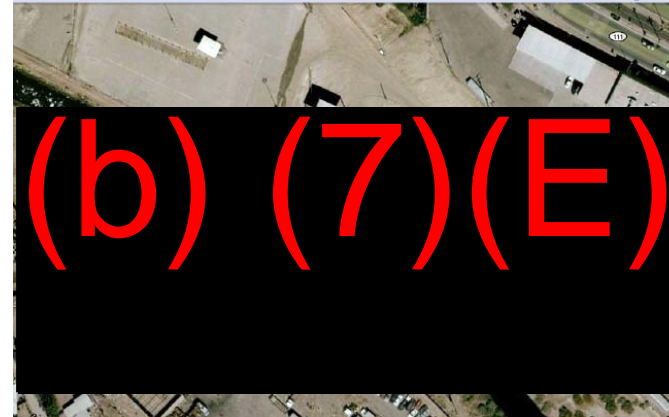
- CBP requests IBWC assistance to determine the extended water ponding condition and fence foundation erosion at fence segment B-4
- CBP provided IBWC exhibits depicting the location of ponding condition and fence foundation erosion to include lat/long coordinates
- IBWC concurs that the ponding is due to Mexican irrigation canal and is sending letter to CILA regarding their/our concerns
- IBWC has sent Mexico a letter requesting corrective action be implemented relative to both issues
- IBWC still awaiting a formal response from Mexico (CILA)



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Calexico West POE Expansion

- Mexico is installing a new box culvert in the New River immediately south of the border. GSA believes the culvert is undersized.
 - *IBWC has not yet “concurred” with Mexico’s proposed culvert extension*
- Significant erosion has occurred along the banks of the new River immediately north of the border that is adversely impacting an existing bridge abutment and primary and chain link fencing
- IBWC has advised that Mexico’s construction will stop 20 ft short of the border until the GSA installs the box culvert in the U.S.
- IBWC to see if they can obtain and provide Mexico’s construction documents
- Site visit with CBP, IBWC and CILA occurred on Aug 3rd; Need to discuss path forward



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Nogales Tunnels Gates



- Removal of the existing 3-foot retaining wall in the Grand tunnel and the installation of primary gates at the Grand and Morley tunnels
 - Project also involves tunnel access improvements
- CBP provided IBWC with GPS coordinates of proposed new gates to verify they will be built in the U.S. CBP also modified concrete mix design per IBWC request
- CBP/USACE working on the design of the new stairwell access to the Grand tunnel
- Final construction drawings to be completed by October 6, 2011
 - *IBWC has the approved drainage report and final design drawings for the work that is proposed to occur within both tunnels*
- IBWC provided CBP with their “concurrence letter” for the project; they understand we will be submitting final revised drawings once completed
- RFP expected to be issued on October 20, 2011; contract to be awarded on or about December 30, 2011



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Testing of Nogales Wash Drainage Gate

- CBP (Tucson sector) will unlock the gate on a pre-agreed to date & time to allow IBWC to test/verify the operation of the gate
 - *IBWC is targeting Sept 6th – will coordinate directly with* (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
- CBP provided IBWC with their operations guidelines for opening the gate

(b) (5)



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Mexican Road Constructed @ Silvercreek wash

- A levee/road constructed across a major drainage wash in proximity to the border (east of the City of Douglas) is causing flood waters to back-up into the U.S. and exacerbate erosion that is occurring in Silver Creek
- The road is downstream of a LWC constructed by CBP
- IBWC sent a letter to Mexico regarding our concerns on 08/14/10
- IBWC sent a letter to the property owner putting them on notice that they will be held accountable for damages to gov't property
- Property owner recently observed raising the height of the levee/road
- CBP sr. leadership requests that this issue be elevated to Department of State (assuming it's a treaty violation); IBWC stated that they have to exhaust all avenues available to them before elevating
- IBWC & CILA Commissioners visiting the wash on Sept 6th



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Douglas Fence Replacement

- Replacement of (b) (7)(E) miles of existing legacy border fencing (landing mat) in proximity to the City of Douglas
- IBWC to survey existing fence segments believed to encroach into Mexico
- Contract should be awarded on ~Aug 31st
- IBWC has determined that there is one area of the existing fence that encroach into MX (b/t monuments 85-86)
- *IBWC advised that Mexico is aware of the existing fence encroachment and would like to know specifically when the removal work will be performed as soon as possible so they can complete their necessary coordination activities*
- *The work described above represents phases 1 and 2 of the project (b) (7)(E) on either side of the POE. Design of phases 3 and 4 to begin soon (remainder (b) (7)(E))*

(b) (7)(E)

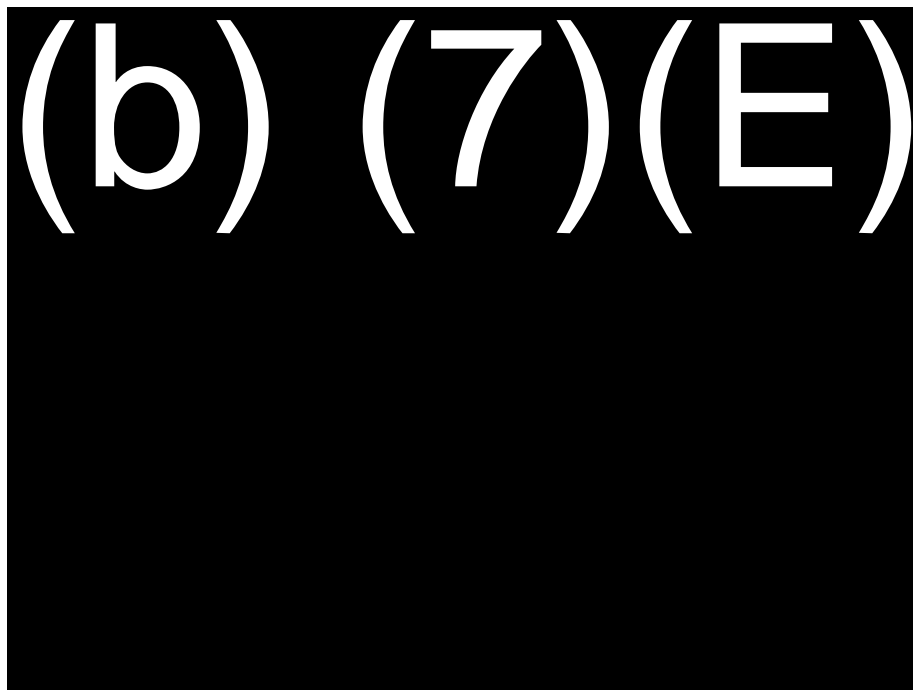


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Anapra Area-CBP/Corps Drainage Study



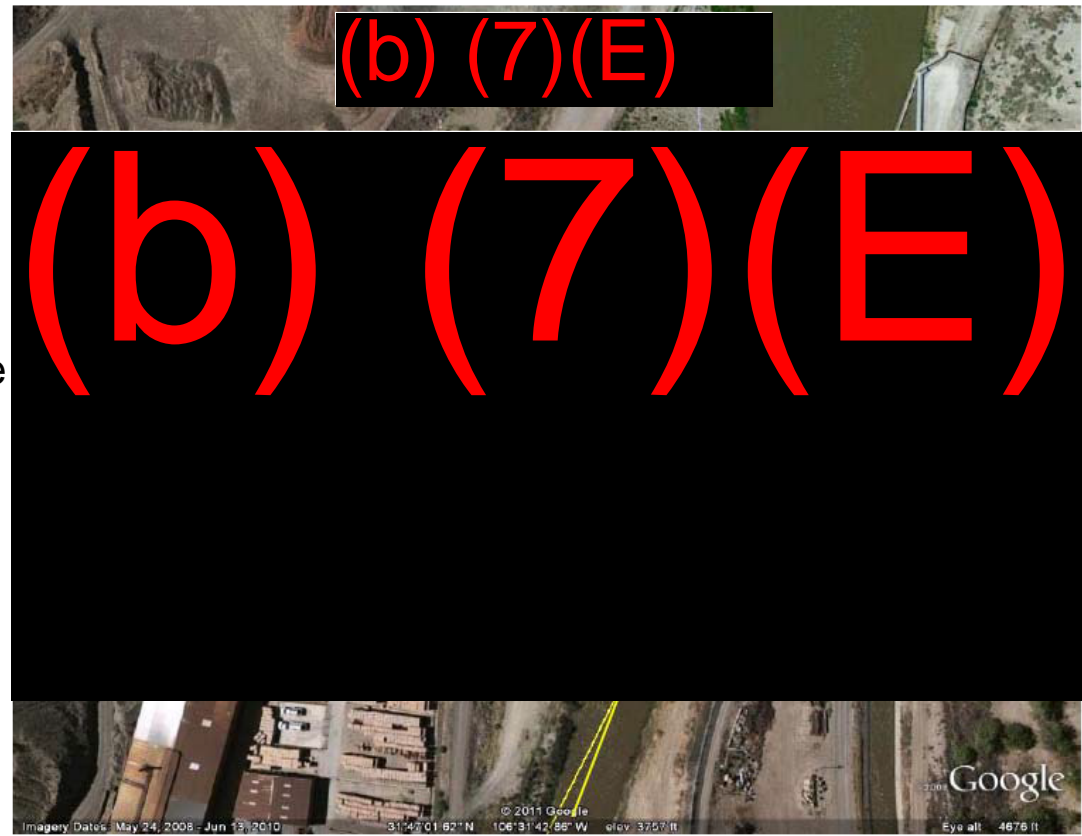
- CBP has hired the Corps to prepare a comprehensive drainage study of the Anapra border area to identify necessary improvements to ensure long-term viability of fencing and access roads
- Close coordination with IBWC (and Mexico) critical to ensure long-term solutions are identified and implemented
- CBP/Corps in the process of obtaining ROE-S&E
- Draft report due in December 2011 (*may now be November*)
 - All ROE for Survey & Exploration now obtained



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IBWC Monument #1 Vehicle Barrier

- A small building has been erected in MX adjacent to the border
- The existing border barrier (rock-line & cable) were buried
- CBP would like install vehicle fence or large boulders in this location to deter vehicle drive-through
- The proposed location of the short section of VF is located in the Roosevelt Reservation and outside of the floodplain; IBWC indicated that there could be some “outcry” from local NGOs if formally propose installing the VF
- *Mexico is installing the guard rail that may negate the need to install the vehicle fence; IBWC was not aware of their specific plans but would inquire and get back to CBP*



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PF225 K-1B Fence



- CBP received IBWC “concurrence” letter on the current proposed design on Sept 30, 2010, which is located on the land-side of the canal
- Congressman Reyes has reportedly obtained \$15M in funding in FY12 for the design and construction of the box culverts
 - Construction window limited to October – February due to water irrigation requirements; most likely construction start date is October 2013 due to need to complete NEPA, prepare design and procure contractor; small chance construction could begin in October 2012 although unlikely due to the need to characterize and prepare hazardous waste (arsenic) removal plan
- CBP sr leadership has decided to proceed with the project as follows:
 - Maintain current proposed alignment on the “land side” of the irrigation canal
 - Construct (b) (7)(E)
 - If IBWC does not receive FY12 funding to construct the box culvert, then we will also install the low water crossing at the arroyo and the vehicle gate at the southern end of the segment
 - Construction estimated to start between January-March 2012 and completed by June-August
- IBWC agreed to research and provide any info they have on the 5 ft electric utility easement on the eastern edge of their property as well as any other easements that may exist on their land- *IBWC agreed to make this a high priority*
- If/when IBWC constructs the box culvert, the “floating fence” could also be moved at that time so its west (river side) of the head gates
- Revised construction drawings should be completed by the end of September
- *IBWC advised that they plan to have an A/E under contract by the end of this FY to design the box culvert to replace the existing canal. Goal is to have the design complete by Sept 2012 and to award a construction contract in time to allow the work to occur in late 2012/early 2013*



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Yselata-Fabens Canal Crossings



- Is IBWC and or the EPCWID#1 planning to construct any improvements to the irrigation canal in FY12?
- IBWC doesn't think so but are going to verify with (b) (6) Status?
 - *No update*



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El Paso Vega Ramps



- Construct (b) (7)(E) new vehicle ramps in Vega to align with canal crossovers & remove 4 existing ramps to negate floodplain impacts
- CATEX/REC and Section 106 compliance expected to be completed in April 2011
- An exhibit depicting the locations of the new ramps we propose to build and the ramps we proposed to remove was sent to IBWC on Oct 26th
- CBP re-sent exhibits depicting locations of ramps to be installed and removed
- IBWC provided "concurrence letter"



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El Paso Vega Mowing



- Preparation of EA underway
- Draft IAA submitted to IBWC in mid-Feb
 - IBWC indicated at last month's meeting that they have no comments on the draft IAA; CBP is routing through our Office of Procurement
 - IAA on hold until environmental clearance is obtained
- Public comments (including IBWC) received and being addressed relative to the draft EA
- Conference call being coordinated between IBWC, CBP and FWS to discuss FWS desire for a formal consultation (tentative date is Sept 1st)



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Ft Hancock/Zac Dominguez Field Office Vehicle Gates



- CBP has identified funding to modify the western ramp; working with the Corps to develop design



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L-1 Wash#4 & Concrete Trenches

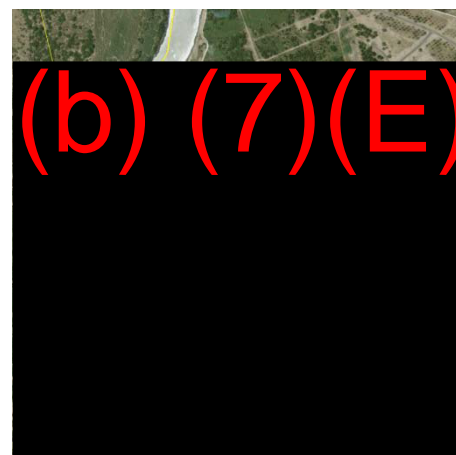
- Study to evaluate options for addressing drainage problems with wash #4 and safety concerns with concrete trenches underway
- Draft study report submitted to CBP on June 19th
- Final report to be submitted to CBP on August 23rd; CBP forwarded final report to IBWC on August 26th



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Eagle Pass River Bank Reconstruction

- CBP would like to re-build portions of the Rio Grande river bank washed out during last year's flooding (Eagle Pass area)
- Very little funding exists for this effort so we'd like to streamline the review/approval process to the fullest extent practicable
- Significant river bank erosion and possible main channel movement occurred as the result of last years flooding; IBWC visited the area on August 18th – thoughts?
- *IBWC indicated that they plan to correct some of the erosion and would provide CBP with more specific details soonest*



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Laredo Phase I Cane Removal Pilot Project



- CBP submitted draft summary report relative to water quality samples collected during the herbicide applications to IBWC on August 26th



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Laredo Boat Ramp-Phase 2

- CBP submitted Phase 2 plans (lighting and post & cables) on April 4th requesting review and “concurrence”
- CBP planning to install removable posts and cables, and “break away” light poles as part of Phase 2
- CBP submitted design documents to IBWC on June 28th for formal “concurrence”
- IBWC seeking CILA’s concurrence
- IBWC would like to better understand the discrepancy in their river data that led to the design issues with the ramp
- *Concurrence letter is being drafted; CILA has some design modification recommendations, which IBWC forwarded. CBP will review their feasibility and advise IBWC of planned path forward*



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PF225 O-1 thru O-3



- CBP and IBWC working together to determine key assumptions to be used for the FLO-2D modeling
- CBP submitted revised modeling approach to IBWC on April 21st and received IBWC feedback on April 22nd
- CBP would like to written concurrence on key assumptions as soon as possible
 - Updated “approach memo” submitted to IBWC on June 29th
- CBP evaluating IBWC comments and updating the FLO-2D model to include the Los Ebinos POE expansion; revised model to be submitted to IBWC on August 29th



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Penitas Pump Station Levee Wall (PF225 O-4B)



- Project involves the construction of new levee wall(s) and levee in proximity to the Pump Station
- CBP requested a copy of the easement documents IBWC recently executed with the Hidalgo County Water Improvements District. Survey document(s) still being developed. CBP plans to now approach HCWID for the real estate interests we need to construct and maintain the vehicle gates to be installed in the new fencing – status of this request? Need to wait for IBWC's survey to be completed
- IBWC negotiated change order for \$21,943.75 to install electrical conduit on behalf of CBP
- CBP's IAA with IBWC needs to be extended until June 30, 2012
- New IAA is in the process of being finalized
- What is the status of IBWC's real estate acquisitions? IBWC to check
 - *IBWC agreed to make this a high priority*
- What is the current estimated substantial completion date relative to the project? IBWC to check
 - *IBWC advised that the current estimated substantial completion date in February 2012 and Final Completion is estimated for May 2012*



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(b) (7)(E) Wall M&R Coordination

- CBP would like to have a conference call with IBWC to discuss communications and coordination protocols relative to M&R activities associated with the levee wall
- An MOU exists that describes M&R roles and responsibilities
- CBP (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to set up conference call with IBWC (b) (6) POC). MOU has been provided to (b) (6)
 - (b) (6) (IBWC) will coordinate the meeting with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (CBP)



Hidalgo POE PH 2



- Project involves the construction of a new flood protection wall in proximity to the Hidalgo POE
- CBP and IBWC have executed an IAA for IBWC to incorporate bollards into the new flood wall
- CBP to provide bollards
- IAA to be revised to reflect new period of performance and funding of \$320K
- Revised IAA has been finalized
- Construction to have resumed mid-July-What's status?
 - *Construction has resumed. At a recent project meeting, CBP's port director reportedly raised concerns about the project (specifics unknown). (b) (6) (IBWC) to forward the name of the specific CBP official that raised the concerns to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (CBP)*



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RGV Vehicle Gates-Phase 1



- CBP/Corps have hired Weston Solutions to design-build (b) (7)(E) in Cameron and Hidalgo Counties
- Weston's concept designs for the (b) (7)(E) configurations to be built as part of the project were provided to IBWC on Dec 4th and again on Dec 14th
- CBP submitted letter to IBWC confirming project is covered by April 2008 waiver
- "Concurrence" for the first (b) (7)(E) site specific designs (test gates) received on June 30th
- *IBWC requested the construction schedule for the test gates*



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Cameron County East Loop Project



- Cameron County is planning to a new highway (aka East Loop) to connect the Veterans International bridge with of the Port of Brownsville. The project is going to require the relocation of a portion of IBWC's levee system and CBP fencing
- CBP met with Cameron County on January 26th to learn more specifics regarding to project to include anticipated timing. IBWC and FWS participated in the meeting
- CBP sent IBWC on May 16th (and again on June 6th and August 9th) recommended changes to the proposed typical levee/fence cross-section
 - *IBWC agreed to make this a high priority*



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Additional Items



- San Diego/Tijuana River Vegetation Maintenance MOA: CBP to set up a conference call w/ IBWC to discuss the details to be covered in this new MOA that will replace a legacy version that is no longer feasible given the presence of T&E habitat
- IBWC wanted us to be aware that plans are reportedly underway to expand the Andrade POE
- Recent Lukeville flooding
 - *Mexico has notified IBWC that they believe they incurred flood damage as a result of CBP's primary fence. IBWC meeting with Mexican officials and CBP at the Lukeville POE on Sept 8th to observe the existing conditions and to discuss*



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