

July 21, 2020

**TO: Jaime Chamberlain, Chairman**

FROM: Luis Ramirez, President, Ramirez Advisors Inter-National

SUBJECT: Monthly Report of Activities – June 2020

---

On behalf of Ramirez Advisors Inter-National, LLC (“RAI-N”) allow me to present our activity report to you and the Board of Directors of the Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority (“GNSCCPA”). As always, we request and welcome your continued comments and suggestions as to how we can improve on our services, our communications and on our activities on your behalf. With your feedback, we will make every effort to improve our response to your directives and ensure an effective implantation of the initiatives at hand.

Our recent activities on behalf of the GNSCCPA have focused on the following key areas:

1. Mariposa Cold Room Project Update;
2. Border Crossing Restrictions and Essential Travel;
3. Port Authority Hosts Community Update Conference Calls;
4. Letter on COVID-19 testing in Santa Cruz County;
5. Efforts to Update Port Authority Website;
6. Memorandum outlining priorities sent to Senator Sinema’s office;
7. State Transportation Board Meeting;
8. Port Authority participates in Small Business Roundtable Webinar;
9. ADEQ and IBWC announce \$39 million investment in IOI;
10. ADOT announces extension of waiver for permits up to 90,000 pounds;
11. Governor touts SR-189 project on national stage;
12. ADOT announces continuation of special overweight allowance for essential truck traffic; and
13. Thank you South32!

This report is not intended to be a full description of all activities but rather, provides highlights and information on the direction of our activities to keep the Board of Directors informed and to ensure adherence to the vision and guidance imparted to RAI-N by the GNSCCPA and its leadership. Throughout this period, RAI-N has maintained active and frequent communications with Ms. Allison Moore, Mr. Bruce Bracker and various other members of the Board of Directors in order to ensure that we have a fully coordinated approach to our efforts. RAI-N stands ready to address any issue, concern or suggestion that may arise from this report and from our on-going dialogue with the leadership and the Board of Directors.

## 1. **MARIPOSA COLD ROOM PROJECT UPDATE**

- Work with the General Services Administration (GSA) continues on the project.
- The Port Authority's legal counsel has reviewed the new Revocable Lease Agreement to be executed with GSA. Suggested edits will be submitted to GSA.

## 2. **BORDER CROSSING RESTRICTIONS AND ESSENTIAL TRAVEL**



Director of Field Operations Gu...  
 @DFOTucson

UPDATE: Travel restrictions have been extended until Aug. 20. We will continue with our mission of protecting the frontline, processing essential travel and legitimate trade at Arizona ports.  
 #CBP



2:31 PM · 7/16/20 · Twitter for iPad

- The Governments of Mexico and the United States, as well as Canada, have extended the border crossing restrictions through August, 2020.

- Additional extensions of these restrictions are expected until the situation abates on the contagion of COVID-19

- On March 21, 2020 the US and Mexican governments announced new temporary restrictions for travel across the US-Mexico border.

- It is imperative that cross-border travel be limited to essential travel in order to help eliminate the unnecessary congestion at the border.

- Who is considered an "essential" traveler?
  - Citizens and lawful permanent residents returning to the United States.

- Individuals traveling for medical purposes (e.g., to receive medical treatment in the United States).
- Individuals traveling to attend educational institutions.
- Individuals traveling to work in the United States (e.g., individuals working in the agriculture industry who must travel between the United States and Canada or Mexico in furtherance of such work).
- Individuals traveling for emergency response and public health purposes (e.g., government officials or emergency responders entering the United States to support federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial government efforts to respond to COVID-19 or other emergencies).
- Individuals engaged in lawful cross-border trade (e.g., truck drivers supporting the movement of cargo between the United States and Canada and Mexico).
- Individuals engaged in official government travel or diplomatic travel.
- Individuals engaged in military-related travel or operations.

**3. *PORT AUTHORITY HOSTS COMMUNITY UPDATE CONFERENCE CALLS***

- With the deferment of Port Authority Board meetings until the Social Distancing and Stay at Home provisions are removed, the Port Authority has continued to build consensus for a number of initiatives at Nogales.
- Conference calls have been scheduled to include all Port Authority board members as well as representatives of key sectors including the hotel industry and commercial and industrial real estate.
- Conference calls are being scheduled on as needed basis.

**4. *LETTER ON COVID-19 TESTING IN SANTA CRUZ COUNTY***

- The Port Authority sent a letter to Supervisor Bruce Bracker of Santa Cruz County supporting the efforts to get additional COVID-19 testing conducted in Santa Cruz County.
- A copy of the letter can be found in Attachment #1.

**5. *EFFORTS TO UPDATE PORT AUTHORITY WEBSITE***

- The Port Authority's website is outdated and in need of upgrades.
- The Port Authority, in coordination with the Nogales economic Development Foundation and Nogales Economic Development are working with a web specialist on updating software issues and content.
- RAI-N is coordinating with board members in order to update the content and making the website even more user friendly and current.
- We hope to have an updated version for review in approximately 2 to 3 months.

**6. *MEMORANDUM OUTLINING PRIORITIES SENT TO SENATOR SINEMA'S OFFICE***

- In response to an information request from the office of Senator Kyrsten Sinema, the Port Authority, in consultation with the entire Board, sent a Memorandum outlining the top priorities for the Port Authority.
- Please note that this is not an all-inclusive list, but it was intended to provide a list of issues were the intervention of the Senator and the Arizona Congressional delegation could have a substantial impact.
- A copy of the memorandum is provided in Attachment #2

**7. *STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING***

- On June 19, 2020, the Arizona State Transportation Board met and discussed ADOT's financial situation and its implications for the 5-Year Program.

- Due to the unprecedented economic impact of COVID-19, the Board postponed the adoption of the Tentative 5-Year Program until the September/October time frame.
- ADOT staff will continue to review the data and prepare a new 5-Year Program once further revenue data becomes available.
- ADOT leadership reported that federal funds already allocated will not be jeopardized by the decision to delay the adoption of the 5-Year Plan.
- April presented the first full-month impact of the COVID-19 crisis for ADOT.
  - A \$33.4 million loss in Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) revenue
  - A \$4.7 million loss in Regional Area Road Fund (RARF) revenue
  - Despite these losses, revenues performed better than what ADOT had forecasted.
- ADOT leadership indicated the possibility that the HURF could begin to recover in the fall.

**8. *PORT AUTHORITY PARTICIPATES IN SMALL BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE WEBINAR***

- Chairman Chamberlain and Lance Jungmeyer, President of the Fresh Produce Association of the Americas, participated in a panel discussion focused on Border Business Virtual Roundtable, hosted by Pima Community College's Small Business Development Center.
- Here are highlights of the comments made by Chairman Chamberlain during the webinar:
  - *COVID-19 has been devastating for the border economy and border communities*
  - *There are health, social and economic impacts and they are all connected.*
  - *On the health side, both the City of Nogales and Santa Cruz County have been hit very hard with COVID 19 which is the main reason that there was a tremendous push to allow local governments to mandate the use of face masks*
  - *Immediately after the announcement of the Governor last week, both the City and the County moved to implement the necessary resolutions requiring facial coverings or masks, and our focus has been on getting the word out.*
  - *As of Friday of last week, Santa Cruz County has had 1413 confirmed cases and 13 deaths. The total population of the county is just under 50,000, so having close to 1,500 cases is quite severe.*
  - *I know that Lance will also address the impacts to the produce industry, but as the owner of a produce distributor that has been in existence for over 50 years and I am the second generation owner, this is unlike anything we have ever seen before.*

- *Keep in mind that what happens in our industry is not just an impact for Nogales, but it is also an impact for the nation, with 6.5 billion pounds crossing each and every year to markets all over the US, North America and the world.*
- *I know that Lance will provide more details on how we protect our warehouses and our products from COVID, but to let you know that if any of you tried to walk into my offices or warehouse today you would not be able to.*
- *We are under strict rules that only authorized personnel can have access to our facilities, and even then, there are limitations on where staff can go.*
- *On the social side, the shutdown with Stay-At-Home orders, border crossing restrictions imposed by the governments of Mexico that have impacted both commercial and tourism operations, have resulted in very high rates of unemployment in our community*
- *On the economic side, the impacts have been devastating as well.*
- *More than 60% of the sales tax revenues generated in Nogales are directly attributable to the Mexican visitor and since the Border Restrictions went into effect on March 21, only essential travel has been permitted across the border. This means that anyone that was simply coming across to shop or eat at one of our restaurants was not permitted to do so.*
- *All small businesses have been severely affected and it will take some time for the return to normal, and then again, we still don't know what "normal" will be in the future.*
- *I have to tell you that the Payroll Protection Plan has had a huge impact.*
- *I applied and received the support of the PPP. During the worst economic turmoil that I can recall, having that safety net that allowed me to keep all my employees on the payroll was fantastic.*
- *Not only that, but through the Port Authority, we used our social media platforms and our zoom meetings to promote the PPP and other resources that small business have come to rely on during these trying times.*



Screen shot of SBDC Webinar, featuring Chairman Chamberlain and Mr., Lance Jungmeyer.

**9. ADEQ AND IBWC ANNOUNCE \$39 MILLION INVESTMENT IN IOI**



- On June 30, 2020, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) and the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) announcement a settlement agreement for \$38.7 million to pay for a Cure-In-Place for the International Outfall Interceptor (IOI).
- The much needed repairs of the IOI have remained a top priority for the Port Authority for years.
- Special thanks to Director Misael Cabrera and the ADEQ leadership team for working to find a solution that would bring the much needed repairs to the IOI.
- As Director Cabrera and ADEQ remarked, it took an entire team of decision makers to be able to reach this outcome, including Arizona’s Senators Kyrsten Sinema and Martha McSally, as well Congressman Raul Grijalva

and Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick, State Senator Frank Prat and State Representatives Rosana Gabaldon and Gail Griffin, Senior Advisor to the Governor Juan Ciscomani, and Supervisor Bruce Bracker.

- Considering that the outcome of years of negotiations came at time when the nation and the world are dealing with a global pandemic, makes this outcome even more remarkable.
- More importantly, the much needed repairs will have a positive impact on the region’s watershed that will be felt for generations to come.
- Congratulations to all involved in achieving this result.
- A copy of the ADEQ Press Release is provided in Attachment #3.

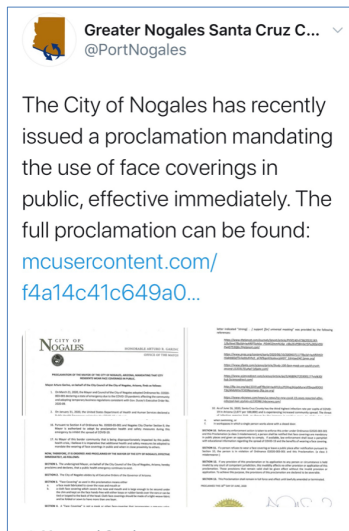
**10. GOVERNOR TOUTS SR-189 PROJECT ON NATIONAL STAGE**



- During a recent webinar of the National Governors Association, Governor Doug Ducey Chaired a panel discussion focused on infrastructure development
- As an example of Public-Private Partnerships, Governor Ducey provided the example of the financing package that was put together to pay for the \$134 million modernization of SR-189.
- This is another demonstration of the uniqueness of the project, the commitment and contributions by local government entities and the partnership with the US Department of Transportation and the Arizona State Legislature.

**11. CITY OF NOGALES AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTY MANDATE THE USE OF FACE COVERINGS TO HELP STEM THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**

- In response to letters sent by the City of Nogales, Santa Cruz County, the Arizona Border Counties Coalition, and many other local government entities throughout Arizona, Governor Ducey modified an executive order to grant the authority for local governments to mandate the use of face coverings.
- On June 18 and 19 respectively, the City of Nogales and Santa Cruz County signed proclamations mandating that residents wear face coverings in Public.



**12. ADOT ANNOUNCES CONTINUATION OF WAIVER FOR UP TO 90,000 POUNDS FOR ESSENTIAL TRUCK TRAFFIC**



- The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), has announced the continuation of a Federal Highways Administration program to allow trucks carrying essential materials to be able to transport up to 90,000 pounds without having to secure a permit for the extra 10,000 pounds of weight.
- The Port Authority has expressed the concerns to ADOT leaderships that the waiver impacts the revenues for the City and the County receive from permits issued for trucks arriving from Mexico.
- ADOT has taken the feedback into consideration and will work to find ways to bring this program to an end, given that the most urgent situations requiring the urgent movement of products and materials seems to

have passed.

- As soon as additional information becomes available it will be forwarded to the Port Authority.

### 13. **THANK YOU SOUTH32!**



- South32 has provided more than \$125K in COVID-19 relief dollars to Santa Cruz mission-critical agencies and nonprofits, made \$75K in grants available to local small businesses in Santa Cruz County, and provided significant in-kind donations of medical, personal protective equipment, and hygiene supplies to those on the front lines of service and care in the county. The company is also conducted an employee matched-giving campaign.
- SOUTH32 has provided an overview of their grant and donation activities in support of a number of efforts throughout Santa Cruz County. The reach is so broad that it was appropriate to share this information with the community.
- Recipients of South32 COVID-19 relief funding in the community

include the following so far:

- Patagonia Unified School District (\$5,500 for distance learning)
  - Santa Cruz County (\$60,000 for PPE and medical tents)
  - Community Foundation for Southern Arizona (\$50,000 for COVID-19 relief to SCC nonprofits)
  - Nogales Unified School District (\$10,000 for distance learning)
  - Santa Cruz Valley Unified School District (\$10,000 for distance learning)
  - Local First Arizona (\$75,000 for small business relief grants in SCC) – note that a media release on this one is forthcoming early next week
- South32 also recently reached out to all South32 Hermosa Community Fund grantees to remove spending restrictions on their South32 Hermosa Community Fund grants. They were previously obligated to use those funds for projects outlined in their grant applications but can now use their grant dollars for operational expenses; this decision was made specifically to help them get through COVID-19. The following organizations are included in that list:
    - Family Health Care Amigos
    - KPUP-LP Radio
    - Nogales Community Development Corporation
    - Rebuilding Together Santa Cruz County
    - Santa Cruz Council on Aging
    - Senior Citizens of Patagonia, Inc.
    - The Patagonia Museum
    - Construyendo Circulos de Paz
    - Friends of Patagonia Pool



- Green Valley Assistance Services Inc., dba valley Assistance Services
  - Los Charros Foundation, Inc
  - Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest
  - Santa Cruz Advocates for the Arts
  - Santa Cruz Training Programs, Inc.
  - Sierra Vista Symphony Association
- In addition, South32 has provided in-kind COVID-19 response donations to date:
- Two powered air-purifying respirators (PAPR) to Holy Cross Hospital
  - Toilet paper, masks, and hygiene supplies to the Town of Patagonia
  - Masks and hygiene supplies to the City of Nogales
  - Masks and hygiene supplies to the Nogales Suburban Fire District
  - Stay-at-home activity books for county third- and fourth-graders (in partnership with the local schools and the Nogales International)

**Attachment #1**

Letter on COVID-19 testing in Santa Cruz County



June 6, 2020

The Honorable Bruce Bracker  
Chairman  
Board of Supervisors  
Santa Cruz County  
2150 North Congress Drive  
Nogales, Arizona 8562

RE: Support for Grant Application by Santa Cruz County for COVID-19 Testing Program

Dear Chairman Bracker,

On behalf of the Greater Nogales Santa Cruz County Port Authority I write to express our support for the application by Santa Cruz County for a grant from the State of Arizona for the creation of a sustainable program for testing in order to more effectively combat the COVID-19 Pandemic in our community.

We understand that the County's Health Services Department is applying for a grant of up to \$3 million from the State of Arizona as part of the CARES Act funding that was made available by the federal government to states throughout the nation.

These funds would be used to create the much needed testing program for Santa Cruz County. Additionally, we support your efforts to seek support from the National Guard in conducting testing blitzes at strategic locations throughout the County. We will also turn to our Board of Directors and our network to help find volunteers to support this testing program as needed and appropriate.

One of the key aspects of the program proposed by the County is that the lab work will be conducted and results provided in 2 or 3 days. It would also be beneficial if various forms of testing, including rapid and anti-body testing were also considered as part of the testing program. Having results in an expedited manner will help local government and businesses in the planning and allocation of resources to combat this pandemic.

Page 2 of 2

Chairman Bruce Bracker  
Santa Cruz County  
June 6, 2020

Testing is a critical component of the efforts to defeat COVID-19. But our community needs to understand that each of us has a role to play in combatting this health threat. We share your message that each of us must use a facemask when in public, adhere to the new protocols for social distancing and personal hygiene, and to stay at home if any symptoms appear. We remain committed to conveying this message by any means we have available.

This grant will help our community and allow the County to better meet the needs of the residents of the region during this critical health crisis. Should we be of any further assistance in the application of this grant, please let us know.

Respectfully,



Jaime Chamberlain  
Chairman

**Attachment #2**

Copy of Memorandum to Senator Sinema's Office



June 6, 2020

**TO: Inder Gunnala, Office of Senator Kyrsten Sinema**

FROM: Jaime Chamberlain, Chairman

RE: Port Authority Priorities

---

Inder,

As always, I want to thank you and Senator Sinema for the continued interest and support for the needs and interests of our community. Given so much of Arizona's trade and tourism depends on our community it is imperative that everyone understand that what happens at Nogales and Santa Cruz County is of great significance to Arizona and our nation. To that end, and in response to your request, here is a brief list of the key priorities that the Port Authority is addressing on a daily basis. As you can imagine, several are ongoing and concurrent until completed and then there are others that emerge on a crisis situation that demand our immediate attention. In fact, it is hard to provide them in any particular priority as they are all of intrinsic and critical importance to our binational community.

In the immediate term, we would ask for the Senator's support for the grant application being submitted by the Santa Cruz County Health Department to create a sustainable COVID-129 testing program at Santa Cruz County. This is critical to the needs of local government and business in addressing the pandemic.

Here is a list of some of the current initiatives that we have been tackling:

- Modernization of DeConcini Port of Entry
- Deployment of SENTRI Lanes at Mariposa Port of Entry
- Modernization of the I-19 Interchanges at Ruby Road and Rio Rico Drive, along with the frontage roads that connect these two intersections
- Conduct a review of the fresh produce quality inspections conducted at Nogales by the Arizona Department of Agriculture and the US Department of Agriculture.
- Construction of a multimodal, back-to-back trans-shipment facility at Rio Rico to meet the long term needs of the mining and fresh produce industries
- Additional staffing for the Nogales Port of Entry system
- Modernization of the International Outfall Interceptor

Page 2 of 2

Inder Gunnala  
Office of Senator Kyrsten Sinema  
June 6, 2020

- Conduct repairs for the Nogales Wash
- Reactivation of the downtown retail sector
- Construct overpasses over the railroad, particularly in the areas near downtown and off of Grand Avenue north of Mariposa Road
- Assist in securing the certification of the Santa Cruz County Provisional College District
- Create and deploy a comprehensive marketing strategy for the Arizona-Mexico Corridor in order to retain competitive edge over Texas and California

We would be happy to discuss the merits of each of these projects with you at your convenience.

**Attachment #3**

**ADEQ and IBWC Announcement for \$39 million Cure-In-Place of IOI**

**PRESS RELEASE | ADEQ and USIBWC Achieve Landmark Settlement to Address Wastewater Impacts**

[azdeq.gov/press-releases/press-release-adeq-and-usibwc-achieve-landmark-settlement-address-wastewater-impacts](https://www.azdeq.gov/press-releases/press-release-adeq-and-usibwc-achieve-landmark-settlement-address-wastewater-impacts)



Nogales, Ariz. -- Officials from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) and the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) today announced a Settlement Agreement that addresses Clean Water Act (CWA) issues and sets forth a comprehensive plan to mitigate future discharges of untreated wastewater into the Nogales Wash and Santa Cruz River in Nogales, Arizona. With \$38,790,000 in federal, state and local non-profit resources, this plan will bring much-needed infrastructure improvements to Santa Cruz County.

The scope of the settlement includes:

- Upgrade the aged wastewater conveyance pipeline, commonly known as the International Outfall Interceptor (IOI), from the U.S.-Mexico Border to the Nogales International Wastewater Treatment Plant (NIWTP) in Rio Rico, Arizona.
- Install protective measures for the upgraded IOI in locations vulnerable to damage from stormwater and debris.

Treated water from the Rio Rico plant is an important contribution to the Santa Cruz River basin which supplies water for drinking, ranching, farming and other activities critical to the Arizona economy. The river also sustains habitat critical to migratory birds, bobcat, deer, javelina and many other species.

“This agreement is a major win for Southern Arizona, helping resolve a decades-old issue that threatened the health and safety of residents and the environment in Nogales and Santa Cruz County,” said Governor Doug Ducey. “Working together, ADEQ and USIBWC

have developed a plan that will upgrade this critical infrastructure, reduce hazards from storms and flooding and protect people and businesses in this border community. Arizona is grateful for their hard work to reach this important agreement.”

“Reaching this agreement ushers in a new era of partnership and problem solving among local, state, federal and international government entities,” said ADEQ Director Misael Cabrera, P.E. “While there is still work to do, this settlement supports the necessary rehabilitation of critical infrastructure at the border to prevent ongoing catastrophic failures, and protect public health and the environment.”

“I have been working with Commissioner Harkins and Director Cabrera on this issue for a long time and I thank them for their tireless work getting this agreement in place,” said U.S. Senator Martha McSally. “Now we will be able to begin fixing this infrastructure that is critical to the safety and operation of the DeConcini Port of Entry and City of Nogales. This settlement makes it even more important that Congress acts to provide certainty for maintaining the IOI by passing the Nogales Wastewater Fairness Act I introduced to ensure the City of Nogales, Santa Cruz County and all of Arizona can rely on continued beneficial trade with Mexico.”

“I’m pleased we’ve identified a path forward that will improve environmental conditions in the region,” said USIBWC Commissioner Jayne Harkins, P.E. “The USIBWC looks forward to getting to work to rehabilitate the IOI as soon as possible.”

#### Settlement details and path forward:

- USIBWC has identified \$34.2 million of existing funds to immediately begin upgrading the IOI.
- USIBWC has already finalized engineering plans and in cooperation with state and local officials, has begun negotiating agreements necessary to access the IOI from various locations along its length. USIBWC will put the construction contract out to bid this fall.
- Arizona is supporting the project with \$2.59 million in state funds.
- Additional support from other partners includes:
  - \$1 million from Freeport McMoRan Foundation, and \$1 million (in process) from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the North American Development Bank for a companion project to work on City of Nogales, Arizona sewer pipelines that connect to the IOI.
  - \$1 million (in process) from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the North American Development Bank for a companion project to work on City of Nogales, Arizona sewer pipelines that connect to the IOI.
- ADEQ is currently working to find funds to install a metal screen in the IOI near the border to capture large debris that could otherwise cause sewage spills, estimated at \$2.6 – \$3.3 million to install, and \$360,000 for yearly maintenance.

- USIBWC is negotiating with the Mexican Section of the IBWC to secure Mexico's cost participation in the pipeline rehabilitation.

"The Bank actively seeks out opportunities to collaborate and leverage several sources of funds through local, state and federal partners to deliver environmental infrastructure that improves the quality of life for border residents," said Dr. Calixto Mateos-Hanel, Managing Director of the North American Development Bank. "It is important to highlight the partnership between EPA and the Bank over the last 25 years through the Border Environmental Infrastructure Fund including this Nogales, Arizona project, which will correct lateral connections to the IOI."

Critical to this success are the long-standing contributions and cooperation among many local, state and federal officials and the expertise and dedication of ADEQ staff:

ADEQ acknowledges:

- U.S. Senator Kyrsten Sinema
- U.S. Representative Ann Kirkpatrick and U.S. Representative Raul M. Grijalva
- State Senator Frank Pratt, State Representative Gail Griffin, and State Representative Rosanna Gabaldon
- Santa Cruz County Supervisor Bruce Bracker
- Arizona-Mexico Commission Vice Chair Juan Ciscomani
- Arizona Department of Water Resources Director Thomas Buschatzke
- Arizona Office of the Attorney General

ADEQ gives special recognition:

- Edna Mendoza, ADEQ Office of Regional and Border Assistance - Manager
- Hans Huth, ADEQ Associate Hydrologist
- Mindi Cross, ADEQ Senior Environmental Scientist & Specialist

Background:

In 2012, ADEQ filed suit against USIBWC for alleged CWA violations. To establish a path forward for the much needed infrastructure upgrades for the IOI, ADEQ and USIBWC entered into settlement discussions in 2018.

The IOI conveys wastewater from Nogales, Sonora, and Nogales, Arizona for nine miles north of the border to the NIWTP in Rio Rico. The IOI is intersected by piping from the City of Nogales, Arizona, and the unincorporated community of Rio Rico, Arizona, which also contributes wastewater to the NIWTP that the USIBWC operates.



Roughly 12 million gallons per day (13,442 acre-feet per year) is discharged from the NIWTP facility into the Santa Cruz River. The majority of that discharge originates in Mexico. This large quantity of water:

1. Replenishes roughly 38 percent of safe groundwater yield in the Santa Cruz active management area (AMA);
2. Maintains perennial surface water flows in an 18-mile stretch of the Santa Cruz River (accounts for roughly 12 miles of the 18);
3. Sustains the Audubon-designated Important Bird Area and provides critical habitat for two endangered species, the Southwest Willow Flycatcher and the Gila Topminnow;
4. Constitutes a significant portion of the underflow from the Santa Cruz AMA to the Tucson AMA (over 15,000 acre-feet per year); and
5. Supports ranching, farming and domestic water use in Santa Cruz and Pima counties.

Economic Impact of rivers, lakes and streams in Santa Cruz County | [View >](#)

More Information:

Updates on the Nogales IOI | [View >](#)

## Contact

Caroline Oppleman-ADEQ Communications Administrator | 602-540-8072 | [Email >](#)

Sally Spener-US International Boundary and Water Commission | 915-832-4175 | [Email >](#)