



December 23, 2024

News Flash

Latest news and bulletin updates

Public Affairs Office

REGIONAL COMMISSION MEETING IN JUAREZ EXAMINES SEDIMENT, BRIDGES, DAMS AND MORE

The U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) removed 259,425 cubic yards of sediment from the Upper Rio Grande region in fiscal year 2024, surpassing its goal of 200,000 cubic yards.

This information was shared at a Regional Commission Meeting held in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, on October 16-17, 2024, and attended by the USIBWC and Mexican Section Commissioners and representatives.



Other matters discussed included:

- **Ft. Hancock-El Porvenir International Bridge:** There is significant degradation of the original wood posts at bent 5 from when the bridge was built in the 1930s. After being closed to vehicular traffic in 2021-2022, temporary stabilization measures were implemented in 2022 and monthly surveys show that there has been no concerning movement. There are no plans to replace the bridge at this time, however, the U.S. Section will prepare a capital plan for repairs.
- **Bridge of the Americas-Cordova International Bridge:** The U.S. Section expects to award a task order to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to prepare a condition

assessment and a 25-year O&M and Repair Plan for the bridge. The study is expected to be completed in April 2025.

- **Safety of Dams 5-Year Inspections:** Seven Commission dams along the border were inspected, resulting in numerous recommendations for maintenance or other projects. Work is underway to prioritize the recommendations and develop O&M and Capital Plans.
- **Convention of 1906:** Mexico received their full allotment of 60,000 acre-feet of Rio Grande water in 2024. Deliveries to Mexico through the operation of American and International Dams occurred from March 13 to September 20. Due to rainfall, the actual diversion was 56,757 acre-feet.
- **Boundary Demarcation:** An updated Commission agreement allotting responsibility for boundary demarcation at the international bridges and ports of entry between the two countries is needed due to construction of additional border crossings. The Mexican Section will update the table of border crossings from Minute 302 and prepare a draft Minute.

Regional Commission Meetings are held four times a year by the IBWC in multiple regions along the border and focus on the issues and projects specifically related to that region. This allows for much more in-depth discussion, prioritization of issues and projects, and strategy development to address them.

Coverage of these meetings can be found on the USIBWC website at <https://www.ibwc.gov/press-releases>. Click on the drop-down menu for "Regional Meetings."