



May 27, 2020

**RE: Environmental Assessment Early Agency Coordination
Border Monument 198 Border Wall**

To Whom it May Concern:

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is seeking your input concerning a proposed new segment of border wall in Yuma County, Arizona, within U.S. Border Patrol Yuma Sector. CBP is currently engaged in environmental planning for the proposed segment and is seeking your input regarding potential impacts to the environment, culture, commerce, and quality of life. CBP is accepting comments until June 26, 2020.

The proposed action would involve the construction of approximately 400 feet of new border wall to close an existing gap near Border Monument 198 and meet U.S. Border Patrol's operational requirements to secure the international border. Monument 198 is approximately 22 miles east of the San Luis Port of Entry, adjacent to the Barry M. Goldwater Range. The area where the proposed barrier would be constructed is comprised of an elevated rock outcropping. The design of the new bollard-style fencing includes 18-foot high, six-inch diameter steel bollards spaced approximately four inches apart. The project also includes road construction and communications cable installation.

The purpose of the proposed action is to reduce illegal entry into the United States by closing a gap in the border barrier at Border Monument 198, which is currently being exploited. There are planned and ongoing construction projects to replace legacy wall on the eastern and western sides of Border Monument 198, leaving a gap in the primary wall of approximately 400 feet. Individuals are currently able to circumvent the wall by walking in close proximity to where the wall terminates near the rock outcropping.

A map of the area of the proposed action is included in an attachment to this letter.

Comments should include data or information that could help inform CBP's analysis of potential impacts. Helpful comments are fact-based, include links to data or research, and provide specific information concerning potential impacts on biological, cultural, and natural resources. If known, your response should include any state and local restrictions, permitting, or other requirements that CBP should consider.

Specifically, CBP is looking for answers to the following questions:

- Are you aware of threatened or endangered plant or animal species within the area of construction? If so, where?
- Are you aware of recreational activities that take place in the area of construction?
- Are you aware of historical sites or areas of cultural significance within the area of construction? If so, where?
- Are you aware of any studies, data, or other information available that would aid in the analysis of potential environmental impacts in the project area?
- Do you have any recommendations for practices the construction contractor should follow to avoid or minimize impacts?



CBP will be accepting comments until June 26, 2020. Comments can be emailed to CBP at YumaComments@cbp.dhs.gov. Please include "Border Monument 198 Border Wall" in the subject of your email. Comments received in response to this letter, including names and addresses of those who comment, will become a part of the public record.

We appreciate your feedback and help with evaluating the potential impacts of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Enriquez".

Paul Enriquez
Acquisition, Real Estate and Environmental Director
Infrastructure Program
Program Management Office Directorate
U.S. Border Patrol

Enclosure: Border Monument 198 Border Wall System Project Map



Monument 198 Border Wall Map

