Rio Grande Valley (RGV)
Border Barrier Environmental Planning
United States Border Patrol

Infrastructure Portfolio
Agenda

Introductions

U.S. Customs and Border Protection Mission

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Overview

Review of Proposed Action

How to Provide Input

Questions and Answers
Presenters

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Deputy Director for the U.S. Border Patrol’s Infrastructure Portfolio

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Environmental Planning Lead for the U.S. Border Patrol’s Infrastructure Portfolio

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Special Operations Supervisor within Rio Grande Valley

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Assistant Chief Patrol Agent, Strategic Communications within Rio Grande Valley
Presentation Objective

- The purpose of today’s webinar is to inform participants of:
  - Rio Grande Valley border barrier environmental planning
  - Ways to contribute feedback

- The purpose of this effort is to develop an Environmental Assessment that will evaluate the environmental impacts of border barrier and related system elements in Rio Grande Valley.

- The development of the Environmental Assessment will not involve any construction of new border barrier or permanent land acquisition.
**U.S. Customs and Border Protection Mission**

- **CBP Mission:** To safeguard America’s borders thereby protecting the public from dangerous people and materials while enhancing the Nation’s global economic competitiveness by enabling legitimate trade and travel.

- In supporting CBP’s mission, U.S. Border Patrol is charged with establishing and maintaining effective control of the borders of the United States.
U.S. Customs and Border Protection Mission

Border Patrol accomplishes this mission through:

- Physical barriers
- Surveillance
- Electronic sensors
- Aircraft sightings
- Interpreting and following tracks
- Traffic checkpoints
Environmental Planning

Environmental planning is informed by:

- Existing environmental data.
- New biological, cultural, and natural resources field surveys.
- Consulting and coordinating with relevant stakeholders.
Rio Grande Valley Border Barrier Projects

Approximately 86 miles in Starr, Hidalgo and Cameron counties, Texas.

**NEPA ANALYSIS**

Environmental Assessment

**OUTREACH METHODS**

- E-Mails and Letters
- Public Webinar
- Advertisements
- Media Advisory
- CBP.gov

### NEPA

1. **Scoping**
2. **Surveys**
3. Perform Environmental Analysis and Develop Mitigation Measures
4. Notice of Availability

### Public Involvement

- Notification of Scoping
- Stakeholder Feedback Report
- Draft Environmental Document
- Final Environmental Document
Environmental Planning Process

1. Begin Stakeholder Outreach and Engagement
2. Complete Natural, Biological, and Cultural Resource Surveys
3. Provide Stakeholders the Opportunity to Review Surveys
4. Analyze Potential Impacts to Natural, Biological and Cultural Resources

- Develop Avoidance or Mitigation Measures, Best Management Practices (BMPs)
- Develop NEPA Document
- Use Environmental Monitors to Ensure Compliance with BMPs
Proposed Action: Border Barrier and Associated Security Elements

- Bollard Wall
- Levee
- 50-Foot Maintenance Road
- 150-Foot Enforcement Zone
- Cameras and Shelters
- Gates
- Lighting
- Access Roads
- Remote Video Surveillance System Towers
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Areas to be Evaluated

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Public Input

- Comments should include data or information that could help inform CBP’s analysis of potential impacts. Helpful comments are fact-based, and include the following information:

- If known, include any state and local restrictions, permitting or other requirements that CBP should consider.
How to Submit Comments

- Comments and questions can be submitted to CBP via e-mail, phone, and mail.

**E-mail**
- To: RGVComments@cbp.dhs.gov
- Subject: Rio Grande Valley Environmental Planning

**Phone**
- 1-800-514-4781

**Mail**
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection
- U.S. Border Patrol Headquarters
- 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. 6.5E Mail Stop 1039
- Washington, DC 20229-1100

- Comments received will be part of the public record.
How to Stay Informed

Further information and updates, including Spanish-language materials can be found on CBP.gov here:


Thank You!
Questions?

- Thank you for taking the time to attend today’s webinar.
- We want to hear from you. We encourage and appreciate your input, including feedback on potential impacts to the environment, culture, commerce, and quality of life.
- Please submit questions via the Q&A pod. We will try to address as many questions as possible.
thank you