



Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Expansion and Modernization of the Raul Hector Castro Land Port of Entry and Proposed Commercial Land Port of Entry Douglas, Arizona

Public Scoping Meeting Handout October 24, 2024, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. MT

Introduction

The United States (U.S.) General Services Administration (GSA) is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) to analyze the potential impacts resulting from a proposed flood channel realignment and expansion of retention basin to the west of the Raul Hector Castro (RHC) Land Port of Entry (LPOE) in Douglas, Arizona. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to address and improve overall stormwater management and flood control needs, as well as improve port operation efficiency at the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE. The Proposed Action is needed to avoid engineering conflicts between the current alignment of the Rose Avenue Channel with the current proposed layout for the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE; to divert stormwater away from and reduce flooding risks at the RHC LPOE; to provide sufficient stormwater retention capacity for the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE; and to enhance overall functionality and safety.

Project Background

This SEIS supplements the previous Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the RHC LPOE expansion and modernization project. GSA signed the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Final EIS on May 14th, 2024, approving the preferred alternative, Alternative 2, which would involve construction of a new Commercial LPOE and phased expansion and modernization of the existing RHC LPOE at the same time, with expansion primarily to the west of the existing RHC LPOE.

The existing Rose Avenue Channel runs through the Alternative 2 Expansion Area and could create complications for construction and operation of the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE. To address these issues, GSA is proposing a project that includes realigning and reconstructing the Rose Avenue Channel, extending and improving the existing concrete box culvert, and constructing a new retention basin to the west of the RHC LPOE. The project also involves acquiring additional land and obtaining necessary permissions to implement these changes. The purpose and need for the overall RHC LPOE expansion and modernization project as considered in the May 2024 Record of Decision remains the same.

Further information on the RHC LPOE expansion and modernization project may be found online at: <https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/gsa-regions/region-9-pacific-rim/land-ports-of-entry/raul-hector-castro-land-port-of-entry>

Proposed Alternatives

The SEIS will consider one “**action**” alternative and one “**no action**” alternative. The one “**action**” alternative is described as follows:

- **Alternative 1.** Includes land acquisition, partial demolition of the existing Rose Avenue Channel, reconstruction and realignment of the channel to run north of Border Road, and construction of a new 5-acre stormwater retention basin to the west of the RHC LPOE.

The “no action” alternative assumes that GSA would not realign and reconstruct the Rose Avenue Channel or construct a new retention basin to the west of the RHC LPOE. The current stormwater management and flood control concerns at the RHC LPOE would not be addressed.

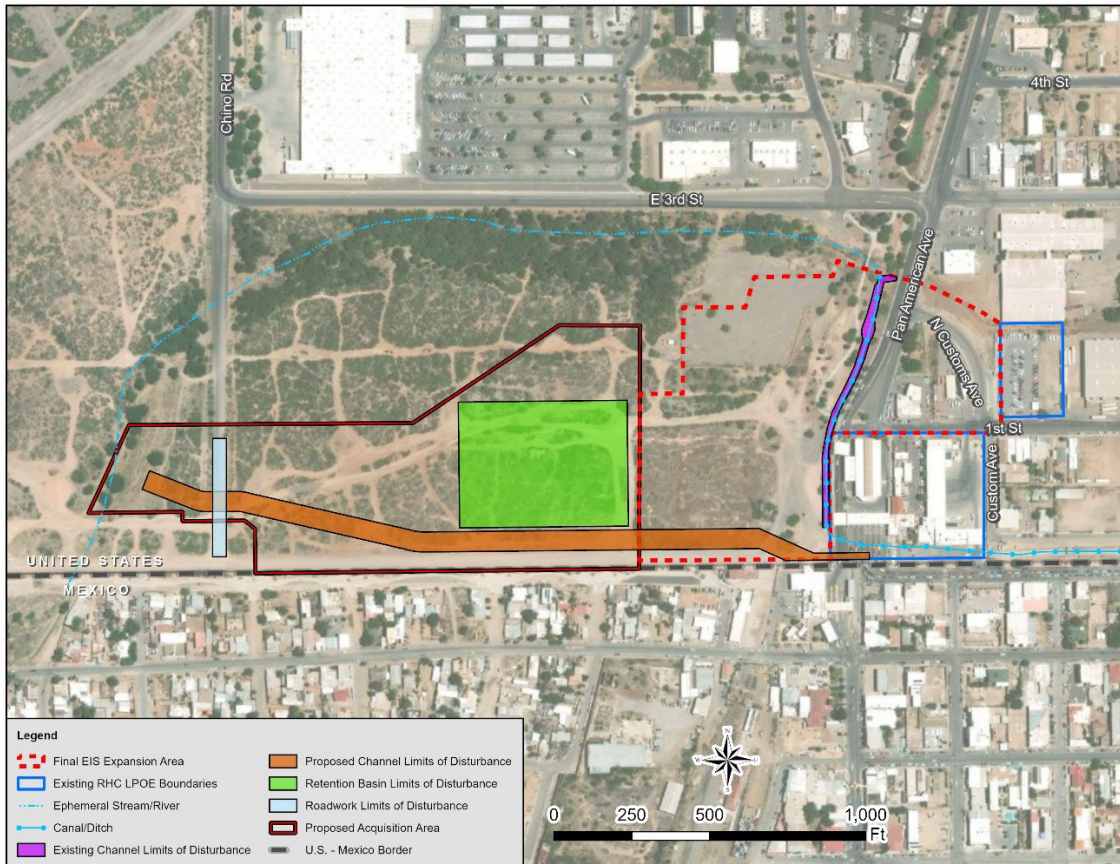


Figure 1. Location of Proposed Channel Reconstruction and Realignment

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process

We are currently in the Public Scoping process phase of the NEPA process. The views and comments of the public are necessary to help determine the scope and content of the environmental analysis. An important objective of scoping is to identify specific elements of the environment that might be affected if the proposal is carried out. Potentially significant impacts raised during scoping will be analyzed in detail in the SEIS.



Scoping Comments

Scoping comments must be received by **November 11, 2024** and may be submitted by one of the following methods:

- In writing. Submit comments at the scoping meeting.
- By e-mail. Send to osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov. Please reference “*Douglas SEIS Scoping Comment*” in the subject line.
- By U.S. mail. Send to:

Attention: Osmahn Kadri, NEPA Project Manager
 General Services Administration
 c/o Potomac-Hudson Engineering, Inc.
 77 Upper Rock Circle, Suite 302
 Rockville, MD 20850

For further information, please contact Osmahn Kadri, GSA NEPA Project Manager, at (415) 522-3617.