

Notes – November 2001 FCC Meeting in San Diego, CA (partial)

Mike Poole, CA State BLM Director

spoke about the Baja Pipeline through to Mexico. DOE is involved. Mentioned statute for advising Mexican counterparts of projects.

Glen Sekavik: “DOI manages 40% of the land along the border”

Barry Welch, BIA, AZ

The BIA is in litigation re accounting for funds. The case is Cobell (sp?) of Blackfoot Reservation vs. BIA. A Special master has been appointed to look into record-keeping. Also, mentioned San Carlos Indian Irrigation / power (?) project in southern AZ.

In relation to this, Denny mentioned a coal bed methane production project in southern Utah of the Uinta in Ouray (?).

Environmental Education

Neither Howard nor Ramon present. Others volunteered information.

Floyd Gray: 2 workshops in S. AZ (Sonoran corridor) funded by FCC

Sierra Los Ajos, San Pedro Reserve (now named Ajo Bavispe).

Teacher oriented, teacher academy in Cananea, Sonora. Teacher gets certification, they provide supplies. 3 day workshops. The next is at the end of the month. Different themes, eg. water conservation, ecology of preserve. Taught by USGS, Audubon and NPS (Tumacacori NP) in Spanish. U of AZ designing conservation curriculum. They intend to launch a bigger effort. Cananea, Nogales, requests from Agua Prieta..

Glenn Sekavik met w/ Asst. Sec’y trying to get FCC on their agenda

Denny spoke to Ramon, he is in Zacatecas at a Camino Real mtg. Planning a “Getting to Know Mexico” course, May 2002. Next Border States Conference for parks, recreation, wildlife in McAllen March 2002. Recommending a panel discussion re FCC at conference. Texas Parks and Wildlife co-sponsor. Ken Merritt, Miguel Mora.

Beau urged bureaus to contribute \$, help Mex. counterparts come.

Charlie- emphasize FCC projects involving Mexico, e.g. CO River Delta, Pinacate, maderas del Carmen, Laguna Madre

Jim Renthal: grants from FCC. Four Rangeland Monitoring Workshops, some in Spanish on methods, monitoring rangeland health.

Mike Landis: Dia del Rio.

Water Conservation program in tri-city area (El Paso, Juarez, Las Cruces) grades 1-Jr. Hi, involved thousands. Juarez uses 1/12 as much as US side. We use surface water, MX doesn’t. Involved BOR, universities, cities, World Wildlife Fund, Env. Defense Fund, NMSU, IBWC.

Shared Water John Klein

Dia del Rio. Took wq samples all on same day down the river.

Fact sheets in print: Area 8 Lower RGV, area 1 in review, Area 4 being worked on.

Quantity + health issues. In Sep. he met with MX counterparts in MX city. Need binational groundwater study, trying to get funded (USGS or IBWC). Binational El Paso/Juarez groundwater study did not mesh data, studies well. WRRI of TX & NM hoping for money. Groundwater characteristics. Need to have more encompassing study. Met with MX agencies, but no \$.

Lower Rio Grande Delta: Miguel involved, want to flood for wildlife. Las Vegas supportive (?). Talking to Bennett Raley, asst. sec'y for Water & Science. CA involved & MX

Get fact sheets on web***** in good working order

WRD: SCERP binational water program May 6-8. MI meeting "Integrated Transboundary Water Management" related to NAFTA. workshop in Madison.??

Good Neighbor Environmental Board

Rio G. low this year. Drought in MX affects the Rio Conchos. Below Facon – hydrilla. Arondo gonax, invasive reed. Using grass carp. hard to use herbicides on border.

Charlie: Invasive Species task force should be new focus. Border-wide.

San Cruz watershed needs attention. water quality problem. Beau: BLM working in MX. FCC take lead on possibly.

Floyd