

# Raul Hector Castro Land Port of Entry, Douglas, Arizona Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

## Introduction

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) has prepared a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) for the Raul Hector Castro (RHC) Land Port of Entry (LPOE) Expansion and Modernization Project in Douglas, Arizona (Figure 1). Following publication of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS), which documented the flood control and utility upgrades at RHC LPOE, GSA determined that additional construction water was required at the proposed Commercial LPOE, which is to be constructed west of the existing RHC LPOE as part of the overall RHC LPOE Expansion and Modernization Project. To address this issue, GSA is proposing to truck treated wastewater from the City of Douglas Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to the Commercial LPOE. The existing RHC LPOE is owned and managed by GSA and is operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The FSEIS describes the purpose and need for the project; alternatives considered; the existing environment that could be affected; the potential impacts resulting from each of the alternatives; and proposed best management practices and impact reduction and mitigation measures.



## Project Background

The RHC LPOE is a full-service, multi-modal port, where CBP currently inspects commercially owned vehicles (COVs), privately owned vehicles (POVs), and pedestrians crossing the U.S.–Mexico border between Douglas, Arizona and Agua Prieta, Sonora in Mexico. The purpose of this project is to address overall flood control and utility requirements (i.e., stormwater, electrical, sanitary sewer, and fiber optic), as well as improve port operational efficiency for the RHC LPOE Expansion and Modernization Project. The project 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 provide sufficient stormwater capacity for the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE; to enhance overall functionality and safety; to meet proposed utility requirements of the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE and bring them in line with current land port design standards and operational requirements; and to consider construction water demand and supply at the proposed Commercial LPOE.

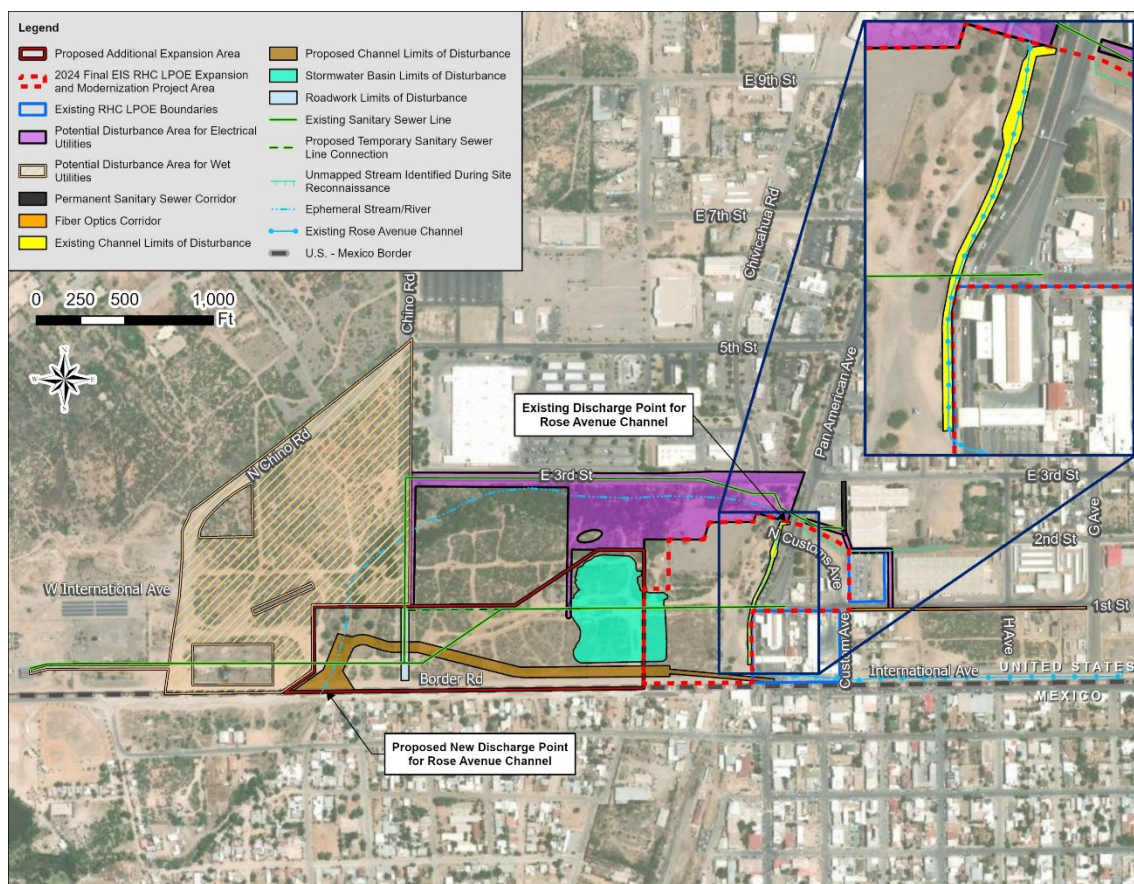
Further information on the project, including an electronic copy of the FSEIS, may be found online at: <https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/regions/welcome-to-the-pacific-rim-region-9/land-ports-of-entry/raul-hector-castro-land-port-of-entry>. A hard copy of the FSEIS can be viewed at the Douglas Public Library located at 560 E 10th Street, Douglas, Arizona 85607.

## Proposed Alternatives

The FSEIS analyzes one "action" alternative and one "no action" alternative. Figure 1 provides a preliminary concept site plan for the RHC LPOE and was used for determining environmental analysis in the FSEIS. Following publication of the DSEIS, a cultural resources survey was conducted throughout the project area for electrical and wet utility upgrades, which identified four potentially historic resources. The project area footprint has been revised since publication of the DSEIS to avoid these resources.

### Alternative 1 – Flood Control, Utility Upgrades, and Construction Water Supply

- Construct an approximately 2,750-foot-long stormwater channel
- Evaluate and improve the existing concrete box culvert (CBC) beneath the LPOE
- Demolish the existing stormwater channel segment west of Pan American Avenue
- Install a new CBC where the proposed stormwater channel crosses Chino Road
- Construct a maintenance road on either the north or south side of the proposed stormwater channel
- Potentially construct security fencing on the north side of the proposed stormwater channel
- Construct a new approximately 6.2-acre stormwater basin
- Obtain necessary land and right-of-way permissions
- Replace or install approximately 6,500 feet of electrical, 4,700 feet of sanitary sewer, and 1,400 feet of fiber optic lines in the vicinity of the RHC LPOE
- Supply construction water to the proposed Commercial LPOE site through trucking treated wastewater from the City of Douglas WWTP over a period of 9 months



**Figure 1. Proposed Action Limits of Disturbance**

The "no action" alternative assumes that GSA would construct the RHC Expansion and Modernization Project as described in the 2024 Final EIS, would not construct flood control or utility upgrades in support of that project, and would not provide sufficient water needed for construction of the Commercial LPOE. This would result in an increase in flood potential at the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE and the surrounding area, increasing risk that the RHC LPOE could be partially shutdown or impacted during a storm event, impeding functionality and jeopardizing the security and safety at the LPOE. In addition, utility requirements for the expanded and modernized RHC LPOE would not be met, lessening the port's operational efficiency and its ability to support the CBP mission. Further, water requirements for construction of the proposed Commercial LPOE would not be fully met, resulting in increased fugitive dust generation during construction.

### National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process

We are currently in the FSEIS Wait Period of the NEPA process. GSA considered comments collected from interested persons and stakeholders during the scoping and DSEIS comment periods for the development of the FSEIS. Following the end of the Wait Period on July 20, 2025 GSA will consider the comments received on the FSEIS in preparation of the Record of Decision (ROD).



### Public Comments

**Written comments on the FSEIS must be received or postmarked by July 21, 2025** to be considered in the ROD. Comments may be submitted by email or by regular mail.

- By email, send to: [osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov](mailto:osmahn.kadri@gsa.gov) (reference "RHC LPOE FSEIS" in subject line).
- By U.S. mail, send to: Attention: Osmahn Kadri, RHC LPOE FSEIS  
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For more information concerning this FSEIS, please contact Osmahn Kadri, GSA NEPA Project Manager, at the email provided above or call 415-522-3617.