Border Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response EPA Southwest Region



United States and Mexico
Inland Joint Response Team Meeting
February 15, 2006

PLANNING & PREPAREDNESS

- All six Region 9 sister city plans signed, operating with exercises:
 - San Diego/Tijuana
 - Imperial County/Mexicali
 - San Luis, AZ/San Luis Rio Colorado, Son.
 - Nogales, AZ/Nogales Son.
 - Cochise County, AZ/Naco Son.
 - Douglas AZ/Agua Prieta Son.
- Three binational Emergency Preparedness and Response Task Forces meet 4 times/year:
 - San Diego/Tijuana
 - Imperial County/Mexicali
 - Arizona/Sonora



San Diego – Tijuana Emergency Preparedness and Response Task Force

State Civil Protection Training Center

Tijuana Baja California, Sept. 2005





Border Emergency Management Academy

- Partnership: SD Co, PROFEPA,
 Protection Civil Baja California,
 Tijuana Fire Dept, Centro Industrial for Gestion Ambiental, USEPA,
 Universidad ABC
- Governor of Baja California letter of Support (9/05)
- Interim Organizational Structure (10/05)
- Binational Convenio (Federal, State and local agencies 2006)





UABC-Tijuana

Imperial County-Mexicali Emergency Preparedness and Response Task Force

PLANNING



Imperial County & Mexicali 05/05

Mexicali Cultural Center



RISK REDUCTION

First Industry Outreach Event

CANACINTRA Training Centre, Mexicali, Nov. 2005



RISK REDUCTION







BORDER 2012 FUNDING PROPOSAL

Collaboration by Imperial County, Mexicali, Yuma, AZ and San Luis R.C., Sonora

- Recipient: Ayuntamiento de SLRC, Sonora
- Results:
 - Local planning committee established
 - Targeted training, binational exercises, joint risk reduction effort in four-city region



BORDER 2012 FUNDING PROPOSAL

Project: Border-crossing protocols and agreement with Mexican Customs

- Results:
 - Agreement with Mexican Customs
 - Standard Operational Procedures for natural and chemical emergencies
 - 3. Maps, satellite pictures



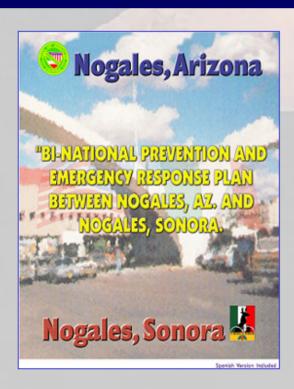


Arizona-Sonora Emergency Preparedness and Response Task Force

PLANNING

Ambos Nogales

- Original Plan: March, 2000
- Update: April, 2006



- Update Binational Plan:
 - ✓ All Hazards
 - ✓ Updated Notification Procedures
 - ✓ Ambos Nogales Binational Planning Committee established (09/05)
- Cochise County and Douglas, Arizona/ Naco and Agua Prieta, Sonora
- San Luis Rio Colorado / Yuma, Imperial County / Mexicali

PLANNING & PREPAREDNESS

- Arizona/Sonora EPR Task Force meeting on Tohono O'dham Nation 11/29
- Tribal preparedness and Home Land Security
- Needs identified: Training and Tri-National Planning





Training

- Rail Car Response with Union Pacific
 - 60 binational participants
 - Nogales (12/04)
- OREIS
 - 40 Binational participants:
 - Rio Rico (12/04)
- First Responder 3 Day Training
 - San Luis Rio Colorado (2 sessions)
 - Nogales, Maquiladoras
 - 35 Attendees per session





- Agua Prieta/Douglas Binational Tabletop Exercise
 - Title: "Friends in Danger"
 - Douglas, AZ (03/05)
- Scenario: tanker-truck with sulfur dioxide overturned in Agua Prieta
- Objective: Evaluate:
 - 1. Communications
 - 2. Incident Command System
 - 3. Response logistics
 - 4. Health and medical impacts
 - 5. Binational plan activation



Agua Prieta Exercise, Cont.

- Lessons Learned:
 - Need appropriate PPE
 - Training needs:
 - ICS
 - Hospital decontamination
 - Clean-up design
 - Plan Updates
 - Maps
 - Contact numbers
 - Combine regional plans
 - Involve Mexico health agencies/ facilities for mass evacuations





January 9th, 2005 Day One- Afternoon Session

The Entry Team entered the structure and found a leaking cylinder.



January 9th, 2005 One- Afternoon Session

Day





Tri-National Partnerships

- Partnerships
- Communications
- Tri-National Plans
- Training & Exercises
- Real Life Events

PARTNERSHIPS

- Police
- Fire
- Hospitals
- Emergency Management
- Private Sector

COMMUNICATIONS

- Develop Relationships
- Develop Infrastructure
- Develop Protocols

Tri-National Plans

- Sister City
- Sister County/Municipio
- Sisiter State

Training & Exercises

- Red Cross
- Public Safety Courses
- Maquiladora Training

REAL LIFE – August 8, 2005



Real Life – August 12

San Lazaro, Mexico Rail spill

- Mexico Players:
 - Civil Protection Sonora, Nogales, Santa Cruz
 - PROFEPA, SEMARNAT, COAPES, CNA, Regulacion Sanitaria
- US Participants:
 - Arizona: Environmental Management, Environmental Quality
 - Pima County
 - Rio Rico Fire
 - Federal: State Department, NRC, EPA, Coast Guard, Border Patrol
 - Nogales FC US Incident Commander
 - Santa Cruz County: Emergency Management, Sheriff, Public Works, Health, Board of Supervisors
 - City of Nogales: Fire, Water Treatment, Public Works, Finance, Mayor's Office





Real Life – August 12

San Lazaro, Mexico Rail Car spill (Aug. 2005)

- 2 tank cars ruptured; 24,000 gallons of 98% sulfuric acid to Santa Cruz river 10 miles south of international border
- Response
 - Binational Plan activated
 - Well shut down on the Santa Cruz River
 - Ranchers and well owners downstream advised to shut down wells.
 - Emergency drinking water supplies in AZ
 - Mexico Impoundments to divert flows
 - Lime Treatment

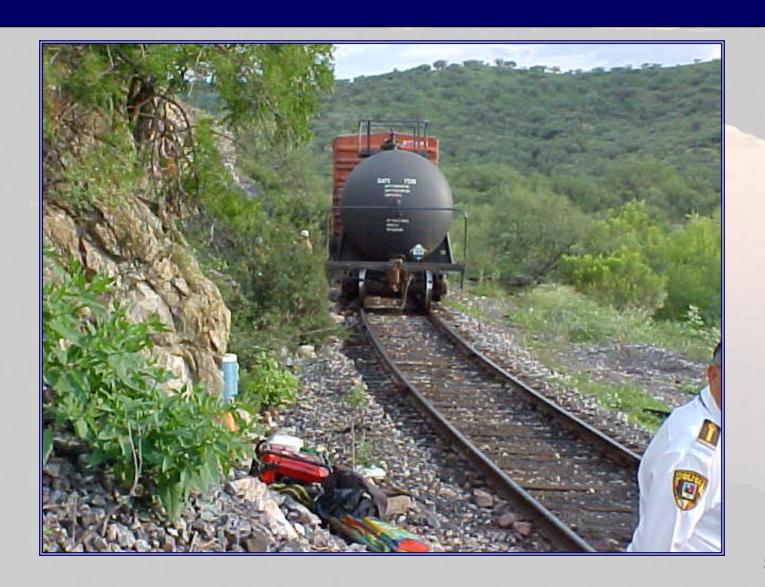




REAL LIFE – August 18, 2005



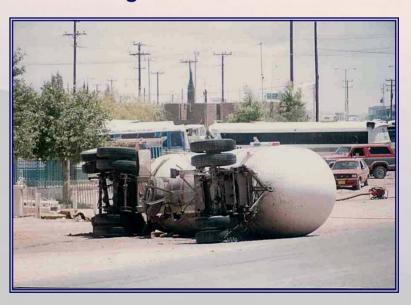
REAL LIFE – August 25, 2005



BINATIONAL RESPONSE

- Naco Landfill Fire
 - September 2005
 - Players
 - Bomberos Naco, Sonora
 - Naco, Arizona
 - Cochise County
 - ADEQ
 - State of Emergency Declared
 - Binational Plan Activated
 - Air quality monitoring
 - Equipment loan

- More Emergencies :
 - VH Fire, Nogales, July 14
 - Floods, Nogales, August 8
 - Raw Sewage, Nogales,August 18



RISK REDUCTION

High Risk Reduction Pilot (prop.)

Partners:

- AZ/Sonora Commission
- Mexico/US Consulates
- Border Governors´ Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness
- Academia
- Community-based groups
- Industry (APSA, Pilot Industry)

Results:

- Binational emergency notification exercise
- Priorities identified from San Lazaro hot wash & after action report
- Risk Report/Maps
- Improved communication/notification procedures
- Action plan/convenio

