Reclamation Proposing to Build Sediment Control Structures on the Colorado River

To reduce the potential for sediment accumulations to impede the Colorado River above Palo Verde Diversion Dam, engineers with Reclamation's Yuma Area Office (YAO) are proposing to build sediment control structures in select washes above the River on Colorado River Indian Tribal lands.

YAO is proposing the construction of the structures to minimize river channel constrictions, thus enabling more efficient water delivery. The structures will reduce the need to deploy equipment into the River to remove sediment– minimizing impacts to bank line soils, aquatic species and riparian vegetation.

In support of the planning and public review process for this effort, on March 16, 2015, YAO released a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for comment by the public, profiling the sediment control structures. Based upon analysis completed for issuing the Draft EA, YAO engineers have determined that constructing sediment control structures in selected washes will not result in significant impacts to the nearby environment or the Colorado River.

Additional details regarding the proposed action can be found by accessing the draft Environmental Assessment at the following link:

www.usbr.gov/lc/yuma/environmental docs/environ docs.html