



OCTOBER 2008 REPORT



CONSERVATION & EDUCATION

FORT HUACHUCA

Fort Huachuca funded and awarded three contracts for the construction of commercial rain water harvesting systems to be located on the Fort. These systems will collect rainwater from the rooftops of commercial buildings and discharge the water to a drywell. In addition to saving water, these systems will serve as demonstration projects to further promote a conservation ethic within the community.

Fort Huachuca continues to work with the Bureau of Land Management and The Nature Conservancy in the negotiation and purchase of conservation easements on properties that are located within close proximity to the San Pedro River. Groundwater pumping in these locations has a greater adverse affect on the streamflow within the San Pedro River than groundwater pumping in less hydrologically-sensitive areas.

Further, Fort Huachuca held a series of one day to one-and a-half- day sustainability planning sessions to develop the Five Year Action Plan for six of the 25-year goals developed at the August session. The goals for the Five Year Action Plan will be used to develop the Strategic Action Plan for the Garrison for the next year.



UNESCO – HELP IN THE AMERICAS WORKSHOP

USPP members, Holly Richter, Bob Strain and Dave Goodrich, hosted attendees of the HELP in the Americas Workshop on the following tours:

- San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area
- USDA-ARS Walnut Gulch Experimental Watershed
- Historic Tombstone
- City of Sierra Vista Environmental Operations Park

The group discussed the role of the USPP in addressing the sustainability challenges of the San Pedro Basin, the connection between research and decision making and the challenges and opportunities ahead.



WATER PROJECTS

FORT HUACHUCA-HUACHUCA CITY EFFLUENT TRANSFER PROJECT

Fort Huachuca has begun construction of the effluent transfer pipeline. This project will enable the transfer of up to 400 acre feet/year of sewage from Huachuca City to the Fort's wastewater treatment plant for treatment and recharge/reuse. Huachuca City's engineering firm submitted its 70% design plans. The work on the Environmental Information Document continues.



COMMITTEES & WORKGROUPS

MEXICO WORK GROUP

This workgroup met twice during the month of October to plan a tour of rural water conservation projects in the area. The tour is tentatively planned for the week of January 12, 2009. The guests will include interested members of the binational San Pedro Commission. The site visits will include the following:

- **Brookline Ranch**
- **Cowens Ranch**
- **BLM Prescribed Fire Site**
- **Moroney Ranch**
- **Ladd Ranch**



The workgroup is contemplating additional tours in both the United States and Mexico. Sharing information and building strong working relationships are among the group's goals.

A river does not just happen; it has a beginning and end. Its story is written in rich earth, in ice and in water-carved stone, and its story as the lifeblood of the land is filled with color, music and thunder. Andy Russell, The Life of a River
