Project Location
The Santa Cruz River Management Plan is bound by Grant Road on the South and Pinal County Line on the north and generally within the administrative boundaries of the floodplain.

Background
In the Spring of 2018, the Pima County Regional Flood Control District (District) initiated the Santa Cruz River management plan – Grant to Trico, to develop a comprehensive management plan for a part of the river which goes through the City of Tucson, Town of Marana and unincorporated Pima County.
Project Purpose
The purpose of this project is to develop a management strategy to balance flood risk management, drainage infrastructure protection, water recharge, recreation opportunities, public safety and riparian habitat preservation for the Santa Cruz River from Grant Rd to Pinal County.

Phase I
The first phase of the project, which assessed the existing conditions is complete and resulted in three reports, Existing Conditions Report, Technical Data Support Notebook for Floodplain Mapping, and the Infrastructure Assessment and Maintenance Evaluation Report.

Phase II
The second phase of the project built on the existing conditions to select 20 stakeholder-identified improvements out of 110 possibilities following the Multi-Criteria Decision Assessment (MCDA) Framework.

These 20 projects, with concepts and estimated costs, are described in the Alternatives Selection Report. An Implementation Plan identifying the sequence of projects and possible funding sources is nearing completion. These projects are summarized as follows:

Structural Projects
Three Rivers Reach
1. **Litter Traps** to reduce trash in Santa Cruz River
2. **Stream Restoration** to enhance habitat and preserve soil cement toe
3. **Soil Cement and Freeboard Addition** to provide containment of flooding breakout and freeboard compliance
4. **New Wetland** to connect public to the River (illustrated below)
Cortaro Narrows Reach
5 New Bank Protection to close the gap that allows gravel pit to flood
6 Grade Control/Effluent Training Structures to stop the entrenching of the effluent channel, provide habitat and train the flow away from soil cement
7 Wildlife Connectivity to provide wildlife accessibility across Levee

Marana Flats Reach
8 Effluent Training Structures to preserve the soil cement levee
9 New Wetland to provide new wetland habitat, attract wildlife and watching
10 Accessibility Improvements to connect public to the river
11 Wall for Freeboard Compliance to meet levee freeboard criteria
12 New Bridge to improve floodplain function and provide all weather access for emergency responders
13 New Levee to remove flood hazard on east side of River between Sanders Rd. and Trico Rd.

Project Timeline

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<th>Stakeholder Alternatives Working Group</th>
<th>2019</th>
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Jurisdictional Process
| Inform about Flood and Hazards | | |
| Provide Plan for Jurisdiction Acceptance | | |

Non-Structural Projects
Organized Trash Cleanups to provide a process for engaging the public in organized trash cleanup along the river.
Vegetation Management Plan to provide a collaborative effort to manage vegetation in the river bottoms for multiple purposes.
Ecologically Valuable Lands Preserved to acquire properties that are ecologically valuable
Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) for Santa Cruz River has been submitted to update the FEMA special flood hazard delineations in the Marana and unincorporated Pima County areas downstream of Sanders Rd.

Not Shown - FEMA Letter of Map Revision Acceptance - December 2022
Benefits of the Santa Cruz River Management Plan
By having an accepted plan across all affected jurisdictions, the District will be able to manage the corridor in a consistent manner, while also addressing the desires of the individual jurisdictions in terms of flood risk management, drainage infrastructure protection, water recharge, recreation opportunities, public safety and riparian habitat preservation.

Project Contacts

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Project Website
http://www.pima.gov/SantaCruzRiverPlan

Past Events

1. On May 7, 2019 the District presented the scope of the project to stakeholders.

2. The District hosted three different meetings in late October 2019 with key stakeholders within each reach of the project boundary – Grant Rd. to Ina Rd., Ina Rd. to Avra Valley Rd., and Avra Valley Rd. to Pinal County.

3. In January 2020, the District held Stakeholder Working Group meetings to weight priorities in criteria and project types.

4. In May 2020, the District held a meeting for combined stakeholder presenting the results of the project ranking.

5. In October 2020, the District held Stakeholder Workgroups to present selected projects.