

2020 Accomplishments

Projects and Monitoring

1. After accomplishing all of the major strategic goals and objectives of the CCRN's initial 5-year road map in only 4 years, a new 5-year roadmap was developed and adopted for 2020-2024.
2. CCRN projects recharged approximately 6,933 acre-feet this year and continued the permanent retirement of 2,592 acre-feet of historical pumping, while also precluding approximately 1,397 acre-feet of future pumping at CCRN sites near the San Pedro River.
3. Recharge at the Sierra Vista Environmental Operations Park (EOP), which has been operating since 2002, has recharged a total of 11 billion gallons of treated effluent. EOP operations are included in the total amount recharged by CCRN since 2015.
4. Completed the third year of operation of Horseshoe Draw Sediment Control and Stormwater Recharge project. Engineering was conducted by the county to modify the design of the outlet of the basin and prevent erosion around the structure. Constructed modifications are expected in 2021. Monitoring of flood flows, basin and downstream in-channel infiltration continued throughout 2020.
5. Palominas Flood Control and Recharge Pilot Project operated for a sixth year, continuing to test various water infiltration methods, and a new parking area and one-half-mile trail system was opened to the public in May. An additional parking area and a longer 2-mile trail system was also designed for future public use at the site, which will be open in the spring of 2021.
6. Conceptual design continues for the Coyote Wash project, to recharge urban enhanced runoff (UER) from Sierra Vista. The monitoring results from the Horseshoe Draw project have been used to improve this project's projected performance and design considerations as they relate to the importance of instream channel infiltration. Engineering for the project is being provided as part of an ongoing grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).
7. Comprehensive surface water and groundwater monitoring continues at all CCRN project sites. Those sites where recharge projects have been developed were monitored for project performance (Horseshoe Draw, Palominas, and Sierra Vista EOP), while those without recharge projects (Bella Vista, Babocomari River, Three Canyons, and Riverstone) were monitored to assess baseline conditions.

Funding

1. The City of Sierra Vista and Cochise County continue to jointly fund the CCRN Hydrologic Monitoring Program that encompasses all CCRN sites.

2. CCRN members prepared federal agency funding requests for the USGS and ARS to assist with regional hydrologic monitoring.
3. Cochise County and TNC jointly funded the development of a request for proposals for the hydrologic assessment and conceptual effluent recharge project design for the Riverstone site (Phase 2 Study), where a portion of the treated effluent being produced at Sierra Vista's Environmental Operations Park may be recharged in the future. The City of Sierra Vista is providing the contracting services for the chosen consulting firm.
4. Cochise County submitted a pre-proposal to the DOD Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration program (REPI) to fund construction of the Coyote Wash UER Recharge Project and has been invited to submit a full proposal.

Outreach

1. The CCRNSanPedro.org website, hosted by the City of Sierra Vista, has been expanded and is frequently updated with current news.
2. An additional CCRN Fact Sheet was developed and posted on the CCRN website reporting on hydrologic monitoring findings in 2019.
3. CCRN members continued to participate in the Sentinel Landscape Restoration Partnership.
4. CCRN members worked with staff from Fort Huachuca to develop a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation about the efforts of the CCRN, USPP, Fort Huachuca's Sentinel Landscape, and the water management efforts of their respective agency members over the past 20 years
5. The journal publication the *Military Engineer* featured CCRN recharge projects in the Technology News Section of its July-August edition.
6. CCRN members provided periodic updates to the Upper San Pedro Partnership Technical Committee, including CCRN project-related hydrologic monitoring results and information about advances in integrated hydrologic modeling (MIKESHE) and future applications to the San Pedro River.
7. In spite of COVID-19-related restrictions that prevented tours and in-person meetings, CCRN members made several virtual presentations, some of which included 100 participants, including the Western Regional Partnership (WRP), membership of The Nature Conservancy in Arizona, Arizona Audubon, Willcox Stakeholders, and the University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center. Two in-person presentations pre-dated travel restrictions at the New Mexico Water Dialogue and at the RiversEdge West Riparian Restoration conference.