



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT  
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Environmental Sciences Division

December 13, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Reconciliation of Review Comments for the San Pedro River Basin Data Browser

**FROM:** William G. Kepner, ESD/LEB

**TO:** Files

The San Pedro River Basin Data Browser was reviewed by two peer experts internal and external to EPA. The reviewers included:

I. Shea Burns  
USDA/Agricultural Research Service  
Southwest Watershed Research Center  
Tucson, AZ

Caroline Erickson  
USEPA, ORD/NERL/ESD  
Landscape Ecology Branch  
Las Vegas, NV

The San Pedro River Basin Data Browser (<http://fws-case-12.nmsu.edu/SanPedro/>) was jointly developed by New Mexico State University, New Mexico Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (Las Cruces, NM) and the Landscape Ecology Branch of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Las Vegas, NV) for the EPA Region 9 Watersheds Office (San Francisco, CA).

Acquisition of primary spatial data and database development are initial features of any type of landscape assessment project. They provide contemporary land cover and the ancillary datasets necessary to establish reference condition and develop alternative future scenarios that serve as input variables for various hydrological, habitat, economic, and natural resource models. The purpose of this database is to provide a long-term record keeping (archiving) system with easy public access to an array of spatial data for the entire San Pedro River basin (U.S./Mexico). Spatial and tabular data that were freely available on the Internet were collected and processed to create a seamless database. Additionally land cover datasets were created at the Ecological System thematic level and National Land Cover Dataset thematic level using Classification and Regression Tree (CART) analysis.

Additionally, we downloaded the EPA Integrated Climate and Land Use Scenario (ICLUS v 1.3) datasets (EPA 2009, 2010). The ICLUS datasets are in ESRI Grid format (100 m resolution) and project housing densities from the year 2010 to the year 2100 in ten-year increments based on five climate change scenarios: A1, B1, A2, B2 and BC. The five scenarios represent different Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC 2001) emission storylines related to population growth and economic strategy for the U.S.

The datasets created within this effort also support and extend the datasets previously collected as part of The San Pedro River Geo-data Browser and Assessment Tools (Kepner et al. 2003, [http://www.epa.gov/nerlesd1/land-sci/san\\_pedro/](http://www.epa.gov/nerlesd1/land-sci/san_pedro/)).

The online database report was evaluated via the EPA clearance process and the reviewers rated the report “acceptable after minor revision.” The attached online database has been revised to include all reviewer comments which improved the organization and presentation of the product. The EPA technical manuscript reviews (EPA-363) and database link (<http://fws-case-12.nmsu.edu/SanPedro/>) are attached as records to the file. Additionally, the online product is also supported by *San Pedro River Basin Data Browser Report* (Kenneth G. Boykin, T. Scott Schrader, Rachel K. Guy, Andrea E. Ernst, Ashraf Nour el Sadek, William G. Kepner, and Wilson W.S. Yee. July 2012. EPA/600/R-12/550); see <http://fws-case-12.nmsu.edu/SanPedro/EPA%20SanPedro%20Final%20Report.pdf>. The following comments are provided as part of the product reconciliation package. Once cleared, this product will be migrated from New Mexico State University to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Sciences Division project server in Las Vegas (<http://www.epa.gov/esd/land-sci/san-pedro.htm>).

## Attachments

### **Peer Review Reconciliation**

Many “very minor edits” were identified within the draft database. All typographical and formatting errors in the report have been corrected. All track-change edits suggested by the reviewer were accepted and the document was revised.

<b><u>Page</u></b>	<b><u>Review Comment</u></b>	<b><u>Reconciliation</u></b>
Home	Broken link	Fixed link on all pages
	Semi-colons in 1 <sup>st</sup> paragraph	Reject, not necessary
	Record keeping (archive) redundant	Reject, is necessary
	Comma	Accepted
	Square km	Accepted
	Order of series	Accepted
	Data – NLCD classification	Rejected, correct classification provided
	Other punctuation and comments	Accepted
	Habitat models link	Rejected as both sets are necessary
GIS Data	Image comment	Images are illustrations not reproduction quality
	Metadata duplication	Metadata is the same because the dataset is the same with different columns representing different representations
	NLCD classification	Classification follows NLCD 2006
	Broken link	Fixed
	Coordinate systems differences	Text in overview reflects this difference

	Image link goes to same link	All three datasets are reflected in one map
	Web link has changed	Link fixed
ICLUS	Missing “to”	Accepted
	Citation error	Corrected
	Grammar and punctuation	Corrected
	A1 housing repetition	Corrected
	A2 resolution	corrected
Contacts	Link and misspelling	corrected
Links and References	Links	Fixed
	Links should open new window	Rejected. Personal preference
	Punctuation	accepted
	Citations	corrected
Report	none	