

Lower Montoyas Bank
Stabilization Project

Funded by FEMA



2024 ANNUAL FEDERAL REPORT & REQUESTS

Southern Sandoval County Arroyo
Flood Control Authority
1041 Commercial Drive SE
Rio Rancho New Mexico, 87124

www.sscafca.org

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAMMATIC REQUESTS



Stormwater Centers of Excellence

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been authorized to create up to five Stormwater Centers of Excellence (SCE) throughout the United States through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The mission of these SCEs is to play an "important role in conducting research and providing technical assistance to state, Tribal, and local governments to support stormwater infrastructure improvements that protect public health, safeguard the environment and increase climate resilience." SSCAFCA has long believed that stormwater science has largely neglected arid areas, focusing primarily on non-arid areas of the United States. When the EPA issued the notice of funding opportunity (NOFO), SSCAFCA supported an effort by the University of New Mexico, New Mexico Tech, and the University of Arizona to respond to the NOFO with the aspiration of having an SCE located at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM. From the NOFO, it appears that the EPA is funding up to three SCEs to the tune of approximately \$1.67M per SCE for a total of two years

SSCAFCA has made a request to the New Mexico congressional delegation to both increase the funding level of each SCE and ask that all authorized SCE's are created, regardless of whether or not one is located in New Mexico. In order for the aspirations of the SCEs to be fully realized, we believe that a sustained effort needs to be made to study and better understand all aspects of stormwater management. By increasing the number of SCEs to five, the program will have a better geographical and climatological footprint, hopefully covering arid regions of the country. By increasing the funding levels for each SCE, a sustained effort can be made to research stormwater issues identified for study by each SCE.



Flood prediction relies heavily on hydrologic models, which are plagued by substantial uncertainties. To improve model performance, SSCAFCA established an outdoor laboratory called the Arid Hydrology Research Area (AHRA) in 2022. AHRA is situated on a four-acre parcel of land in Rio Rancho.

Environmental Infrastructure program flexibility



US Army Corps of Engineers

Funding of Environmental Infrastructure (EI) projects through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has been accomplished through the authorities granted in the Water Resources Development Act. While it is likely that there are a large variety of EI projects funded with this mechanism through the USACE, SSCAFCA's particular concern is that the USACE is not necessarily structured to handle a large number of small (<\$5M) EI projects using a Corps design and Corps construct project delivery model. Administrative burden by the USACE is placed on the project funds and can consume significant fractions of the funding appropriated for the project prior to project construction.

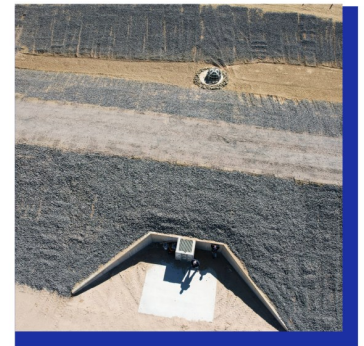
SSCAFCA is requesting that programmatic language be included in the Water Resources Development Act of 2024 that the Act include language stating the Corps authority to exercise the flexibility for non-Federal interests to take the lead in designing and constructing environmental infrastructure projects.

Why have local sponsor led projects?

SSCAFCA, for example, has a proven track records of taking projects from funding to construction in under two years



Lower Venada Bank Stabilization Project



Harley's Pond



Ivory Channel Bank Stabilization Project



High Range Pond

Congressionally Directed Spending Request

La Barranca Arroyo Stormwater Water Quality facility.

Project Summary:

The Southern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority (SSCAFCA) is proposing to reduce floodwater impacts with flow from the City of Rio Rancho into the Rio Grande. Storm flows from the La Barranca Arroyo discharge directly to the Rio Grande without any treatment or attenuation. The La Barranca Arroyo Water Quality project will remove debris and contaminants from storm flows as well as consolidate storm flows from three separate tributaries to protect adjacent infrastructure and water quality in the Rio Grande.

Proposed Solution:

SSCAFCA has already constructed three stormwater quality facilities and is under design on a fourth, on its major arroyo systems, providing treatment of urban stormwater runoff by separating floatable pollutants from stormwater and removing sediments (often seen as a surrogate for certain pollutants) using several techniques. The design and construction of La Barranca Arroyo Water Quality project will provide this same level of treatment on the last unprotected major drainage managed by SSSCAFCA to the Rio Grande.

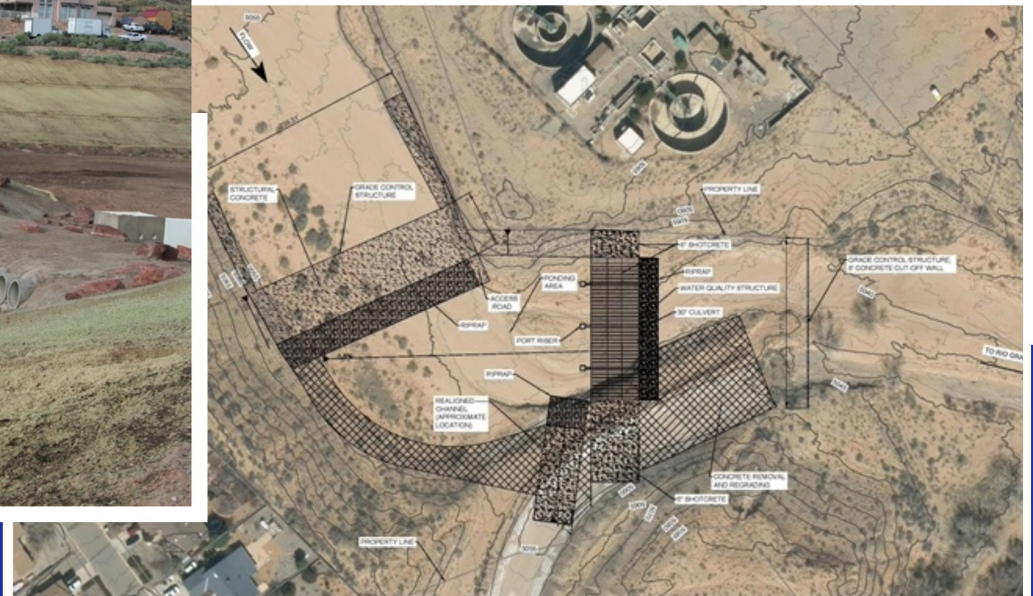
TOTAL PROJECT COST: \$3.1M

FEDERAL FUNDS REQUEST: \$2.325M

LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS: \$775K plus right of way for project



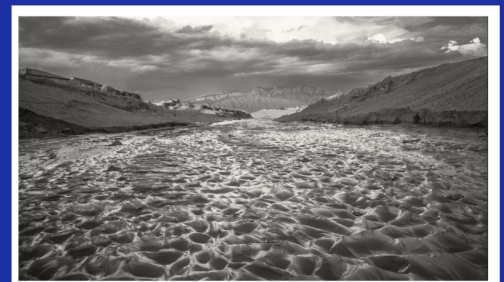
Lower Montoyas Stormwater Quality Project

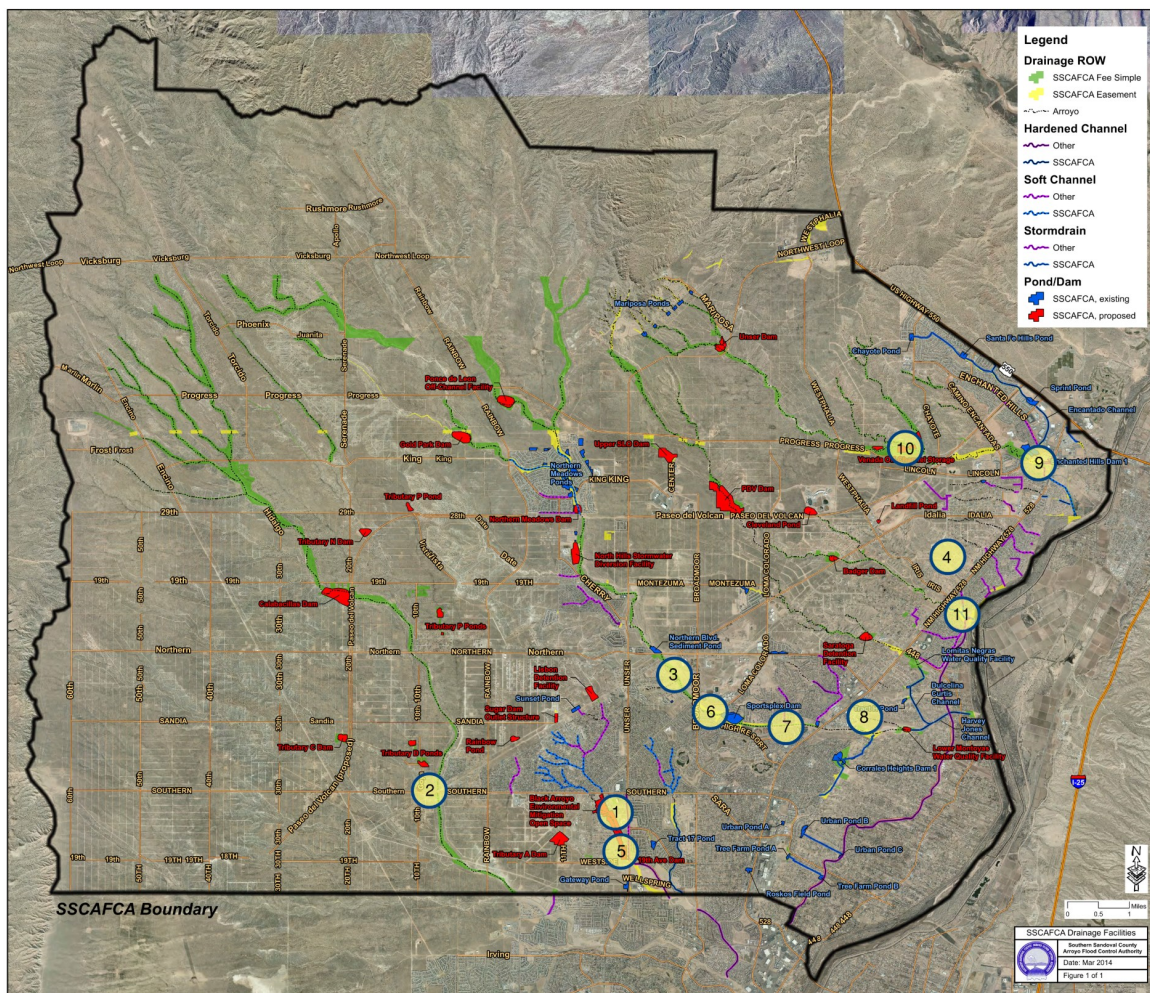


Preliminary Design for La Barranca Arroyo Stormwater Quality facility



Southern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority (SSCAFCA) is an independent corporate political body with an elected board entrusted with flood and storm water control. Established by New Mexico Statute Section 72-19-1 through 72-19-103 in 1990, we acquire, improve, maintain and operate flood and storm water control facilities on streams and watersheds that enter, originate in or cross our area of authority. SSSCAFCA serves the communities of Rio Rancho, the Village of Corrales, the Town of Bernalillo and Southern Sandoval County, New Mexico.





SSCAFCA Grant Application Map

FEMA Hazard Mitigation Project Grant Application

1. Lisbon Channel Improvements, Southern Blvd to pedestrian bridge (\$2.4M construction): Project RFIs received and responded to, EA is out for public review
2. Thermopylae Diversion (\$370K design, \$6.2M construction): Phase 1 (design) is nearing completion, will submit for Phase 2 (construction) funding upon completion of design effort.
3. Montoyas Arroyo Channel stabilization, Northern Blvd to Broadmoor Rd (\$4.0M total budget): Seeking phased (design and construction) funding for project. Project RFIs received and responded to.
4. Honduras Ponds project (\$4.8M total budget): Seeking phased (design and construction) funding for project. Project RFIs received and responded to.
5. Riparia Pond project (\$4.7M construction): Project was designed with FEMA PDM funds. Application submitted for construction funds. Project RFIs received and responded to.
6. Montoyas Arroyo Channel stabilization, Broadmoor Rd to Sportsplex Dam flood pool (\$5.0M total budget): Seeking phased (design and construction) funding for project. Application submitted, awaiting first RFI.
7. Montoyas Arroyo Channel stabilization, Sportsplex Dam outlet to NM 528 (\$7.1M total budget): Seeking phased (design and construction) funding for project. Application submitted, awaiting first RFI.

USACE Environmental Infrastructure Projects

8. Tortugas Arroyo Improvements (\$4.0M total budget): Project design is completed. Awaiting modification of the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) to allow SSCAFCA to bid project.
9. Middle Venada Arroyo improvements (\$4.1M total budget): Project design is 65% complete and is being performed by SSCAFCA internal design team. Awaiting modification of the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) to allow SSCAFCA to bid project once design is complete.
10. Upper Venada Arroyo improvements (\$4.2M total budget): Project design is 65% complete. Engineering consultant proceeding to 90% plan set. All project elements are in line for project bidding in 2025.
11. La Barranta Stormwater Quality Project (\$3.1M total budget): Requesting congressionally directed spending for project.

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Administrative Staff

Dave Gatterman
Executive Engineer
dgatterman@sscafca.com

Debbie Casaus
Fiscal Services Director
dcasaus@sscafca.com

Andy Edmondson
Facility Operations Director
aedmondson@sscafca.com

Andrés Sanchez
Design Services Director
asanchez@sscafca.com



Southern Sandoval County
Arroyo
Flood Control Authority
1041 Commercial Drive, SE
Rio Rancho, NM 87124
(505) 892-7246

www.sscafca.org