

~Waste Policy Forum~

Texas – New Mexico – Chihuahua
Regional Workgroup Activities

René Franco Ruiz, MX Co-Leader
Waste Policy Forum – Border 2012
February 2008



Cuidad Juarez Tire Pile

➤ **Over 1.14 million scrap tires were removed from Cuidad Juarez Fiscal Year 2006.**



➤ **In 2006 – 2007, approximately 2.00 million Used Tires were removed**





Luna County Scrap Tire Clean-Up Project

- **Collaboration between New Mexico State University Students, Luna County Road Department, City of Deming, New Mexico**
- **NMSU students helped to remove over 160,000 scrap tires from an abandoned site in Luna County, New Mexico**
- **Scrap tires were put in a bailer into 1-ton bales.**
- **Future uses: erosion control measures by the State of New Mexico**



Scrap Tire Workshops

- April 24-25, 2007
(Palomas, Chihuahua)
- April 25, 2007 (El Paso, Texas)



Scrap Tire Management and Disposal Workshop for Rural Communities

- Partners – NMED, EPA, SEMARNAT, Rubber Manufacturers Association, TCEQ, TAG Associates, Luna County Road Dept., NMSU, UACJ, City of Deming
- Held in April 2007 in Palomas, Chih. and Deming, NM
- Day 1 – Presentations covering variety of topics:
 - Scrap tire problem in border region and binational efforts for management
 - Tire storage for fire prevention and appropriate fire fighting techniques for tire pile fires
 - Civil engineering applications for scrap tires
 - Funding of scrap tire projects
 - Market development for scrap tires
- Day 2 – Demonstration of Luna Co. Road Dept. tire baling facility and tour of City of Deming landfill tire bale wall construction.

Scrap Tire Inventory Project Palomas and Ascension, Chih.

- March 2007 in Ascension, Chihuahua
- 50 secondary students & 5 teachers were trained to use GIS units to Inventory scrap tire piles around the town itself, including municipal land fill and two clandestine dump sites.
- Results:
 - Approximately 2500 scrap tires mapped
 - Municipal landfill contained approximately 1600 tires in adjacent pile.
- Tire pile in municipal landfill burned subsequent to inventory work
- Palomas inventory field work scheduled for June 7 -8.



Scrap Tire Inventory Project

Palomas and Ascension, Chih.

- **Partners** - Rural Task Force, New Mexico Environment Department, Universidad Autonoma de Cd. Juarez, New Mexico State University, Secondary Schools in Palomas and Ascension, Municipio de Ascension, Presidencia Seccional de Palomas

- **Classroom training**

- Background on scrap tire problem
- Use of Global Positioning System units
- How can Geographic Information System (GIS) be applied to help solve environmental problems?
- Tire inventory field work methodology



Nearly 6,000 Discarded Tires Removed in Border Area Cleanup



- New Mexico-Chihuahua Rural Task Force with funding from EPA Border 2012 and SEMARNAT; Through leadership of Allyson Siwick
- Teams of teachers and students from the Ascensión Preparatoria and Secundarias and the Palomas Secundaria collected 5,700 discarded tires from the Palomas and Ascensión area in Chihuahua, Mexico
- The tires were taken to the Cementos de Chihuahua plant at Samalayuca.

“Pehla Funi” Black Water DVD by Ysleta del Sur Pueblo Tribe

- Tribe received a \$25,000 grant to for Native American Indian Tribes and Mexican indigenous peoples along the U.S.—Mexico border.
- The video produced emphasizes the importance of proper use, disposal, recycling of household hazardous wastes and automotive products. Contact PIs Amy Alesch, Jose Lopez



Infrastructure Capacity for Waste Management and P2

- Held three meetings with Investors
- Four stakeholders work sessions, and
- Three meetings with industrial waste generators

Infrastructure Capacity for Waste Management and P2

- Findings
- Need outreach campaign for community support of new environmental facilities
- Project promoters to feel assurance of risk-free on their investment

Healthcare Pollution Prevention Activities in New Mexico

Chris Campbell
WERC/NMSU Resources Center

Border 2012 Waste Policy Forum
El Paso, TX

February 27, 2008

Reaching New Heights

Hospitals for Healthy Environment (H2E)

- Elimination of mercury from healthcare facilities' waste streams
- Reduction of waste volumes by 50% by 2010
- Identification of waste streams for Pollution Prevention opportunities including regulated medical waste, hazardous waste, solid waste and recyclables
- P2 training and audits available at www.werc.net, www.nmenv.state.nm.us, www.H2E-online.org

Since 2001, WERC and NMED have collaborated with H2E through EPA's Pollution Prevention (P2) Program:

- 14 on-site facility assessments
- 7 trainings on healthcare P2 attended by 25 facilities
- 4 facilities from southern New Mexico
- in addition, H2E has provided training for El Paso area facilities

Waste Segregation





LAND CONTAMINATION (WASTE) TASK FORCE PRIORITIES

- 1) Develop an inventory of abandoned hazardous waste contaminated sites and identify options for waste disposal in border communities,
- 2) Implement a comprehensive binational used tire management plan that will lead to the implementation of best management practices for scrap tires
- 3) Develop a waste management and exchange program for Chihuahua with a focus on the manufacturing industry

Medical Waste Issues

- Continuous concern
- TF Public Meeting: provided training in the management, treatment and disposal of infectious waste (regulated medical waste)
- Pollution Prevention at Health Care Facilities” by NMSU WERC/NMED
- Border-wide resolution on Medical Waste

New Mexico/Texas/Chihuahua Waste Task Force

MX Task Force Leader: M.C. René Franco Ruiz

U.S. Task Force Leader: Dr Abbas Ghassemi

Rural Task Force Leaders:

New Mexico/Chihuahua

US: Allyson Siwik / MX: Celso Jacquez

Texas/Chihuahua

US: Judge Jerry Agan/ MX: Cesar Carrasco Baeza

Plans for Identifying a third contaminated site in Mexico

Three states Region



Candidate for Cleanup of Mexican Contaminated Site

- Survey of history of Medical Facility in Juarez
- Used Radioactive Material in 1960's and 70's
- Survey of History of Gas Stations