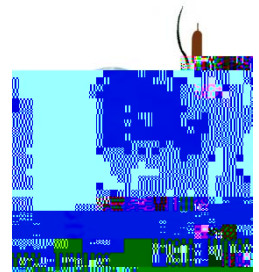


WATER CURRENTS

The prospects for year-round water at Rio Bosque Wetlands Park took some big steps forward in May. In early May, El Paso Water Utilities made the new well near the park's visitor center fully operational by installing a new pipeline from the well to the old river channel within the park. Now, for the first time in 12 years, we have water flowing during summer almost the entire 2-mile length of the channel.

Also, the planned pipeline from the Roberto Bustamante Wastewater Treatment Plant to Rio Bosque is moving closer to fruition. The project went out for bid May 5, and the City's Public Service Board (PSB) is expected to award the contract in July, with construction starting later this summer.

Finally, on May 20, the board of directors of El Paso County Water Improvement District #1 (El Paso #1) passed a resolution to reclassify approximately 179 acres within Rio Bosque as irrigable land, with water rights. This important action makes it possible for the park to receive annual allocations of irrigation water,



Texas, as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Cuckoos nested at Rio Bosque into the mid-