

## NOTES ON THE SALSA PUBLIC SEMINAR (27 Oct 98)

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<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday, 27 October 1998
<b>Location:</b>	City of Sierra Vista, City Council Chambers, 1011 North Coronado Dr., Sierra Vista, Arizona
<b>Schedule:</b>	
8:30-8:40 a.m.	Welcome from City of Sierra Vista
8:40-9:00	Introduction and Overview of the SALSA program by D. Goodrich
9:00-9:30	Overview of SALSA Landscape Component (Change Detection and Habitat Analysis) by Bill Kepner (EPA) and C. Watts (IMADES)
9:30-10:00	Spatial Database/GIS Demonstration by Curt Edmonds (EPA)
10:00-10:15	Break
10:15-10:45	SALSA Research Efforts in Sonora by Ghani Chehbouni (ORSTOM) and Ivan Parra (IMADES)
10:45-11:15	Overview of Hydrologic Modeling in the Upper San Pedro Watershed by D. Goodrich (USDA/ARS)
11:15-12:00 p.m.	Open Discussion Session - All attending
Adjourn	

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### SUMMARY OF THE SALSA PUBLIC INFORMATION SEMINAR - AN EXAMPLE OF COMMUNITY-BASED COOPERATION

On Tuesday, 27 October 1998, several scientists with the Semi-Arid Land-Surface- Atmosphere ("SALSA") research program conducted a public information seminar at the City Council Chambers in Sierra Vista. The purpose of the seminar was two- fold: to brief the community on SALSA research activities and plans in the Upper San Pedro Basin; and to incorporate public feedback into the SALSA planning process in order to make the research responsive to the needs of the Upper San Pedro community.

More than 40 people attended the seminar and represented varied private, state, non-governmental, and federal interests (local farmers, City of Sierra Vista, Cochise County, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, U.S. Army, Udall Center, University of Arizona, The Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society, Hereford Natural Resource Conservation District, and People for the West). Additionally, the audience included local media (Sierra Vista Herald and Tombstone Tumbleweed).

The agenda included presentations by Bill Kepner and Curt Edmonds (EPA Office of Research and Development), David Goodrich (USDA Agricultural Service), Ghani Chehbouni (ORSTOM) and Ivan Parra (IMADES). ORSTOM and IMADES are French and Mexican research agencies, respectively, conducting environmental research in the Upper San Pedro Basin as part of the SALSA program.

Collectively, the researchers overviewed the SALSA project and provided specific examples related to landscape change analysis, spatial database development, evapotranspiration measurements, and hydrologic modeling within

the project area. Additionally, they premiered a "draft copy" of an hour-long science documentary about SALSA, produced by an independent French company and currently entitled "Pioneers of Gaïa" for the seminar audience.

The researchers were warmly received and the attendees were especially excited about the ability of the SALSA researchers to coordinate and integrate their science throughout the watershed, regardless of political boundaries. The idea of an annual Public Science Seminar was openly accepted and the researchers and their colleagues were invited to return on an annual basis to update the community on their activities.

SALSA researchers were able to relate their science to the community needs and concerns and challenged the user groups to incorporate the information in their resource management and decision processes. Additionally, they were able to relate their studies to other unaffiliated SALSA projects that are just commencing in the watershed and answer all questions and rumors that are commonly associated with large, interdisciplinary and international projects.

The next SALSA Public Information Seminar has tentatively been scheduled for the fall of 1999.

For more information about the SALSA Sierra Vista seminar, contact:

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