



COCHISE COUNTY
HIGHWAY AND FLOODPLAIN DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM



MAKING IT BETTER

Your County Questions answered:
www.cochisecounty.com

Date: March 15, 2012

To: Flood Control District Board of Directors

From: Tim Mazanek PE Civil Engineer III

Through: Karen Riggs PE, County Engineer

Subject: Automated Local Evaluation in Real Time (ALERT) System for predicting emergency situations by collecting real-time data on rainfall.

Recommendation: Approve the 5-year funding plan to install ten ALERT stations throughout the county.

Background: Cochise County has completed a 5-year plan report and cost estimate for the creation of an ALERT system to collect and compile hydrologic data for the purpose of reducing flood losses throughout the county. The system consists of a network of ten remote sensors (rain gauges), and a data concentrator at Mule Mountain. The sensors will transmit real-time rainfall data via radio frequency to the Mule Mountain tower facility where it will be collected and sent to the existing ALERT system comprised of nine existing gauges in the county and data sources from other agencies. The intent of the system is to enhance our capability to supply real-time warning for potential flooding.

Fiscal Impact and Funding Sources:

2012 - Data Collection System, 1 Gauges	\$37,000
2013 – 3 Gauges, System Maintenance	\$42,000
2014 – 2 Gauges, System Maintenance	\$37,000
2015 – 2 Gauges, System Maintenance	\$41,000
2016 – 2 Gauges, System Maintenance	\$46,000
2017 - Continuing Maintenance per Year	\$28,000

Next Steps/Actions Items/Follow-up: Contract with JE Fuller for purchase, installation and maintenance of first year items.

Impact of Not Approving: Less information regarding emergency flood situations that may develop due to wildfires last summer and other flooding countywide.