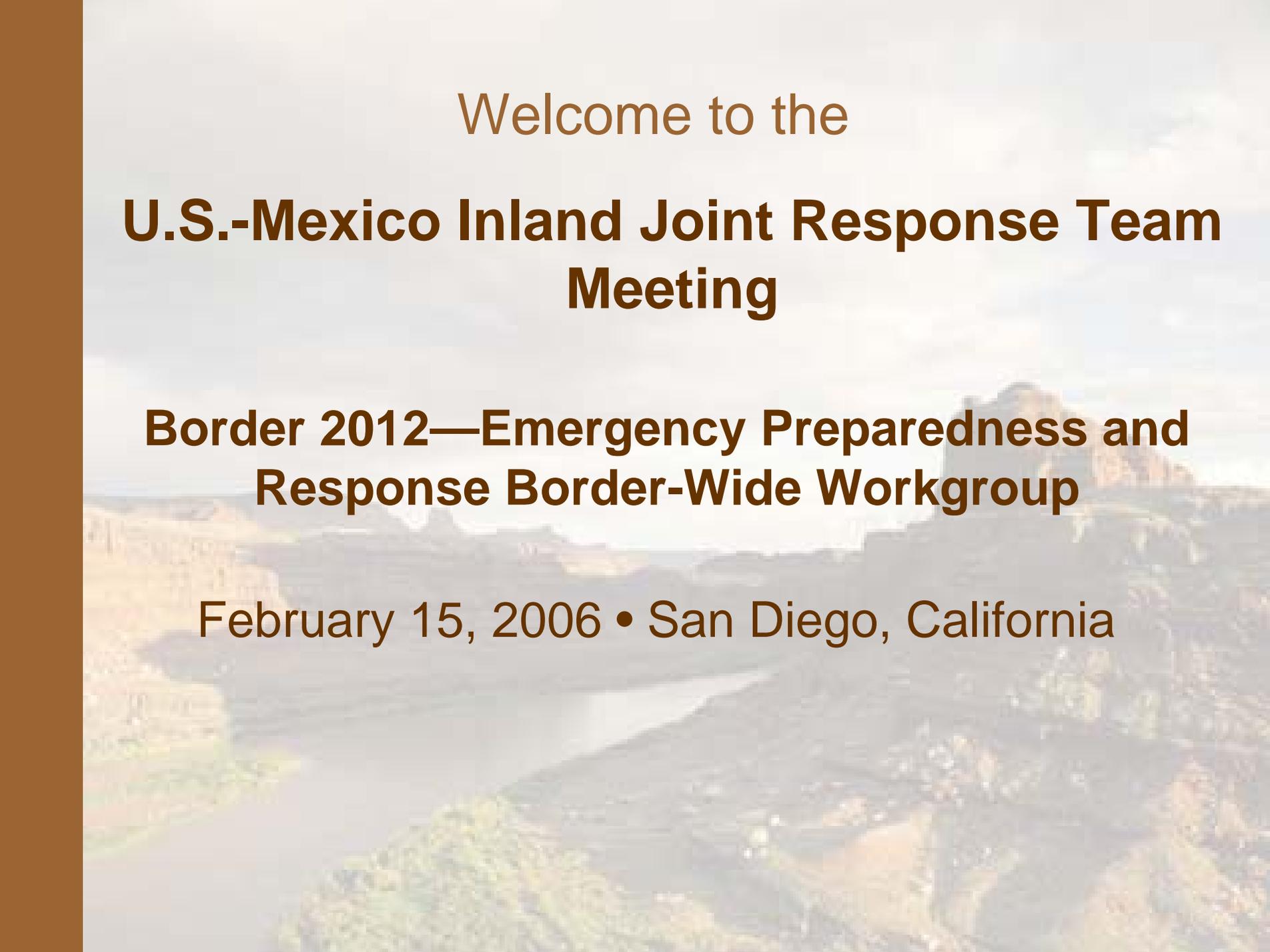


US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Welcome to the

**U.S.-Mexico Inland Joint Response Team
Meeting**

**Border 2012—Emergency Preparedness and
Response Border-Wide Workgroup**

February 15, 2006 • San Diego, California

Border 2012 Border-wide Workgroups (BWWG)

- Concentrate on issues that are multi-regional and primarily federal in nature
- Each BWWG has a federal co-chair from the U.S. and Mexico
- Identify and prioritize border-wide/transboundary issues
- Implement programs and projects to address priority border-wide issues
- The Emergency Preparedness and Response (Joint Response Team) is one of three BWWGs
- Federal level national coordinators manage overall program implementation

Border 2012 Emergency Preparedness & Response Border-Wide Workgroup (BWWG)

- Border 2012 created the Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-Wide Workgroup (BWWG) to coordinate and implement Border 2012's Goal #5 and its three objectives
- Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-Wide Workgroup (BWWG) created as the steering committee of Joint Response Team (JRT):
 - JRT established by Annex II of the 1983 La Paz Agreement
 - JRT co-chaired by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Procuraduría Federal de Protección al Ambiente (PROFEPA)
- The Joint Response Team (JRT) is currently co-chaired by EPA Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Procuraduría Federal de Protección al Ambiente (PROFEPA), in partnership with other Mexican and U.S. federal, state and local Agencies



Border 2012 Emergency Preparedness and Response JRT Partners



Goal and Objectives of BWWG

(Border 2012 Goal #5)

- **Reduce exposure to chemicals as a result of accidental chemical product releases and/or acts of terrorism**
 - **Objective 1:** By 2004, a chemical emergency advisory/notification mechanism between Mexico and the U.S. will be clearly established
 - **Objective 2:** By 2008, all 14 sister cities' joint contingency plans will be in place and operating (including exercises), with the establishment of bi-national committees for chemical emergency prevention
 - **Objective 3:** By 2012, 50% of sister city joint contingency plans will be supplemented with preparedness and prevention related efforts, such as risk and consequence analysis, risk reduction, and counter-terrorism

BWWG Accomplishments to Date

- Building of local relationships
- Signing 14 bi-national Emergency Response Plans
- Designing and conducting several high profile hazardous material tabletop and full field exercises
- Developing and conducting bilingual workshops
- Development of bilingual guidance documents and preparedness tools
- Risk assessments
- Studies and research of hazards posed by industry and transportation

BWWG 2005/2006 Initiatives

- Update the notification system between Mexico and the United States
- Revise the U.S.-Mexico Joint Contingency Plan
- Facilitate cross border emergency responses with U.S. and Mexico customs officials, via a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)
- Hold initial and follow-up BWWG meetings
- Seek funding to provide personal protective and response equipment for Mexican responders
- Provide training for Mexican emergency responders

BWWG 2006 Priorities

- Finalize the proposed revisions to the U.S-Mexico Joint Contingency Plan
- Successfully conduct JCP notification drills with updated notification system
- Finalize our U.S. proposed expedited cross border response protocol initiated in 2005 with DHS Customs and Border Patrol, U.S. EPA and U.S. Coast Guard
- Identify next steps for Mexico's cross-border response
- Continue to expand opportunities for training and exercises
- Invigorate the JRT by working in strengthened partnerships with U.S. and Mexico federal, state and local offices
 - Work with DHS CBP, Northcom and all other JRT members
 - Mexico will work in partnership with Protección Civil, CENACOM, and Aduanas

Emergency Preparedness & Response BWWG Contact Information

México

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