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Mission Reach Construction Progress to Close Portion of Mission Trail System

Construction is scheduled to begin on Phase 3 of the Mission Reach Ecosystem Restoration and Recreation Project in August 2010. As part of the Mission Reach project, new hike and bike trails along the river will be developed and improvements will be made to portions of the existing Mission Trail system along the river. In order for the Mission Reach project to be completed, it is necessary for the existing Mission Trail system along the river to be closed for the duration of the construction project from August 2010 through 2013. A portion of the Mission Trail between Espada Dam and East Ashley Road is already closed due to construction of the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) Sewer Siphon Mission Reach Phase IV project.

Upon closing, signage will be posted along the Mission Trail system at several locations, including at Roosevelt Park, Espada Park and the Mission Parkway entrance from Mission Road, indicating that the trail is closed. There will also be signage showing detour routes along the trail. Additionally, bike maps showing construction areas and detours will be posted on the www.sanantonioriver.org and www.sara-tx.org websites. These maps will be updated regularly as construction proceeds.

The Mission Reach project is transforming an eight mile stretch of the San Antonio River into a quality riparian woodland ecosystem. This unique project restores riverine features and riparian woodlands, reintroduces native plants, enhances aquatic habitat, reconnects cultural and historical features to the river and will provide over 15 miles of hike and bike trails for recreational use. For more information about the Mission Reach Ecosystem Restoration and Recreation project or closures impacting the Mission Trail system, please contact (210) 302-4247, or visit www.sanantonioriver.org.

The San Antonio River Authority (SARA) was created by the 45th Texas Legislature on May 5, 1937 and reorganized in 1961 to plan, manage and implement water-related programs and projects within the San Antonio River Basin. The State of Texas empowered SARA to preserve, protect and manage the resources and the ecology of the San Antonio River and its tributaries. To learn more about the SARA visit our website at www.sara-tx.org.

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