

HISTORY OF THE FACILITY | EL RIO OPEN SPACE PRESERVE

BRIEF TIMELINE OF THE EL RIO SITE

c. 2100 B.C.: Marana's earliest farmers, the Hohokam field begin tilling the soil along the Santa Cruz River. At Las Capas, just a few miles south of El Rio Preserve, archaeologists have unearthed some of the oldest irrigation canals in North America, the earliest dating to 1250 B.C.

1775 A.D.: Juan Bautista de Anza leads his expedition along the Santa Cruz River, camping for one night at *LLano del Azotado* (present day El Rio Preserve).

2003: The Town of Marana purchases the El Rio Preserve land from Arizona Department of Transportation.

2014: A flood event breaches the non-engineered berm between El Rio Preserve and the Santa Cruz River. EndFragment

2015: The Town of Marana designates the area as El Rio Preserve under the administration of the Town's Parks and Recreation department.

2016: A second flood event breaches the restored berm.

Feel free to contact us with any additional questions.

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