

ject (SEP) program of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This program gives entities that incur environmental fines the chance to direct part of that fine to an appropriate environmental project in their community. Right around the time of the September break-ins, we learned a significant SEP award had been designated for Rio Bosque. We're using it to replace stolen tools.

Finally, kudos go to the El Paso Police Department for catching some of the thieves and recovering some of the tools stolen in September. The incriminating evidence? Fingerprints on a beer can left at the crime scene.  $\checkmark$ 

## RIVERSIDE CANAL PROJECT UNDERWAY

On October 17, El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 began work on its project to concrete-line 3 miles of the Riverside Canal, including 1.5 miles next to Rio Bosque Wetlands Park. Work this winter involves replacing the check structure located where the Franklin Feeder Canal splits from the Riverside Canal and building a short length of lined canal immediately upstream of the new structure. Work will stop next month with the start of the 2010 irrigation season, then resume next fall when the bulk of the canal lining is expected to take place.

On May 12, 2009, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation released a <u>final environmental assessment (EA) and</u> <u>finding of no significant impact</u>4 319WNhTnhee U.S.