

U.S. targets drug tunnels on border

by UPI

NOGALES, Ariz., May 21 (UPI) -- U.S. Customs and Border Protection authorities said they plan to fill seven smuggling tunnels from Mexico into Arizona and California by June.

Agents are to begin filling a 300-foot drug-smuggling tunnel in Nogales, Ariz., next week and other tunnels are planned to follow in the \$2.7 million project, the Phoenix Republic reported Monday. One Nogales tunnel and another in Otay Mesa, Calif., have already been filled.

"When we discover these tunnels, we plug them with concrete on both ends," Customs and Border Protection spokesman Michael Freel told the Republic.

Freel said smugglers are attempting to reuse the tunnels, which are currently being kept secure by guards, sensors and remote camera surveillance.

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