USMCA Tijuana River Watershed

Eligible Public Entities Coordinating Group (EPECG)

February 25, 2021
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Pacific
(2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Eastern)

Agenda

11:00 am	**Welcome and Overview**
11:10 am	**Short-Term Impact Projects – Update**
11:15 am	**EPECG Interviews** • Interview Highlights
11:20 am	**Technical Analysis – Project Evaluation** • **Process – Update on Status** • **Existing System Overview** • **Diverting & Treating River Water** (Projects 1 & 2) • **Conveying Sewage** to US for Treatment (Project 4) • **Treating Conveyed Sewage** (Projects 3 & 9) • Considerations - **Ownership, O&M, and Cost**
12:40 pm	**NEPA Public Scoping** • Process and Timeline • Questions
12:50 pm	**Next Steps & Upcoming Milestones** ▪ February 26 Public Information Meeting ▪ USMCA Web Page ▪ NEPA Public Scoping ▪ Alternatives Analysis
1:00 pm	**Closing Remarks & Adjourn**

USMCA Tijuana River Watershed Eligible Public Entities Coordinating Group (EPECG)

Virtual Meeting: February 25, 2021

Eligible Public Entities Coordinating Group (EPECG) - Principals and Delegates

- CalEPA
- California Natural Resource Agency
- City of Chula Vista
- City of Coronado
- City of Imperial Beach
- City of San Diego
- North American Development Bank
- Port of San Diego
- San Diego County
- San Diego Regional Board
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Customs & Border Protection
- US Department of Commerce
- US Department of State
- US Fish and Wildlife
- US International Boundary and Water Commission
- US Navy

Welcome & Overview

Agenda

1. Short Term Impact Projects - Update
2. EPECG Interviews – Highlights
3. Technical Analysis – Project Evaluation
4. NEPA Public Scoping
5. Next Steps & Upcoming Milestones

Short Term Impact Projects

Dave Smith, EPA Region 9

Short Term Projects - Update

- **Short Term River Diversion**
  - Planned to capture dry weather transboundary flows, treat at International Treatment Plant (ITP)
  - Dry weather transboundary flows largely ceased Summer-Fall 2020
  - ITP regularly treated more sewage from MX than its 25 MGD rated capacity
  - Stressed treatment plant systems
  - Deferring planning for this project for time being

- **Smugglers Gulch Sediment and Trash Capture Facility**
  - Would address trash and sediment crossing border
  - County lead with support from City of San Diego, Regional Water Board
  - EPA provided technical assistance to help grant application
  - County applied in January for CA Coastal Conservancy grant to fund design and construction
  - Awaiting CCC decision on grant application
  - Confer with CBP, other agencies, and stakeholders

EPECG Interviews – Highlights

Rob Willis, Ross Strategic

EPECG Interviews – Key Discussion Topics (Slide 1 of 2)

- Completed 18/18 Interviews January 15 - February 11
- Ross Strategic is developing an EPECG Member Interview Synthesis for EPA
- As part of our preparation, we identified important discussion topics for today's call to:
  - Provide additional details on project specifics
  - Explore areas where EPECG members expressed an interest or had questions

EPECG Interviews – Key Discussion Topics (Slide 2 of 2)

Key Takeaways from the Interviews Driving Discussion Topics:

- Detailed information about projects
- Treatment Capacity
- Location of Treatment
- Ownership of Infrastructure
- Operations & Management (O&M)
- Diverting & Treating River Water

Technical Analysis – Project Evaluation

Dave Smith, EPA Region 9

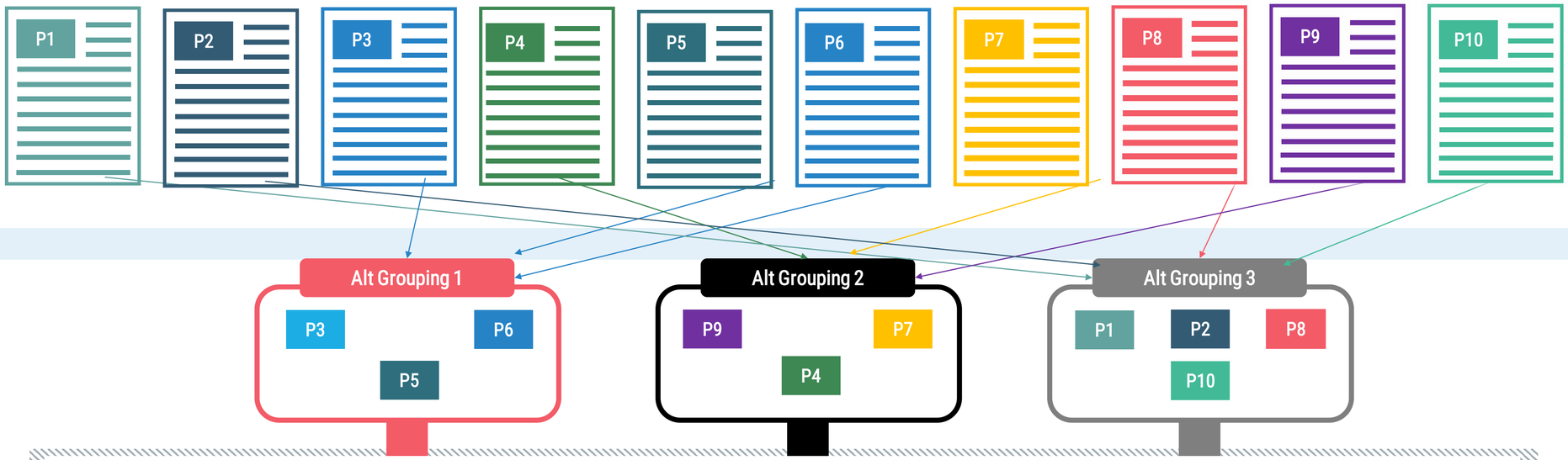
USMCA Tijuana River Infrastructure Technical Analysis Milestones

Project Definition and Refinement

P1 P2 P3 P4 P5 P6 P7 P8 P9 P10

Evaluate Potential Projects

- TECP Meetings
- Data Analysis
- Feasibility Reports



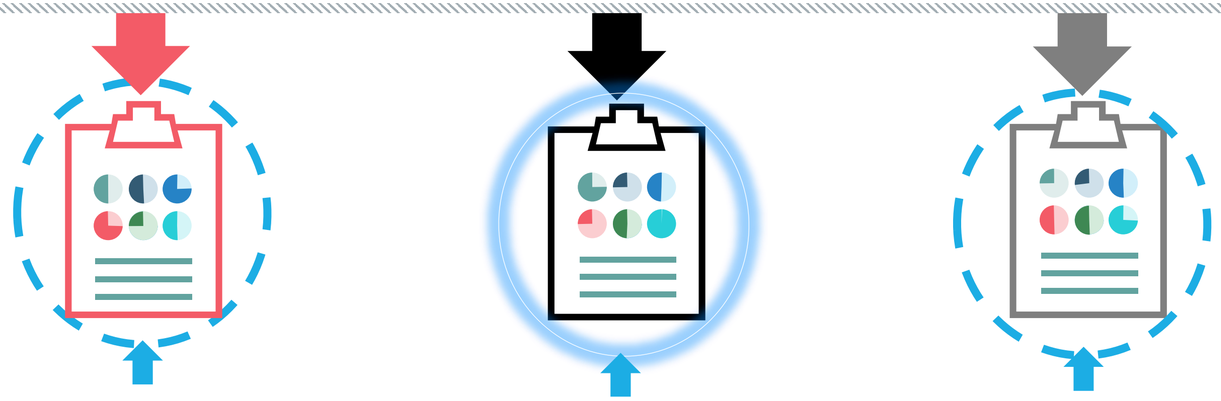
Feb-March

Develop Alternatives

April - May

Assess Alternatives

Evaluated Against Criteria

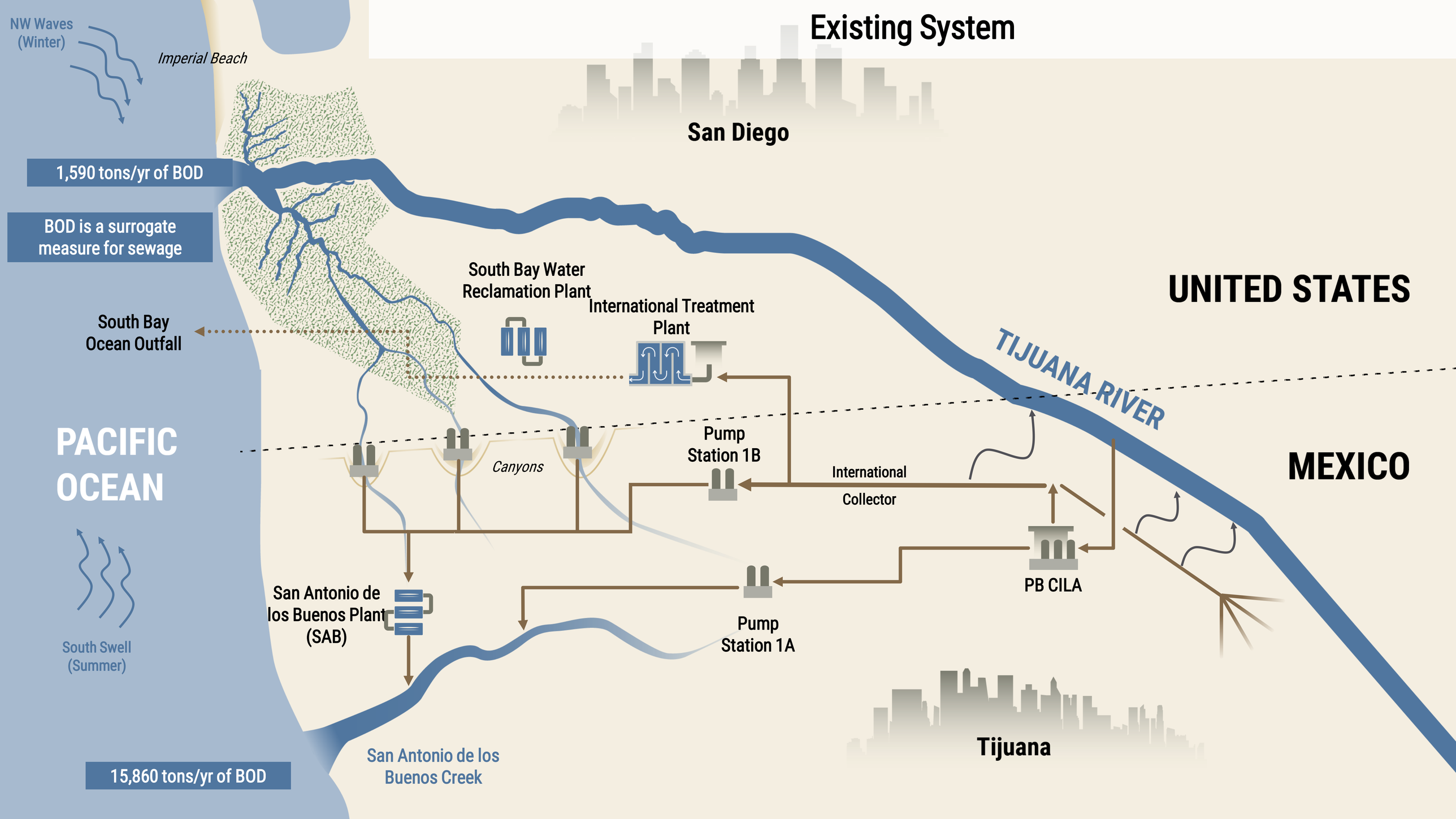


June

Identify Preferred Alternative

Existing System Overview

Tom Rowlett and James Hollibaugh, PG Environmental


Existing System
NW Waves
(Winter)
Imperial Beach
San Diego
1,590 tons/yr of BOD
BOD is a surrogate measure for sewage
South Bay Water Reclamation Plant
International Treatment Plant
South Bay Ocean Outfall
UNITED STATES
TIJUANA RIVER
PACIFIC OCEAN
Canyons
Pump Station 1B
International Collector
MEXICO
San Antonio de los Buenos Plant (SAB)
PB CILA
Pump Station 1A
South Swell
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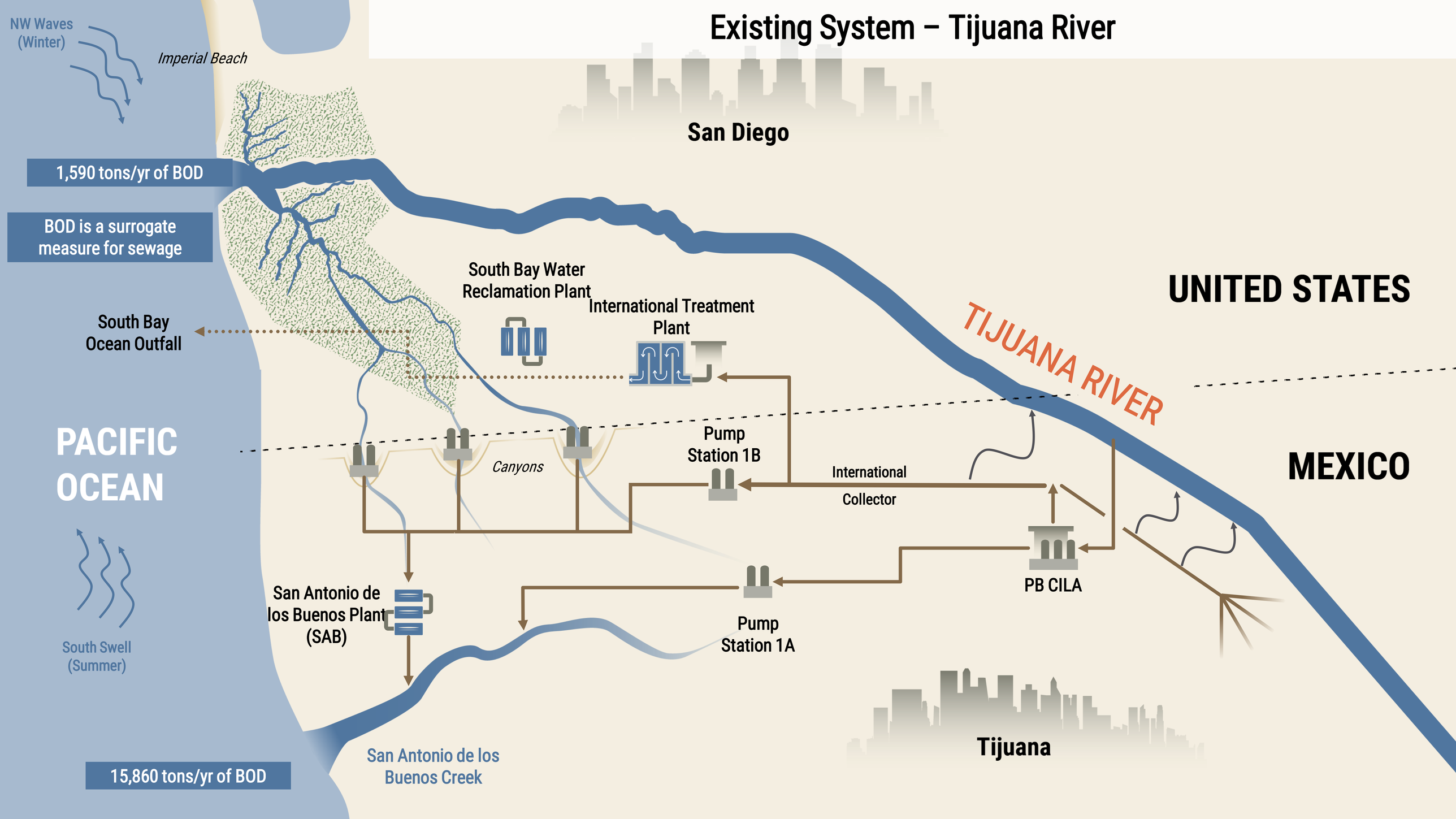
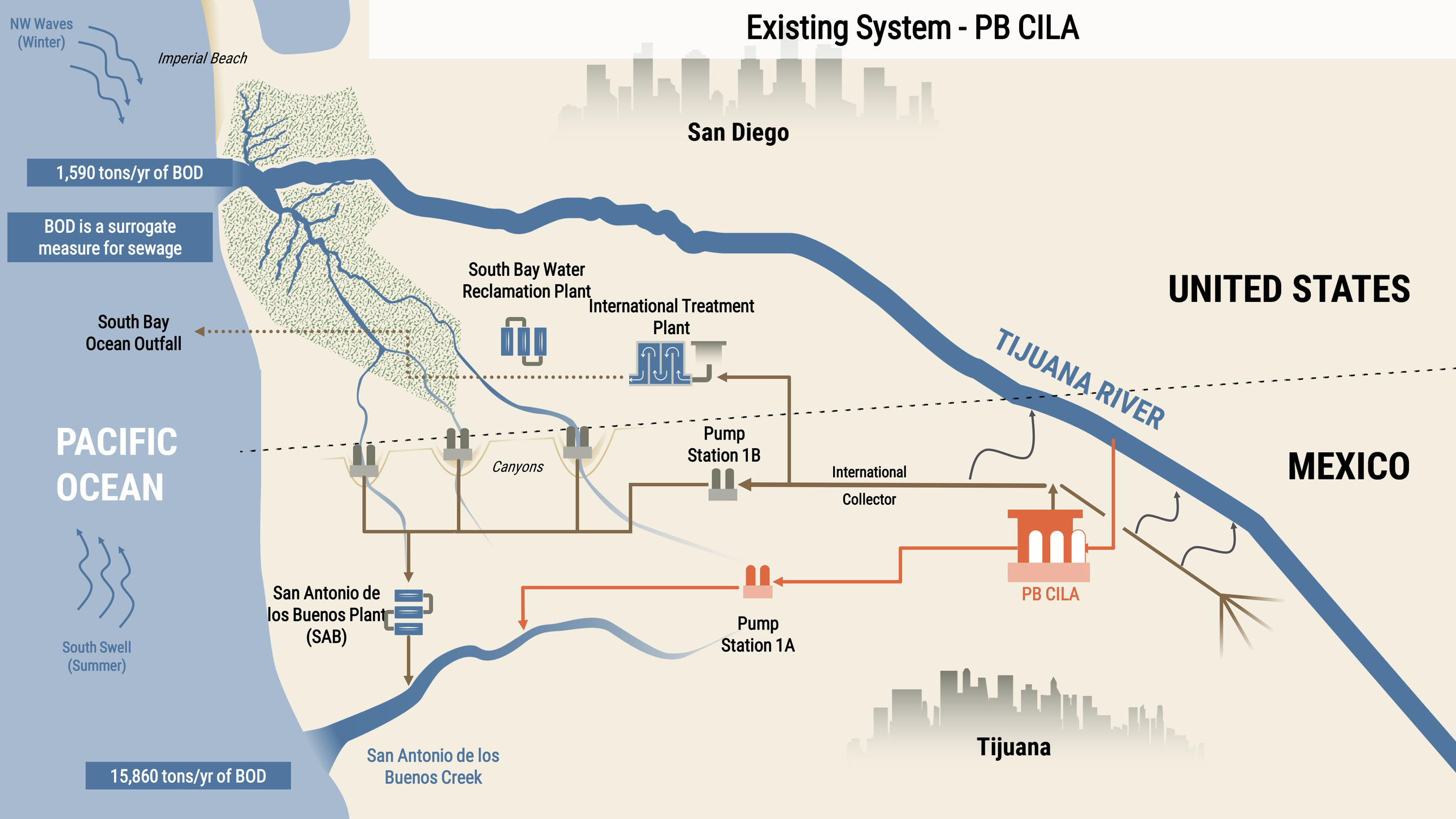
Tijuana
San Antonio de los Buenos Creek
15,860 tons/yr of BOD

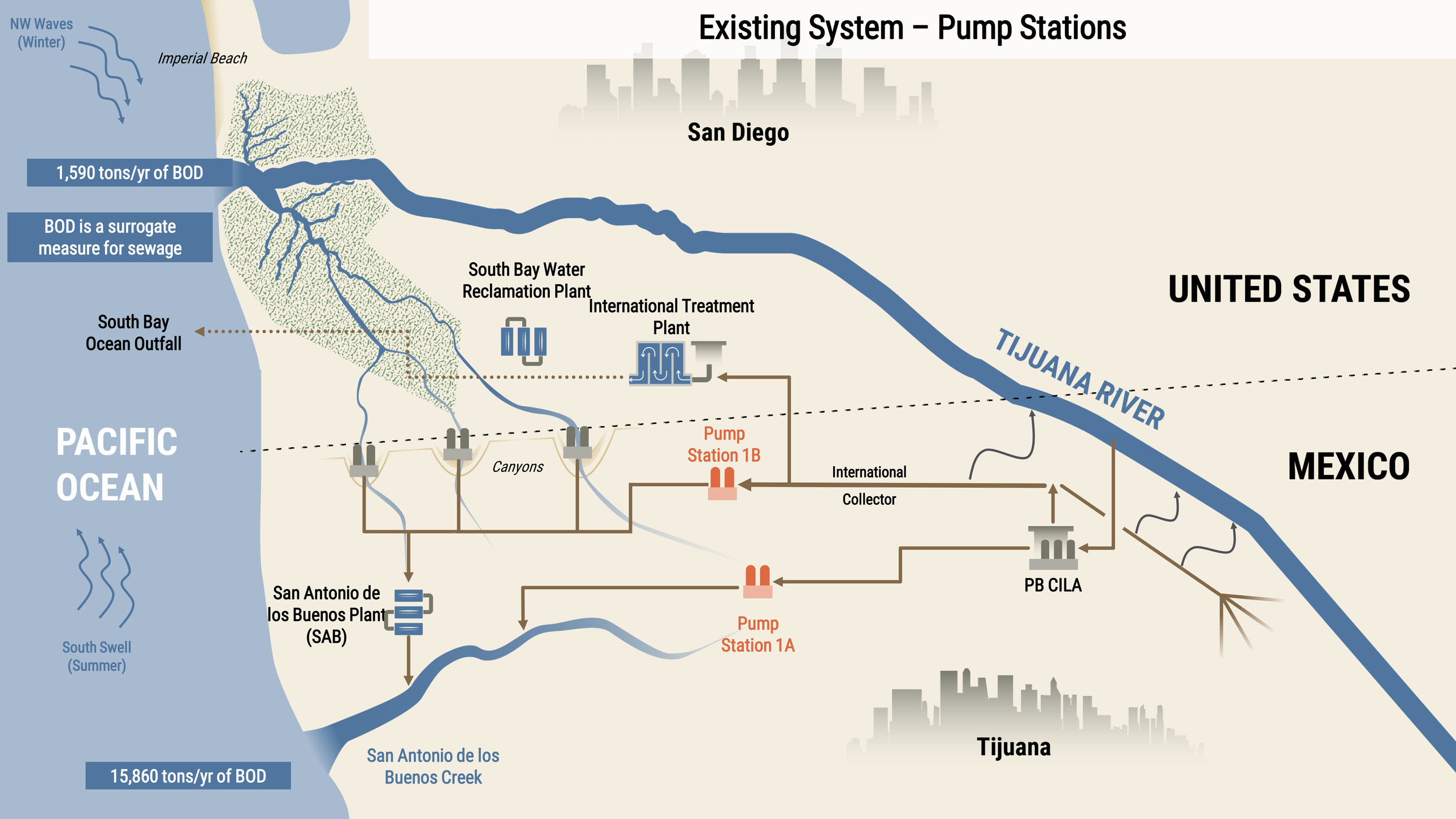
Existing System – Tijuana River



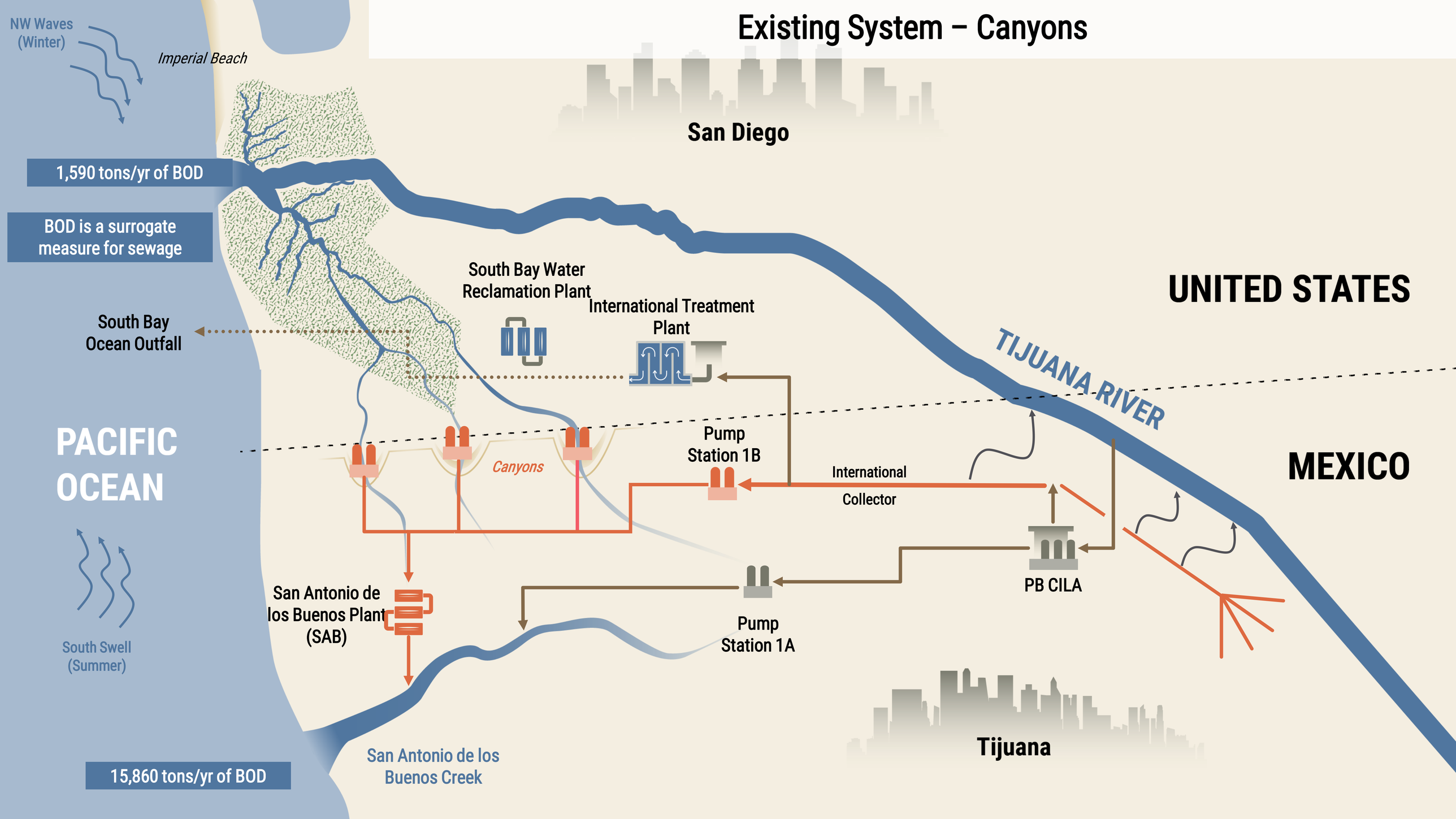
Existing System - PB CILA



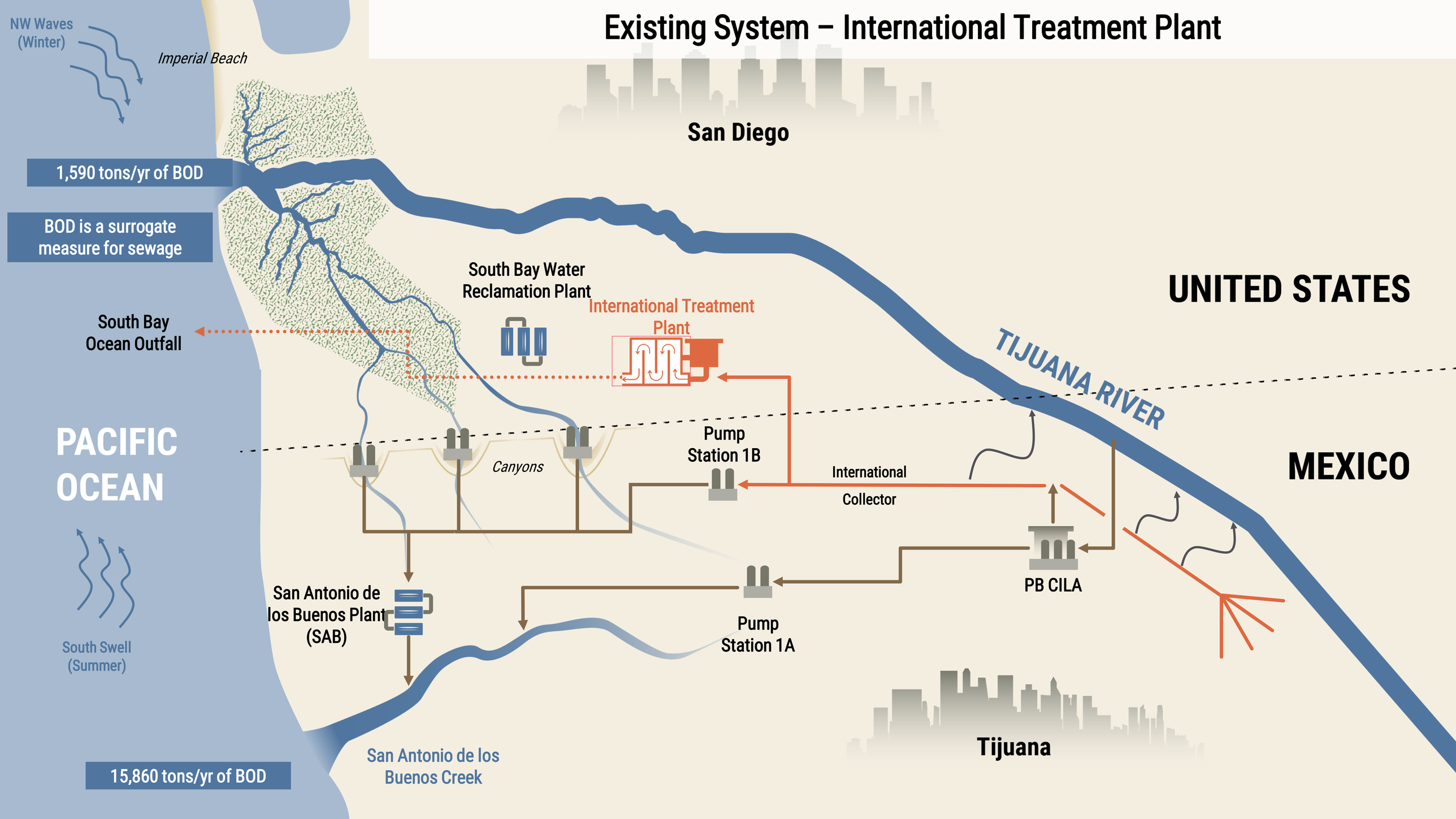
Existing System – Pump Stations



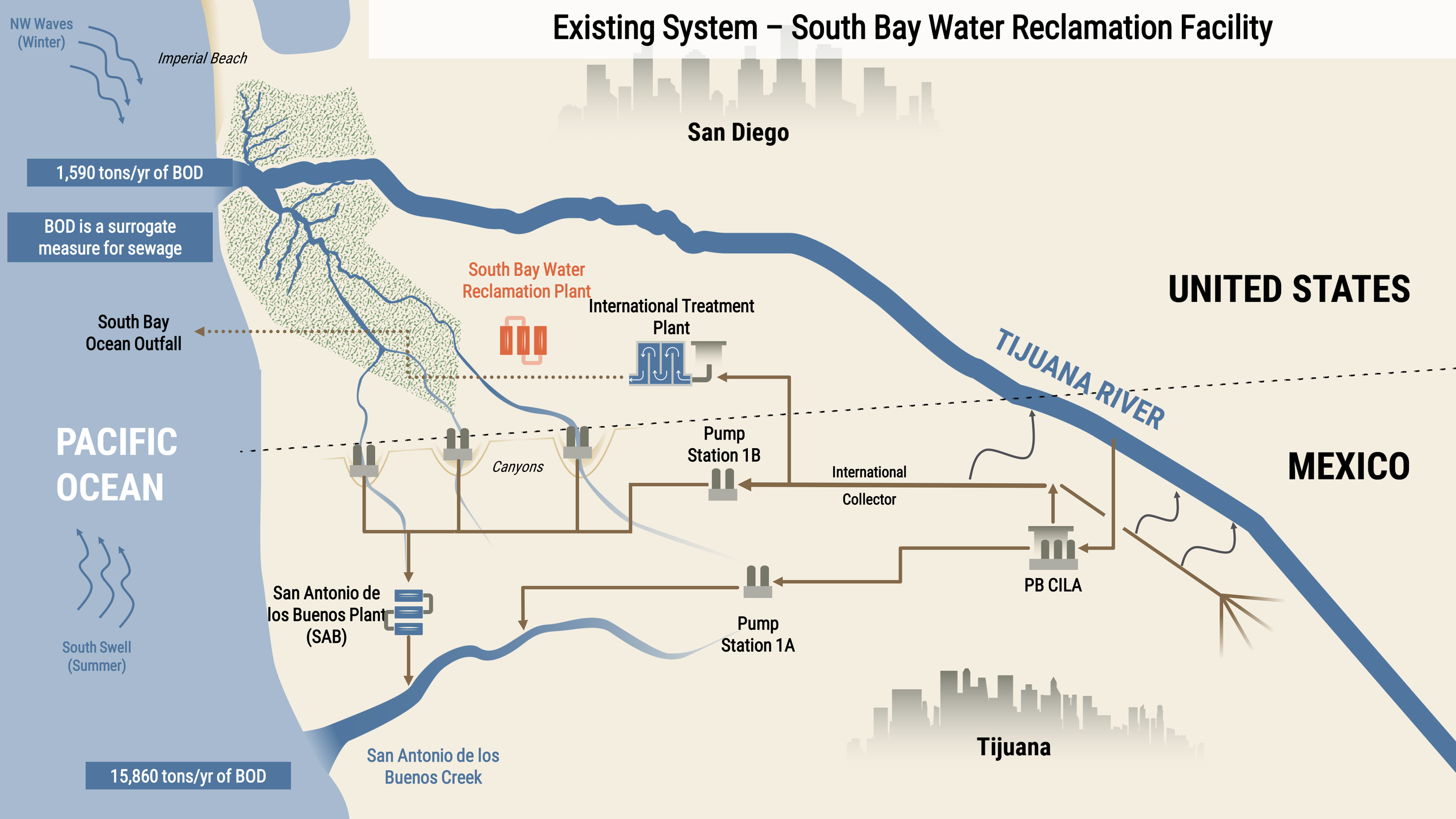
Existing System – Canyons



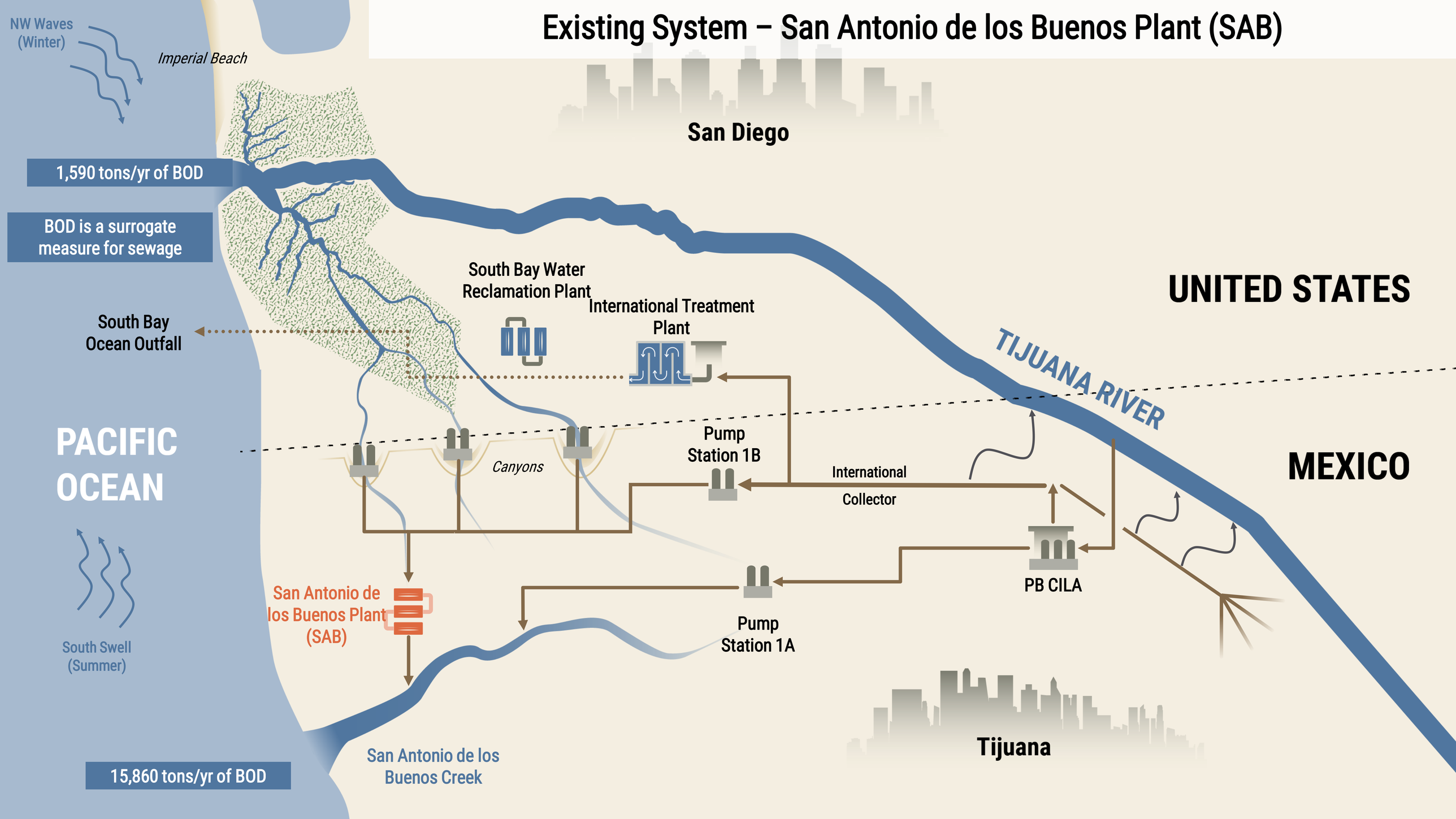
Existing System – International Treatment Plant



Existing System – South Bay Water Reclamation Facility

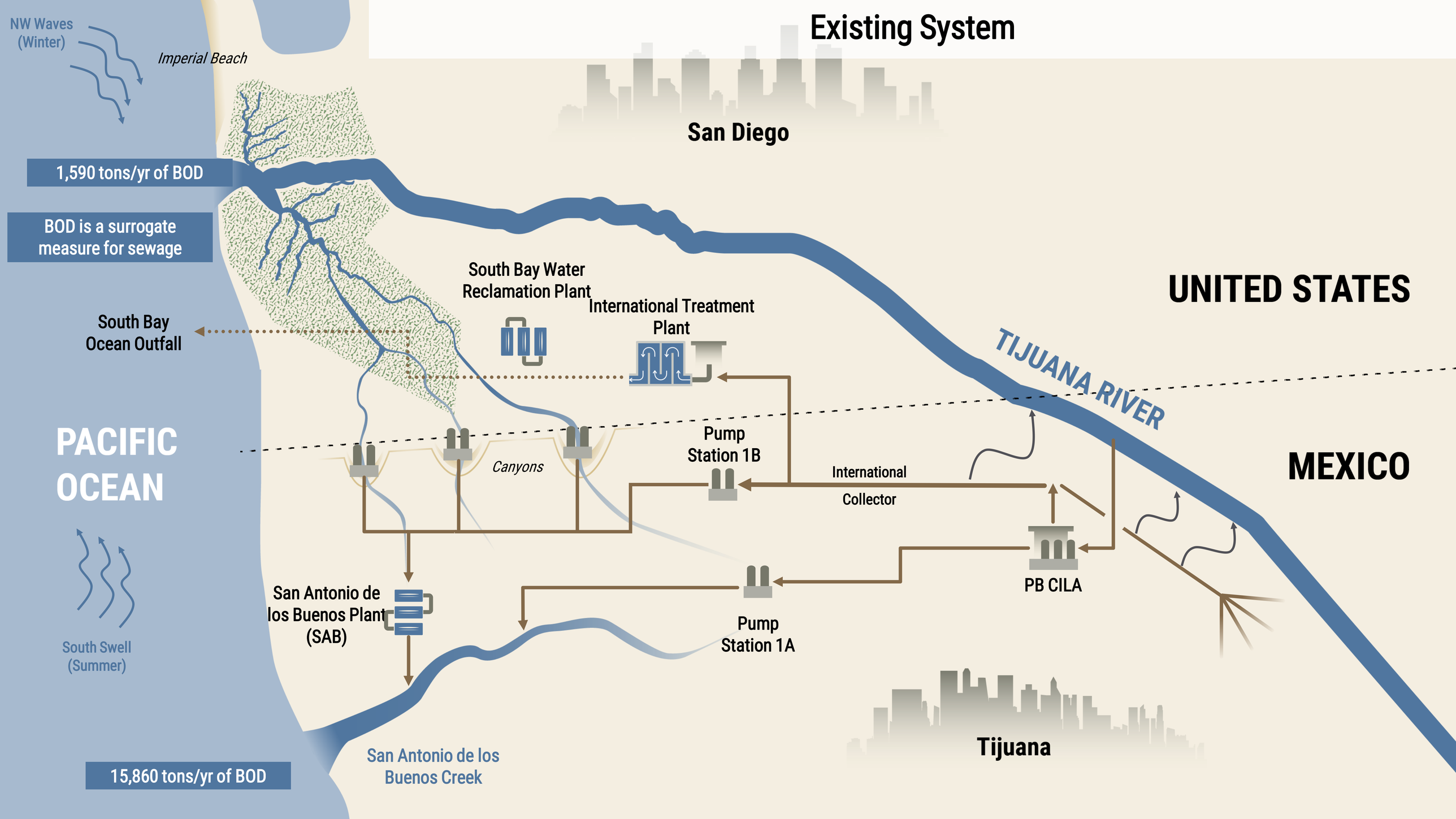


Existing System – San Antonio de los Buenos Plant (SAB)



Diverting & Treating River Water (Projects 1 & 2)

Tom Rowlett and James Hollibaugh, PG Environmental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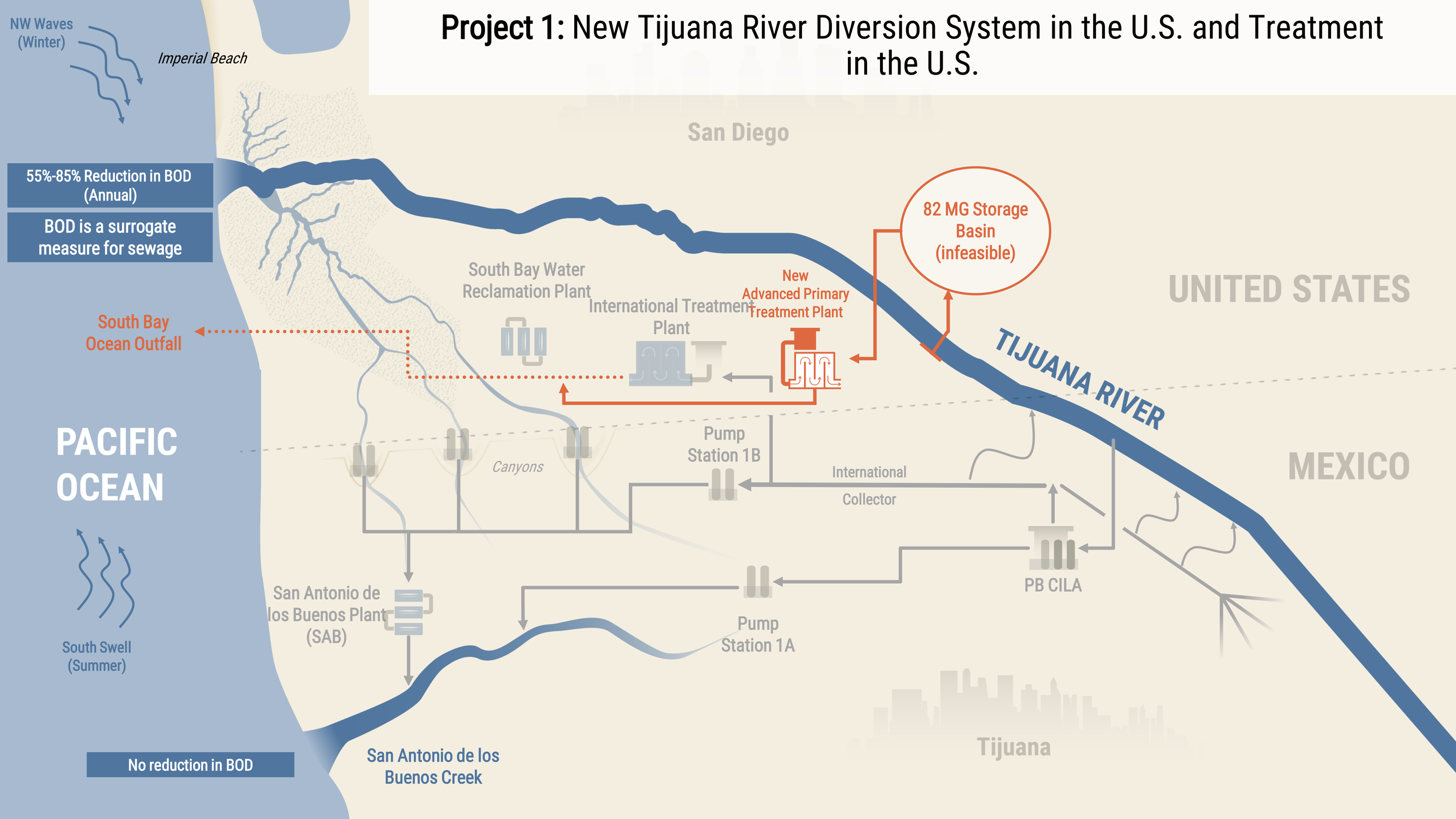
Project 1: New Tijuana River Diversion System in the U.S. and Treatment in the U.S.



Project 1: New Tijuana River Diversion System in the U.S. and Treatment in the U.S.

COST ESTIMATES

	35 MGD	100 MGD	163 MGD
CAPITAL	$110M	$220M	$295M
ANNUAL O&M	$9M	$34M	$53M
40-YEAR O&M	$392M	$1.3B	$2.1B

TIJUANA RIVER (2016-2019)

	35 MGD	100 MGD	163 MGD
Reduction in Days of Transboundary Flows	80 Days 52%	126 Days 82%	133 Days 87%
Reduction in Total Amount Transboundary Flows	1,700 MGD 10%	3,500 MGD 20%	4,400 MGD 25%
Reduction in BOD_5 Load in Flows	871 Tons 55%	1,257 Tons 79%	1,351 Tons 85%

PROJECT CHALLENGES

Sediment Removal* would result in:

- **15** truckloads of sediment per day (35 MGD)
- **107** truckloads of sediment per day (100 MGD)
- **165** truckloads of sediment per day (163 MGD)

- Lack of sufficient data (both trash and sediment) to begin design

SAN ANTONIO DE LOS BUENOS

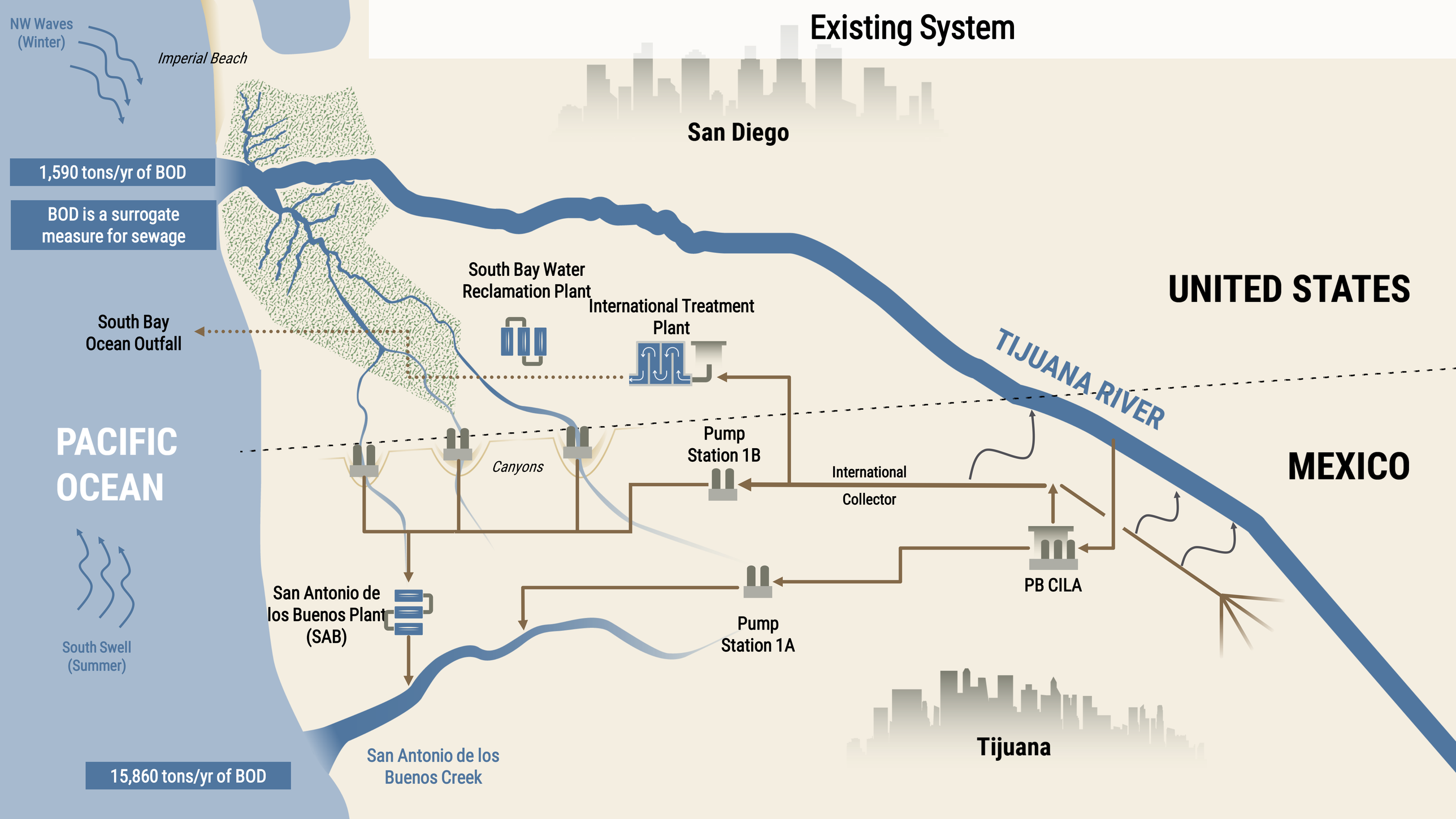
Flows to SAB — % — Days

BOD_5 Load Conveyed to SAB Creek — % — Tons

No Anticipated Reduction in Flows to SAB

Based on flow data from 2016 to 2019

*These values reflect the estimated sediment production on days which the APTP is operating: 107 days per year for the 35 MGD design, 126 days per year for the 100 MGD, and 133 days per year for the 163 MGD.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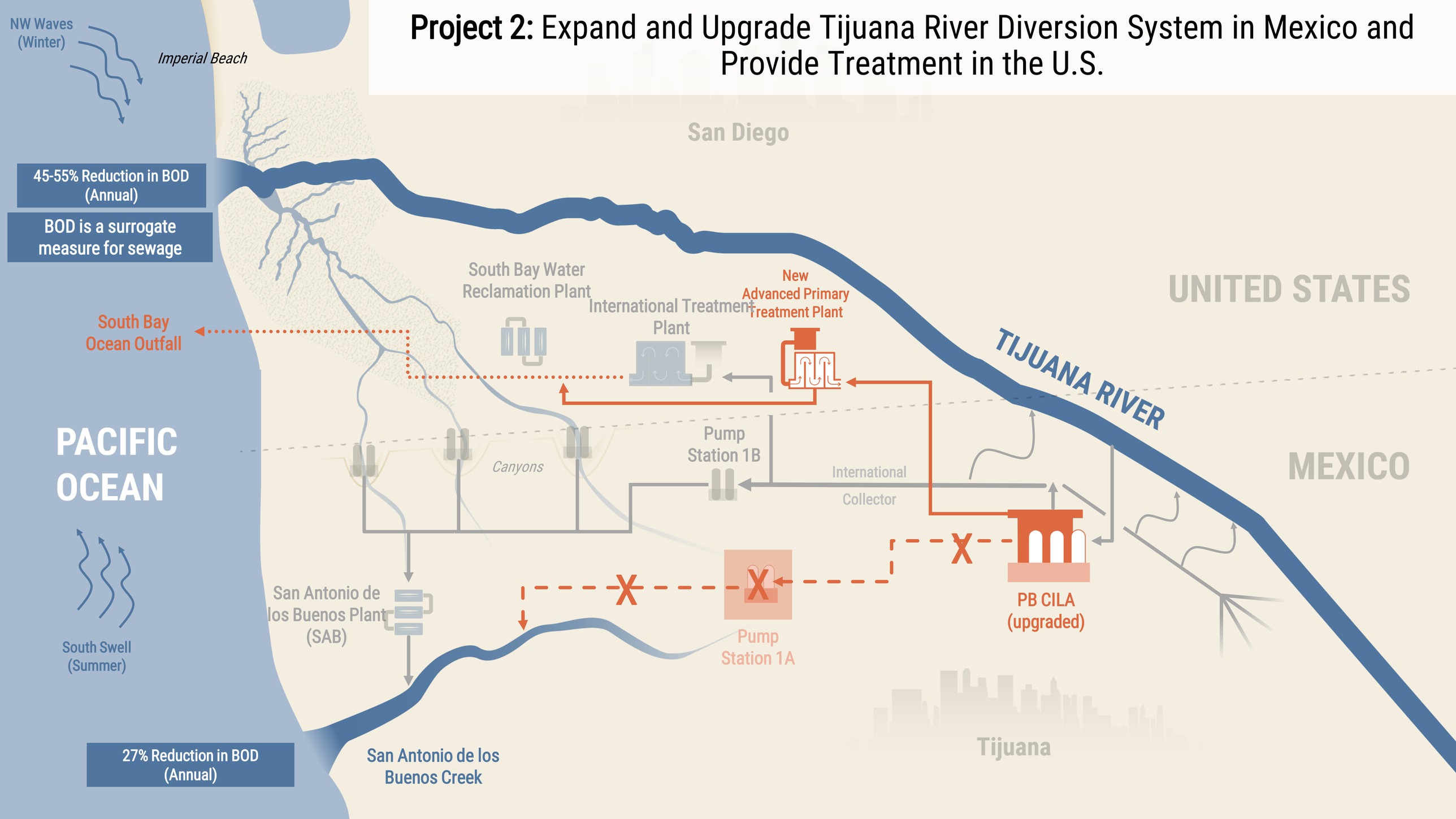
Project 2: Expand and Upgrade Tijuana River Diversion System in Mexico and Provide Treatment in the U.S.



Project 2: Expand and Upgrade Tijuana River Diversion System in Mexico and Provide Treatment in the U.S.

COST ESTIMATES

CAPITAL	$88M
ANNUAL O&M	$7M
40-YEAR O&M	$294M

PROJECT CHALLENGES

- Requires reliable operation of PB-CILA

TIJUANA RIVER (60 MGD or less)

Reduction in Days of Transboundary Flows	52%	80 Days
Reduction in Total Amount Transboundary Flows	10%	1,700 MGD
Reduction in BOD_5 Load in Flows	55%	871 Tons

SAN ANTONIO DE LOS BUENOS

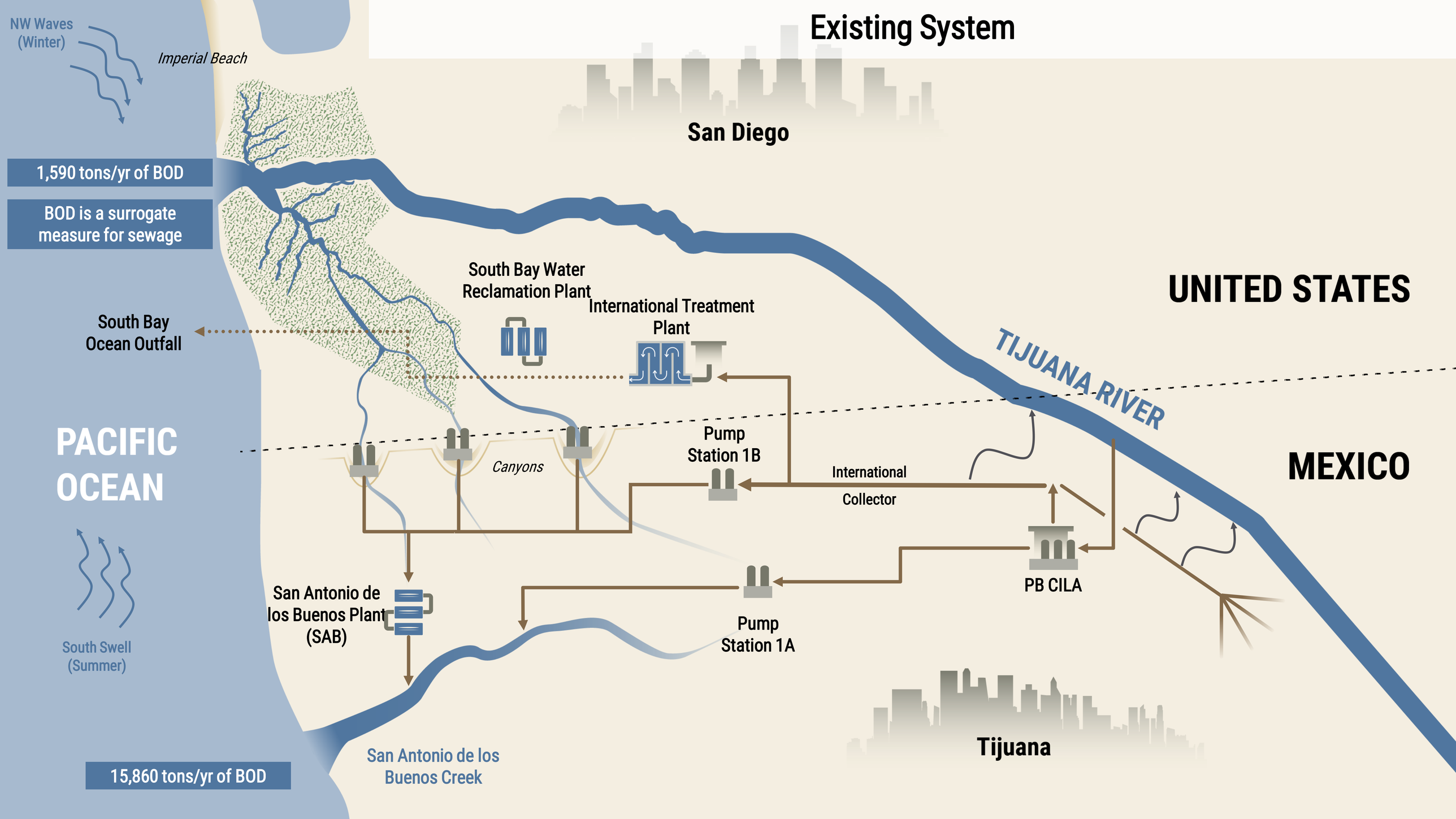
Flows to SAB	47%	6,200 MGD
BOD_5 Load Conveyed to SAB Creek	27%	4,300 Tons

Based on flow data from 2016 to 2019

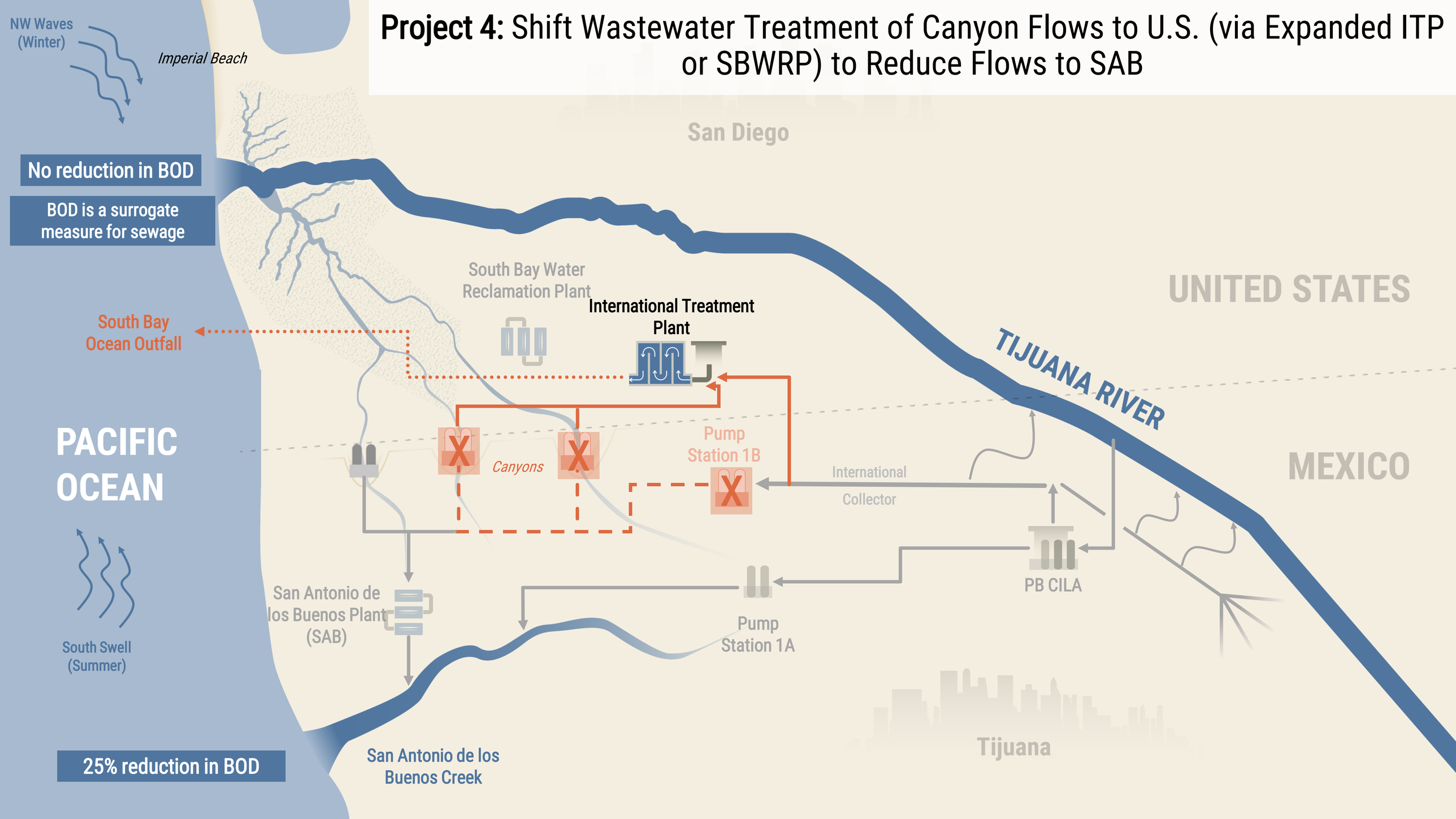
Conveying Sewage to US for Treatment (Project 4)

Tom Rowlett and James Hollibaugh, PG Environmental

Existing System

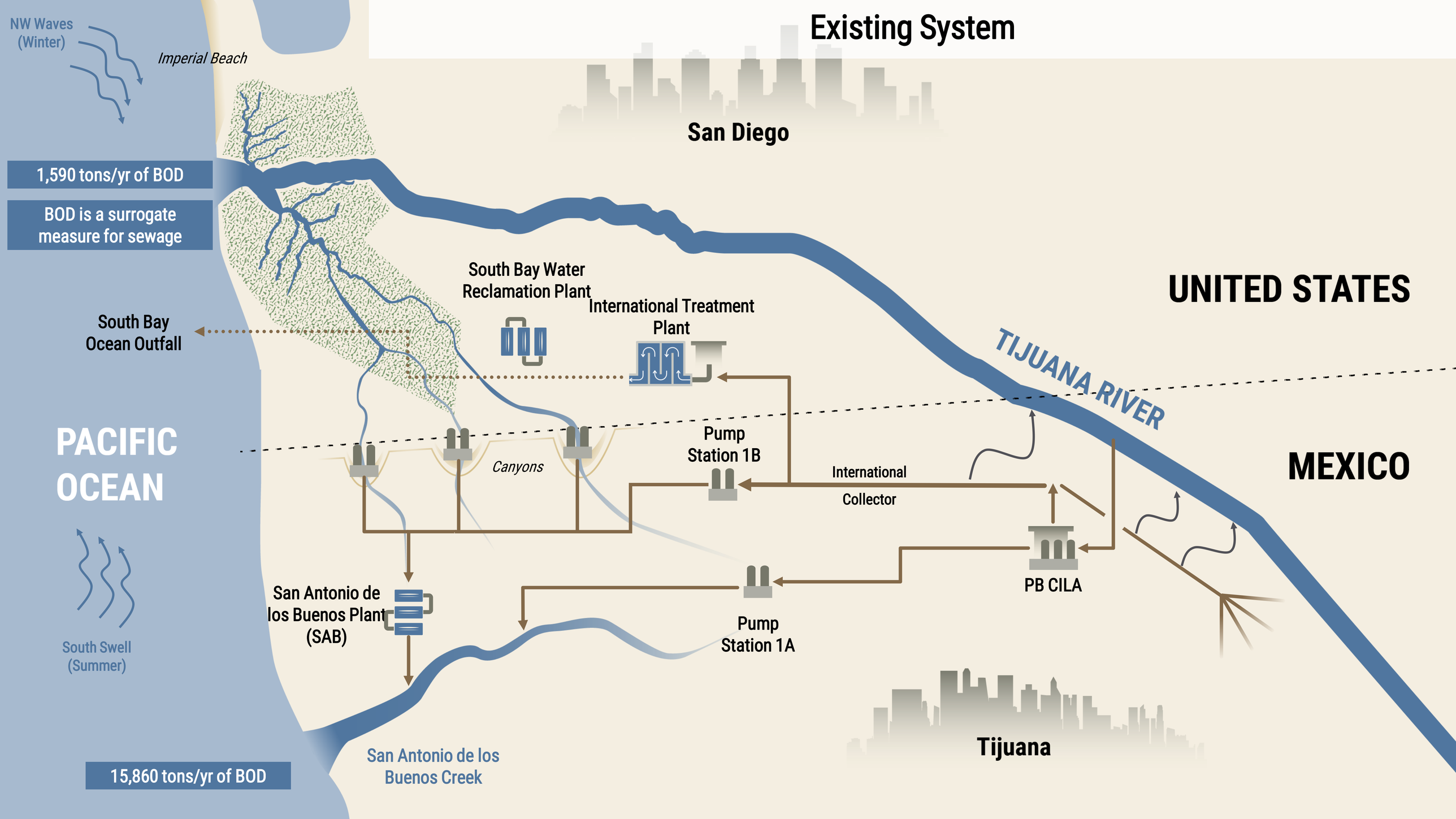


Project 4: Shift Wastewater Treatment of Canyon Flows to U.S. (via Expanded ITP or SBWRP) to Reduce Flows to SAB



Treating Conveyed Sewage (Projects 3 & 9)

Tom Rowlett, PG Environmental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Project 3: Treat Wastewater from the International Collector at the ITP

Project 3: Treat Wastewater from the International Collector at the ITP

COST ESTIMATES

	50 MGD	60 MGD
CAPITAL	$299M	$372M
ANNUAL O&M	$10M	$14M
40-YEAR O&M	$401M	$568M

SAN ANTONIO DE LOS BUENOS

	3,430 MGD	5,740 MGD
Reduction in Flows to SAB	26%	56%
Reduction in BOD_5 Load Conveyed to SAB Creek	7,890 Tons 50%	11,760 Tons 74%

Based on flow data from 2016 to 2019

PROJECT CHALLENGES

- Challenges around air permitting and regulations for anaerobic digestion

TIJUANA RIVER

Days of Transboundary Flows

% Days

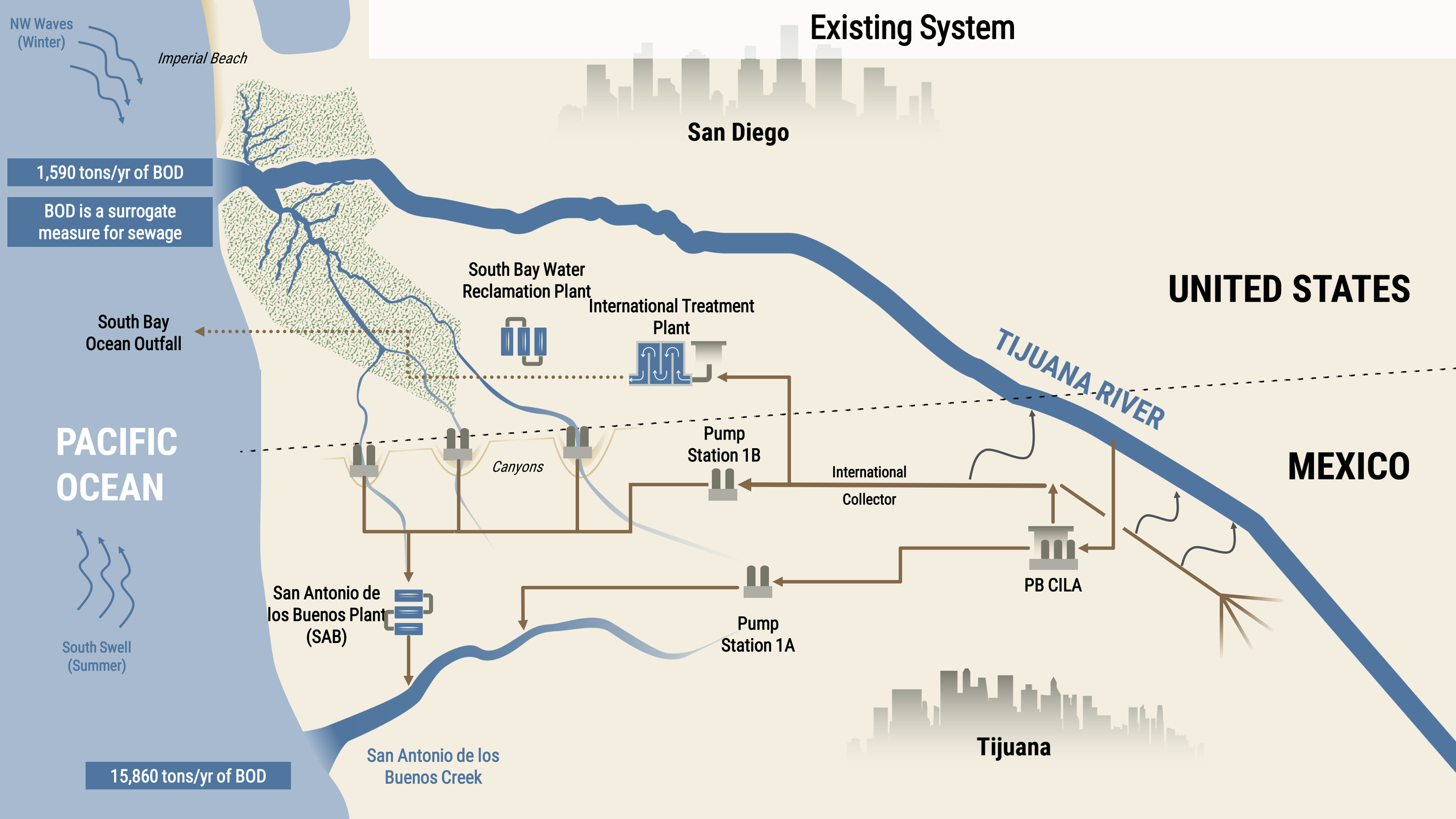
Total Annual Transboundary Flows

% MGD

BOD_5 Load in Flows

Tons

This project benefits the Tijuana River when Mexican facilities are not operational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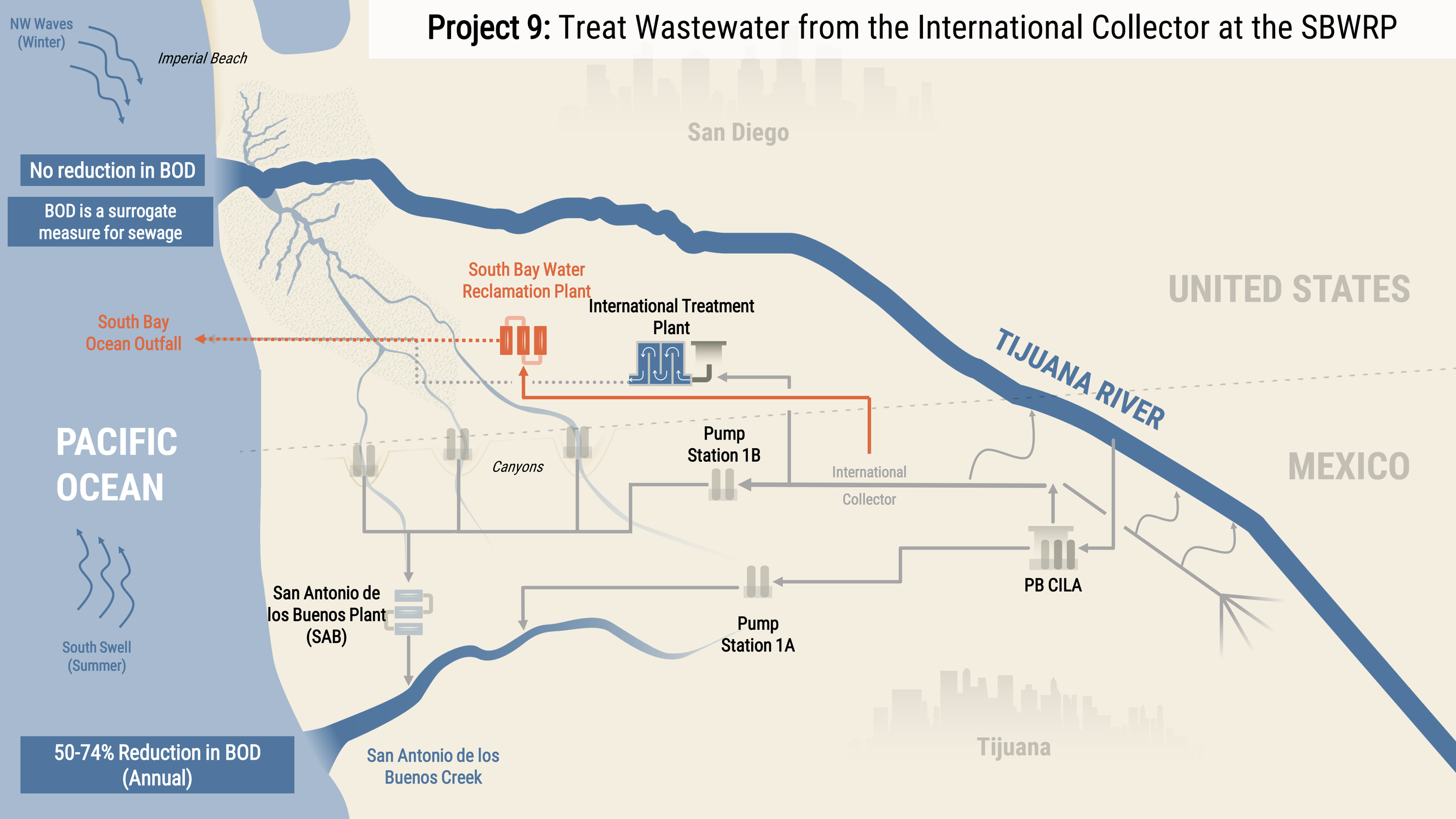
Project 9: Treat Wastewater from the International Collector at the SBWRP



Project 9: Treat Wastewater from the International Collector at the SBWRP

COST ESTIMATES

	15 MGD	15 MGD + Solids	30 MGD + Solids
CAPITAL	$51M	$105M	$274M
ANNUAL O&M	$15M	$16M	$23M
40-YEAR O&M	$629M	$654M	$926M

SAN ANTONIO DE LOS BUENOS

	15 MGD	15 MGD + Solids	30 MGD + Solids
Reduction in Flows to SAB	3,430 MGD 26%	3,430 MGD 26%	5,740 MGD 44%
Reduction in BOD_5 Load Conveyed to SAB Creek	7,890 Tons 50%	7,890 Tons 50%	11,760 Tons 74%

Based on flow data from 2016 to 2019

PROJECT CHALLENGES

- Requires City to sell SBWRP and SBOO.
- Base 15 MGD requires City to accept solids.
- Air permitting/regulations for anaerobic digestion.

TIJUANA RIVER

Days of Transboundary Flows % Days

Transboundary Flows % MGD

BOD_5 Load in Flows % Tons

This project benefits the Tijuana River when Mexican facilities are not operational

Project		Cost		Tijuana River Discharges			Discharges to SAB Creek	
		Capital	40 Year Lifecycle	Reduction in Days of Transboundary Flows	Reduction in Amount of Transboundary Flows	Reduction in BOD5 Load in Flows	Reduction in Flows to SAB Creek	Reduction in BOD5 Load Conveyed to SAB Creek
1	35MGD	$110M	$503M	52%	10%	55%	No Anticipated Reduction to SAB Discharges	
	100MGD	$220M	$1.6B	82%	20%	79%		
	163MGD	$295M	$2.4B	87%	25%	85%		
2		$88M	$382M	52%	4-10%	45-55%	47%	27%
3	50MGD	$299M	$700M	This project benefits the Tijuana River when Mexican facilities are not operational			26%	50%
	60MGD	$372M	$940M				56%	74%
9	15MGD	$51M	$681M				26%	50%
	15MGD + Solids	$105M	$759M				26%	50%
	30MGD + Solids	$274M	$1.2B				44%	74%

Questions?

Considerations - Ownership, O&M, and Cost

Dave Smith, EPA Region 9

Considerations - Ownership, O&M, and Cost

- What are potential roles with regard to ownership and O/M for US side infrastructure for: EPA, IBWC, NADBank, State Jurisdictions, and local jurisdictions?
- What options for ownership and O/M are being considered for infrastructure projects in Mexico?
- What assumptions are being made about O/M cost and responsible parties in the feasibility assessments?

Questions?

NEPA Public Scoping

Tom Konner, US EPA

Public Scoping - Overview

- **Purpose: An early and open process to inform the scope of the EIS**
  - Identify significant environmental issues deserving of study
  - Eliminate non-significant issues from further study
  - Invite comments on the scope of the EIS, including alternatives to be evaluated (see next slide)

- **When to initiate public scoping?**
  - As soon as practicable after determining that a proposal is sufficiently developed to allow for meaningful public comment and requires an environmental impact statement

- **Major components of public scoping process**
  - Notice of Intent (NOI) – published in *Federal Register*
  - Public scoping period (at least 30 days after issuance of NOI)
  - Public scoping meeting(s) – optional, but typical for projects affecting specific sites

Sources: EPA NEPA regulations [40 CFR 6.203(c)]; 2020 CEQ NEPA regulations [40 CFR 1501.9]; pre-2020 CEQ NEPA regulations [40 CFR 1501.7]

Anticipated Schedule

NEPA Activity	Dates
NOI published in Federal Register – initiate 45-day scoping period	**Late March 2021**
Hold virtual scoping meeting, 6-8p.m. PDT	**April 20, 2021**
End of Public Comment Period	**May 20, 2021**

- Instructions for Participation in the Public Scoping Meeting will be made available at: Tijuana-Transboundary-EIS@epa.gov
- Public Scoping Meeting will be Advertised in the Federal Register, Local Newspapers, the North American Development Bank's List Serve and the EPA webpage cited above.
- Comments received during the public scoping process will be considered during the preparation of the draft EIS

Questions?

Next Steps & Upcoming Milestones

Next Steps & Upcoming Milestones

- February 26 Public Information Meeting
- USMCA Web Page
- NEPA Public Scoping
- Alternatives Analysis

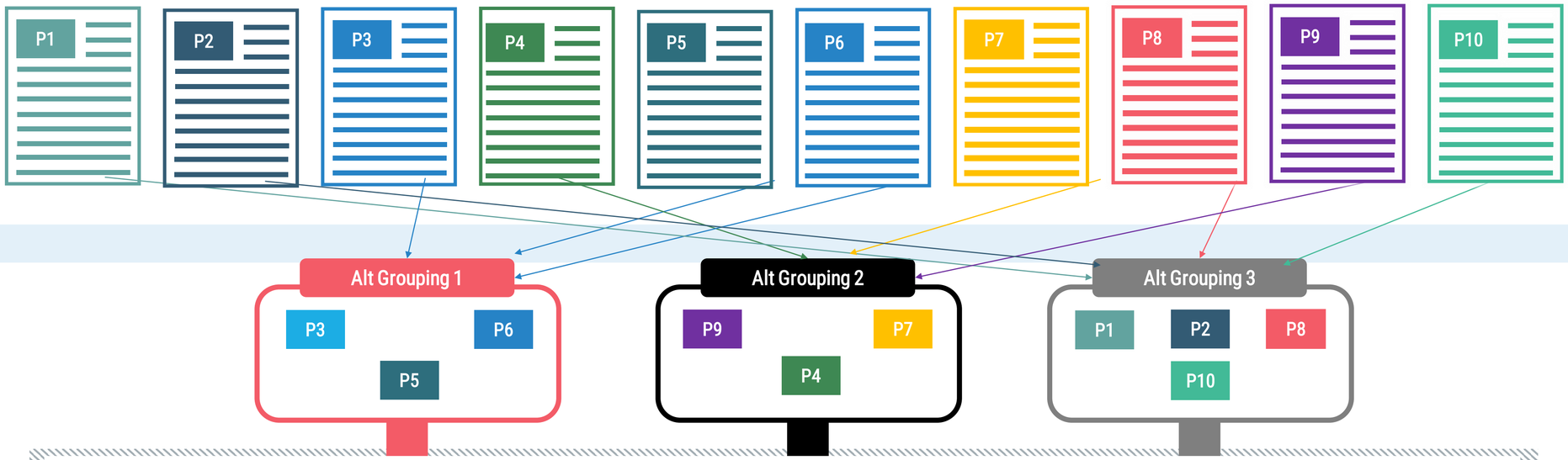
USMCA Tijuana River Infrastructure Technical Analysis Milestones

Project Definition and Refinement

P1 P2 P3 P4 P5 P6 P7 P8 P9 P10

Evaluate Potential Projects

- TECP Meetings
- Data Analysis
- Feasibility Reports



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Develop Alternatives

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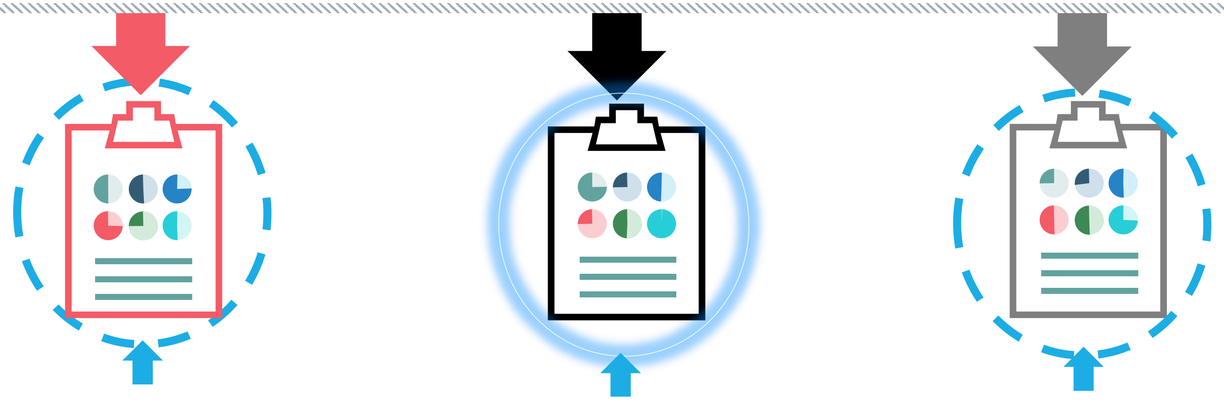
Evaluated Against Criteria

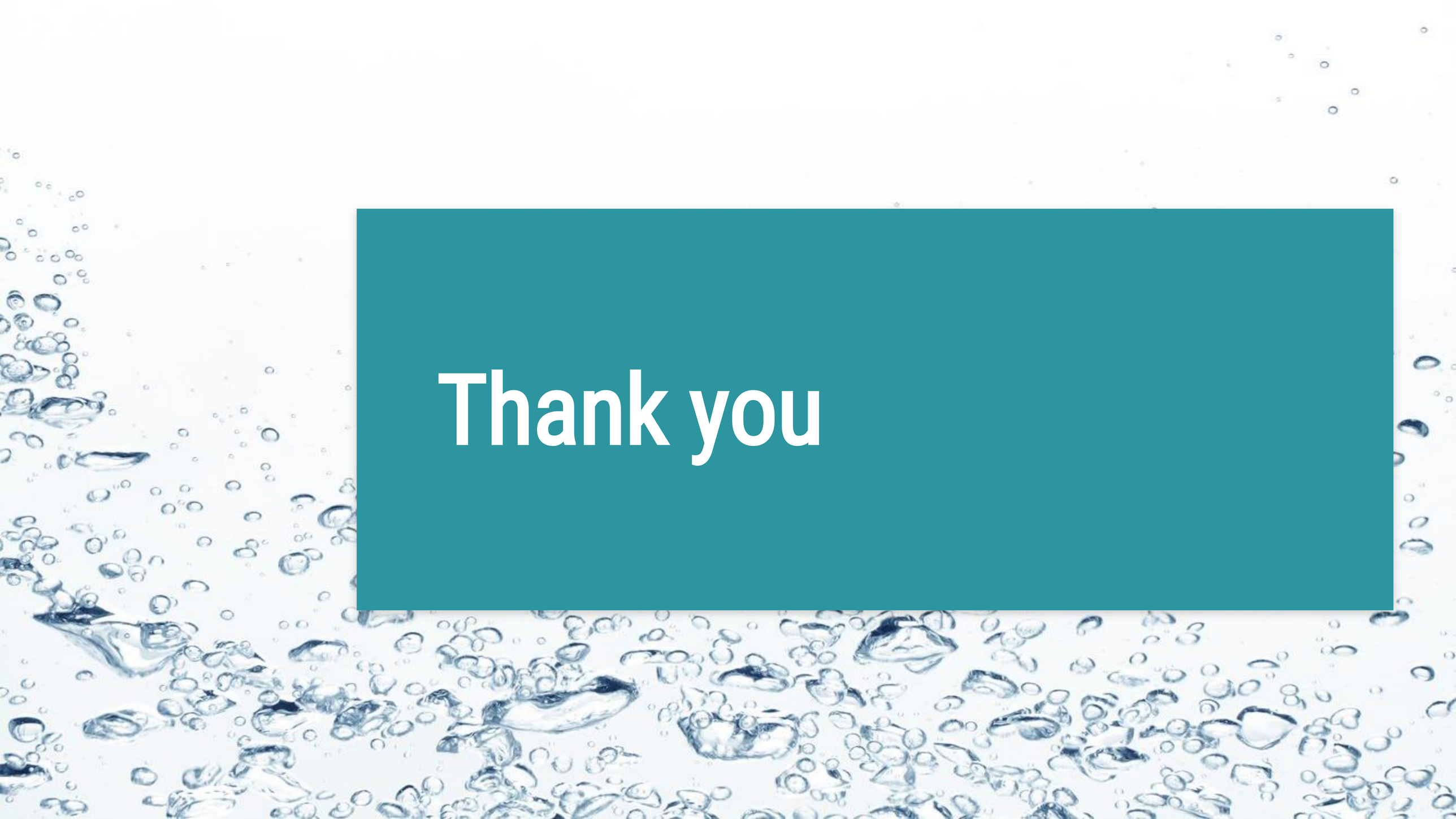


June

Identify Preferred Alternative

Questions?

Closing Remarks


Thank you