

Improving Water Quality in the Tijuana River Valley

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

Overview

This project includes improvements and expansion of the Tijuana River conveyance system in Mexico and diverts river water to a newly constructed primary wastewater treatment plant in the U.S. This project will:

- Expand diversion system capacity to 35 MGD¹.
- Divert and treat dry-weather flow to reduce transboundary flows from entering the U.S.
- Provide advanced primary treatment with discharge to the Pacific Ocean through the existing South Bay Ocean Outfall (SBOO).
- Eliminate the need for Pump Station 1A in Mexico.

Project at a Glance

Location of Operations	United States and Mexico
Entry Points Addressed	Tijuana River, SAB Creek
Targeted Pollutant(s)	Untreated Wastewater

Will this project increase public health and beach water quality?

This project will improve water quality in the Tijuana River. It will also reduce impacts to the U.S. coast by capturing and treating wastewater from Tijuana that otherwise would be discharged to the Pacific Ocean without adequate treatment from the San Antonio de Los Buenos Wastewater Treatment Plant (SABTP).

Does this project improve work conditions for government activities?

Implementation of this project is expected to reduce health risks among Navy personnel who train along the beachfront near the U.S. Navy Base in San Diego, California. This project should reduce contaminated transboundary flows near border infrastructure where the Tijuana River crosses into the U.S. However, it will not resolve existing impacts to U.S. Border Patrol operations and personnel, who are sometimes exposed to untreated wastewater while performing their job duties.

COST ESTIMATES	
Capital	\$88M
Annual O&M ²	\$9M
40-year lifecycle	\$382M

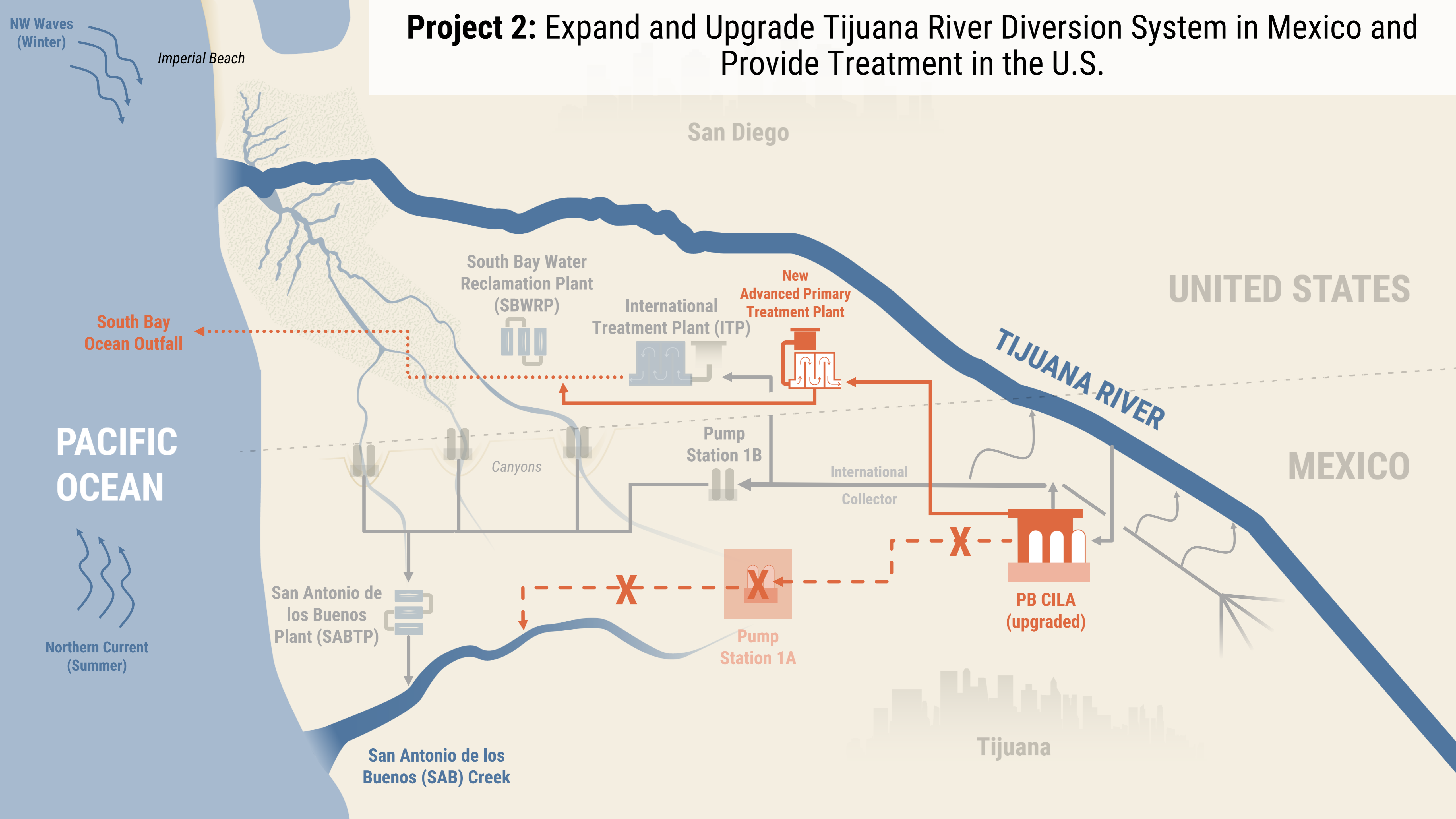
TRANSBOUNDARY TIJUANA RIVER IMPACT (Annual Benefit)	
Flow day reduction	52%
Flow rate reduction	10%
Sewage reduction ³	55%

SAB CREEK IMPACT (Annual Benefit)	
Flow rate reduction	47%
Sewage reduction	27%

BEACH CLOSURE IMPACTS (Annual Benefit)	
Closure reduction ⁴	5%

LEGEND	
¹ MGD: million gallons per day	
² O&M: Operations and maintenance	
³ Estimates of sewage reduction are based on the reduction of BOD (biochemical oxygen demand), a standard surrogate for sewage	
⁴ Beach closure reduction estimates are based on Scripps Institution of Oceanography models	

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San Diego

UNITED STATES

MEXICO

TIJUANA RIVER

PACIFIC OCEAN

Imperial Beach

NW Waves (Winter)

Northern Current (Summer)

San Antonio de los Buenos Plant (SABTP)

San Antonio de los Buenos (SAB) Creek

South Bay Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP)

South Bay Ocean Outfall

International Treatment Plant (ITP)

New Advanced Primary Treatment Plant

Pump Station 1B

International Collector

Canyons

PB CILA (upgraded)

Pump Station 1A

Tijuana