

# Improving Water Quality in the Tijuana River Valley

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

### Overview

This project expands treatment capacity in the U.S. to treat all wastewater from central Tijuana currently pumped to the San Antonio de los Buenos Wastewater Treatment Plant (SABTP) for treatment and discharge out the South Bay Ocean Outfall (SBOO). This project will:

- Expand the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (ITP) to 50 MGD<sup>1</sup> to provide secondary treatment capacity for International Collector flows.
- Reduce demands on SABTP and the amount of untreated wastewater that is discharged to the Pacific Ocean via SAB Creek.
- Potentially reduce raw sewage spills that currently reach the Tijuana River.

### Project at a Glance

<b>Location of Operations</b>	United States
<b>Entry Points Addressed</b>	SAB Creek, Tijuana River
<b>Targeted Pollutant(s)</b>	Untreated Wastewater

### Will this project increase public health and beach water quality?

This project will reduce impacts to the U.S. coast by capturing and treating wastewater from Tijuana that would otherwise be discharged to the Pacific Ocean without adequate treatment at the 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. 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 near border infrastructures.

COST ESTIMATES	
Capital	\$299M
Annual O&M <sup>2</sup>	\$10M
40-year lifecycle	\$700M

TRANSBOUNDARY TIJUANA RIVER IMPACT <sup>3</sup> (Annual Benefit)	
Flow day reduction	–
Flow rate reduction	–
Sewage reduction	–

SAB CREEK IMPACT (Annual Benefit)	
Flow rate reduction	26%
Sewage reduction <sup>4</sup>	50%

BEACH CLOSURE IMPACTS (Annual Benefit)	
Closure reduction <sup>5</sup>	32%

LEGEND
<sup>1</sup> MGD: million gallons per day
<sup>2</sup> O&M: Operations and maintenance
<sup>3</sup> This project benefits the Tijuana River when Mexican facilities are not operational
<sup>4</sup> Estimates of sewage reduction are based on the reduction of BOD (biochemical oxygen demand), a standard surrogate for sewage
<sup>5</sup> Beach closure reduction estimates are based on Scripps Institution of Oceanography models

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



NW Waves (Winter)

Imperial Beach

San Diego

UNITED STATES

South Bay Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP)

International Treatment Plant (ITP) (Expanded)

South Bay Ocean Outfall

PACIFIC OCEAN

TIJUANA RIVER

MEXICO

Canyons

Pump Station 1B

International Collector

PB CILA

San Antonio de los Buenos Plant (SABTP)

Pump Station 1A

Northern Currents (Summer)

San Antonio de los Buenos (SAB) Creek

Tijuana