#### **USMCA Tijuana River Watershed** Public Information Meeting

#### Agenda

**Date & Time:** November 8, 2021, 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Pacific (4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. <u>Eastern</u>) **Goal:** Provide an announcement on the result of the alternatives analysis and share the implementation strategy Link: <u>https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1611658912?pwd=STdaSHpxSDdhSTdmY1VoSDhIOHVxUT09</u> Passcode: 455063

1:00 pm	Welcome and Overview
1:10 pm	EPA Announcements
1:25 pm	Review Recommended Alternative
	EPA Implementation Strategy
1:45 pm	<ul> <li>Binational Engagement</li> <li>NEPA</li> <li>Pending Items</li> </ul>
12:15 pm	Closing Remarks



#### **USMCA Tijuana River Watershed**

#### **Public Information Meeting**

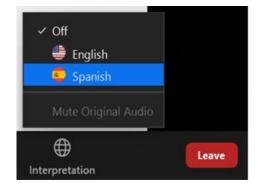
Virtual Meeting: November 8th, 2021

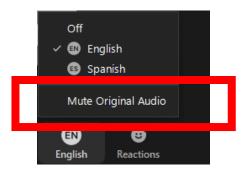
### Interpretation on Computers Interpretación en computadoras

#### 1. In your meeting controls (bottom bar), click Interpretation.

En los controles de la reunión (barra inferior), haga clic en "Interpretation" o Interpretación

2. Click "<u>English</u>" Seleccione "<u>Spanish</u>" (español)





#### <u>Mute Original Audio</u> if you would not like to hear the (Spanish) original audio while it is being interpreted into English

Seleccione <u>mute "Original Audio"</u> para no escuchar de fondo el idioma original

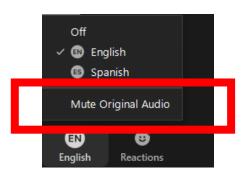


### Interpretation on Cell Phones/ Tablets Interpretación en celular, tableta (móvil)

- In your meeting controls, tap ... <u>More</u> En los controles de la reunion, haga clic en ... <u>"More" (Más)</u>
- Tap Language Interpretation. Tap English Seleccione "Language Interpretation" / Seleccione Spanish

Language Interpretation	Done
Original Audio	~
English	
Italian	

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### <u>Mute Original Audio</u> if you would not like to hear the (Spanish) original audio while it is being interpreted into English

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### **Submitting a Question**

- 1. At the bottom of your screen, click on the "Q&A" to type in your question.
- 2. If possible, please include the slide number.



## Today's Agenda

- EPA Announcements
- Review Recommended Alternative
- EPA Implementation Strategy
  - Binational Engagement
  - NEPA
  - Pending Items
- Closing Remarks

## Welcome & Overview

**Andrew Sawyers**, EPA HQ: Director, Office of Wastewater Management **Tomás Torres**, EPA R9: Water Division Director

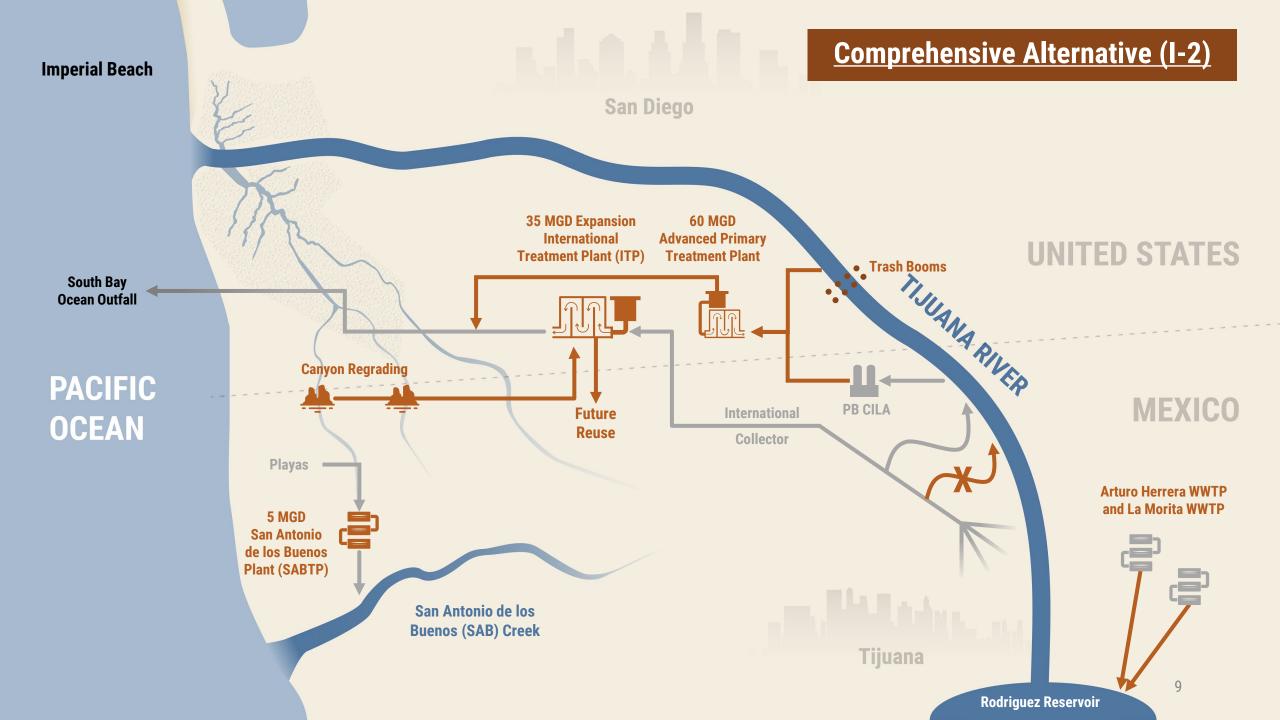
## **EPA Announcements**

Radhika Fox

EPA HQ: Assistant Administrator of Water

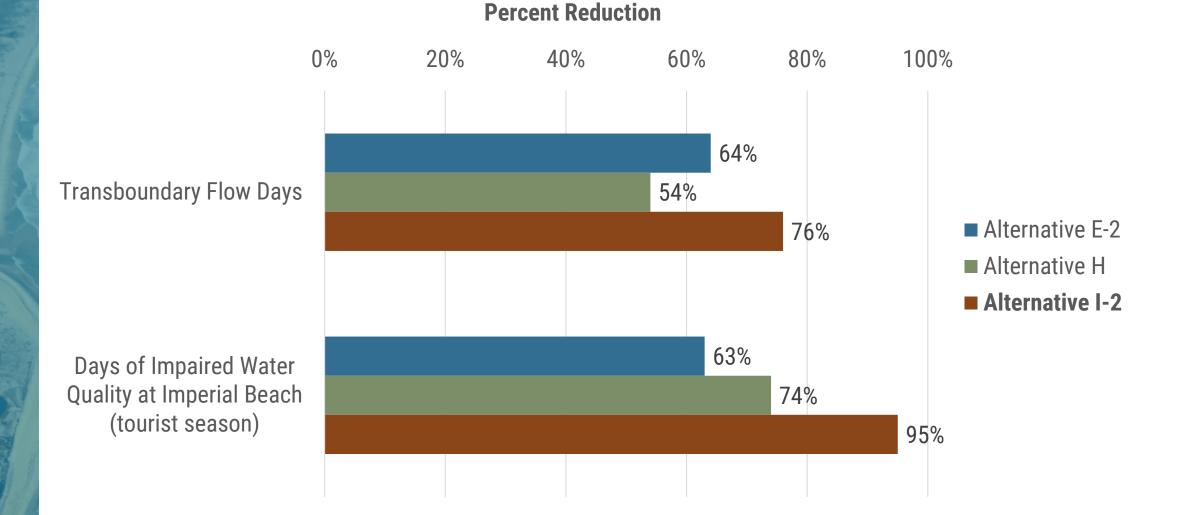
## Review Recommended Alternative

Ami Cobb EPA HQ: Environmental Engineer



## **Environmental Benefits of Alternatives Analyzed**

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## Key Benefits



Treatment **capacity until ~2050** for all central Tijuana & canyon sewage



Provides sufficient capacity for **all dry-weather and some wet**weather flows



Acts as backup if Mexico's diversion fails or flows exceed capacity



Provides **more U.S. oversight and control** of wastewater infrastructure



Incentivizes water recycling



#### Reduction

Frequency of impaired water quality at Imperial Beach during tourist season



Frequency of transboundary flows in Tijuana River

## **Potential Sequence of Major Projects**



#### Independent Projects (May Occur Concurrently with Steps 1-3)



**Sewer Collection System Repairs** 



**Reuse of Treated Effluent back to Rodriguez Dam** 



New SAB Treatment Plant



**Reuse line from ITP to Mexico** 



Canyon Regrading



Trash Boom in Tijuana River

## **EPA Implementation Strategy**

Doug Eberhardt EPA R9: Environmental Engineer

# Strategy for Binational Engagement with Mexico

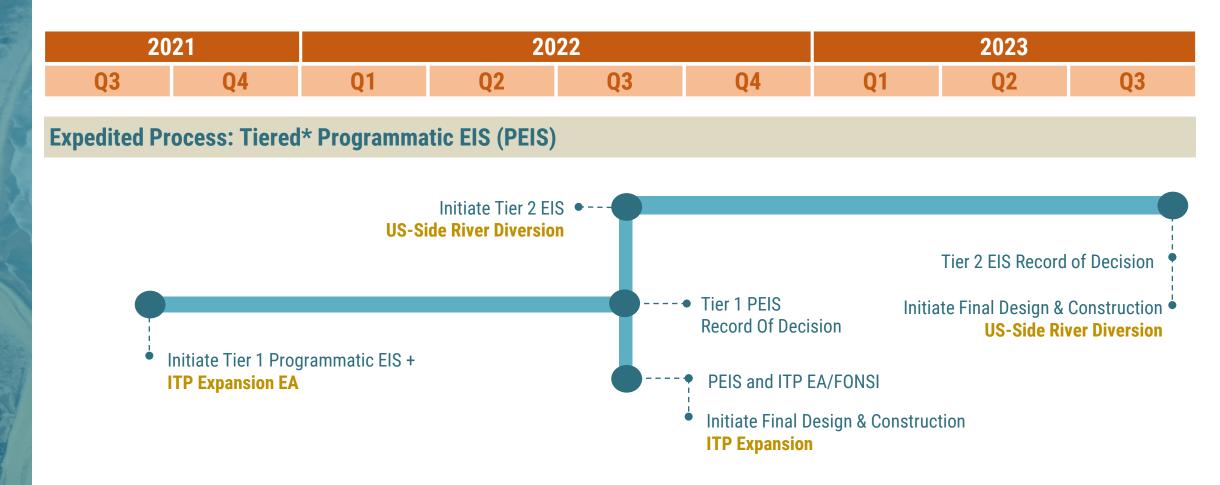
#### Elevate issue through high level engagement

- Administrator Regan meetings with US Ambassador to Mexico, Consul General, etc.
- EPA leadership engagement with Mexico (SEMARNAT, SRE, Hacienda, Baja State Government)

#### **Reach binational agreement on solutions**

- EPA, CONAGUA, IBWC and others meet biweekly
- Align project planning and reach agreement on projects to be built
- Preliminary discussions on cost sharing capital and O&M
- Memorialize agreement(s) with Mexico

### **NEPA Strategy and Timeline**



\*Tiered PEIS is a single comprehensive action that will incorporate all NEPA requirements.

## **Pending Items**

#### **Project Implementation**

- Congressional Authorizing Language to transfer funds to International Boundary & Water Commission (IBWC)
- Operations & maintenance (O&M) funding for new systems

#### **Next Steps**

- Reconvene EPECG and public early next year to update on NEPA process
- EIS analysis moves forward (comprehensive infrastructure solution)

## **Closing Remarks**

**Andrew Sawyers**, EPA HQ: Director, Office of Wastewater Management **Tomás Torres**, EPA R9: Water Division Director