

Matadero Canyon 8/1/2022



International Boundary & Water Commission United States Section

*Transboundary Flows and
Damaged Pipeline Update*
August 5, 2022

Overview of Damaged Pipeline – PB1A

- 42” pressurized pipeline
- 25 MGD Capacity
- Diverts Tijuana River flows from PB-CILA through PB1A to coast
- 7/30- Planned repairs completed
- 7/31- Air relieve valve failed - geyser of sewage eroded Matadero Canyon slope
- Line intact but unstable - severe erosion surrounding pipe
- Not in operation



PB1A 8/2/2022

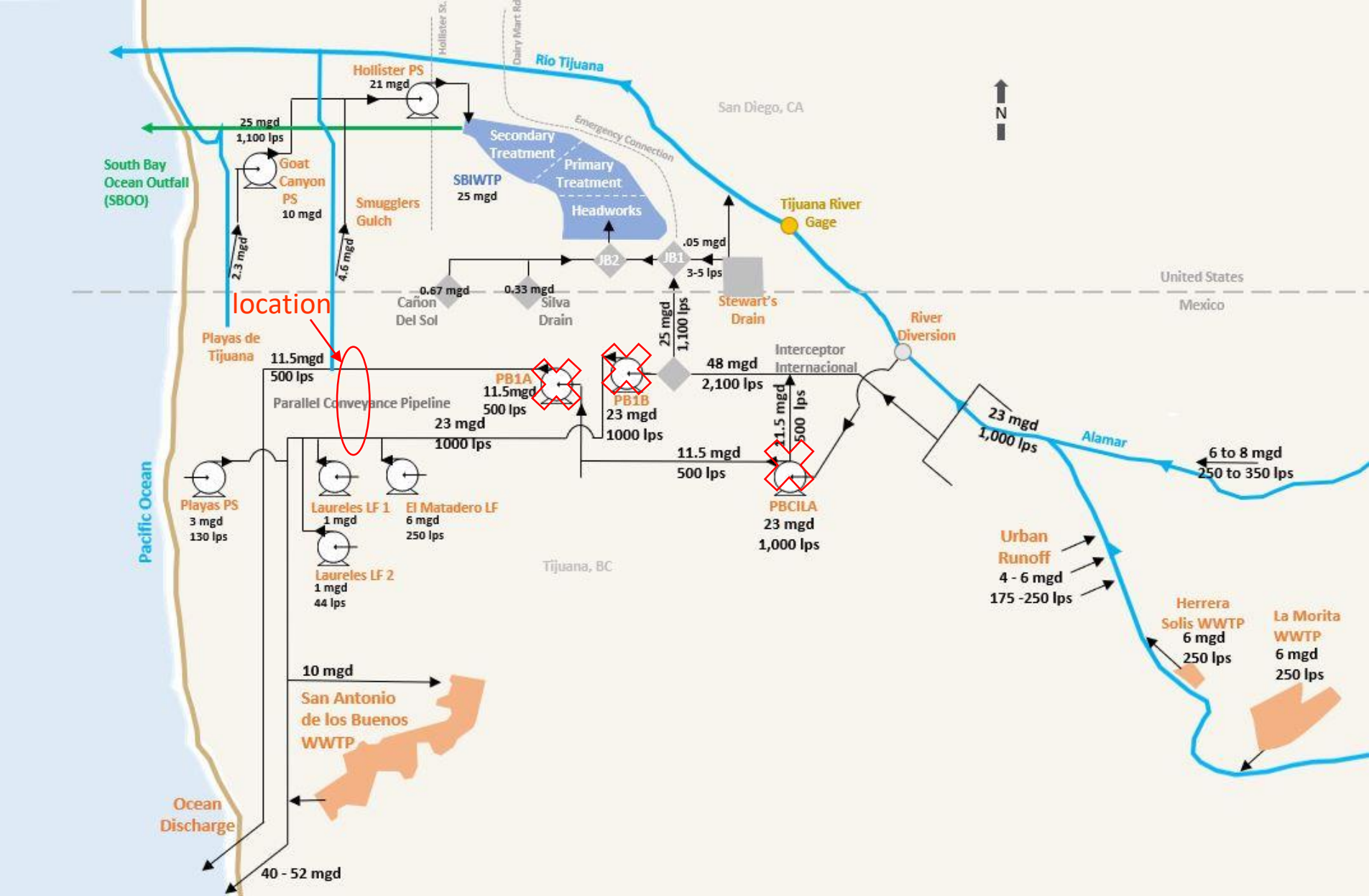
Overview of Damaged Pipeline – PB1B

- 48” pressurized pipeline
- Parallel to PB1A
- 50 MGD Capacity
- Diverts Tijuana sewage and Tijuana River flows from International Collector through PB1 to San Antonio de Los Buenos (SAB) WWTP
- Pipe collapsed due to erosion
- Not in operation



PB1B- 8/3/2022

Existing Flow Schematic – Lower Tijuana Watershed



*Adapted from Tijuana Diversion Study, Arcadis, 2019

Transboundary Flows - Timeline

- Evening of Saturday, July 30- Precursor Activity

- Repairs to pipeline PB1A near Matadero Canyon
- Pumping plants PB-1A and PB-CILA shut down during repairs
- Repairs completed- pumps placed in service



Matadero Canyon: 2/16/2021

Transboundary Flows - Timeline

- Sunday, July 31- Problem Emerged
 - PB1A pipeline air vent valve failure
 - Uncontrolled release of WW at Matadero Canyon
 - Smuggler's Gulch Transboundary flow notification
- CESPT Immediate Response:
 - Shutdown PB-1A, PB-1B, and PB-CILA
 - PB-1 flows diverted to SBIWTP
 - Transboundary flows in Tijuana River
 - Reported soil erosion due valve failure



Smuggler's Gulch: 7/31/2022

Transboundary Flows - Timeline

- Monday, August 1- Immediate Action Taken
 - USIBWC schedules binational site visit to Matadero Canyon August 2
 - Transboundary flows at Smuggler's Gulch stopped
 - USIBWC Cleaning at Smuggler's Gulch Canyon Collector to avoid burnout of submersible pumps



Sediment Removal at Smuggler's Gulch: 8/1/2022

Transboundary Flows - Timeline

- Tuesday, August 2- Immediate Action Taken
 - USIBWC Actions:
 - USIBWC, CILA, EPA and Regional Water Quality Control Board met on site to assess the situation
 - Provided 6" pump and vacuum truck to CESPT
 - Emailed update to stakeholders and issued press release
 - CESPT Actions:
 - Contractor on site working to rebuild slope for PB-1B and stabilize junction box at PB-1A



Stabilization of PB-1A: 8/2/2022

Transboundary Flows - Timeline

- Wednesday, August 3- Continued Actions
 - USIBWC Actions:
 - Follow-up site visit with CILA and CESPT
 - Continued to provide updates to stakeholders
 - CESPT Actions:
 - Contractor is working 24/7
 - Work on PB-1B expected to be completed by August 12



Slope Repair PB1B: 8/2/2022

Transboundary Flows - Timeline

- Thursday, August 4: Continued Actions
 - USIBWC, CILA, and CESPT Binational meeting to discuss repairs
 - CESPT contractor on site material testing
 - Repair schedule provided for PB1B
 - Repair schedule for PB1A pending site visit for access and coordination with CBP
 - Site visits and updates continued



Ongoing Stabilization of PB-1A 8/3/2022

Transboundary Flows - Timeline

- Friday, August 5- Continued Actions
 - Binational site meeting to determine access and required clearances from CBP for contractor to perform slope repair on US side of PB1A
 - Follow-up meeting on Monday, August 8 for US access determination
 - Camera inspection of PB1B continues



Binational Site Meeting 8/5/2022

Impact to the United States

- SBIWTP- 25 MGD Design Capacity
 - Averaging 35 MGD, with instantaneous flows up to 55 MGD
 - Plant issues:
 - Primary Sediment Tank (PST) #1 collector drive shear pin failure
 - Primary Sludge valves obstructions - preventing the cleaning of PST #3 to remove the excess grit;
 - PST #4 is back-feeding into PST #3
 - Permit issues:
 - Effluent flow exceedance
 - Effluent quality exceedances
 - Next Steps:
 - Additional maintenance required



Impact to the United States

- Tijuana River
 - Averaging 30 MGD since 7/31/2022
 - Total as of August 5: 160 million gallons
- Smuggler's Gulch
 - Transboundary flows reported from 7/31 through 8/1
 - Total transboundary volume: 10.2 MG
 - Vast amount of sediment required canyon collector to be shutdown
 - Sediment was cleaned on 8/1 and canyon collector resumed operations



Tijuana River 8/1/2022

Summary of Ongoing Repairs

- Contractor is working 24/7 on both pipelines simultaneously
- PB1B:
 - Backfill of slope for PB-1B - Compaction testing being conducted
 - Cleaning and inspection of intact portion of PB-1B ongoing
 - Camera inspection of PB-1B prior to reconnection in progress
 - Work on PB-1B to be completed first – August 12
 - PB1B will carry flows to San Antonio De Los Buenos
 - PB-CILA will resume diversion of Tijuana River flows to PB1
- PB1A:
 - Stabilizing PB-1A where it was undermined
 - Engineers are assessing backfill options on the U.S. side of PB-1A pipeline
 - Work on PB-1A will continue - timeline is still being developed
 - CESPT internal discussions to address concerns of future erosion from rain events

Summary of Ongoing Coordination

- Coordination with CBP to give access for repairs on US side
- Daily updates and site visits to review progress
 - Mexican Section has been very responsive to requests for information, meetings, and site visits
- CESPT to provide daily work log with pictures
- Ongoing assessment of resources required by Mexico
- Daily response to information and interview requests
- Providing Transboundary Flow Reports
- Discussing future monitoring methods

Schedule

48" Pipeline Repairs- PB1B		8/1	8/2	8/3	8/4	8/5	8/6	8/7	8/8	8/9	8/10	8/11	8/12
1	Engineering support												
2	Access road grading												
3	Inspection and Damage Assessment												
4	Detach and Remove Damaged Pipe												
5	Vaccum Sediment from Pipe												
6	Transport Pipe and Accessory Parts to Site												
7	Repair Slope												
8	Pipe Installation												
9	Place Pipe in Operation												
42" Pipeline Repairs- PB1A		8/1	8/2	8/3	8/4	8/5	8/6	8/7	8/8	8/9	8/10	8/11	8/12
1	Stabilization of Pipeline												
2	Slope and Pipeline Repair-under development												

Questions?

**Additional questions may be sent to:
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