
USMCA Tijuana River Watershed

Public Information Meeting

May 9, 2023
12:00 – 1:30 p.m. PT

Agenda

Objective:

- Share update on progress, including NEPA, ITP pre-design study, projects in Mexico, and Congressional authorization language.

12:00 pm 10 mins	Welcome and Opening Remarks – Tomas Torres (U.S. EPA), Andrew Sawyers (U.S. EPA), Commissioner Giner (USIBWC)
12:10 pm 10 mins	General Updates – Lily Lee and Monica Moran, U.S. EPA <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Congressional Authorization- Status of short-term projects in Mexico
12:20 pm 15 mins	Update on Pre-Design for ITP Expansion – Gilbert Anaya, USIBWC <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Existing facility assessment- Expansion evaluation
12:35 pm 15 mins	USMCA Planning / NEPA Updates – Steven Smith and Doug Liden, U.S. EPA <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Final PEIS and Record of Decision- Endangered Species Act consultations- Flood modeling
12:50 pm 35 mins	Q & A
1:25 pm 5 mins	Closing Remarks – Andrew Sawyers (U.S. EPA), Commissioner Giner (USIBWC)



USMCA Tijuana River Watershed

Public Information Meeting

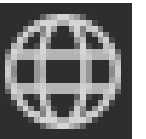
May 9, 2023

Interpretation

Interpretación

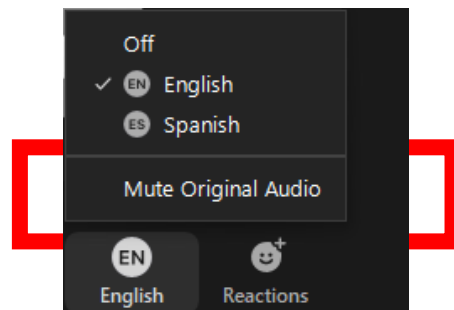
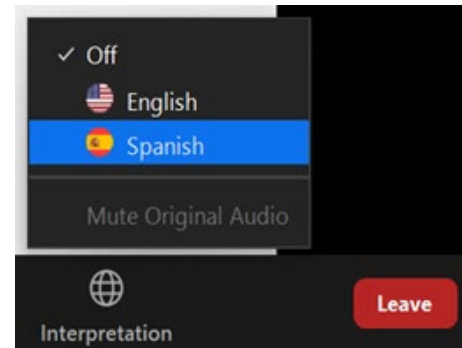
1. In your meeting controls (bottom bar), click Interpretation.

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



2. Click “English”

Seleccione “Spanish” (español)



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

Seleccione mute “Original Audio” para no escuchar de fondo el idioma original

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.



Welcome & Overview

Today's Agenda

- Welcome & Overview
- General Updates
 - Congressional Authorization
 - Status of short-term projects in Mexico
- ITP Pre-Design Study Update
- ITP Expansion Progress and Milestones
- USMCA Planning / NEPA
 - Record of Decision (ROD)
 - Endangered Species Act Consultation
 - Flood modeling

- Closing Remarks

Congressional Authorizing Language

Limits to Congressional Authority for funding contributions

- FY23 Budget authorizes Interagency Agreement for EPA to transfer USMCA funds to IBWC for Planning, Design and Construction
- Congress has NOT authorized funds transfer to USIBWC from any other sources, e.g., other Federal agencies, State, County, etc.

Status of projects in Mexico

(Per Statement of Intent/Minute 328)

- Rehabilitation of the Oriente Collector expected to be complete by the end of the month
- Rehabilitation of the International Collector and PB1 to begin this year
- San Antonio de los Buenos



May 4th Site Visit and Binational Meeting



Regional Administrator Martha Guzman visits the Oriente Collector construction site.

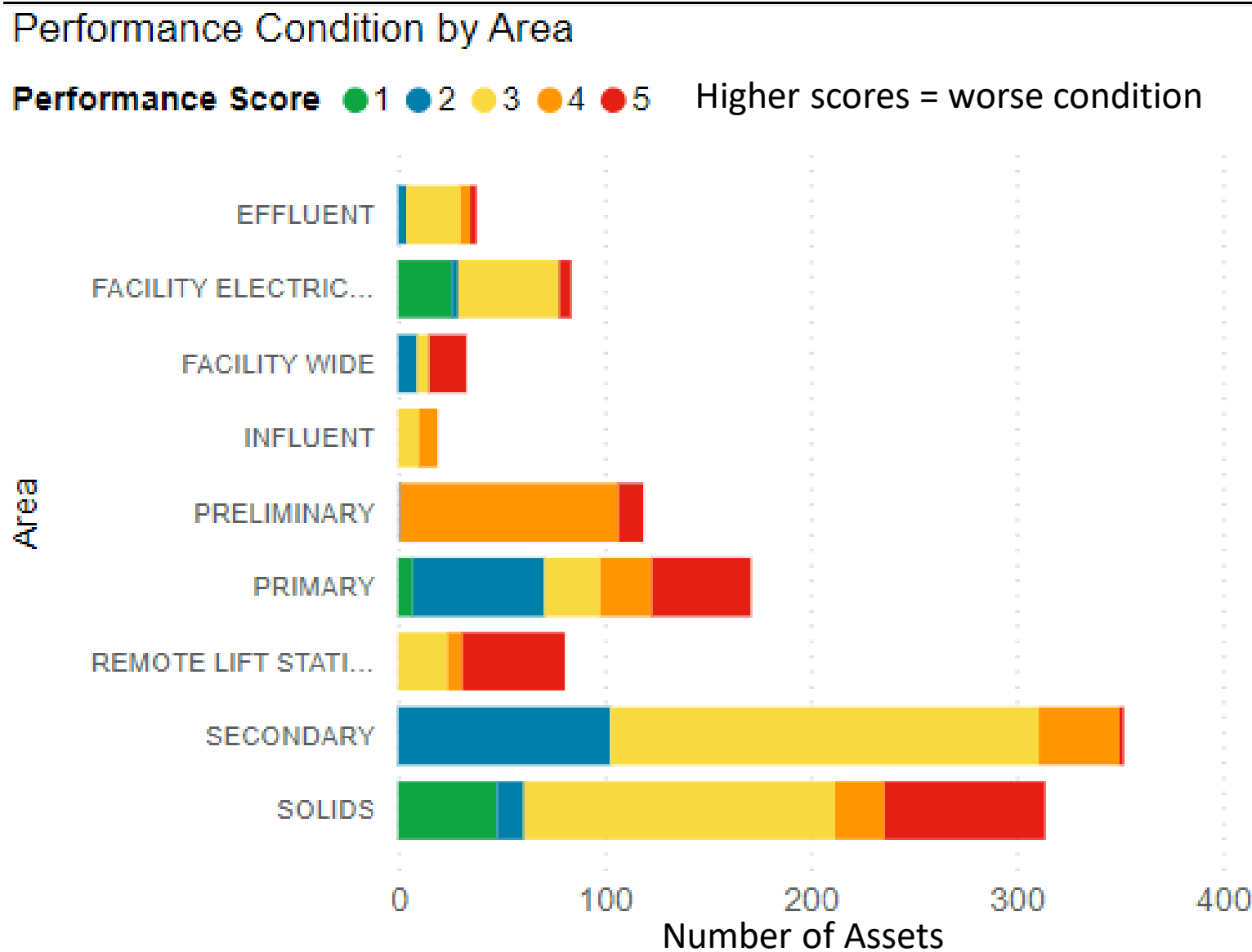


Bilateral meeting between US and Mexican agencies on Min 328 projects

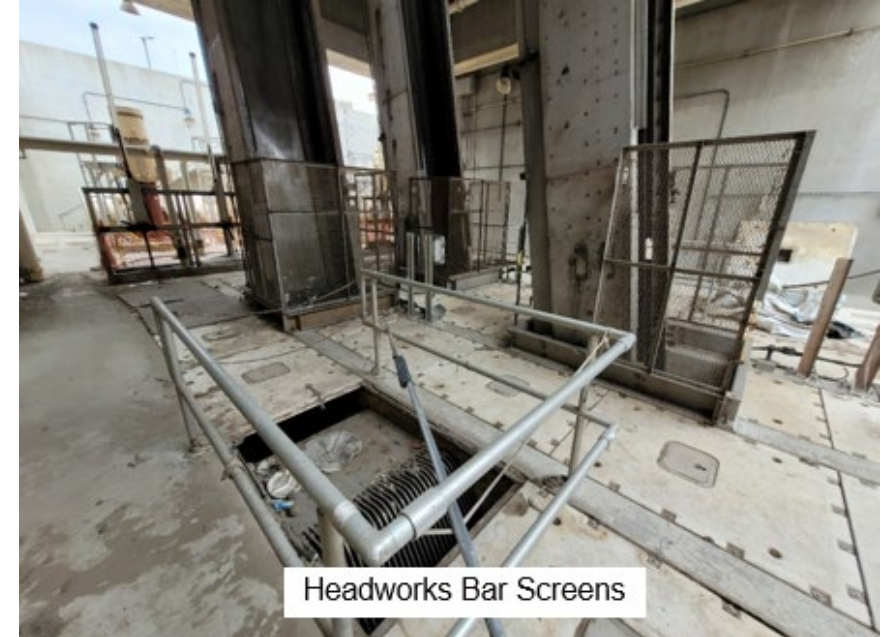
Pre-Design Update

Gilbert Anaya, USIBWC

SBIWTP- Existing Facility Assessment



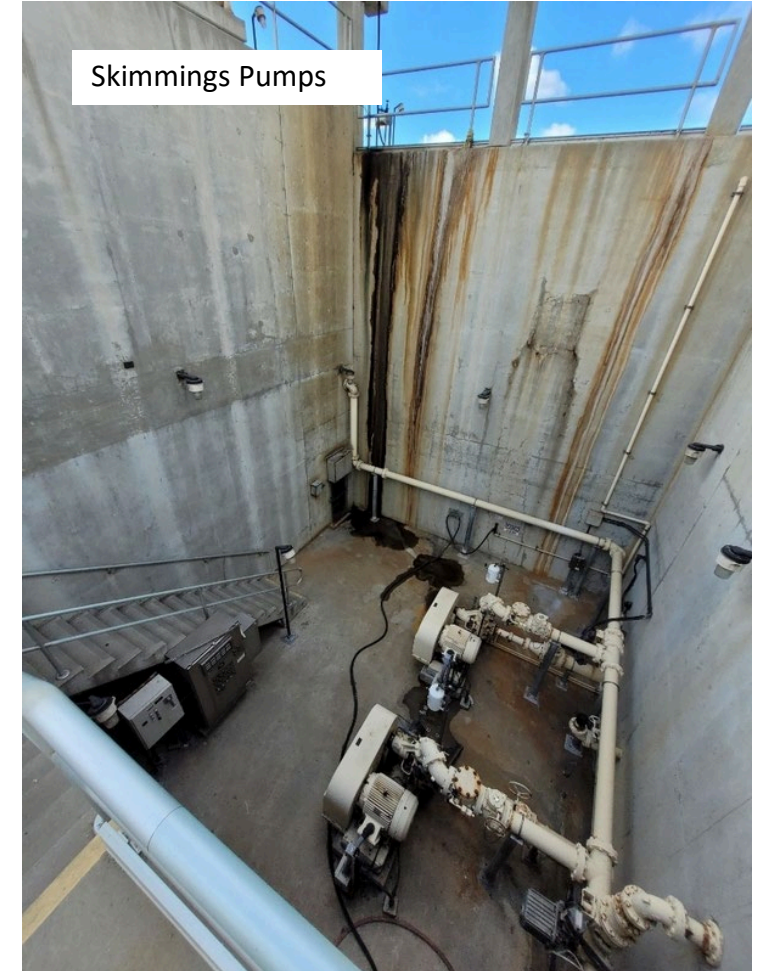
Headworks Facility



The front end of the SBIWTP has significant wear and tear over 25 years of operation.

Photos- Influent pumps and bar screens require replacement. Influent debris and solids impact Headworks facility. Many other components require rehab or replacement.

Primary Sedimentation Tanks (PSTs)



- Solids and debris carryover have also impacted the PSTs.
- Instruments, skimmings, and mixing equipment are corroded.
- All the existing equipment requires rehabilitation.

Evaluation of largest possible expansion

Primary Treatment:

- New influent Pump Station
- New fine Screenings and Grit Removal Facility
- 2 new primary sedimentation tanks
- Primary treatment conversion to chemically enhanced primary treatment
- New Odor Control system

Secondary Treatment:

- 4 new Activated Sludge tanks
- New Blowers and blower building
- 10 new secondary sedimentation tanks

Solids Handling:

- Dewatering system expansion
- Add anaerobic digestion - 4 new anaerobic digesters
- Evaluation of biogas production and reuse
- New Odor Control system



ITP Expansion Progress and Milestones

- December 2022 – NMFS ESA consultation completed
- May 2023 – FWS ESA consultation completion
- June 2023 – ROD signed
- August 2023 – Completion of ITP pre-design studies
- September 2023 – Procurement for design begins

USMCA Planning / NEPA

Steven Smith, EPA

Doug Liden, EPA

Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS)

- Public review period ended on December 19, 2022
- Ten comments received
 - Supporting/opposing the Proposed Action
 - Concerns with CBP border barrier project
 - Cumulative impacts
- Response to comments will be included in the Record of Decision (ROD) document



Endangered Species Act (ESA) Consultations

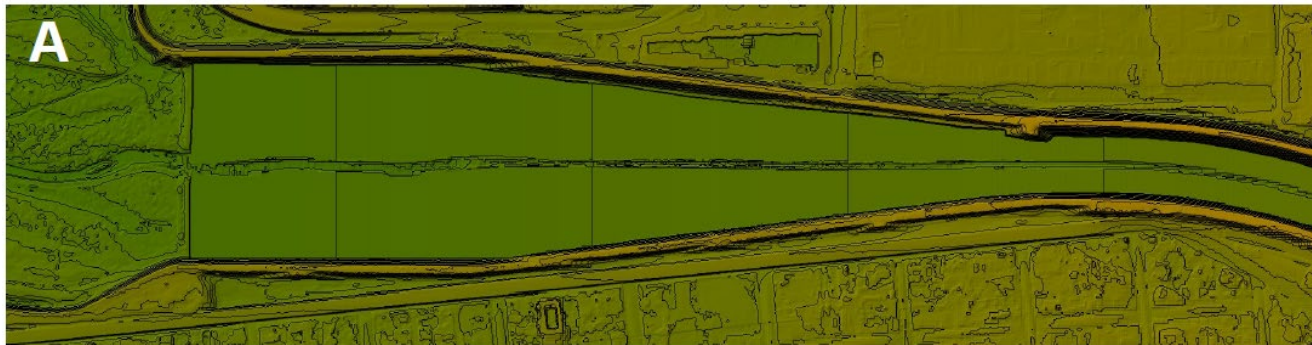
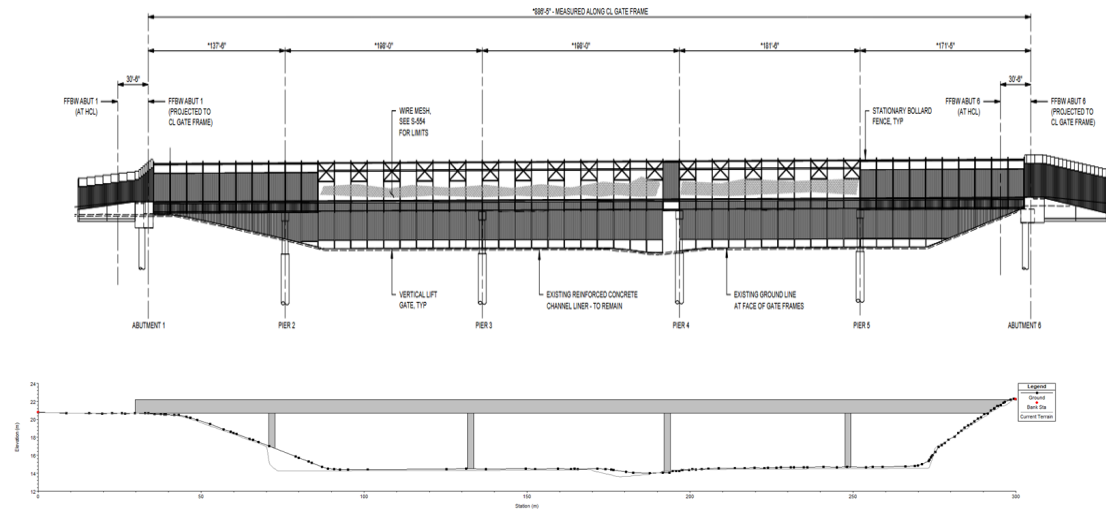
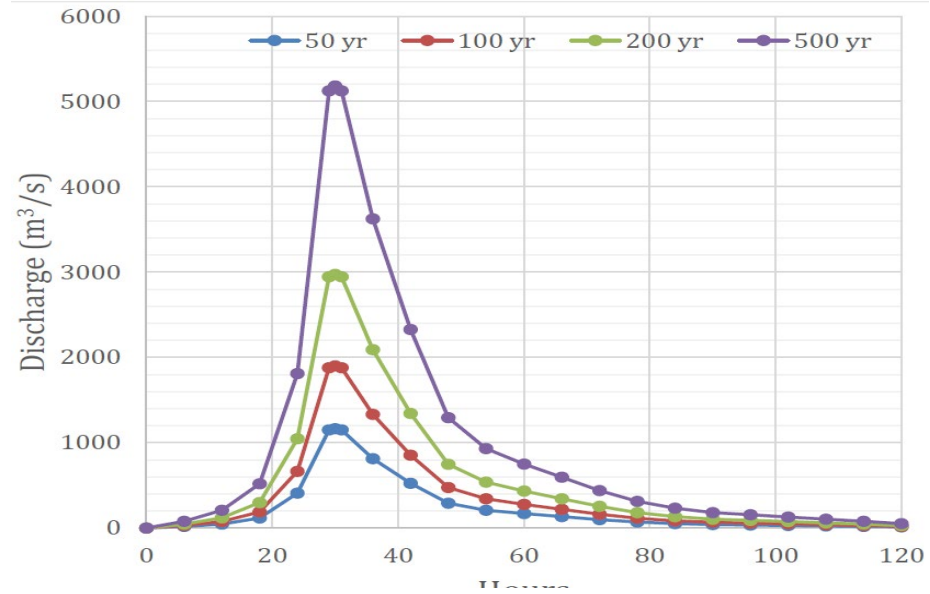
- Formal consultation with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) completed in December 2022
- Informal consultation with US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) started in May 2022 and ongoing:
 - EPA provided supplemental analysis on potential effects to two bird species, least Bell's vireo and light-footed Ridgway's rail (April 2023)
 - Negotiating mitigation strategies to address potential effects from reduced flows in the Tijuana River
 - Anticipate completion by the end of May 2023

ROD signature in June 2023 will formally complete NEPA and clear the path to design.

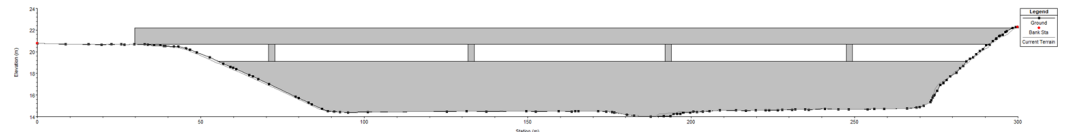
Flood modeling

- Consistent with Executive Order 1369, Federal Flood Risk Management Standard
- Responsive to public comments on cumulative effects in PEIS
- Performed by modeling experts at University of California at Irvine (Zeppelin Floods, LLC)
- Results will be summarized in the ROD and will inform USMCA project design

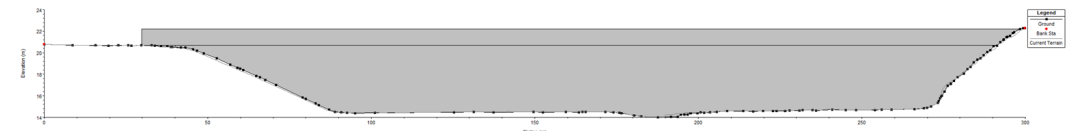
Modeling of possible flooding on projects in PEIS



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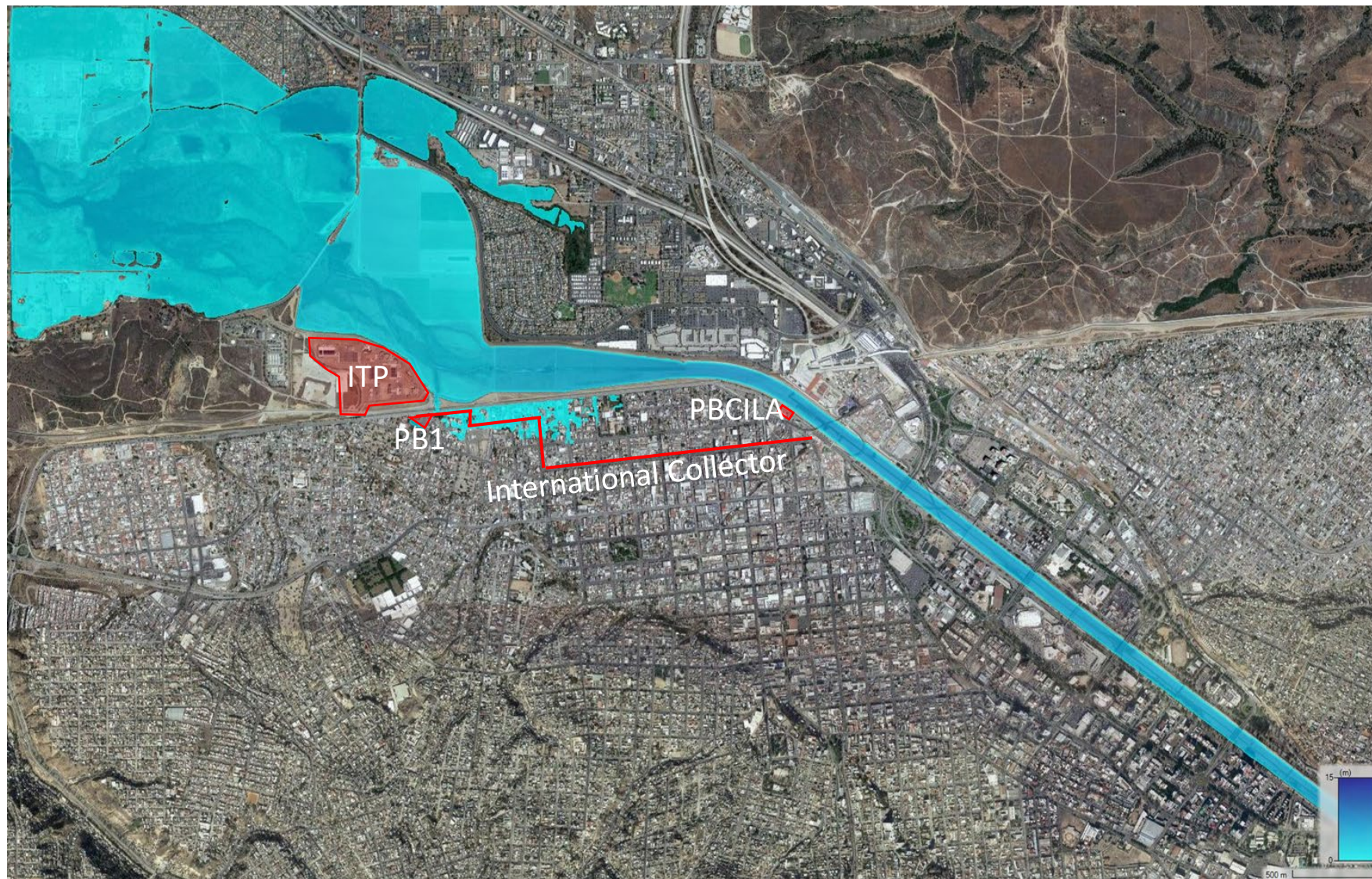


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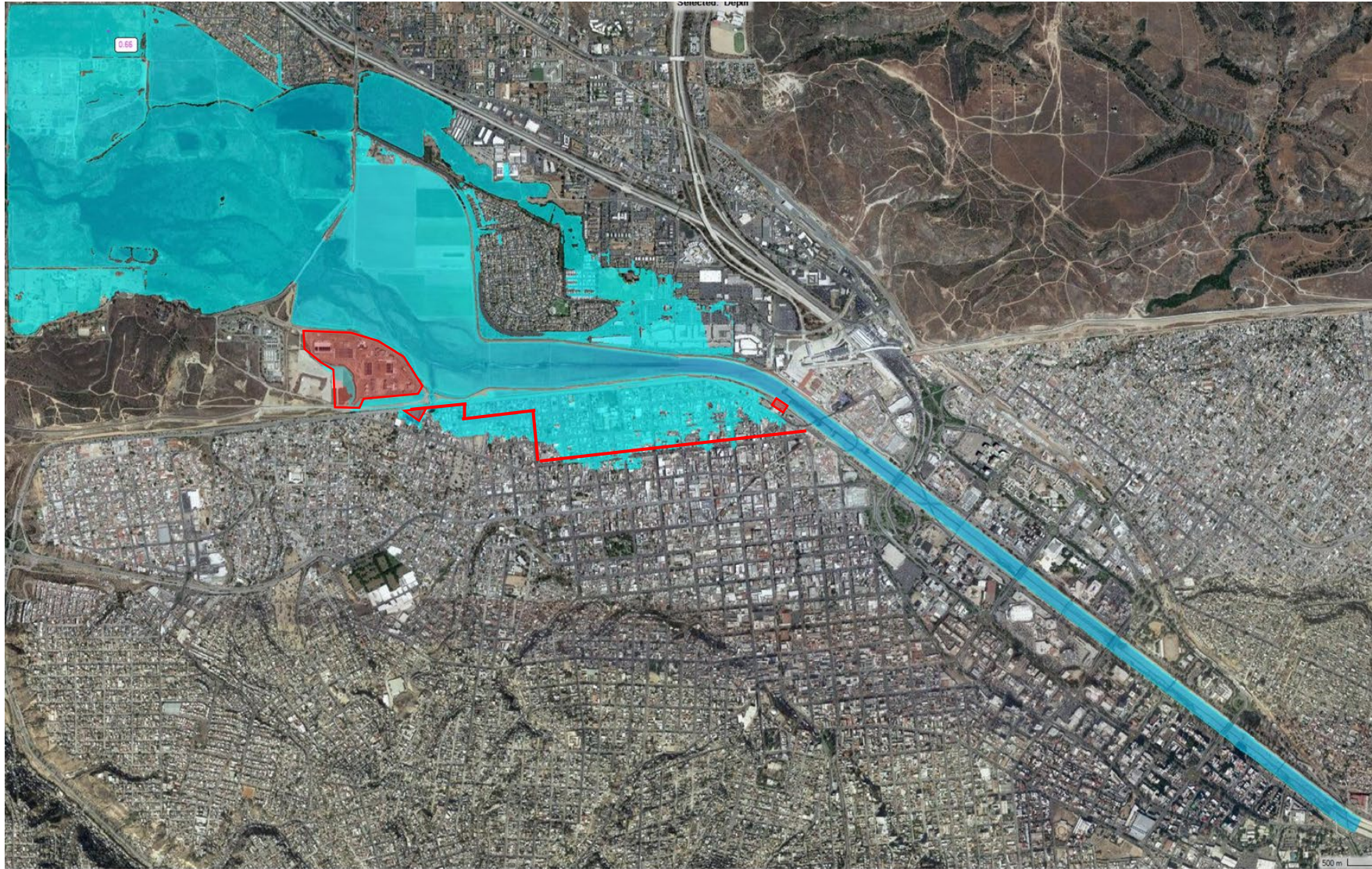


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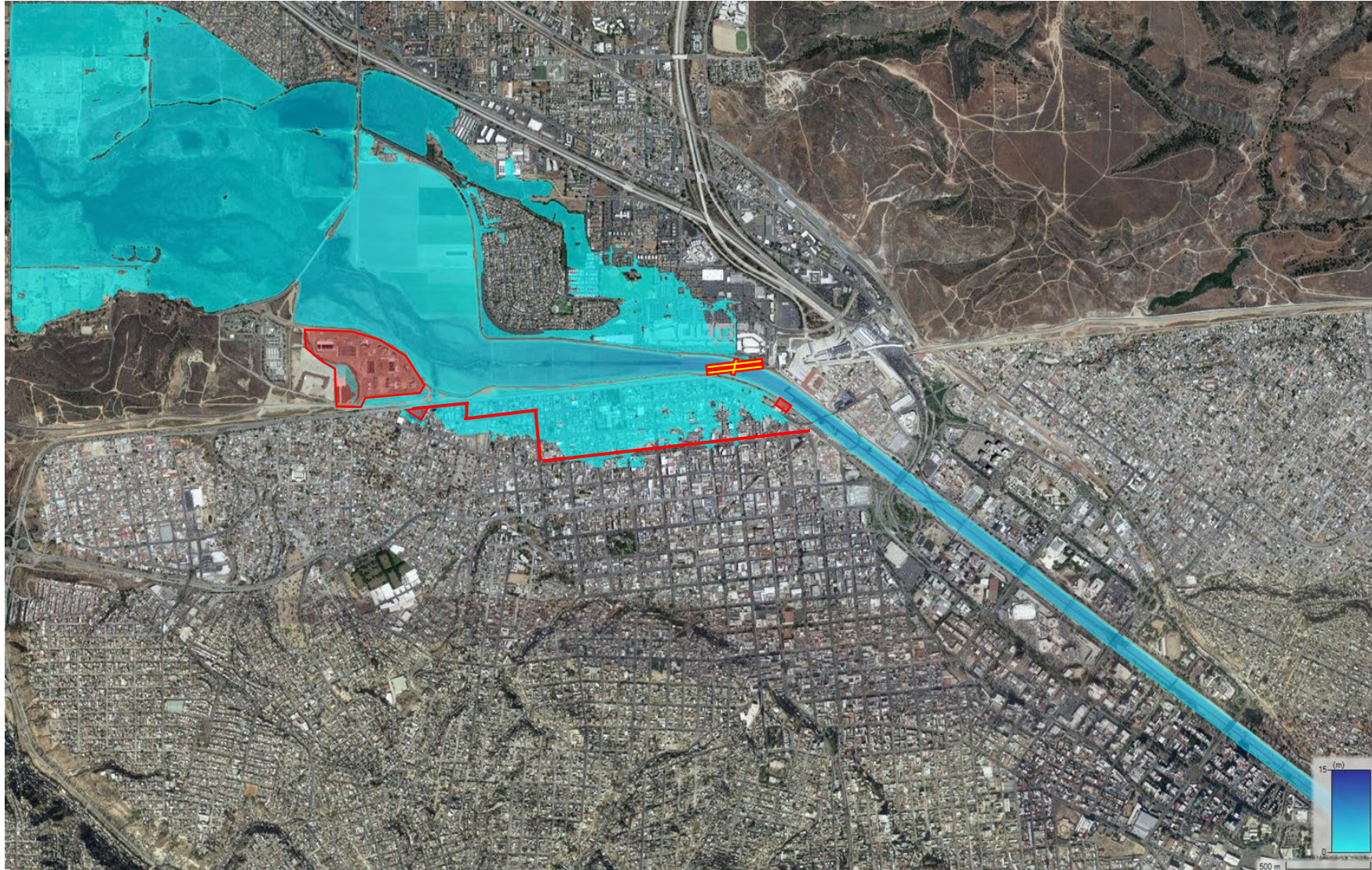
100-yr event, design (no sediment) conditions, no bridge



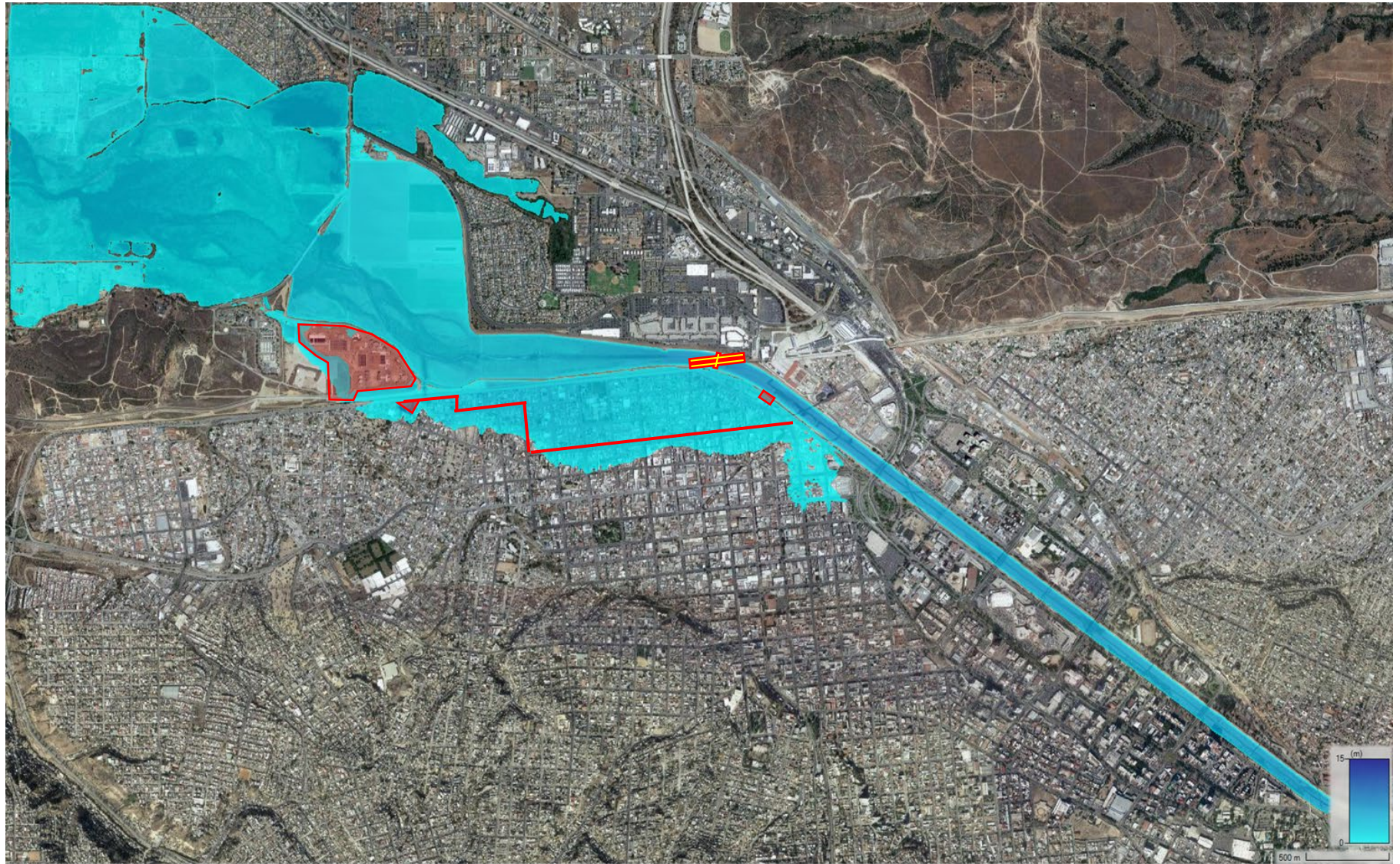
100-yr event, 2014 lidar (sediment), no bridge



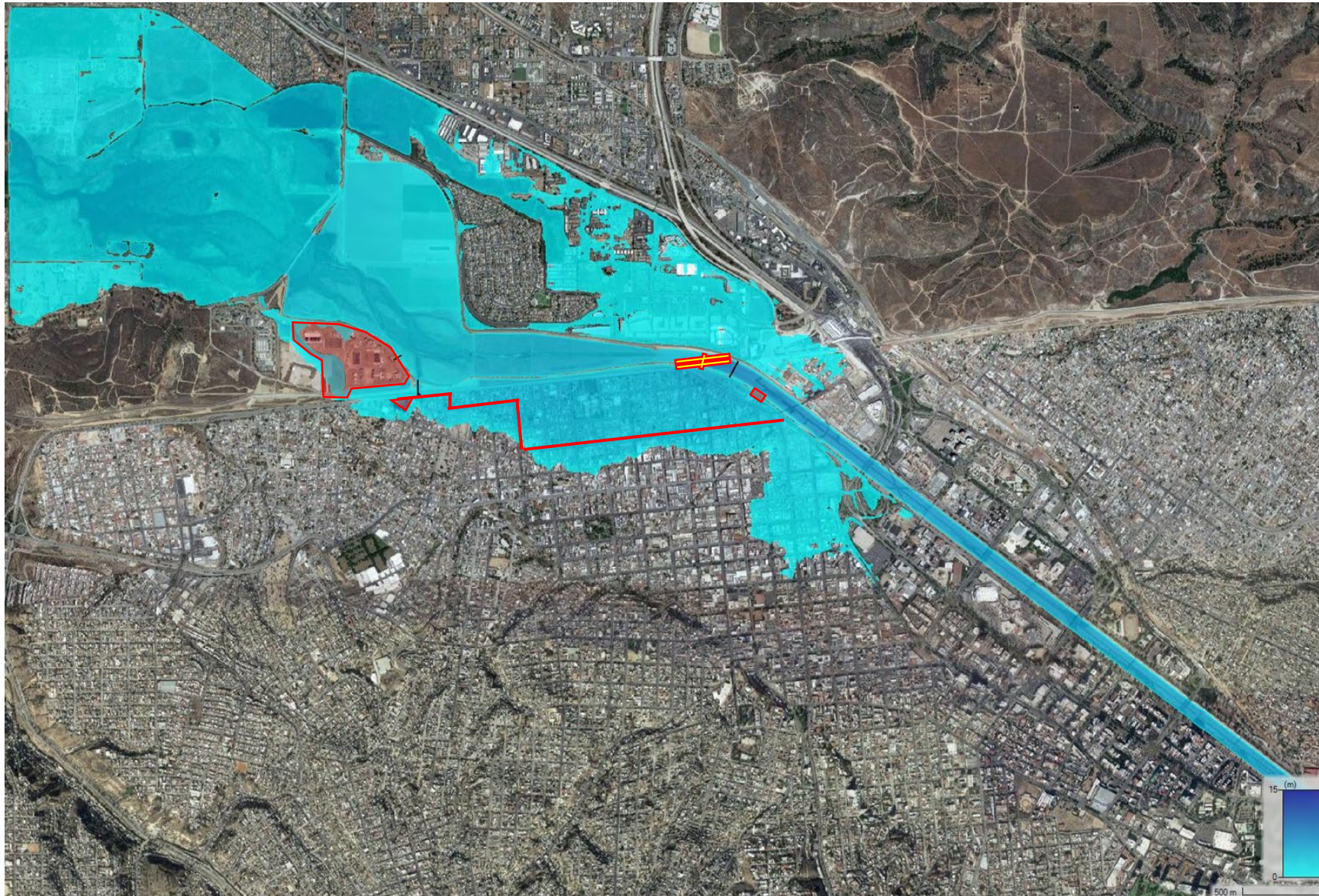
100-yr event, 2014 lidar, gates 0% blocked (entirely lifted)



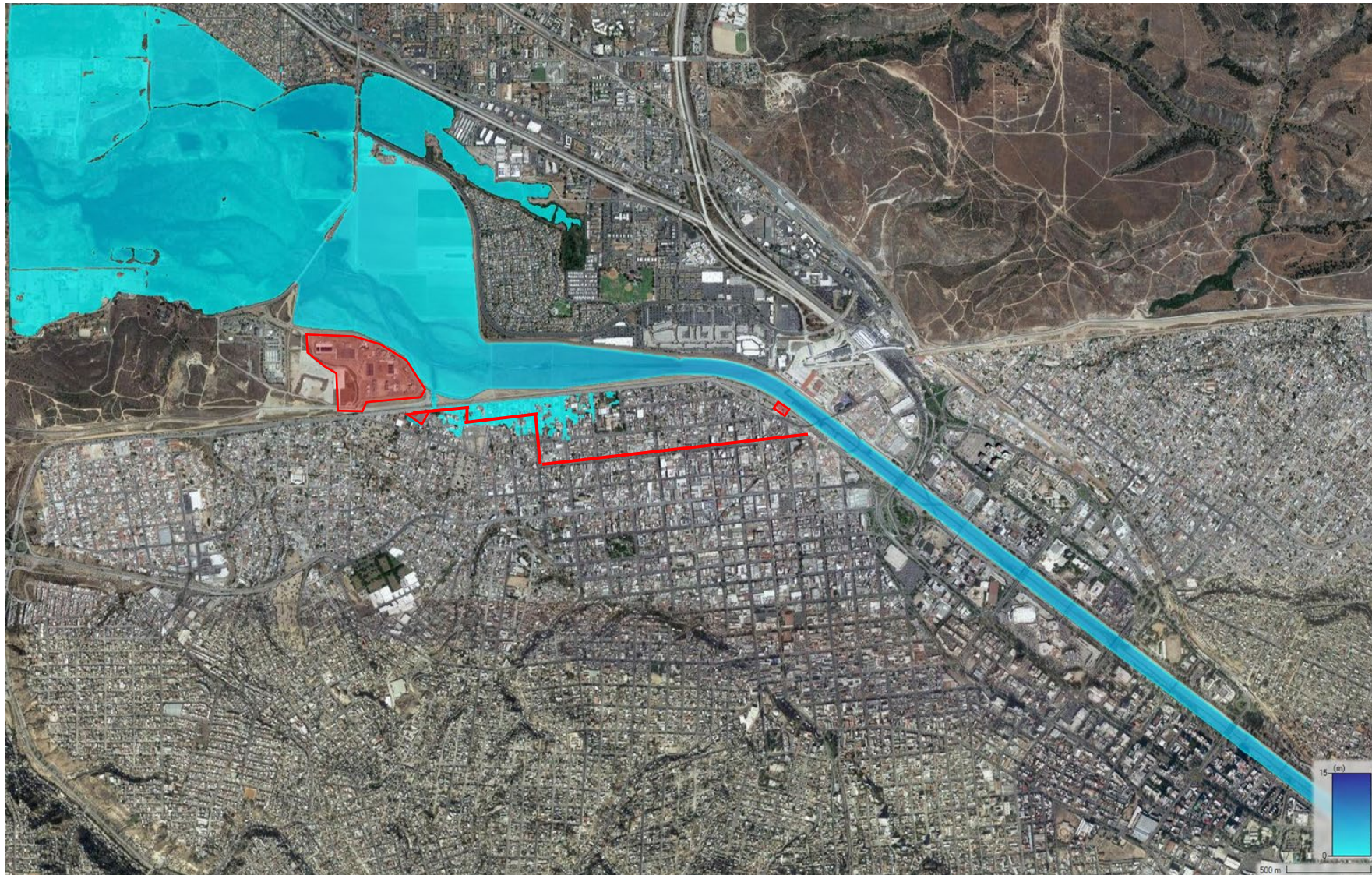
100-yr event, 2014 lidar, gates 75% blocked



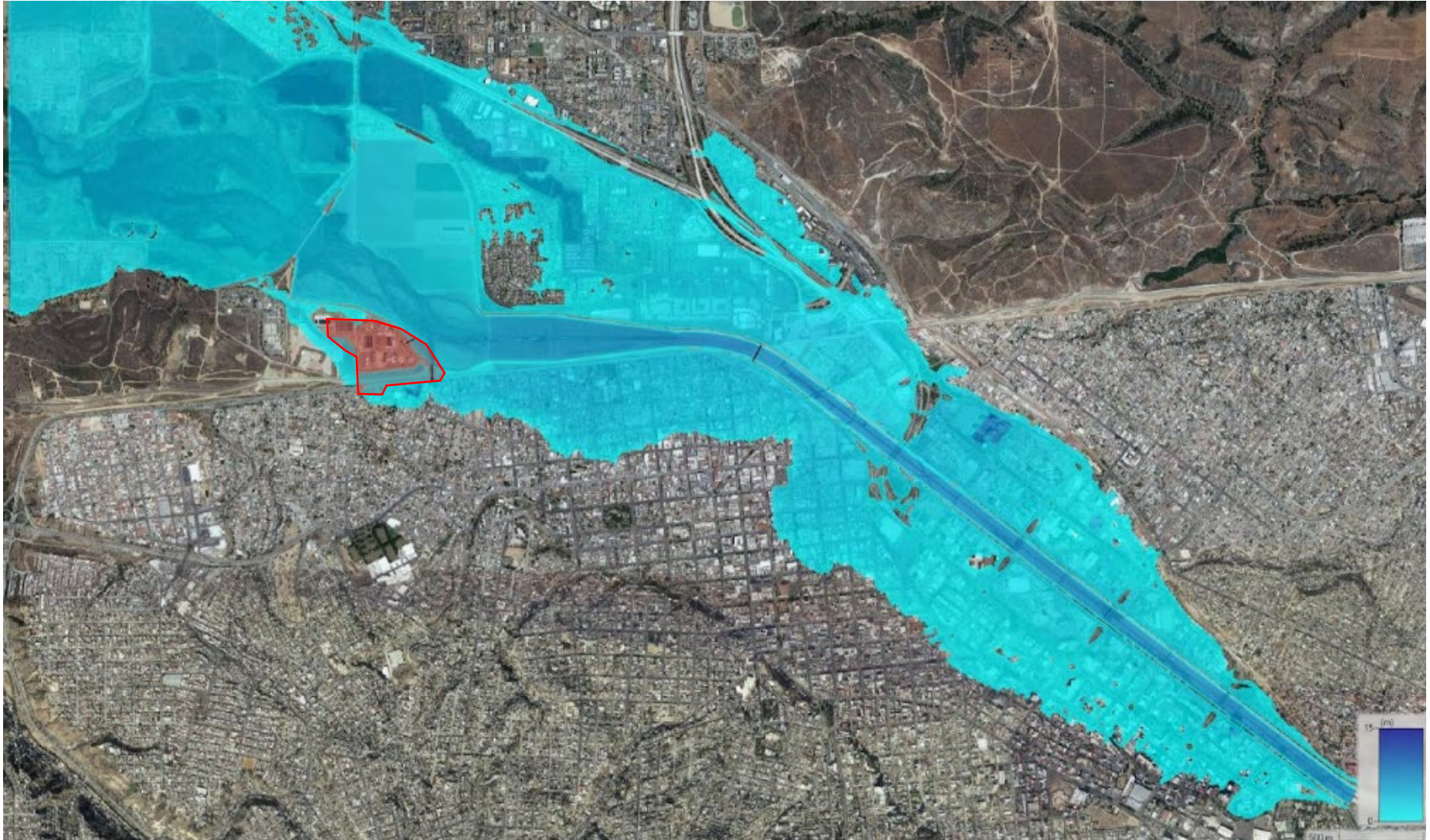
100-yr event, 2014 lidar, gates 100% blocked



100-yr event, design (no sediment) conditions, no bridge



500-year event, design conditions



500-year event, design conditions, no structure



500-year event, design conditions, gates open



Conclusions

[Technical Report Tijuana River Border Barrier Flood Hazard Analysis](#)

- Existing facilities at ITP are not predicted to be inundated under the modeled scenarios, provided the surrounding levees do not fail.
- Planned infrastructure projects in U.S. and Mexico, especially those adjacent to the border, could be impacted by flooding under certain scenarios.
- Both sedimentation and border barrier in Tijuana River contribute to levee overtopping under 100-yr flow conditions.
- Have shared analysis with CBP and IBWC.

https://www.nadb.org/uploads/files/zeppelin_floods_tijuana_river_border_gate_flood_hazard_analysis_05022023_final.pdf

Q & A

Closing Remarks