STATUS UPDATE ON TIJUANA RIVER INFRASTRUCTURE
APRIL 2023

Focused Projects

The EPA has planned a suite of projects to address sewage in the Tijuana River and in the Pacific Ocean. These projects are visible in the Comprehensive Infrastructure Solution map attached. Projects include:

1) Expansion of the existing sewage treatment plant on the U.S. side of the border
2) Replacement of the San Antonio de las Buenos treatment plant (SABTP) that discharges untreated sewage at Punta Bandera in Mexico
3) Build an additional advance primary treatment plant on the U.S. side of the border
4) Installation of trash booms in the river on the U.S. side of the border

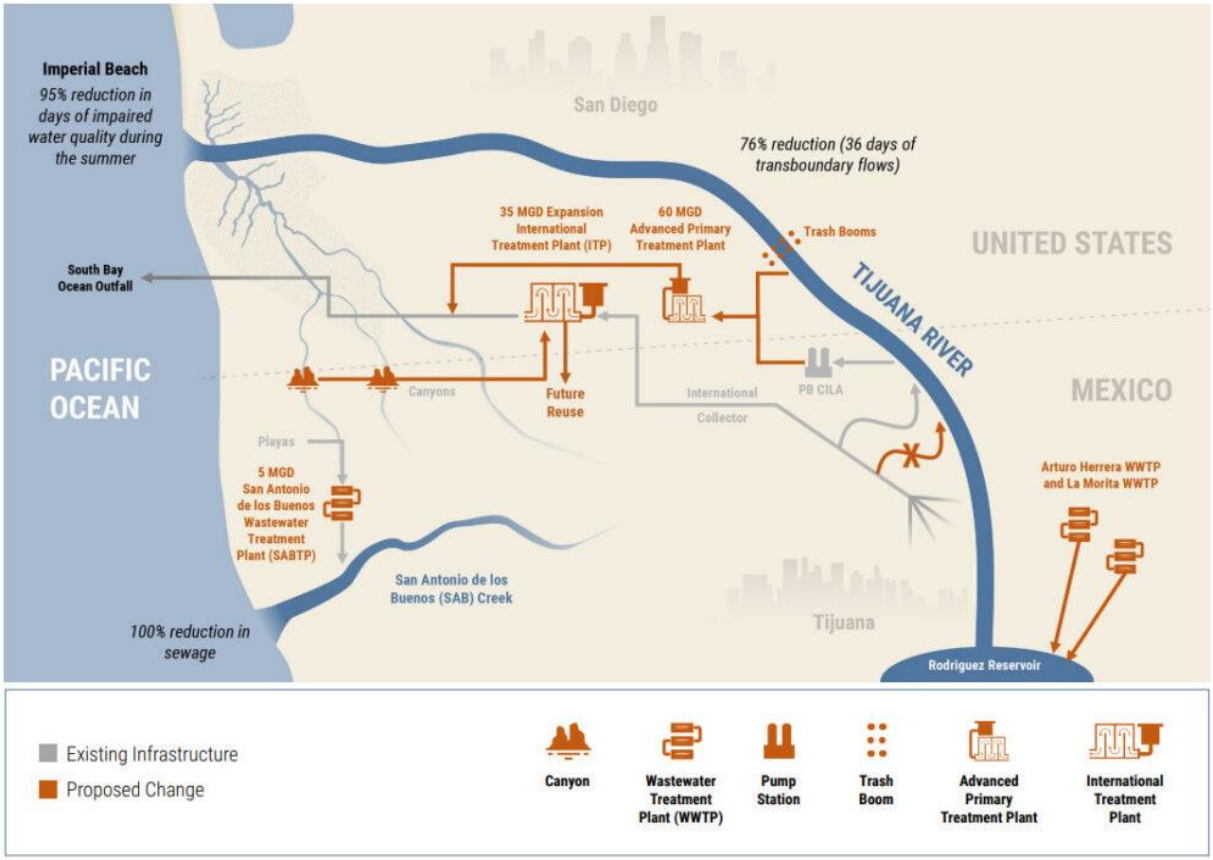
Current Timeline

- December 2022: EPA completed the NEPA environmental documentation and review. They are finalizing approvals from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service related to endangered species in the Tijuana River Valley.
- March 2023: EPA transferred $300 million to the IBWC to start the expansion of the ITP. EPA and IBWC are working on a formal cost estimate that they expect to have complete in June.
- July 2023: Once cost estimates are complete the IBWC will release a request for proposals (RFP) for the project, and are expecting to have the work under contract in the fall of 2023.
- Q1 of 2024: Complete designs and break ground, using a design-build contract.
- TBD: Mexico is committed to spending $147 million to upgrade the existing SABTP, and is working with the North American Development Bank (NADB) to identify potential public-private-partnerships to fund the project. Mexico has not yet released timelines for construction.

Looking Ahead: Second Phase of Projects

The EPA and IBWC estimate an additional $200 to $300 million in costs needed to build the additional Advanced Primary Treatment Plant in the Tijuana River Valley. The purpose of this plant would be to treat additional dry weather flows from the Tijuana River that can overwhelm existing systems. Currently, this water is diverted from the River to the SABTP, where the untreated water is then discharged into the ocean (Visible in Figure 1-5, attached here). Once the Advanced Primary Treatment Plant is constructed, the water will undergo levels of treatment to remove toxins and pollution in the water. The polluted river water is one of the largest sources of beach closures in San Diego during the summer month and causes health risks for Naval Base Coronado. This treatment plant will largely eliminate these hazards for the community.

Comprehensive Infrastructure Solution (Alternative I-2)



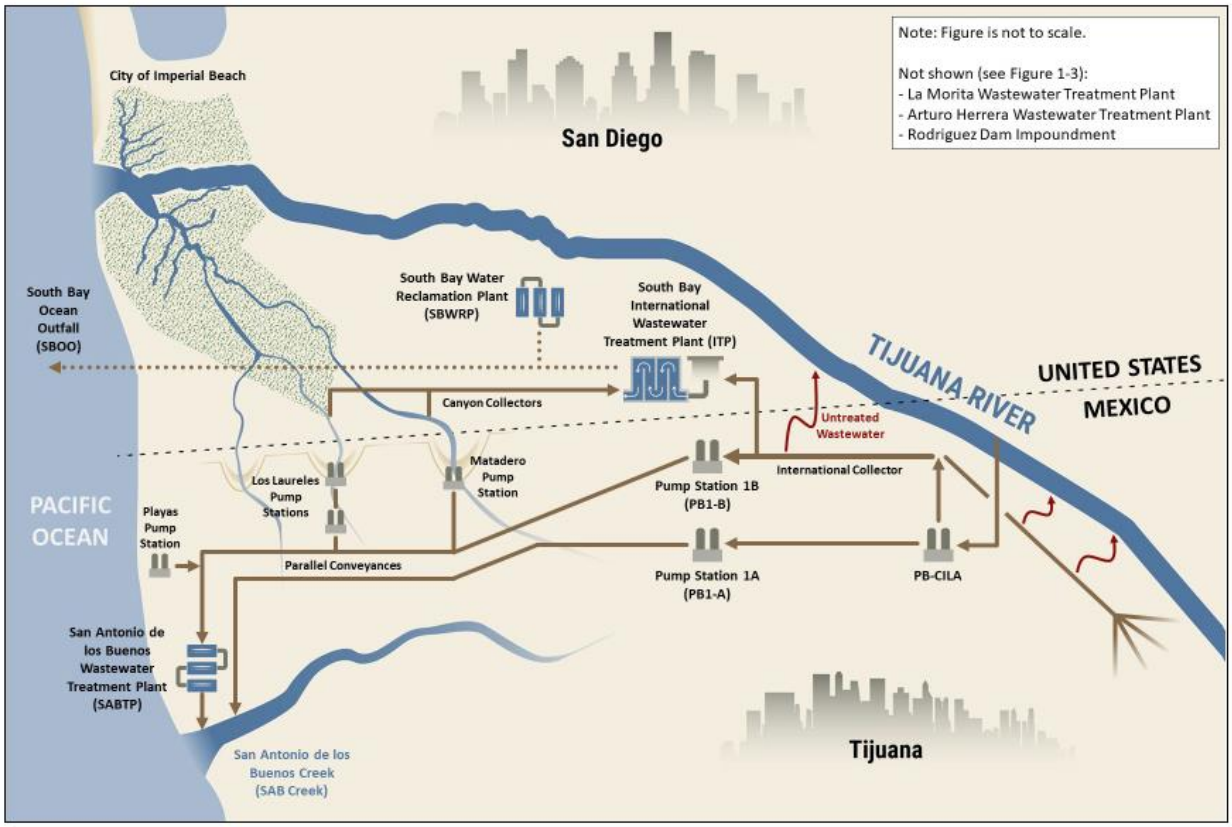


Figure 1-5. Schematic of Existing Wastewater Diversion and Treatment System