

Total Maximum Daily Load Progress Report	
Regional Water Board	Colorado River Basin, Region 7
Beneficial uses affected:	REC-1, REC-2
Pollutant(s) addressed:	E. Coli, Enterococci, Fecal Coliform
Implemented through:	NPDES Permits, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party (USIBWC)
Approval date:	August 14, 2002

### New River Pathogen TMDL

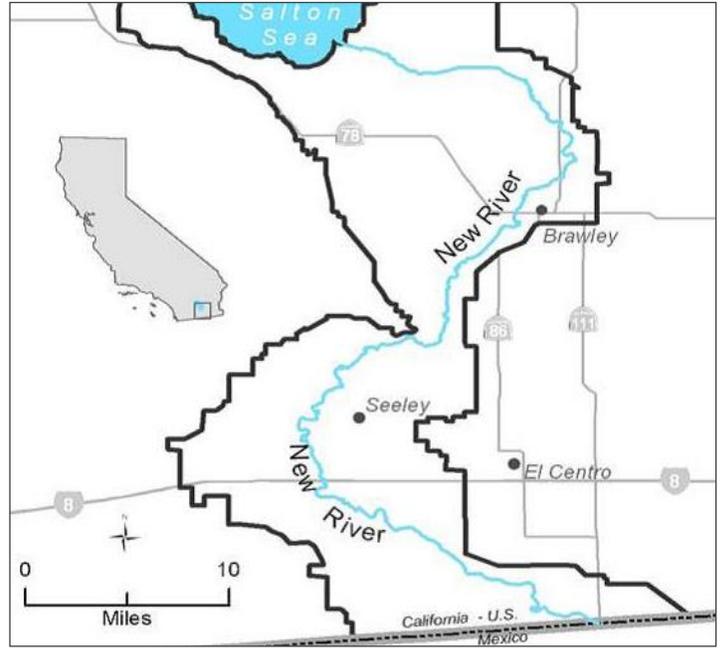
#### STATUS

- Conditions Improving
- Data Inconclusive
- Improvement Needed
- TMDL Achieved/Waterbody Delisted

#### TMDL Summary

The New River originates about twenty miles south of the International Boundary, in the Mexicali Valley, Mexico, and flows northward into the United States to its terminus at the Salton Sea in Imperial County, California. Bacteria, which are pathogen-indicator organisms, impair the entire segment of the New River in the United States. Pollution is most severe at the International Boundary due to discharges of wastes from Mexico. The bacterial concentrations exceed the water quality objectives established to protect recreational beneficial uses of the New River. [A TMDL for pathogens in the New River](#) was completed by the Colorado River Basin Regional Board and approved by U.S. EPA in August 2002. TMDL implementation relies on controlling pathogens in wastewater discharges in the U.S. and at the International Boundary. The Regional Board does not have jurisdictional authority over Mexico, and relies on cooperation from Mexico and the U.S. government to reduce waste and bacterial concentrations that crosses the International Boundary.

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#### TMDL Waste Load Allocations/Load Allocations

Indicator Parameter	WLA and LA	
	30-Day Log Mean <sup>a</sup>	Maximum Instantaneous
Fecal Coliforms	200 MPN <sup>b</sup> /100 mL	<sup>c</sup>
E. coli	126 MPN/100 mL	400 MPN/100 mL
Enterococci	33 MPN/100 mL	100 MPN/100 mL

<sup>a</sup> Based on a minimum of no less than 5 samples equally spaced over a 30-day period.

<sup>b</sup> Most probable number.

<sup>c</sup> No more than 10% of total samples during any 30-day period shall exceed 400 MPN/100 mL.

#### Water Quality Outcomes

- Water quality monitoring data show significant reductions in E. coli and fecal coliform loading from Mexico at the International Border.
- Significant pathogens loading reduction occurred after Las Arenitas Waste Water Treatment Facility started operating in Mexico in 2007.
- Negotiations are ongoing ensure coordination of International Boundary projects to disinfect the river and to bring the New River into compliance.

#### New River Pathogen Water Quality

