

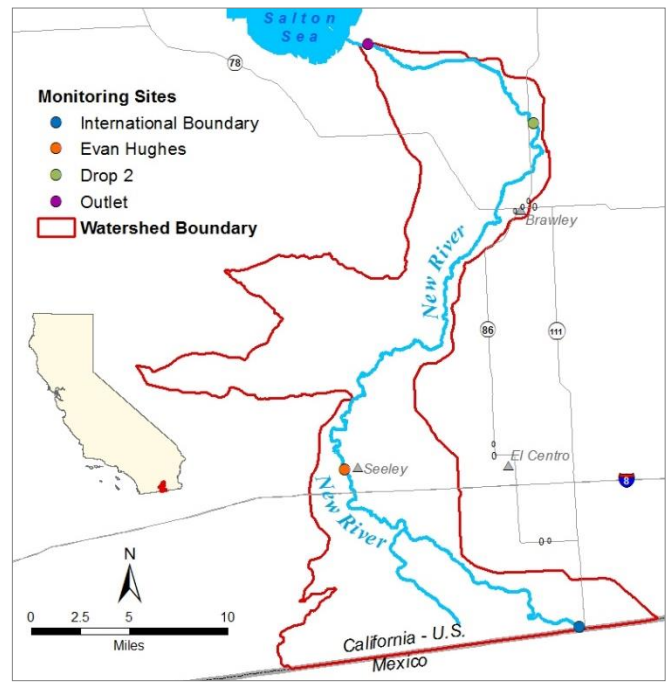
Water Quality Report Card	
Regional Water Board	Colorado River Basin, Region 7
Beneficial uses affected:	REC-1, REC-2
Implemented through:	NPDES Permits, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party (USIBWC)
Effective Date:	August 14, 2002
Attainment Date:	2005

Pathogens in New River	
STATUS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conditions Improving
	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Inconclusive
	<input type="checkbox"/> Improvement Needed
	<input type="checkbox"/> TMDL Achieved/Waterbody Delisted
Pollutant Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Point Source <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonpoint Source <input type="checkbox"/> Legacy

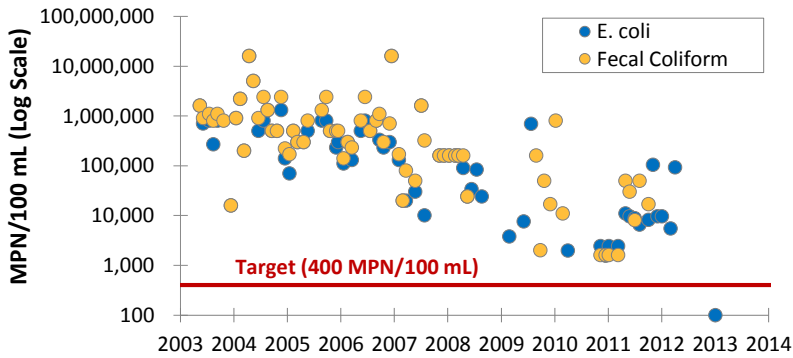
### Water Quality Improvement Strategy

The New River originates about 20 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 U.S. Pollution is most severe at the International Boundary due to discharges of wastes from Mexico, which accounts for approximately a third of the river's total flow. The bacterial concentrations exceed the water quality objectives established to protect recreational beneficial uses of the New River. To address the impairment, Region 7 adopted the [Pathogen TMDL for the New River](#), which became effective in August 2002. TMDL implementation calls for controlling pathogens in wastewater discharges in the U.S. and at the International Boundary. Because Region 7 lacks jurisdictional authority over Mexico, implementation relies on cooperation from Mexico and the U.S. government to reduce waste and bacterial concentrations that crosses the International Boundary.

### New River Watershed



### Fecal Coliform and E. coli at the International Boundary<sup>a</sup>

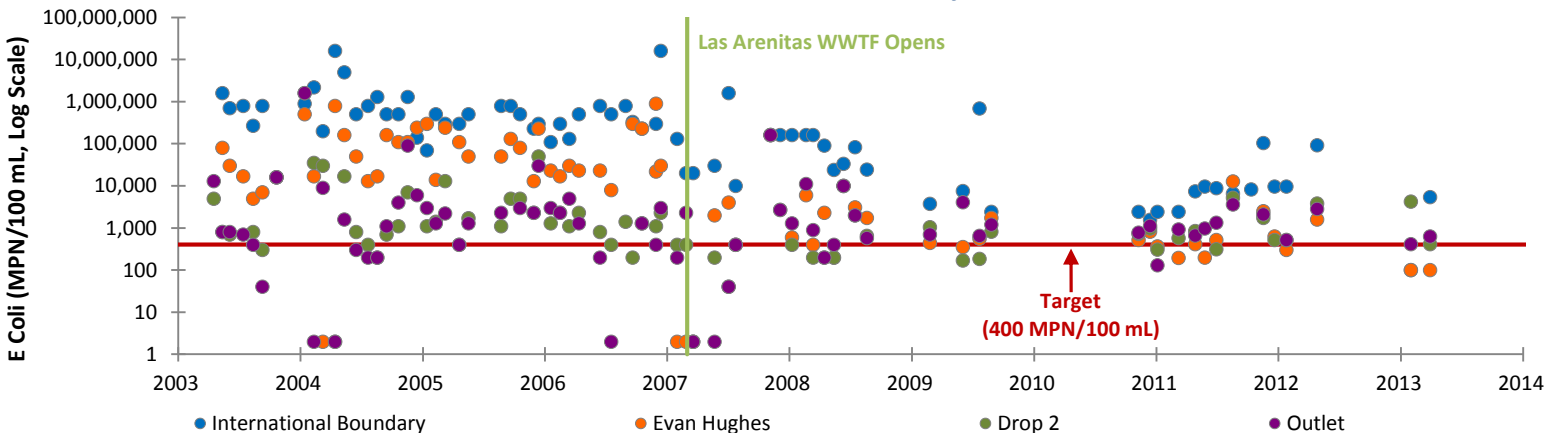


<sup>a</sup> As the primary pollutant source is outside Regional Water Board jurisdiction, pathogen concentrations at the International Boundary are considered the baseline loading for pathogens in the New River.

### Water Quality Outcomes

- Water quality monitoring data demonstrate significant reductions in E. coli and fecal coliform loading from Mexico at the International Border.
- Water quality monitoring data demonstrate significant reductions in E. coli concentrations at upstream locations (monitoring sites International Boundary and Evan Hughes) after Las Arenitas Waste Water Treatment Facility began operations in Mexico in March 2007.
- Negotiations are ongoing to ensure coordination of International Boundary projects to disinfect the river and to bring the New River into compliance.

### New River E. coli Water Quality<sup>b</sup>



<sup>b</sup> Monitoring data are available on [CEDEN](#).