



INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
UNITED STATES SECTION

March 20, 2025

Dear Stakeholders:

Here is the latest update regarding our monitoring of Mexico's International Collector rehabilitation project:

The USIBWC has offered to loan a large pump to Mexico that they can use as they repair Tijuana's Sánchez Taboada Collector, which collapsed a week ago.

The pipeline, which feeds into the International Collector system, is releasing an average of 3.5 million gallons a day (MGD) of wastewater. However, almost half this flow is being diverted and pumped to the collector downstream, meaning only a fraction of the water makes it to the Tijuana River.

IBWC's pump would help Mexico divert more flow from the river.

Mexico still is searching for the source of additional flows entering the system. Workers installed a large plate in a junction box in the old International Collector to divert water. This will let them remove sediment and install a new liner in the segment that is part of Phase 1 of the project. See the photos below, courtesy of the Mexican Section of the IBWC.

Phase 1 is still scheduled to finish in about two weeks, Mexico says, and Phase 2 should be completed about eight days later. See the map below that explains this project.

I want to express my thanks to Mexico for their hard work on this very complicated project.

This job, which includes a critical bypass, is preventing approximately 30 MGD of wastewater from reaching the Tijuana River.

When it's all done, the new International Collector should reduce transboundary flows and bring more resiliency to Tijuana's sewage infrastructure.

We continue to remain in daily contact with our Mexican counterparts and will keep you informed of their progress.

(Our X site is a good place to check for updates: <https://x.com/usibwc>)

Warm regards,

Dr. Maria-Elena Giner, P.E.
Commissioner (U.S. Section)
International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico

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Phase 1: complete the installation of the 1.6-mile new International Collector. Phase 2: rehabilitate the section of the pipeline between Mexican junction box and pump station PB-1, which leads to Junction Box 1 at the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant and install gate valves for control of flow sent to the plant.

