



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
July 16, 2020

TIJUANA RIVER INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIRS SCHEDULED FOR NIGHT OF JULY 16; TIJUANA RIVER FLOW TO U.S. TO INCREASE TEMPORARILY

The U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico (USIBWC) has been informed that the Tijuana utility (CESPT) will repair an electrical substation on the night of July 16. To perform the work, the Pump Station known as PB-1 will be shut down starting at 7:00 p.m. PDT with service expected to resume around 7:00 a.m. on July 17. During the outage, transboundary flow in the Tijuana River is expected to increase to a flow rate of up to 16 million gallons per day (700 liters per second). PB-1 is part of a system that diverts flow from the Tijuana River into the Tijuana sewer system.

Improvement of the electrical substation is part of a broader effort by Mexico to improve the performance of pump stations that divert water from the Tijuana River before it enters the United States. Other work includes installation of new pumps and construction of a new pump intake and a sedimentation tank to remove silt at Pump Station CILA. Once all this work is completed later this year, it is expected to reduce the volume of transboundary river flow to San Diego County, California during the dry season by 70%. Tijuana River flow during the dry season consists primarily of treated and untreated wastewater.

The International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, is responsible for applying the boundary and water treaties between the two countries. The U.S. Section of the Commission operates and maintains the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant in San Diego, which treats 25 million gallons per day (1,100 liters per second) of sewage from Tijuana that would otherwise flow through the Tijuana River into the United States.

For more information:

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