

# San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

Border Region Solid Waste Working Group Overview

June 21, 2017

## Border Region Solid Waste Working Group

- ▶ The 2015 Budget Act's accompanying trailer bill (SB 83) establishes the Working Group within the Border Relations Council.
- ▶ Tasked with developing and coordinating long-term solutions for problems associated with waste tires, solid waste, and excessive sedimentation along the border.
- ▶ Focused on problems that degrade valuable estuarine and riparian habitats, and threaten water quality and public health.

## Working Group Scope

Formed July 2015, the Working Group was tasked by the Border Relations Council to:

- ▶ Coordinate an update to CalRecycle's 2009 Tire Flow and 2012 Tire Management Plan studies.
- ▶ Develop spending recommendations for the Council on a one-time \$300,000 appropriation (Budget Act of 2015).
- ▶ Write a Strategic Plan identifying short and longer-term clean-up needs, projects, and opportunities, and recommendations to enhance border collaboration.

## Working Group Membership

Leads	Agency	Title
Alex Rodarte	CalEPA	Assistant Secretary Border Affairs
Jose Angel	Colorado River Basin Regional Water Board	Executive Officer
David Gibson	San Diego Regional Water Board	Executive Officer
Chris Peregrin	Resources Agency, Parks and Recreation	Reserve Manager
Ken DaRosa	CalRecycle	Chief Deputy Director

## Working Group Accomplishments

The Working Group has been successful in achieving, or beginning, several of the requested tasks:

- ▶ Tire Flow Study Update
- ▶ WILDOCOAST and the Sonoran Institute projects
- ▶ Solid Waste and Waste Tire Strategic Plan

## Workshop Series

The Working Group conducted a series of workshops to inform and finalize the Strategic Plan.

- ▶ Market drivers of waste tires and other solid waste streams at the border.
- ▶ Sedimentation drivers, and interactions with other waste streams.
- ▶ Leveraging and enhancing cooperation across borders and levels of government.
- ▶ Sustainable funding mechanisms for addressing waste tires and solid waste.

# Plan Organization

The Plan and its recommendation are organized by the Working Group's specific subject areas:

- ▶ Waste Tires
- ▶ Solid Waste
- ▶ Sedimentation

## Recommendations: Waste Tires

The Working Group finds that addressing fundamental waste tire drivers and encouraging long-term programmatic infrastructure can be facilitated, in part, by improving tracking and existing hauling systems.

Recommendation #1 is to eliminate gaps in California's Waste Tire Tracking System such as moving to an electronic manifest system, and revising program identification numbers to better track tires through the system to their eventual destination.

## Recommendations: Waste Tires

Recommendation #2 is to provide technical assistance to increase waste tire processing infrastructure and market development in Baja California. This could include:

- ▶ Encouraging market infrastructure investments on the border.
- ▶ Disseminating best practices and existing models, such as BECC's Scrap Tire Management Model to create self-sustaining programs.

## Recommendations: Solid Waste

While clean-up efforts only offer temporary solutions, the Working Group agrees that trash and sediment collection must continue until other practical measures exist.

Recommendation #1 is to increase trash and sediment capture devices and provide for maintenance and operations.

These could include:

- ▶ Trash interception booms (e.g., Goat Canyon).
- ▶ Sediment retention basins or weirs to capture sediment and non-floatable trash.

## Recommendations: Sedimentation

Building upon the Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team 5-Year Action Plan, and other sources, the Working Group recommends several restoration and control measures.

Recommendation #1 - Implementing water quality measures to reduce runoff and erosion.

This can be accomplished by:

- ▶ Increasing the number of bio filtration basins (i.e., sediment retention basins) to minimize sediment flow into protected areas.
- ▶ Encouraging road paving and green infrastructure improvements throughout the City of Tijuana as part of storm water control measures.

## Recommendations: Sedimentation

Reclamation and restoration projects can also remediate and effectively manage sedimentation.

- ▶ Recommendation #2 - Constructing and maintaining green infrastructure to improve water quality through restoration of hydrologic function.
- ▶ Recommendation #3 - Supporting wetland restoration projects in the Tijuana River Valley.

## Overarching Recommendations

Potential funding sources and funding mechanisms include:

- ▶ The California Tire Recycling Management Fund (Tire Fund).
- ▶ AB 1071 (Chapter 585, Statutes of 2015) Supplemental Environmental Projects.
- ▶ Assembly Bill 965 (Chapter 668, Statutes of 2015).

# Questions?

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