

Total Maximum Daily Load Progress Report	
Regional Water Board	Colorado River Basin, Region 7
Beneficial uses affected:	RARE, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, WILD
Pollutant(s) addressed:	BOD and Ammonia
Implemented through:	3 <sup>rd</sup> Party (USIBWC and U.S. EPA)
Approval date:	November 16, 2012

New River Dissolved Oxygen TMDL	
<b>STATUS</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conditions Improving
	<input type="checkbox"/> Data Inconclusive
	<input type="checkbox"/> Improvement Needed
	<input type="checkbox"/> 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. The New River is dominated by industrial and municipal wastewater treatment discharges and agricultural wastewater discharges from both Mexico and the Imperial Valley. The main pollutants of concern that cause in-stream low dissolved oxygen (DO) concentrations are biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>). Low DO conditions violate the water quality objectives established to protect warm water ecosystems, endangered species, and recreational beneficial uses of the New River.

A [TMDL for DO in the New River](#) was completed by the Colorado River Basin Regional Board and approved by U.S. EPA in November 2012. The Regional Board does not have jurisdictional authority over Mexico, and relies on cooperation from Mexico and the U.S. Government to reduce BOD and NH<sub>3</sub> concentrations that crosses the International Boundary. The TMDL is implemented in 2 phases over 6 years. The TMDL is expected to achieve applicable water quality standards for DO in the New River at the International Boundary by 2018.

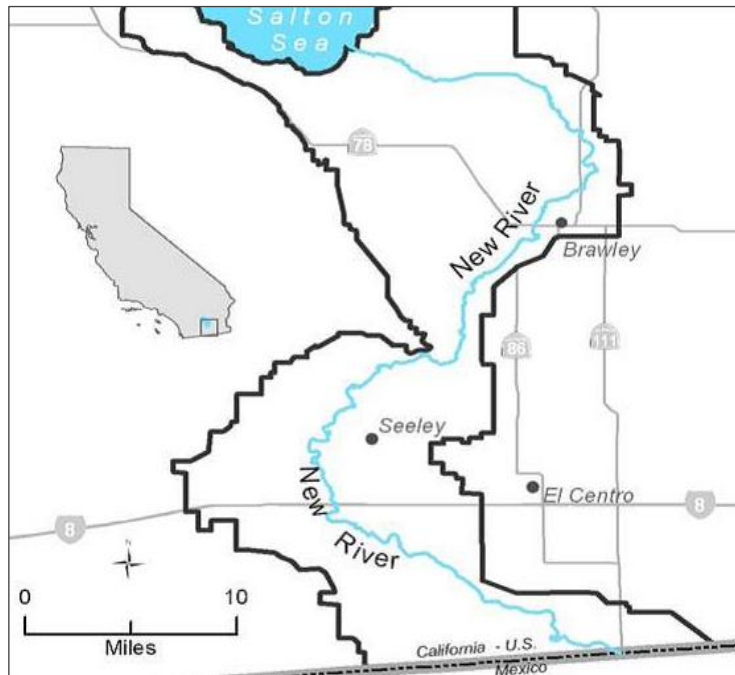
### TMDL Load Allocations<sup>a</sup>

Pollutant	Concentration (mg/L)	Mass/Day (kg/day) <sup>b</sup>
BOD	5.0	1529
NH <sub>3</sub>	0.5	153

<sup>a</sup>Phase 1 (first three years) load allocations. If targets are not met by end of Phase 1, load allocations will be reassessed for Phase 2 (second three years).

<sup>b</sup>Load allocations are based on 2007 average flows of 125 cubic feet per second (cfs).

### New River Watershed



### Water Quality Outcomes

- Water quality monitoring data show improved DO conditions in the New River; however, DO objectives are not consistently being met.
- Regional Board will continue to work with USIBWC and U.S. EPA to continue monitoring the water quality and the cleaning efforts in Mexico.
- Negotiations are ongoing to ensure coordination of International Boundary projects to bring the New River into compliance.

### New River Water Quality

