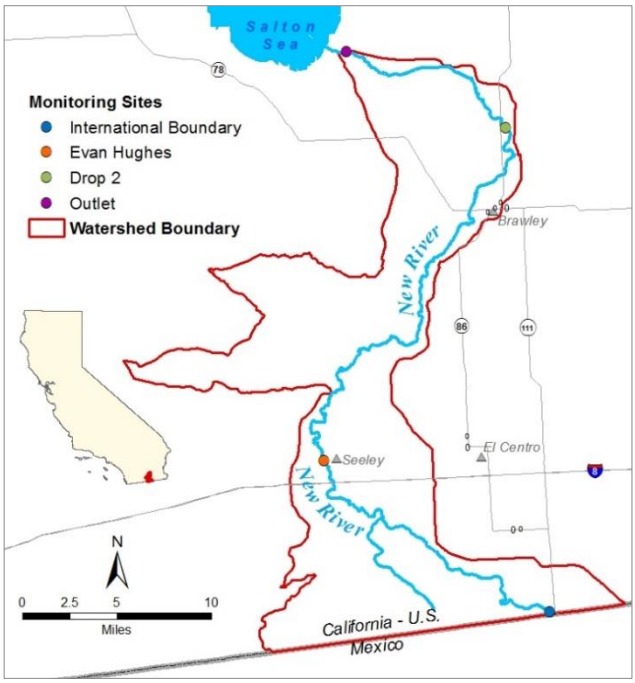
Water Quality Report Card		Sediment in New River
Regional Water Board:	**Colorado River Basin, Region 7**	**STATUS** ☐ Conditions Improving ☐ Data Inconclusive ☑ **Improvement Needed** ☐ Targets Achieved/Water Body Delisted
Beneficial Uses Affected:	RARE, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, WILD	
Implemented Through:	USICFB, IID, Prohibition	
Effective Date:	March 31, 2003	
Attainment Date:	2015	**Pollutant Type:** ☐ Point Source ☑ Nonpoint Source ☐ 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. Dominated by discharges from Imperial Valley agriculture, and Mexico's agriculture and industry, the New River exceeds sediment water quality objectives established to protect warm water ecosystems, endangered species, and recreational beneficial uses. To address the impairment, Region 7 adopted the Sedimentation/Siltation TMDL for the New River, which because effective in March 2003. The TMDL is implemented through a Region 7 adopted sediment conditional prohibition, which became effective in 2005, and the Imperial County Farm Bureau's (ICFB) Sediment TMDL Compliance Program. Through the voluntary ICFB program, Imperial Valley farmers implement best management practices (BMPs) to reduce sediment or total suspended solids (TSS) discharges. The TMDL is implemented in four phases over 12 years, and calls for final targets to be achieved by 2015.

New River Watershed



TMDL Phase Reductions and Targets

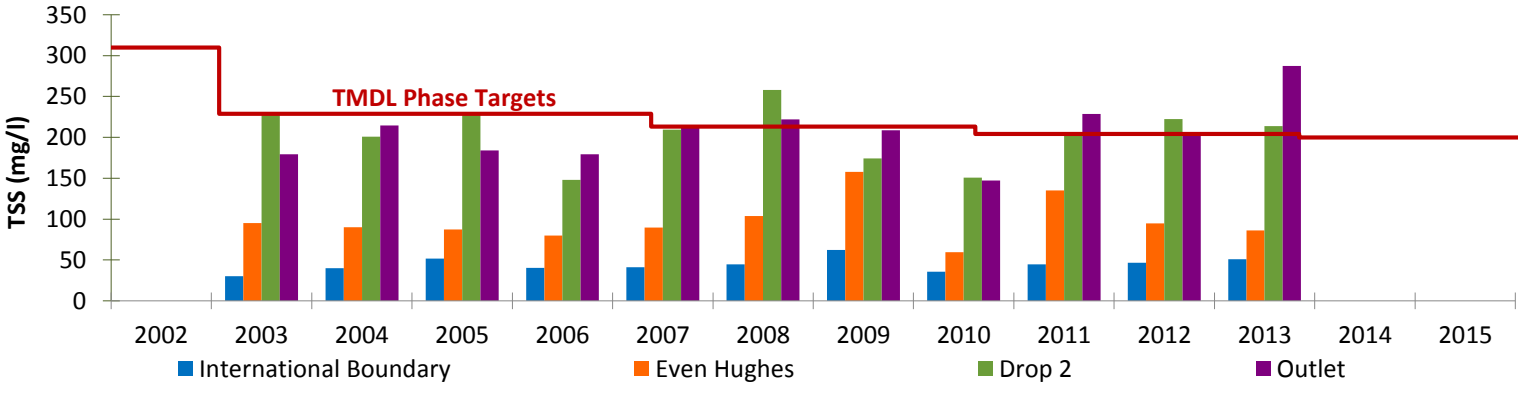
Phase	Time Period	Reduction from Existing Conditions[a]	Target (TSS mg/L)
Phase 1	2003-2006	5%	229
Phase 2	2007-2009	7%	213
Phase 3	2010-2012	4%	204
Phase 4	2013-2015	2%	200

[a] Percent reductions indicate the reduction required in TSS at the end of each phase, starting with the (2002) average concentration of 306 mg/L.

Water Quality Outcomes

- *Water quality data demonstrate TSS conditions in the New River have not improved over a period of 12 years.*
- *Water quality data demonstrate that TSS at upstream monitoring sites (International Boundary and Even Hughes) have always met the TMDL Phase Targets.*
- *Sediment loading from agricultural runoff is variable; water quality data indicate greater loading occurs in the downstream reaches of New River (monitoring sites Drop 2 and Outlet).*
- *Region 7 is developing an agricultural waiver, which will require dischargers in Imperial Valley, including those not currently participating in ICFB, to monitor for all agricultural water quality constituents of concern and implement management practices.*

Total Suspended Solids (TSS) in the New River [b]



[b] Monitoring data are available on CEDEN.

Original report card released September 2012; updated October 2014