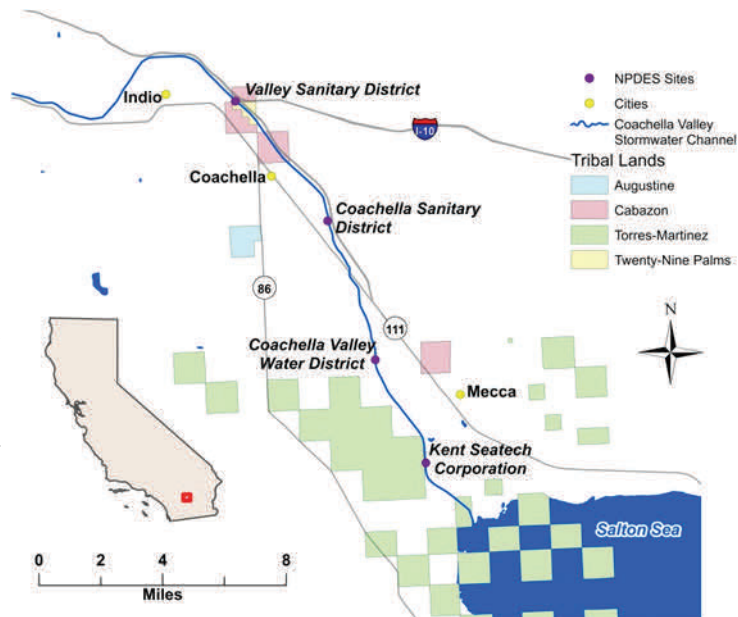


Water Quality Report Card		Bacteria in the Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel	
Regional Water Board:	Colorado River Basin, Region 7	STATUS	<input type="checkbox"/> Conditions Improving <input type="checkbox"/> Data Inconclusive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improvement Needed <input type="checkbox"/> Targets Achieved/Water Body Delisted
Beneficial Uses Affected:	RARE, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, WILD		
Implemented Through:	NPDES Permits, MS4 Permits, 3 rd Party		
Effective Date:	April 2012		
Attainment Date:	2022	Pollutant Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Point Source <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonpoint Source <input type="checkbox"/> Legacy

Water Quality Improvement Strategy

The Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel (CVSC) is an unlined, engineered extension of the Whitewater River located in Riverside County. The CVSC serves as a conveyance channel for agricultural irrigation return water, treated wastewater from three municipal wastewater treatment plants, and urban and storm water runoff. Bacterial indicator *E. coli* concentrations exceed water quality objectives established to protect warm water ecosystems, endangered species, and recreational beneficial uses of the CVSC. The [CVSC Bacterial Indicators TMDL](#) was completed by the Regional Water Board and subsequently approved by the USEPA in April 2012. The TMDL is implemented through NPDES Permits, MS4 Permits, and by a 3rd party (USEPA is addressing federal and tribal lands). As part of Phase I TMDL implementation actions, further characterization of *E. coli* from urban and storm water runoff and nonpoint sources is underway. The TMDL calls for controlling, monitoring and characterizing *E. coli* from wastewater treatment plants, Caltrans, the City of Coachella, and federal and tribal lands by 2022.

Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel



TMDL Load Allocations

Discharger	<i>E. Coli</i> Allocations	
	30-Day Geometric Mean ^a	Maximum Instantaneous
Waste Load Allocations		
Wastewater Treatment Plants and Water Reclamation Plant	126 MPN ^b /100 mL	–
Fish farm; Cal-Trans; City of Coachella	126 MPN/100 mL	400 MPN/100mL
Load Allocations		
Agricultural Runoff; Federal Lands; Tribal Lands	126 MPN/100 mL	400 MPN/100mL
Septic Systems	Zero (0) MPN/100 mL	–

^a Based on a minimum of no less than 5 samples equally spaced over a 30-day period.
^b Most probable number.

Water Quality Outcomes

- Water quality data show that TMDL targets for *E. coli* in the CVSC are not being consistently met.
- The primary sources of *E. coli* are still unknown.
- Agricultural discharges are a de minimis source of bacteria to the CVSC.
- As part of Phase I implementation actions, the Regional Water Board will develop a plan to conduct TMDL surveillance and track TMDL activities. The objectives of the plan will be to assess monitoring data, measure milestone attainment, and determine compliance with the TMDL.

Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel Water Quality

