



**Tijuana River Valley Wetlands Mitigation Site  
Community Meeting Summary**

**Date:** June 15, 2007

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**Location:**

Tijuana River Valley Regional Park Ranger Station  
2721 Monument Road  
San Diego, CA 92154

**Attendees:**

Gale Moriarity	George Kiss	James Martin
John Gabaldon	Vivian Valdivia	Richard Tynan
Don Chadwick	Mike Spurling	Judy Carver
Donna Nenow	Emma Spurling	David Lesale
Scott Robinson	Jerry Jakubauskas	Don Brubaker
D. Granda Wallace	Jesse Gomez	Nick Martinez
Larry Duke	Kathy Gomez	Carolyn Powers
Martha Kiss	Michael Sweesy	Howard Chang

**Organizations Represented:**

1. Citizens Against Recreation Eviction
2. City of San Diego
3. Congressman Bob Filner's Office
4. San Diego County Parks & Recreation
5. San Diego County Water Authority and consultants
6. Tijuana River Valley Equestrian Association
7. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Project Overview:**

Over the years, the Water Authority has imported up to 90 percent of its water supplies to meet the region's water needs. The Tijuana River Valley Wetland Mitigation Project is an important part of the San Diego County Water Authority's Emergency Storage Project that helps meet the region's water needs.

The Emergency Storage Project will consist of a system of reservoirs, pipelines, and other facilities in San Diego County that work together to improve water storage, increase operational flexibility, and make water available around the county if catastrophic events such as an earthquake or prolonged drought were to cutoff imported water deliveries.

The Water Authority's Wetland Mitigation Project will create 32.3 acres of wetlands on San Diego County owned property within the Tijuana River Valley, increasing the area of wetland habitat for both native sensitive and non-sensitive wildlife species. Wetlands improve water quality

by filtering water pollutants and recharging ground water. Wetlands also provide flood control, soil erosion protection, and sediment accretion.

Additionally, by restoring the wetlands in the Tijuana River Valley, the Wetland Mitigation Project facilitates compliance with permit requirements for future projects by providing credits that serve as replacement wetlands for future projects. Each acre of wetlands created is equivalent to one credit. Out of the 33 total credits generated by the project, nine credits will meet existing environmental requirements for the ESP. The remaining credits will support future Water Authority projects that help ensure a safe, reliable water supply to support the region's \$150 billion economy and quality of life of 3 million residents.

### **Summary of issues raised by attendees:**

There were many individual comments and concerns expressed at the meeting. These are summarized into four major categories. The Water Authority will address issues related to the proposed project as we move forward through the environmental process.

#### **Trash**

1. Excessive amount of trash south of Monument Road at Smugglers Gulch and at its confluence with the Tijuana River Valley.
2. Determination of maintenance agency for trash removal of the fore bay.
3. Concerns over the size and dimensions of the fore bay and its handling of excessive trash.

#### **Flooding**

1. Concern about the city of San Diego's infrequent dredging of the pilot channel.
2. Concern that the proposed project will not resolve all the flooding issues in the Tijuana River Valley.
3. Concern over the proposed project's drainage and flow gradients.

#### **Trails**

1. Accessibility and visibility concerns of horse trails after a rain or flood.
2. Interest in the proposed location, construction materials, and durability of the horse trails.

#### **Miscellaneous**

1. Concern that the proposed project is project driven and not resolution driven.
2. Questions regarding procedures to voice concerns about the project.
3. Perception that this proposed project benefits North County and not the South County.
4. Concerns over impacts to personal property and public safety.
5. Concern of past use of Dichloro-Diphenyl-Trichloroethane (DDT) on the proposed project site.