



## **International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section**

For immediate release  
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### **USIBWC PREPARES FOR HURRICANE HILARY**

The U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) is tracking Hurricane Hilary and its possible effect on the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP) and the surrounding area.

We are preparing to do everything in our power to minimize the impact on the communities in the area.

We have spoken with our Mexican counterparts to make them aware of our emergency preparations and will coordinate with them throughout this weather event.

Our concern is the surge in flow into the Tijuana River and the plant that could come with increased rainfall this weekend.

The USIBWC will be closely monitoring the flow in the Tijuana River Flood Control Project and will be ready to implement our flood control plan and assist local and Mexican officials if needed.

Residents who live near the river should stay alert for emergency announcements.

We are preparing for a possible increase in trash flowing into the screens at the SBIWTP headworks, the point where untreated water enters the facility.

While the plant has an automatic trash removal machine, personnel will be standing by to manually remove excess debris, if necessary, to ensure incoming water does not back up.

In the event excess water enters the plant and creates the potential for overflow, we will temporarily divert water from the primary treatment tanks to the South Bay Ocean Outfall, where the partially treated water will be released 3.5 miles into the Pacific Ocean.

SBIWTP personnel will restore normal operations as soon as possible.

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