

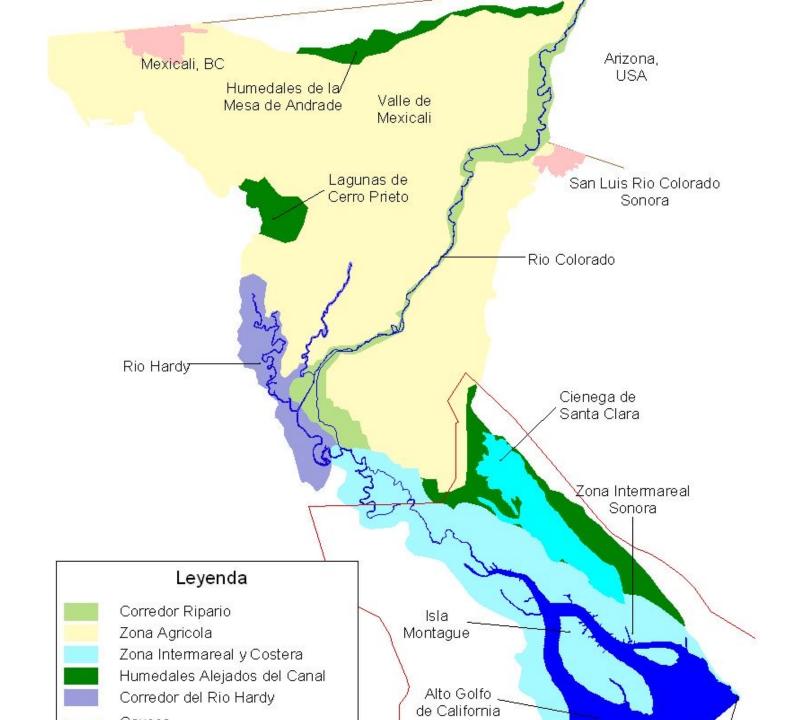
Restoration Efforts in the Colorado River Delta

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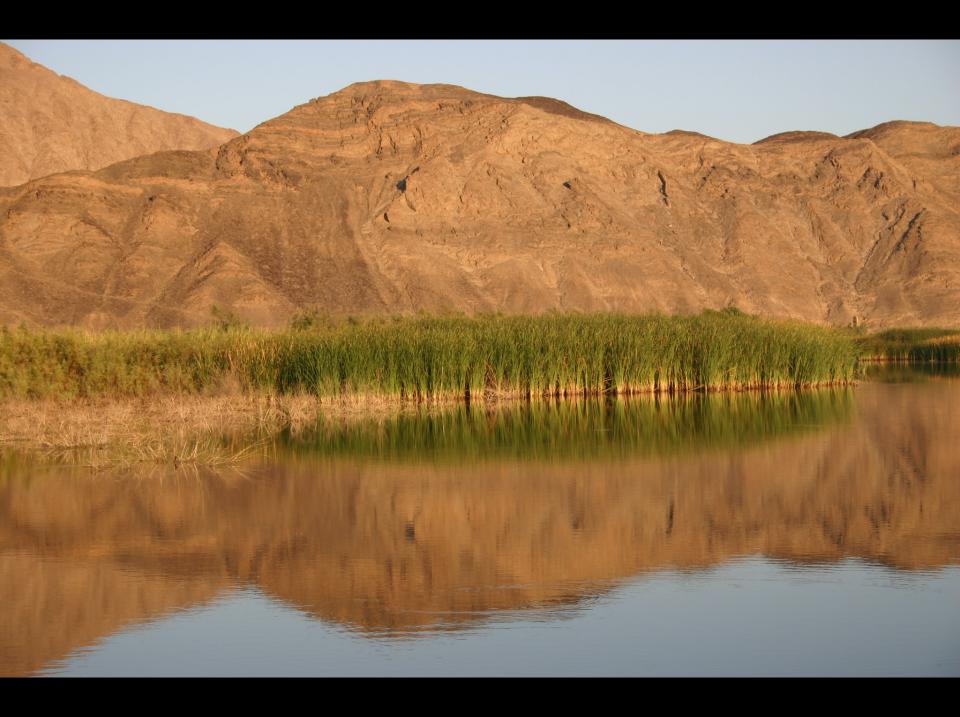














Importance of the Colorado Delta

Biosphere Reserve 2 Ramsar Sites Priority Wetland in NA

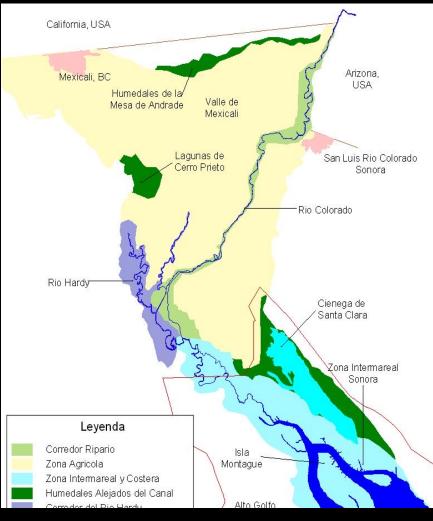
Fotografía: Francisco Zamora

Foundations of the Restoration Work

1) Conservation Priorities

CALIFORNIA Galexico BAJA CALIFORNIA Mexicali San Luis Mexicali Irrigation District Sierin Com UNITED STATES San Luis Río Colorado MEXICO SONORA Desierto de Altar Legend Restoration areas are those needing Golfo de Santa Clara action to re-establish ecological functions Protection areas are those currently in good condition, as they provide critical habitat for species of conservation concern Two priority areas required protective and restoration actions.

2) Water Needs



Key strategies

- Research and planning
- Outreach and community involvement
- Binational negotiations and Public Policy
- Water for the environment
- Protection of key sites
- Restoration

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Sand Phillips Consule,



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

























SECRETARÍA DE MEDIO AMBIENTE Y RECURSOS NATURALES





Implementation Water Allocation

• The river is overallocated

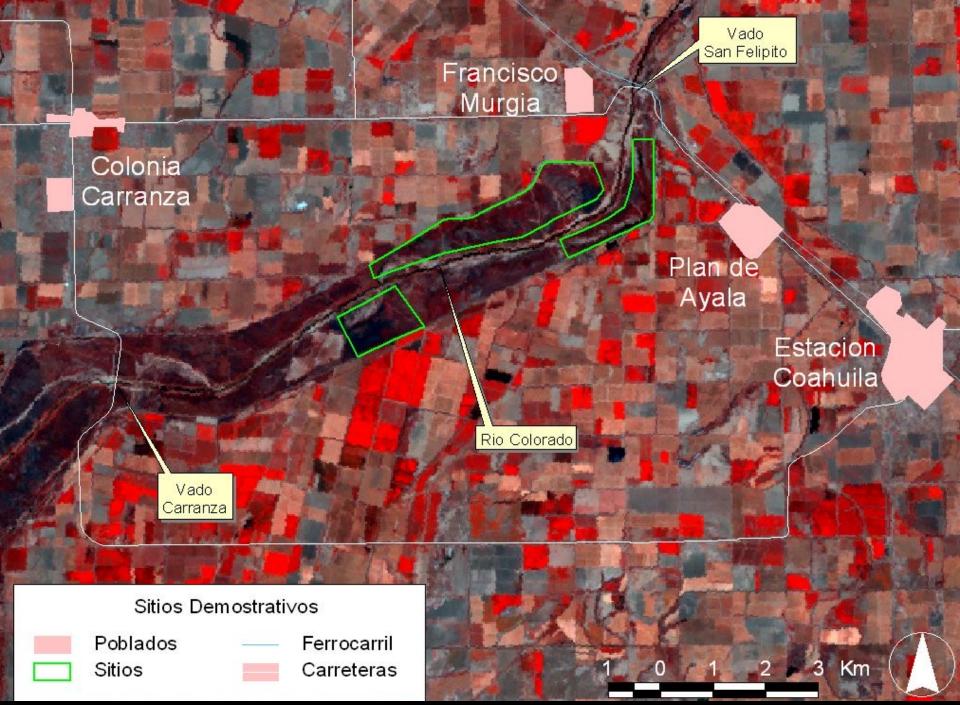
• We need new strategies and tools



Water Allocation:

- Voluntary, marketbased strategies
- Acquisition of water rights in the Mexicali Valley
- Water Trust for the Restoration of the Colorado River Delta



























Binational negotiations for the Colorado River Delta





Environmental component of Minute 319

Allocation of 195 million cubic meters – 5 years

Contributions from US, Mexico and Environmental Groups

Test legal and technical mechanisms, and the hydrological and ecological response of the system



Pulse flow of Minute 319

Water from Mexico and the US – 130 million m³ A single event, with higher flow rate (up to 120 m³/s)

Natural regeneration of the floodplain

8 weeks: March 23 – May 18, 2014



Base Flows of Minute 319

65 million m³ porivided by the NGO´s– Water Trust for the Restoration of the Colorado River Delta

Lower flow rate, longer duration, for the maintenance of the restored vegetation over time.



Design and Planning of the Pulse Flow

Binational meetings with experts for the design of the pulse flow.

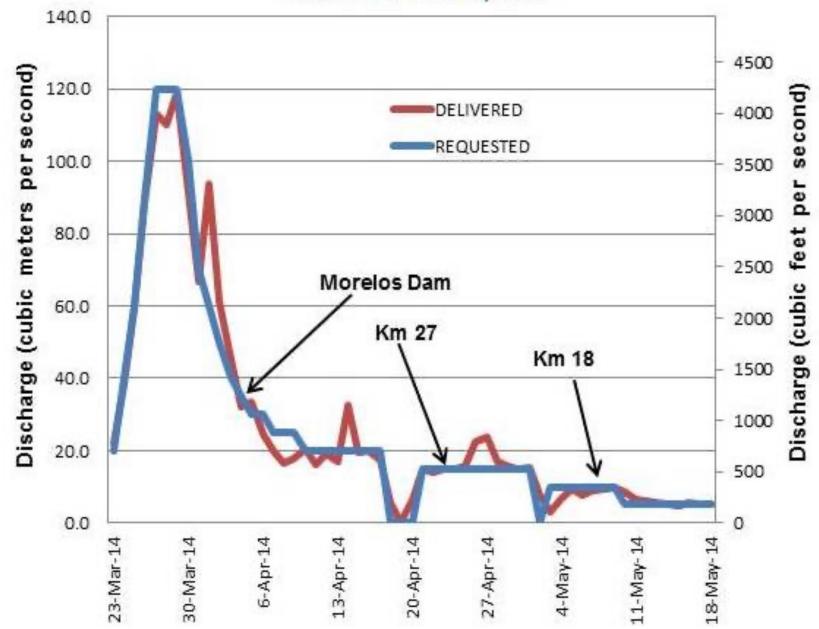
•Government agencies (USGS, USBOR, CONAGUA, CILA, CONANP, basin states)

•Universities (UABC, COLEF, University of Arizona, University of Montana)

•NGO´s (Pronatura Noroeste, Sonoran Institute, EDF, TNC, FPC)

PULSE FLOW DELIVERY

MARCH 23 - MAY 18, 2014





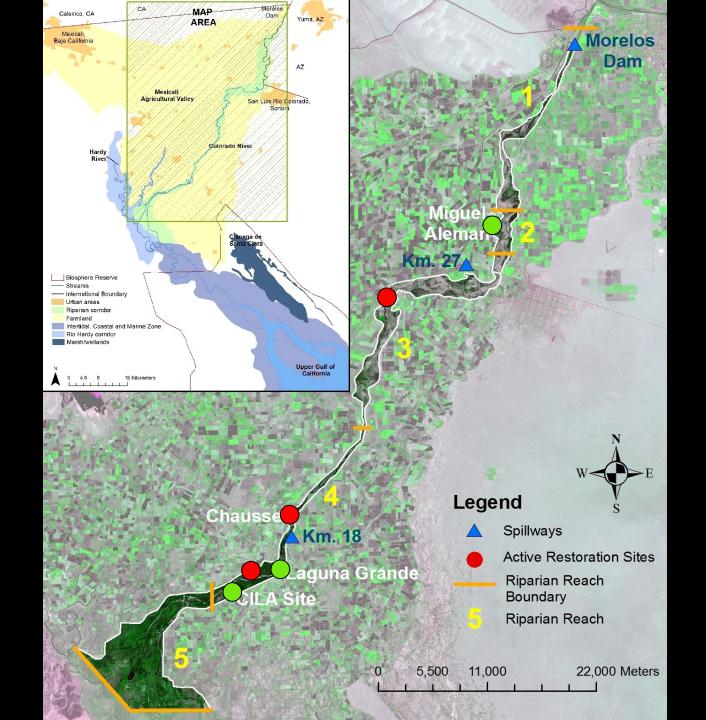












Restoration in the Colorado River Delta:

- Regional approach / science-based
- We have a regulatory framework, public policies and the support from different stakeholders
- Binational cooperation
- Water allocation is feasible
- Protection is feasible
- Resilient ecosystem: restoration is possible

