

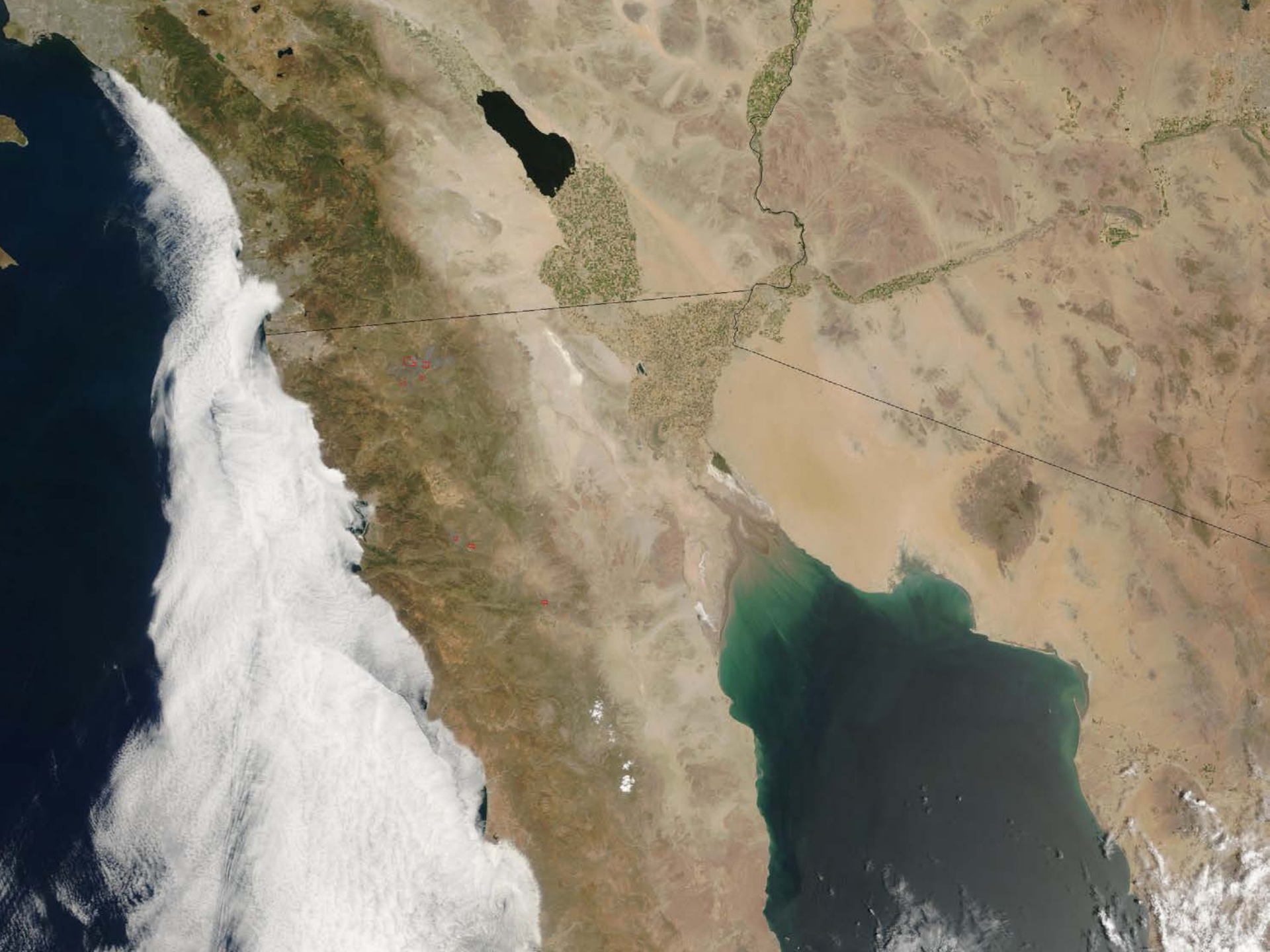


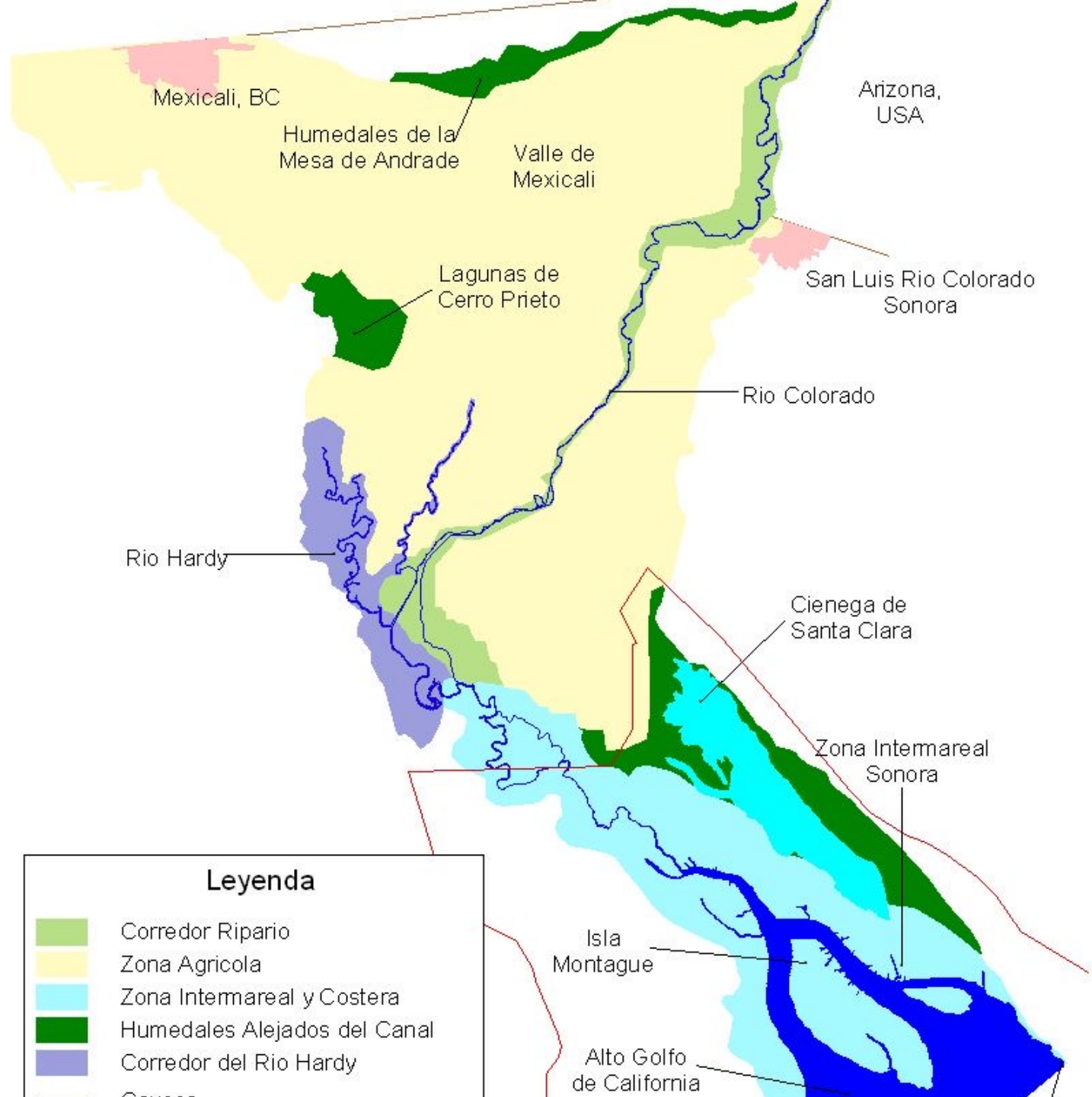
Restoration Efforts in the Colorado River Delta

Osvel Hinojosa-Huerta

Pronatura Noroeste















Importance of the Colorado Delta

Biosphere Reserve

2 Ramsar Sites

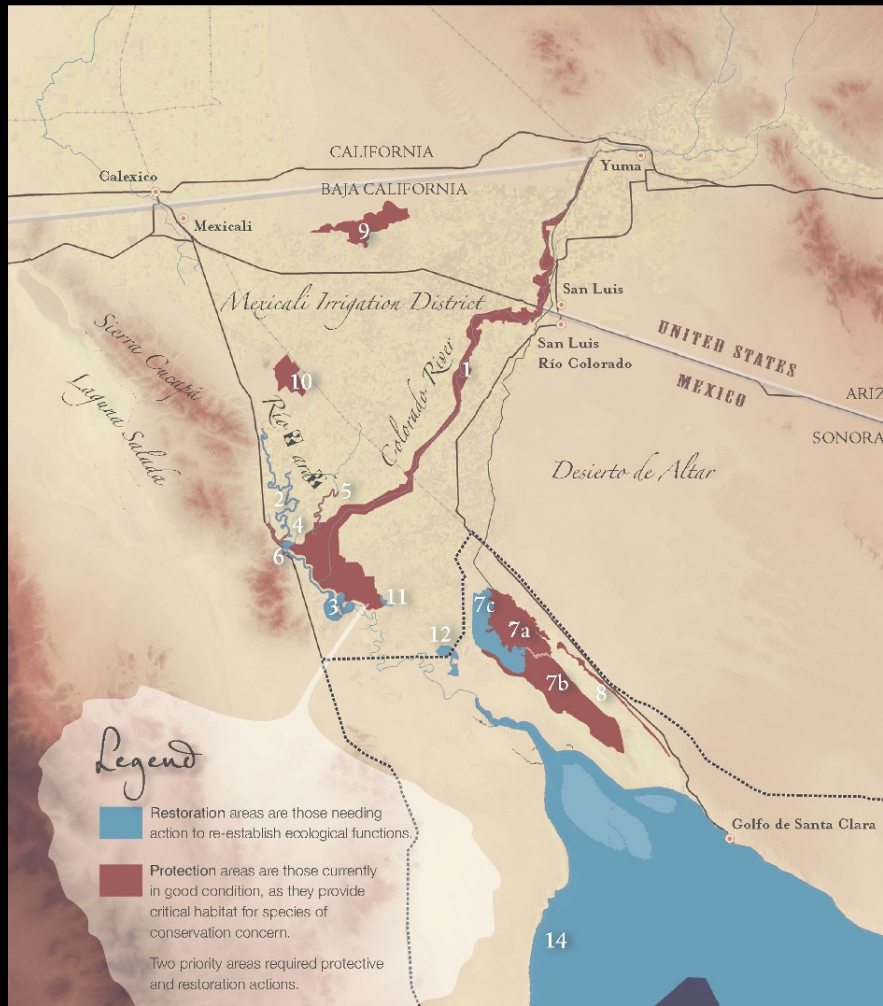
Priority Wetland in NA



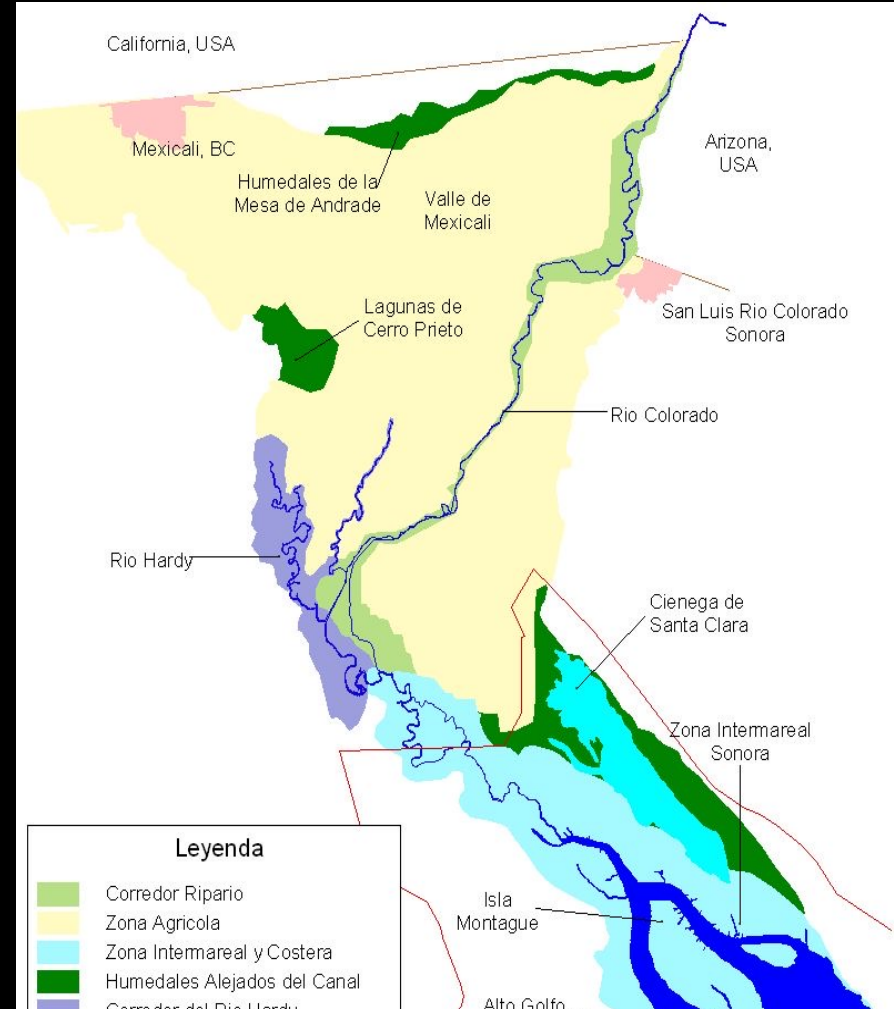
Fotografía: Francisco Zamora

Foundations of the Restoration Work

1) Conservation Priorities

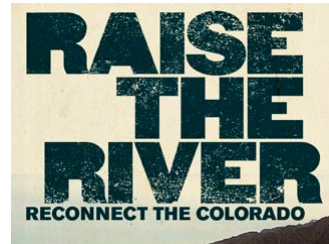


2) Water Needs



Key strategies

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



Implementation

Water Allocation

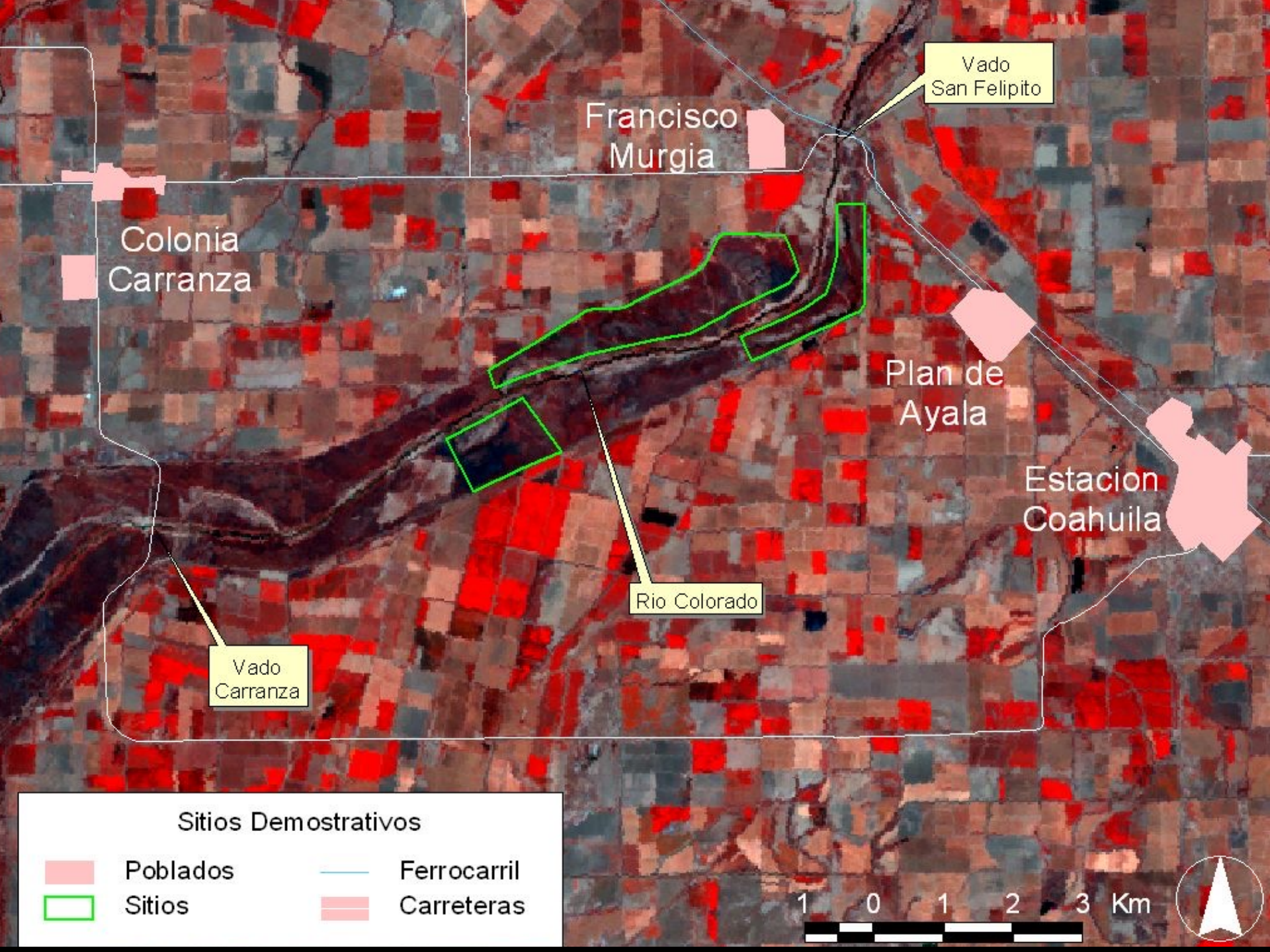
- The river is over-allocated
- We need new strategies and tools



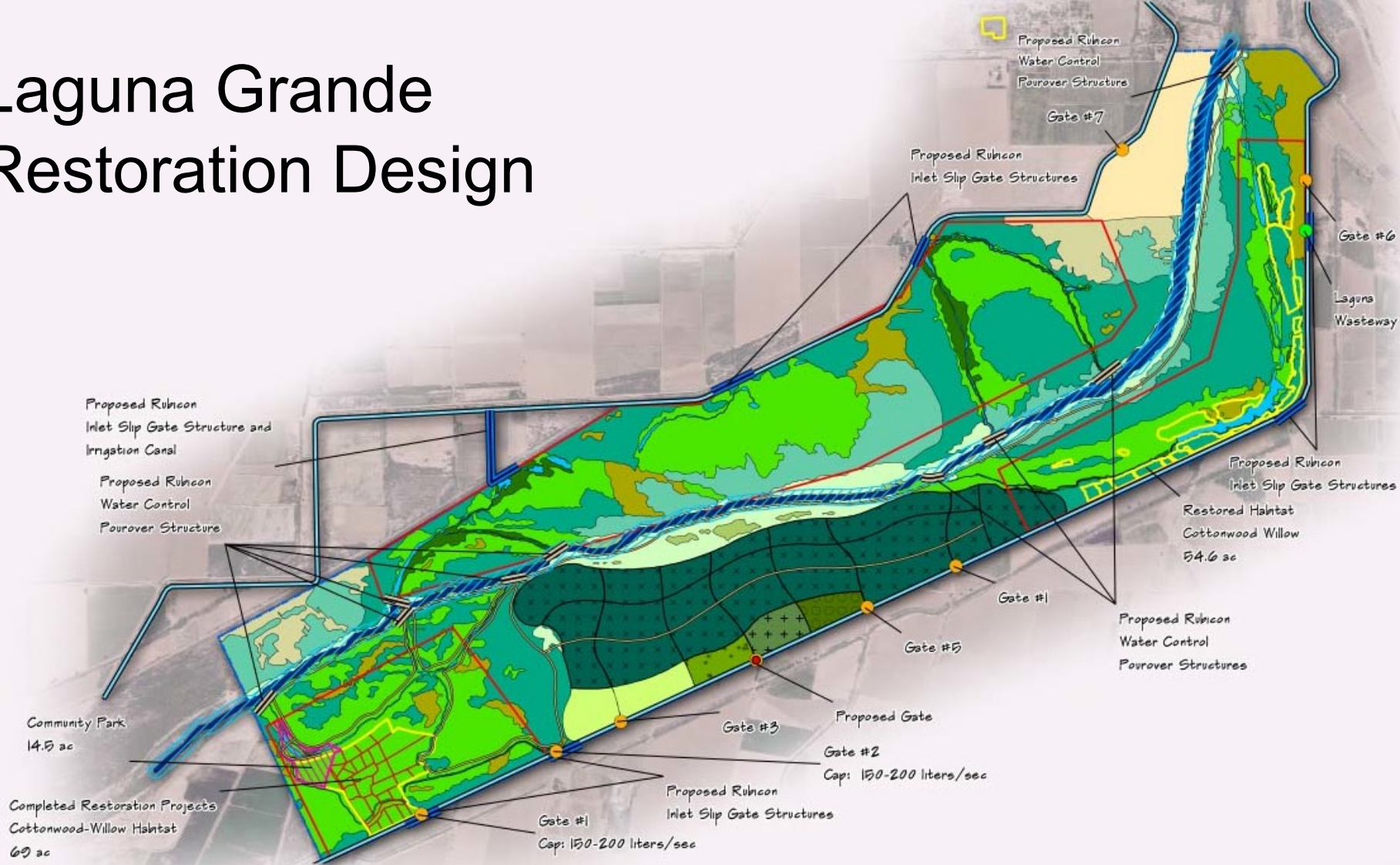
Water Allocation:

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





Laguna Grande Restoration Design















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 provided 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.



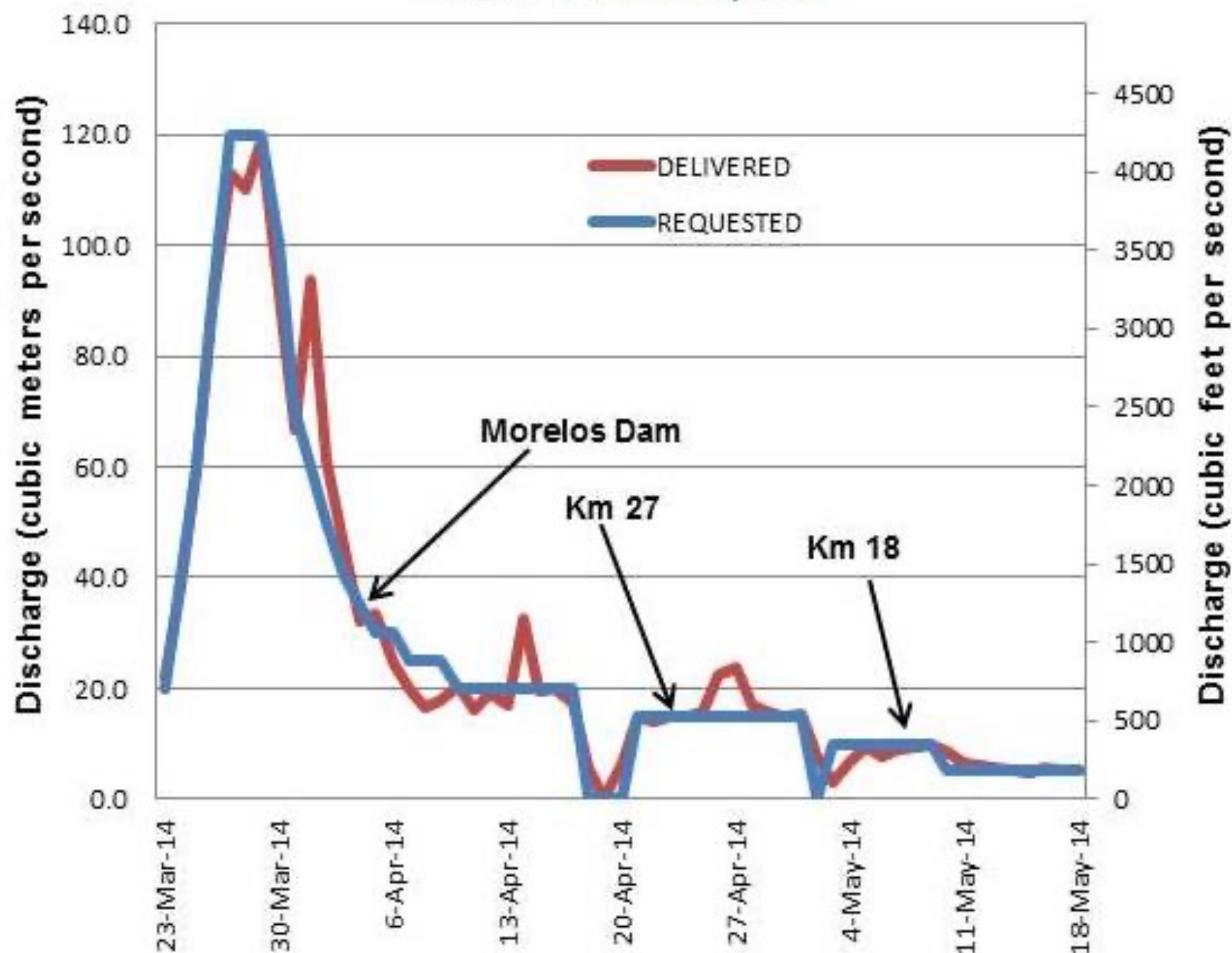
Design and Planning of the Pulse Flow

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





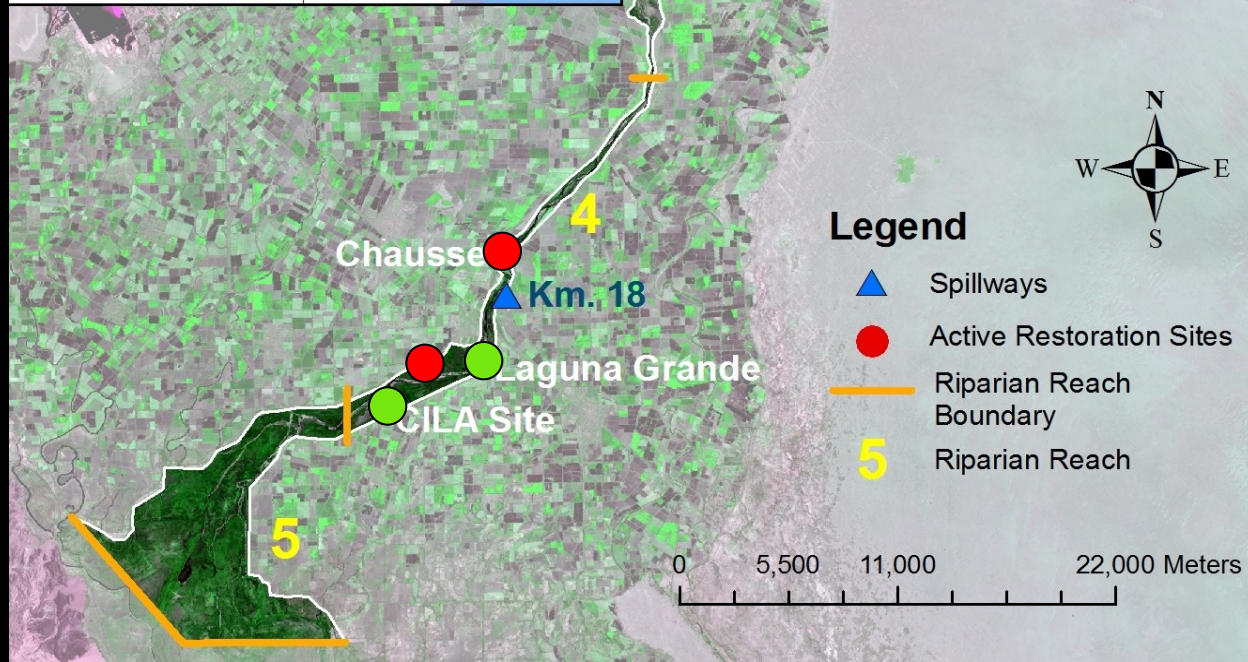
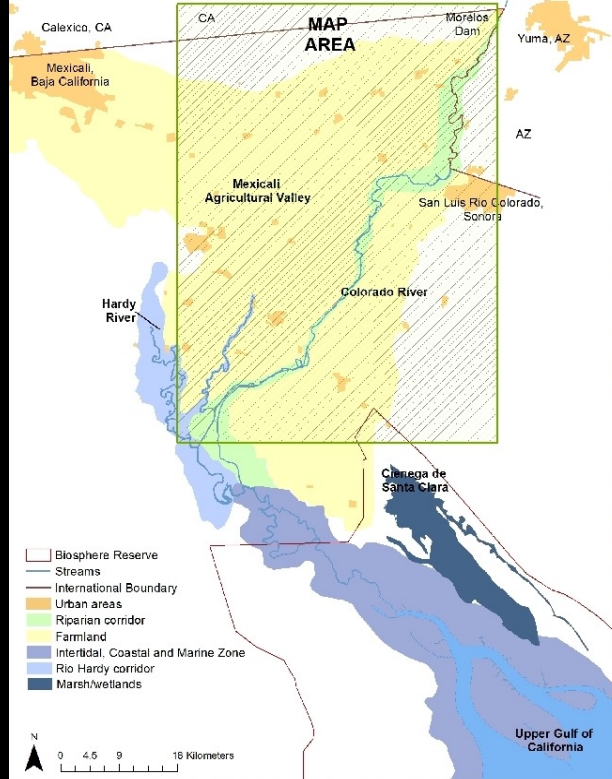












Restoration in the Colorado River Delta:

- 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

