

Water Resources Research Center Conference 2018



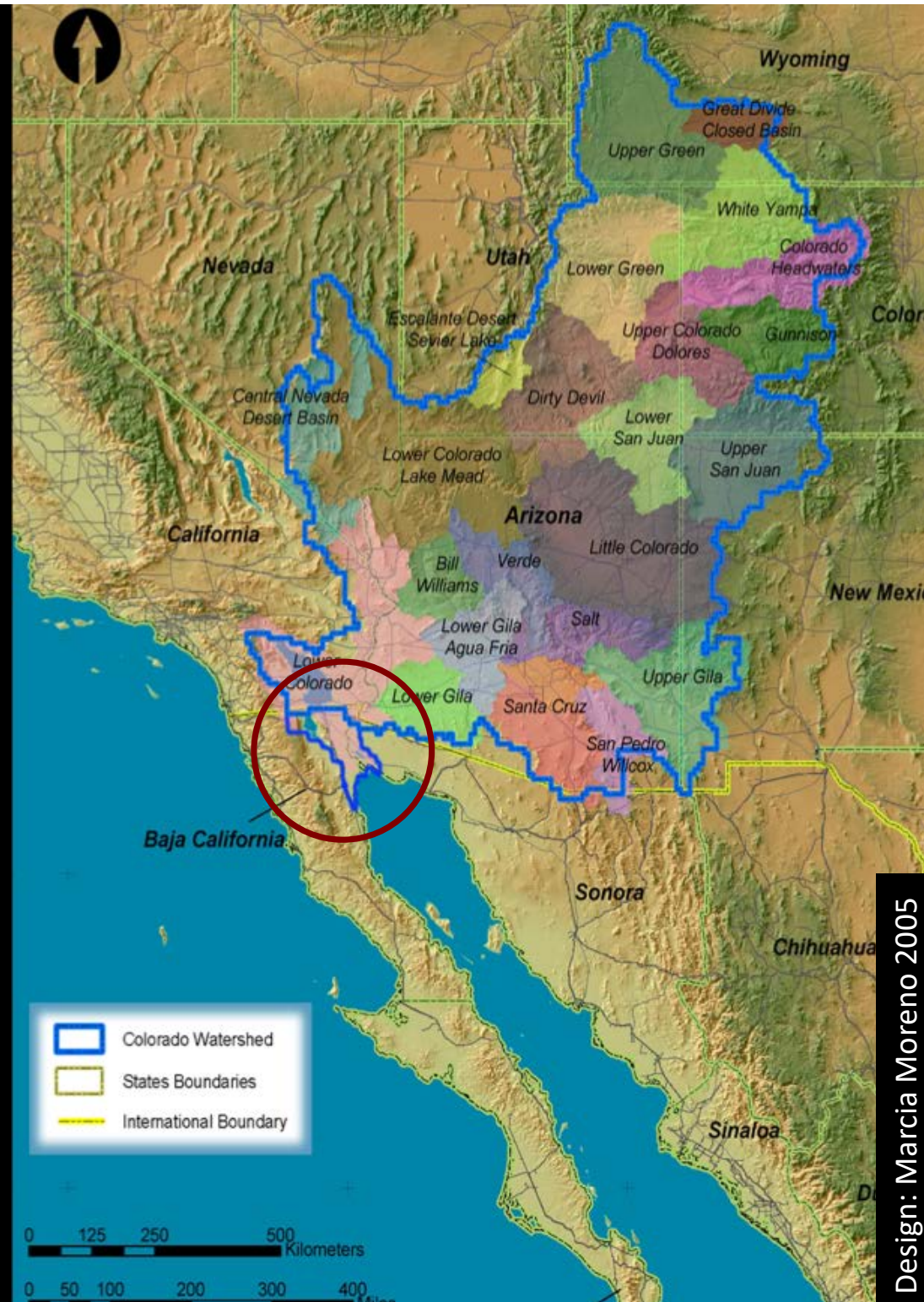
**RESTAUREMOS  
EL COLORADO AC**

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# The Colorado River...

- Length: nearly 1,400 miles
- Watershed: 242,000 miles<sup>2</sup>
- Sustains  $\approx$  40 million inhabitants in the US and Mexico
- $>$  80% of river flows diverted for agriculture
- River flows  $<$  Water Used
- Loss of  $>$  90% of wetlands in some regions in the basin





# RESTAUREMOS EL COLORADO AC



- Non-for profit environmental organization, aka The Colorado River Delta Water Trust.
- Mission: to secure instream flows for the Colorado River, via permanent and temporary acquisitions and help restore critical riparian and wetland habitats in the Colorado River delta in Mexico. We deliver water on behalf of all Raise the River partners.



# RESTAUREMOS EL COLORADO AC

## Water Trust Activities:

- **Acquire permanent and temporary water rights on behalf of all delta ngos**
- **Ensure fulfillment of Minute 319 and 323 on behalf of all ngos**
- **Program, deliver and measure all environmental flow deliveries**
- **Implement wetland restoration projects in the delta - Chaussé**
- **Develop strategies for alternative sources of water – water infrastructure in the district:**
  - **- implemented largest fallowing program in the district with Conagua.**

## MX AND US ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COLORADO RIVER DELTA

Raise the River Partners believe:

- In the resiliency of the CR Delta ecosystem
- We can restore flows in reaches of the river
- In restoring the CR delta improves the livelihoods of rural communities
- In providing jobs in conservation activities has lasting social and economic benefits
  
- We help both countries in the understanding of ecosystem needs and potentials for restoration but also in translation and sharing messages across borders.
  
- We use market-based mechanisms to restore the CR delta ecosystem.

## Building binational collaboration in the Colorado River Basin

- **Minute 306:** Framework for US-MX studies for riparian and estuarine ecology in the Colorado River Delta (2000)
- **Minute 316:** Yuma Desalting Plant Pilot Run (2010)
- **Minute 317:** Framework for US-MX Colorado River Cooperative Actions (2010)
- **Minute 318:** Adjustment of Water Deliveries to MX-Earthquake emergency (2010)
- **Minute 319:** Interim International Cooperative Measures in the Colorado River Basin.....(2012)
- **Minute 323:** extension of coop measures and adoption binational water scarcity contingency plan (2017).

# RESTAUREMOS EL COLORADO AC

## Restauremos El Colorado AC

### Minute 319 Flows Delivered on Behalf of all Environmental Organizations

	<b>Water Year Credited</b>	<b>Base Flow (m3)</b>	<b>Base Flow (AF)</b>	<b>Accum. Base Flow (m3)</b>	<b>Min 319 (% , accum)</b>
Year 1	Nov 2012-Sept 2013	693,219	562	693,219	1%
Year 2	Oct 2013-Sept 2014	12,593,159	10,209	13,286,377	20%
Year 3	Oct 2014-Sept 2015	29,990,335	24,314	43,276,713	67%
Year 4	Oct 2015-Sept 2016	16,340,746	13,248	59,617,459	92%
Year 5*	Oct 2016-Sept 2017	10,226,282	8,291	69,843,741	107%
Year 6*	Oct 1, 2017-Dec 31, 2017	910,222	738	70,753,963	109%

\* Preliminary data as of January 2018, not yet signed by all modulos.

**Minute 319; Deliver a volume of 65Mm3, 52,696AF in 5 años.**

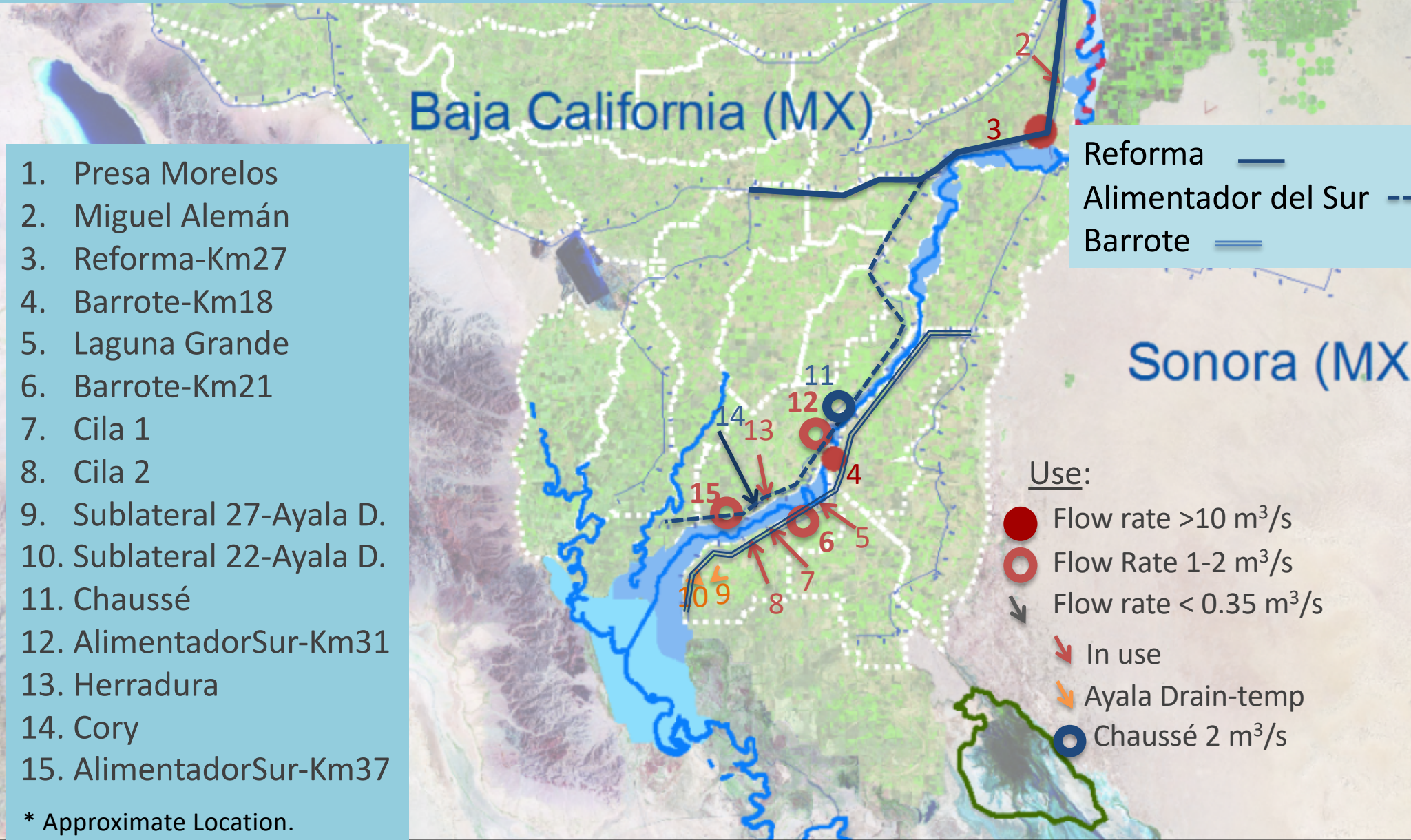


# Restauraremos El Colorado AC

## Delivery points – 2018 Online Platform

(only to share preliminary data)

Design: Yamilett Carrillo 2016



1. Presa Morelos
2. Miguel Alemán
3. Reforma-Km27
4. Barrote-Km18
5. Laguna Grande
6. Barrote-Km21
7. Cila 1
8. Cila 2
9. Sublateral 27-Ayala D.
10. Sublateral 22-Ayala D.
11. Chaussé
12. AlimentadorSur-Km31
13. Herradura
14. Cory
15. AlimentadorSur-Km37

\* Approximate Location.



# View of the Pulse Flow 2014





# ***Colorado River Delta Water Trust Restauremos El Colorado AC***

- 1. Act on behalf of US-MX to ensure fulfillment of Minute 323**
- 2. Acquire, program, deliver and measure all instream flow deliveries.**
- 3. Represent environmental voice in the Mexicali Irrigation District.**



# Base Flow Commitments of US-MX NGOs under Minute 323

- 9 year duration
- Total of 210,000 AF (hard target)
- Three-party contributions: US funding to conserve water, MX federal water, NGOs water rights
- NGOs will provide 1/3 of all environmental flows (70K AF)
- Minute 323 working groups
- Restoration, monitoring, water deliveries.









“Now that water has been flowing down again in the last years, we have seen changes too, because *when there is water in the river, life becomes a joy for us. The river is life...*”

Onesimo Gonzalez, 1999

