IMPERIAL SITE MAP

BE A PART OF THIS SOLUTION!
We are actively seeking volunteers.
call (760) 351-2679
to sign up for activities.

PARTICIPANTS IN PROJECT:

- *Desert Wildlife Unlimited*
- *Imperial Irrigation District*
- *U.S. Bureau of Reclamation*
- *County of Imperial*
- *California Regional Water Quality Control Board*
- *California Dept. Fish & Game*
- *U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*
- *University of California*
- *Ducks Unlimited*
- *U.S. Geological Survey*
- *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*

For information email us at:
newriver@quix.net
website: www.newriverwetlands.com

CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS

IMPERIAL SITE FEBRUARY 2002

Citizen's Congressional Task Force
On The New River
4151 Highway 86, Building 4
Brawley, CA 92227

CITIZEN'S CONGRESSIONAL
TASK FORCE
ON THE NEW RIVER

NEW RIVER WETLANDS PROJECT

A GRASSROOTS
PROJECT TO IMPROVE
THE QUALITY OF
WATER FLOWING INTO
THE SALTON SEA

Celebrating The Nature Of Life.
NEW RIVER WETLANDS PROJECT

WETLANDS PROJECT

BRAWLEY SITE - FEBRUARY 2002

BOB MILLER Photo

HISTORY

The New River was formed in the early 1900s when the Colorado River flooded. An international river, it originates 20 miles south of the Mexican border meandering through agricultural fields until reaching its destination, the Salton Sea.

PROBLEM

The New and Alamo Rivers acquire nutrients and heavy metals from sewage; nutrients, silt, selenium and pesticides from agricultural drainage. The concern is that the pollutants carried by the New River is increasing the degradation of the Salton Sea.

GRASSROOTS ACTION

In early 1997, a concerned local organization, Desert Wildlife Unlimited, looked for a solution for the New River pollution problem. This group has worked with local, state and federal agencies to obtain grant monies, permits and has constructed two wetlands.

PILOT PROJECT

The purpose of the pilot Wetlands system was to implement pollution control to reduce pollutants and improve quality of water discharged from the New River into Salton Sea.

MONITORING

To determine the success of the pilot program, extensive water quality monitoring will be conducted for three years. When monitoring proves the project successful, wetlands will be constructed in other selected sites along both rivers.

SPECIFICATIONS

Site	Total Water in Pond	Retention Time	Maximum Depth
Imperial	127 Acre feet	18 days	Sed: 14 ft cells: 4 ft
Brawley	21 Acre feet	9 days	Sed: 10 ft cells: 4 ft

SPECIFICATIONS

Site	Water Source	Wet Acres	Flow Rate
Imperial	Ag drain	22.7	4 cfs
Brawley	New River	6	1 cfs

DO = DISSOLVED OXYGEN
N = NITROGEN
P = PHOSPHORUS
BOD = BIOCHEMICAL OXYGEN DEMAND
TSS = TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS

IMPERIAL SITE MONITORING SUMMARY (AVERAGES) 2001

MG/L	INLET (MG/L)	OUTLET (MG/L)	%CHANGE
DO	7.92	10.95	28% INCR.
TOTAL N	5.8	3.5	40% DECR.
TOTAL P	1.95	.57	71% DECR.
SELENIUM	.007	.005	29% DECR.
BOD	20	15	25% DECR.
FECAL COLIFORM	1998	76	96% DECR.
TSS	179	19	89% DECR.

BRAWLEY SITE MONITORING RESULTS (AVERAGES) 2001

MG/L	INLET	OUTLET	%CHANGE
DO	3.67	10.83	66% INCR.
TOTAL N	.9	.9	0
TOTAL P	1.59	.73	54% DECR.
SELENIUM	.011	.008	27% DECR.
BOD	16	13	19% DECR.
FECAL COLIFORM	151,664	274	99.8% DECR.
TSS	543	13	98% DECR.

BENEFITS

The Imperial and Brawley wetlands provide the following benefits:

- Reduction of pollutants
- Habitat for a wealth of plants, fish, wildlife and migrating waterfowl
- Recreational benefits such as:
  hunting / fishing
  bird watching
  hiking / family outings