

Previous and Existing Waste Tire Recycling Management Program Activities Funded Along the Border

Legislation

Senate Bill 772 (Ducheny, Chapter 214, Statutes of 2005) requires CalRecycle's Waste Tire Recycling Management Program to include in its Five-Year Plan specific border region activities, conducted in coordination with the California Environmental Protection Agency. These activities include training programs, environmental education, development of a waste tire abatement plan, tracking tire flow across the border, and coordination with border region businesses regarding the uniform application of environmental and control requirements throughout the border region.

Further, Senate Bill 167 (Ducheny, Chapter 333, Statutes of 2009) expands on SB 772 and requires CalRecycle to develop projects in Mexico's California-Mexico border region. Such efforts include education, infrastructure, mitigation, cleanup, prevention, reuse, and recycling projects that address the movement of used tires from California to Mexico that are eventually disposed in California.

Activities

Below is a list of border activities that have been funded by CalRecycle's Waste Tire Recycling Management Program during the last five years:

- San Diego State University, under contract with CalRecycle, conducted a study of the tire flow in the California-Mexico border region. The study collected and reviewed data for tire activities along the border region. The study includes an analysis of the data, and provides CalRecycle with a list of recommendations for possible actions by California and Mexico. The study is available in English and Spanish:

[The Flow of Used and Waste Tires in the California-Mexico Border Region](#) (IWMB-2009-018 – English Version)

[El Flujo de Llantas Usadas y de Desecho en la Region Fronteriza de California y México](#) (IWMB-2009-018 – Spanish Version)

- The California Highway Patrol (CHP), under contract to CalRecycle, is currently actively assisting in enforcement efforts around the state and in the California-Mexico border region, relative to waste tire hauler enforcement and the illegal disposal of waste tires. This program is showing considerable signs of success. CalRecycle is continuing to use the CHP for this effort, and is increasing training to law enforcement personnel in conjunction with waste tire inspectors.
- The Satellite Surveillance Program completed the report *Detecting Waste Tire Piles Using High-Resolution Remotely Sensed Imagery* in 2009. Staff is still determining if the use of satellite technology to locate waste tire piles both in California and along the Border Region is a viable option. While there are some limitations to the concept, staff are working to improve the analysis, and the program shows some promise in identifying other types of waste materials.

- CalRecycle in coordination with the Office of the Secretary for Environmental Protection-Border Affairs and Mexico's Secretariat for Public Education, has developed a mechanism for the bi-national distribution of the environmental education curriculum entitled *Conservation and Pollution Prevention at a Shared Border*. This elementary school curriculum includes lessons that are relevant to prevalent environmental border conditions (e.g., land, water and air pollution) and is consistent with existing environmental principles in Mexico. Both English and Spanish versions of the curriculum are provided to educators.
- California State University, Chico, through a contract with CalRecycle, developed teaching materials to educate undergraduate students who will become the future engineers and decision makers. As a part of this project, a series of lecture materials for eleven different courses was developed, focused on using waste tires in civil and transportation engineering applications. These materials have been translated into Spanish to be shared with colleges and universities in Mexico.
- The Tire Hauler Compliance Section has provided training and materials to the Mexican tire haulers and generators so that they can become familiar with CalRecycle's regulations. Additionally, the CHP provides hauler requirement information to haulers at border crossings. Staff has sent information to the Southern California tire generators to inform them of the applicable laws in giving waste or used tires to unregistered haulers, which includes unregistered Mexican haulers. The information includes waste tire hauler permit requirements, hauler check-point participation, and procedures for referring site locations where waste tires are being illegally dumped.
- The Solid Waste Cleanup Program provided funding for a CalRecycle managed cleanup project for the Goat Canyon trash and sediment collection basins in the Border Field State Park during the fall of 2009. Details of the project can be found at: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/archive/IWMBPR/2009/09Sept/34.htm>.
- In September 2009, the Tire Equipment Loan Program awarded Bulldog Rubber & Recycling a loan to purchase shredders, granulators and buffing equipment. The company plans to produce crumb rubber of various gradations, colored mulch and buffing in the San Diego area.
- CalRecycle conducted an International Tire Conference in San Diego during May 2008 that included sessions on operations and markets in both the United States and Mexico. During the conference, a full day was dedicated to the Border 2012 Working Group. Information regarding the conference can be found at: <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Tires/Events/Conference/2008/default.htm>.
- CalRecycle provided funding for a Scrap Tire Issues in the California-Baja California Border Region Workshop in National City during September 2007 and for a Used and Waste Tire Flow in the California-Mexico Border Region Workshop that was held in San Diego during March 2008.
- CalRecycle provided funding in 2005 to the City of San Diego's Solid Waste Local Enforcement Agency for cleaning up of waste tires in the Tijuana River Valley and for the development of an environmental outreach program to inform the border communities in Mexico of the health and safety issues associated with waste tires.

- CalRecycle participates in the Border 2012 Task Force Meeting, the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Resource Conservation Challenge Border Group, and the Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team.