

# The Life Cycle of a San Diego Tire



# Overview

**Tire Life Cycle**

**Supporting Data**

**Collaboration with Mexico**

**Problems/Solutions**



# Tire Life Cycle



# Follow the Green Tire

**1.**

**Purchase of new tire in the  
City of San Diego**

**\$1.75 tire fee collected**



# Follow the Green Tire

**2.**

**Tire is replaced**

**Disposal fee collected**



# Follow the Green Tire

3.

Tire travels about 100 miles north to L.A. County

341,000 tires into San Diego landfills in 2005



# Follow the Green Tire

4.

Tires are sorted for:

Disposal

Recycling

Re-use



# Follow the Green Tire

5.

Tire travels about 100 miles south to Tijuana



# Follow the Green Tire

**6.**

**Tire is sold in Tijuana**



# Follow the Green Tire

7.

**Tire is worn out and abandoned in the watershed**



# Follow the Green Tire

**8.**

**Tire washes downstream back to the City of San Diego into a sensitive habitat**



# Follow the Green Tire

**9.**

**Tire is removed from estuary using State and local funds**



# Follow the Green Tire

**10.**

**Tire is discarded in landfill**



# An Unsustainable Cycle

**798,000 used tires went into Mexico  
using CTLs from California in 2007**

**Additional thousands of  
undocumented tires**



# Legal Loophole

**Auto dismantler zone on the border**

**CTLs not required for transport of 9 or fewer tires by unregistered hauler**

**Illegal disposal is profitable**

**Generators unknowingly supply illegal haulers**



# California Motivation

**Interagency coordination to find solutions**

**La Paz agreement gives framework**

**Border 2012 Binational Waste Policy Forum**

“improve institutional and infrastructure capacity for waste management and pollution prevention”



# California Motivation

## Senate Bill 772

“include as a program element of its five-year plan for tires, **border region** activities conducted in coordination with California EPA. Such activities would include: training programs, environmental education, waste tire abatement, tracking tire flow across the border, and coordination with regard to environmental and control requirements.”



# Funding for Mexico

## **Problem**

Accumulating waste tires  
Lack of infrastructure

## **Possible Solution**

Money from CIWMB Waste Tire Fund



# Exporting Waste Tires

## **Problem**

Substandard tires are exported to Mexico both legally and illegally

## **Possible Solution**

Tires that are inadequate for further reuse need to be rendered unusable



# Regional Recycling

## **Problem**

Insufficient recycling options for the Border

## **Possible Solution**

Recycling center funded with a public-private partnership



# A Greener Tire

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