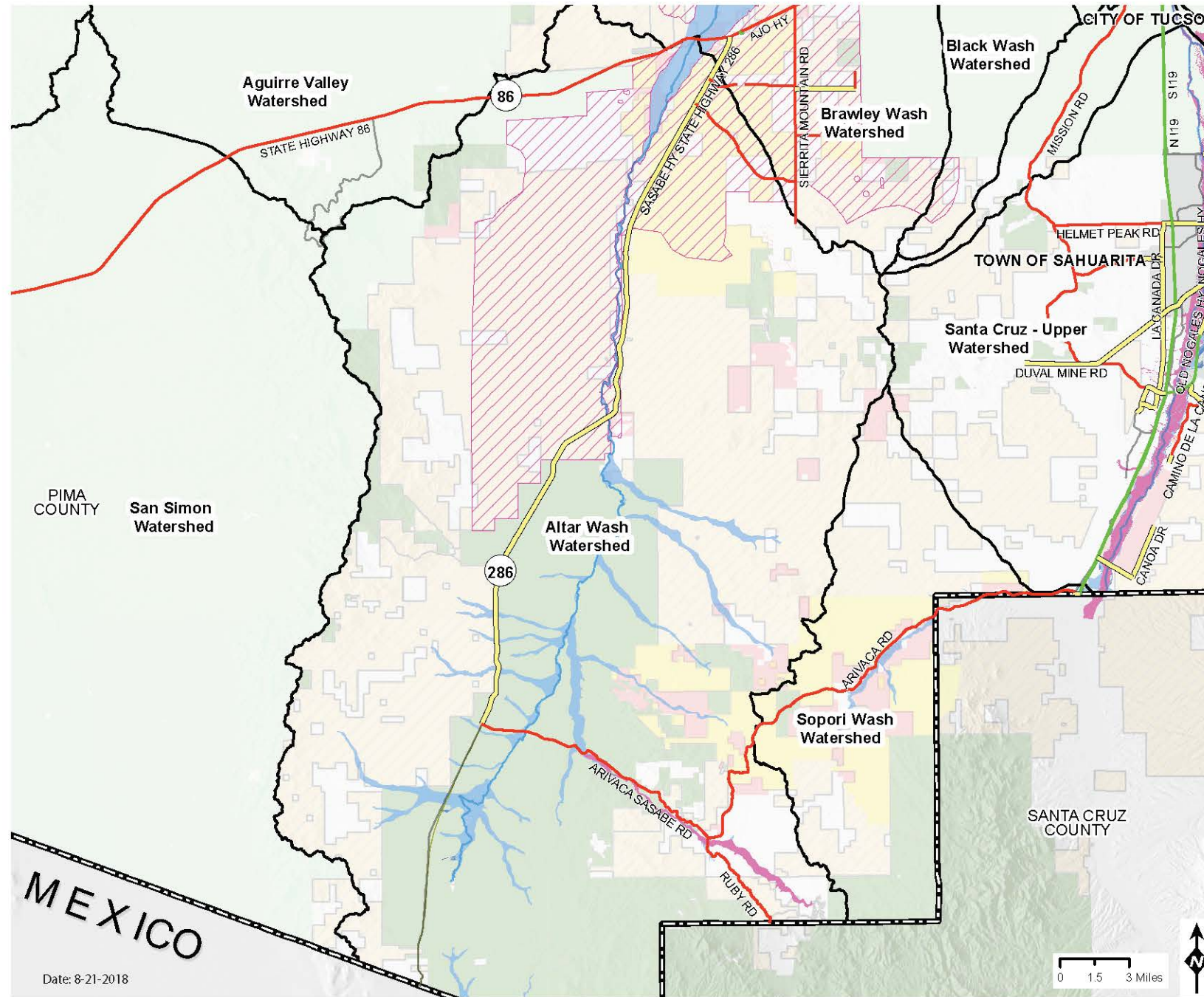


## Altar Valley

The Altar Wash drains the eastern slopes of the Baboquivari Mountains as well as the western slopes of the Sierrita Mountains south of State Route 86 and extends to the south over 30 miles to its headwaters near Mormon and Aguirre lakes, which are within the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge. Flood risks vary in Altar Valley, but sheetflow flooding from the tributaries of the Sierrita Mountains is the dominant type of flooding that affects area residents. While sheetflow flooding is generally fairly shallow, it is also very widespread and makes accessing properties difficult due to the prevalence of unmaintained dirt roads. In sheetflow floodplains, it is important to protect homes from flooding and obtain flood insurance, but it is not appropriate to protect entire properties as this makes flooding worse for neighbors. The main stem of the Altar Wash has experienced severe downcutting and has become a deep canyon in some places with the threat of lateral migration being the primary flood risk factor. This watershed, which includes Arivaca Creek, is 356,123 acres and contains 13,086 acres of SFHA, 44,380 acres of locally identified floodplain and 55,404 acres of Pima County Regulated Riparian Habitat.



# Altar Valley Wash Floodplain Area and Emergency Vehicle Access



<b>Emergency Vehicle Access</b>		<b>FEMA Flood Zone</b>		<b>Additional Floodplain Information</b>		<b>Land Stewardship</b>	
ROADS PASSABLE DURING MAJOR FLOODS	Special Flood Hazard Area	Watershed Boundaries	Other Flood Area	Federal Land	State Land under Pima County Management	Developer Mapped Floodplain	Pima County Owned Parcels
ROADS PASSABLE DURING MODERATE STORMS		Local Floodplain		Reservations		Sheet Flooding	State Land
ROADS QUESTIONABLE DURING STORMS		Major Washes		State Land		Jurisdictional Boundaries	Private Land
Highways							
Unknown							

# PLEASE TAKE OUR SURVEY!

A comprehensive Floodplain Management Plan is being developed by the District to look at flood related issues in unincorporated Pima County on a watershed by watershed basis. This plan will help establish near and long-term goals to improve public safety. Your input will help the District achieve our goal of improving public awareness of flood hazards and minimizing the risk of flood and erosion damage for all County residents, property and infrastructure.

- Where are the high flood risk areas?
- Which watercourses should remain in their natural condition?

Your answers to these and other questions will help identify hazards and community needs and determine locally appropriate development criteria.

For a more detailed map and further information, please visit [www.pima.gov/fmp/](http://www.pima.gov/fmp/)

Complete short survey online at: [surveymonkey.com/r/PCFC\\_survey](https://surveymonkey.com/r/PCFC_survey)



*How would you know the pavement was gone if this road were covered with flowing water? At some point, saturated ground gives way and the pavement above it fails...often from the weight of a car. Don't put yourself, your passengers or rescue personnel in harm's way.*