



## Emergency Sewer Northern Cartagena

### An obstruction is recorded in the system forcing the dumping into the morass of the Virgin

In an emergency Cartagena is recorded in the sewage system in the northern part of the city mainly affecting the sector of hotels and districts where the dual carriageway is built to Barranquilla.

The general manager of Aguas de Cartagena, John Montoya Cañas, confirmed that the emergency occurs in the sewer system in the nozzle, Sector Cielo Mar which presents an obstruction and for this purpose a contingency plan is carried out with the temporary dumping by 48 hours time delay estimated repair works toward the morass of the Virgin.



The official explained that this rerouting of sewage into the body of water that was already being recovered by the entry into operation of the outfall to the disposal at sea will not affect the ecosystem of the swamp.

The damage is located in the path of the nozzle and affects at least 10 neighborhoods in the north of Cartagena where are located hotels and about five districts.

The company clarified that in 0345 the environmental license granted to Acuacar 2001 for the construction of Outfall, it is contemplated that in contingent situations can make the Ciénaga poured and the Bay as it was before the project.

Heeding the call of the community and hotel industry, the Company conducted an inspection to identify the primary cause of the overflows and high levels presenting the inspection chamber C1-183, located in front of Hotel Las Americas. The research identified a serious blockage in the sewage collector 400mm in diameter, which is at a depth of 4 meters.

The reason for the obstruction due to the large amount of debris and timber entering the sewer system, the product of the work of expansion of the road that is ahead in the Beltway. Unblocking is being done manually, within the same inspection chamber because of the size of debris were found, which could not be treated with the traditional method of pressure - suction employing the company to solve problems obstructions common in the sewer.

Additionally, the construction of a pedestrian hit box culvert close inspection chamber, causing settlement and the subsequent collapse of the pipe.

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Therefore, Aguas de Cartagena, forward the construction of a bypass for maintaining the sewerage system running while unclogging jobs are terminated. On the other hand, to meet the emergency pumping two systems, one directly to the collector and one to the Cienaga de La Virgen, with this they set overflows are avoided in the housing sector and pathways.

To mitigate the impact on the ecosystem, the Company constantly applies a product called EcoCatalyst, which is a potent biological catalyst that increases oxygen levels, accelerating the decomposition process of organic matter and turn any bacteria. Also it controls the generation of odors.

It is clear that the dumping that is done on the Cienaga de La Virgen, by the emergency, is less than 2% of the wastewater produced in the city. Likewise it confirms that this emergency measure was notified promptly to the appropriate authorities.

Cartagena de Indias, is the first city in Colombia with over one hundred thousand inhabitants is 100% of its wastewater, thanks to the launch of Outfall in 2012.