

**Environmental Consulting and Guidance to the stage of Building and Performance of the Sorek Desalination Plant number 2 under the National Infrastructure Plan 36**



The Sorek 2 Desalination Plant is currently being built (as of May 2020) as a part of the National Infrastructure Plan 36. This is the largest desalination plant of its kind in the world and is expected to provide 200 million cubic litres of water to the national drinking water supply each year. This is an increase of 35% to the national treated water system.

Some aspects of the project are located in a national park and in the region of the beach front. As such, Geo Teva worked to guide IDE through the process of acquiring permits and approvals through the National Infrastructure Committee in collaboration with the Israel Nature and Parks Authority and the Office for Environmental Protection.

This project is comprised of complex infrastructure which includes an interface with environmental aspects of various habitats, including sandy habitats, riparian habitats, the Palmachim beach habitat, and the sea habitat.

Image: Birds-eye view of the desalination plant, including the pits from Sorek 1 near the Sorek River. Inside the pits, seawater is pumped through large pipes to the desalination facility, and the brine is then returned to the deep sea. The Sorek 2 project will include similar pits which will integrate advanced technology, sealing the new pits underground and restoring the native landscape above them. As a result of this, negative environmental and visual impacts will be minimized to the highest extent in this project's area.