



Audit finds Salton Sea Authority tops in fiscal integrity

(For Immediate Release)

The Salton Sea Authority (SSA) is operating at the highest professional standard of fiscal integrity and public accountability, according to a recently completed independent audit of the organization.

Independent auditor Jennifer Farr reported audit results to the Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors finding that the SSA's audit was exceptionally clean, the very best financial review an organization can receive. Farr praised the SSA staff for their professionalism and readiness.

The financial examination evaluated handling of SSA accounts for revenues and expenditures as well as internal controls over cash receiving, cash disbursement, payroll and investment transactions. The audit closely scrutinized state grant funds, such as the SSA's Torres Martinez Wetlands project (Phase I) – completed on time and under budget by the SSA – and found all revenues and expenditures in proper order and accounted.

“The Salton Sea is headed into a year of tough challenges and amazing opportunities,” observed Board President G. Patrick O’Dowd. “The Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors is confident in facing the future with a management team that continues to demonstrate exemplary stewardship and accountable performance.”

The SSA is a joint powers authority empowered to work in consultation and cooperation with the state of California Natural Resources Agency to restore the Salton Sea. As the largest inland lake in the state of California, the Salton Sea is a vital rest stop for nearly two thirds of all migratory waterfowl traveling the Pacific Flyway. The Sea's ecosystem and economy are threatened by rising salinity levels and lowering water elevations.

The SSA and its partner agencies – Torres Martinez Tribe, Coachella Valley Water District, Riverside and Imperial Counties, and Imperial Irrigation District – are working tirelessly to establish a healthy, prosperous future for the Salton Sea. For more information click on <http://saltonseaaauthority.org>.

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