

AGENDA: DATE: LOCATION: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

**County of Imperial** 

**Board of Supervisors Chamber County Administration Center 940 West Main Street, Suite 211** 

El Centro, CA 92243

The Following Salton Sea Authority Directors will be attending via video/teleconference from:

Vice President Castulo Estrada Coachella Valley Water District 53462 Enterprise Way Coachella, CA 92236

Remote participation for this meeting is accessible at: <a href="http://www.SaltonSea.com/meetings">http://www.SaltonSea.com/meetings</a>

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE ROLL CALL

A copy of the agenda and supplemental materials will be available for viewing or download from SaltonSea.com/meetings

#### II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

This Public Comments time is reserved for comments on any non-action agenda item and for matters not on the agenda. California law prohibits members of the Board from taking action on matters not on the agenda.

Members of the public may address the Board regarding any matter within the Authority's jurisdiction and are invited to speak to any specific action item in the agenda at the time it is called. All non-action agenda items should be addressed during this general public comment period.

Speakers should state their name for the record and address all comments to the Chair, limiting remarks to three (3) minutes.

In person attendees should complete a "request to speak" form and provide it to the Clerk of the Board. Remote speakers must use Zoom's "raised hand" feature (or if by phone, press \*9) to be recognized.

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Written comments may be emailed to **info@saltonsea.com**, or delivered by hand or mail to 82500 Highway 111, Suite 4, Indio, California, 92201"Attn: Clerk of the Board, Salton Sea Authority". Please include "Public Comment, 05/16/2024 Board meeting" in the subject line, and also include your name, address (addresses will be redacted), referencing the specific agenda item if appropriate.

All written comments will be distributed to the Board, posted on **SaltonSea.com** for public viewing and, **if received before noon on Wednesday, May 15**, publicly acknowledged during the Board meeting. (Written comments will be included in the public record but not be read aloud.)

#### III. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

This time is set aside for members of the Board to share thoughts and concerns regarding general Authority matters not on the agenda, ask questions of staff, and request items to be added to a future agenda.

The Brown Act expressly prohibits lengthy Board Member discussion of matters not on the agenda. The Board may at its discretion (by 4/5 vote) add items deemed to be an emergency to the agenda to allow for public discourse.

#### IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION

- A. CONSENT CALENDAR Approve, Receive, and File
  - 1. Minutes of Salton Sea Authority Board Meeting April 18, 2024
  - 2. Salton Sea Authority Warrant Register Ratification for April 30, 2024
  - 3. Salton Sea Authority Internal Financial Report for March 31, 2024
- B. USACE Feasibility Study Update and Next Steps
- C. State of California Budget Update
- D. Annual Emissions Estimate and Dust Control Plan presentation; Update on IID Projects Jessica Humes, Environmental Project Manager, Sr., IID
- E. UCR work on Health, Safety, and mitigation strategies; Preview upcoming Salton Sea Summit - Will Porter, UCR (invited)
- F. Project Updates
  - 1. North Lake Pilot Demonstration Project
  - 2. Desert Shores
  - 3. Bombay Beach

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#### V. REPORTS

#### A. Federal

- 1. Federal Activities Lisa Moore Lehman, Partner, Cultivating Conservation
- 2. US Bureau of Reclamation Jeremy Brooks No Report

#### B. State

- 1. State Advocacy Report Oracio Gonzalez, Principal, Ollin Strategies
- 2. State of California Mr. Miguel Hernandez, Public Affairs Officer, California Natural Resources Agency
- 3. Salton Sea State Recreation Area Update on Activities Casandra Van Dyne, State Park Interpreter, California State Parks

#### C. Local

- 1. Salton Sea Action Committee Alan Pace, SSAC President
- D. Executive Director's Report and Comments G. Patrick O'Dowd, Executive Director/GM, Salton Sea Authority

#### VI. ADJOURNMENT

#### **NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION:**

The Salton Sea Authority board is scheduled to meet on:

Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 10:00a.m. Coachella Valley Water District Steve Robbins Administration Bldg. 75515 Hovley Lane, East Palm Desert, CA 92260

Any public record, relating to an open session agenda item, that is distributed within 72 hours prior to the meeting is available for public inspection in the lobby at the front desk of the County Law Building located at 82500 Highway 111, Suite 4, Indio, CA 92201.

May 16, 2024



# OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS SALTON SEA AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING April 18, 2024

#### I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Salton Sea Authority ("Authority") Board of Directors ("Board") was called to order by Chair Santillanes, at 10:05 a.m., April 18, 2024, at the North Shore Fire Station 41 and via Zoom Webinar.

<u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</u> – Led by Madam Chair Santillanes <u>ROLL CALL</u>

#### **DIRECTORS PRESENT ON SITE**AGENCY

Altrena Santillanes, President
Gina Dockstader, Secretary
V. Manuel Perez, Director
Cástulo R. Estrada, Vice-President
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
Imperial Irrigation District
Riverside County
Coachella Valley Water District

#### DIRECTORS PRESENT VIA ZOOM AGENCY

Luis A. Plancarte, Director Imperial County
Alex Cárdenas, Director Imperial Irrigation District

#### <u>DIRECTORS ABSENT</u> <u>AGENCY</u>

Thomas Tortez, Director

Ryan E. Kelley, Director

Yxstian Gutierrez, Treasurer

John Aguilar, Director

Ex-Officio Samantha Arthur

Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

Imperial County

Riverside County

Coachella Valley Water District

California Natural Resources Agency

#### SALTON SEA AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT

G. Patrick O'Dowd, Executive Director/GM (in person)
Carlos Campos, Best Best & Krieger, Legal Counsel (in person)
Bob Hargreaves, Best Best & Krieger, Legal Counsel (Via Zoom)

#### MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

On Site: Enrique Arroyo, District Superintendent, California State Parks and Cassandra Van Dyne, new State Park Interpreter. Mark McElrath, Miguel Hernandez, CNRA and Trina Hamby, Imperial County Environmental Consumer Protection Manager.

Via Zoom: Christian Torres, Comite Civico, Jim Barrett, CVWD Chuck Tobin, Burrtec, Geoff Holbrook, IID General Counsel, plus 24 others

#### II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Comments

#### III. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

No Comments

#### IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION

- A. CONSENT CALENDAR Approve, Receive, and File
  - 1. Minutes of Salton Sea Authority Board Meeting March 21, 2024
  - 2. Salton Sea Authority Warrant Register Ratification for March 31, 2024
  - 3. Salton Sea Authority Internal Financial Report for February 29, 2024

Motion made by Perez, second by Dockstader, the Board approved the Consent Calendar to be received and filed.

#### Approved by the following vote:

**AYES:** President Santillanes, Vice President Estrada, Secretary Dockstader, Director's Cardenas, Plancarte and Perez.

**NOES:** 0

**ABSENT:** Directors Tortez, Aguilar, Kelley and Gutierrez

ABSTAINED: 0

**MOTION PASSED:** 6-0

B. Review and Approve Salton Sea Authority 2024/2025 Budget Motion to Approve the 2024/2025 Operating Budget and Invoice Member agencies for Annual Member Contributions made by Cardenas, second by Perez, the Board approved the 2024/2025 Budget received and filed.

#### Approved by the following vote:

**AYES:** President Santillanes, Vice President Estrada, Secretary Dockstader, Director's Cardenas, Plancarte and Perez.

**NOES:** 0

ABSENT: Directors Tortez, Aguilar, Kelley and Gutierrez

ABSTAINED: 0

**MOTION PASSED:** 6-0

- C. Outreach & Education Contract implementation and extension update, Executive Director O'Dowd gave a brief update, noting that the contract is set to expire on 6/30, a request for extension to CNRA was issued but no extension has yet been granted. Directors Perez, Estrada and Dockstader commented.
- D. Review and approve certain agreement necessary to effectuate CADIZ donation to the Salton Sea Authority. Susan Kennedy gave a brief overview of the Joinder Agreement and explained the role of the Ex-Officio position. Director Cardenas would like a better understanding ands asked that this be tabled until the May 16 Authority Board meeting.
  - 1. Approve Joinder Agreement with San Bernardino County, Fenner Gap Mutual Water Company and Santa Margarita Water District to authorize the joinder of Salton Sea Authority for ex officio, non-voting, membership in the Fenner Valley Water Authority through a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement, effective on the last date executed by the parties.
  - 2. Approve the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ as the Salton Sea Authority Director and \_\_\_\_ as the Salton Sea Authority Alternate Director for the Board of Directors of the Fenner Valley Water Authority for an initial two-year term, effective retroactively as of April 1, 2024, through April 1, 2026.

Motion made by Perez, second by Cardenas, to table the Joinder agreement and Ex-Officio position.

#### Approved by the following vote:

**AYES:** President Santillanes, Vice President Estrada, Secretary Dockstader, Director's Cardenas, Plancarte and Perez.

**NOES:** 0

**ABSENT:** Directors Tortez, Aguilar, Kelley and Gutierrez

ABSTAINED: 0

**MOTION PASSED:** 6-0

E. Legislative Updates.

AB674 – Padilla, Executive Director O'Dowd gave a brief update.

- 1. Budget
  - a. Desert Shores Specific Request

Secretary Dockstader provided comments on letter to Garcia, clarifying that the source water that is degrading is not from the Colorado River but directly from the Sea itself.

b. Update and Direction regarding potential funding gaps and Bond status. Executive Director O'Dowd gave a brief update.

#### F. Project Updates

1. North Lake Pilot Demonstration Project
Executive Director O'Dowd gave a brief update. Geotechnical work is
underway, soils are different compared with SCH. Dudek is looking at cost
estimate of project based on new geotechnical data. A meeting is scheduled
with Secretary Crowfoot next month to discuss project, cost, direction, and
schedule.

#### 2. Desert Shores

Executive Director O'Dowd gave a brief update. Gafcon's feasibility analysis is ongoing per contract. Site control issues identified as a critical item. Salton Community Services District owns a 50-foot bottom of most of the channels and easements exist on 35 feet in either direction. A 3<sup>rd</sup> Community meeting is scheduled for the 30<sup>th</sup>. Continued dialogue with the Bureau of Reclamation on securing additional funding to deliver a completed project to the community and region.

Tom Sephton commented on the Gafcon performance and estimates of seepage loss. Also suggested interim measures to evaluate such losses and cost associated therewith.

3. Bombay Beach – No report

#### V. REPORTS

#### A. Federal

- 1. Federal Activities Lisa Moore Lehman, Partner, Cultivating Conservation noted we were successful in removing the \$3 million funding limitation in the FY 2024 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, provided a brief update on efforts to increase funding for the preferred "course of action", known as COA2. When completed, this study will allow access to significant federal funding through the Army Corp of Engineers.
- 2. US Bureau of Reclamation Jeremy Brooks No Report

#### B. State

- 1. State Advocacy Report Oracio Gonzalez, Principal, Ollin Strategies gave a brief update on several bills. (He was concurrently attending the Budget Sub-Committee hearing in Sacramento on the Governor's proposed Salton Sea investments.)
- 2. State of California Mr. Miguel Hernandez, Public Affairs Officer, California Natural Resources Agency, gave a brief update on multiple site tours. They are working on an educational video for SCH with drone videos, hope to share soon. Also mentioned that local presentations of the SSMP annual report are being held May 8-10.

3. Salton Sea State Recreation Area Update on Activities – Enrique Arroyo, District Superintendent, California State Parks introduced Cassandra Van Dyne, the new State Park Interpreter. Ms. Van Dyne gave a brief update. There were 1,133 vehicles that came through the park, 497 campers and 3,404 that came to visit the visitors center.

#### C. Local

- 1. Salton Sea Action Committee Alan Pace, SSAC President, gave a brief update, discussed an upcoming bus tour on May 15th.
- D. Executive Director's Report and Comments G. Patrick O'Dowd, Executive Director/GM, Salton Sea Authority gave a brief update and advised the board that Tina Shields of IID will be giving a presentation on Human Health and Safety at our May Board meeting.

#### VI. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

#### **NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION:**

The Salton Sea Authority board is scheduled to meet on:

Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 10:00a.m. Imperial County BOS Chamber 940 W. Main Street El Centro, CA 92243 (760) 265-1020

Any public record relating to an open session agenda item, that is distributed within 72 hours prior to the meeting is available for public inspection at the office of the Salton Sea Authority located at 82500 Highway 111, Suite 4 Indio, CA 92201.



#### Salton Sea Authority Checking Account Activity

April 1, 2024 through April 30, 2024

Date	Number	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
04/11/2024	EFT	Pacific Western Bank	Visa billing cycle ended 03/24	(167.13)
04/29/2024	ACH	Ollin Strategies	Consulting services 04/24	(7,000.00)
04/29/2024	ACH	Eide Bailly LLP	Accounting services 02/24 and software 11/23 -02/24	(5,172.50)
04/29/2024	ACH	Best, Best & Krieger	Services 03/24	(8,904.77)
04/29/2024	ACH	Eide Bailly LLP	Accounting services 03/24	(4,071.00)
04/29/2024	ACH	SystemGo IT LLC	Website services 03/24	(382.00)
04/29/2024	ACH	Bravata, Lisa	Mileage and miscellaneous office expenses 04/24	(94.20)
04/29/2024	ACH	Cultivating Conservation	Consulting Fees 03/24	(7,350.00)
			Beginning Cash Balance \$	122,988.69
			Monthly Activity	(33,141.60)
			Ending Cash Balance \$	89,847.09



# Salton Sea Authority Budget to Actual General Fund (Unaudited)

For the Period July 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024

		 Α		В	C	D	C/D		C - D
		February 2024		March 2024	YTD FY 24	Budget FY 24	YTD Target 75%	\$ \	/ariance
1	REVENUE								
2	Local Government / Member Assessments	\$ 76,700	\$	-	\$ 743,300	\$ 800,000	93%	\$	(56,700)
3	Other Federal / State / Local Contributions	-		-	-	25,000	0%		(25,000)
4	Sponsorships	-		-	-	25,000	0%		(25,000)
5	Grant and Other Reimbursements to General Fund	72		2,794	9,215	194,400	5%		(185,185)
6	TOTAL REVENUE	76,772		2,794	752,515	1,044,400	72%		(291,885)
7	EXPENSES								
8	SSA Administration								
9	Salaries & Benefits								
10	Total Salaries	16,661		16,418	161,732	309,300	52%		(147,568)
11	Total Employee Benefits	8,860		8,760	84,319	171,600	49%		(87,281)
12	Total Salaries & Benefits	25,521		25,178	246,052	480,900	51%		(234,848)
13	Contract / Professional Services								
14	DC Advocates	7,350		7,350	67,540	94,200	<b>72</b> %		(26,660)
15	Sacramento Advocates	7,000		7,000	63,000	88,200	71%		(25,200)
16	Attorney Fees	1,070		8,905	26,446	54,000	49%		(27,554)
17	Audit & Accounting	4,924		8,021	46,866	76,200	62%		(29,334)
18	Total Contract / Professional Services	20,344		31,275	203,852	312,600	65%		(108,748)
19	Travel/Mileage	1,705		348	17,078	40,000	43%		(22,922)
20	Equipment / IT Maintenance	382		382	3,438	8,300	41%		(4,862)
21	Non-capitalized Office Equipment	-		-	-	8,000	0%		(8,000)
22	Insurance	944		944	8,498	11,600	73%		(3,102)
23	Office Expense/Operating Supplies	552		100	2,887	8,700	33%		(5,813)
24	Office Expense/Online Services	350		193	3,148	4,000	79%		(852)
25	Dues, Subscriptions	776		676	6,542	10,000	65%		(3,458)
26	Operating Expenses / County Charges	157		157	4,748	7,400	64%		(2,652)
27	<b>Board Room Usage and Recordings</b>	-		-	2,388	2,400	100%		(12)
28	Interest Expense	 96		868	2,056	 -	N/A		2,056
29	TOTAL EXPENSES	50,825		60,121	500,687	893,900	56%		(393,213)
30	NET REVENUE / (EXPENSES)	\$ 25,947	\$	(57,328)	\$ 251,829	\$ 150,500	167%	\$	101,329

<sup>\*</sup>No assurance is provided on these financial statements. The financial statements do not include a statement of cash flows. Substantially all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. are not included.



## Salton Sea Authority Budget to Actual DWR - Proposition 68 Grant (Unaudited)

For the Period July 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024

		В	C		D	C/D	C - D
		March 2024	YTD FY 24	Budget FY 24		YTD Target 75%	\$ Variance
1 REV	ENUE						
2 3	State of California Grant (Prop 68)	\$ 5,264	\$ 123,639	\$	2,000,000	6%	\$ (1,876,361)
3 <b>TOT</b>	AL REVENUE	5,264	123,639		2,000,000	6%	\$ (1,876,361)
4 <b>EXP</b>	ENSES						
5 5	Salton Sea Authority Salaries	2,097	6,868		79,700	9%	(72,832)
6 [	Department of Water Resources-North Lake Demo	3,167	116,771		1,920,300	6%	(1,803,529)
7 <b>TOT</b>	AL EXPENSES	5,264	123,639		2,000,000	6%	(1,876,361)
8 NET	INCOME / (LOSS)	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-		\$ -

<sup>\*</sup>No assurance is provided on these financial statements. The financial statements do not include a statement of cash flows. Substantially all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. are not included.



### Salton Sea Authority Budget to Actual BOR -DSR (Unaudited)

For the Period July 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024

			В		C		D	C/D		C - D
		March 2024			YTD FY 24		Budget FY 24	YTD Target 75%	\$1	/ariance
1	REVENUE									
2	Bureau of Reclamation Grant	\$	38,163	\$	48,137	\$	750,000	6%	\$	(701,863)
3	TOTAL REVENUE		38,163		48,137		750,000	6%	\$	(701,863)
4	EXPENSES									
5	Riverside County Salaries		672		2,096		25,000	8%		(22,904)
6	Bureau of Reclamation-Desert Shores Revitalization		37,491		46,041		725,000	6%		(678,959)
7	TOTAL EXPENSES		38,163		48,137		750,000	6%		(701,863)
8	NET INCOME / (LOSS)	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-		\$	-

<sup>\*</sup>No assurance is provided on these financial statements. The financial statements do not include a statement of cash flows. Substantially all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the U.S. are not included.



### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 13, 2024

#### **CONTACT:**

G. Patrick O'Dowd, Executive Director Salton Sea Authority (760) 565-3100

## Salton Sea Authority Announces FY24 Funding for Salton Sea Feasibility Study

Over \$3.8 million included in USACE FY24 Plan

Today the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) released its FY24 Work Plan which included an additional \$3,878,000 in funding for the Salton Sea Feasibility Study (USACE study).

Salton Sea Authority (Authority) Executive Director G. Patrick O'Dowd commended Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) Connor, Chief of Engineers Spellmon, the Biden administration, and our Congressional delegation: "I sincerely and deeply thank Assistant Secretary Connor and U.S. Senator Alex Padilla (D-Calif.) for so highly prioritizing the Salton Sea."

Authority Board Secretary and Imperial Irrigation District Director Gina Dockstader added that: "These funds are critically needed to ensure that the USACE study and the action it ultimately recommends fully addresses the needs of our region, including those of the many disadvantaged Salton Sea communities that bear a disproportionate share of public health burdens."

In 2020, the Authority worked with our federal Congressional delegation to secure the authorization and the initial funding for the USACE study. In December 2022, USACE Los Angeles District, the Authority and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) committed to be joint sponsors of the work.

Executive Director O'Dowd added that: "We would not be in this position without the very strong support of Congressman Raul Ruiz (D-Calif.) and our federal Congressional delegation. From passing legislation to initiate this study, to securing the initial funds to launch it, to urging the USACE to provide these funds today — our delegation continues to be steadfastly committed to securing significant federal resources for the Salton Sea."

The federal government has significant interests in the Salton Sea region, including in federally protected endangered species; in the Sonny Bono National Wildlife Refuge and the Chocolate Mountain Gunnery; in major additional federal landholdings; and in our region's renewable energy and lithium stores.

The USACE study sponsors are currently evaluating the feasibility of alternatives identified in the State of California's Salton Sea Management Program's Long-Range Plan for protecting public health and restoring the degraded Salton Sea ecosystem.

Embedded within the work to be funded in part with the FY24 funds provided by USACE today will be continued public outreach to area disadvantaged communities and required hydrologic modeling. The goal of this work is to arrive at a federal/state-funded Salton Sea long-range management plan.

Salton Sea Authority and Coachella Valley Water District Vice President Cástulo Estrada added in conclusion: "I thank and commend both the USACE Los Angeles District and California DWR staff for their commitment to working with the Authority to ensure that the USACE study's recommended course of action fully addresses the significant environmental and public health challenges in the Salton Sea region."

###

The Salton Sea Authority is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) empowered to revitalize the Salton Sea in consultation and cooperation with state and federal governments. It's members include Imperial County, Riverside County, Imperial Irrigation District, Coachella Valley Water District, and the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

Salton Sea Authority 82500 Highway 111, Suite 4 Indio, CA 92201

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STATE	DIVISION	BUSINESS PROGRAM 1/	STUDY OR PROGRAM	FY 2024 BUDGET	FY 2024 EXPLANATORY STATEMENT	ADDITIONAL WORK PLAN AMOUNT	TOTAL FY 2024 ALLOCATION	LINE ITEM OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING 1/	SUMMARY OF WORK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH CONFERENCE ALLOCATION	SUMMARY OF WORK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH FUNDING POT ALLOCATION
AK	POD	3/	AKUTAN HARBOR NAVIGATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS, AK				\$160,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
AK	POD	3/	ATKA NAVIGATION IMPROVMENTS, AK				\$450,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
AK	POD	NHS	AUKE BAY NAVIGATION IMPROVEMENTS, AK		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
AK	POD	NHD	HOMER NAVIGATION IMPROVEMENTS, AK			\$800,000	\$800,000	1		Continue the feasibility study phase
AK	POD	3/	SAVOONGA SUBSISTENCE HARBOR STUDY, AK				\$875,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
AK	POD	NHS	ST. GEORGE HARBOR IMPROVEMENT, ST. GEORGE, AK		\$3,500,000		\$3,500,000		Continue the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
AR	SWD	FDRR	WHITE RIVER BASIN WATERSHED, AR & MO		\$263,000		\$263,000		Initiate the watershed study	
AZ	SPD	3/	NAVAJO NATION AT BIRD SPRINGS, AZ				\$500,000		Continue the watershed assessment	
AZ	SPD	AER	RIO SALADO OESTE, SALT RIVER, AZ	\$600,000	\$600,000		\$600,000		Continue a General Reevaluation Report	
CA	SPD	3/	CAHUILLA HOT SPRINGS RESTORATION, CA				\$600,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
CA	SPD	3/	CLEAR CREEK ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, CA				\$460,000		Continue the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
CA	SPD	WTR	COYOTE DAM, CA		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
CA	SPD	2/	FRUITVALE AVENUE RAILROAD BRIDGE, CA				\$400,000		Continue the disposition study	
CA	SPD	FDRR	GUADALUPE RIVER, CA (GENERAL REEVALUATION REPORT)	\$1,135,000	\$1,135,000		\$1,135,000		Complete a General Reevaluation Report	
CA	SPD	AER	IMPERIAL STREAMS SALTON SEA, CA			\$3,878,000	\$3,878,000	4		Continue the feasibility study phase
CA	SPD	AER	KLAMATH BASIN, CA	\$500,000	\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
CA	SPD	3/	LA POSTA TRIBE STORMWATER, CA				\$600,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
CA	SPD	2/	LOS ANGELES COUNTY DRAINAGE AREA, CA				\$300,000		Continue the disposition study	
CA	SPD	FDRR	LOWER SAN JOAQUIN (LATHROP & MANTECA), CA	\$800,000	\$1,076,000		\$1,076,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
CA	SPD	FDRR	REDBANK & FANCHER CREEKS, CA		\$600,000		\$600,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
CA	SPD	FDRR	SACRAMENTO RIVER, YOLO BYPASS, CA	\$600,000	\$600,000		\$600,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
CA	SPD	AER	SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA ISLANDS AND LEVEES, CA	\$550,000	\$550,000		\$550,000		Initiate the preconstruction engineering and design bhase	
CA	SPD	2/	SALINAS RESERVOIR (SANTA MARGARITA LAKE), CA				\$300,000		Continue the disposition study	
CA	SPD	FDRR	SANTA CLARA RIVER LEVEE SYSTEM (SCR-1) REHABILITATION, CA		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
CA	SPD	FDRC	SANTA PAULA CREEK, CA	\$400,000	\$400,000		\$400,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
CA	SPD	FDRR	WESTMINSTER (EAST GARDEN GROVE) WATERSHED, CA			\$750,000	\$750,000	2		Initiate the preconstruction engineering and design phase
CA	SPD	3/	YUROK BLUE CREEK RESTORATION, CA				\$100,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	priase
СТ	NAD	FDRR	HARTFORD & EAST HARTFORD, CT	\$200,000	\$200,000		\$200,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
СТ	NAD	FDRC	STRATFORD, CT		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
DC	NAD	WTR	WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT BACKUP WATER SUPPLY, DC		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
FL	NAD	FDRR	CENTRAL & SOUTHERN FLORIDA (C&SF) FLOOD RESILIENCY (SECTION 216) STUDY, FL	\$425,000	\$425,000		\$425,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
FL	SAD	FDRC	CHARLOTTE COUNTY, FL		\$250,000		\$250,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
FL	SAD	AER	CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY AND RIVER BASIN, WALTON COUNTY,		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
FL	SAD	FDRC	KEY BISCAYNE, FL	\$600,000	\$600,000		\$600,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
FL	SAD	FDRR	SHINGLE CREEK AND KISSIMMEE RIVER, FL			\$500,000	\$500,000	3		Initiate the feasibility study phase

STATE	DIVISION	BUSINESS PROGRAM 1/	STUDY OR PROGRAM	FY 2024 BUDGET	FY 2024 EXPLANATORY STATEMENT	ADDITIONAL WORK PLAN AMOUNT	TOTAL FY 2024 ALLOCATION	LINE ITEM OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING 1/	SUMMARY OF WORK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH CONFERENCE ALLOCATION	SUMMARY OF WORK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED WITH FUNDING POT ALLOCATION
FL	SAD	FDRC	ST. AUGUSTINE BACK BAY, FL	\$300,000	\$300,000		\$300,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
Н	POD	AER	WAIKIKI BEACH ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND COASTAL STORM RISK MANAGEMENT, OAHU, HI		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
Н	POD	FDRR	WAILUPE STREAM WATERSHED, HI			\$500,000	\$500,000	3		Initiate the feasibility study phase
Н	POD	FDRR	WAIMEA MODIFICATION, KAUAI, HI		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
IA	MVD	FDRR	UPPER MISSISSIPPI AND ILLINOIS RIVERS FLOW FREQUENCY DATA COLLECTION, IL, IA, MN, MO & WI		\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000		Initiate the study phase	
IL	LRD	AER	CHICAGO AREA WATERWAYS SYSTEM RESTORATION, IL		\$200,000		\$200,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
IL	LRD	FDRC	GREAT LAKES COASTAL RESILIENCY STUDY, IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA & WI	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000		\$3,000,000		Continue the watershed study	
IL	LRD	AER	INTERBASIN CONTROL OF GREAT LAKES-MISSISSIPPI RIVER AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES,IL, IN, OH & WI	\$200,000	\$200,000		\$200,000		Vertical team coordination, stakeholder coordination and engagement, budget development and defense, public outreach, Invasive Carp Regional Coordinating Committee and Chicago Area Waterway System Advisory Committee related activities, and response to Congressional and media inquiries.	
KS	NWD	AER	SMOKY HILL RIVER, KS		\$400,000		\$400,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
KY	MVD	FDRR	COLUMBUS, KY			\$500,000	\$500,000	3		Initiate the feasibility study phase
KY	LRD	FDRR	KENTUCKY RIVER, KY		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
LA	MVD	NIH	BAYOU SORREL LOCK, LA		\$800,000		\$800,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
LA	MVD	NHS	HOUMA NAVIGATION CANAL, LA		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
LA	MVD	NHS	J. BENNETT JOHNSTON WATERWAY, LA		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
LA	MVD	AER	MISSISSIPPI RIVER, GULF OUTLET, LA		\$250,000		\$250,000		Continue the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
LA	MVD	FDRC	WEST BANK AND VICINITY, NEW ORLEANS, LA			\$2,240,000	\$2,240,000	2		Initiate the preconstruction engineering and design ohase
MA	NAD	FDRC	BOSTON METROPOLITAN AREA, MA	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000		Continue the watershed study	
MA	NAD	FDRC	CITY OF BOSTON COASTAL STORM RISK MANAGEMENT, MA	\$600,000	\$800,000		\$800,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
MA	NAD	FDRR	HOOSIC RIVER BASIN, MA			\$700,000	\$700,000	1		Continue the feasibility study phase
MD	NAD	NHD	BALTIMORE HARBOR & CHANNELS (SEAGIRT LOOP DEEPENING), MD		\$2,031,000		\$2,031,000		Continue the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
ME	NAD	3/	HALF MOON COVE, PASSAMAQUODDY				\$350,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
MI	LRD	NHD	MENOMINEE RIVER DEEPENING, MI & WI	\$600,000	\$281,000		\$281,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
MI	LRD	3/	PEAVINE CREEK STABILIZATION, POKAGON BAND - POTAWATAMI TRIBE, MI				\$260,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
MI	LRD	3/	RODGERS LAKE HABITAT, POKAGON BAND				\$45,000		Initiate the preconstruction engineering and design bhase	
MI	LRD	FDRR	SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN, MI	\$500,000	\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
MI	LRD	FDRR	TITIABAWASSEE RIVER, CHIPPEWA RIVER, PINE RIVER AND TOBACCO RIVER, MI	\$500,000	\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
MN	MVD	2/	LOWER ST. ANTHONY FALLS, MISSISSIPPI RIVER, MN				\$50,000		Continue the disposition study	
MN	MVD	2/	ST. ANTHONY FALLS, LOCK AND DAM 1, MISSISSIPPI RIVER, MN				\$50,000		Continue the disposition study	
MN	MVD	2/	UPPER ST. ANTHONY FALLS, MISSISSIPPI RIVER, MN				\$150,000		Continue the disposition study	
МО	NWD	FDRR	LOWER MISSOURI BASIN - BRUNSWICK L-246, MO	\$600,000	\$600,000		\$600,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
МО	NWD	FDRR	LOWER MISSOURI BASIN - HOLT COUNTY, MO & DONIPHAN COUNTY, KS	\$700,000	\$700,000		\$700,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
МО	NWD	FDRR	LOWER MISSOURI BASIN - JEFFERSON CITY L-142, MO	\$517,000	\$517,000		\$517,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
МО	MVD	FDRR	RIVER DES PERES, MO		\$1,108,000		\$1,108,000		Complete the preconstruction engineering and design phase	

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MS	SAD	NHD	GULFPORT HARBOR, MS		\$900,000		\$900,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
MS	MVD	FDRR	PEARL RIVER, MS			\$612,000	\$612,000	4		Complete validation study
NC	SAD	FDRC	BRUNSWICK COUNTY BEACHES, NC (HOLDEN BEACH)		\$425,000		\$425,000		Continue a General Reevaluation Report	
NC	SAD	FDRC	BRUNSWICK COUNTY BEACHES, NC (OAK ISLAND)			\$551,000	\$551,000	1		Continue a General Reevaluation Report
NC	SAD	NHD	WILMINGTON HARBOR NAVIGATION IMPROVEMENTS, NC		\$1,200,000		\$1,200,000		Continue the Section 403 review	
NE	NWD	FDRR	LOWER MISSOURI BASIN - NEMAHA AND ATCHISON COUNTIES, NE		\$200,000		\$200,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
NE	NWD	FDRR	PAPILLION CREEK BASIN, OMAHA, NE		\$400,000	\$1,185,000	\$1,585,000	2	Initiate the preconstruction engineering and design phase	Continue the preconstruction engineering and design phase
NJ	NAD	FDRC	NEW JERSEY SHORE PROTECTION, HEREFORD TO CAPE MAY INLET, NJ		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate a General Reevaluation Report	
NJ	NAD	FDRR	WHIPPANY RIVER, NJ		\$700,000		\$700,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
NM	NWD	3/	POTTERY MOUNDS CULTURAL PRESERVATION, NM				\$250,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
NM	NWD	3/	PUEBLO OF SANTA ANA - ANCESTRAL VILLAGE CULTURAL PRESERVATION, NM				\$250,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
NY	LRD	AER	CHAUTAUQUA LAKE AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, NY		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
NY	NAD	AER	HUDSON-RARITAN ESTUARY ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, NY & NJ (HARLEM RIVER RESTORATION, NY)		\$500,000		\$500,000		Initiate the feasibility study phase	
NY	NAD	NHD	NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY HARBOR DEEPENING CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS, NY & NJ		\$7,000,000		\$7,000,000		Complete the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
ОК	SWD	AER	ARKANSAS RIVER CORRIDOR, OK	\$1,903,000	\$1,903,000		\$1,903,000		Continue the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
OK	SWD	2/	OPTIMA LAKE, OK				\$100,000		Continue the disposition study	
OR	NWD	2/	COUGAR AND DETROIT PROJECTS, OR				\$300,000		Continue the disposition study	
OR	NWD	FDRR	PORTLAND METRO LEVEE SYSTEM, OR	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000		\$3,000,000		Continue the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
OR	NWD	AER	WILLAMETTE RIVER ENVIRONMENTAL DREDGING, OR		\$940,000		\$940,000		Complete the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
PA	NAD	WTR	FE WALTER DAM REEVALUATION STUDY, PA			\$350,000	\$350,000	1	Resume the feasibility study phase	
PR	SAD	FDRC	SAN JUAN METRO AREA, PR			\$2,325,000	\$2,325,000	2		Initiate and complete the preconstruction engineering and design phase
RI	NAD	NHS	LITTLE NARRAGANSETT BAY, RI	\$300,000	\$300,000		\$300,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
RI	NAD	FDRC	RHODE ISLAND COASTLINE, RI		\$300,000		\$300,000		Initiate the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
SC	SAD	FDRC	CHARLESTON, SC TIDAL AND INLAND FLOODING - FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT		\$600,000		\$600,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
SC	SAD	2/	PORT ROYAL HARBOR, SC				\$100,000		Continue the disposition study	
SC	SAD	FDRR	WACCAMAW RIVER, HORRY COUNTY, SC	\$600,000	\$600,000		\$600,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
SD	NWD	3/	THUNDER BUTTE FLOOD RISK RESLIENCY, SD				\$100,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
TX	SWD	FDRC	COASTAL TEXAS PROTECTION AND RESTORATION STUDY, TX			\$500,000	\$500,000	2		Complete the preconstruction engineering and design phase for the Bolivar Peninsula/East Bay on the GIWW feature
TX	SWD	2/	ESTELLINE SPRINGS EXPERIMENTAL PROJECT, TX				\$50,000		Continue the disposition study	
TX	SWD	FDRC	LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY WATERSHED ASSESSMENT, TX	\$900,000	\$900,000		\$900,000		Continue the watershed study	
TX	SWD	NHD	MATAGORDA SHIP CHANNEL, TX (DEFICIENCY CORRECTION)	\$4,950,000	\$4,950,000		\$4,950,000		Initiate the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
TX	SWD	WTR	WHITNEY LAKE, TX	\$600,000	\$600,000		\$600,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
VA	NAD	NHD	NORFOLK HARBOR AND CHANNELS, VA (ELIZABETH RIVER AND SOUTHERN BRANCH)		\$4,000,000		\$4,000,000		Continue the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
VA	NAD	FDRC	VIRGINIA BEACH & VICINITY COASTAL STORM RISK MANAGEMENT, VA		\$400,000		\$400,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
VI	SAD	NHD	CHRISTIANSTED HARBOR, VI		\$800,000		\$800,000		Continue a General Reevaluation Report	

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WA	NWD	NHD	TACOMA HARBOR, WA		\$1,900,000		\$1,900,000		Complete the preconstruction engineering and design phase	
WV	LRD	FDRR	UPPER GUYANDOTTE FEASIBILITY STUDY, WV		\$250,000		\$250,000		Continue the feasibility study phase	
xx	ERDC	RI	ACCESS TO WATER DATA	\$325,000	\$325,000		\$325,000		Provide access to water resources data to the public.	
XX	HQ	RI	AUTOMATED INFORMATION SYSTEMS SUPPORT TRI-SERVICE CADD/GIS TECHNOLOGY CENTER	\$250,000	\$250,000		\$250,000		Develop and publish geospatial standards.	
xx	ERDC	RI	COASTAL FIELD DATA COLLECTION	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000		\$2,000,000		Systematically measure, analyze, and assemble long- term coastal data that field offices use to accomplish the Corps mission in coastal navigation and storm damage reduction; continue data collection and research on the impact of extreme storms in coastal regions.	
xx	HQ	RI	COORDINATION WITH OTHER WATER RESOURCE AGENCIES	\$600,000	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000		Participation in multi-agency and/or national water resources initiatives such as the Gulf of Mexico, Chesapeake Bay, and the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. Funds are also included for continued collaboration with other Federal agencies and stakeholders.	
xx	HQ	RI	DISPOSITION OF COMPLETED PROJECTS	\$2,000,000	\$1,800,000		[\$1,800,000]		Undertake disposition studies needed to identify necessary actions to safely dispose of infrastructure. Funded studies are listed individually under the State and Project the study is being conducted.	
XX	IWR	RI	ENVIRONMENTAL DATA STUDIES	\$80,000	\$80,000		\$80,000		Maintain a web-based geospatial data system that displays national ecological data.	
xx	MVD	RI	FERC LICENSING	\$100,000	\$100,000		\$100,000		Conduct reviews of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) preliminary permit & license applications for development of hydroelectric power.	
xx	IWR	RI	FLOOD DAMAGE DATA	\$275,000	\$275,000		\$275,000		Collect and maintain basic flood damage data to support research efforts and to inform specific project studies.	
XX	HQ	RI	FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT SERVICES	\$20,000,000	\$3,000,000		\$3,000,000		Provide site-specific flood and flood plain data and assistance to State and local communities.	
xx	MVD	RI	HYDROLOGIC STUDIES	\$370,000	\$370,000		\$370,000		Collect and study basic hydrologic data for major storm events or special hydrologic processes; Develop flood inundation data for improved real time flood forecasting.	
xx	HQ	RI	INTERAGENCY AND INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT		\$300,000		\$300,000		Support other Federal agencies, international organizations and foreign governments to address problems of national significance, and to collaborate with these entities on water resources issues.	
xx	IWR	RI	INTERNATIONAL WATER STUDIES	\$85,000	\$85,000		\$85,000		Participation in and support of boundary water treaties and related international agreements between the United States and Canada.	
XX	IWR	RI	INVENTORY OF DAMS	\$500,000	\$900,000		\$900,000		Maintain and administer the National Inventory of Dams database and web site.	
xx	IWR	RI	NATIONAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	\$6,500,000	\$6,500,000		\$6,500,000		Support the participation of the Corps in interagency technical and policy coordination groups on issues of flood risk management at the national and state levels, including the state-led intergovernmental Silver Jacket teams, which support state and local community efforts to address their flood hazard mitigation priorities.	
xx	HQ	RI	PLANNING ASSISTANCE TO STATES	\$9,000,000	\$4,500,000		\$4,500,000		Provide planning and technical assistance to States and local communities for a wide variety of water resource efforts, including watershed activities benefitting environmental restoration, flood risk management, and other watershed resources. Funds are also provided for planning-level technical assistance to coastal Federally recognized tribal communities that are actively working to relocate homes and other critical infrastructure to higher ground to mitigate the impacts of climate change.	
xx	HQ	RI	PLANNING SUPPORT PROGRAM	\$5,500,000	\$5,500,000		\$5,500,000		Support Planning Associates Program, Planning Centers of Expertise, and Planning Modernization efforts (\$3.5 million). Continue to integrate climate preparedness and resilience into planning policy for the development of Civil Works projects that reduce the potential vulnerabilities of communities to the effects of climate change (\$2 million).	

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XX	IWR	RI	PRECIPITATION STUDIES	\$115,000	\$115,000		\$115,000		Conduct hydro-meteorological studies coordination/support with the National Weather Service.	
xx	ERDC	RI	PROJECT COST UPDATES		\$2,000,000		\$2,000,000		Conduct updates to authorized projects that have not received construction funds where those updates are necessary to recertify project costs or verify economic justification.	
XX	ERDC	RI	REMOTE SENSING / GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM SUPPORT	\$75,000	\$2,175,000		\$2,175,000		Provide technical support within the Corps for remote sensing and GIS.	
xx	ERDC	RI	RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	\$18,000,000	\$27,500,000		\$27,500,000		Research and development of technologies and techniques that will promote significant monetary savings and greater reliability, safety, enhanced efficiency, and environmental sustainability in planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of civil works activities including biopolymers to reduce the cost of rehabilitating and maintaining and to strengthen earthen infrastructure (\$6 million); advanced technology to automate assessment and inspection of flood control systems (\$5 million); modernizing existing Corps coastal and hydraulics models and integrating them to make them more accessible for use by others (\$4 million).	
XX	NAD		RIVER BASIN COMMISSIONS (MID-ATLANTIC RIVER BASIN COMMISSIONS: DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION)		\$715,000		\$715,000		Funding to support the Delaware Basin Commission.	
xx	NAD		RIVER BASIN COMMISSIONS (MID-ATLANTIC RIVER BASIN COMMISSIONS: INTERSTATE COMMISSION ON THE POTOMAC RIVER BASIN)		\$650,000		\$650,000		Funding to support the Potomac River Basin Commission.	
xx	ERDC	RI	SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTERS	\$50,000	\$50,000		\$50,000		Gather and disseminate information generated by the Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works as required by P.L. 99-802, Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986.	
xx	HQ	RI	SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS	\$445,000	\$445,000		\$445,000		Respond to general inquiries from members of the public on the work of the Civil Works program outside the scope of a specific Corps study, project, or program.	
xx	IWR	RI	STREAM GAGING	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000		\$1,300,000		Pay USGS to gather data and operate and maintain approximately 150 existing stream gaging stations, including repair and replacement, at locations not directly associated with a project that the Corps owns or with a particular Corps study, in order to assist the Corps by improving its general understanding of flood risk in those watersheds.	
XX	IWR	RI	TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000		\$1,000,000		Fund information and technical services and support for navigation projects.	
xx	HQ	RI	TRIBAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000		[\$5,000,000]		Funds will be used to initiate, continue, and complete studies and initiate preconstruction engineering and design (PED) efforts with Tribes. Funded studies and PED are listed individually under the State and Project the effort is being conducted.	
			GRAND TOTAL		\$132,089,000	\$15,391,000	\$147,480,000			

1/ KEY	FUNDING POT NAME
1	Feasibility - Additional Funding
2	PED - Additional Funding (Flood Risk Management)
3	Feasibility - Flood and Storm Damage Reduction
4	Provision requiring the proposed cancellation of past supplemental funds from the FY24 PBUD (\$4.5M) and applies those to studies previously funded with IIJA and BBA-18 funds. (NEW)
AER	AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION
FDRC	FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION COASTAL
FDRR	FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION RIVERINE
NHD	COASTAL NAVIGATION DEEP DRAFT
NHS	COASTAL NAVIGATION SHALLOW DRAFT
NIH	INLAND WATERWAYS HIGH USE
NIL	INLAND WATERWAYS LOW USE
WTR	WATER SUPPLY
RI	REMAINING ITEM

<sup>2/</sup> The studies funded in Disposition of Completed Projects are listed individually under the State and Project where the study is being conducted.

3/ The studies funded in the Tribal Partnership Program are listed individually under the State and Project where the study is being conducted.

(202) 224-3553 PADILLA.SENATE.GOV

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
BUDGET
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
JUDICIARY
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

May 7, 2024

The Honorable Shalanda Young Director Office of Management and Budget 725 17th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20503

The Honorable Michael Connor Assistant Secretary for Civil Works Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army 108 Army Pentagon Washington, D.C. 20310

Lieutenant General Scott A. Spellmon Chief of Engineers and Commanding General U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 441 G Street NW Washington, DC 20314

Dear Director Young, Secretary Connor, and Lt. General Spellmon:

As you finalize the Fiscal Year 2024 Work Plan for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), I urge you to provide \$400,000 to advance the recommended "course of action 2" and that you provide an exemption to USACE's 3x3 policy for the Imperial Streams and Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study (Salton Sea Feasibility Study).

As you know, the Salton Sea Feasibility Study is currently authorized as a 3-year, \$3 million study and aims to address the significant public health and environmental challenges caused by gradual receding of the lake, and which are impacting disadvantaged communities surrounding the Salton Sea. Dust from exposed Salton Sea playa is linked to elevated instances of asthma and other respiratory ailments in the region, particularly among children.

USACE Los Angeles District, local sponsors, the Salton Sea Authority, and the California Department of Water Resources conducted a robust study scope and public outreach effort since the launch of the study in December 2022 and selected "course of action 2" (COA 2), recognizing that to comply with the Biden administration's environmental justice goals, to address local priorities, and to reduce uncertainty about future hydrologic conditions, the Feasibility Study will require an exemption from the USACE 3x3 policy, a longer study duration, and an additional \$6.5 million in federal funding.

While the lion's share of the funds for the expanded study will be sought via future appropriations, there is a current shortfall of \$400,000 needed in FY24 to enable USACE Los Angeles District to continue to advance COA 2. Although USACE was restricted from augmenting this needed funding by a provision of prior law, that restriction was recently removed in the *Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024* (PL 118-42). In addition, that law provides USACE with over \$4 million in unallocated funding from which you may now provide the \$400,000 in funding needed via the FY24 Work Plan.

Therefore, I ask that USACE grant an exception from the 3x3 policy for the Salton Sea Feasibility Study and include \$400,000 in the FY24 Work Plan to advance COA 2.

Thank you for your ongoing support of restoration efforts at the Salton Sea. This effort is vitally important to protect the public health and environment of the region, and to mitigate the impacts of the receding lake.

Sincerely,

Alex Padilla

**United States Senator** 

AP/ae



RAUL RUIZ, M.D. Member of Congress 25th District of California

### Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-3605

Washington, D.C. Office: 2342 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 Phone: 202-225-5330

May 9, 2024

The Honorable Michael L. Connor Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) 108 Army Pentagon Washington, DC 20310-0108

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor,

I am writing to request an exemption from the USACE 3x3 policy for an allocation of \$400,000 in funding within the FY24 USACE work plan to progress with the recommended Course of Action 2 outlined in the Feasibility Study

In 2020, I advocated for the authorization of the Feasibility Study through the Water Resources Development Act of 2020, aiming to tackle the notable public health and environmental issues at the Salton Sea.

Salton Sea region is home to disadvantaged communities that are already grappling with significant public health and environmental challenges. Dust from the exposed Salton Sea playa has been associated with higher rates of asthma, especially among children. Approximately one in five residents of the Salton Sea area has been diagnosed with asthma, and pediatric emergency room visits for respiratory issues are two to three times more frequent in our region compared to the rest of California.

Without federal investment, the public health challenges at the Salton Sea will persist and worsen. Since 2003, the Salton Sea has receded by 11 feet, leading to the exposure of approximately 30,000 acres of dry playa. By 2045, it is projected that there will be a total increase of 105,000 acres of exposed playa compared to 2003. These projections do not even include the impacts on the Salton Sea playa that will arise from further near-term and long-term federal Colorado River water conservation measures that are under active consideration.

Since the Feasibility Study was initiated in December 2022, the study has seen active involvement from its cosponsors: USACE Los Angeles District, the Salton Sea Authority, and the California Department of Water Resources. Together, they have assessed various courses of action (COAs) to define the study's scope. These parties rigorously evaluated multiple COAs based on their ability to fulfill the study's objectives, align with the USACE's mission, address state and local requirements, maintain scientific integrity, and adhere to the environmental justice mandates set forth by the Biden administration.

This evaluation led the parties to select COA 2 as the preferred course of action. COA 2 will investigate the feasibility of alternatives identified in the State of California's Salton Sea Long-Range Plan for improving public health and air quality and restoring the degraded ecosystem and function. Most important, COA 2 was determined to be necessary to address the significant environmental justice concerns of the surrounding community. Implementing COA 2 will require extra time and approximately \$6.5 million in additional federal funding.

Most of the funds for the extended study will be pursued through future appropriations. However, there is currently a FY24 shortfall of \$400,000 needed to enable the USACE Los Angeles District to proceed with COA 2. Previously, the USACE was barred from allocating the required funds to the Feasibility Study by prior legislation, but this restriction was lifted in the FY24 Energy and Water Appropriations law. Additionally, this law grants the USACE access to over \$4 million in unallocated funding, from which you can now allocate the \$400,000 needed by the USACE Los Angeles District.

I value the commitment the USACE Los Angeles District has shown towards this Feasibility Study. The USACE has proven to be an invaluable collaborator in our vital mission to safeguard the public health and environment of the Salton Sea area. I kindly request that you make an exception from the 3x3 policy for the Feasibility Study and allocate \$400,000 in the FY24 work plan to ensure the seamless continuation of this crucial endeavor.

Thank you for your support of this vital program and please provide this request with full and fair consideration in compliance with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations. I look forward to our continued collaboration and am eager to support the progress of this significant initiative.

Sincerely,

Raul Ruiz, M.D. Member of Congress

Laul Kuy

CC: Major General William H. Graham, Deputy Chief of Engineers/Deputy Commanding General



April 29, 2024

The Honorable Alex Padilla United States Senator 331 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Raul Ruiz United States Congressman 2342 Rayburn Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Lophonza Butler United States Senator 112 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ken Calvert United States Congressman 2205 Rayburn Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Padilla, Senator Butler, Congressman Ruiz and Congressman Calvert:

I am writing to convey the Salton Sea Authority's (Authority) strong support for the FY25 Energy and Water Appropriations request that \$2.2 million be provided to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to continue the Salton Sea Feasibility Study (USACE study). The Authority is a California joint powers entity comprised of the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, Riverside and Imperial Counties, Imperial Irrigation District and Coachella Valley Water District.

The USACE study is off to a very promising start and the requested funds are needed to ensure it proceeds without delay.

The USACE study will lead to significant federal investment to address the public health and environmental challenges in the Salton Sea region. As you know, the federal government has significant interests in our region, including in federally protected endangered species; in the Sonny Bono National Wildlife Refuge and the Chocolate Mountain Gunnery; in major additional federal landholdings; and in our region's renewable energy and lithium stores. In addition, the Department of the Interior has acknowledged that it has major landownership liability associated with Salton Sea playa exposure, conservatively estimated at \$330 million.

The USACE study was authorized in section 203 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2020. Since its initiation in December 2022 with the signing of the required cost sharing agreement, study cosponsors USACE Los Angeles District, the Authority, and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) have evaluated distinct courses of action (COAs). These parties evaluated multiple COAs for their

82500 Highway 111, Suite 4 Indio, CA 92201 Phone: 760.565.3100 www.SaltonSea.com Senator Padilla, Senator Butler, Congressman Ruiz and Congressman Calvert April 29,2024 Page 2 of 2

effectiveness to address the purposes of the USACE study, to meet the USACE's mission, to meet state and local needs, to be scientifically sound, and to meet Corps environmental justice mandates.

This evaluation led the parties to select COA 2 as the preferred course of action. COA 2 will investigate the feasibility of alternatives identified in the State of California's Salton Sea Long-Range Plan for improving public health and air quality and restoring the degraded ecosystem and function. Most important, COA 2 was determined to be necessary to address the significant environmental justice concerns of the surrounding community.

To arrive at COA 2, 14 alternatives were identified and narrowed to 6 as worthy of further consideration. The requested funds will be paired with required cost share funding from joint local sponsor DWR to progress from currently scoped alternatives into the tentatively selected plan. Embedded within this work will be continued public outreach to area disadvantaged communities and required hydrologic modeling to aid in this refinement and the tentatively selected plan.

To implement COA 2, \$2.2 million will be needed to be provided to USACE in FY25.

As you know, the federal government is likely to require additional water conservation from the Salton Sea region. The Bureau of Reclamation has acknowledged these requirements will accelerate Salton Sea playa exposure. The USACE study will provide a means for the federal government to invest in the health, safety, and environment of the Salton Sea region in anticipation of these and other challenges.

Sincerely,

Thank you for your consideration our request.

G. Patrick O'Dawd

Executive Director/General Manager

Salton Sea Authority



April 1, 2024

The Honorable Michael L. Connor Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 441 G Street, NW Washington, DC 20314

Dear Assistant Secretary Connor,

We are writing regarding the Imperial Streams and Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study (Feasibility Study) to request an exception from the USACE 3x3 policy, the selection of recommended course of action 2 (COA 2), and the provision of \$400,000 in funding in the FY24 USACE work plan to advance COA 2.

The Salton Sea Authority (Authority) is comprised of locally elected leaders representing Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, Imperial and Riverside Counties, Imperial Irrigation District and Coachella Valley Water District. The Authority worked with the California Congressional delegation in 2020 and 2021 to secure both the authorization and initial funding to launch the Feasibility Study. In December 2022, the Authority and the California Department of Water Resources joined together to become the joint local sponsors of the Feasibility Study.

At the outset, the USACE Los Angeles District and local sponsors recognized that to comply with USACE policies, Biden administration environmental justice orders, and to address local and regional public health concerns, the Feasibility Study would require an exception from the USACE 3x3 policy. The subsequent development and evaluation of Feasibility Study COAs confirmed this judgment and led the USACE Los Angeles District, the USACE Pacific Division, and the local sponsors to select COA 2 which will require a longer study duration and an additional \$6.5 million in federal funding.

COA 2 will investigate the feasibility of alternatives identified in the State of California's Salton Sea Long-Range Plan for restoring the degraded ecosystem structure, function,

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The Honorable Michael L. Connor April 1, 2024
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and dynamic processes at the Salton Sea, as well as addressing air quality, in conjunction with ecosystem restoration.

As the Authority and its partners advocated to advance COA 2, USACE Headquarters advised that federal law prohibited the agency from providing additional funding into the Feasibility Study to accomplish the mutually agreed upon COA 2. This has resulted in a shortfall to advance the study this year in the amount of \$400,000. To ensure the Feasibility Study may proceed without interruption or diminution, the Authority requested that our Congressional delegation remove this legal limitation. This was recently accomplished in the FY24 Energy and Water Appropriations law.

That legislation also provides roughly \$4 million in unallocated, unearmarked resources to the USACE from which the USACE could provide the \$400,000 needed by the USACE Los Angeles District to continue to advance COA 2.

Accordingly, given that there is now no legal barrier to providing the additional funds needed and given that sufficient funds are now available in the FY24 appropriations law, we ask that you issue the 3x3 exceptioon, select COA 2, and provide the funding the USACE Los Angeles District has identified as needed to do so via the USACE FY 24 work plan. The Authority has submitted a Congressionally directed spending request for the needed funds for COA 2 in FY25, but this bridge funding of \$400,000 is critically important to ensure work proceeds without interruption until FY25 appropriations are provided by Congress.

The Authority greatly appreciates our partnership with USACE and your commitment to the Feasibility Study. Our joint effort is critical to ensuring the long-term sustainability of the Salton Sea region, to protecting federal interests and assets in the region, to addressing significant environmental justice and public health concerns.

Sincerely,

Altrena Santillanes Authority President

Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

Cástulo R. Estrada Authority Vice President Coachella Valley Water District The Honorable Michael L. Connor April 1, 2024 Page 3 of 3

Gina Dockstader Authority Board Secretary Imperial Irrigation District

Luis A. Plancarte Authority Director County of Imperial

Ryan Kelley Authority Director County of Imperial

Thomas Tortez Authority Director Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Yxstian Gutierrez Authority Treasurer County of Riverside

Álex Cardenas Authority Director Imperial Irrigation District

V. Manuel Perez Authority Director County of Riverside

John Aguilar Authority Director

Coachella Valley Water District

cc: Major General William H. Graham
Deputy Chief of Engineers/Deputy Commanding General



TO: Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors and G. Patrick O'Dowd

FROM: Lisa Moore

RE: Federal Report

DATE: May 14, 2024

We have been actively engaged in clearing the obstacles to advancing the recommended course of action for our U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Salton Sea Feasibility Study (study). I am happy to report that our work through our Congressional delegation to secure the funding required to do so has been successful. On Monday, May 13, USACE released its FY24 work plan. It included \$3.878 million in funding to advance the study.

This was the biggest USACE FY24 work plan commitment for any study in the country.

As I reported in March, we had identified several priorities to ensue the study would proceed as desired. Patrick focused his February meetings in D.C. on securing Congressional support for these priorities. First, we needed to legislatively remove a barrier in prior law limiting our ability to increase funding into our study. That was accomplished in the FY24 Energy and Water Appropriations law.

Second, we needed additional financial resources to pursue COA 2. To secure these resources, we pursued a dual funding strategy of seeking USACE funding administratively through the work plan, while also submitting Congressional appropriations requests to our delegation. I worked in follow up with our Congressional delegation to engage USACE to seek work plan funding. Members sent letters supporting this effort, as well as conducting other advocacy with USACE. The delegation strongly supported securing these funds for the study, particularly U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, who serves on the relevant Senate committee overseeing USACE. Congressman Raul Ruiz, who took the lead in securing the original legislation authorizing the study, also engaged directly with USACE on our behalf.

Our third priority was securing a waiver of USACE internal policies dictating that studies such as ours be completed within 3 years and for \$3 million (split 50/50 with the local sponsor). We are now working with USACE to determine if the inclusion of \$3.878 in the work plan is de facto that waiver, as the amount itself significantly exceeds the \$1.5 million typical federal share for this work.



TO: Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors

FROM: Oracio Gonzalez, Ollin Strategies

DATE: May 2024

SUBJECT: California State Advocacy

This memorandum provides a summary of state legislative and fiscal developments related to the Authority's state advocacy.

#### **Fiscal**

On May 10, 2024, the Governor released his May Revise, an update to his January state budget proposal reflecting the most up to date cash inflows to the state. At present, the Governor is estimating an operating deficit of \$27.6 billion over the 2024-25 planning cycle. This figure is net of the "early action" budget proposals discussed in last month's report, which reduced the deficit by \$17.3 billion. The Governor is also projecting that the state will experience ongoing deficits of approximately \$30 billion a year beginning in 2025. It is expected the Legislative Analyst Office, which advises the legislature on the budget and other executive branch activities, will estimate a budget deficit of around \$50 billion—but perhaps as high as \$20 billion larger than the figure reported by the Governor.

Regardless of what the final projected deficit the legislature and Governor will have to address as part of the 2024-25 state budget, the final budget will have to include significant cuts and delays to programs to bring it into balance. To that end, as part of his May Revise, the Governor is proposing to shift the \$65.8 million in general fund dollars for the Salton Sea included in his January budget to the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF). The GGRF is a state account used to deposit proceeds collected under the state's Cap-and-Trade program, which sets a cap/limit on total GHG emissions that declines over time. Emitters, such as oil refineries and power plants, purchase, sell, and trade carbon allowances during quarterly auctions run by the California Air Resources Board, proceeds from which are deposited into the GGRF. Over the past three years, individual quarterly auctions have generated an average of \$1.1 billion in revenue, with annual amounts averaging \$4.2 billion.

Under current law, about 65 percent of auction revenue is continuously appropriated to select projects and programs, including the state's high-speed rail project, affordable housing, transit, and safe drinking water. In addition, \$200 million is continuously appropriated each year for forest health and wildfire prevention activities. The remaining revenue, and where the Salton Sea allocation will come from, is available for appropriation by the Legislature through the annual budget.

In terms of process, the legislature has until June 15, 2024, to pass a balanced budget to the Governor for his signature.

#### **Legislative**

Below is the status of the measures the Authority has voted to support.

AB 2757 (Garcia): will establish the Southeast California Economic Region to align state and federal programs, services and funding to promote the economic expansion of the communities most affected by the development of the Lithium Valley and other clean energy projects. Further, the bill will require the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, and Go-BIZ to develop a list of programs that will utilize the Southeast California Economic Region designation and boundaries in program and service delivery, planning activities, and making funding awards. AB 2610 (Garcia), would expand the state's authority on the take of species to, in addition to the Quantification Settlement Agreement, also include impacts attributed to implementation of the Salton Sea Management Program and any water conservation agreements negotiated between the Imperial Irrigation District and the US Bureau of Reclamation to implement the Lower Colorado Rivera Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program for the year's 2024 to 2026, inclusive. At present, IID is negotiating an agreement to conserve 800,000 acre-feet of Colorado River water during 2024-2026.

Location: Assembly Committee on Appropriations, Suspense File

AB 2922 (Garcia), would reauthorize the Capital Investment Incentive Program (CIIP) until January 1, 2035. The CIIP allows local governments to offer a partial property tax abatement for qualified manufacturing facilities for assessed property values in excess of \$150 million. The program, which is being used to help develop the Lithium Valley, expired in January 2024.

Location: Senate Rules Committee, awaiting assignment to policy committee (passed by the Assembly on May 9, 2024 with 65 votes in favor).

SB 1309 (Padilla): would direct the California Energy Commission (CEC), in consultation with other state agencies, including the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (Go-Biz) and the California Workforce Development Board, to establish a Lithium Battery Production Council to conduct an economic analysis on workforce development needs, infrastructure needs, sewage and wastewater treatment, and housing needs for lithium battery production.

Location: Senate Committee on Appropriations, Suspense File

Other bills the Authority is tracking.

SB 974 (Grove), would change the amount of funding being deposited into the Salton Sea Lithium Fund, the fund created to receive 20% of revenues generated from the lithium production tax, to only 20% of the revenues collected from lithium recovered within Imperial

County. Under current law, 20% of all revenues generated by the tax are to be deposited in the Salton Sea Lithium Fund. The act would further require that 20% of the revenues generated from lithium recovered in Kern County be distributed to the communities most directly impacted by lithium extraction activities in the county.

Location: Senate Committee on Appropriations, Suspense File

#### General Obligation Bonds

AB 1567 (Garcia), will place a \$15.9 billion general obligation bond before voters in November 2024. Of this amount, \$400 million is proposed for the Salton Sea, consisting of \$119 million in "shifted" funds and \$281 million in new dollars for Salton Sea restoration. Of the new dollars, the bond would set aside \$30 million for the Salton Sea Authority. Separately, the bill would provide \$15 million for a Salton Sea conservancy.

Location: Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Senate Committee on Government and Finance

Hearing date: Not yet set.

SB 867(Allen), would place a \$15.5 billion general obligation bond before voters in November 2024. The measure includes \$100 million for Salton Sea restoration activities.

Location: Assembly Committee on Natural Resources

Hearing date: Not yet set.