



AGENDA:
DATE:
LOCATION:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.
North Shore Fire Station #41
99-064 Sea View Drive
North Shore, CA 92254

The following Salton Sea Authority Directors will be attending remotely via video/teleconference from the location(s) indicated:

Director V. Manuel Perez
Riverside County
78015 Main Street, Suite 205
La Quinta, CA 92253

Vice President Castulo Estrada
City of Coachella Corporate Yard
53-462 Enterprise Way
Coachella, CA 92236

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

Note: Members of the public interested in participating remotely via Zoom may do so using the call-in information referenced at the above link. Please note that this option is provided as a courtesy and at the participant's own risk. The Authority cannot guarantee that there will be no loss of connectivity or other technological obstacle to full participation through via Zoom. By participating in this way, participants confirm that they understand this risk and that the Board is not obliged to delay any portion of the meeting due to such technological obstacles and thus via Zoom participants may be unable to participate.

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 other remarks should be provided 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.

Written comments may be emailed to info@saltonsea.com, or delivered by hand or mail to 82500 Highway 111, Suite 4, Indio, California, "Attn: Clerk of the Board, Salton Sea Authority". Please include "Public Comment, 11/20/2025 Board meeting" in the subject line, and include your name and 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, November 19, 2025**, 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 and possible action.

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION

- A. CONSENT CALENDAR – Approve; Receive, and File
 - 1. Minutes of Salton Sea Authority Board Meeting: September 18, 2025
 - 2. Salton Sea Authority Warrant Register Ratification for: August, September, and October, 2025
 - 3. Salton Sea Authority Internal Financial Report for: July 1 through September 30, 2025
 - 4. Salton Sea Authority 2026 Schedule of Meeting Dates, Times, and Locations
- B. Colorado River Update
- C. Imperial Streams Salton Sea Feasibility Study project update – United States Army Corps of Engineers
- D. Framework Task Force Update
- E. Strategic Planning / Public Relations – CV Strategies
 - 1. Strategic Plan Status
 - 2. Review/Revise CV Strategies Scope of Work
- F. Project Updates
 - 1. North Lake Demonstration Pilot Project
 - 12/31/25 Grant Expiration
 - Future Roles and Responsibilities
 - Proposition 68 funds reallocation
 - 2. Desert Shores
 - Grant Modification (Expires 12/31/25)
 - Site Control – Land Acquisition Options and Risks

V. REPORTS

- A. Federal
 - 1. Federal Activities – Lisa Moore Lehman, Partner, Cultivating Conservation
 - 2. US Bureau of Reclamation - Unassigned
- B. State
 - 1. State Advocacy – Nick Romo, Cruz Strategies and Glen Farrel, GF Advocacy
 - 2. State of California – Mr. Miguel Hernandez, Public Affairs Officer, California Natural Resources Agency
- C. Salton Sea State Recreation Area Update on Activities – Enrique Arroyo, State Park Ocotillo Wells District Superintendent
- D. Local
 - 1. Salton Sea Action Committee – Alan Pace, SSAC President
- E. Executive Director’s Report and Comments - G. Patrick O’Dowd, Executive Director/GM, Salton Sea Authority

VI. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

VII. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION:

The Salton Sea Authority board will meet as established pursuant to Agenda Item A.4. above.

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 located at 82500 Highway 111, Suite 4 Indio, CA 92201.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
SALTON SEA AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
September 18, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Salton Sea Authority ("Authority") Board of Directors ("Board") was called to order by Chair Dockstader, at 10:02 a.m., September 18, 2025, at the Coachella Valley Water District and via Zoom Webinar.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Led by Secretary Singh

ROLL CALL

DIRECTORS PRESENT ON SITE

Gina Dockstader, President
Joseph Mirelez, Treasurer

Alex Cárdenas, Director
Director Singh, Secretary
John Aguilar, Director
Ex-Officio Joe Shea

AGENCY

Imperial Irrigation District
Torres Martinez
Desert Cahuilla Indians
Imperial Irrigation District
Imperial County
Coachella Valley Water District
California Natural Resources Agency

DIRECTORS PRESENT VIA ZOOM

Ryan E. Kelley, Director

AGENCY

Imperial County

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Yxstian Gutierrez, Director
V. Manuel Perez, Director
Cástulo R. Estrada, Vice-President

AGENCY

Riverside County
Riverside County
Coachella Valley Water District

President Dockstader announced that there was a change to the agenda, that was not posted to the website and would like to add as an emergency item up for discussion on Prop 4 that will be introduced by Secretary Singh.

*On motion by Mirelez second by Aguilar, the Board **approved** the request to add the prop 4 emergency item to the agenda.*

Approved by the following vote:

AYES: 7

NOES: 0

ABSTAINED:

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT

On Site: Jennifer Barnakian-Poland and Beatrice Eslamboly, CV Strategies, Trina Hamby and Felipe Vega, Imperial County, EHD, Enrique Arroyo, Ocotillo Wells District Superintendent, Carlos Campos, BB&K, Sonia Herbert, Bombay Beach, Vickie Doyle, IID, Lee Hernandez, IID.

Zoom: Nick Roma, Steve Cruz and Glenn Farrell, Cruz Strategies, Lisa Moore, Cultivating, Jessica Humes, IID, Pat Cooper, Supervisor Perez's office, William Patterson, L Mathews, Ron Spears, Shana Rapaport, Jim Barrett, CVWD, Tom Sephton, Larissa Q, Theresa Lamer, Mariela Loera, LCJA, Elizabeth Jachens, USGS.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sonia Herbert, resident of Bombay Beach and former owner of the Ski Inn, advocated for seawater importation

III. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

President Dockstader and Director Cardenas both commended Ms. Herbert for her attending and interest.

IV. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION

- A. CONSENT CALENDAR – Approve; Receive, and File
1. Minutes of Salton Sea Authority Board Meeting July 17, 2025
 2. Salton Sea Authority Warrant Register Ratification for July 31, 2025
 3. Salton Sea Authority Internal Financial Report for July 31, 2025
 4. ACWA Leadership Ballot Approval

*On motion by Cardenas second by Mirelez the Board **approved** the Consent Calendar per staff's recommendation.*

Approved by the following vote:

AYES: 7

NOES: 0

ABSTAINED:

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

Added Prop 4 Emergency Item – Secretary Singh introduced a request for a letter of support from the Authority for Imperial County to receive a portion of \$50MM in Prop 4 money set aside specifically for cross-border river issues earmarked money.

*On motion by Cardenas second by Dockstader, the Board **approved** the request to write a letter of support for Imperial County.*

Approved by the following vote:

AYES: 7

NOES: 0

ABSTAINED:

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

- B. Accounting and Finance
1. Year End Unaudited Results – O'Dowd stated that the audit is almost complete. Funds for this year went from a negative \$18,850 to a net income of \$72,300, with a positive funds balance for this year.
 2. Financial Operations Restructure, O'Dowd gave a brief update and stated that we are evaluating our needs enlisting the right services that may include a bookkeeper to handle day to day operations with a CPA to oversee the results. Will have an update at our next meeting.

Dockstader and Mirelez both agreed that this will be a cost savings.

C. Proposition 4 Update / Next Steps (State Advocacy) – Cruz Strategies, Steve and Nick gave a brief update, focusing on appropriation for the Authority to carry out our work. \$10MM was to be allocated between the Authority and the Conservancy at \$5MM each. Instead \$1.6MM went to the conservancy and the Authority was unfunded in this cycle.

Aguilar ask if the balance is available, Cruz stated that it is for future allocations in the next budget cycle, then that would be our opportunity to advocate.

Shea commented that the proposal for the Conservancy was \$10MM over 4.5 years, referring to as a creation period, hiring staff, and getting them briefed, O&M needs. The state requested only \$1.6MM for this budget year.

Aguilar stated and Mirelez agrees that the Authority not receiving its proportionate share of the Prop 4 proceeds was a bad message. Both O'Dowd and Dockstader commented.

D. Strategic Plan Progress and Next Steps – CV Strategies

One on One's – Beatrice gave a brief presentation on the status of the 1:1's and discussed possible date/time change.

E. Colorado River and the Salton Sea Authority – Discussion and Board Direction. O'Dowd stated that a suggestion was made by one of the agencies to get more involved with the Colorado Board. O'Dowd spoke to Jesscia and asked if the Authority can have a voice in the CA position in a responsible way and give additional support.

Cardenas commented that we could benefit from the Colorado River Board, there are 2 very important dates coming up, November 11 and February 14, 2026. These are the signature dates CVWD and IID are in negotiations on the upper and lower basin perspectives but also intra-Calif Perspective as well. O'Dowd recommended a letter of support, and Aguilar expressed the importance of keeping any letter more generic in light of the diverse interests of the stakeholders.

F. Framework Task Force Update

O'Dowd had an opportunity to speak to a variety of agencies, individuals and others to further inform our thinking in our direction in this regard. O'Dowd will be arranging a meeting in the next couple of weeks with air board reps and building a consolidated framework. Aguilar indicated a need for a schedule of outcomes and actions that can correlate with this planning effort, and O'Dowd indicated that this is very doable.

G. Project Updates

1. North Lake Demonstration Pilot Project

Expiring – O'Dowd gave a brief update, noting that the current Grant Extension would be expiring 12/31/25; we need to figure out how we can get projects in the ground and not wait 20 years, deferring further comments to the November meeting, when Joe Shea will be updating the public with important updates from the state.

2. Desert Shores, O'Dowd gave a brief update, same as the North Lake project, noting that a modification was being negotiated with USBR to amend the grant to use the remaining proceeds to fully permit a shovel ready project.

H. November meeting Date and Location, GM O'Dowd gave a brief update on the request from Joe Shea to change the Authority's November 20 Board meeting date so that he can attend and update the board and the public on the status of the North Lake Demonstration Project.

1. Location (Fire Station #41, North Shore)
2. Possible Date Change

V. REPORTS

A. Federal

1. Federal Activities – Lisa Moore Lehman, Partner, Cultivating Conservation, gave a brief update and submitted a written report.
2. US Bureau of Reclamation - Unassigned

B. State

1. State Advocacy – Steve Cruz, Cruz Strategies, gave a brief update.
2. State of California – Mr. Miguel Hernandez, Public Affairs Officer, California Natural Resources Agency. Assistant Secretary Joe Shea gave a brief update. He stated that he will skip the North Lake updates until the November meeting. Discussed SB 105 and conservancy set up deadline in 2026. The State is working on a public outreach meeting at Bombay Beach to talk about the new funding they're implementing in partnership with Audubon. Still working on the dates, President Dockstader asked that he let the board know when confirmed. SSMP meeting next week.

C. Salton Sea State Recreation Area Update on Activities – Enrique Arroyo, State Park Ocotillo Wells District Superintendent, gave a brief update on projects and improvements.

D. Local

1. Salton Sea Action Committee – Alan Pace, SSAC President – working on setting up some field trips in the near future.

E. Executive Director's Report and Comments - G. Patrick O'Dowd, Executive Director/GM, Salton Sea Authority, gave a brief update on the feasibility Study noting that per the schedule a Tentatively Selected Plan will be developed by October 2027. When completed and successfully issued a chief's report, the project would qualify for 65% federal matching funds. Lisa Moore also commented.

VI. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION:

The Salton Sea Authority board is scheduled to meet on:
Thursday, November 20, at 10:00 a.m. at
Coachella Valley Water District
Steve Robbins Administrative 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 located at 82500 Highway 111, Suite 4 Indio, CA 92201.



Salton Sea Authority Warrant Register

August 1, 2025 through August 31, 2025

Date	Number		Amount
8/2/2025	ACH	Intuit	Subscription 8/25 (175.00)
8/3/2025	ACH	Zoom	Subscription 8/25 (209.17)
8/3/2025	ACH	Amazon Retail	Office supplies (25.16)
8/3/2025	ACH	Amazon Retail	Office supplies (413.24)
08/04/2025	ACH	Lee and Associates Property	Rent 8/25 (1,250.00)
08/04/2025	ACH	Imperial Irrigation District	Electricity service 7/25 (180.61)
08/05/2025	ACH	Banc of California	Member contribution 200,000.00
08/11/2025	ACH	Banc of California	VISA billing cycle ended 8/25 (2,062.02)
08/12/2025	ACH	Deposit	Grant Funds from BOR 6.30.25 submission 241,088.00
08/27/2025	ACH	Frontier Communications	Internet service 8/25 (104.99)
08/28/2025	ACH	Best, Best & Krieger	Legal services 7/25 (2,208.30)
08/28/2025	ACH	SystemGo IT LLC	IT and web services 8/25 (397.00)
08/28/2025	ACH	Cultivating Conservation	Consulting services 8/25 (7,350.00)
08/28/2025	ACH	Steve Cruz	Consulting services 8/25 (7,000.00)
08/28/2025	ACH	CV Strategies	Consulting services 8/25 (5,000.00)
08/28/2025	ACH	Janice Rosenquist	Accounting services 8/25 (5,555.00)
08/28/2025	ACH	Nicklaus Engineering, Inc.	BOR Grant Expenditures (235,077.30)
08/28/2025	ACH	Gafcon, Inc	BOR Grant Expenditures (4,685.42)
Beginning Cash Balance			\$ 279,935.40
Monthly Activity			169,394.79
Ending Cash Balance			\$ 449,330.19



Salton Sea Authority Warrant Register

September 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025

Date	Number		Amount
09/02/2025	ACH	Imperial Irrigation District Electricity service 7/25	(178.25)
09/03/2025	ACH	Lee and Associates Property Management Rent 9/25	(1,250.00)
09/04/2025	ACH	Lee and Associates Property Management Electricity service 7/25	(72.00)
09/11/2025	ACH	Banc of California VISA billing cycle ended 8/25	(4,065.35)
09/29/2025	ACH	Frontier Communications Internet service 9/25	(104.99)
09/29/2025	ACH	Cultivating Conservation Consulting services 9/25	(7,350.00)
09/29/2025	ACH	SystemGo IT LLC IT and web services 9/25	(397.00)
09/29/2025	ACH	Janice Rosenquist Accounting services 9/25	(5,060.00)
09/29/2025	ACH	Steve Cruz Consulting services 9/25	(7,000.00)
09/29/2025	ACH	Best, Best & Krieger Legal services 9/25	(1,637.60)
09/29/2025	ACH	Bravata, Lisa Expense reimbursement	(136.50)
09/29/2025	ACH	CV Strategies Consulting services 9/25	(5,000.00)
09/29/2025	ACH	Riverside County BOR Grant Expenditures	(71,327.91)

Beginning Cash Balance \$ 449,330.19

Monthly Activity (103,579.60)

Ending Cash Balance \$ 345,750.59



Salton Sea Authority
Warrant Register
October 1, 2025 through October 31, 2025

Date	Number		Amount
10/01/2025	ACH	Imperial Irrigation District Electricity service 8/25	(193.92)
10/02/2025	ACH	Lee and Associates Property Management Rent 10/25	(1,250.00)
10/14/2025	ACH	Banc of California VISA billing cycle ended 9/25	(1,047.37)
10/28/2025	ACH	Frontier Communications Internet service 9/25	(104.99)
10/30/2025	ACH	Imperial Irrigation District Electricity service 9/25	(123.38)
10/31/2025	ACH	Deposit 3/31/25 Grant funds due from BOR	184,855.77
10/31/2025	ACH	Deposit 6/30/25 Grant funds due from BOR	50,953.92
10/31/2025	ACH	Best, Best & Krieger Legal services 9/25	(6,627.80)
10/31/2025	ACH	SystemGo IT LLC Consulting services 10/25	(397.00)
10/31/2025	ACH	Steve Cruz Consulting services 10/25	(7,000.00)
10/31/2025	ACH	Cultivating Conservation Consulting services 10/25	(7,350.00)
10/31/2025	ACH	O'Dowd, George Patrick Expense reimbursement, Jul, Aug & Sep 2025	(4,835.52)
10/31/2025	ACH	CV Strategies Consulting services 10/25	(5,000.00)

Beginning Cash Balance \$ 346,573.16

Monthly Activity 201,879.71

Ending Cash Balance \$ 548,452.87



Salton Sea Authority
Budget to Actual
General Fund (Unaudited)
For the Period July 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025

					C	B / C	B - C
	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	YTD FY 2026	Budget FY 25	YTD Target 25%	\$ Variance
1 REVENUE							
2 Local Government / Member Assessments	210,000	200,000	-	\$ 410,000	\$ 800,000	51%	\$ (390,000)
3 Other Federal / State / Local Contributions				-	525,000	0%	(525,000)
4 Sponsorships				-	10,000	0%	(10,000)
5 Grant Reimbursements and Other Income	11	21	42	74	44,300	0%	(44,226)
6 TOTAL REVENUE	210,011	200,021	42	410,074	1,379,300	30%	(969,226)
7 EXPENSES							
8 Total Salaries	18,770	18,770	18,770	56,309	238,995	24%	(182,686)
9 Total Employee Benefits	9,889	9,889	9,889	29,667	126,574	23%	(96,907)
10 Total Salaries & Benefits	28,659	28,659	28,659	85,976	365,569	24%	(279,593)
11 Contract / Professional Services				-	-	-	-
12 DC Advocates	7,350	7,350	7,350	22,050	89,600	25%	(67,550)
13 Sacramento Advocates	7,000	7,000	7,000	21,000	84,000	25%	(63,000)
14 Attorney Fees	2,208	1,638	6,628	10,473	48,000	22%	(37,527)
15 Audit & Accounting	4,455	4,620	5,720	14,795	75,000	20%	(60,205)
16 Public Outreach & Engagement	5,000	5,000	5,000	15,000	60,000	25%	(45,000)
17 Total Contract / Professional Services	26,013	25,608	31,698	83,318	356,600	23%	(273,282)
18 Administration				-	-	-	-
19 Travel/Mileage	2,974	3,188	5,034	11,196	35,000	32%	(23,804)
20 Conferences/Seminars/Summits		1,974	150	2,124	15,000	14%	(12,876)
21 Office Rent, Utilities, and Repair/Maintenance	1,397	1,431	1,500	4,328	21,400	20%	(17,072)
22 Equipment / IT Maintenance	397	397	1,097	1,891	5,100	37%	(3,209)
23 Non-capitalized Office Equipment	-	-	-	-	5,000	0%	(5,000)
24 Insurance	1,529	1,529	1,529	4,588	14,000	33%	(9,412)
25 Postage/Mail	60	60		120	-	-	120
26 Office Expense/Operating Supplies	1,267	1,472	125	2,864	5,400	53%	(2,536)
27 Office Expense/Online Services	-	-	90	90	5,400	2%	(5,310)
28 Dues, Subscriptions	1,501	1,127	713	3,342	10,000	33%	(6,658)
29 Operating Expenses/County Charges		(6)	25	19	6,000	0%	(5,981)
30 Board Room Usage and Recordings	105	105	230	440	3,600	12%	(3,160)
31 Interest Expense	-	-	-	-	1,231	0%	(1,231)
32 Total Administration	9,231	11,277	10,494	31,002	127,131	24%	(96,129)
33 TOTAL EXPENSES	63,903	65,543	70,850	200,296	849,300	24%	(649,004)
34 NET REVENUE / (EXPENSES)	\$ 146,109	\$ 134,478	\$ (70,808)	\$ 209,778	\$ 530,000	40%	(320,222)

*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, 2025 through September 30, 2025

				C	B / C	B - C	
	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	YTD FY 26	Budget	YTD Target 100%	\$ Variance
1	REVENUE						
2	State of California Grant (Prop 68)			\$ -	\$ 1,976,000	0.25%	\$ (1,976,000)
3	TOTAL REVENUE			-	1,976,000	0%	(1,976,000)
4	EXPENSES						-
5	SSA Salaries & Contract Accounting				15,000	0%	(15,000)
6	Riverside County Salaries			-	-	0%	-
7	Contractors				1,961,000	0%	(1,961,000)
8	Department of Water Resources-North Lake Demo			-		0%	-
9	TOTAL EXPENSES			-	1,976,000	0%	(1,976,000)
10	NET INCOME / (LOSS)			\$ -	\$ -	-	-



Salton Sea Authority

Budget to Actual

BOR -DSR (Unaudited)

For the Period July 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025

						B / C	B - C
	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	YTD FY 25	Budget	YTD Target 100%	\$ Variance
1 REVENUE							
2 Bureau of Reclamation Grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 744,000	0%	\$ (744,000)
3 TOTAL REVENUE	-	-	-	-	750,000	0%	(750,000)
4 EXPENSES							
5 Riverside County Salaries					-		-
6 SSA Salaries & Contract Accounting					15,000	0%	(15,000)
7 Contractors					735,000	0%	(735,000)
8 Legal Expenses					-		-
9 Bureau of Reclamation-Desert Shores Revitalization							-
10 TOTAL EXPENSES	-	-	-	-	750,000	0%	750,000
11 NET INCOME / (LOSS)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ -



Salton Sea Authority
Balance Sheet
(Unaudited)
As of September 30, 2025

1	ASSETS		
2	Checking/Savings	\$	346,573
3	PacWest Checking		
4	Rivco Payroll		45,613
5	Rivco Investment		1,307
6	Rivco Investment FMV Adjustment		-
8	Checking/Savings		393,494
9	Accounts Receivable		-
10	Interest Receivable		-
11	Rent Deposits		1,250
12	Prepaid Items		7,874
13	Due from BOR		-
14	Grants Receivable		398,393
15	Due from Grant Funds		19,503
16	Right to Use Asset		12,064
17	TOTAL ASSETS	\$	832,579
18	LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE		
19	LIABILITIES		
20	Accounts Payable		38,070
21	Accrued Expenses		12,000
22	Credit Card Payable		1,298
23	Accrued Payroll		5,109
24	Accrued Vacation		95,609
25	Accrued Sick		8,160
26	Lease Liability		13,014
27	Due to Other Funds		17,523
28	Due to BOR		-
29	Due to Riverside County		382,670
31	TOTAL LIABILITIES		573,452
33	Fund Balance		
34	Fund Balance		49,348
35	Net Income		209,778
37	FUND BALANCE		259,126
39	TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	\$	832,579

*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.



2026 PROPOSED MEETING SCHEDULE

SALTON SEA AUTHORITY

BOARD of DIRECTORS

January 15

Coachella Valley Water District
10:00 a.m.

July 16

Coachella Valley Water District
10:00 a.m.

March 19

Imperial County BOS
10:00 a.m.

September 17

Imperial County BOS
10:00a.m.

May 21

Coachella Valley Water District
10:00 a.m.

November 19

Coachella Valley Water District
10:00 a.m.

June 18

Imperial County BOS
10:00 a.m.

Location Addresses

Coachella Valley Water District*
Steve Robbins Administration Building
75515 Hovley Lane East
Palm Desert, CA 92260
(760) 398-2651

Imperial County BOS Chamber
940 W. Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243
(442) 265-1020

Memorandum

To: Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors
From: G. Patrick O'Dowd, Executive Director /GM
Date: November 20, 2025

Re: Task Force / Framework Update

Since last reported, work continued on identifying foundational elements necessary to create a task force capable of developing and implementing a comprehensive "framework of assurance" to address long lingering Salton Sea health and safety concerns. To date, we have held substantive meetings with senior representatives from local and state air boards and the regional water quality control board, and meaningful conversations with others, including the local vector control board. Based on those conversations we have developed a broad understanding of the task at hand and a glimpse of resources necessary to accomplish that important task.

To recap, there has long been concern by shoreline community residents and others that the changes taking place at the Sea are causing or increasing risks to human health and safety. Universities and local environmental justice stakeholders have done significant, independent research on known or suspected risks including biological toxins and hydrogen sulfide, and anecdotal indicators like elevated asthma levels, bloody noses, and emergency room visits have elevated those concerns. Notwithstanding this important work which significantly informs the public discourse, we have come to understand that it is essential to rely on the public agencies specifically stood up for the purpose of protecting public health. And though there is every reason to expect that each of those public agencies is well run by highly qualified professionals, in no instance were we able to find a clearly defined and well-articulated Salton Sea-specific program.

While each circumstance is discreet, much can be learned from the efforts implemented at Owens Lake to address the serious environmental challenges. Recall that Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), in coordination with Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District (GB), implemented a clearly defined and well understood and articulated monitoring and mitigation plan for the Owens Lake valley which includes (among other things) over two hundred air quality monitors (one every square kilometer when first established), satellite imagery every 5 days, mountain top spotters,

and enforcement and notification tools that ensured that the risks to the fenceline communities is being responsibly mitigated and local stakeholders are being equitably notified. LADWP funds over \$75 million per year in operations and maintenance costs alone at Owens Lake, and funds \$6 million in GB costs, over 80% of their annual operating budget, just to oversee compliance at Owens Lake. It is also worth considering that Owens Lake is 1/3rd the size of the Salton Sea, and GB's principal focus and responsibility is monitoring PM¹⁰.

The Salton Sea ecosystem is a bit more complex, with likely half a dozen different regulatory bodies responsible for protecting locals. And though as stated there is every reason to expect that each agency is living up to its commission, significant local concerns persist. We believe those concerns are derived from a couple of key factors.

First, the sheer diversity of responsibility makes it difficult for locals to know who to look to when they have a concern or question. Second, as stated, there is no comprehensive, agency-specific plan for addressing Salton Sea concerns. And third, it is unclear that, given the diverse, siloed nature of the various responsible agencies, whether there is any gap in the public health assessment regime which might cause unacceptable risk (as may be the case with biological toxins being researched by UCR).

We believe that these concerns can be addressed and these risks mitigated through the coordinated efforts of these agencies, properly directed and resourced. Each agency should be directed to articulate its plan, based on best available science, for properly monitoring activity at the Sea to protect public health, and assign an annual cost for the implementation of that plan. Thereafter, a to-be-formed task force of the responsible agencies should review and test the plans as developed to assure that when aligned all material risks associated with Salton Sea changes, both retrospectively and prospectively, are accounted for by a principally responsible public agency. To the extent gaps are identified, they should be rectified by the collaborative efforts of the task force.

Driven by local leadership, and working in coordination with this task force, supporting resources should be marshalled to further inform this effort. In particular, university research should be targeted and funded to ensure that the most pressing health and safety concerns are receiving the highest priority and adequate funding. Community based science efforts, a program being developed by local environmental justice advocates, should also be aligned with the task force efforts, and their efforts can be directed by local leadership and funded in coordination with the task force to expedite the work and increase public trust in the process and outcome.

Finally, education, outreach, and engagement is a most critical missing element. Aligning both science and the message will be critical to prevent mis-messaging and unnecessary public concern. Through a well-developed program to inform and educate local stakeholders as to the potential risks, what's being done to mitigate those risks, what they must do in the interim to protect themselves from those risks while

mitigation strategies are being developed and implemented, and what resources are available for them to do so.

Recommendation:

Direct staff, in exercising the local leadership role for which the Authority was established, in collaboration with relevant public agencies, and with aligned support from other local leaders, to continue work towards the development of a task force and framework, including pursuit of state, federal, and other funding sources that would allow for a reasonable, reliable, sustainable (target 20 years) program of health assurance.

Memorandum

To: Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors
From: G. Patrick O'Dowd, Executive Director /GM
Date: November 20, 2025

Re: Desert Shores Update

On October 14th a meeting with the community of Desert Shores was held to discuss the findings of technical work performed by Nicklaus Engineering, Inc., aided by AECOM. Commissioned by the GAFCON team, the results demonstrated what we long suspected – that the project conceived by local stakeholders, to “Build the Berm, Drill the Well, and Fill the Hole” was infeasible without significant engineering modifications which would address (among other things) highly porous soils and seismically active geology. Based on those findings, and for discussion purposes only, Nicklaus performed a cost analysis of a reengineered original concept, along with an analysis of what was assumed as a pure mitigation strategy – which would involve simply filling the channels to grade with imported material, and a hybrid solution where only a portion of the lake was reconstructed. This analysis indicated that under the least expensive option – pure mitigation, it will cost approximately \$8 million to address the Desert Shores challenge, and at the high end, a reengineered preferred alternative, it would cost nearly \$23 million to construct. (These estimates did not take into consideration any post-completion operations and maintenance costs associated with the project).

Based on this information and given the pending expiration of the USBR Grant at 12/31/25, we initiated discussions and have agreed in principle with the Bureau to amend the grant to utilize the remaining funds (approximately \$800,000) to design and permit a shovel ready project that is feasible, fundable, and buildable. We expect this modification to be implemented prior to the end of the year.

Informed by the Nicklaus work, and with the grant modification in hand, we plan to proceed in coordination with community stakeholders to develop a project with scope and scale that we collectively believe can be funded and constructed. One major issue which must be overcome, however, is site control for the project, which consists of over 200 separate, privately owned parcels. Previous efforts to secure landowner consent for even testing purpose have proven difficult if not impossible, not because of lack of consent but that the majority of land owners are out of market and difficult and in some

cases impossible to locate. We believe that to advance this project it may, and likely will be necessary, working on a consensual basis with participating community stakeholders, to exercise eminent domain authority to access the properties for project purposes. This effort would only affect the back of the lots previously submerged by the Sea and should not affect any existing structures. The resulting work should be value added to each landowner in the community and will mitigate a longstanding public nuisance.

Recommendation:

1. Authorize staff, subject to approval of the President and Vice President and the review of legal council, to enter into a modified grant agreement which utilizes substantially all of the remaining grant proceeds for design purposes.
2. Direct staff to move forward to develop a project scope, recognizing that the success of the project may include a public taking of lands in order to ensure project success.

Staff is not requesting authority to proceed with any takings at this time, but does seek guidance from this board that if it were necessary to ensure the success of a project strongly supported by the community and without local opposition, and with well evaluated risks, that a taking for project purposes would be worthy of consideration.

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Salton Sea Authority

DESERT SHORES RESTORATION PROJECT

Feasibility Study comprising Geotechnical, Geologic, and Hydrogeologic Services for the proposed restoration project in Imperial County, California



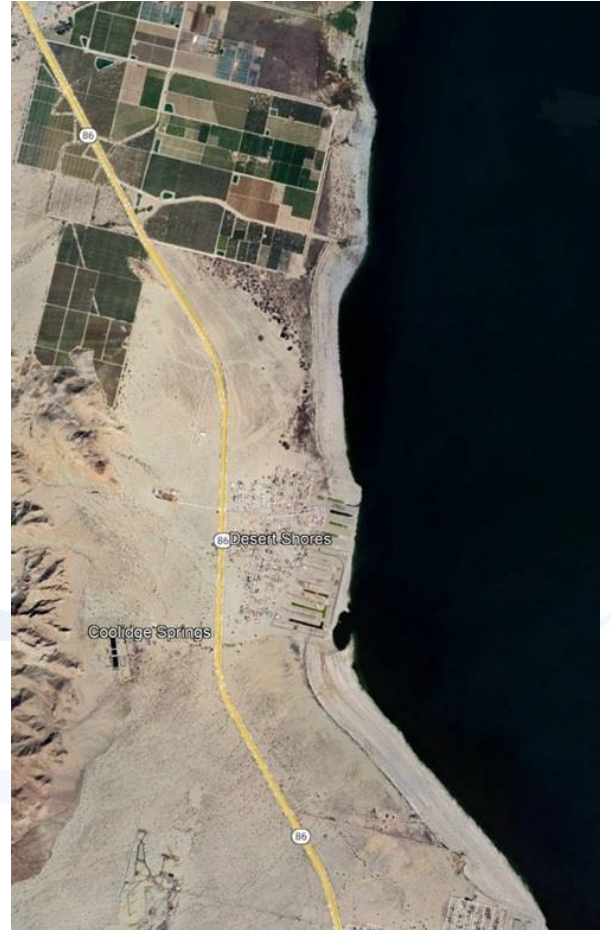
gafcon

AECOM

NICKLAUS
ENGINEERING, INC.

Feasibility and Sustainability of Restoration Project

- Introduction
- Project History
- Feasibility Study Overview



Feasibility and Sustainability of Restoration Project



Nicklaus Engineering, Inc. in association with AECOM performed this Feasibility Study to develop and evaluate potential restoration alternatives for the Finger Lakes.

The Feasibility Study included:

- A geotechnical evaluation, which consisted of performing subsurface investigation, laboratory testing, and preliminary engineering evaluations.
- A hydrogeological evaluation to assess groundwater conditions at Desert Shores.

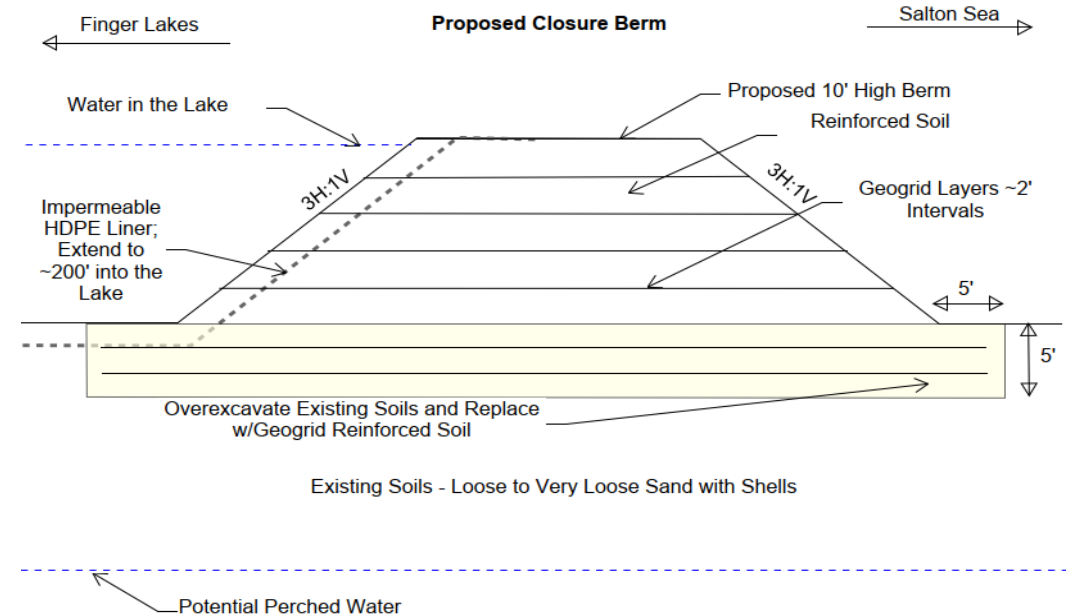
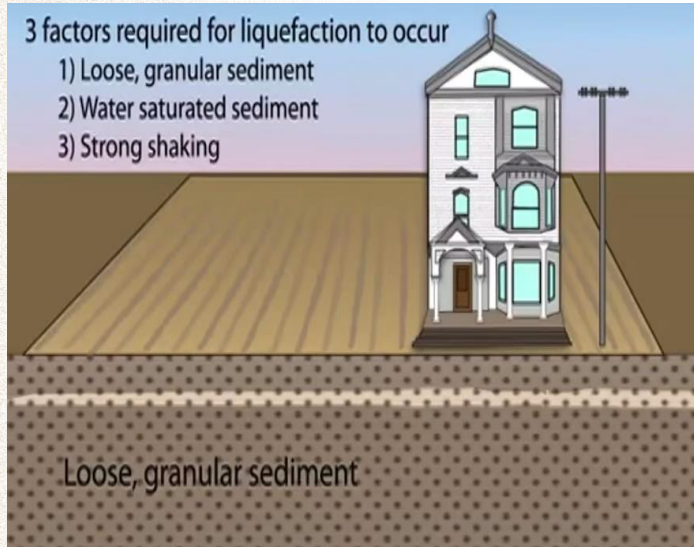
Field Activities for Evaluation of Restoration Project

- Used geophysical methods to attempt to locate old well
- Drilled pilot borehole for assessment of groundwater
- Collected Groundwater samples for water quality assessment



- Conducted a topographic survey
- Drilled geotechnical borings to collect soil samples for laboratory analysis
- Collected soil samples for environmental laboratory analysis

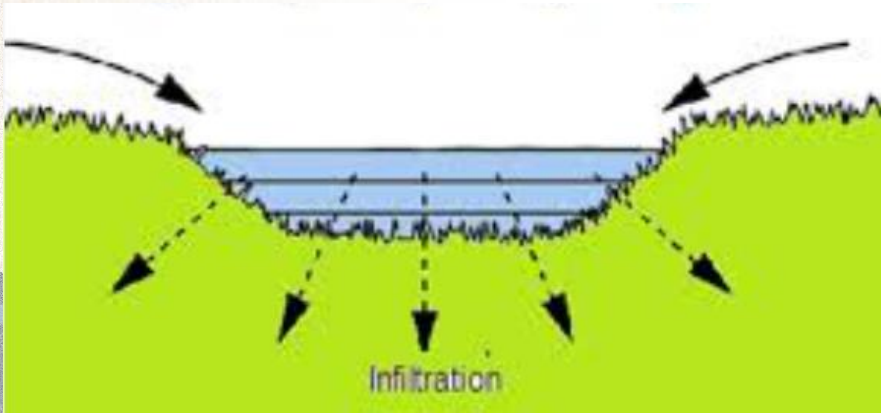
Geotechnical Challenge 1: Seismic Soil Liquefaction



- Highly variable soils across the site
- In strong earthquake, 10+ inches of settlement at inlet channel
- Design closure berm with geogrid reinforced fill
- Less/variable liquefaction settlement around the lakes (no change to current conditions)

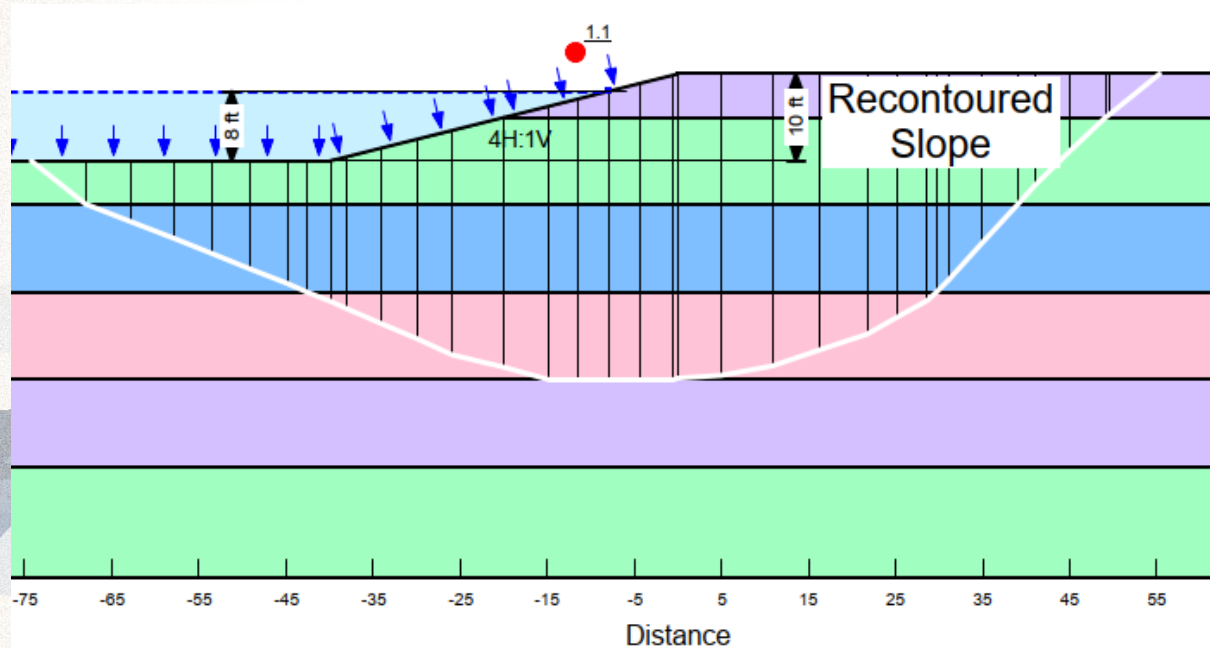
Geotechnical Challenge 2: Infiltration

- Variable soil, could infiltrate 5 to 10 inches of water per day
- Limit infiltration through/below closure berm by including liner in design
- Impractical to fill ponds as-is to retain water
- Mitigations could include different methods of lining ponds



Geotechnical Challenge 3: Seismic Slope Stability

- Existing slopes (with or without water) may experience localized failures
- Potential to compromise pond configuration and shoreline structures
- Limiting pond depth and recontouring slopes would improve stability
- Slope stability of closure berm addressed through design approach



Hydrogeological Assessment Results

- The old well could not be located at the location DWR records indicated.
- Groundwater quality is slightly saline.
- Groundwater in the area is in a confined or artesian aquifer.
- Groundwater and soil samples were not reported to contain any contamination



Sustainable Alternatives Evaluated for Feasibility and Sustainability

Alternative 1: The original Alternative included engineering a closure berm at the former inlet, installing a groundwater production well, and filling the finger lakes without any modifications to the finger lakes.

- This alternative is not feasible due to water loss.
- Water loss of 5 to 10 inches per day would result in a total daily water loss ranging from 11 to 22 acre-feet per day.
- Would require approximately 5 wells pumping at 1,000 gpm to maintain water levels.
- High potential for damage to the aquifer



Sustainable Alternatives Evaluated for Feasibility and Sustainability

Alternative 2: Engineering a closure berm at the former inlet, installing a groundwater production well, and recontouring the finger lakes to reduce water depth and improve the stability of the side slopes, and installation of a liner to limit infiltration of water into the subsurface. Two liners types were evaluated as Alternatives 2A Soil Liner and 2B HDPE Liner.

- Engineered Berm would include a design to limit settlement, installation of a liner to prevent water infiltration into the subsurface, and a spillway to allow for stormwater outflow in the event of flood conditions.
- A liner, either soil or HDPE, would be installed to limit infiltration.
- Fine-grained soil liner would significantly reduce infiltration; HDPE liner would almost entirely eliminate infiltration. Water Loss of ~0.5 in soil liner to ~0.1 inches per day for HDPE Liner.
- Would require 1 well pumping at ~400 gpm to maintain water levels.
- **Estimated Cost: Alternative 2A: \$10.9M (Soil Liner)
and Alternative 2B: \$22.8M (HDPE Liner)**



Sustainable Alternatives Evaluated for Feasibility and Sustainability

Alternative 3: Reducing the water feature in the finger lakes to just the north-south oriented main channel and backfilling the remaining finger lakes and turning them into a park. Two liners types were evaluated as Alternatives 3A Soil Liner and 3B HDPE Liner.

- The Berm Construction, groundwater well/pipeline, and aerators would be the same as Alternative 1.
- The soil or HDPE liner would be installed to limit infiltration.
- Recontouring would reduce water depth and improve side slope stability.
- Would require 1 well pumping at 400 gpm to maintain water levels.
- **Estimated Cost: Alternative 3A: \$13.8M (Soil Liner) and Alternative 3B: \$11.4 (HDPE Liner)**



Sustainable Alternatives Evaluated for Feasibility and Sustainability

Alternative 4: Filling the finger lakes with soil and creating a landscaped park.

- No berm needed.
- Landscaping and other amenities to make the finger lakes into a park area.
- Recontouring would address stability of side slopes.
- Stormwater conveyance from wash to the Salton Sea to prevent erosion of the backfill soil.
- **Estimated Cost: ~\$8M**



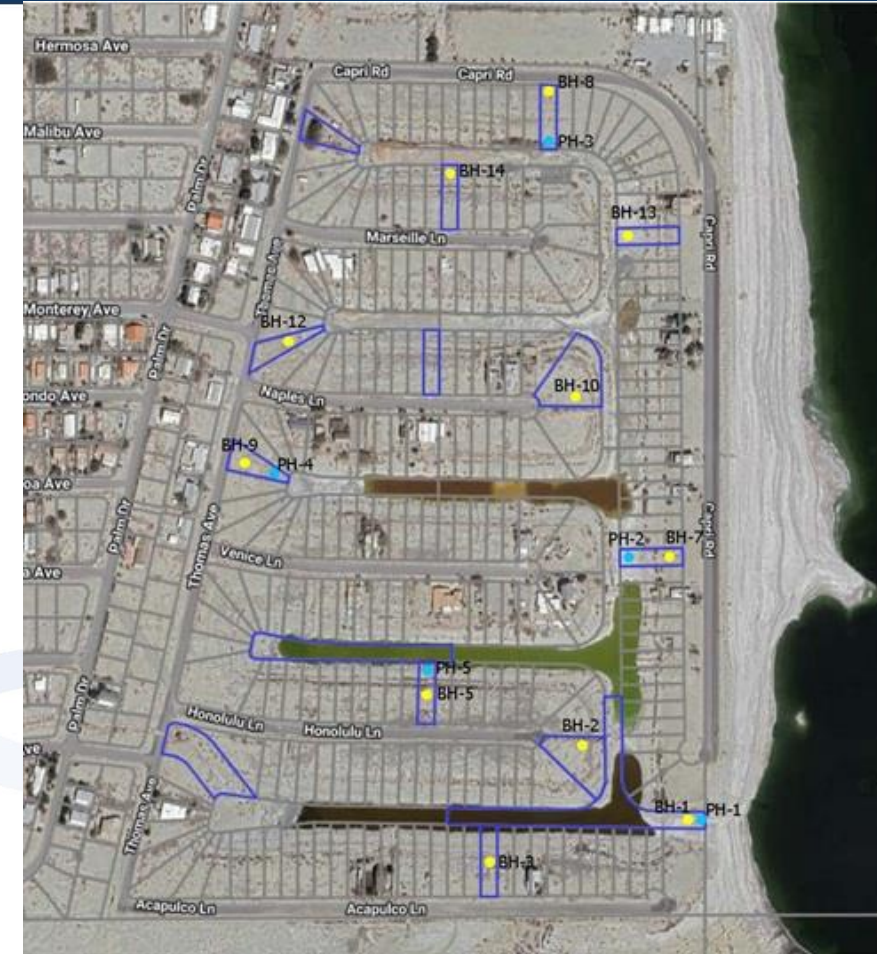
Feasibility and Sustainability of Each Alternative



- **Alternative 1:** Based on the estimated water loss to infiltration and the potential for slope instability of the existing lakes, Alternative 1 is not a viable option for restoration of the finger lakes without modification.
- **Alternatives 2 and 3:** Both alternatives are feasible from an engineering standpoint.
- **Alternative 4:** Alternative 4 is considered the most sustainable option due to elimination of the lakes, however, this option as it does not restore the water feature or create a biological habitat.

Next Steps

- Additional community meetings to discuss the project direction and design.
- Utilize remaining funds to focus on design, entitlement, and permitting.
- Explore funding strategies.
- Create a viable and sustainable project that will be shovel-ready for funding.



Questions?

Alternatives 2A and 2B



Alternative 3A and 3B



Alternative 4

