



GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
WADE CROWFOOT, Secretary for Natural Resources

March 6, 2026

The Honorable Alex Padilla
United States Senator
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Adam Schiff
United States Senator
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ken Calvert
United States Congressman
2205 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Raul Ruiz
United States Congressman
2342 Rayburn Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

On behalf of the California Natural Resources Agency, I thank you for your continued leadership on behalf of the State of California and your support for the Salton Sea. I write to convey my strong support for the Salton Sea Authority's FY2027 Energy and Water Appropriations request for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers funding to advance the Salton Sea Imperial Streams Feasibility Study (USACE Feasibility Study).

The Salton Sea is California's largest lake. Advancing projects at the Salton Sea to protect air quality and provide critical environmental habitat for fish and birds along the Pacific Flyway has been a key priority for Governor Newsom since the early days of this Administration. Declining flows into the Salton Sea have resulted in a shrinking, increasingly saline lake that exposes submerged lakebed and can create dust that has the potential to harm public health and is of concern to local communities. The Sea is also now more than twice as salty as the ocean, causing major declines in fish and bird populations along a critical stopover in the Pacific Flyway.

CNRA, the California Department of Water Resources, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife are focused on taking near-term actions to improve conditions at the Sea through California's Salton Sea Program, which includes a 10-year Salton Sea Management Plan that focuses on constructing nearly 30,000 acres of habitat and dust suppression projects around the Sea. To develop long-term restoration actions, our Salton Sea Program is partnering with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the USACE Feasibility Study. Our agencies have already secured our State match for the upcoming fiscal year, and need the federal government to continue its investment in the study in order to advance this critical work for the Salton Sea. I ask that you ensure the USACE Feasibility Study is fully funded and accelerated to protect our shared work and progress for the Salton Sea.

Sincerely,

Wade Crowfoot
Secretary for California Natural Resources Agency

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