

Salton Sea Management Program
Status Report 8
September 2016

This is the eighth in a series of monthly status reports that will provide information on various aspects of the State of California's Salton Sea Management Program (SSMP) conducted during the month of September.

- The Salton Sea Management Program web page address is: resources.ca.gov/salton-sea. The web page serves as a centralized site for the dissemination of information on the state's Salton Sea Management Program. It also contains a schedule of upcoming advisory committee meetings and material from those meetings.
- Coordination meetings/conference calls with Department of Water Resources (DWR) were held on 05, 10, 19, 22 and 29 September to discuss status of Species Conservation Habitat (SCH), Salton Sea Management Program (SSMP) and development of a Request for Qualifications from consultants to assist with the SSMP.
- A multiagency meeting was held with Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) and DWR on 08 September to discuss SCH project issues and determine a path forward for final permitting. DFW will finalize the remaining permits over the next couple of months as the final details of the SCH monitoring program for the project are determined.
- DWR and DFW continue to hold weekly coordination meetings with Division of Engineering team members on the SCH project. Currently they are working to resolve easement and access issues and continue to develop documentation for the bid process.
- On 02 September CNRA met with USGS Salton Sea Science office to discuss Science Committee status and role in reviewing and providing input to the State on various projects in SSMP.
- CNRA and the Salton Sea Authority (SSA) met with the Torres-Martinez Tribal Council on 07 September to discuss projects at the north end of the Salton Sea. Torres-Martinez will develop a concept plan for the dust suppression projects and the completion of the mid to deep water
- Audubon California presented the avian habitat evaluation process to the Science Committee and CNRA via a teleconference held on 07 September.
- CNRA met with Salton Sea air quality consultants on 08 September to discuss the existing air quality program and how that might be coordinated with the SMMP.
- CNRA held a conference call with Colorado River planners on issues pertaining to the river and the Salton Sea on 09 September.
- CNRA attend the Salton Sea Action Committee meeting on 09 September to discuss the SMP, the Long Range Plan and the financing plan developed by SSA.
- CNRA met with State Water Board members and others on 12 September to discuss SSMP status.
- CNRA, SSA and consultants held a conference call to discuss the SSA's Natural Resource Conservation Service grant and start developing the contract language of program implementation.

- CNRA participated in a conference call on 14 September with the Tree Mortality Task Force to discuss using dead trees as a potential dust suppression technique. The trees could be chipped and applied to the surface or stockpiled as logs on the surface. CNRA is looking into the potential of a pilot project to determine the efficacy of using local landscape waste and tree mortality on exposed playa.
- CNRA and DWR held an SSMP Project Committee meeting on 14 September to discuss the plan for developing the north and south ends of the Salton Sea. The discussion included the methods used to prioritize areas for construction, status of the environmental process and very preliminary cost estimates for the projects.
- CNRA attend the Region 7 Water Board meeting on 15 September.
- An SSMP Outreach Committee meeting was held on 19 September to discuss the results of the survey of outreach participants and to discuss a path forward for additional outreach meetings. It was determined that the next scheduled public workshop meetings would be held after more detail is developed for the longer range plans.
- On 19 and 23 September, DWR and CNRA met to discuss the status of finalizing necessary documentation and advertising the on call consultant contract.
- CNRA and DFW met with several private sector organizations that are conducting monitoring and surveys of avian species around the lake. This was a preliminary discussion to help develop a better monitoring program for the Salton Sea and the developed habitat.
- CNRA met with Audubon, Defenders of Wildlife and Pacific Institute on 21 September to discuss issues relating to the SSMP including funding and schedule.
- DWR met with Region 7 Water Board to discuss playa crustal formation around the Salton Sea and to discuss the need for further evaluation of the location and crustal formation dynamics. The crust might be useful for dust suppression.
- CNRA met with CAL EPA and CARB on 22 September to discuss air quality and other issues at the Salton Sea. Discussions included the upcoming CARB toxic monitoring program and coordination with IID and ICAPCD on the existing Water Transfer air quality mitigation program.
- CNRA met with the philanthropic organizations on 22 September to discuss funding opportunities including the use of a facilitator for coordination meetings
- CNRA participated in a State GO BIZ tour of the Salton Sea on 29 September with Assemblyman Garcia's office.
- The Long Range Planning Committee met on 29 September to discuss the development of a long range plan and to discuss the development of criteria for evaluation on unsolicited proposals for Salton Sea projects.
- CNRA met with IID on 30 September to discuss SCH easements, on call consultant contract and other issues relating to the SSMP. IID and CNRA will meet, at least monthly, to discuss issues surrounding the SCH and the SSMP.