Salton Sea Management Program Overview

- What is the Salton Sea Management Program?
- Project Delivery Update
- Planning and Timelines
- Partnerships
- Community Engagement
Salton Sea Management Program: 10-Year Plan

Phase 1: 2018 – 2028

• 30,000 acres of habitat & dust suppression projects to cover exposed playa and replace habitat losses as the Sea recedes and becomes more saline.

Sense of Urgency

• State is committed to making progress on the ground

• Urgent need to address air quality and ecological threats
SSMP Habitat Projects: Species Conservation Habitat

- First major SSMP habitat project
- 3,770-acre site of exposed lakebed
- Southwestern end of the Sea, east & west of the New River
- Request for Proposals issued 10/31/19
- Estimated to be complete by end of 2023
- Cost: Approximately $210 Million
  - Funded by Propositions 50, 84, 1, & 68
SSMP Dust Suppression: Bruchard Road Project

- Tilling and plowing on a 150 to 200-acre site of exposed playa
- Located on the southern of the Sea
- Estimated to be complete in the coming weeks
Planning

- Programmatic approach to environmental planning and permitting
- Establish framework to address critical items including water availability and land access
- Plan and Implement an additional 26,000 acres
Planning Tracks and Timelines

Dust Suppression Action Plan

**Major Benchmarks:**
- Dec. 2019 – Public Workshops
- Feb. 2020 – Public Workshop to Review/Comment Draft Action Plan
- Spring 2020 – Finalize Action Plan and Implement Projects

SSMP 10-Year Planning National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

**Major Benchmarks:**
- Winter 2019/20 – Public Scoping of 10 Year Plan Project Description (approx. 26k acres)
- Summer/Fall 2020 – Release Draft NEPA Document
- Winter/Spring 2021 – Finalize NEPA Document and Permitting

Long-Term Planning

**Major Benchmarks:**
- 2nd half of 2020 – Start Preliminary Planning
- 1st Half of 2021 – Start Formal Planning Process
SSMP Dust Suppression Action Plan Planning

Developing Dust Suppression Action Plan
- Evaluating sites for dust suppression projects
- Preliminary locations determined by soil emissivity, prevailing wind patterns and threat to populated areas
- Solicit community feedback & input

Environmental Documents & Permit Strategy
- Developing a programmatic approach to environmental planning and permitting
SSMP 10-Year Plan NEPA Planning Area and Milestones

SSMP 10-Year Plan NEPA Planning Milestones

- Developing Draft Project Description that will include approximately 26k acres of dust suppression and habitat projects for analysis under NEPA and permitting;

- Winter 2019/20 – Anticipate Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) starts formal NEPA Public Scoping Process and releases Draft Project Description for Public Review/Comment;

- Summer/Fall 2020 – Anticipate ACOE releases Draft NEPA Document for Public Review/Comment; and

- Winter/Spring 2020/21 – Finalize NEPA Document and Obtain Regulatory Permits
10-Year Plan Habitat Concept

North Lake Concept

- Approximately 3,680-acre horseshoe-shaped lake
- North end of the Salton Sea adjacent to the Whitewater stormwater channel
Partnerships

- Work with local, state, tribal and federal partners to pursue funding;
- Collaborate with stakeholders to secure land access and a water supply;
- Engage with partners to address scientific data gaps and identify priorities
Community Engagement

• Work with local leaders and community members to improve transparency and engagement
• Incorporate community input and priorities where possible
• Increase local presence
CONTACT INFORMATION

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