

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Budget Change Proposal - Cover Sheet
 DF-46 (REV 08/15)

Fiscal Year 2016/17	Business Unit 0540, 3600, 3860, and 3940	Department Natural Resources Agency, Water Resources, State Water Resources Control Board and Fish and Wildlife	Priority No.
Salton Sea Task Force		Program	Subprogram

Budget Request Description
 Salton Sea Task Force

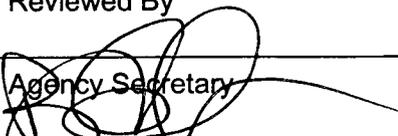
Budget Request Summary

This multi-agency proposal will implement the actions in the Salton Sea Task Force that are needed to protect habitat and prevent dust emissions from a shrinking Salton Sea. The request is for a total of \$80.488 million (multiple funds); \$150,000 reimbursements and \$50,000 General Fund for the Natural Resources Agency to lead this effort; \$80 million (Proposition 1) for the Department of Water Resources to support planning, design and construction activities; \$300,000 General Fund for the Department of Fish and Wildlife for ongoing monitoring and adaptive management needs for the Salton Sea and Colorado River Program; and \$138,000 (General Fund) and one position for the State Water Resources Control Board to support an ongoing oversight role to provide for sustainable management of the Salton Sea.

Requires Legislation <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Code Section(s) to be Added/Amended/Repealed	
Does this BCP contain information technology (IT) components? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>If yes, departmental Chief Information Officer must sign.</i>	Department CIO	Date

For IT requests, specify the date a Special Project Report (SPR) or Feasibility Study Report (FSR) was approved by the Department of Technology, or previously by the Department of Finance.
 FSR SPR Project No. Date:

If proposal affects another department, does other department concur with proposal? Yes No
Attach comments of affected department, signed and dated by the department director or designee.

Prepared By Kealii Bright	Date 1/4/2016	Reviewed By 	Date
Department Director	Date	Agency Secretary	Date 1/4/2016

Additional Review: Capital Outlay ITCU FSCU OSAE CALSTARS Dept. of Technology

BCP Type: Policy Workload Budget per Government Code 13308.05

PPBA	Original Signed by Amanda Martin	Date submitted to the Legislature 1-8-16
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BCP Fiscal Detail Sheet

BCP Title: Salton Sea Task Force

DP Name: 0540-005-BCP-DP-2016-GB

Budget Request Summary

	FY16					
	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
Salaries and Wages						
Earnings - Permanent	0	130	130	130	130	130
Total Salaries and Wages	\$0	\$130	\$130	\$130	\$130	\$130
Total Staff Benefits	0	70	70	70	70	70
Total Personal Services	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Total Budget Request	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200

Fund Summary

Fund Source - State Operations

0001 - General Fund	0	50	50	50	50	50
0140 - California Environmental License Plate Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
0995 - Reimbursements	0	150	150	150	150	150
Total State Operations Expenditures	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Total All Funds	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200

Program Summary

Program Funding

0320 - Administration of Natural Resources Agency	0	200	200	200	200	200
Total All Programs	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200

Personal Services Details

Salaries and Wages

0077 - Asst Secty
Total Salaries and Wages

CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
0	130	130	130	130	130
\$0	\$130	\$130	\$130	\$130	\$130

Staff Benefits

5150350 - Health Insurance
 5150600 - Retirement - General
Total Staff Benefits

0	40	40	40	40	40
0	30	30	30	30	30
\$0	\$70	\$70	\$70	\$70	\$70

Total Personal Services

\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
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BCP Fiscal Detail Sheet

BCP Title: Salton Sea Support

DP Name: 3600-055-BCP-DP-2016-GB

Budget Request Summary

	FY16					
	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
Salaries and Wages						
Earnings - Permanent	0	100	100	100	100	100
Total Salaries and Wages	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Total Staff Benefits	0	200	200	200	200	200
Total Personal Services	\$0	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
Total Budget Request	\$0	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
Fund Summary						
Fund Source - State Operations						
0001 - General Fund	0	300	300	300	300	300
Total State Operations Expenditures	\$0	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
Total All Funds	\$0	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
Program Summary						
Program Funding						
2590 - Biodiversity Conservation Program	0	300	300	300	300	300
Total All Programs	\$0	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300

Personal Services Details

Salaries and Wages

VR00 - Various

Total Salaries and Wages

Staff Benefits

5150600 - Retirement - General

5150900 - Staff Benefits - Other

Total Staff Benefits

Total Personal Services

	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
	0	100	100	100	100	100
Total Salaries and Wages	\$0	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
	0	100	100	100	100	100
	0	100	100	100	100	100
Total Staff Benefits	\$0	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
Total Personal Services	\$0	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300

BCP Fiscal Detail Sheet

BCP Title: Salton Sea Management

DP Name: 3860-012-BCP-DP-2016-GB

Budget Request Summary

	FY16					
	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
Salaries and Wages						
Earnings - Permanent	0	12,638	0	0	0	0
Total Salaries and Wages	\$0	\$12,638	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Staff Benefits	0	5,328	0	0	0	0
Total Personal Services	\$0	\$17,966	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Expenses and Equipment						
5301 - General Expense	0	256	0	0	0	0
5302 - Printing	0	3	0	0	0	0
5304 - Communications	0	3	0	0	0	0
5306 - Postage	0	1	0	0	0	0
5320 - Travel: In-State	0	32	0	0	0	0
5340 - Consulting and Professional Services - Interdepartmental	0	1,739	0	0	0	0
Total Operating Expenses and Equipment	\$0	\$2,034	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Budget Request	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fund Summary

Fund Source - State Operations						
Water Quality, Supply, and						
6083 - Infrastructure Improvement Fund of 2014	0	20,000	0	0	0	0
Total State Operations Expenditures	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total All Funds	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Program Summary

Program Funding						
3230 - Continuing Formulation of the California Water Plan	0	20,000	0	0	0	0
Total All Programs	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Personal Services Details

Salaries and Wages

VR00 - Various

Total Salaries and Wages

	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
	0	12,638	0	0	0	0
Total Salaries and Wages	\$0	\$12,638	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Staff Benefits

5150350 - Health Insurance

5150600 - Retirement - General

Total Staff Benefits

Total Personal Services

	0	2,295	0	0	0	0
	0	3,033	0	0	0	0
Total Staff Benefits	\$0	\$5,328	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Personal Services	\$0	\$17,966	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

BCP Fiscal Detail Sheet

BCP Title: Salton Sea Task Force

DP Name: 3940-023-BCP-DP-2016-GB

Budget Request Summary

	FY16					
	CY	BY	BY+1	BY+2	BY+3	BY+4
Positions - Permanent	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Total Positions	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Salaries and Wages						
Earnings - Permanent	0	80	80	80	80	80
Total Salaries and Wages	\$0	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$80
Total Staff Benefits	0	35	35	35	35	35
Total Personal Services	\$0	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115
Operating Expenses and Equipment						
5301 - General Expense	0	2	2	2	2	2
5302 - Printing	0	1	1	1	1	1
5304 - Communications	0	2	2	2	2	2
5306 - Postage	0	1	1	1	1	1
5320 - Travel: In-State	0	5	5	5	5	5
5322 - Training	0	2	2	2	2	2
5324 - Facilities Operation	0	10	10	10	10	10
Total Operating Expenses and Equipment	\$0	\$23	\$23	\$23	\$23	\$23
Total Budget Request	\$0	\$138	\$138	\$138	\$138	\$138
Fund Summary						
Fund Source - State Operations						
0001 - General Fund	0	138	138	138	138	138
Total State Operations Expenditures	\$0	\$138	\$138	\$138	\$138	\$138
Total All Funds	\$0	\$138	\$138	\$138	\$138	\$138
Program Summary						
Program Funding						
3570 - Water Rights	0	138	138	138	138	138
Total All Programs	\$0	\$138	\$138	\$138	\$138	\$138

Personal Services Details

		Salary Information								
		<u>Min</u>	<u>Mid</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>CY</u>	<u>BY</u>	<u>BY+1</u>	<u>BY+2</u>	<u>BY+3</u>	<u>BY+4</u>
Positions					0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
	5778 - Atty (Eff. 07-01-2016)									
Total Positions					0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Salaries and Wages										
	5778 - Atty (Eff. 07-01-2016)				0	80	80	80	80	80
Total Salaries and Wages					\$0	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$80
Staff Benefits										
	5150350 - Health Insurance				0	18	18	18	18	18
	5150600 - Retirement - General				0	17	17	17	17	17
Total Staff Benefits					\$0	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$35	\$35
Total Personal Services					\$0	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115	\$115

STATE OF CALIFORNIA							Budget Year 2016-17	
CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET CHANGE PROPOSAL (COBCP)							Proj ID:	958
FISCAL IMPACT WORKSHEET							BU/Entity:	3860
Department Title:		Water Resources					Program ID	
Project Title:		Salton Sea Management Plan					COBCP #:	
Program Category:		Critical Infrastructure Deficiencies					Priority:	
Program Subcategory:							MAMI:	MA
	Existing Authority	January 10 Action	April 1 Action	May 1 Action	May 14 Action	Special Action	Project Total	
FUNDING								
bu-ref-fund-eny-year	ph action							
3860-301-6083-2016-2016	sapc: BA	60,000,000					60,000,000	
							0	
							0	
							0	
							0	
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							0	
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							0	
TOTAL FUNDING		0	60,000,000	0	0	0	60,000,000	
PROJECT COSTS								
Study			8,000,000				8,000,000	
Acquisition			6,000,000				6,000,000	
Performance Criteria			1,000,000				1,000,000	
Preliminary Plans			9,000,000				9,000,000	
Working Drawings			6,000,000				6,000,000	
Total Construction or Design-Build		0	30,000,000	0	0	0	30,000,000	
Equipment (Group 2)							0	
TOTAL COSTS		0	60,000,000	0	0	0	60,000,000	
CONSTRUCTION OR DESIGN-BUILD DETAIL								
Contract			23,000,000				23,000,000	
Contingency			2,000,000				2,000,000	
A&E			5,000,000				5,000,000	
Agency Retained							0	
Other							0	
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION OR DESIGN-BUILD		0	30,000,000	0	0	0	30,000,000	
FUTURE FUNDING		0	0	0	0	0	0	
SCHEDULE								
	mm/dd/yyyy	PROJECT SPECIFIC CODES						
Study Completion	7/1/2017	Proj Mgmt:	Location:					
Acquisition Approval	1/1/2018	Budg Pack:	County:					
Start Preliminary Plans/Performance Criteria	7/1/2016	Proj Cat:	City:					
Preliminary Plan/Performance Criteria Approval	7/1/2017	Req Legis:	Cong Dist:					
Approval to Proceed to Bid	1/1/2018	Req Prov:	Sen Dist:					
Contract Award Approval	6/30/2018	SO/LA Imp:	Assm Dist:					
Project Completion	6/30/2019							

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET CHANGE PROPOSAL (COBCP)
FISCAL DETAIL WORKSHEET

Budget Year 2016-17

Proj ID: 958

Department Title: Water Resources
 Project Title: Salton Sea Management Plan
 Program Category: Critical Infrastructure Deficiencies
 Program Subcategory: _____

BU/Entity:	3860
Program ID	
COBCP #:	
Priority:	
MA/MI:	MA

Identify all items which fit into the categories listed below. Attach a detailed list if funding is included in this request. Provide descriptions and summary estimates for items for which you plan to request funding in the future. When possible, identify funding needs by fiscal year (BY+1 through BY+4).

PROJECT RELATED COSTS	COST	TOTAL
AGENCY RETAINED:		
TOTAL AGENCY RETAINED		0
GROUP 2 EQUIPMENT		
TOTAL GROUP2 EQUIPMENT		0
IMPACT ON SUPPORT BUDGET	COST	TOTAL
ONE-TIME COSTS		
10.5 existing positions		
TOTAL SUPPORT ONE-TIME COSTS		0
ANNUAL ONGOING FUTURE COSTS		
TOTAL SUPPORT ANNUAL COSTS		0
ANNUAL ONGOING FUTURE SAVINGS		
TOTAL SUPPORT ANNUAL SAVINGS		0
ANNUAL ONGOING FUTURE REVENUE		
TOTAL SUPPORT ANNUAL REVENUE		0

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET CHANGE PROPOSAL (COBCP)
SCOPE/ASSUMPTIONS WORKSHEET

Budget Year 2016-17

Proj ID: 958

BU/Entity: 3860

Department Title: Water Resources

Program ID

Project Title: Salton Sea Management Plan

COBCP #:

Program Category: Critical Infrastructure Deficiencies

Priority:

Program Subcategory:

MA/MI: MA

Project Specific Proposals: For new projects provide proposed Scope language. For continuing projects provide the latest approved Scope language. Enter Scope language in cell A110.

Conceptual Proposals: Provide a brief discussion of proposal defining assumptions supporting the level of funding proposed by fiscal year in relation to outstanding need identified for that fiscal year. (Also include scope descriptions for BY+1 through BY+4 in cell A110).

This project will design and implement air quality mitigation measures and wildlife habitat at the Salton Sea on exposed playa caused by the quantification settlement agreement water transfer.

Budget Change Proposal - Cover Sheet

DF-46 (REV 08/15)

A. Budget Request Summary

The Salton Sea is one of the most important migratory bird flyways in North America and is immediately threatened with reduced inflows and increasing salinity. The anticipated shrinking of the Salton Sea may expose large areas of playa that could contribute to significantly degraded air quality and human health effects to large population areas in southern California. Focused efforts will result in increased near shore aquatic habitat to provide feeding, nesting and breeding habitat for birds and economic development opportunities to provide for the long term viability of management efforts.

On October 9th, 2015, the Salton Sea Task Force announced agency actions needed to protect regional air quality, natural resources, and to maintain a stable Colorado River Supply for California. These actions included: the development of an achievable comprehensive Salton Sea Management Plan; the short term goal to construct 9,000-12,000 acres of habitat creation and dust suppression projects; a medium term goal to construct an additional 9,000-12,000 acres of habitat creation and dust suppression projects; commitment to accelerate planning, permitting and construction; ongoing active oversight of plan implementation; and a commitment to evaluate how renewables at and around the Salton Sea will help meet restoration goals and integrated resources management plans. This combined request of \$80.5 million (multiple funds) will allow the state to implement the program as follows:

Natural Resources Agency

The Salton Sea Task Force Actions directed the Natural Resources Agency to lead the development of a new plan to meet accelerated short and medium term habitat and dust containment goals. The Agency's newly appointed Assistant Secretary has been charged with leading this multi-agency effort.

The Natural Resources Agency requests \$150,000 in reimbursement authority and \$50,000 General Fund to fund the Assistant Secretary for Salton Sea Policy that was appointed by the Governor to oversee the Salton Sea Management Program. This appointed position is charged with managing the development and multi-agency implementation of the Salton Sea Management Plan.

Department of Water Resources

The Department of Water Resources will be supporting the Natural Resources Agency's process to design and do programmatic permitting for a new Salton Sea Management Plan. Additionally, Department staff will continue their support of development, permitting, and construction of ongoing and new restoration projects included in the plan.

The Department requests \$80 million (Proposition 1, Sec. 79736) to: support development and permitting of a Salton Sea plan; support development, permitting and construction of individual restoration projects to meet short term goals of 9,000-12,000 acres of restoration; and assist in the ongoing construction management for projects at the sea. The Natural Resources Agency will oversee expenditure of this funding to ensure investments are consistent with actions needed to meet short and medium term Salton Sea Management goals.

Department of Fish and Wildlife

The Department of Fish and Wildlife's current Salton Sea and Colorado River programs support a variety of functions to implement water transfers, develop restoration projects at the Salton Sea and manage wildlife resources in the region. Staff for these programs are currently funded from the Salton Sea Restoration Fund (SSRF) which receives revenue from local water agency contributions required by statute. While ongoing non-state deposits into the fund will continue, the SSRF cannot fully support existing staff. This proposal would fund 3 existing positions through \$300,000 General Fund, resulting in a total of 6 Fish and Wildlife staff for Salton Sea activities.

State Water Resources Control Board.

The State Water Resources Control Board (Board) wields significant influence to see that habitat and air mitigation projects are completed by exercising its authority over the historic 2002 transfer of water from irrigation to municipal uses.

The Board requests \$138,000 (General Fund) and one position, an Attorney, to serve as staff lead to facilitate this work through the Board's unique role of providing for the sustainable management of the Salton Sea.

B. Background/History

The Salton Sea, located in Imperial and Riverside counties, is California's largest lake and was once famous for its sport fishery and recreational uses. It is approximately 35 miles long and up to 15 miles wide with approximately 360 square miles of water surface and 105 miles of shoreline. The surface of the Salton Sea lies approximately 232 feet below sea level. Approximately 90 percent of the freshwater inflow to the Salton Sea is agricultural return flow water from the Imperial Valley. As the Salton Sea has no outlets, salts concentrate in it and nutrients enhance the formation of eutrophic conditions. Currently, the Salton Sea has a salinity level that is approximately 50 percent higher than the ocean. The Salton Sea is a critical stop on the Pacific Flyway for migrating birds, including several threatened and endangered species. The Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1930 to preserve wintering habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds. However, catastrophic die-offs of birds and fish between 1992 and 1997 were a sign that the Salton Sea is in serious trouble. Without a salinity control project, salinity at the Salton Sea will continue to increase until the Salton Sea can no longer support a productive fishery or fish-eating birds.

On October 28, 2002, the Board issued Order WRO 2002-0013. On December 20, 2002, the Board revised Order WRO 2002-0013 with the issuance of Order WRO 2002-0016. Revised Order WRO 2002-0013 approved the long-term transfer of up to 300,000 acre-feet of water per year authorized for diversion and use from the Colorado River under the Imperial Irrigation District's (IID) water right permit 7643 as follows: (1) 200,000 acre-feet of water per year from IID to the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA); and (2) 100,000 acre-feet of water per year from IID to Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). The approved transfer was for a term of 45 years with an optional 30-year renewal period, for a total of 75 years.

The conservation and transfer of water from agricultural to urban uses is a critical part of California's Colorado River Water Use Plan, which provides a framework to reduce California's use of Colorado River water to its 4,400,000 acre-foot apportionment in normal years. To facilitate implementation of the Plan, in 2003, IID, the State of California, other California water agencies, the federal government and Indian tribes entered into a collection of agreements commonly referred to as the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA). The QSA was intended to settle longstanding disputes regarding the priority, use and transfer of Colorado River water. The QSA established water budgets for the parties and authorized the contracting parties to pursue the long-term transfer of conserved water from IID to SDCWA, CVWD, and MWD.

Approval of the transfer had the potential to further reduce the amount of inflow to the Salton Sea from IID, thereby exposing shoreline, which could cause air quality impacts, and increase the rate at which the Salton Sea becomes too salty to support a viable fishery. At the time when the Board approved the transfer, however, it was uncertain whether restoration of the Salton Sea would be feasible, or whether it would continue to decline with or without the transfer. In addition, providing replacement water to the Salton Sea to compensate for reduced inflows likely would entail fallowing land, which had the potential to cause socio-economic impacts within Imperial County. In Revised Order WRO 2002-0013, the Board balanced the important water supply benefits of the transfer against these competing interests, and concluded that approval of the transfer should be conditioned on maintaining the salinity levels at the Salton Sea that would have existed in the absence of the transfer for a period of 15 years. The purpose of this condition was to mitigate the impacts of the transfer to the Salton Sea for a long enough period to study the feasibility of long-term restoration actions and develop a restoration plan. The Board reserved authority to add, delete, or modify the salinity mitigation requirement in light of the results of a study on the feasibility of Salton Sea restoration. The Board also required any air quality impacts of the transfer to be mitigated.

State legislation enacted in 2003 established the Legislature's intent that the State of California undertake restoration of the Salton Sea, and required the Natural Resources Agency to conduct a study to determine a preferred restoration alternative. In May 2007, the Natural Resources Agency published the Salton Sea Ecosystem Restoration Program Preferred Alternative Report and Funding Plan. The report considered nine separate alternatives for Salton Sea restoration and identified a preferred alternative. The preferred alternative was projected to cost \$8.9 billion. While many components of this plan are considered no-regrets actions, some already having received funding, the length of time and cost to implement them have made this plan infeasible.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Budget Change Proposal - Cover Sheet
 DF-46 (REV 08/15)

On October 14, 2011, IID and SDCWA filed a Petition for Change seeking modification of Revised Order WRO 2002-0013. The petition requests to eliminate the obligation to provide a total of 480,000 acre-feet of mitigation water to the Salton Sea from 2014 through 2017, unless by that time a Salton Sea restoration project has been validly adopted by the California Legislature or the federal government and funded, which affects the timing of transfers. In lieu of this requirement, the petition proposes to establish alternative habitat for Salton Sea wildlife and other resources. Also, the petition requests to eliminate the previous requirement for construction of brown pelican roosting structures in the Pacific Ocean. Petitioners assert that using money for accelerated alternative habitat is more beneficial to the environment and neighboring communities than putting water into the deteriorating Salton Sea. The petition was publicly noticed and 18 protests were received. IID withdrew the petition on June 20, 2014.

In addition to the Board's actions concerning the Salton Sea, the 2013/14 Budget Act provided \$2 million from the Salton Sea Restoration Fund for a Funding and Feasibility Review. The study is reviewing feasible alternatives for protection of the sea and possible funding strategies. The study is 2/3 of the way completed and has been providing information that is helping develop the long term plan for the sea.

On November 18, 2014, IID again filed a Petition for Change seeking modification of Revised Order WRO 2002-0013. The petition notes that the requirement to mitigate for the salinity impacts of the transfer to SDCWA, CVWD, and MWD will end in 2017, at which point the ongoing decline of the Salton Sea's water surface elevation and the ongoing increase in salinity levels at the Salton Sea is expected to accelerate if no program to restore the Salton Sea is in effect. Accordingly, IID requested the Board to order the parties to the QSA and the Salton Sea Authority to meet and confer in an effort to achieve consensus around a realistic, feasible restoration plan for the Salton Sea and a mechanism for funding the plan. IID also requested that the Board modify Revised Order WRO 2002-0013 to require the State of California to fulfill its commitment to restore the Salton Sea as a condition of the Board's approval of the transfer.

On March 18, 2015, the Board held a public workshop to receive information and solicit public input regarding the provisions of the Board's decision relating to the Salton Sea and whether the Board should take further actions to address the Salton Sea's future. The vast majority of speakers at the workshop, representing a myriad of perspectives, shared their concerns regarding the future of the Salton Sea and the impacts of current practices related to the Salton Sea and projected future impacts that may result unless significant action is taken by the State of California.

After the workshop was held, the Governor's Office convened a task force to continue the constructive dialogue of the workshop with a focus on Salton Sea planning and identifying funding for such potential efforts. The Board continues to participate with the task force, along with staff from the Governor's Office, Natural Resources Agency, CalEPA, ARB, the Energy Commission, and other interested stakeholders. With the recent appointment of the Assistant Secretary for Salton Sea Policy, the Board has been engaged with him as part of the larger efforts focused on Salton Sea solutions.

On October 9th, 2015, The Governor released the Salton Sea Task Force Actions that directed: the development of a new plan to begin immediate implementation and further development of a Salton Sea Management Plan, improve public outreach and local partnership, accelerate project implementation and delivery, meet a short-term goal of 9,000-12,000 acres of habitat creation and dust suppression projects at the sea, set medium-term goal of 18,000-25,000 acres of habitat creation and dust suppression projects at the sea, oversight by regulatory agencies, and consider opportunities for increasing renewable energy development at and around the Salton Sea.

Natural Resources Agency

Resource History
(Dollars in thousands)

Program Budget	PY - 4	PY - 3	PY - 2	PY - 1	PY
Awarded and oversaw grant to Salton Sea Authority for Financing and Feasibility Study	0	0	0	\$2,000	0
Actual Expenditures	0	0	0	\$2,000	0

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Budget Change Proposal - Cover Sheet
 DF-46 (REV 08/15)

Department of Water Resources
Resource History
(Dollars in thousands)

Program Budget	PY - 4	PY - 3	PY - 2	PY - 1	PY
Authorized Expenditures	\$1,718	\$1,991	\$2,061	\$1,467	\$1,207
Actual Expenditures	\$1,309	\$1,114	\$924	\$1,074	\$685
Revenues	0	0	0	0	0
Authorized Positions	3	3	3	3	3.5
Filled Positions	3	3	3	3	3.5
Vacancies	0	0	0	0	0

Workload History
Department of Water Resources

Workload Measure	PY - 4	PY - 3	PY - 2	PY - 1	PY	CY
Prepared/Completed EIR/EIS for Species Conservation Habitat Project (SCH) \$\$ (Contractors & Staff Support)	\$1,309	\$776,524	\$536,389	\$354,591		
Prepared/Completed EIR/EIS for Species Conservation Habitat Project (SCH) PY	3	2.5	2	0.5		
Obtained Permits for SCH \$\$ (Contractors & Staff Support)		\$337,897	\$165,036	\$261,397	\$70,591	
Obtained Permits for SCH PY		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	
Developed Financial Assistance Program (FAP) \$\$			\$222,812	\$50,000		
Developed Financial Assistance Program (FAP) PY			1	0.2		
Administered FAP Grants \$\$				\$118,193	\$145,835	\$200,000
Administered FAP Grants PY				0.5	0.7	1.4
Prepared Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan - SCH \$\$				\$290,182	\$283,855	
Prepared Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan - SCH PY				1.3	1	
Select Construction Contractor - SCH \$\$					\$185,312	\$97,000
Select Construction Contractor - SCH PY					0.8	0.6
Prepare CEQA/NEPA Document for Salton Sea Management Plan (SSMP) \$\$						\$388,000
Prepare CEQA/NEPA Document for Salton Sea Management Plan (SSMP) PY						1.5

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Resource History
 (Dollars in thousands)

Program Budget	FY 2010/2011	FY 2011/2012	FY 2012/2013	FY2013/2014	FY2014/2015
Proposition 84					
Authorized Expenditures ¹	\$279	\$296	\$296	\$12,396	\$296
Actual Expenditures ²	\$3,906		\$16	\$1,944	\$1,896
Salton Sea Restoration Fund					
Authorized Expenditures ¹	\$1,520	\$1,571	\$1,573	\$12,822	\$573
Actual Expenditures ²		\$7,167	\$1,425	\$9,801	\$512
<small>¹Budget Act Appropriation ² Includes Carryover/Reappropriations</small>					
Authorized Positions	13	13	12.2	12.2	12.2
Filled Positions	9	11	12.2	12.2	12.2
Vacancies	4	2	0	0	0

Workload History

Workload Measure	FY 2010/2011	FY 2011/2012	FY 2012/2013	FY 2013/2014	FY 2014/2015
Water Quality Studies	N/A	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Salinity Rate Studies	N/A	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Fish Population Studies	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5
Bird Surveys	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5
Mapping Studies	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Species Accounts	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Shallow Pond Studies	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3
Bird Research	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Fish Research	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Public Outreach	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.4
CEQA/NEPA Documents	1.5	2.5	2.0	0.5	0
QSA Analysis	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.0	2.5
Permitting	N/A	N/A	1.0	2.0	1.0
Design	N/A	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0
Administrative Duties	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
TOTAL Positions	9.2	11.2	12.2	12.2	12.2

State Water Resources Control Board

Resource History
(Dollars in thousands)

Program Budget	PY - 4	PY - 3	PY - 2	PY - 1	PY
Authorized Expenditures	0	\$30	\$29	\$35	\$167
Actual Expenditures	0	\$30	\$29	\$35	\$167
Revenues	0	\$6	\$7	\$13	\$48
Authorized Positions	0	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.0
Filled Positions	0	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.0
Vacancies	0	0	0	0	0

Workload History – State Water Resources Control Board

Workload Measure	PY - 4	PY - 3	PY - 2	PY - 1	PY	CY
Number of workshops or hearings held by the Board	0	0	0	0	1	1
Number of significant technical or policy reports reviewed	0	0	0	1	2	1
Number of high-level meetings attended	0	0	0	1	12	4
Significant correspondence materials regarding water right petitions	0	3	4	2	2	2

C. State Level Considerations

Natural Resources Agency and Department of Water Resources

The Natural Resources Agency's management of this multi-agency effort and the Department of Water Resources' implementation efforts will allow for the implementation of sustainable habitat and air quality management and mitigation at the Salton Sea in order to protect regional air quality, natural resources at the sea, and a stable Colorado River water supply for California.

Department of Fish and Wildlife

The Department will involve external stakeholders in program development, will keep them informed, and will develop programs to meet their needs consistent with the maintenance of sustainable wildlife populations. This will occur through public meetings, special stakeholder meetings, and workshops. Coordination with stakeholders and the public has been an ongoing theme throughout the planning of the Salton Sea Conservation Habitat (SCH) project. Along with the fact the Department is openly engaged in the QSA process, as well as the Salton Sea and the lower Colorado River Restoration.

The SCH project is a cooperative program in which the Department has worked with the staff of DWR on the development of the Salton Sea Restoration Program under the guidance of the California Natural Resources Agency. Additionally, the Department and the DWR have worked with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), geothermal interests, local water districts, and air quality and vector control management agencies on developing concepts for the SCH. A collaborative effort was made to ensure that all ideas were brought into the final SCH design and implementation.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Budget Change Proposal - Cover Sheet
DF-46 (REV 08/15)

The Department will continue to work with the DWR, the USGS, the USACOE, the USFWS, local water districts, air quality districts and vector control districts to gather data on natural resources and implement all shared ideas. The operation and maintenance of the SCH ponds will include surveys and results collected from Department staff that will be available for the purposes of coordination with these other agencies.

Along with the SCH project, the Salton Sea restoration and the lower Colorado River restoration process have been formulated as to not duplicate efforts by others, but instead expand upon them and coordinate closely with those entities having conducted such work before.

The SCH will provide habitat for a wide range of avian species with on-the-ground survey results provided by Department staff during the operations and maintenance portion of the SCH project, and documentation of over 400 avian species found at the SCH ponds.

State Water Resources Control Board

The Board participation in this multi-agency effort will help implement Action 4 of the California Water Action Plan, to protect and restore important ecosystems, which includes protecting the key habitat of the Salton Sea through a local partnership. The California Water Action Plan recognizes that the Salton Sea is immediately threatened with reduced inflows and increasing salinity.

D. Justification

Natural Resources Agency and Department of Water Resources

The Natural Resources Agency and the Department of Water Resource's management of this multi-agency effort will allow for the implementation of sustainable habitat and air quality management and mitigation at the Salton Sea in order to protect regional air quality, natural resources at the sea, and to a stable supply of Colorado River water for California.

Department of Fish and Wildlife

The 3.0 current staff requiring funding under this proposal have several key responsibilities. Staff participate in various aspects of the QSA water transfer, which includes the following: 1) coordinating with various stakeholders, as well as local, state and federal entities, on development or infrastructure projects; 2) conducting biological surveys at the Salton Sea and the Colorado River to track the effects from the QSA water transfer 3) aerial surveys at the Salton Sea to quantify the vast array of birds found at the Salton Sea; 4) participating on the QSA implementation to direct funding to mitigate the effects from the QSA water transfer; and 5) evaluating the Colorado River in terms of effects on the biodiversity as a result from the QSA water transfer. Staff also work on the SCH project, which occupies a great deal of time, managing consultants, working with the DWR and our interagency agreement, coordinating with the construction plan including local and federal easements, construction management, bid proposals, construction contracts, grants, and various permits.

This proposal would continue funding for 3.0 positions to conduct critical scientific and restoration activities related to the Salton Sea.

State Water Resources Control Board

The Board has a unique role in any large-scale efforts regarding the Salton Sea, as the major stakeholders all rely on water rights that are under the jurisdiction of the Board. The Salton Sea itself, in its current state, was created and maintained as a result of irrigation water being diverted from the Colorado River. In 2002, the Board approved a long-term transfer of water from IID to SDCWA, CVWD, and MWD. The Board has the ability to review the 2002 transfer and consider making changes through a hearing process.

This effort will allow the Board to continue its efforts to maintain a role in the Salton Sea by maintaining existing relationships with interested parties and providing a forum for those parties to continue to

collaborate to develop agreeable pathways for the Salton Sea. The development and implementation of a reasonable and sustainable plan to address air, wildlife, and water quality problems at the Salton Sea will result in the long-term viability of wildlife habitat in the Salton Sea and enhance the quality of life for residents of the Imperial and Coachella Valleys.

There is potential for the process of developing solutions for the Salton Sea to result in a significant increase in the quality of life for residents in the Imperial and Coachella Valleys. The inclusion of finance activities that can fund air quality management and habitat restoration may result in significant development of local renewable energy resources, and efforts that will likely boost the local economy and provide needed jobs in Imperial County.

A project focused on the Salton Sea may also provide an increase in tourism in the Imperial and Coachella Valleys. With the establishment of suitable habitat for a diverse assortment of fish and wildlife, visitors may be attracted to the area to enjoy the scenery without concern for air quality and view the spectacle of large-scale bird migrations.

Funding for the Board's activities under the proposal will come from the General Fund. This is a reasonable and appropriate use of the General Fund as this work will occur regarding a matter of significant importance to the State of California, as described above, and will affect significant water right holders in southern California.

There is not much time left to implement a solution for the Salton Sea before dramatic negative changes to habitat and air quality in the region are felt. While the myriad of problems facing the Salton Sea have been studied in detail, broad consensus has not been reached regarding a comprehensive, viable solution. For years, the State of California worked to develop a large-scale solution, yet the sheer size of the Salton Sea and its problems have led to the development of projects with large price tags without clear plans for funding the projects. The most recent plan from the State of California was released in 2007, but implementation was never initiated due to a lack of a clear funding source. Since then, small scale projects have been planned, with some in operation, but the limited scope of these few projects is overshadowed by the larger Salton Sea footprint.

As required in the existing permits, at the end of 2017, mitigation flows from IID will end, and without an additional source of water or significant alteration to the Salton Sea shoreline, the Salton Sea is projected to shrink rapidly. In fact, the Salton Sea has already receded significantly from the shoreline that was present in 2002. Thus, without an urgent effort and immediate action, it is unlikely that there will be enough projects in place to address the habitat and human health impacts of a receding shoreline.

E. Outcomes and Accountability

The Natural Resources Agency

On October 9th, 2015, The Governor released the Salton Sea Task Force Actions that directed: the development of a new plan to begin immediate implementation and further development of a Salton Sea Management Plan, improve public outreach and local partnership, accelerate project implementation and delivery, meet a short-term goal of 9,000-12,000 acres of habitat creation and dust suppression projects at the sea, set medium-term goal of 18,000-25,000 acres of habitat creation and dust suppression projects at the sea, ensure oversight by regulatory agencies, and consider opportunities for increasing renewable energy development at and around the Salton Sea. This request will allow the Natural Resources Agency to establish the program to develop a Salton Sea Management Plan and meet short-term goals of habitat creation and dust suppression projects at the sea in a timeline to respond increasing rates of sea bed exposure and loss of habitat.

Department of Water Resources

The Department will be supporting the Natural Resources Agency's development and permitting of a Salton Sea Management plan and the design, permitting, and construction of habitat and dust suppression projects to meet short term goals.

Department of Fish and Wildlife

The 3.0 positions currently working on the Salton Sea program already do a large variety of work. Other workload elements that will continue to be produced as a result of this will include the continued work on biological surveys at the Salton Sea, coordination with all stakeholders and agencies in regards to the Salton Sea and the QSA water transfer, regular participation and attendance of all meetings and events pertaining to the QSA water transfer and the Salton Sea, and continued monitoring and surveying of the Colorado Desert as it pertains to the QSA water transfer. Monitoring reports and biological survey data will continue to be produced and regular coordination with all interested stakeholders and participating agencies will continue to occur.

State Water Resources Control Board

The Board will conduct workshops and hearings, review and comment on significant reports, and attend high-level meetings. As previously discussed, the Board has a unique role regarding this matter and can bring considerable pressure to see that any potential solutions are implemented. Unsurprisingly, one of the primary drivers regarding the potential for any identified projects to move forward in a timely manner is funding. Therefore, the Board anticipates that it will assume a lead role in focusing parties on identifying and securing adequate funding to advance short-term projects and focus long-term projects. In addition, the Board will, in a public forum, ask stakeholders to provide updates regarding projects that are planned, underway, or have been completed, and receive input regarding the status of funding for the projects.

Without approval of this proposal, the pressure to complete this work will likely remain due to political and legal requirements. In such a scenario, either (1) the work will continue to require the significant redirection of current staff at the expense of other important functions or (2) the work will be significantly delayed or may never occur, thereby exacerbating the existing problem.

F. Analysis of All Feasible Alternatives

Alternative 1: Approve this request as submitted.

Cost: \$80.488 million (Multiple Funds), \$80 million one time, \$488,000 ongoing.

Advantage: This proposal will provide the needed funding and staff support for accelerated planning and project development that is needed to address increasingly degrading air quality and habitat at the Sea. In addition, it will fund a robust regulatory structure to ensure success of the program and maintain stable California Colorado River supplies.

Disadvantage: Would require General Fund.

Alternative 2: Approve ongoing staff funding as proposed but reduce bond funding to what is needed in the BY.

Advantage: Would save bond funds for later allocation when more project specifics are known.

Disadvantage: The State is under very strict timelines to meet short term goals laid out by the Governor. This program will be developing recommendations with stakeholders and the legislature, funding should be available to accelerate these projects if possible, having to wait for additional appropriations could delay those actions.

Alternative 3: Approve ongoing staff funding as limited term and reduce bond funding to what is needed in the BY.

Advantage: Would save bond funds for later allocation when more project specifics are known and would allow for greater oversight by the legislature to oversee work of existing staff.

Disadvantage: Management of the Salton Sea is going to be a long term responsibility to the state and will require the accumulation of expertise to implement a consistent program. Limiting staff tenure for this effort will harm the state's ability to meet short and medium-term goals and could jeopardize the State's ability to meet requirements under the QSA.

G. Implementation Plan

Natural Resources Agency

Following approval of this proposal, the Natural Resources Agency will continue work led by the existing Assistant Secretary of Salton Sea Policy. This position is currently leading stakeholder group discussions with public outreach to finalize a Salton Sea Management Plan. It is expected that programmatic permitting of the plan will require 1 year of activity following the approval of this proposal. Parallel to the development and permitting of the plan, this position will be leading the planning, design and construction of individual projects to meet short-term goals that are funded by this proposal.

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Implementation of this proposal would begin on July 1, 2016, and/or upon approval of the FY 2016/17 Budget.

State Water Resources Control Board

Following approval of this proposal, in July 2016, the Board will begin recruitment and candidate selection using available lists to expedite hiring and initiation of the activities in fiscal year 2016-17. The Board will identify office space within available facilities and purchase equipment and supplies needed to perform the new activities. The additional resources identified in this proposal will establish regularly occurring Board workshops. The position will begin attending any significant meetings regarding the Salton Sea, and prepare materials regarding next steps for consideration by Board Executive staff and Board Members.

H. Recommendation

We would recommend Alternative 1 and the inclusion of provisional language in each item that will fund projects to allow sufficient time to expend the funds on these efforts. In addition, we would recommend language that would allow the funds to be moved from support to local assistance and/or capital outlay where appropriate.