
IID + Salton Sea

JB Hamby
Vice President, Board of Directors
June 23, 2021



General Facts

- Salton Sea is the largest lake in the Colorado River Basin.
- IID drain water is largest contributor to viability of Salton Sea ecosystem and elevation.
- IID & Salton Sea 100% dependent on Colorado River water.

QSA Revisited

- ✓ Water Out
- ✓ Money In
- ✓ 'Peace Treaties'
Inked (non-challenge)
- ✓ New transfers
limited w/o BOD OK
- ? State 'restoration'
of Salton Sea



Salton Sea: 2003 to Present

- **2003-2014:** State non-fulfillment of statutory obligation to restore Salton Sea. Scant progress.
- **2014:** IID exercises “continuing authority” submitting petition to SWRCB requiring restoration as QSA condition.
- **2017:** Revised order sets annual commitments, milestones, and framework for restoration and mitigation efforts.
- **Today:** Some recent progress. Very, very far behind.

DCP Dustup

- DCP efforts to slow decline of Lake Mead
- IID conditioned participation on federal Salton Sea commitment
 - *More in Mead, less in Salton Sea.*
 - *Critical CR/SS link.*
- Non-IID Salton Sea 'support' in name only.

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Western drought deal is a go, without IID and as Salton Sea clean-up remains stalled

Janet Wilson Palm Springs Desert Sun
Published 7:09 p.m. PT Mar. 18, 2019 | Updated 4:26 p.m. PT Mar. 20, 2019

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4.
Many years
river's flow

3 things to know about the Colorado River
The Colorado River provides water for several states. During drought, the river is also under growing stress.

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Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan Is Necessary Now

Tom Buschatzke Special to The Desert Sun
Published 5:00 a.m. PT Mar. 26, 2019 | Updated 9:04 a.m. PT Mar. 28, 2019

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www.iid.com



Year **Exposed Playa**
Total Acres

2007	4,200
2012	10,600
2017	16,200
2022	34,700
2027	54,500
2032	64,700
2037	69,100
2042	72,500
2047	74,000

Year 2042 to 2047
Exposed Playa: 74,000 acres



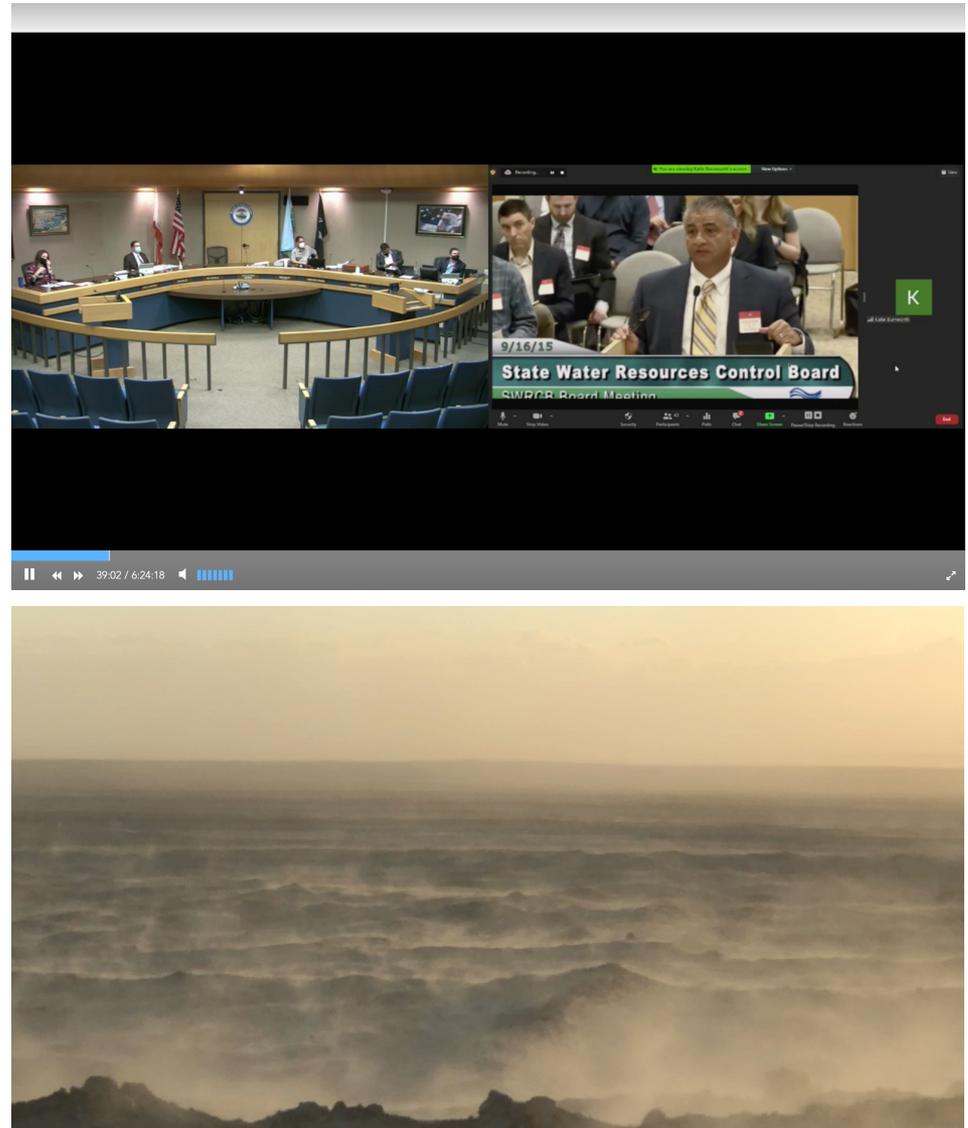
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Year 2047
Water Elevation -249.90



On the Ground

- State 15 years behind, but moving in right direction.
- Complicated projects with burdensome permitting.
- IID/State stymied by local regulatory issues.



Rapids Ahead

- Renegotiation of 2007 CR rules
- Declining CR & reservoirs
- Structural deficit
- Allocating pain
- Salton Sea?



IID Problems = River Problems

- No new water transfers from IID.
- Cannot drain SS to fill Mead.
- Largest user hamstrung to store water in emptying Mead.
- New CR agreements depend on honoring old ones.

