

Hydrologic Focused Technical Group Meeting January 31, 2008

Draft Problem Statement and Goal and Objectives

Hydrologic Monitoring Plan Problem Statement:

Evolving hydrologic conditions threaten important resources at the Salton Sea. Continuing deterioration of water quality conditions affect the ability of the sea to support important fish and wildlife resources, while changes in inflows affect water quality and potentially air quality due to exposure of playa. Current hydrologic data collection activities are not sufficient to provide understanding of the future effects from evolving hydrologic conditions so that effective management actions may be planned and undertaken.

Hydrologic Monitoring Plan Goal:

Implement a data collection, analysis, management, and reporting system to inform and guide management actions for hydrologic resources of the Salton Sea ecosystem.

Hydrologic Monitoring Plan Objectives:

- Incorporate existing monitoring activities and data into a long-term monitoring program for hydrologic resources of the Salton Sea
- Determine the condition, variability, and trends of hydrologic resources associated with the Salton Sea ecosystem;
- Establish benchmarks against which data gathered during long-term monitoring can be compared;
- Provide information to refine hypotheses of hydrologic functions;
- Identify and prioritize existing data gaps, collect data using standardized methods and techniques to fill these voids, and facilitate storage, management, and distribution of data in a timely manner; and;
- Integrate planning, data collection, analysis, and management activities with all other resource groups.