

Biology Focused Technical Group Meeting December 19, 2007

Problem Statement and Goal and Objectives

Biology Monitoring Plan Problem Statement:

Currently, the baseline information on biological resources of the Salton Sea ecosystem is insufficient to provide an accurate assessment of the condition and trends of these resources. Information is also needed to identify and better understand the relationships between species, habitats, ecological processes, and other causes of variation.

Biology Monitoring Plan Goal:

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

Biology Monitoring Plan Objectives:

- Determine the baseline condition and trends of biological resources associated with the Salton Sea ecosystem;
- Establish baseline standards against which data gathered during long-term monitoring can be compared;
- Identify and prioritize existing data gaps and collect data to fill this void;
- Develop and assess hypothesized relationships between species, habitats, processes, and other causes of variation;
- Collect and provide biological data to facilitate storage, management, and distribution in a timely manner; and
- Integrate planning, data collection, analysis, and management of all resource groups