

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

RESOLUTION NO. R7-2003-0087

**SUPPORTING THE SALTON SEA AUTHORITY AS LEAD AGENCY IN IDENTIFYING AND
IMPLEMENTING CORRECTIVE MEASURES TO PRESERVE
THE BENEFICIAL USES OF THE SALTON SEA**

WHEREAS, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (hereinafter Regional Board), finds that:

1. Salton Sea is California's largest inland water body with beneficial uses including fisheries and wildlife habitat, recreation, and preservation of endangered species.
2. The Salton Sea ecosystem is a critical link on the international Pacific flyway. The ecosystem has supported a productive fishery and over 300 species of birds.
3. Salton Sea ecosystems are critical given the decrease in California wetlands.
4. The Sea is threatened by increasing salinity and water loss.
5. The Salton Sea Authority is a joint powers agency chartered by the State of California in a Joint Powers Agreement on June 2, 1993. It is the lead agency for identifying and implementing corrective measures to preserve the beneficial uses of the Sea.
6. The Salton Sea Authority has made a concerted effort to collect all known suggestions for remediation of the Salton Sea and has subjected these proposals to formal review against specified criteria. The Authority also is taking concrete steps in preparing for the detailed planning of a remediation project.
7. Recent legislation linked to the Colorado River Quantification Settlement Agreement recognizes the Salton Sea as a critical environmental issue to be addressed and provides up to \$300 million for that purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Salton Sea Authority should remain lead agency for identifying and implementing corrective measures to preserve beneficial uses of the Sea.
2. Available funding be directed/redirected to the Salton Sea Authority for remediation efforts specifically related to the Salton Sea.

I, Phil Gruenberg, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, on November 5, 2003.

Phil Gruenberg
Executive Officer