

# SALTON SEA



# AUTHORITY

The Salton Sea Authority is a joint powers agency formed in 1993 by

- the Coachella Valley Water District
- the Imperial Irrigation District
- Riverside County
- Imperial County

The Authority's Board of Directors is comprised of elected officials from each of these member agencies.

The Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indian Tribe and Federal, State and regional agencies are also represented within the Authority.

The Authority was formed to bring together the many stakeholders interested in understanding and addressing the Sea's challenges and making the most of the Sea's opportunities. The Authority believes restoration of the Sea is a unique opportunity to improve the environment and enjoy economic benefits in doing so.





**The Salton Sea Authority** is committed to maintaining the Sea as an agricultural drainage reservoir protecting and enhancing the Sea as a critical link along the Pacific Flyway, stimulating recreational use and providing an environment for economic development. Before 1997, the Authority relied on funds provided by the member agencies and a small grant to carry out its mission. Since then, the Authority has received, or will receive, over nineteen million dollars from Federal and State appropriations and a State bond measure to further its mission.

**The Authority has entered into a joint agreement** with our Federal partner, the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Reclamation. Together, our agencies are providing the engineering and environmental analysis to provide a restoration report to Congress to meet the terms of the 1998 Salton Sea Reclamation Act. Additionally, the Salton Sea Authority has provided, through a federal appropriation, all of the funding supporting the work of the Salton Sea Science Subcommittee. Their efforts led to the greatest degree of ecological understanding of the Sea ever compiled. The Authority is now supporting a series of pilot projects. The first underway is a wildlife disease program in concert with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Department of Fish and Game and National Wildlife Health Center. Other pilot projects will address desalinization, harvesting fish and cleaning up the shoreline.

**While the Authority's budget and activities** have expanded, its commitment to action, entrepreneurialism, and partnerships has not waned. Over 90% of the Authority's budget goes to contractors to provide environmental planning, scientific, engineering, construction and operation services. The Authority's ability to maximize its use of funds is furthered by inherent and fostered relationships with federal, state, tribal, environmental and other agencies and organizations.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Roy Wilson**  
Supervisor, District 4  
County of Riverside

**Andy Horne**  
Imperial Irrigation District

**James Venable**  
Supervisor, District 3  
County of Riverside

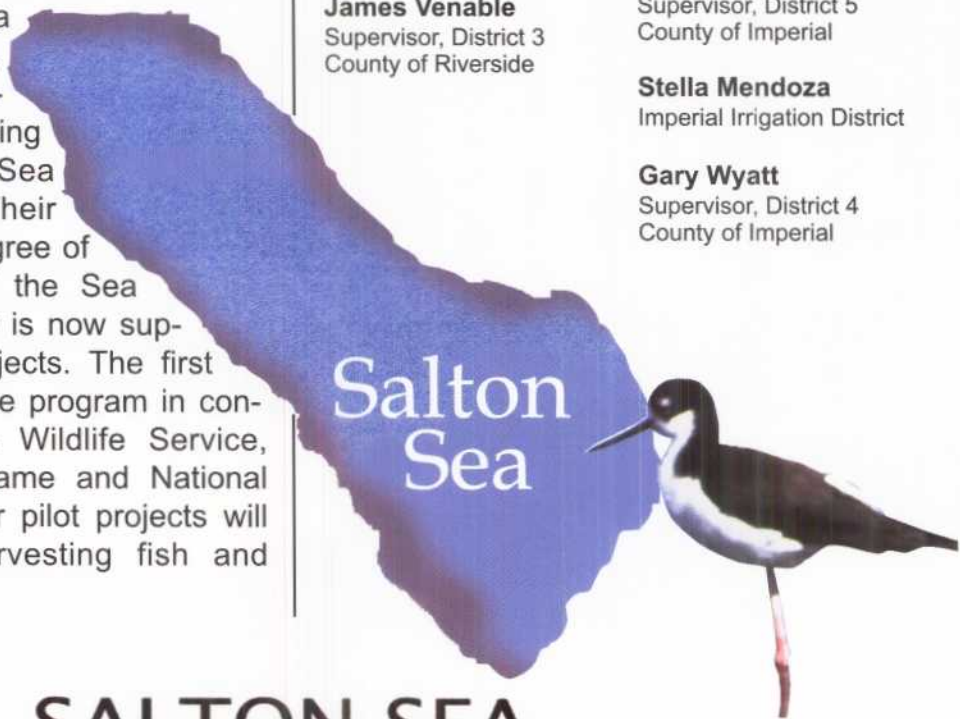
**Peter Nelson**  
Coachella Valley Water District

**Corky Larson**  
Coachella Valley Water District

**Wally Leimgruber**  
Supervisor, District 5  
County of Imperial

**Stella Mendoza**  
Imperial Irrigation District

**Gary Wyatt**  
Supervisor, District 4  
County of Imperial



**Tom Kirk**  
*Executive Director*  
**Linda Quesnell**  
*Executive Secretary*



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