
Quantification Settlement Agreement Status Report

International Boundary and Water Commission's Colorado River Citizens Forum
June 13, 2012



Quantification Settlement Agreement

- Settlement among California agencies limiting agricultural water use
 - *Establishes agency water budgets*
 - *Forms baseline for water conservation moving forward*
- Sets aside California water agency allocation disputes
- Includes water conservation and transfer programs, water acquisition agreements, water exchange agreements, etc.
- USBR adopted inadvertent overrun accounting policy (IOPP) to provide water agency management tools and flexibility

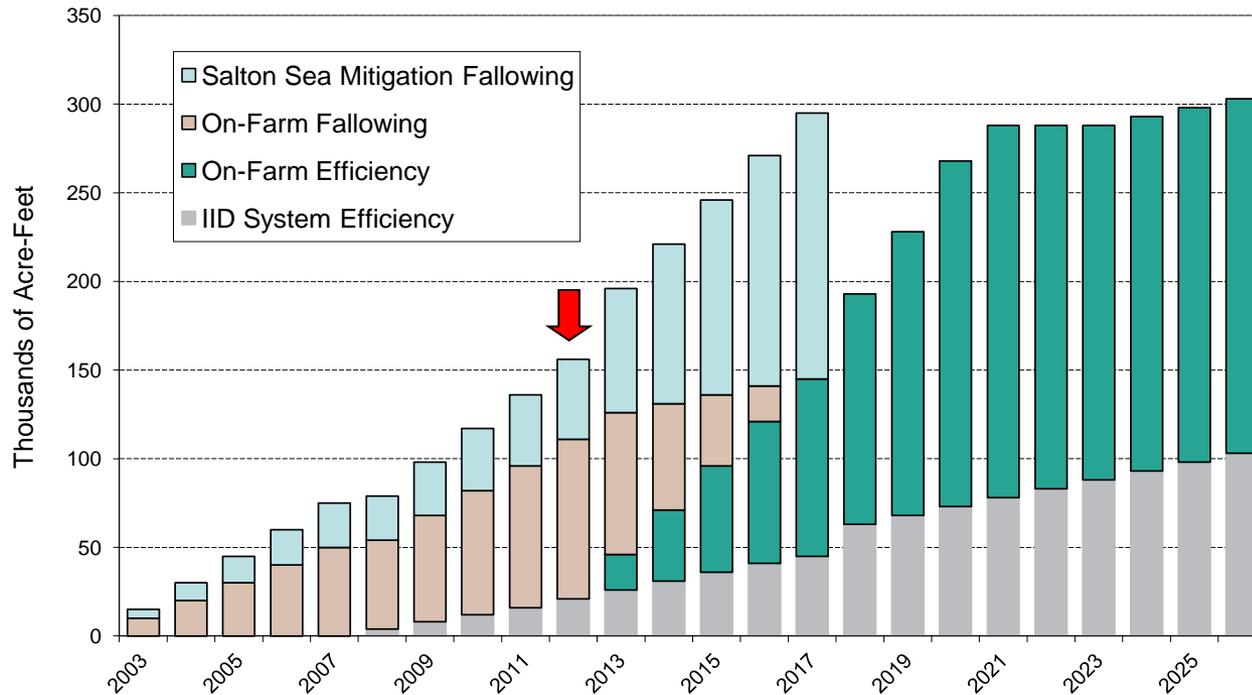


IID Water Conservation & Transfer Programs

- **105,000 AF/yr** – IID/MWD Water Conservation and Transfer Agreement (extension of 1988 agreement; project construction completed in 1998)
- **67,700 AF/yr** – IID All-American Canal lining project (conserved seepage water transferred to SDCWA & San Luis Rey Parties; project construction completed in 2010)
- **200,000 AF/yr** – IID/SDCWA Water Conservation and Transfer Agreement (full implementation scheduled for 2021)
- **103,000 AF/yr** – IID/CVWD Water Conservation and Transfer Agreement (full implementation scheduled for 2026)



IID's QSA Water Conservation & Transfer Requirements



QSA Water Conservation & Transfers to Date (2003-2011)

- 410,000 acre-feet of conserved water transferred to SDCWA
- 211,000+ acre-feet of mitigation water delivered to the Salton Sea
- 40,000 acre-feet of conserved water transferred to CVWD
- 700,000+ acre-feet of water conserved from fallowing for QSA purposes (transfer, mitigation, payback, etc.)
- 63,000+ acre-feet of water conserved from efficiency projects for QSA purposes (transfer, storage, payback, etc.)



IID/SDCWA Joint Petition to the SWRCB

Reasoning for Petition:

- Salton Sea habitat value continues to decline despite IID's ongoing mitigation.
- The likelihood of Salton Sea restoration continues to diminish significantly due to both legislative inaction and current/projected economic conditions.
- Absent restoration, mitigation funding could be used to create lasting and durable habitat that also serves to address local air quality concerns.

Proposed Changes:

- Eliminates four years of Salton Sea mitigation water (2014-2017)
- No changes to other Salton Sea inflows
- Habitat construction and enhancement
- Accelerates implementation of air quality mitigation measures
- Revises pelican mitigation
- Provides for limited recreational access



Benefits of the SWRCB Joint Petition

- Similar to the current mitigation plan, the proposal will cover exposed playa
- Salton Sea habitat will be enhanced and preserved
- Facilitates renewable energy and agricultural development
- Promotes Salton Sea restoration activities; moves beyond the studying and planning phases
- Compatible with restoration plans



SWRCB Joint Petition and Salton Sea Restoration

POTENTIAL MITIGATION

- Red Hill Bay Shallow Water Habitat
- Geothermal Use
- Area for Fresh-Saline Wetland & Open Water
- Species Conservation Habitat
- Agricultural Use



SWRCB Joint Petition in Summary

- The plan will not “dry up” the Salton Sea.
- The plan does not absolve the state of California of its Salton Sea, QSA, financial or other obligations.
- The plan is compatible with proposed restoration alternatives.
- Species conservation and habitat projects will be built on the exposed playa of the sea.

IID’s plan provides for real, durable and timely habitat projects.

