

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
San Diego, California**

Basic Financial Statements

Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Commissioners
of the Quantification Settlement
Agreement Joint Powers Authority

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the general fund of the Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority (QSA JPA) as of and for the years ended June 30, 2021, and 2020, and the related notes to the basic financial statements, which collectively comprise the QSA JPA's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the QSA JPA's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the QSA JPA's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the general fund of the QSA JPA, as of June 30, 2021, and 2020, and the respective changes in financial position and the statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance – budget to actual of the general fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the *Management's Discussion and Analysis* be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the QSA JPA's basic financial statements. The *Budget Status Report Expenditures* is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The *Budget Status Report Expenditures* is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the *Budget Status Report Expenditures* is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 10, 2021 on our consideration of the QSA JPA's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering QSA JPA's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

DavisFarrLLP

Irvine, California
September 10, 2021

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QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Management's Discussion and Analysis
(Unaudited)

This section of the financial statements presents a discussion and analysis of the financial performance of the Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority (QSA JPA) for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2021 and 2020. Please read it in conjunction with the QSA JPA basic financial statements, which follow this section.

Overview of the Financial Statements

The basic financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the finances of the QSA JPA. The QSA JPA's basic financial statements are comprised of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the basic financial statements.

- The Statements of Net Position and Statements of Activities are *government-wide financial statements*, providing both long-term and short-term information about the QSA JPA's overall financial status.
- The Balance Sheets and Statements of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance are *governmental fund financial statements*, focusing on individual parts of the QSA JPA and reporting the QSA JPA's operations in more detail than the government-wide financial statements.
- The governmental fund Balance Sheets and the governmental fund Statements of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance also provide a reconciliation to facilitate the comparison between the governmental fund and governmental activities.

Reporting the QSA JPA as a Whole

The accompanying government-wide financial statements include two statements that present financial data for the QSA JPA as a whole, the Statements of Net Position and the Statements of Activities. These statements report all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector businesses. All current fiscal year revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The Statements of Net Position present information on the QSA JPA's assets and liabilities with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases and decreases in the net position may serve as an indicator of whether the financial position of the QSA JPA is improving or deteriorating.

The Statements of Activities present information showing how the QSA JPA's net position changed during the fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported for some items that only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

Reporting the Major Fund of the QSA JPA

The governmental fund financial statements provide detailed information about the General Fund of the QSA JPA. Some funds are required to be established by State law or bond covenants. All of the QSA JPA's basic services are reported in the General Fund, which focuses on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. The General Fund is reported using the modified accrual basis of accounting, which measures cash and all other current financial assets that can be readily converted to cash. The General Fund's financial statements provide a detailed short-term view of the QSA JPA's general government operations and the basic services provided. General Fund information helps determine the financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the QSA JPA's programs. The differences between governmental activities (reported in the Statements of Net Position and the Statements of Activities) and the General Fund are described in separate reconciliation statements following the General Fund's financial statements.

The Structure of the QSA JPA

The QSA JPA is comprised of four agencies whose primary purpose is to administer the environmental mitigation measures related to the “Agreement for the Transfer of Conserved Water by and between Imperial Irrigation District (IID) and San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA)” and the “Agreement for Acquisition of Conserved Water by and between IID and Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD)”. The agency members of the QSA JPA are the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (State of California), CVWD, IID, and SDCWA.

Condensed Financial Information

**Quantification Settlement Agreement
Joint Powers Authority
Condensed Statements of Net Position
(In Millions)**

	June 30,		
	2021	2020	2019
Total assets	\$ 97.6	\$ 112.3	\$ 115.6
Total liabilities	2.0	11.1	4.4
Total net position	\$ 95.6	\$ 101.2	\$ 111.2

Fiscal Year 2021 Compared to Fiscal Year 2020

Total assets include cash and investments, mitigation contributions receivable, and interest receivable which includes any cumulative accrued interest not yet received from the contributing agencies in relation to the QSA JPA Creation and Funding Agreement (the Agreement) for environmental mitigation contributions. At June 30, 2021, assets totaled \$97.6 million, a decrease of \$14.7 million or 13.1 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year. Total assets are lower than the prior fiscal year primarily due to decreases from the following: \$18.5 million in cash and investments due to the payments for environmental mitigation requirements, and \$1.6 million in mitigation contributions receivable due to principal payments received from the member agencies; and offset by an increase of \$5.4 million in cash and investments due to the member agencies mitigation contributions and interest received. At June 30, 2021, the mitigation contributions receivable of \$35.3 million represents the net present value of mitigation receivables from the member agencies in accordance with the Agreement. Refer to Note 4 for further information on the Agreement.

Total liabilities include accounts payable. At June 30, 2021, liabilities totaled \$2.0 million, a decrease of \$9.1 million or 82.0 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year due to a decrease in environmental mitigation expenses to be paid at the end of the fiscal year, primarily for the Salton Sea mitigation water predelivery payback.

Net position is unrestricted and totaled \$95.6 million at June 30, 2021, a decrease of \$5.6 million or 5.5 percent from the prior fiscal year as a result of the above changes.

Fiscal Year 2020 Compared to Fiscal Year 2019

Total assets include cash and investments, mitigation contributions receivable, and interest receivable which includes any cumulative accrued interest not yet received from the contributing agencies in relation to the QSA JPA Creation and Funding Agreement (the Agreement) for environmental mitigation contributions. At June 30, 2020, assets totaled \$112.3 million, a decrease of \$3.3 million or 2.9 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year. Total assets are lower than the prior fiscal year primarily due to decreases from the following: \$8.4 million in cash and investments due to the payments for environmental mitigation requirements, and \$8.0 million in mitigation contributions receivable due to principal payments received from the member agencies; and offset by increases from the following: \$12.7 million in cash and investments due to the member agencies mitigation contributions and interest income received, and \$0.4 million in interest receivable. At June 30, 2020, the mitigation contributions receivable of \$36.9 million represents the net

present value of mitigation receivables from the member agencies in accordance with the Agreement. Refer to Note 4 for further information on the Agreement.

Total liabilities include accounts payable. At June 30, 2020, liabilities totaled \$11.1 million, an increase of \$6.7 million or 152.3 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year due to an increase in environmental mitigation expenses to be paid at the end of the fiscal year and consisting primarily of the Salton Sea mitigation water predelivery payback.

Net position is unrestricted and totaled \$101.2 million at June 30, 2020, a decrease of \$10.0 million or 9.0 percent from the prior fiscal year as a result of the above changes.

**Quantification Settlement Agreement
Joint Powers Authority
Condensed Statements of Activities
(In Millions)**

	June 30,		
	2021	2020	2019
Program expenses	\$ 9.4	\$ 15.1	\$ 7.6
Program revenues	3.8	4.1	4.6
Net program expenses	(5.6)	(11.0)	(3.0)
General revenues	-	1.0	1.0
Changes in net position	(5.6)	(10.0)	(2.0)
Net position - beginning of year	101.2	111.2	113.2
Net position - end of year	\$ 95.6	\$ 101.2	\$ 111.2

Fiscal Year 2021 Compared to Fiscal Year 2020

Program expenses include environmental mitigation and general operating expenses. For the year ended June 30, 2021, governmental activities expenses totaled \$9.4 million, a decrease of \$5.7 million or 37.7 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year due to decreases from the following tasks: \$7.0 million for the Salton Sea mitigation water predelivery payback, and \$0.2 million for the burrowing owl distribution surveys; and offset by increases from the following tasks: \$0.9 million for the Salton Sea air quality monitoring, \$0.4 million for the managed marsh areas, \$0.1 million for funding the biologist team, and \$0.1 million for the pupfish selenium drain studies.

Program revenues include member contributions which totaled \$3.8 million for the year ended June 30, 2021, a decrease of \$0.3 million or 7.3 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year due to the timing of revenue received but in accordance with the approved member payments schedule.

Fiscal Year 2020 Compared to Fiscal Year 2019

Program expenses include environmental mitigation and general operating expenses. For the year ended June 30, 2020, governmental activities expenses totaled \$15.1 million, an increase of \$7.5 million or 98.7 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year due to increases from the following tasks: \$7.0 million for the Salton Sea mitigation water predelivery payback, \$0.6 million for the Salton Sea air quality monitoring, and \$0.3 million for the managed marsh areas; and offset by decreases from the following tasks: \$0.2 million for funding the biologist team, \$0.1 million for the pupfish selenium drain studies, and \$0.1 million for the pupfish conservation measures.

Program revenues include member contributions which totaled \$4.1 million for the year ended June 30, 2020, a decrease of \$0.5 million or 10.9 percent when compared to the prior fiscal year due to the timing of revenue received but in accordance with the approved member payments schedule.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The QSA JPA Commission adopts an annual budget for the payment of environmental costs for QSA water transfer mitigation projects in the Imperial Valley. The annual budget provides revenues, generated from agency contributions and interest earnings, to meet anticipated fiscal year mitigation expenditures.

Fiscal year 2021 expenditures were \$5.6 million less than budget primarily due to the deferral of items under the air quality mitigation program task, managed marsh task, and postponement of pupfish conservation measures task, and burrowing owl relative abundance and distribution surveys task.

Contacting the QSA JPA Financial Management

The QSA JPA financial report is designed to provide the QSA JPA's Board of Commissioners, creditors, and investors with a general overview of the QSA JPA's accountability for the financial resources it manages. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Finance Department at the San Diego County Water Authority, 4677 Overland Avenue, San Diego, California 92123 or via the website at <http://www.sdcwa.org>.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2021 AND 2020**

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Assets:		
Cash and investments	\$ 32,123,937	\$ 45,177,715
Mitigation contributions receivable	35,262,012	36,892,699
Interest receivable	<u>30,212,293</u>	<u>30,198,622</u>
Total assets	<u>97,598,242</u>	<u>112,269,036</u>
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	<u>2,014,807</u>	<u>11,105,331</u>
Net position:		
Unrestricted	<u>\$ 95,583,435</u>	<u>\$ 101,163,705</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2021 AND 2020**

	2021	2020
Program Expenses		
Governmental Activities:		
Environmental mitigation	\$ 9,389,916	\$ 15,087,064
Program Revenues		
Governmental Activities:		
Operating grants and contributions:		
Mitigation contributions	3,848,609	4,056,305
Net program expenses	(5,541,307)	(11,030,759)
General Revenues		
Interest income (loss)	(38,963)	996,141
Changes in net position	(5,580,270)	(10,034,618)
Net position - beginning of year	101,163,705	111,198,323
Net position - end of year	\$ 95,583,435	\$ 101,163,705

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**BALANCE SHEETS
GENERAL FUND
JUNE 30, 2021 AND 2020**

	2021	2020
Assets:		
Cash and investments	\$ 32,123,937	\$ 45,177,715
Mitigation contributions receivable	35,262,012	36,892,699
Interest receivable	30,212,293	30,198,622
Total assets	\$ 97,598,242	\$ 112,269,036
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,014,807	\$ 11,105,331
Deferred inflows of resources:		
Unavailable mitigation contributions	65,419,313	66,936,755
Fund balance:		
Unassigned	30,164,122	34,226,950
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balance	\$ 97,598,242	\$ 112,269,036

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEETS OF THE GENERAL FUND
TO THE STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2021 AND 2020**

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Fund balance of the General Fund	\$ 30,164,122	\$ 34,226,950
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statements of Net Position are different because:		
The General Fund does not report revenues that are not available to pay for current period expenditures.	<u>65,419,313</u>	<u>66,936,755</u>
Net position of governmental activities	<u><u>\$ 95,583,435</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 101,163,705</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
GENERAL FUND
FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2021 AND 2020**

	2021	2020
Revenues:		
Interest income (loss)	\$ (38,963)	\$ 996,141
Mitigation contributions	5,366,051	11,654,013
Total revenues	5,327,088	12,650,154
Expenditures:		
Environmental mitigation	9,389,916	15,087,064
Net changes in fund balance	(4,062,828)	(2,436,910)
Fund balance - beginning of year	34,226,950	36,663,860
Fund balance - end of year	\$ 30,164,122	\$ 34,226,950

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCE OF THE GENERAL FUND TO THE STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2021 AND 2020**

	2021	2020
Net changes in fund balance	\$ (4,062,828)	\$ (2,436,910)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statements of Activities are different because:		
Revenues that are not available to liquidate liabilities of the current period that were not previously recognized in the General Fund, but were recognized in the Statements of Activities in prior years.	(1,517,442)	(7,597,708)
Changes in net position of governmental activities	\$ (5,580,270)	\$ (10,034,618)

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**BUDGETARY COMPARISON STATEMENT
GENERAL FUND
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021**

	<u>Original and Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual Amounts</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenues			
Interest income (loss)	\$ 900,000	\$ (38,963)	\$ (938,963)
Mitigation contributions	7,191,051	5,366,051	(1,825,000)
Total revenues	<u>8,091,051</u>	<u>5,327,088</u>	<u>(2,763,963)</u>
Expenditures			
Current:			
Environmental mitigation	14,994,760	9,389,916	5,604,844
Net change in fund balance	(6,903,709)	(4,062,828)	2,840,881
Fund balance - beginning of year	<u>34,226,950</u>	<u>34,226,950</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balance - end of year	<u>\$ 27,323,241</u>	<u>\$ 30,164,122</u>	<u>\$ 2,840,881</u>

**BUDGETARY COMPARISON STATEMENT
GENERAL FUND
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

	<u>Original and Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual Amounts</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenues			
Interest income	\$ 700,000	\$ 996,141	\$ 296,141
Mitigation contributions	9,829,013	11,654,013	1,825,000
Total revenues	<u>10,529,013</u>	<u>12,650,154</u>	<u>2,121,141</u>
Expenditures			
Current:			
Environmental mitigation	22,050,577	15,087,064	6,963,513
Net change in fund balance	(11,521,564)	(2,436,910)	9,084,654
Fund balance - beginning of year	<u>36,663,860</u>	<u>36,663,860</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balance - end of year	<u>\$ 25,142,296</u>	<u>\$ 34,226,950</u>	<u>\$ 9,084,654</u>

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements.

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**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements
Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

Note 1: Nature of Business and Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Entity

The Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority (QSA JPA) was organized on January 1, 2004, under the California Joint Powers Act (the Act) for the primary purpose of paying for environmental mitigation requirements and environmental mitigation costs by and through the collection, investing, and disbursement of funds. The QSA JPA consists of four agencies, each with one representative on the QSA JPA's Board of Commissioners (the Board). The member agencies are the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (State of California), the Imperial Irrigation District (IID), the Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD), and the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA).

On October 10, 2003, the IID, CVWD, and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California executed the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA) which settled a variety of long-standing Colorado River disputes regarding the priority, use, and transfer of Colorado River water; established the terms for the further distribution of Colorado River water among those entities for a period of time based upon budgets; and included as a necessary component thereof the implementation of the 1998 IID/SDCWA Transfer Agreement and the IID/CVWD Acquisition Agreement.

Basis of Accounting

The *basic financial statements* of the QSA JPA are composed of the following:

- Government-wide financial statements
- Fund financial statements
- Notes to the basic financial statements

Government-wide Financial Statements

Government-wide financial statements display information about the reporting governmental entity as a whole. Government-wide financial statements are presented using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting*. Under the economic resources measurement focus, all (both current and long-term) economic resources and obligations of the reporting government are reported in the government-wide financial statements.

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place. Revenues, expenses, assets, and liabilities resulting from non-exchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

Note 1: Nature of Business and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Government-wide Financial Statements (Continued)

In the government-wide financial statements, Net Position is categorized as unrestricted because the net position does not meet the definition of Net Investment in Capital Assets or Restricted Net Position.

Direct expenses reported include environmental mitigation. Program revenues include revenues derived from environmental mitigation contributions from member agencies. Governmental fund revenues represented by noncurrent receivables are recognized as revenues in the government-wide financial statements.

Fund Financial Statements

The underlying accounting system of the QSA JPA is organized and operated on the basis of a separate fund that has a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, fund balance, revenues, and expenditures, as appropriate. Financial statements for the General Fund are presented after the government-wide financial statements.

Governmental Fund – General Fund

In the General Fund financial statements, Fund Balance is categorized as unassigned because the amount does not meet the definition of non-spendable, restricted, committed, or assigned fund balance.

In the fund financial statements, the General Fund is presented using the *modified-accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized when they become *measurable* and *available*, provided they are received within 60 days from the end of the fiscal year.

Revenue recognition is subject to the *measurable* and *availability* criteria for the General Fund in the fund financial statements. *Exchange transactions* are recognized as revenues in the period in which they are earned (for example, the related goods or services are provided).

In the General Fund financial statements, amounts are recorded using the *current financial resources measurement focus*. This means that only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. The reported fund balance is considered to be a measure of available spendable resources. Governmental fund operating statements present increases (revenues) and decreases (expenditures) in fund balance. Accordingly, they are said to present a summary of sources and uses of available spendable resources during a period.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

Note 1: Nature of Business and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Governmental Fund – General Fund (Continued)

Noncurrent portions of long-term receivables are reported in the General Fund financial statements in spite of their spending measurement focus. However, the noncurrent portions of long-term receivables are not considered available spendable resources since they do not represent net current assets. Governmental fund revenues represented by noncurrent receivables are not recognized and are reported as deferred inflows of resources in the General Fund until they become current receivables.

In addition to liabilities, the General Fund financial statements reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of resources*, represents an acquisition of fund balance that applies to future periods and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The QSA JPA has unavailable mitigation contributions that qualifies for reporting in this category.

Due to the spending measurement focus, expenditure recognition for the General Fund excludes amounts represented by noncurrent liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as expenditures or fund liabilities.

Environmental Mitigation Contributions

The principal portion of the QSA JPA's revenues are environmental mitigation contributions received from the member agencies. The costs for environmental mitigation requirements up to and not to exceed a present value of \$133,000,000 are required to be paid by the IID, CVWD, and SDCWA with the balance of the expenditures above the present value of \$133,000,000 to be paid by the State of California. GASB Statement No. 33 requires the entire \$133,000,000 to be recorded as a receivable when all eligibility requirements have been met (for example, funding is not dependent upon certain future events). In the fund financial statements, the unavailable revenue was originally recorded as the same amount because the revenue does not represent available spendable resources and this amount has been reduced as the members have made their contributions.

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

Annual budgets adopted by the Board provide for operations of the QSA JPA. Budgetary controls are set by the Board. The legally adopted budget requires that expenditures not exceed appropriations in total for the QSA JPA. The Board may make appropriation adjustments to the budget during the year as deemed necessary.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

Note 2: Cash and Investments

The carrying value of cash and investments held by the QSA JPA as of June 30 consisted of the following:

	2021	2020
Deposits	\$ 10,300	\$ 10,327
Investments	32,113,637	45,167,388
Total cash and investments	\$ 32,123,937	\$ 45,177,715

Investments Authorized by the California Government Code and Investment Policy

The QSA JPA uses the investment policy of the SDCWA for purposes of investments. The following table identifies the investment types that are authorized for the QSA JPA by the California Government Code (Gov't Code), Sections 53600 et seq, and the QSA JPA's Investment Policy (Inv. Policy). The table also identifies certain provisions of the California Government Code (or the QSA JPA's investment policy, if more restrictive) that address interest rate risk, credit risk, and concentration of credit risk.

Investment Types	Maximum Maturity		Maximum Percentage of Portfolio		Maximum Investment in One Issuer		Minimum Rating	
	Gov't. Code	Inv. Policy	Gov't. Code	Inv. Policy	Gov't. Code	Inv. Policy	Gov't. Code	Inv. Policy
	Gov't. Code	Inv. Policy	Gov't. Code	Inv. Policy	Gov't. Code	Inv. Policy	Gov't. Code	Inv. Policy
Municipal Securities	None	None	None	30%	None	5%	None	"A"
U.S. Treasury securities	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Federal agency securities	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Bankers' acceptances	180 days	180 days	40%	40%	30%	5%	None	"A-1"
Commercial paper	270 days	270 days	40% (6)	30%	10% (7)	5%	"A-1"	"A-1"
Non-Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	5 years	5 years	None	30% (1)	None	None	None	None
Placement service deposits	5 years	5 years	50%	30% (1)	None	None	None	None
Negotiable Certificates of Deposit	5 years	5 years	30%	30% (1)	None	5%	None	"A-1" or "A"
Repurchase agreements	1 year	1 year	None	20%	None	None	None	"A"
Medium-term notes	5 years	5 years	30%	30%	None	5%	"A"	"A"
Mutual funds	n/a	n/a	20%	20%	10%	10%	AAA (2)	AAA (2)
Money market mutual funds	n/a	n/a	20%	20%	None	20%	AAA (2)	AAA (2)
Mortgage pass-through and asset backed securities (3)	5 years	5 years	20%	20%	None	5%	"AA"	"AA"
County pooled investment funds	n/a	(4)	None	(4)	None	(4)	None	(4)
JPA pools (other investment pools)	n/a	n/a	None	25%	None	25%	None	AAA
Supranationals	5 years	5 years	30%	15%	None	5%	"AA"	"AA"
Local agency investment fund (LAIF)	n/a	n/a	None	(5)	None	None	None	None

Notes:

- (1) Combined investment policy maximum portfolio exposure is 30%.
- (2) Investment must receive the highest ranking by not less than two NRSROs authorized by Govt. Code Sections 53601 and 53635.
- (3) Limitations in this section apply to securities not issued by the US Treasury or Federal Agencies.
- (4) These investments are not authorized by the investment policy.
- (5) The investment policy's maximum investment amount is the maximum permitted by LAIF.
- (6) SB 998, until January 1, 2026, allows for a maximum of 40% of the portfolio to be invested in eligible commercial paper for local agencies that have more than \$100 million in assets under management.
- (7) The combined maximum portfolio exposure of any single issuer is 10% per Govt. Code Section 53601(h)(k).

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

Note 2: Cash and Investments (Continued)

Disclosures Relating to Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk where changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment, the greater the sensitivity its fair value is to changes in market interest rates. One of the ways that the QSA JPA manages its exposure to interest rate risk is by investing in LAIF to provide the liquidity needed for operations.

Information about the sensitivity of the fair values of the QSA JPA's investments to market interest rate fluctuations is provided by the following tables that show the distribution of the QSA JPA's investments by terms to maturity as of June 30, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

Investment Type	June 30, 2021	Maturities in Years		
		Less than 1	1-3	4-5
LAIF	\$ 12,082,674	\$ 12,082,674	\$ -	\$ -
Federal agency securities	7,285,068	1,010,130	2,012,395	4,262,543
U.S. Treasury securities	6,798,140	1,003,340	3,093,137	2,701,663
Medium-term notes	2,925,677	127,050	1,182,909	1,615,718
Supranationals	1,294,371	-	251,020	1,043,351
Money market mutual funds	998,467	998,467	-	-
Asset backed securities	669,334	-	669,334	-
CAMP JPA pool	59,906	59,906	-	-
Total	\$ 32,113,637	\$ 15,281,567	\$ 7,208,795	\$ 9,623,275

Investment Type	June 30, 2020	Maturities in Years		
		Less than 1	1-3	4-5
LAIF	\$ 33,417,402	\$ 33,417,402	\$ -	\$ -
Federal agency securities	3,091,965	-	1,519,380	1,572,585
U.S. Treasury securities	3,051,485	499,705	1,511,060	1,040,720
Medium-term notes	1,991,323	-	925,544	1,065,779
CAMP JPA Pool	1,759,307	1,759,307	-	-
Money market mutual funds	1,095,864	1,095,864	-	-
Supranationals	503,503	-	251,480	252,023
Asset backed securities	256,539	-	-	256,539
Total	\$ 45,167,388	\$ 36,772,278	\$ 4,207,464	\$ 4,187,646

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
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**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

Note 2: Cash and Investments (Continued)

Disclosures Relating to Credit Risk

Generally, credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. Presented in the following tables, is the minimum rating required (where applicable) by the Gov't. Code or the Inv. Policy, and the actual rating for each issuer as of June 30, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

Investment Type	June 30, 2021	Minimum Rating	Exempt from Disclosure	Rating as of Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2021			
				AAA	AA+	A	Not Rated
LAIF	\$ 12,082,674	n/a	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,082,674
Federal agency securities	7,285,068	n/a	-	-	7,285,068	-	-
U.S. Treasury securities	6,798,140	n/a	6,798,140	-	-	-	-
Medium-term notes	2,925,677	A	-	130,744	253,546	2,541,387	-
Supranationals	1,294,371	AA	-	1,294,371	-	-	-
Money market mutual funds	998,467	AAAm	-	998,467	-	-	-
Asset backed securities	669,334	AA	-	669,334	-	-	-
CAMP JPA Pool	59,906	AAAm	-	59,906	-	-	-
Total	\$ 32,113,637		\$ 6,798,140	\$ 3,152,822	\$ 7,538,614	\$ 2,541,387	\$ 12,082,674

Investment Type	June 30, 2020	Minimum Rating	Exempt from Disclosure	Rating as of Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020			
				AAA	AA+	A	Not Rated
LAIF	\$ 33,417,402	n/a	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,417,402
Federal agency securities	3,091,965	n/a	-	523,905	2,568,060	-	-
U.S. Treasury securities	3,051,485	n/a	3,051,485	-	-	-	-
Medium-term notes	1,991,323	A	-	-	257,061	1,734,262	-
CAMP JPA Pool	1,759,307	AAAm	-	1,759,307	-	-	-
Money market mutual funds	1,095,864	AAAm	-	1,095,864	-	-	-
Supranationals	503,503	AA	-	503,503	-	-	-
Asset backed securities	256,539	AA	-	256,539	-	-	-
Total	\$ 45,167,388		\$ 3,051,485	\$ 4,139,118	\$ 2,825,121	\$ 1,734,262	\$ 33,417,402

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

Note 2: Cash and Investments (Continued)

Concentration of Credit Risk

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, the QSA JPA did not have any investments in any one issuer that represented five percent or more of investments (other than U.S. Treasury securities, money market mutual funds, and external investment pools, which are all exempt).

For the fiscal year ended, June 30, 2021, investments in any one issuer that represents five percent or more of investments (other than U.S. Treasury securities, money market mutual funds, and external investment pools, which are all exempt) are as follows:

Issuer	Investment Type	Reported Amount	% of Total Investments
Federal National Mtg. Assn.	Federal agency securities	\$2,748,945	9.0%
Federal Home Loan Bank	Federal agency securities	2,483,033	8.0%

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, a government will not be able to recover its deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty (for example, broker-dealer) to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of another party. The Gov't. Code and the Inv. Policy do not contain legal or policy requirements that would limit the exposure to custodial credit risk for deposits or investments, other than the following provision for deposits: the Gov't. Code requires that a financial institution secure deposits made by state or local governmental units by pledging securities in an undivided collateral pool held by a depository regulated under state law (unless so waived by the governmental unit). The market value of the pledged securities in the collateral pool must equal at least 110 percent of the total amount deposited by the public agencies. California law also allows financial institutions to secure QSA JPA deposits by pledging first trust deed mortgage notes having a value of 150 percent of the secured public deposits.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
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**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

Note 2: Cash and Investments (Continued)

Fair Value Measurement

The QSA JPA categorizes certain assets and liabilities within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of investments. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are as follows:

LEVEL 1: Inputs are unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. As of June 30, 2021 and 2020, there are no Level 1 investments.

LEVEL 2: Inputs are significant other observable inputs for the asset or liability.

LEVEL 3: Inputs are significant unobservable inputs for the asset or liability. As of June 30, 2021 and 2020, there are no Level 3 investments.

The definition of fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value is measured as an exit price for financial investments.

The QSA JPA utilizes valuation techniques consistent with market, cost, or income approaches to determine fair value. The most appropriate technique is utilized to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Investments in CAMP JPA Pool and LAIF are not subject to fair value categorization. The following is a summary of the QSA JPA investments based on the method for measuring value as of June 30, 2021 and June 30, 2020:

	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	
	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020
Investments by fair value level		
Federal agency securities	\$ 7,285,068	\$ 3,091,965
U.S. Treasury securities	6,798,140	3,051,485
Medium-term notes	2,925,677	1,991,323
Supranationals	1,294,371	503,503
Asset backed securities	669,334	256,539
Total investments by fair value level	\$ 18,972,590	\$ 8,894,815
Investments measured at cost		
LAIF ⁽¹⁾	12,082,674	33,417,402
Money market mutual funds ⁽²⁾	998,467	1,095,864
CAMP JPA Pool ⁽³⁾	59,906	1,759,307
Total investments measured at cost	13,141,047	36,272,573
Total investments	\$ 32,113,637	\$ 45,167,388

Notes:

⁽¹⁾ Reported based on the application of a fair value factor to each one-dollar share.

⁽²⁾ Reported as a stable one-dollar value per share.

⁽³⁾ Measured at amortized cost.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
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**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

Note 2: Cash and Investments (Continued)

Investments in State Investment Pool

The QSA JPA is a voluntary participant in the LAIF that is regulated by Gov't Code Section 16429.1 under the oversight of the Treasurer of the State of California. Fair value of the QSA JPA's investment in the pool is reported in the accompanying financial statements at amounts based upon the QSA JPA's pro-rata share of the fair value provided by LAIF for the entire LAIF portfolio. The balance available for withdrawal is based on the accounting records maintained by LAIF, which are recorded on an amortized cost basis.

Investments in CAMP JPA Pool

The QSA JPA is a voluntary participant in the California Asset Management Program (CAMP), a California Joint Powers Authority that falls under Gov't Code Section 53601(p), which is directed by a Board of Trustees that is made up of experienced local government finance directors and treasurers. The investments are recorded on an amortized cost basis.

Note 3: Interest Receivable

Interest receivable consists of the following items: (1) accrued interest due from LAIF and BNY, (2) accrued interest for the six month period of January through June due from the contributing agencies related to their annual mitigation contribution payments due on December 31, and (3) cumulative unpaid accrued interest receivable due from the IID for their total current year and prior years unpaid portion of accrued interest, which the agency will make payment on in future year's mitigation contribution payments, per the payment schedule of the QSA JPA Creation and Funding Agreement (the Agreement). Refer to Note 4 for further information on the Agreement.

As of June 30, 2021 and 2020, the total interest receivable balance was as follows:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
(1) Accrued interest due from LAIF and BNY	\$ 54,992	\$ 154,566
(2) Accrued interest due from member agencies	1,884,012	1,964,597
(3) Cumulative unpaid accrued interest due from IID	<u>28,273,289</u>	<u>28,079,459</u>
Total	<u>\$ 30,212,293</u>	<u>\$ 30,198,622</u>

Note 4: Mitigation Contributions Receivable

The QSA JPA administers the funding of environmental mitigation requirements related to IID's transfer with the SDCWA and a water acquisition agreement with the CVWD. The QSA JPA was formed pursuant to the QSA JPA Creation and Funding Agreement (the Agreement) executed on October 10, 2003, and is comprised of representatives from the IID, CVWD, SDCWA, and the State of California. Under the Agreement, the collective financial contributions made by the three water agencies are capped at \$133 million (in 2003 dollars), with the balance to be paid by the State of California.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
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**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

Note 4: Mitigation Contributions Receivable (Continued)

As a means of managing cash-flow requirements for mitigation activities, the Agreement permits the three water agencies to adjust their payment schedules by rescheduling future payments from outer years to budget years in the near term. Advanced payments are discounted at six percent from the date of the scheduled payment to the date of the advance. Payment schedules have been modified twice to meet the environmental mitigation funding obligations of the QSA JPA. On April 25, 2007, the QSA JPA agencies executed an agreement to advance payments during fiscal years 2008 and 2009 totaling \$13,194,508, with a collective nominal credit of \$25,792,750 against future contributions. On May 20, 2015, the IID, CVWD and SDCWA executed an agreement to advance payments over the next seven fiscal years beginning in fiscal year 2016 totaling \$40,500,000, with a collective nominal credit of \$127,341,394 against future contributions.

As of June 30, 2021 and 2020, the total mitigation contributions receivable balance was as follows:

	Final Contributions Fiscal Year	2021	2020
IID	2036	\$ 19,659,281	\$ 19,659,281
CVWD	2026	7,791,140	8,047,178
SDCWA	2026	7,811,591	9,186,240
Total		\$ 35,262,012	\$ 36,892,699

Note 5: Deferred Inflows of Resources

The unavailable mitigation contributions are directly related to the mitigation contributions receivable and consists of the total outstanding principal balance of \$35,262,012 and \$36,892,699 at June 30, 2021 and 2020, respectively, plus interest receivable on unpaid member balances of \$30,157,301 and \$30,044,056 at June 30, 2021 and 2020, respectively, for a total unavailable mitigation contributions balance of \$65,419,313 and \$66,936,755 at June 30, 2021 and 2020, respectively.

Note 6: Insurance

The QSA JPA is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to contracted workers; and natural disasters. The QSA JPA is insured through the IID, which performs all of the work related to the Joint Powers Agreement. The QSA JPA reimburses IID for any costs incurred as a result of QSA JPA activities.

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
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**Notes to the Basic Financial Statements (Continued)
Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020**

Note 7: Commitments and Contingencies

The QSA JPA may be subject to lawsuits and claims arising out of the normal course of business. As of the date of this disclosure, and to the QSA JPA's actual knowledge, there are no lawsuits or claims currently pending against the QSA JPA. By way of background, in December 2011, the Court of Appeal upheld the QSA JPA Agreement. (*Quantification Settlement Agreement Cases* (2011) 201 Cal.App.4th 758.). In May 2015, all remaining legal challenges affecting the QSA JPA were dismissed (*Quantification Settlement Agreement Cases* (2015) 237 Cal. App. 4th 72.).

**QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
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**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION - BUDGET STATUS REPORT EXPENDITURES
FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021**

No.	Mitigation Tasks	Adopted FY 2021 Budget	Total Expenditures	Variance
1	QSA Implementation Team	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2	QSA Implementation Team Biologists	1,093,590	982,168	111,422
3	Environmental Reporting and Monitoring	540	-	540
4	Salton Sea Salinity and Elevation Program	16,330	8,447	7,883
5	Salton Sea Mitigation Water to Salton Sea	-	-	-
6	Tamarisk Scrub Habitat - Surveys and Mitigation	72,740	-	72,740
7	Drain Habitat - Initial Vegetation and Habitat Surveys	-	-	-
8	Drain Habitat (Aquatic) - Create/Manage/Monitor "Managed Marsh" Areas	4,860,210	2,615,125	2,245,085
9	Drain Habitat Restrictions/Requirements for Construction and Maintenance	-	-	-
10/10A	Worker Education Program Covered Species Training and Manual	640	-	640
11	Desert Habitat Survey and Mapping of Right of Way	33,950	-	33,950
12	Desert Habitat Create/Maintain Desert Habitat	-	-	-
13	Changes to Operations on IID Canals to Avoid Covered Species	-	-	-
14	Burrowing Owl Worker Annual Education and Manual	-	-	-
15	Pre-Construction Activity Burrowing Owl Surveys and Relocation	3,290	-	3,290
16	Burrowing Owl Relative Abundance and Distribution Surveys	245,890	46,155	199,735
17	Farmer and Public Education Program	7,300	1,600	5,700
18	Desert Pupfish Abundance and Distribution Study	6,400	60,307	(53,907)
19/19A	Pupfish Selenium Drain Studies	310,450	167,559	142,891
20	Pupfish Construction and Maintenance Conservation Measures	253,390	4,273	249,117
21	Salvage of Razorback Suckers when Dewatering Canals	-	-	-
22	Maintain Habitat on Fallowed Parcels	-	-	-
23	Covered Species Baseline and Monitoring Surveys	171,870	-	171,870
24	Salton Sea Air Quality	7,785,200	5,478,183	2,307,017
25	Minimize Dust Emissions from Fallowed Lands	-	-	-
26	Drain Connectivity to Salton Sea Elevation Decrease	-	-	-
27	Grade Spoil/Roads from Drain Maintenance	-	-	-
28	Power Line Markers for Pumpback and Seepage Recovery Systems	-	-	-
29	Prepare and Implement Management Plan for Abandoned Portions of AAC	-	-	-
30	Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Surveys and Habitat Monitoring	-	-	-
31	Elf Owl Surveys	-	-	-
32	Desert Tortoise Survey and Avoidance	-	-	-
33	Least Tern Surveys	-	-	-
34	Rail and Bittern Surveys	-	-	-
35	Management and Planning	12,730	-	12,730
36	JPA Audit Fees	10,770	10,770	-
37	JPA Bank Fees	3,000	2,082	918
38	Financial Advisor	16,000	9,230	6,770
39	Bond Counsel Fees	-	-	-
40	2001 Biological Opinion Measures	-	-	-
41	Brown Pelican Coast	-	-	-
42	Brown Pelican Sea	58,540	4,017	54,523
43	Salton Sea Shoreline Strand Study	-	-	-
44	Pupfish Refugium	31,930	-	31,930
45	Recreation Facilities at Salton Sea	-	-	-
Total Expenditures		\$ 14,994,760	\$ 9,389,916	\$ 5,604,844

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Commissioners
Of the Quantification Settlement
Agreement Joint Powers Authority

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and the general fund of the Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority ("QSA JPA"), as of and for the years ended June 30, 2021, and 2020, and the related notes to the basic financial statements, which collectively comprise the QSA JPA's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 10, 2021.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the QSA JPA's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the QSA JPA's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the QSA JPA's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the QSA JPA's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the QSA JPA's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the QSA JPA's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the QSA JPA's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

DavisFarrLLP

Irvine, California
September 10, 2021