

F 2024



# QSA JPA Fiscal Year 2024 Budget & Work Plan

Adopted June 15, 2023



**Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority** 

4677 Overland Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123









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### QSA JPA FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET

#### **SECTION 1: BACKGROUND**

The Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority (QSA JPA) administers funding of environmental mitigation requirements related to the QSA water transfers. The QSA JPA collects, holds, invests, and disburses funds needed for the mitigation projects. The QSA JPA is comprised of designated representatives from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD), Imperial Irrigation District (IID), and San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority) that serve as Commissioners and staff.

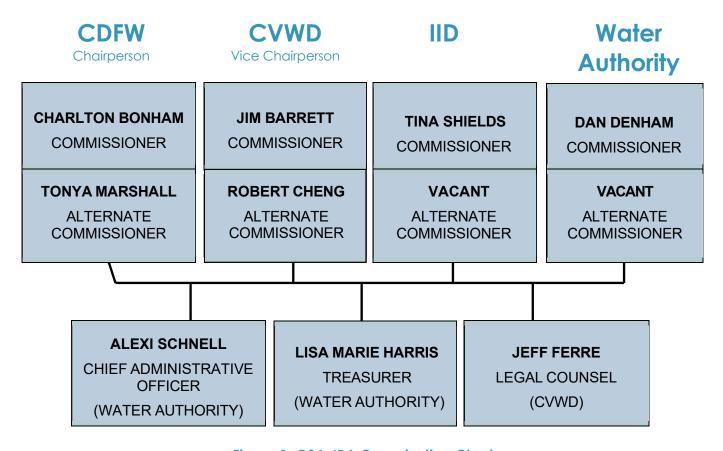


Figure 1. QSA JPA Organization Chart

CVWD, IID, and the Water Authority are required to provide up to \$133 million (in 2003 dollars) to pay for the QSA JPA mitigation program. Under the terms of the *Quantification Settlement Agreement Joint Powers Authority Creation and Funding Agreement* (JPA Agreement), the collective financial obligation of the water agencies is capped at \$133 million, and the State of California is responsible to pay for any QSA water transfer environmental mitigation costs that exceed \$133 million.

### SECTION 2: BUDGET OVERVIEW

The QSA JPA Commission adopts an annual budget for the payment of environmental costs for QSA conserved water transfer mitigation projects in the Imperial Valley. The budget is developed by IID in coordination with the QSA Implementation Team (IT), which consists of CDFW, IID, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The annual budget provides revenues generated from agency contributions and interest earnings to meet anticipated fiscal year (FY) mitigation expenditures. Mitigation projects are implemented by IID under direction from the IT. Specific mitigation measures are implemented per environmental permitting requirements and involve various timeframes for completion. Detailed QSA JPA annual spending through FY 2022 by mitigation task is provided in Appendix 1.

The JPA Agreement provides a schedule of annual agency contributions that are due on December 31 of each calendar year. As a means of managing cash flow requirements for future mitigation activities, the JPA Agreement permits agencies to adjust their payment schedules by rescheduling future payments from outer years to the near term. Under the Modification of Payment Schedules Pursuant to the QSA JPA Agreement (Advanced Funding Agreement), advanced payments by the agencies are due on July 1 and are discounted at six percent from the date of the scheduled payment to the date of the advance. The QSA JPA has advanced payments from the original JPA Agreement payment schedules to cover expected environmental mitigation expenses. In 2007, the water agencies modified their payment schedules to advance \$13.2 million in FYs 2007 and 2008 to cover mitigation requirements through 2013. In 2015, the Board of Directors (BOD) of the individual water agencies authorized advanced payments to the QSA JPA totaling \$40.5 million, consisting of \$10 million from the Water Authority, \$5 million from CVWD, and \$25.5 million from IID, scheduled over six years beginning in FY 2016. In 2022, IID's BOD authorized a payoff of \$48.5 million for its remaining payments to the QSA JPA, consistent with the QSA JPA Agreement. The remaining payments per the 2015 Advanced Funding Agreement are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Water Agency Remaining Payment Schedule

	CVW	D	IID	1	WA1 AUTHC		TOTAL PAYMENTS		
Year	Due 12/31	Due 7/1	Due 12/31	Due 7/1	Due 12/31	Due 7/1	Calendar Year	Fiscal Year	
2023	\$2,733,006				\$1,221,837		\$3,954,843	\$4,224,342	
2024	\$151,876				\$1,345,439		\$1,497,315	\$3,954,843	
2025	\$565,131				\$1,047,693		\$1,612,824	\$1,497,315	
2026								\$1,612,824	
Total	\$3,450,013	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,614,969	\$0	\$7,064,982	\$11,289,324	

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The schedule has been modified to reflect IID's September 29, 2022, early payoff (\$48.5 million) of its funding commitment to the OSA JPA.

### SECTION 3: REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES IN FY 2023 AND FY 2022

On June 6, 2022, the QSA JPA Commission adopted the FY 2023 budget in the amount of \$15,379,280. An amended FY 2023 budget of \$25,067,528 was later adopted on November 28, 2022, to reimburse IID for use of its property for Task 8 and for related third-party consultant costs. Table 2 shows the FY 2023 budgeted and projected spending by mitigation task, based on approved invoice totals to date and remaining fiscal year projections by IID. Major expenses in the FY 2023 budget include the Salton Sea Air Quality Mitigation Program (Task 24), reimbursement to IID for appraised value of Managed Marsh land (Task 8A), and the biologist team (Task 2).

Table 2. Detailed FY 2023 Projected Expenditures

TASK	TASK DESCRIPTION		BUDGETED FY 2023	ļ	PROJECTED FY 2023	BUDGET SAVINGS
2	QSA Implementation Team Biologists	\$	1,197,060	\$	1,197,060	\$ 1
3	Environmental Reporting and Monitoring	\$	560	\$	-	\$ (560)
4	Salton Sea Salinity and Elevation Program	\$	8,000	\$	5,000	\$ (3,000)
6	Tamarisk Scrub Habitat - Surveys and Mitigation	\$	74,920	\$	60,000	\$ (14,920)
8	Drain Habitat (Aquatic) - Create/Manage/Monitor "Managed Marsh" Areas	\$	564,080	\$	400,000	\$ (164,080)
8 <b>A</b>	Reimbursement to IID for Appraised Value of Managed Marsh Land	\$	9,685,748	\$	9,182,030	\$ (503,718)
8B	Reimbursement to IID for Third-Party Appraiser	\$	2,500	\$	2,500	\$ -
15	Pre-Construction Activity Burrowing Owl Surveys and Relocation	\$	3,390	\$	1,000	\$ (2,390)
16	Burrowing Owl Relative Abundance & Distribution surveys	\$	-	\$	2,762	\$ 2,762
17	Farmer and Public Education Program	\$	7,600	\$	5,636	\$ (1,964)
18	Desert Pupfish Abundance and Distribution Study	\$	6,750	\$	4,000	\$ (2,750)
19/19A	Pupfish Selenium Drain Studies	\$	317,310	\$	100,000	\$ (217,310)
20	Pupfish Construction and Maintenance Conservation Measures	\$	257,500	\$	5,000	\$ (252,500)
24	Salton Sea Air Quality	\$	12,822,120	\$	5,000,000	\$ (7,822,120)
36	JPA Audit Fees	\$	10,770	\$	10,770	\$ -
37	JPA Bank Fees	\$	3,090	\$	3,090	\$ -
38	Financial Advisor	\$	16,000	\$	16,000	\$ _
42	Brown Pelican - Sea	\$	55,920	\$	-	\$ (55,920)
44	Pupfish Refugium	\$	32,890	\$	13,500	\$ (19,390)
46	QSA JPA Website	\$	1,320	\$	-	\$ (1,320)
	Total	<sup>2</sup> \$	25,067,528	\$	16,008,348	\$ (9,059,180)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> May not foot due to rounding.

The projected budget savings and delayed expenditures for FY 2023 of \$9,059,180 is mostly due to the deferral of items under the Salton Sea Air Quality Mitigation Program (Task 24) and savings on the reimbursement cost to IID for use of Managed Marsh property under Task 8A. Table 3 summarizes the FY 2023 budget projections.

Table 3. FY 2023 Budget Summary<sup>3</sup>

FY 2023 BUDGET	PROJECTED FY 2023 EXPENDITURES	PROJECTED FY 2023 SAVINGS/DELAYS
\$ 25,067,528	\$ 16,008,348	\$ 9,059,180

On November 28, 2022, the QSA JPA Commission accepted an audit of its basic financial statements by Davis Farr Certified Public Accountants for fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and 2021. Audited FY 2022 environmental mitigation expenditures totaled \$6,086,015, as depicted in Appendix 1. Based upon the audited cash balance of \$33,879,122 at the end of FY 2022, FY 2023 projected agency contributions and interest earnings of \$54,713,376, and projected FY 2023 budget spending of \$16,008,348, the QSA JPA expects to have a positive cash balance of \$72,584,463 at the end of FY 2023 (Table 4).

Table 4. FY 2023 Projected Fund Balance

D	ESCRIPTION		CASH FLOW					
FY 2022 Au	idited Fund Balance (6-30-22)		\$33,879,435					
Sources	Mitigation Contributions	\$52,682,997	\$54,713,376					
Sources	Interest Income	\$2,030,379						
Uses	Environmental Mitigation		\$(16,008,348)					
FY 2023 Pro	FY 2023 Projected Fund Balance (6-30-23)							

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> May not foot due to rounding.

#### SECTION 4: FY 2024 BUDGET

The FY 2023 budget provides projected revenues of \$54,713,376 to meet anticipated expenditures from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023, of \$16,008,348, resulting in a net gain of \$38,705,028 from the previous fiscal year. FY 2024 will begin with the projected year-end FY 2023 fund balance of \$72,584,463.

Information summarizing the FY 2024 budget is presented in Tables 5 and 6. Table 5 provides the agency contributions for FY 2024 per the 2015 Advanced Funding Agreement for CVWD and the Water Authority and reflects the September 2022 pay-off of contributions made by IID. Also provided in Table 5 are funding contributions by agency through FY 2023.

**CONTRIBUTIONS** FY 2024 **AGENCY THROUGH FY 2023 CONTRIBUTIONS CVWD** \$63,475,929 \$2,733,006 IID \$104,058,578 Water Authority4 \$87,422,891 \$1,221,837 **Total Agency Contributions** \$254,957,398 \$3,954,843

Table 5. Summary of Mitigation Contributions by Water Agency

Revenue sources for FY 2024 include agency contributions from CVWD and the Water Authority of \$3,954,843 and interest income estimated at \$1,815,000. Projected spending in FY 2024 is \$12,002,330 for environmental mitigation, shown by mitigation task in Table 7. Based upon the projected cash balance of \$72,584,463 at the end of FY 2023, FY 2024 combined revenue sources of \$5,769,843, and projected FY 2023 budget spending of \$12,002,330, the QSA JPA expects to have a positive cash balance of \$66,351,976 at the end of FY 2024 (Table 6). Projected uses exceed sources, indicating a decrease of \$6,232,487 in cash reserves for FY 2024.

Table 6. FY 2024 Projected Fund Balance

D	ESCRIPTION		CASH FLOW					
FY 2023 Projec	FY 2023 Projected Cash Balance (6-30-23)							
Sources	Mitigation Contributions	\$3,954,843	<b>#5 700 040</b>					
Sources	Interest Income	\$1,815,000	\$5,769,843					
Uses	Environmental Mitigation		\$(12,002,330)					
FY 2024 Projected	FY 2024 Projected Cash Balance (6-30-24)							

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Water Authority contributions have been reduced by credits for payments made to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for implementation of Conservation and Mitigation Measures for the Colorado River.

Table 7. Detailed FY 2024 Projected Expenditures

TASK	TASK DESCRIPTION		FY 2024 BUDGET
1	QSA Implementation Team	\$	-
2	QSA Implementation Team Biologists	\$	1,355,620
3	Environmental Reporting and Monitoring	\$	-
4	Salton Sea Salinity and Elevation Program	\$	8,000
5	Salton Sea Mitigation Water to Salton Sea	\$	-
6	Tamarisk Scrub Habitat – Surveys and Mitigation	\$	61,810
7	Drain Habitat - Initial Vegetation and Habitat Surveys	\$	-
8/8A/8B	Drain Habitat (Aquatic) - Create/Manage/Monitor "Managed Marsh" Areas	\$	561,580
9	Drain Habitat Restrictions/Requirements for Construction and Maintenance	\$	-
10/10A	Worker Education Program Covered Species Training and Manual	\$	-
11	Desert Habitat Survey and Mapping of Right of Way	\$	-
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	\$	1,500
16	Burrowing Owl Relative Abundance and Distribution Surveys	\$	-
17	Farmer and Public Education Program	\$	5,000
18	Desert Pupfish Abundance and Distribution Study	\$	6,750
19/19A	Pupfish Selenium Drain Studies	\$	183,140
20	Pupfish Construction and Maintenance Conservation Measures	\$	100,000
21	Salvage of Razorback Suckers when Dewatering Canals	\$	-
22	Maintain Habitat on Fallowed Parcels	\$	-
23	Covered Species Baseline and Monitoring Surveys	\$	3,280
24	Salton Sea Air Quality	\$	9,613,060
25	Minimize Dust Emissions from Fallowed Lands	\$	<u> </u>
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	\$	-
36	JPA Audit Fees	\$	12,920
37	JPA Bank Fees	\$	3,090
38	Financial Advisor	\$	18,000
39	Bond Counsel Fees	\$	-
40	2001 Biological Opinion Measures	\$	-
41	Brown Pelican Coast	\$	-
42	Brown Pelican Sea	\$	55,920
43	Salton Sea Shoreline Strand Study	\$	-
44	Pupfish Refugium	\$	12,660
45	Recreation Facilities at Salton Sea	\$	-
46	QSA JPA Website Maintenance Services	\$	-
	Tota	al \$	12,002,330

#### SECTION 5: FY 2024 WORK PLAN

The FY 2024 budget totaling \$12,002,330 includes environmental mitigation activities for compliance with environmental permits and regulatory requirements. A detailed breakdown of anticipated expenditures by task is provided in Table 7. Mitigation measures are implemented consistent with environmental permit requirements of the QSA conserved water transfers. Major expenditure categories for mitigation measures to be implemented in FY 2023 are shown in Table 8 and include: the Salton Sea Air Quality Mitigation Program (Task 24), the biologist team (Task 2), and the Managed Marsh Areas (Task 8).

TASK	TASK DESCRIPTION	FY 2024 BUDGET	PERCENT OF TOTAL BUDGET
24	Salton Sea Air Quality	\$ 9,613,060	80%
2	QSA Implementation Team Biologists	\$ 1,355,620	11%
8	Drain Habitat (Aquatic) – Create, Manage, Monitor "Managed Marsh" Areas	\$ 561,580	5%
	Other Tasks	\$ 472,070	4%
	Total	\$ 12,002,330	100%

Table 8. Major Expenditures in FY 2024

Implementation of the Salton Sea Air Quality Mitigation Program (Task 24) is the largest budgeted expenditure for FY 2024 totaling \$9,613,060 or 80 percent of the total FY 2024 budget. Air quality mitigation includes annual emissions inventory, air quality network operations and maintenance, proactive dust control planning, groundwater development, air quality mitigation planning, and restricting public access to the Salton Sea playa. Expenditures for FY 2024 include groundwater development at Bombay Beach.

The QSA IT Biologists (Task 2) is the second largest budgeted expenditure making up \$1,355,620 or 11 percent of the total budget. This item includes funding for nine full-time staff and expenses for their fleet of vehicles.

The Managed Marsh Areas (Task 8) is the third largest budgeted expenditure totaling \$561,580 or five percent of the total FY 2024 budget. Expenditures for FY 2024 include operations and maintenance of the existing marsh (all three phases).

Other tasks make up the remaining four percent of the FY 2024 expenditures totaling \$472,070.

The budget also includes reimbursements to the Water Authority for designated financial costs such as bank fees, audit fees, and financial consultants (investment management). Audited historical spending by task is included as Appendix 1. Detailed summaries for individual mitigation measures by task, including a detailed breakdown of FY 2024 expenditures and planned and completed work, are included in Appendix 2.

Appendix 1 – Audited Historical QSA JPA Spending, FY 2004 - FY 2022

Task	Task Description	Total FY 2004-2022	FY 2022	FY 2021	FY 2020	FY 2019	FY 2018	FY 2017	FY 2016	FY 2015	FY 2004- 2014
1	QSA Implementation Team	\$383,879									\$383,879
2	QSA Implementation Team Biologists	\$9,606,323	\$920,524	\$982,168	\$910,337	\$1,081,358	\$1,026,602	\$769,055	\$613,942	\$505,547	\$2,796,790
3	Environmental Reporting and Monitoring	\$82,458									\$82,458
4	Salton Sea Salinity and Elevation Program	\$45,386	\$15,326	\$8,447	\$4,129	\$4,895	\$7,100				\$5,489
5	Salton Sea Mitigation Water to Salton Sea	\$96,666,141			\$7,043,618	\$34,142	\$9,851,798	\$18,412,449	\$17,483,767	\$11,607,035	\$32,233,332
6	Tamarisk Scrub Habitat - Surveys and Mitigation	\$22,154	\$7,678		\$4,928						\$9,548
7	Drain Habitat - Initial Vegetation and Habitat Surveys	\$209,123									\$209,123
8	Drain Habitat (Aquatic) - Create/Manage/Moni tor "Managed Marsh" Areas	\$17,002,205	\$403,912	\$2,615,125	\$2,206,448	\$1,911,610	\$439,409	\$297,032	\$389,963	\$2,787,567	\$5,951,139
9	Drain Habitat Restrictions/Require ments for Construction and Maintenance	\$8,473									\$8,473
10/ 10a	Worker Education Program Covered Species Training and Manual	\$35,302									\$35,302
11	Desert Habitat Survey and Mapping of Right of Way	\$379,191									\$379,191
12	Desert Habitat Create/Maintain Desert Habitat	\$17,300									\$17,300

Appendix 1 – Audited Historical QSA JPA Spending, FY 2004 - FY 2022

Task	Task Description	Total FY 2004-2022	FY 2022	FY 2021	FY 2020	FY 2019	FY 2018	FY 2017	FY 2016	FY 2015	FY 2004- 2014
13	Changes to Operations on IID Canals to Avoid Covered Species	\$0									\$0
14	Burrowing Owl Worker Annual Education and Manual	\$10,411									\$10,411
15	Pre-Construction Activity Burrowing Owl Surveys and Relocation	\$927,555	\$3,933				\$7,164	\$1,540	\$6,765		\$908,153
16	Burrowing Owl Relative Abundance and Distribution Surveys	\$3,516,853		\$46,155	\$206,984	\$224,314		\$20,000	\$59,509	\$28,172	\$2,931,719
17	Farmer and Public Education Program	\$18,248	\$2,493	\$1,600	\$2,437	\$2,150	\$1,600	\$935	\$1,416	\$1,435	\$4,182
18	Desert Pupfish Abundance and Distribution Study	\$75,202	(\$17,165)	\$60,307	\$17,653	\$116	\$8		\$24		\$14,259
19	Pupfish Selenium Drain Studies	\$2,519,974	\$58,234	\$167,559	\$118,586	\$157,978	\$36,468	\$66,650		\$1,482	\$1,913,017
20	Pupfish Construction and Maintenance Conservation Measures	\$246,879	\$65,382	\$4,273	\$4,234	\$124,105	\$11,653	\$504			\$36,728
21	Salvage of Razorback Suckers when Dewatering Canals	\$9,534									\$9,534
22	Maintain Habitat on Fallowed Parcels	\$0									\$0
23	Covered Species Baseline and Monitoring Surveys <sup>1</sup>	\$5,395,188					\$800	\$947	\$17,000	\$62	\$5,376,379
24	Salton Sea Air Quality	\$32,991,027	\$4,588,075	\$5,478,183	\$4,553,484	\$4,024,938	\$3,483,968	\$3,809,309	\$2,797,387	\$601,399	\$3,654,284

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Includes Avian Studies from FY 2006, 2007, and 2008.

Appendix 1 – Audited Historical QSA JPA Spending, FY 2004 - FY 2022

Task	Task Description	Total FY 2004-2022	FY 2022	FY 2021	FY 2020	FY 2019	FY 2018	FY 2017	FY 2016	FY 2015	FY 2004- 2014
25	Minimize Dust Emissions from Fallowed Lands	\$57,775									\$57,775
26	Drain Connectivity to Salton Sea Elevation Decrease	\$0									\$0
27	Grade Spoil/Roads from Drain Maintenance	\$0									\$0
28	Power Line Markers for Pumpback and Seepage Recovery Systems	\$1,960									\$1,960
29	Prepare and Implement Management Plan for Abandoned Portions of AAC	\$0									\$0
30	Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Surveys and Habitat Monitoring <sup>2</sup>	\$62,938									\$62,938
31	Elf Owl Surveys	\$0									\$0
32	Desert Tortoise Survey and Avoidance	\$0									\$0
33	Least Tern Surveys	\$0									\$0
34	Rail and Bittern Surveys	\$0									\$0
35	Management and Planning	\$336,979					\$1,367	\$9,354	\$4,190	\$3,229	\$318,839
36	JPA Audit Fees	\$179,518	\$10,560	\$10,770	\$10,560	\$10,350	\$10,350	\$10,350	\$12,147	\$11,911	\$92,520

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Includes Task 46 from previous years.

Appendix 1 – Audited Historical QSA JPA Spending, FY 2004 - FY 2022

Task	Task Description	Total FY 2004-2022	FY 2022	FY 2021	FY 2020	FY 2019	FY 2018	FY 2017	FY 2016	FY 2015	FY 2004- 2014
37	JPA Bank Fees	\$33,417	\$1,776	\$2,082	\$2,495	\$1,405	\$1,526	\$1,584	\$1,609	\$1,678	\$19,262
38	Financial Advisor	\$51,294	\$12,567	\$9,230							\$29,497
39	Bond Counsel Fees	\$25,000									\$25,000
40	2001 Biological Opinion Measures	\$3,349,126									\$3,349,126
41	Brown Pelican Coast	\$0									\$0
42	Brown Pelican Sea	\$5,517	\$329	\$4,017	\$1,171						\$0
43	Salton Sea Shoreline Strand Study	\$0									\$0
44	Pupfish Refugium	\$66,866	\$3,051			\$3,174			\$1,840	\$21,284	\$37,517
45	Recreation Facilities at Salton Sea	\$22,603				\$3,911	\$10,999	\$6,565		\$1,128	\$0
46	QSA JPA Website	\$9,340	\$9,340								\$0
	Total	\$174,371,139	\$6,086,015	\$9,389,916	\$15,087,064	\$7,584,446	\$14,890,812	\$23,406,274	\$21,389,559	\$15,571,929	\$60,965,124
Me	iological Opinion asures Credited to Water Authority	\$3,349,126									\$3,349,126
Tota	al JPA Expenditures	\$171,022,013	\$6,086,015	\$9,389,916	\$15,087,064	\$7,584,446	\$14,890,812	\$23,406,274	\$21,389,559	\$15,571,929	\$57,615,998

### **Work Task 1: QSA Implementation Team**

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$383,879

**Description and Purpose:** The Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA) Implementation Team (IT) is to hold quarterly IT meetings consisting of representatives from Imperial Irrigation District (IID), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), to guide implementation of the Habitiat Conservation Plan (HCP) and In-Valley California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Permit for the duration of the HCP and CESA Permit.

Permit Reference: HCP; CESA Permit 4(a)(ii) and MMRP 8

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Held quarterly implementation team meetings and review annual budget.

**FY 2023 Activities:** Quarterly implementation team meetings were held virtually at no cost to the QSA JPA.

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** No expense to the QSA JPA is expected for this item due to quarterly implementation team meetings being held virtually.

### Work Task 2: QSA Implementation Team Biologists

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$1,355,620	\$1,197,060	\$1,197,060	\$9,606,323

**Description and Purpose:** Salary and expenses for IT Biologists.

Permit Reference: HCP, General 1; CESA Permit 4(a)(i) and MMRP 7

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: Cover environmental mitigation staff expenses.

FY 2023 Activities: Fund environmental mitigation staff and vehicles.

Proposed FY 2024 Activities: Continue to fund environmental mitigation staff and vehicles.

### Work Task 3: Environmental Reporting and Monitoring

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$560	\$82,458

**Description and Purpose:** Report annually to USFWS and CDFW the amount of water conserved, transferred, and allowed to flow to the Salton Sea.

Make available to USFWS and CDFW valley-wide statistics regarding agricultural production and implementation of water conservation measures, including total acreage in agricultural production in the IID water service area, acres of each crop grown, acres of land fallowed, acres of participating farms, and total amount of water conserved and transferred. Submit annual report to SWRCB on actions taken to comply with the mitigation measures and conservation strategies included in the Final EIR/EIS and HCP and all other state and federal permits and regulatory requirements.

Prepare Adaptive Management Plan for monitoring effectiveness of mitigation measures. Submit reports of the previous year's activities to USFWS, CDFW and SWRCB including details of fish and wildlife conservation actions implemented, monitoring/surveying activities, and water conservation activities.

**Permit Reference:** HCP Chp 4; In-Valley Biological Opinion, TC Reporting Requirements; CESA Permit Conditions of Approval, General Conditions (a) and (b) and MMRPs; SWRCB Section 4

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Annual report sent by March 31 of each year for the previous calendar year.

**FY 2023 Activities:** Funds budgeted for printing and shipping costs for annual reports but no costs were incurred by QSA JPA.

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** No expense expected for this item due to annual reports being submitted electronically and posted on IID's website.

### Work Task 4: Salton Sea Salinity and Elevation Program

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$8,000	\$5,000	\$8,000	\$45,386

**Description and Purpose:** To demonstrate compliance with the Salton Sea Habitat Conservation Strategy, monitor salinity and elevation of the Salton Sea.

Permit Reference: SWRCB-6; CESA Permit MMRP 40

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: Completed annual selenium monitoring.

FY 2023 Activities: Continued selenium analysis at the Salton Sea.

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** Continue selenium analysis at the Salton Sea including airboat and monitoring equipment expenses.

### Work Task 5: Salton Sea Mitigation Water to Salton Sea

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$96,666,141

**Description and Purpose:** To implement refined Salton Sea Habitat Conservation Strategy (SSHCS), which requires provision of mitigation water to the Salton Sea for the first 15 years of the project to mitigate reductions in inflow due to the transfer of water to the Water Authority.

Mitigation water will be delivered in accordance with the schedule in Table 1-3 of the 9/03 Addendum.

Permit Reference: SWRCB CESA Permit 4(c)(i) and MMRP13

#### **Accomplishments Through FY 2022:**

Delivered 46,546 AF of mitigation water to the Salton Sea to resolve 2010 pre-delivery payback in FY 2020. Mitigation task is complete.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

### Work Task 6: Tamarisk Scrub Habitat - Surveys and Mitigation

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$61,810	\$60,000	\$74,920	\$22,154

**Description and Purpose:** To develop preconstruction survey checklists and protocols in consultation with the IT, to identify proposed construction and impacted vegetation and covered species. Specific survey protocol will be developed to monitor and quantify changes in the amount/quality of habitat in consultation with USFWS and CDFW.

Includes the evaluation of all potential cottonwood-willow and tamarisk stands for Southwestern Willow Flycatcher breeding habitat suitability, prior to IID water conservation activities that could impact tamarisk habitat.

**Permit Reference:** HCP-TREE 1-3; In-Valley Biological Opinion, Willow Flycatcher Measures 1 to 4; CESA Permit 4(f) and MMRP 21-27, 29-36, 41, 42

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Managed Marsh Complex native tree habitat in buffer zones installed.

FY 2023 Activities: Conducted operation and maintenance of native tree habitat.

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** Continue operation and maintenance of native tree habitat including repairs to flood irrigation, invasive species control, and supplemental planting.

### Work Task 7: Drain Habitat - Initial Vegetation and Habitat Surveys

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$209,123

**Description and Purpose:** To complete drain vegetation database, conduct covered species baseline surveys as necessary, and participate in a comprehensive planning process to address selenium impacts. Includes the evaluation of all potential cottonwood-willow and tamarisk stands for southwestern willow flycatcher breeding habitat suitability, based on characterizations provided in the draft Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Recovery Plan.

**Permit Reference:** HCP, Drain Habitat 1; In-Valley Biological Opinion Willow Flycatcher Measures 1 to 4; CESA Permit, 4(g) and MMRPs

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: Completed baseline drain survey.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

# Work Task 8: Drain Habitat (Aquatic) - Create/Manage/Monitor "Managed Marsh" Areas

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$561,580	\$400,000	\$564,080	\$17,002,205

**Description and Purpose:** To create 959 acres of managed marsh habitat over a 15 year period, 1/3 of the total within the first five years. The specific amount will be determined by the IT, and approved by USFWS and CDFW, based upon the drain vegetation survey (an amount equal to the total amount of habitat in the drains), as well as the acreage required to compensate for selenium effects. Due diligence will be conducted on land chosen for Managed Marsh and land will be purchased for managed marsh.

**Permit Reference:** HCP Drain Habitat; In-Valley Biological Opinion-Rail CM 1-2; CESA 4(g)(i) and MMRP 45, 46, 47, 88, 101, 102, 103

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Phase I built in 2009 - 365 acres. Phase II built in 2014 - 360 acres. Phase III design and construction completed. Buffer zones double as native tree habitat for construction projects.

**FY 2023 Activities:** Conducted operation & maintenance (O&M) of Phases I, II, and III of Managed Marsh Complex.

Proposed FY 2024 Activities: Continue O&M of Managed Marsh Complex Phases I, II, and III.

# Work Task 8A: Reimbursement to IID for Appraised Value of Managed Marsh Land

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$9,182,030	\$9,685,748	\$ -

**Description and Purpose:** Reimburse IID for the appraised value of the land underlying the Managed Marsh Areas (Task 8).

Permit Reference: N/A

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: N/A.

FY 2023 Activities: Reimbursed IID for the use of its land for the Managed Marsh.

### Work Task 8B: Reimbursement to IID for Third-Party Appraiser

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$ -

**Description and Purpose:** Reimburse IID for direct costs incurred by hiring a thrid-party appraiser (contractor) to determine the value of the land underlying the Managed Marsh Areas (Task 8).

Permit Reference: N/A

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: N/A.

FY 2023 Activities: Reimbursed IID for its third-party appraiser.

### Work Task 9: Drain Habitat Restrictions/Requirements for Construction and Maintenance

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$8,473

**Description and Purpose:** To implement the listed measures when conducting scheduled construction activities within rights-of-way along the AAC, East Highline, and portions of the Westside Main, Thistle, and Trifolium Extension Canals containing desert habitat (these measures may be modified during the permit term with the approval of USFWS and CDFW or based on survey results or adaptive management).

**Permit Reference:** HCP-Drain 3; CESA Permit 4(f)(i, ii, iii, and ix), 4(g), 4(i)(iv) and MMRP 36, 49, 50, 70, 71, 76, 77, 89

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Completed pre-construction surveys for construction activities.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

# Work Task 10/10A: Worker Education Program Covered Species Training and Manual

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$35,302

**Description and Purpose:** To implement an annual worker education program for workers conducting O&M and construction activities to ensure compliance with the Desert Habitat Conservation Strategy. A worker education manual is to be prepared with the concurrence of USFWS and CDFW; copies are to be distributed to each person conducting O&M activities along the AAC, East Highline, Westside Main, Thistle, or Trifolium canals.

Includes review of worker education manual, updates as appropriate, and distribution to workers; copies are to be given to USFWS and CDFW. Workers' compliance is to be monitored with worker education manual procedures, and any infractions will be reported by the IT Biologist to the worker's supervisor.

Permit Reference: HCP-Desert 1; CESA Permit 4(i) MMRP 58, 59, and 60

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Annual worker education trainings conducted at the beginning of each calendar year and then an additional training mid-year for new employees.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** N/A. Transitioned to online video training. No expense planned this year.

### Work Task 11: Desert Habitat Survey and Mapping of Right of Way

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$379,191

**Description and Purpose:** To conduct a desert habitat survey encompassing IID's rights-of-way along the AAC (from the intersection with the East Highline Canal to the desilting basins at Imperial Dam) and the Westside Main, East Highline, Thistle, and Trifolium Extension Canals where the rights-of-way contain or are adjacent to desert habitat. Includes Identifying and mapping habitat and habitat features. A report of the results of the desert habitat survey is to be reported to USFWS and CDFW. The worker education manual will be updated to include a habitat map and map(s) of known locations of each of the covered species within the canal rights-of-way.

Permit Reference: HCP DH 4; CESA Permit 4(i)(v) MMRP 64

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Habitat survey conducted as part of initial habitat mapping at the beginning of the QSA.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

### Work Task 12: Desert Habitat Create/Maintain Desert Habitat

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$17,300

**Description and Purpose:** To determine the amount of habitat lost, and work with the IT to identify a replacement property (in a 1:1 ratio to the lost acreage) to be acquired or covered with a conservation easement if desert habitat used by covered species would be permanently lost due to O&M or construction activities. IID may not permanently remove more than 100 acres of desert habitat and/or tamarisk scrub habitat over the permit term.

Permit Reference: HCP-DH 5; CESA Permit 4(i)(vi) and MMRP 66, 67, 68

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: N/A.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

# Work Task 13: Changes to Operations on IID Canals to Avoid Covered Species

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Description and Purpose:** To implement the listed "interim" practices in connection with O&M activities. These measures may be modified during the permit term based upon survey results or adaptive management.

**Permit Reference:** HCP, Desert 2; CESA Permit, Conditions 4(i)(iii), 4(i)(vii) to (xiv) and MMRP 50, 60, 62, 63, 70, 71, 76 and 77

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** No major modifications to operations & maintenance activities to date.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

### Work Task 14: Burrowing Owl Worker Annual Education and Manual

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$10,411

**Description and Purpose:** To develop and implement an annual worker education program to ensure workers are familiar with Burrowing Owl mitigation measures. Also to ensure new workers are informed of and understand the HCP requirements. A worker education manual is to be prepared and distributed to each person conducting drain cleaning or canal maintenance procedures and refresher instruction is to be conducted. Copies of the manual are to be provided to USFWS and CDFW and approval of the workers' manual from USFWS and CDFW must be obtained. The IT Biologist will conduct random checks of workers to ensure compliance with the HCP.

Permit Reference: HCP, Owl 1

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: The Burrowing Owl Worker Education and Manual have been combined with Task 10/10A: Worker Education Program to conduct one annual worker education program. All Water Department O&M and construction workers are trained in January of each year. Zanjeros and water patrolmen are trained in February/March of each year. A midyear make up training is conducted for anyone who missed trainings at the beginning of the year or who have been hired since trainings occurred.

FY 2023 Activities: Annual education program rolled into Task 10/10A.

Proposed FY 2024 Activities: Annual education program rolled into Task 10/10A.

### Work Task 15: Pre-Construction Activity Burrowing Owl Surveys and Relocation

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$1,500	\$1,000	\$3,390	\$927,555

**Description and Purpose:** To implement the following in connection with construction and O&M activities:

- Conduct visual inspection of banks and indicate location of burrows; avoid collapsing or filling burrows, exercise care in removing sediment, and avoid moving the excavator bucket directly over a burrow.
- Develop standard operating procedures through teamwork of IT biologist and maintenance workers for drain/canal cleaning.

Permit Reference: HCP-Owl 2-8

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Annual inspections of canals and drains prior to all operations and maintenance activities.

**FY 2023 Activities:** Conducted annual inspections of canals and drains for burrows prior to all operations and maintenance activities.

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** Continue annual inspections of canals and drains for burrows prior to all operations and maintenance activities.

# Work Task 16: Burrowing Owl Relative Abundance and Distribution Surveys

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$2,762	\$ -	\$3,516,853

**Description and Purpose:** To prepare and conduct a study design for a relative abundance and distribution survey of burrowing owls (BUOW) in the HCP area; prepare in consultation with a statistician; obtain IT approval of the study design.

Permit Reference: HCP, Owl 7

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Population studies conducted in 2007/2008. Subsampling conducted in 2011/2012. "Efficacy study" on burrowing owl marking protocol in 2015/2016. Two-year subsampling effort in 2019 and 2020.

FY 2023 Activities: Unexpected charge for materials related this task.

Proposed FY 2024 Activities: N/A. No surveys planned.

### Work Task 17: Farmer and Public Education Program

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$5,000	\$5,636	\$7,600	\$18,248

**Description and Purpose:** To implement a farmer and public education program on burrowing owls; periodically include information on burrowing owls in water bills to farmers.

Permit Reference: HCP, Owl 9

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Design an advertisement and public outreach presentations to various groups.

**FY 2023 Activities:** Provided public outreach presentations and engaged with school-age students to design local magazine advertisements for burrowing owls.

Proposed FY 2024 Activities: Continue public outreach presentations, design an ad, etc.

### Work Task 18: Desert Pupfish Abundance and Distribution Study

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$6,750	\$4,000	\$6,750	\$75,202

**Description and Purpose:** To develop in coordination with the IT a protocol for monitoring pupfish presence in drains currently maintained, and in drain channels constructed, to increase the amount of potential pupfish drain habitat under Pupfish 3.

Permit Reference: HCP, Pupfish 4; In-Valley Biological Opinion, Pupfish CM 3; CESA Permit

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Desert pupfish distribution monitoring protocol, purchasing of equipment, and implementation to date. IID environmental mitigation staff trained to survey for pupfish within drains around the Salton Sea.

FY 2023 Activities: Conducted pupfish distribution surveys.

Proposed FY 2024 Activities: IID staff will monitor pupfish within IID drains at the Salton Sea.

### Work Task 19/19A: Pupfish Selenium Drain Studies

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$183,140	\$100,000	\$317,310	\$2,519,974

**Description and Purpose:** To operate and maintain drains in a manner that minimizes the effects of water conservation on water quality. To implement the selenium drain monitoring study. To work together with the IT to determine the best means for managing the drain channels to minimize potential selenium effects on pupfish, based upon the findings of studies conducted by USFWS or others and continue funding of the Selenium Toxicity Study.

**Permit Reference:** HCP-Pupfish 4; CESA Permit Conditions 4(j)(ii), 4(j)(vi), 4(j)(vii), 4(j)(x); MMRP 80, 81, 87, 94; In-Valley Biological Opinion; SWRCB Order

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** USGS Selenium Study completed in 2009. Recommendations from USGS study used to create Selenium Work Plan for the RWQCB Ag Waiver completed. First year of three year study began in late 2018.

**FY 2023 Activities:** Conducted selenium analysis within IID drains, equipment costs, and data analysis.

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** Ongoing selenium work plan activities including water quality samples and monitoring.

### Work Task 20: Pupfish Construction and Maintenance Conservation Measures

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$100,000	\$5,000	\$257,500	\$246,879

**Description and Purpose:** To implement the listed measures in connection with construction activities (i.e., in-channel modifications) that directly affect pupfish drains and require dewatering or removal of drain sections.

**Permit Reference:** HCP-Pupfish 6; CESA Permit MMRP 80, 86, 89, 90, 94, 95, 96, 97; In-Valley Biological Opinion

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Any required drain maintenance activities have been consulted with CDFW. Pupfish trapping occured five consecutive days with no pupfish caught before work has started.

**FY 2023 Activities:** Worked to develop a Pupfish Habitat Connectivity Plan with consultant, USFWS, CDFW and CVWD for IID and CVWD drains.

Proposed FY 2024 Activities: Develop a Pupfish Drain Connection Plan & Design.

### Work Task 21: Salvage of Razorback Suckers when Dewatering Canals

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$9,534

**Description and Purpose:** The IT will develop a procedure for salvaging and returning fish to the Colorado River and ensure that a person qualified to capture and handle razorback suckers, and approved by USFWS and CDFW, will be present during dewatering of main canals or reservoirs.

Permit Reference: HCP-Razorback Sucker 1; CESA Permit 4(k)(i) and MMRP 99

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: No relocation efforts have been conducted to date.

FY 2023 Activities: No razorback suckers were found.

Proposed FY 2024 Activities: Relocation of razorback suckers if needed.

### Work Task 22: Maintain Habitat on Fallowed Parcels

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Description and Purpose: N/A** 

Permit Reference: N/A

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Task has no value. Fallowed parcels are privately owned with residual cover from previous crops. Fallowed parcels are scattered around the valley, so no one area has had a significant percentage of fallowed lands.

**FY 2023 Activities:** N/A. Fallowing is no longer conducted as a conservation measure post 2017.

## Work Task 23: Covered Species Baseline and Monitoring Surveys

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$3,280	\$ -	\$ -	\$5,395,188

**Description and Purpose:** To work with the IT to define specific surveys and studies to be conducted as part of a study program for the "Other Species" listed in Table 3.9-1 of the HCP within the HCP area. The use of created or acquired native tree habitat is to be monitored. A baseline desert survey will be conducted.

**Permit Reference:** HCP-OTHER Species 1 and 2; CESA Permit 4(i)(v) and MMRP 35, 48, 64, 65; HCP; CESA Permit 4(i)(v) and MMRP 64; HCP DH 2, DH3, DH4

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Baseline survey of covered species completed in 2009. Imagery purchased for Imperial Valley Agricultural area. Annual marsh bird protocol surveys and Southwest Willow Flycatcher surveys conducted.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** Continue surveys of covered species primarily for marsh birds at the Managed Marsh and southwest williow flycatchers.

## Work Task 24: Salton Sea Air Quality

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$9,613,060	\$5,000,000	\$12,822,120	\$32,991,027

**Description and Purpose:** To continue implementation of the 4-step air quality plan: (1) Restrict Access, (2) Research and Monitoring, (3) Emission Reduction Credits, (4) Direct Emissions Reductions.

Permit Reference: SWRCB-8; EIR/EIS STEP 2, AQPLAN-AQ 7

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Annual emissions inventory, air quality network operations & maintenance, proactive dust control planning, groundwater development, air quality emissions inventory.

FY 2023 Activities: Developed groundwater resources at Clubhouse and Salton City.

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** Annual emissions inventory, air quality network operations & maintenance, proactive dust control planning, groundwater development at Bombay Beach, air quality mitigation planning, and restrict public access on Salton Sea playa.

### Work Task 25: Minimize Dust Emissions from Fallowed Lands

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$57,775

**Description and Purpose:** To implement at least one of the Best Management Practices ("BMPs") to minimize PM10 emissions prior to and after fallowing.

Permit Reference: SWRCB-8; EIR/EIS-AQ 3

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Fallowed fields are required to have a crop left in place for dust mitigation at the owners expense. No cost to the JPA.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

## Work Task 26: Drain Connectivity to Salton Sea Elevation Decrease

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Description and Purpose:** To ensure an appropriate level of connectivity between pupfish populations within individual drains that connect to the Sea and are below the first check (at the north and south ends of the Sea) if Salton Sea conditions become unsuitable for pupfish. To maintain created pupfish habitats for the duration of the term of the take permits.

Permit Reference: HCP-SS 2; In-Valley Biological Opinion; CESA Permit MMRP 79, 80

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Drain connectivity for pupfish due to salinity levels is included in Task 20.

FY 2023 Activities: Included in Task 20.

## Work Task 27: Grade Spoil/Roads from Drain Maintenance

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Description and Purpose:** When grading spoils from drain or canal cleaning, the soil to be graded will first be rolled away from the channel and broken up into small clods and slowly rolled back towards the channel. Care will be taken to not roll the soil back down the slope.

Permit Reference: Owl-3, HCP

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** IID protocols for drain and canal cleaning include spoil to be graded away from the channel. Costs for burrowing owl marking included in Task 15.

FY 2023 Activities: Included in Task 15.

# Work Task 28: Power Line Markers for Pumpback and Seepage Recovery Systems

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,960

**Description and Purpose:** To install markers in accordance with industry standards in order to reduce bird strikes and to alert birds to the presence of the lines if IID builds additional power lines to provide power to pumps for tailwater return systems. If additional lines are erected, submit a report to USFWS and CDFW.

Permit Reference: HCP-AG 1; CESA Permit MMRP 55, 57

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: N/A

FY 2023 Activities: N/A

# Work Task 29: Prepare and Implement Management Plan for Abandoned Portions of AAC

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Description and Purpose:** To prepare and implement a Management Plan for abandoned portions of AAC.

Permit Reference: CESA Permit MMRP 78

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: N/A.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

# Work Task 30: Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Surveys and Habitat Monitoring

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$62,938

**Description and Purpose:** To carry out Southwestern Willow Flycatcher Surveys.

**Permit Reference:** CESA Permit 4(f) and MMRP 41, 42; HCP; In-Valley Biological Opinion, Willow Flycatcher Measures

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: Included in Task 23.

FY 2023 Activities: Included in Task 23.

# Work Task 31: Elf Owl Surveys

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Description and Purpose:** To carry out pre-construction surveys of potential habitat with a 0.25 mile radius for nesting owls.

Permit Reference: CESA Permit 4(f)(ix) and MMRP 44

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: Included in Task 23.

FY 2023 Activities: Included in Task 23.

# Work Task 32: Desert Tortoise Survey and Avoidance

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Description and Purpose:** To carry out pre-construction surveys and avoidance or minimization.

Permit Reference: CESA Permit 4(i) and MMRP 71 to 75; HCP DH 2 and DH 3

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: Included in Task 23.

FY 2023 Activities: Included in Task 23.

# Work Task 33: Least Tern Surveys

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Description and Purpose:** Permitee is to use fencing or other techniques to protect nesting terns if least terns begin nesting at the Salton Sea.

Permit Reference: CESA Permit 4(e) and MMRP 20

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: Included in Task 23.

FY 2023 Activities: Included in Task 23.

# Work Task 34: Rail and Bittern Surveys

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Description and Purpose:** To carry out Managed Marsh monitoring and initial baseline monitoring of suitable agricultural drain habitat.

**Permit Reference:** CESA Permit 4(g) and MMRPs 51, 52, 54; In-Valley Biological Opinion, Rail Measures; HCP

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: Included in Task 23.

FY 2023 Activities: Included in Task 23.

# Work Task 35: Management and Planning

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$336,979

**Description and Purpose:** Management and Planning.

Permit Reference: N/A

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Costs for monthly accounting, invoicing, and budget development.

**FY 2023 Activities:** Monthly accounting, invoicing, and budget development were managed internally by IID staff at no expense to the QSA JPA.

#### **Proposed FY 2024 Activities:**

No expense to the QSA JPA is expected for this item. Monthly accounting, invoicing, and budget development will continue to be managed internally by IID staff.

# Work Task 36: JPA Audit Fees

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$12,920	\$10,770	\$10,770	\$179,518

**Description and Purpose:** To pay for JPA audit fees.

Permit Reference: N/A

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: Paid for JPA auditor services.

FY 2023 Activities: Paid for JPA auditor services

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** Pay for JPA auditor services.

# Work Task 37: JPA Bank Fees

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$3,090	\$3,090	\$3,090	\$33,417

**Description and Purpose:** To pay for JPA bank fees.

Permit Reference: N/A

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: Paid for JPA bank fees.

FY 2023 Activities: Paid for JPA bank fees.

Proposed FY 2024 Activities: Pay for JPA Bank Fees.

#### Work Task 38: Financial Advisor

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$18,000	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$51,294

**Description and Purpose:** To pay for financial advisor services.

Permit Reference: N/A

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** In FY07, the QSA JPA hired First Southwest Company as a financial advisor tasked with analyzing projected expenditures and existing payment schedules to develop options for an upcoming deficit. This led to the 2007 Advanced Payment Agreement. In FY20, the QSA JPA hired Chandler Asset Management as an investment advisor.

FY 2023 Activities: Paid for investment management services (Chandler Asset Management).

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** Pay for investment management services (Chandler Asset Management).

## Work Task 39: Bond Counsel Fees

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$25,000

**Description and Purpose:** To pay for bond counsel fees.

Permit Reference: N/A

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** In FY07, the QSA JPA hired Orrick, Herrington and Sutcliffe to advise on the potential issuance of bonds.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

## Work Task 40: 2001 Biological Opinion Measures

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$3,349,126

**Description and Purpose:** Bureau of Reclamation implementation of "on-river" measures including backwater marsh creation, razorback sucker stocking, willow flycatcher habitat, and bonytail chub rearing. Costs for this task have been credited to the Water Authority.

Permit Reference: 2001 LCR BO; CESA

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: Section 9.5 of the JPA Agreement provides for a \$3.118 million credit to the Water Authority for certain on-river mitigation activities that are implemented by the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR). Specifically, the language states "SDCWA shall receive credit toward its payment obligations under this Agreement, not to exceed a present value of \$3,118,000, for payments made to BOR for satisfaction of Environmental Mitigation Requirements pursuant to that agreement among BOR, MWD, and SDCWA, dated October 10, 2003, regarding responsibility for implementation of Conservation and Mitigation Measures for the Colorado River described in a US Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion dated January 12, 2001."

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

# Work Task 41: Brown Pelican Coast

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Description and Purpose:** To construct, maintain, and monitor major coastal roost sites in San Diego Bay and Santa Barbara Harbor.

Permit Reference: CESA 4(d); 2002 In-Valley BO BP CM-1

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: N/A.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

# Work Task 42: Brown Pelican Sea

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$55,920	\$ -	\$55,920	\$5,517

**Description and Purpose:** To construct, maintain, and monitor roost sites at the Salton Sea.

Permit Reference: CESA 3(c); 2002 In-Valley BO BP CM-1; HCP SS-1

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: N/A.

FY 2023 Activities: IID consulted with CDFW on the scope of this task.

Proposed FY 2024 Activities: Develop a construction cost estimate for this task.

# Work Task 43: Salton Sea Shoreline Strand Study

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Description and Purpose:** To survey for and mitigate, if required, impacts to tamarisk scrub upon completion of Salton Sea mitigation deliveries.

Permit Reference: HCP SS-3; HCP 4(f)

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: N/A.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** N/A. No imagery is expected to be purchased and existing IID

equipment will be used.

# Work Task 44: Pupfish Refugium

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$12,660	\$13,500	\$32,890	\$66,866

**Description and Purpose:** To construct and maintain one refugium pond.

Permit Reference: HCP SS-2; 2002 In-Valley BO DP CM-1; CESA 4(j)

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: Pupfish refugium built in 2010 and stocked in 2016.

**FY 2023 Activities:** Environmental mitigation staff began operation and maintenance of the refugium in summer 2022.

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** Continue pupfish refugium operations and maintenance, including water monitoring, cleaning, and maintenance.

## Work Task 45: Recreation Facilities at Salton Sea

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$22,603

**Description and Purpose:** To relocate boat launch site and/or maintain boat launch connection to Salton Sea.

Permit Reference: SWRCB Order Measure R-7; 2002 EIS/EIR Measure R-7

**Accomplishments Through FY 2022:** Inventory of recreational facilities around the Salton Sea.

FY 2023 Activities: N/A.

## Work Task 46: QSA JPA Website Maintenance Services

PROPOSED	PROJECTED	BUDGETED	SPENT THROUGH
FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2023	FY 2022
\$ -	\$	\$1,320	\$9,340

**Description and Purpose:** Maintain the QSA JPA website.

Permit Reference: N/A

Accomplishments Through FY 2022: The QSA JPA website was developed.

**FY 2023 Activities:** Operated and maintained the QSA JPA website using Water Authority staff to minimize costs to the JPA.

**Proposed FY 2024 Activities:** No expense to the QSA JPA is expected for this item. Continue operation and maintenance of QSA JPA website using Water Authority staff.