From: California Natural Resources Agency

To: <u>Hernandez, Miguel@CNRA</u>

Subject: California Natural Resources Agency and Partners to Host Groundbreaking Ceremony at Salton Sea to Celebrate

Species Conservation Habitat Project Expansion

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 7, 2024

Contact:

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MEDIA ADVISORY

California Natural Resources Agency and Partners to Host Groundbreaking Ceremony at Salton Sea to Celebrate Species Conservation Habitat Project Expansion

California's leaders are joining together at the Salton Sea to celebrate the groundbreaking of the Species Conservation Habitat Project Expansion. With federal funding from the US Bureau of Reclamation, the Salton Sea Management Program is accelerating restoration projects at the Salton Sea.

The <u>Species Conservation Habitat</u> (SCH) Project is the first large-scale project of the state's 10-year plan. It will create a network of ponds and wetlands that help to reduce dust emissions that impact air quality by inundating exposed lakebed, and it will provide important fish and bird habitat. All major construction has been completed on 4,100 acres, and now the project is expanding.

Recent federal funding granted to the Salton Sea Management Program to accelerate restoration at the Sea is supporting expansion of the SCH footprint by an initial 750 acres. Work has commenced expeditiously to expand this project, and we would like to thank our partners for their collaboration in helping the SSMP reach this groundbreaking milestone.

What: California Natural Resources Agency and Partners to Host Groundbreaking Ceremony at Salton Sea to Celebrate Species Conservation Habitat Project Expansion

When: Tuesday, October 15, 10:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

How: Credentialed media must RSVP to <u>allison.armstrong@resources.ca.gov</u> by October 9th.

Confirmed Speakers:

- Wade Crowfoot, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency
- Samantha Arthur, Deputy Secretary for Water, California Natural Resources Agency
- Camille Calimlim Touton, Reclamation Commissioner
- U.S. Senator Alex Padilla
- · Congressman Dr. Raul Ruiz
- Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia
- JB Hamby, President Chairman of the Colorado Rover Commission for California and Vice Chairman of Imperial Irrigation District Board of Directors

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