

Revive the Salton Sea Fund

New state income tax refund option to help Salton Sea

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Salton Sea, California – March 6, 2017 – Californians filing their income taxes may now enjoy a wonderful opportunity to help revive the Salton Sea by donating their refund to a new “Revive the Salton Sea Fund.”

The deadline for tax season is April 18 this year. But with a new financial tool to help revive the Salton Sea on the state income tax forms, Californians can now turn an unpleasant task into a nobler cause aimed at saving one of California’s greatest ecological treasures.

The Revive the Salton Sea Fund contributions will then be allocated to projects identified by California’s Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) as necessary for the restoration and maintenance of the Salton Sea, including projects identified by the Salton Sea Authority (SSA).

“Nowhere else in California will taxpayers find such a unique opportunity to achieve so many positive results from a single investment,” states Phil Rosentrater, GM/Executive Director of the Salton Sea Authority (SSA). “Salton Sea projects are designed to deliver multiple benefits to address an ecosystem and economy suffering at a magnitude and scale found nowhere else in this great state.”

The SSA is a joint powers authority empowered by the state legislature to work in consultation and cooperation with the California Natural Resources Agency to revitalize the Salton Sea. As the largest inland lake in the state of California, the Salton Sea is home to nearly two thirds of all migratory waterfowl traveling the Pacific Flyway. The Sea’s ecosystem and economy are threatened by rising salinity levels and lowering water elevations, a trend expected to worsen due to massive agricultural-to-urban water transfers in December 2017.

The SSA and its partner agencies – Imperial Irrigation District, Riverside and Imperial Counties, Coachella Valley Water District, and Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians – are working tirelessly to establish a healthy, prosperous future for a smaller but sustainable Salton Sea.

To make a voluntary contribution to the "Revive the Salton Sea Fund," California income tax payers can simply complete the Form 540 on the State Income Tax form. For more information click on <https://www.ftb.ca.gov/individuals/vcfsr/indvolcon.shtml>.

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