

Salton Sea Summit 2024

Event Agenda



Friday, October 18

8:00 AM Registration and breakfast

8:30 AM Welcome and event overview

8:45 AM Opening remarks
Chairman Thomas Tortez, Jr.
(Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians)

9:00 AM **Water Session**
Moderator: Tim Lyons (UCR)

9:15 AM Water balance in the short and long term
Kurt Schwabe and Hoori Ajami (UCR)

9:35 AM Water column nutrients, oxygen, and sulfur relationships
Caroline Hung (UCR)

9:55 AM Microbial ecology and ecosystem health of the Salton Sea
Linton Freund (UCR/UCSD)

10:15 AM Sediment composition: metals, pesticides, and herbicides
Charlie Diamond (UCR)

10:40 AM Break

11:00 AM **Air Session**
Moderator: William Porter (UCR)

11:05 AM Physico-chemical Characterization of Dust: A Comprehensive Study of Particulate Matter in the Environmental Justice Community of Eastern Coachella Valley
Mohammad Sowlat (South Coast AQMD)

11:25 AM Dust Storms in Southeastern California: Current Insights and Future Challenges
Amato Evan (Scripps/UCSD)

11:45 AM Mechanisms and Impacts of Lake and Sea Spray Aerosols
Raymond Leibensperger (Scripps/UCSD)

12:05 PM Source-specific Health Impacts of Salton Sea Particulates
William Porter (UCR)

12:25 PM The Effectiveness of DIY Air Filters in Salton Sea Communities
William Porter (UCR)

12:40 PM Lunch



2:00 PM Health Session

Moderator: Emma Aronson (UCR)

2:05 PM Patient-centered Perspectives on Environment and Childhood Asthma

Ann Cheney (UCR) and Conchita Pozar (Unidas por Salud)

2:25 PM Salton Sea dust bacterial toxins induce severe inflammation

Keziyah Yisrael (UCR)

2:50 PM Dust lung microbiome impacts

Talyssa Topacio (UCR)

3:10 PM Sea water and dust impacts on microbiome and health

Emma Aronson (UCR)

3:35 PM Break

3:45 PM Keynote talk: Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia

36th California Assembly District

4:00 PM Poster introductions

4:15 PM Poster Session and Reception

Sponsored by Babcock Laboratories

1. Microbial contamination of drinking water from water-dispensers in the Eastern Coachella Valley, California *Thomas Hile, Loma Linda University Health*
2. Salton Sea and Laguna Salada Restoration *Nathan White, Agess, Inc*
3. Occupational Health Hazards and Surveillance Recommendations *Gev Geshgjan, University of Pennsylvania, Mobile Stat Clinic*
4. Who owns the desert lakes of the American West? *Isabel Jorgensen, University of Waterloo*
5. The efficacy of Nano bubble technology to mitigate eutrophication and high levels of phosphorus and nitrogen compounds of the Salton Sea *Michael Davidson, ChucaoTech US*
6. Assessing Suitability for Public Access at the Salton Sea *Keilani Bonis-Ericksen and Camila Bautista, National Audubon Society*
7. Improving Capabilities for Satellite Remote Sensing of Water Quality in the Salton Sea *Rick A. Reynolds, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego*
8. Salton Sea Communities' Knowledge and Perspectives about Hydrogen Sulfide to Seek Solutions and Answer Research Gaps *Aydee Palomino, Alianza Coachella Valley, Brown University, Loma Linda University, UCLA*
9. Agua es Vida: Tap water quality and geochemistry in Polanco communities in Coachella Valley *Miranda Vega-Redeaux, UC Riverside*
10. Physico-Chemical Characterization of Dust: A Comprehensive Study of Particulate Matter (PM) in the Environmental Justice (EJ) Community of Eastern Coachella Valley (ECV) *Mohammad Sowlat, South Coast AQMD*
11. Characterization of well depth by well type in the Salton Sea Watershed *Samantha Sanborn, U.S. Geological Survey*
12. Lake Spray Aerosols- A Potential Source for Climate and Human Health Concerns *Jena Herbst, UC San Diego, Scripps Institution of Oceanography*
13. Salton Sea VTE-MED Pilot with Geothermal Waste Steam *Tom Sephton, Sephton Water Technology, Inc.*

Saturday, October 19

- 8:00 AM Registration and breakfast
- 8:30 AM Welcome and Saturday overview
- 8:40 AM Opening remarks
Palm Desert Mayor Karina Quintanilla
- 8:45 AM **Friday recap and Q&A**
William Porter, Tim Lyons, and Emma Aronson (UCR)
- 9:15 AM **Science to Policy Primer**
Barry Wallerstein (UCR)
- 9:30 AM **Keynote talk: Congressman Raul Ruiz**
California's 25th Congressional District
- 9:45 AM **Policy and Planning Roundtable**
Moderator: Michael Cohen (Pacific Institute)
- 9:50 AM *Scott Epstein (South Coast AQMD)*
- 10:00 *Ryan Kelley (Imperial County Supervisor)*
- 10:10 *Silvia Paz (Alianza CV)*
- 10:20 *Samantha Arthur (California Natural Resources Agency)*
- 10:30 *Jessica Neuwerth (Colorado River Board)*
- 10:40 Q&A and panel discussion
- 11:00 Break
- 11:30 **Community Needs Panel**
Moderator: Laurel Firestone (State Water Resources Control Board)
- 11:40 *Evon Wilhoff (California Natural Resources Agency)*
- 11:50 *V. Manuel Perez (Riverside County Fourth District Supervisor)*
- 12:00 *Eric Reyes (Los Amigos de la Comunidad)*
- 12:10 *Aydee Palomino (Alianza CV)*
- 12:20 *Krystal Otworth (Leadership Counsel)*
- 12:30 Q&A and panel discussion
- 12:45 Lunch
- 2:00 **Projects and Development Panel**
Moderator: Jeremy Brooks (Bureau of Reclamation)
- 2:07 PM *Mario Llanos (California Natural Resources Agency) & Melina Dorin (California Department of Water Resources)*
- 2:27 PM *Jessica Humes (Imperial Irrigation District)*
- 2:37 *Camila Bautista (Audubon Society)*
- 2:47 *Patrick O'Dowd (Salton Sea Authority)*

- 2:57 *Aelna Sakamoto (Army Corps of Engineers)*
- 3:07 *Matthew Valerio (Dudek)*
- 3:45 Ecology Panel**
Moderator: Tim Bradley (UC Irvine)
- 3:57 Razia Shafique-Sabir (US Fish and Wildlife)
- 4:09 PM Brett Daniels (California Department of Fish and Wildlife)
- 4:21 PM Dan Orr (Audubon Society)
- 4:33 PM Q&A and Panel Discussion
- 4:45 PM Concluding remarks

With additional support from

