

State of California
Little Hoover Commission
Public Hearing of June 25, 2015 on the Salton Sea
Written Comments from Denise Lester, West Shores Resident, Salton City, California

Impacts of the Receding Salton Sea

Since moving to Salton City, January 2010, the following changes have occurred directly or indirectly due to the receding shoreline. All of the locales mentioned are in close if not immediate proximity to the shoreline.

A) Salton City

1) Johnson's Landing—boat docks along boat launch canal were removed; fish clean station & adjacent public restroom closed down; boat launch closed off from the Sea.

2) Martin Flora Park (directly south of Johnson's Landing) closed down—this was a day park with trees & shade areas.

3) Dry camp near public golf course has deteriorated—shade trees for camp sites have all died, thatch huts are all gone.

4) 2 mile bird nature trail starting at dry camp is run down and deteriorated.

5) People can now walk on exposed shoreline from old yacht club to Freebie Point, which is also the channel entrance to Pelican Place, etc.—this area previously was covered in water. Also, the keys along Pelican Place are closed off from the Sea.

6) Riviera Keys channel completely closed off from the Sea. Shoreline has receded along all keys & private docks have been rendered useless.

7) Shoreline behind my house has receded over 300 feet in the last 2 years.

B) Salton Sea Beach

1) Salton Sea Beach Marina closed down & fenced off—had a market, day camp areas, & a boat launch.

2) Helen's Hut closed down—was used for Treasure Trails events & Christmas Parade awards event.

C) Desert Shores

1) Boat launch near Capri Point closed off from the Sea.

2) Shoreline has receded along all keys & private docks have been rendered useless.

D Health Issues

Increase in respiratory problems as a result of exposed airborne pollutants.

Proposed Solution to Save the Salton Sea

A) Sea to sea water transfer—A sea to sea water transfer from the Sea of Cortes in Mexico into the Salton Sea.

1) Julian Nava (former ambassador to Mexico under President Carter) held exploratory talks with Mexican officials as to a bi-national effort to pipe water into the Salton Sea via the Sea of Cortes.

2) Former Congressmen Sonny Bono & George E. Brown had support for a pipeline water transfer from Mexico to the Sea.

3) Currently, EcoMedia Compass has also advocated for this solution via conversations with Mexican officials. Estimated price tag is 3 billion dollars.

4) Sephton WaterTechnology of Kensington, CA, involved in thermal desalination research & development, has indicated that within the 3 billion dollar budget, they can begin to provide fresh water to both Mexico & the U.S. along the water transfer route.

From: denise lester
Sent: Tuesday, June 02, 2015 10:43 AM
To: LittleHoover
Subject: Unstable Shorelines, Salton Sea

Unstable shoreline at Salton Sea adversely affects private property on the West Shores. Channel entrance to Riviera Keys



Channel entrance to Riviera Keys



Closed off channel to private docks, Pelican Place



Exposed playa off Freebie Point, approx 300 feet



Unstable shoreline adversely affects businesses on the West Shores.
Salton Sea Beach Marina



Salton Sea Beach Marina



Helen's Hut off limits for local events including Xmas parade, Salton Sea Beach



Johnson's Landing



Johnson's Landing exposed playa, approx 500 feet



Johnson's Landing boat launch

