

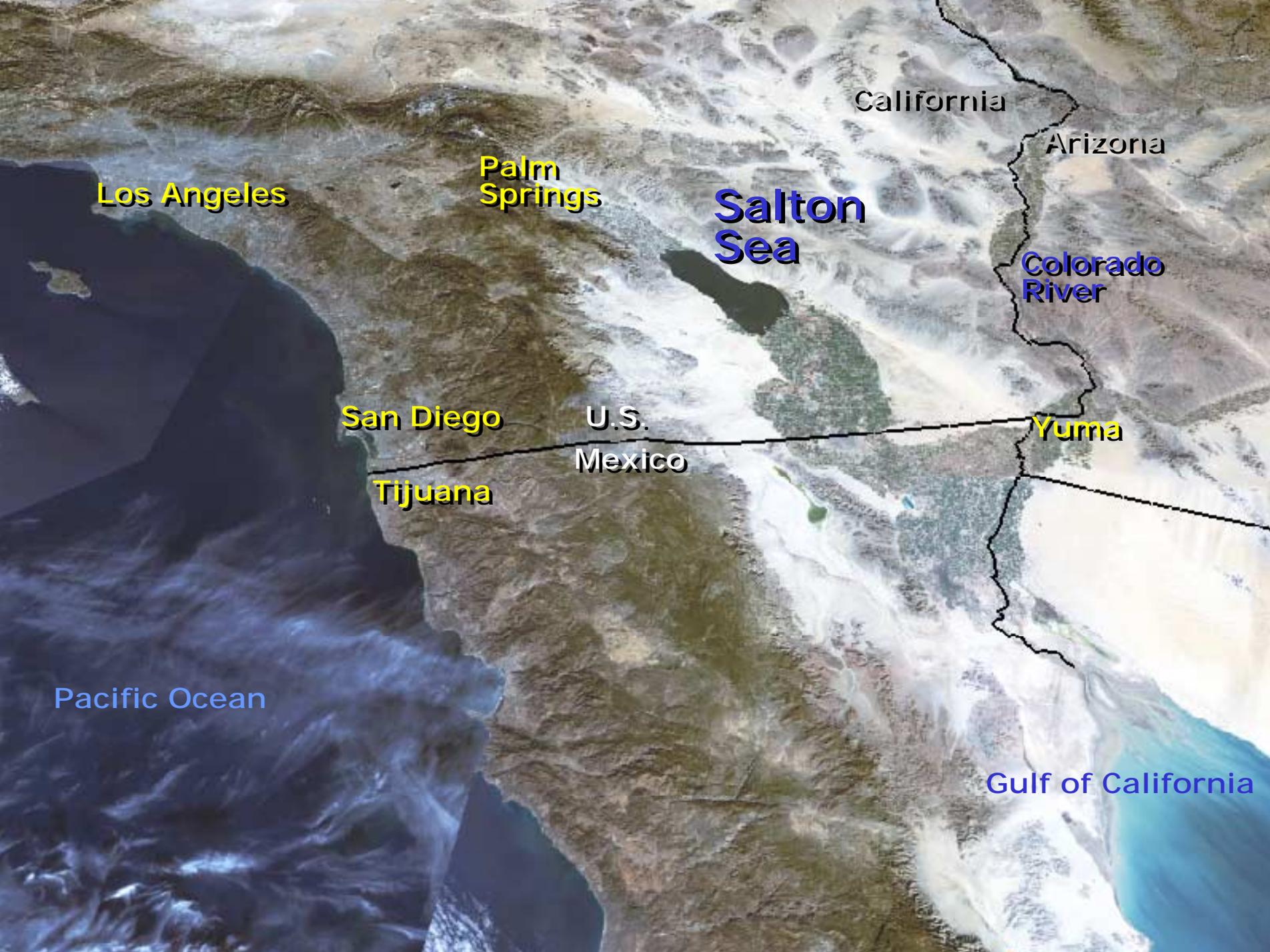
The Salton Sea

Restoration Planning Update

Salton Sea Science Office

Salton Sea Reclamation Act of 1998

- Reduce and stabilize salinity
- Stabilize the surface elevation
- Continue use as a reservoir for irrigation drainage
- Preserve fish and wildlife health
- Enhance opportunities for recreational use and economic development



Los Angeles

Palm Springs

Salton Sea

California

Arizona

Colorado River

San Diego

U.S.
Mexico

Yuma

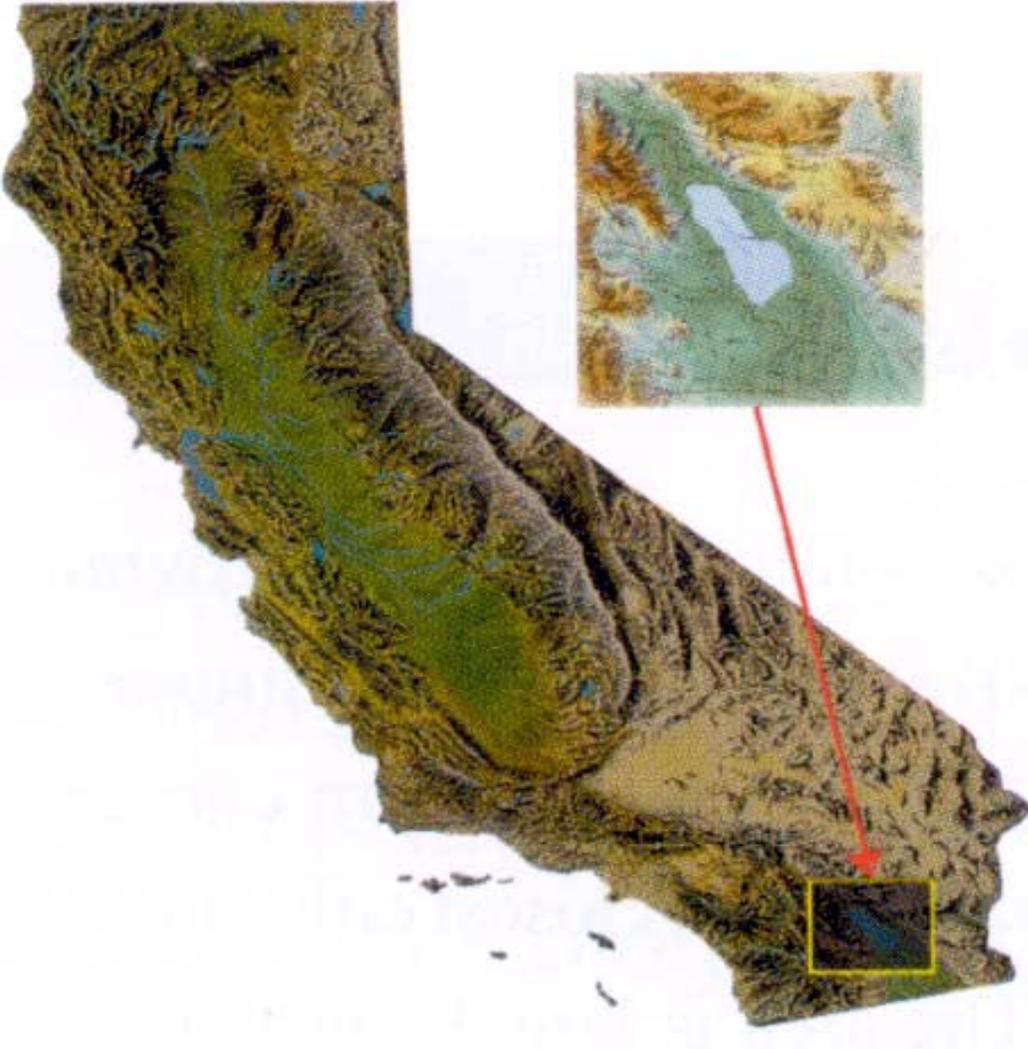
Tijuana

Pacific Ocean

Gulf of California

THE SALTON SEA

CALIFORNIA'S LARGEST LAKE



- Most inflow from agricultural drainage
- Possible problems with arsenic and selenium
- Threatened by proposed water transfers
- Periodic mortality of fish and birds
- Salinity is about 44ppt
- Highly eutrophic
- Odor problems







Biology of the Salton Sea

- a unique ecosystem
 - productive fishery
 - endangered desert pupfish
 - diverse avian community
 - 20 bird species of conservation concern

VISION FOR THE SALTON SEA

- Maintain Ecological integrity
 - Natural vs. Artificial
 - Whole or Partial Sea
 - Lake vs. River
- Sustain Agriculture
- Sustain biodiversity and population numbers
- Provide recreational opportunities
- Provide economic development

RESTORATION REQUIREMENTS

- stabilize water level
- control salinity
- control nutrients
- control selenium and arsenic
- prevent major fish kills
- prevent major bird die-offs
- prevent fugitive dust
- reduce odor

SALINITY CONTROL

- Pump water out of the Sea
- Remove the salt
- Reconfigure the Sea

To Palen Dry Lake

Distance: 40 Miles
Lift: 1400 ft

Distance: 90 Miles
Lift: minimum 3,000 ft.

To Pacific
Ocean

To Gulf

Distance: 95 Miles
Lift: 270 ft.





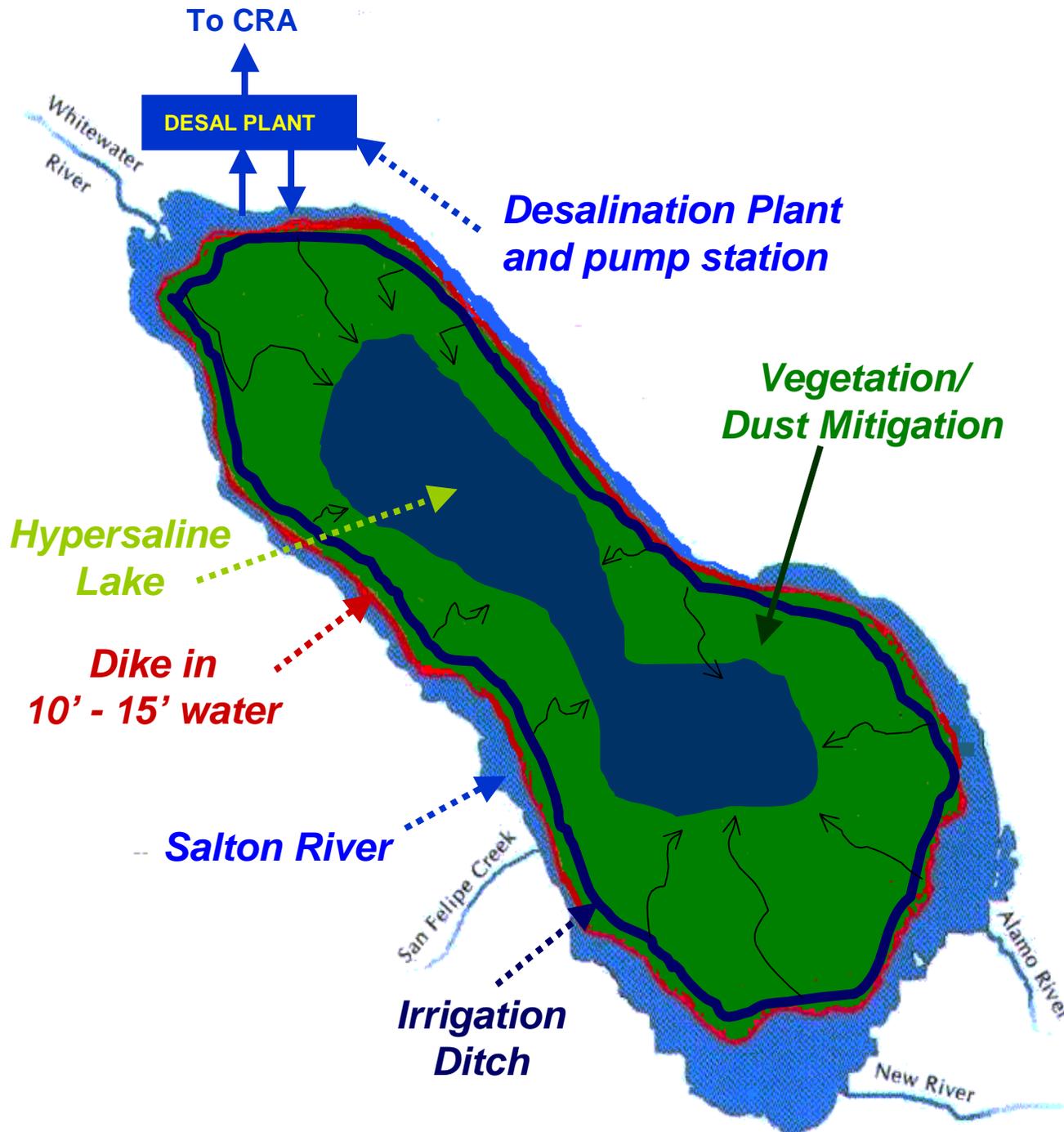




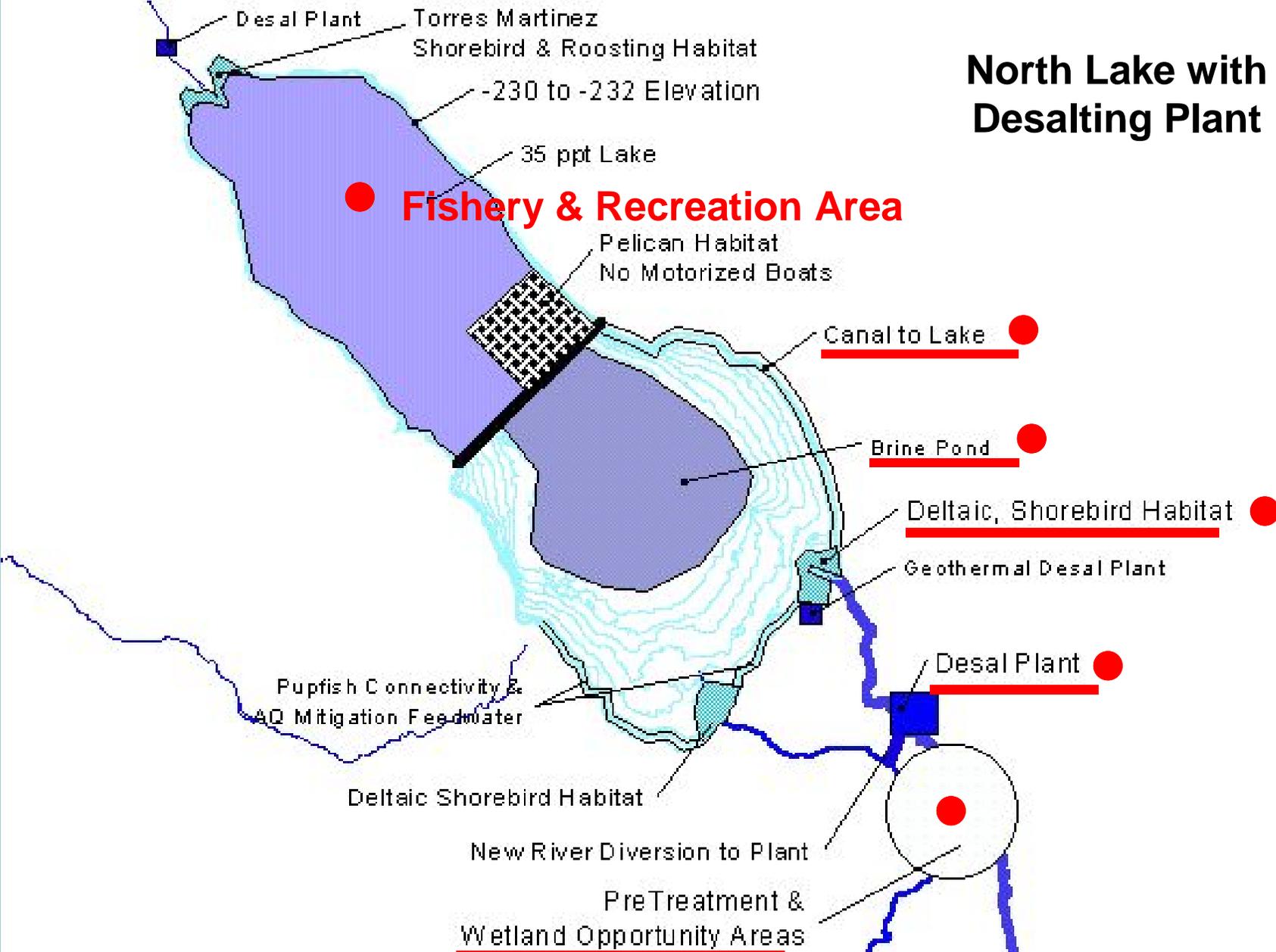
RECONFIGURE THE SALTON SEA

- Diked impoundments
- Salton River
- North Sea

The Salton River Concept



North Lake with Desalting Plant







PROPOSED METHODS FOR NUTRIENT CONTROL

- TREATMENT WETLANDS
- CHEMICAL CONTROL
- MANAGED FISHERY
- INCREASING SETTLING

Test Alum – Control Phosphorous

