

Imperial–San Diego Water Transfer (QSA) — Farm Water Conservation Funding Urban Supply and Salton Sea Mitigation (California, USA)

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

The 2003 Quantification Settlement Agreement lets Imperial Valley farm-water conservation supply up to 200,000 acre-ft/yr to San Diego for up to 75 years; the shrinking Salton Sea and years of litigation make it a mixed case.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	2/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-10-15

[Imperial Irrigation District / San Diego County Water Authority](#) — accessed 2026-10-15

[Water Education Foundation: Quantification Settlement Agreement](#) — accessed 2026-10-15

[KPBS: San Diego water deal \(2013\)](#) — accessed 2026-10-15

Cite this — Evidoria. *Imperial–San Diego Water Transfer (QSA) — Farm Water Conservation Funding Urban Supply and Salton Sea Mitigation (California, USA)*. Persistent ID: a0473727-2e8f-451f-805f-9be90b7ef1b2.