Melinda Dorin joined the Department of Water Resources Salton Sea Restoration office in May 2020 as the Environmental Compliance Program Manager. She works with the team on permitting projects, permit compliance, and is the lead on the SSMP 10-Year Plan NEPA document. She also facilitates and manages several of the SSMP 10-Year Plan projects. Since November 2023 she has been acting as the Lead Program Manager.

Prior to joining DWR, Melinda worked for multiple agencies including licensing power plants, renewable energy, and environmental research related to power production at the California Energy Commission, water rights permitting at the State Water Resources Control Board, and on special status species including San Joaquin kit fox, bat surveys, and California Red-legged frogs, around the State for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. She spent several years of her State career working in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta on salmon passage, land use, and salt marsh harvest mice. Melinda has also worked as a contractor and for several NGOs. After college she conducted research in Costa Rica as a field assistant and worked with a BBC nature film crew.

Melinda received a B.S. in Ecology, Behavior and Evolution from U.C. San Diego.