Samantha Arthur joined the California Natural Resources Agency in April 2023. As the Assistant Secretary for Salton Sea Policy, she leads the State's Salton Sea Management Program to address air quality and ecological threats at the Salton Sea. Samantha was previously Working Lands Program Director for Audubon California, where she led Audubon's work in the Central Valley with farmers, wetland managers, and environmental justice organizations to advance sustainable water management and expand habitat through incentive programs and restoration. Over nine years at Audubon California, Samantha held positions as Project Manager, Project Director, and Working Lands Program Director. Samantha also served on the California Water Commission from 2020 to 2023. She previously managed the Big Sur Land Trust's conservation easement program from 2010 to 2012 and was a high school biology teacher from 2007 to 2010. Samantha earned a Master of Environmental Science and Management degree from the Bren School at the University of California, Santa Barbara and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology and Environmental Studies from Whitman College.