

Monitoring of changes in the area of water surface and wetlands within the Small Aral Sea

SIC experts keep regular monitoring over the Small Aral Sea by using the Landsat 8,9 images. The areas of wetlands and open water surfaces, and dried territories were determined by the image dated July 13, 2026 (fig. 1). The figure 2 shows the dynamics of the Syr Darya River runoff based on inflow to the Small Aral Sea.



Figure 1. Small Aral Sea, Landsat 8 (July 13, 2026)

Table

Areas of wetlands, water surface, and dried areas of the Small Aral Sea (ha)

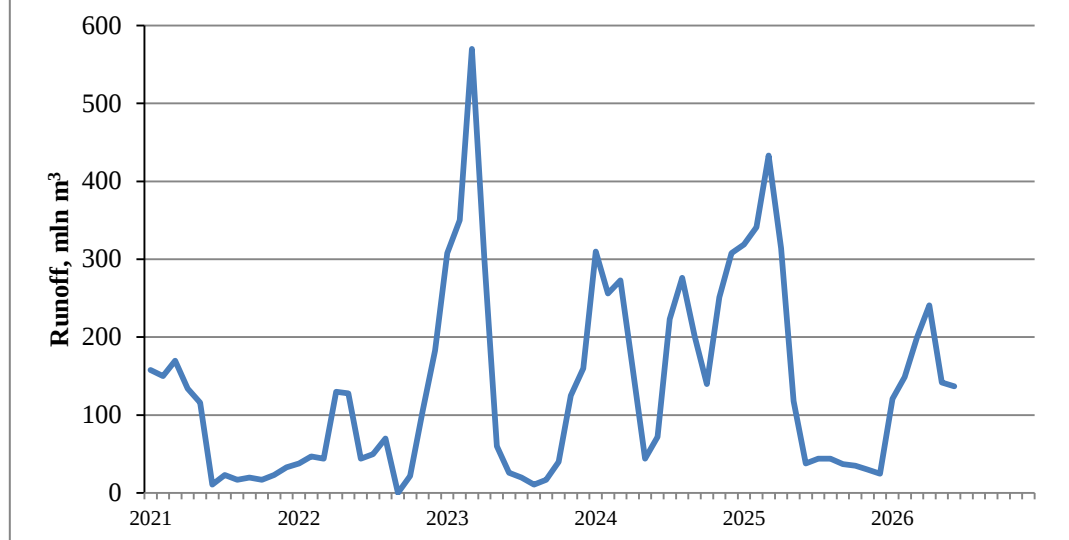
	16.03.2026	24.04.2026	02.05.2026	13.07.2026
Wetland	54703	55103	57531	58563
Water surface	309367	309986	311239	300411
Dry land	177377	176358	172677	182473
Inflow from Syrdarya River* (mln m ³)	March	April	May	June
	200	241	142	137

* Kazhydromet data

Changes in the Area of the North Aral Sea



Figure 2. Dynamics of the Syr Darya river flow along the Karateren gauging station



By July, following a decrease in inflow from the Syr Darya River to 137 million m³, the open water surface area decreased to 300,411 ha, while the dry exposed area increased to 182,473 ha. The wetland area reached 58,563 ha.

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