



## **Environmental Problems of Tuz Lake (Konya-Turkey)<sup>#</sup>**

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**Abstract:** Tuz Lake is second biggest lake as a surface area in the Turkey. Tuz Lake has an important salt production potential for Turkey and occupies a wide area in the central part of Anatolia. The Tuz Lake basin occupies about 1,500 km<sup>2</sup>, and located between several cities and towns (Konya, Aksaray, Cihanbeyli, Kulu, Şereflikoçhisar). The lake altitude is 905 m and distances maximum 80 and 50 km, North to South and East to West respectively. About 3 billion population are living around Lake. It has small catchment basin sources. Environmental problems have increased on a World basis during the last century. Water pollution is one of the important problems discharged from the neighbour cities and towns. So that, salt production from the lake has some difficulties due to industrial pollutants. An other and main problem of the lake decreasing water level that it is seen third biggest lake after Beyşehir lake. It seen to be dry in 10 to 20 years period. The aim of this study, investigation of environmental problems of Tuz Lake and to improve some suggestions on these problems.

**Keywords:** *Tuz Lake, Salt, Environment, Pollution, Closed Basin, Wetland.*

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