

Reservoir Storage & Release Update

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The Board of Directors receives monthly updates on the status of Agency reservoirs.

RESERVOIR ELEVATION / STORAGE: As of April 8, 2025, San Antonio Reservoir has a water surface elevation of approximately 761.40 feet (NGVD 29), with 242,260 acre-feet of water in storage. Nacimiento Reservoir has a water surface elevation of approximately 776.7 feet, with 257,405 acre-feet of water in storage. San Antonio Reservoir is currently at 72% of storage capacity and Nacimiento Reservoir is at 68% of capacity.

RAINFALL: Precipitation events around the middle of March brought minor inflow to both reservoirs, which continues into early April. Relative to March 1st, storage volumes at San Antonio and Nacimiento reservoirs are approximately 2,000 and 6,000 acre-feet higher, respectively.

SALINAS RIVER LAGOON: The Agency facilitated a breach of the lagoon to alleviate localized flooding in accordance with the Agency's Sandbar Management Plan on Saturday, February 15th, 2025. The lagoon and remains open to the ocean at the time of this report.

RESERVOIR RELEASES: Minimum fisheries releases have continued to be made from both reservoirs since the end last year's conservation releases in October. Additional releases from San Antonio Reservoir were made from February 17th through March 3rd in accordance with Flow Prescription requirements contained in Agency water rights licenses and permits, to support adult steelhead migration in the Salinas River. An additional sequence of required releases from both reservoirs began on Sunday, March 16, 2025, to support downstream migration of steelhead smolt. Releases were reduced back to minimum fisheries at San Antonio on March 24, 2025 while Nacimiento releases remain elevated for steelhead migration. Approximate releases as of the morning of April 8, 2025:

- Nacimiento Reservoir: 270 cfs
- San Antonio Reservoir: 10 cfs

Total releases from both reservoirs to the Salinas River are approximately 280 cfs. The following "provisional" flows have been recorded by the USGS:

- Nacimiento River below Nacimiento Dam 269 cfs
- Salinas River near Bradley: 430 cfs
- Salinas River at Soledad: 213 cfs
- Salinas River near Chualar: 127 cfs
- Salinas River near Spreckels: 89 cfs

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