

County of Monterey

Government Center - Board Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901



Meeting Agenda - Final

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

9:00 AM

**Join via Zoom at <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747> or in person at the
address listed above**

Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency

Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez - District 3

Vice Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew - District 4

Supervisor Kate Daniels- District 5

Supervisor Luis A. Alejo - District 1

Supervisor Glenn Church - District 2

Participation in meetings

While the Board chambers remain open, members of the public may participate in Board meetings in 2 ways:

1. You may attend the meeting in person; or,
2. You may observe the live stream of the Board of Supervisors meetings at <https://monterey.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>, <http://www.mgtvonline.com/>, www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV or <https://www.facebook.com/MontereyCoInfo/>

If you choose not to attend the Board of Supervisors meeting but desire to make general public comment, or comment on a specific item on the agenda, you may do so in 2 ways:

a. submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the Board meeting. Please submit your comment to the Clerk of the Board at cob@co.monterey.ca.us. In an effort to assist the Clerk in identifying the agenda item relating to your public comment please indicate in the Subject Line, the meeting body (i.e. Board of Supervisors Agenda) and item number (i.e. Item No. 10). Your comment will be placed into the record at the Board meeting.

b. you may participate through ZOOM. For ZOOM participation please join by computer audio at: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747>

OR to participate by phone call any of these numbers below:

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
+1 253 215 8782 US
+1 301 715 8592 US

Enter this Meeting ID number: 224397747 when prompted. Please note there is no Participant Code, you will just hit # again after the recording prompts you.

You will be placed in the meeting as an attendee; when you are ready to make a public comment if joined by computer audio please Raise your Hand; and by phone please push *9 on your keypad.

PLEASE NOTE: IF ALL BOARD MEMBERS ARE PRESENT IN PERSON, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BY ZOOM IS FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY AND IS NOT REQUIRED BY LAW. IF THE ZOOM FEED IS LOST FOR ANY REASON, THE MEETING MAY BE PAUSED WHILE A FIX IS ATTEMPTED BUT THE MEETING MAY CONTINUE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE CHAIRPERSON.

Participación en reuniones

Mientras las cámaras de la Junta permanezcan abiertas, los miembros del público pueden participar en las reuniones de la Junta de 2 maneras:

1. Podrá asistir personalmente a la reunión; o,
2. Puede observar la transmisión en vivo de las reuniones de la Junta de Supervisores en <https://monterey.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>, <http://www.mgtvonline.com/>, www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV o <https://www.facebook.com/MontereyCoInfo/>

Si elige no asistir a la reunión de la Junta de Supervisores pero desea hacer comentarios del público en general o comentar un tema específico de la agenda, puede hacerlo de 2 maneras:

a. envíe su comentario por correo electrónico antes de las 5:00 p.m. el lunes anterior a la reunión de la Junta. Envíe su comentario al Secretario de la Junta a cob@co.monterey.ca.us. En un esfuerzo por ayudar al secretario a identificar el tema de la agenda relacionado con su comentario público, indique en la línea de asunto el cuerpo de la reunión (es decir, la agenda de la Junta de Supervisores) y el número de artículo (es decir, el artículo n.º 10). Su comentario se colocará en el registro en la reunión de la Junta.

b. puedes participar a través de ZOOM. Para participar en ZOOM, únase por audio de computadora en: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747>

O para participar por teléfono llame a cualquiera de estos números a continuación:

+1 669 900 6833 EE. UU. (San José)
+1 346 248 7799 EE. UU. (Houston)
+1 312 626 6799 EE. UU. (Chicago)
+1 929 205 6099 EE. UU. (Nueva York)
+1 253 215 8782 EE. UU.
+1 301 715 8592 EE. UU.

Ingrese este número de ID de reunión: 224397747 cuando se le solicite. Tenga en cuenta que no hay un código de participante, simplemente presione # nuevamente después de que la grabación lo solicite.

Se le colocará en la reunión como asistente; cuando esté listo para hacer un comentario público si se une al audio de la computadora, levante la mano; y por teléfono, presione *9 en su teclado.

TENGA EN CUENTA: SI TODOS LOS MIEMBROS DE LA JUNTA ESTÁN PRESENTES EN PERSONA, LA PARTICIPACIÓN DEL PÚBLICO POR ZOOM ES ÚNICAMENTE POR CONVENIENCIA Y NO ES REQUERIDA POR LA LEY. SI LA ALIMENTACIÓN DE ZOOM SE PIERDE POR CUALQUIER MOTIVO, LA REUNIÓN PUEDE PAUSARSE MIENTRAS SE INTENTA UNA SOLUCIÓN, PERO LA REUNIÓN PUEDE CONTINUAR A DISCRECIÓN DEL PRESIDENTE.

NOTE: All agenda titles related to numbered agenda items are live web links. Click on the title to be directed to the corresponding Board Report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Members of the public may address comments to the Board concerning each agenda item. The timing of public comment shall be at the discretion of the Chair.

9:00 A.M. - Call to Order

Roll Call

Additions and Corrections for Closed Session by County Counsel

County Counsel will announce agenda corrections and proposed additions, which may be acted on by the Board as provided in Sections 54954.2 of the California Government Code. The public may comment on Closed Session items prior to the Board's recess to Closed Session.

Closed Session

1. Closed Session under Government Code section 54950, relating to the following items:
 - a. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding existing litigation:
 - (1) *City of Marina vs. RMC Lonestar, et al.*, Superior Court of California, County of Monterey Case No. 20CV001387

Public Comments for Closed Session

The Board Recesses for Closed Session Agenda Items

Closed Session may be held at the conclusion of the Board's Regular Agenda, or at any other time during the course of the meeting, before or after the scheduled time, announced by the Chairperson of the Board. The public may comment on Closed Session items prior to the Board's recess to Closed Session.

10:30 A.M. - Reconvene on Public Agenda Items

Roll Call

Additions and Corrections by Clerk

The Clerk of the Board will announce agenda corrections and proposed additions, which may be acted on by the Board as provided in Sections 54954.2 of the California Government Code.

General Public Comments

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Board on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors. Board members may respond briefly to the statement made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification; make a referral to staff for factual information or request staff to report back to the Board at a future meeting.

Consent Calendar

2. Approve the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Draft Action Meeting Minutes for the following meeting date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025, Tuesday, October 7, 2025, and Tuesday, October 21, 2025.

Attachments: [Board Report](#)
 [DRAFT BOSWRA Minutes 9-23-2025](#)
 [DRAFT BOSWRA Minutes 10-7-2025](#)
 [DRAFT BOSWRA Minutes 10-21-2025](#)

Scheduled Matters

3. Consider receiving an update on the MCWRA activities related to the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Subgrant Agreements.

Attachments: [Board Report](#)
 [SVBGSA Projects Update Sept 2025](#)

Read Out from Closed Session

Read out by County Counsel will only occur if there is reportable action(s).

Adjournment



County of Monterey

Item No.1

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: CS 25-052

October 28, 2025

Introduced: 10/21/2025

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: Closed Session

Closed Session under Government Code section 54950, relating to the following items:

a. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding existing litigation:

(1) *City of Marina vs. RMC Lonestar, et al.*, Superior Court of California, County of Monterey
Case No. 20CV001387



County of Monterey

Item No.2

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: MIN 25-076

October 28, 2025

Introduced: 10/20/2025

Current Status: General Government -
Consent

Version: 1

Matter Type: Minutes

Approve the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Draft Action Meeting Minutes for the following meeting date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025, Tuesday, October 7, 2025, and Tuesday, October 21, 2025.



County of Monterey

Item No.1

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: MIN 25-076

October 28, 2025

Introduced: 10/20/2025

Current Status: General Government -
Consent

Version: 1

Matter Type: Minutes

Approve the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Draft Action Meeting Minutes for the following meeting date: Tuesday, September 23, 2025, Tuesday, October 7, 2025, and Tuesday, October 21, 2025.

County of Monterey

*Government Center - Board Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

9:00 AM

Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency

*Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez - District 3
Vice Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew - District 4
Supervisor Kate Daniels- District 5
Supervisor Luis A. Alejo - District 1
Supervisor Glenn Church - District 2*

9:00 A.M. - Called to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez.

Roll Called

Present: 5 - Supervisor Luis A. Alejo, Supervisor Wendy Root Askew, Supervisor Chris Lopez, Supervisor Kate Daniels and Supervisor Glenn Church were present

Staff Present

Sonia De La Rosa, County Administrative Officer, Susan Blitch, County Counsel and Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board were present.

Additions and Corrections for Closed Session by County Counsel

There were no additions and corrections for Closed Session.

Closed Session

1. Closed Session under Government Code section 54950, relating to the following items:
 - a. Pursuant to Government Code sections 54956.9(d)(2) and 54956.9(d)(4), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding one matter of significant exposure to litigation and/or potential initiation of litigation.

Public Comments for Closed Session

Open for public comments; no comments made.

The Board Recessed for Closed Session Agenda Items

10:30 A.M. - Reconvened on Public Agenda Items

Roll Called

Present: 5 - Supervisor Luis A. Alejo, Supervisor Wendy Root Askew, Supervisor Chris Lopez, Supervisor Kate Daniels and Supervisor Glenn Church were present

Staff Present

Sonia De La Rosa, County Administrative Officer, Susan Blitch, County Counsel and Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board were present.

Announcement of the Interpreter

Ana Rueda de Vidales, Spanish Interpreter present and announced Spanish interpreter services.

Additions and Corrections by Clerk

There were no additions and corrections for this week's agenda.

General Public Comments

Open for general public comments for items not on the agenda today; no comments made.

Consent Calendar

Open for public comments; no comments made.

A motion was made by Supervisor Luis A. Alejo, seconded by Supervisor Kate Daniels to approve Consent Item Number 2.

ALL AYES

2. Approve the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Draft Action Meeting Minutes for the following meeting dates: Tuesday, August 26, 2025, and Tuesday, September 16, 2025.

Approved

Read Out from Closed Session

There was no reportable action from Closed Session.

Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez.

APPROVED:

_____/s/ Chris Lopez_____
CHRIS LOPEZ, CHAIR

ATTEST:

BY: ____/s/ Valerie Ralph_____

VALERIE RALPH

CLERK OF THE BOARD

APPROVED ON: , 2025

County of Monterey

*Government Center - Board Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

9:30 AM

Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency

*Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez - District 3
Vice Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew - District 4
Supervisor Kate Daniels- District 5
Supervisor Luis A. Alejo - District 1
Supervisor Glenn Church - District 2*

9:30 A.M. - Called to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez.

Roll Called

Present: 3 - Supervisor Luis A. Alejo, Supervisor Chris Lopez and Supervisor Glenn Church were present.

Absent: 2 - Supervisor Wendy Root Askew and Supervisor Kate Daniels

Staff Present

Sonia De La Rosa, County Administrative Officer, Susan Blitch, County Counsel and Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board were present.

Announcement of the Interpreter

Diego Celis, Spanish Interpreter present and announced Spanish interpreter services.

Additions and Corrections by Clerk

There were no additions and correction for this week's agenda.

General Public Comments

Open for general public comments for items not on the agenda today; no comments made.

Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Supervisor Luis A. Alejo, seconded by Supervisor Glenn Church to approve Consent Item Number 1.

ALL AYES (3-0)

Supervisor Root Askew absent

Supervisor Daniels absent

1. Adopt a resolution authorizing the Monterey County Water Resources Agency to enter into an agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to receive \$77,727 in funding for the Invasive Mussel Prevention to Preserve Boating Access at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs project; and authorizing the General Manager, or designee, to execute the agreement and any amendments thereto, and to submit any required documents, invoices, and reports required to obtain the funds on behalf of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency.

Adopted

Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez.

APPROVED:

____/s/ Chris Lopez_____
CHRIS LOPEZ, CHAIR

ATTEST:

BY: ____/s/ Valerie Ralph_____

VALERIE RALPH

CLERK OF THE BOARD

APPROVED ON: , 2025

Please refer to the Board Orders for the approved and adopted Agreement, Resolution and Ordinance numbers.

County of Monterey

*Government Center - Board Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, October 21, 2025

9:00 AM

Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency

*Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez - District 3
Vice Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew - District 4
Supervisor Kate Daniels- District 5
Supervisor Luis A. Alejo - District 1
Supervisor Glenn Church - District 2*

9:00 A.M. - Called to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Supervisor Wendy Root Askew.

Roll Called

Present: 3 - Supervisor Wendy Root Askew, Supervisor Glenn Church and Supervisor Kate Daniels

Arriving shortly: 2 - Supervisor Chris Lopez and Supervisor Luis A. Alejo

Staff Present

Nick Chiulos, Assistant County Administrative Officer, Susan Blitch, County Counsel and Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board were present.

Additions and Corrections for Closed Session by County Counsel

There were no additions and corrections for closed session.

Closed Session

1. Closed Session under Government Code section 54950, relating to the following items:
 - a. Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1), the Board will confer with legal counsel regarding existing litigation:
 - (1) *Mario Gonzalez, et al. v. State of California, et al.* Monterey County Superior Court Case No. 23CV004194 (as lead coordinated case, including subordinate Monterey County cases: 24CV000215; 24CV000421; 24CV000428; 24CV000848; 24CV000904; 24CV001269; 25CV004183; and Santa Cruz case: 23CV03022)

Public Comments for Closed Session

Open for public comments; no comments made.

The Board Recessed for Closed Session Agenda Items

Reconvened

Read Out from Closed Session

There was no reportable action for Closed Session.

Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez.



County of Monterey

Item No.3

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAG 25-165

October 28, 2025

Introduced: 10/14/2025

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WR General Agenda

Consider receiving an update on the MCWRA activities related to the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Subgrant Agreements.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors:

Consider receiving an update on the MCWRA activities related to the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Subgrant Agreements.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

On September 19, 2022 the Board of Directors authorized the General Manager to enter into a Subgrant Agreement with the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("SVBGSA") to receive funding from the State of California Department of Water Resources for Sustainable Groundwater Management related to Grant Agreement Number 4600014638, in the amount of \$3,690,000, to financially support the Monterey County Water Resources Agency's ("Agency") involvement with certain components of the SVBGSA's Round 1 (SGM Round 1) Implementation projects. Subsequent amendments have been approved and executed for a new total of \$3,483,300.

The work plan in the SGM Round 1 Subgrant Agreement provided funding for the Agency to work collaboratively with the SVBGSA on activities associated with planning, development, preparation, and/or implementation of the Dry Chlorine Scrubber Upgrade; Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project Distribution System Upgrades; Interested Parties Outreach and Engagement; Feasibility Studies on Aquifer Storage and Recovery; Demand Management Feasibility; Compliance Reporting and Data Expansion; Operationalizing Deep Aquifers Study Recommendations, and grant administration tasks.

In 2024, the SVBGSA and Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("MCWDGSA") were awarded funding from the State of California Department of Water Resources for Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 ("SGM Round 2") Implementation Grants. The SGM Round 2 grants to the SVBGSA and MCWDGSA include tasks related to expanding well registration and groundwater extraction reporting programs for compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"); these tasks are a continuation of work that the Agency has been collaborating on with the SVBGSA through a SGM Round 1. The SGM Round 2 Implementation Grant also includes work to engage interested parties in to further develop and study various GSP implementation projects. Those studies include the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project Expansion, Brackish Groundwater Restoration Project, Reservoir Re-operations, and the Castroville and Eastside Canals Project

and Alternatives.

Since 2022, staff has been working on the components of the subgrant agreements and will present updates on those components, status of completion of those items as well as some next steps.

Agency efforts on the work covered by the Subgrant Agreements align with Agency Strategic Plan Goal B - Strategy 2: Collaborate with location Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, define MCWRA's role, and implement a GSA integration plan and Goals C - Strategy 6: Pursue grant funding and cost saving opportunities from all available sources, including collaborating with the GSA.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The California Department of Water Resources administers the grant agreements. The SVBGSA administers the subgrant agreements, leads many of the components of the grant agreements and collaborates with the Agency.

FINANCING:

Staff time to participate in the subgrant activities and staff updates is included in the FY2026 approved budget and are funded through the two subgrant agreements with the SVBGSA and one subgrant agreement with the MCWDGSA.

Prepared by: Shaunna Murray, Deputy General Manager, (831) 755-4860

Approved by: _____
Ara Azhderian, General Manager, (831) 755-4860

Attachments:

1. September 2025 Presentation to the Agency's Planning Committee



County of Monterey

Item No.

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRAG 25-165

October 28, 2025

Introduced: 10/14/2025

Current Status: Draft

Version: 1

Matter Type: WR General Agenda

Consider receiving an update on the MCWRA activities related to the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Subgrant Agreements.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors:

Consider receiving an update on the MCWRA activities related to the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Subgrant Agreements.

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On September 19, 2022 the Board of Directors authorized the General Manager to enter into a Subgrant Agreement with the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("SVBGSA") to receive funding from the State of California Department of Water Resources for Sustainable Groundwater Management related to Grant Agreement Number 4600014638, in the amount of \$3,690,000, to financially support the Monterey County Water Resources Agency's ("Agency") involvement with certain components of the SVBGSA's Round 1 (SGM Round 1) Implementation projects. Subsequent amendments have been approved and executed for a new total of \$3,483,300.

The work plan in the SGM Round 1 Subgrant Agreement provided funding for the Agency to work collaboratively with the SVBGSA on activities associated with planning, development, preparation, and/or implementation of the Dry Chlorine Scrubber Upgrade; Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project Distribution System Upgrades; Interested Parties Outreach and Engagement; Feasibility Studies on Aquifer Storage and Recovery; Demand Management Feasibility; Compliance Reporting and Data Expansion; Operationalizing Deep Aquifers Study Recommendations, and grant administration tasks.

In 2024, the SVBGSA and Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("MCWDGSA") were awarded funding from the State of California Department of Water Resources for Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 ("SGM Round 2") Implementation Grants. The SGM Round 2 grants to the SVBGSA and MCWDGSA include tasks related to expanding well registration and groundwater extraction reporting programs for compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"); these tasks are a continuation of work that the Agency has been collaborating on with the SVBGSA through a SGM Round 1. The SGM Round 2 Implementation Grant also includes work to engage interested parties in to further develop and study various GSP implementation projects. Those studies include the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project Expansion, Brackish Groundwater Restoration Project, Reservoir Re-operations, and the Castroville and Eastside Canals Project and Alternatives.

Since 2022, staff has been working on the components of the subgrant agreements and will present updates on those components, status of completion of those items as well as some next steps.

Agency efforts on the work covered by the Subgrant Agreements align with Agency Strategic Plan Goal B - Strategy 2: Collaborate with location Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, define MCWRA's role, and implement a GSA integration plan and Goals C - Strategy 6: Pursue grant funding and cost saving opportunities from all available sources, including collaborating with the GSA.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The California Department of Water Resources administers the grant agreements. The SVBGSA administers the subgrant agreements, leads many of the components of the grant agreements and collaborates with the Agency.

FINANCING:

Staff time to participate in the subgrant activities and staff updates is included in the FY2026 approved budget and are funded through the two subgrant agreements with the SVBGSA and one subgrant agreement with the MCWDGSA.

Prepared by: Shaunna Murray, Deputy General Manager, (831) 755-4860

Approved by: _____
Ara Azhderian, General Manager, (831) 755-4860

Attachments:

1. September 2025 Presentation to the Agency's Planning Committee



TODAY'S ACTION

Update on the MCWRA activities related to
the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater
Sustainability Agency's Subgrant Agreements





Background

- Local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) have received State funding for studies and projects that rely on Agency programs, permits, water rights, and infrastructure
- Subgrant agreements have been developed between the SVBGSA and Agency to cover staff time to participate in, advise on, or complete various studies and activities.

Prior BOD Action

- Approved Subgrant Agreement and Amendments for services in support of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation Grant, Round 1
 - September 2022: original agreement totaling \$3,690,000
 - July 2023: amendment 1 for an additional \$131,000 for services and revised work plan (total \$3,821,000)
 - June 2024: amendment 2 to align with grant deadline and reduce grant total by \$341,000 (total \$3,480,000)
 - February 2025: amendment 3 for an additional \$1,500, revised work plan and time extension (total \$3,483,300)
- Approved Subgrant Agreement and Amendment for services in support of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation Grant, Round 2
 - January 2025: original agreement totaling \$250,000
 - February 2025: amendment 1 for an additional \$150,000 for services (total \$400,000)

Financial Impact

- Subgrant Agreement Round 1 is for an amount not to exceed \$3,483,300 allocated to staff time and other project costs related to planning, design and implementation
- Subgrant Agreement Round 2 is for an amount not to exceed \$400,000 and has been allocated to staff time to complete the projects and coordination
- No required matching funds or cost share from the Agency

Strategic Plan Alignment

Agency work under the Subgrant Agreements aligns with the Strategic Plan

- **Goal B, Planning and New Projects**

- **Strategy 1** - Expand and optimize the CSIP system.
- **Strategy 2** - Collaborate with local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, define MCWRA's role, and implement a GSA integration plan.
- **Strategy 3** - Identify new water projects for development, utilizing existing or new water rights in collaboration with the GSA.

- **Goal C, Financial Sustainability**

- **Strategy 6** – Pursue grant funding and cost saving opportunities from all available sources, including collaborating with the GSA.

Discussion

- **Both the SVGBSA and MCWRA have crucial roles related to the management of regional water supplies**
- **MCWRA staff is participating in various processes as memorialized in the relevant agreements in place**
 - Continue to collect and expand groundwater monitoring for evaluation of current conditions and to inform decisions
 - Focus on evaluating GSPs Management Actions for feasible implementation
 - Priority questions include:
 - How do current facilities and operations work?
 - » Are there missed opportunities?
 - » What can be improved/done differently?
 - How much water is available?
 - When is the water available?
 - Where is the water available?
 - What can we do with the water, e.g., storage vs direct use?
 - Projects all have ambitious timeframes

Discussion

SGMA Goals

- Avoid undesirable results to demonstrate that a basin is operating within its sustainable yield (Water Code 10721)
- Set measurable objectives that have a reasonable margin of operational flexibility above the minimum thresholds (SMC BMP pg 27)
- Design projects and management actions to meet the measurable objectives (SMC BMP pg 27)

GSP Implementation

- Reach Sustainability in 20 years (2040/2042)
- Consider 6 Sustainability Indicators



Lowering
GW Levels



Reduction
of Storage



Seawater
Intrusion



Degraded
Quality



Land
Subsidence



Surface Water
Depletion

Types of Activities

Existing Facility/Operations Studies and Improvements:

- Dry Chlorine Scrubber Upgrade at Recycled Water Plant
- CSIP System & Operations Hydraulic Modeling
 - CSIP Distribution System Upgrades
 - Water scheduling system
 - Input on development of a Recycled Water Master Plan
- CSIP Distribution system booster enhancements

New Project Studies:

- Feasibility study on Aquifer Storage and Recovery
- Assessment of project constraints related to Agency permits and policies.
- Feasibility study for NSIP/CSIP Expansion
- Advise on Brackish Groundwater Restoration Project
- Reservoir operations modeling
- Castroville and Eastside Canals and Alternatives

Data Collection, Analysis and Monitoring:

- Expansion of Groundwater Monitoring Program
- Monitoring plan for the Deep Aquifers
- Water quality sampling to provide data for the Brackish Groundwater Restoration Project



Existing Facility Improvements: Dry Chlorine Scrubber Upgrade at Recycled Water Plant COMPLETED

Overview:

The Dry Chlorine Scrubber Upgrade at the Salinas Valley Reclamation Project (SVRP) reduces the annual maintenance requirements for the treatment system and increases the number of days that recycled water is available for delivery to CSIP users. M1W has had to shut down its tertiary treatment process every winter for maintenance of the existing chlorination system to comply with hazardous materials plan requirements and maintain its reliability. During that period, river water is also not permitted for diversion and use; therefore, the system must rely solely on groundwater from CSIP supplemental wells to deliver irrigation water to farmers in the seawater-intruded area. If a chlorine leak should occur during the summer, the entire treatment plant and river diversion facility would have to be shut down for repairs, also forcing CSIP to rely on groundwater.

This Component implements the first phase of GSP Priority Project #3: CSIP Winter Modifications through installing a dry chlorine scrubber system to replace the existing wet scrubber system. Chlorine is used to disinfect both recycled and surface water. The previous scrubber system used liquid caustic chlorine scrubbers to contain and remove toxic gaseous chlorine from the air in the event of an accidental release from the chlorine containment system. The new system incorporates two dry scrubbers into the existing chlorination system. The dry scrubbers are much safer to operate due to the elimination of liquid caustic ammonia which is a hazardous material that is corrosive to the system. The new system utilizes two scrubber tanks so that one is always available during maintenance of the other.



Existing Facility Improvements: CSIP Hydraulic Modeling IN PROGRESS

Technical Memo Overview:

The report documents the development, calibration, and application of a new hydraulic computer model for the CSIP distribution system. The purpose of this study is to replace the previous hydraulic model, evaluate existing CSIP distribution system capacity and performance under peak irrigation demands, and provide recommendations to guide MCWRA's capital improvement planning and long-term operational strategies, with the goal of optimizing existing operations and minimizing reliance on supplemental groundwater wells.

Existing Facility Improvements: CSIP Hydraulic Modeling

Outcomes: recommended system improvements to address hydraulic constraints, minimize reliance on groundwater, while enhancing system redundancy and reliability.

CIP 1 – Rodgers Loop Check Valve and Pressure Relief Valve

Installation of a check valve and pressure relief valve along the 24-inch pipe at Rodgers Loop prevents the Espinosa Booster Pump Station from recirculating through the loop, thereby improving pumping efficiency.

CIP 2 – Second CSIP Storage Pond Outlet Pipe

Construction of a new 30-inch outlet pipeline from the CSIP Storage Pond to Turnout 78 increases conveyance capacity across the Salinas River and provides operational redundancy for the existing 51-inch outlet pipe.

CIP 3 – In-System Storage and Booster Pump Station

Construction of 10–12.5 million gallons of new water storage with a booster pump station on the northeastern side of the CSIP distribution system adjacent to Blackie Road creates a secondary pressurized supply point. By reducing headloss and improving pressures at critical turnouts, the project strengthens redundancy and balances weekly demand fluctuations.



Existing Facility Improvements: CSIP Distribution System Booster Enhancements IN PROGRESS

Overview:

The Booster Station Enhancements will reduce the use of CSIP groundwater wells to address distribution system hydraulic deficiencies by optimizing the effectiveness of the three booster station sites.

All eight booster pumps at the three booster station sites (Espinosa, Molera, and Lapis) have been fully rebuilt and recoated, this includes both the pumping equipment and the motor. Final onsite equipment recoating was completed, and the optimization efforts are finalizing. The Molera Booster station motor VFD's control units have been ordered and are in production with arrival anticipated in September 2025, which will then complete this project.

PLANNING PHASE: Aquifer Storage and Recovery

Goals and Objectives

Address seawater intrusion in 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin by:

- Maximizing surface water diversions
- Raising groundwater levels through injection
- Reducing groundwater pumping

Preliminary Feasibility Study / Conceptual Analysis

Summary Report

TM-1: Assesses physical and operational constraints, considering existing infrastructure such as the Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs, the Salinas River Diversion Facility, and CSIP, while identifying new infrastructure needs.

TM-2: Reviews permitting and regulatory requirements, including water rights.

TM-3: Summarizes available water quality data and recommends a sampling plan for further treatment analysis.

TM-4: Presents groundwater flow modeling results.

PLANNING PHASE: Aquifer Storage and Recovery COMPLETED

ASR Scenarios Evaluated

Scenario	Description
Seasonal Release with ASR project concept	• Shift reservoir releases and diversions at SRDF to Dec-June • Injects treated water via new ASR wells • Summer extraction from ASR wells
New Diversion of Winter High Flows for ASR project concept – Alternative 1	• No change to current April-October SRDF operations or “business as usual CSIP” • For ASR: use excess flows to divert November-April and inject (no extraction from ASR wells)
New Diversion of Winter High Flows for ASR project concept with injection into 400-Foot Aquifer only – Alternative 1A	• Same as Alternative 1, except all diverted water is injected into 400-Foot Aquifer only

PLANNING PHASE: Aquifer Storage and Recovery COMPLETED

Key Findings

ASR Scenarios did not achieve SWI Minimum Threshold

Seasonal Release with ASR project concept has significant operational constraints associated with releasing stored reservoir water and rediverting it at SRDF in winter.

Modified or new water rights would be needed for either approach.

Existing CSIP and SRDF infrastructure upgrades are likely required to implement either approach.

The timing of diversions and injection is key for meeting CSIP demands in the peak season.

Seasonal release/re-diversion scenario may create additional issues with not being able to meet CSIP demands, exacerbating the need to pump more groundwater



PLANNING PHASE: Castroville and Eastside Canals and Alternatives Roadmap IN PROGRESS

Purpose:

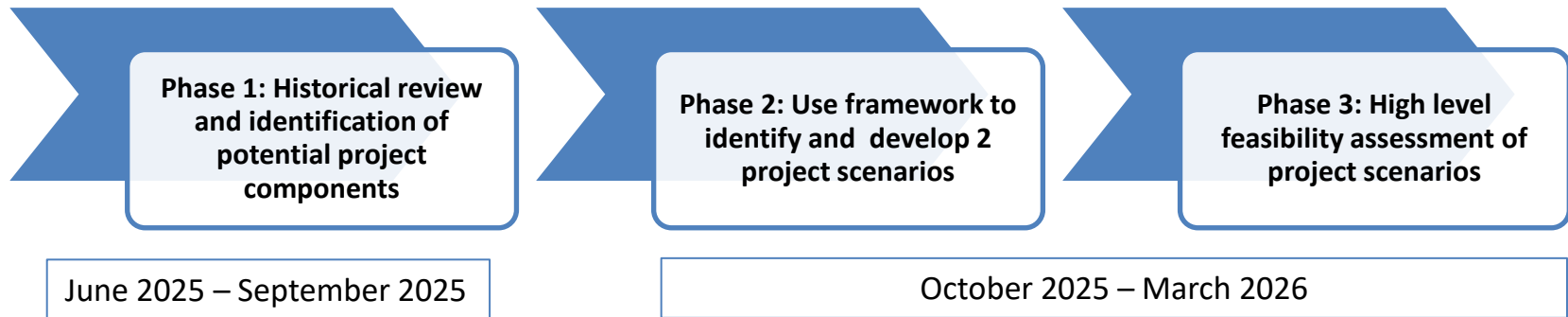
- Support MCWRA to put Permit 11043 water right to beneficial use
- Understand project options, including but not limited to Permit 11043, for achieving groundwater sustainability, to be further studied.

Project Scenario(s):

- Identify a realistic project concept using additional supply from the Salinas River for:
 - Mitigating seawater intrusion
 - and/or
 - Addressing lowered groundwater levels to help achieving Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) in Eastside, Langley, 180/400

PLANNING PHASE: Castroville and Eastside Canals and Alternatives Roadmap

Timeline:



Phase 1 includes:

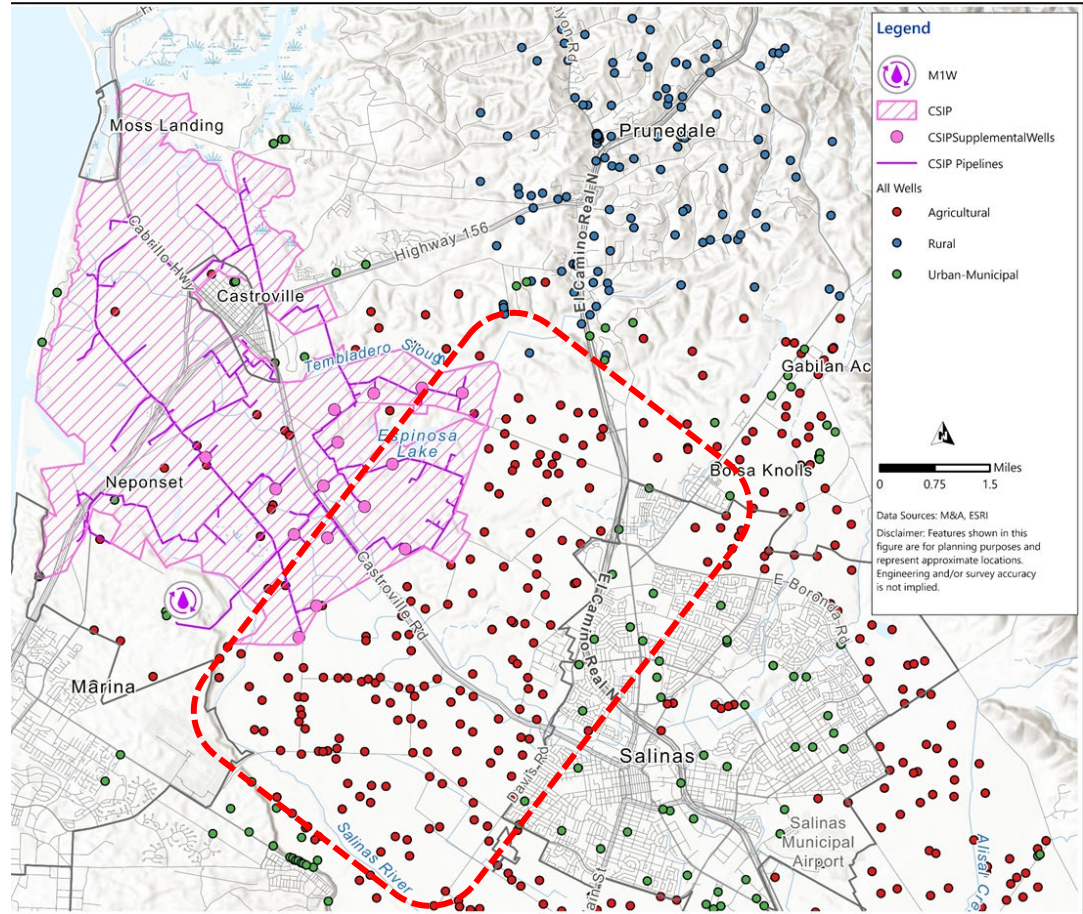
- History / Project Ideas
- Permit 11043 and new water rights
- Project concept to use Salinas River diversions to mitigate seawater intrusion
- Estimation of how much water might be diverted
- Tool for project evaluation and ranking
- Report

Phases 2 & 3 include: Modeling of streamflow and permitted and alternative points of diversion and effects relative to Sustainable Management Criteria. Modeling of at least 2 climate change scenarios.

PLANNING PHASE: New Seawater Intrusion Project (NSIP) IN PROGRESS

Overview:

- Modified description of CSIP Expansion
- Evaluation of a new agricultural water supply project to compare options for delivery of alternative supplies to areas experiencing or at risk of seawater intrusion, outside of CSIP area
- High Level Feasibility Study for New Seawater Intrusion Project (NSIP)





PLANNING PHASE: New Seawater Intrusion Project (NSIP)

Approach:

- Includes source water investigations, identification of delivery areas and irrigation demands, infrastructure needs and sizing paired with source water options, costs
- First Step: Source Water Usability Evaluation
This includes identifying different source waters that could be used for NSIP and defining volumes, quality, timing, and other issues, e.g. water rights, related with securing these supplies. Water quality evaluation and storage needs.
- Subsequent Steps: Project Configurations and Modeling; and Delivery Area Scenarios and Technical Memorandum
- Carollo Engineers to support this study, including assistance with documenting findings on potential source waters, engineering analysis of options for distribution system sizing and layouts, and cost estimates



PLANNING PHASE: New Seawater Intrusion Project (NSIP)

- Source waters to be considered may include:
 - effluent available from Monterey One Water Regional Treatment Plant currently not put to beneficial use 2) the City of Salinas industrial ponds
 - Tembladero Slough, Reclamation Ditch No.1665, and the Blanco Drain surface water related to water right applications A032263C, and A032263D currently not put to beneficial use
 - excess or available Salinas River Diversion Facility (SRDF)
 - other potential sources under investigation in SVBGSA's feasibility studies for Salinas River water as identified from the Castroville and Eastside Canals and Alternatives study related to water right permit 11043
 - treated brackish groundwater



PLANNING PHASE: Implement Deep Aquifer Study Recommendations IN PROGRESS

Agency staff participating in the **Deep Aquifers Agencies Working Group** (“Working Group”) alongside:

- Salinas Valley Basin GSA
- Monterey County Health Department
- Marina Coast Water District GSA .

Agency staff developed a Monitoring Plan for the Deep Aquifers at the request of the Working Group.

- The purpose of the Monitoring Plan is to expand monitoring, coordinate monitoring efforts across agencies with jurisdiction over the Deep Aquifers, and streamline data reporting to agencies utilizing the data.
- The Monitoring Plan is a deliverable in the Round 1 subgrant agreement.

PLANNING PHASE: Data Expansion and SGMA Compliance IN PROGRESS

Work plans for both SGMA Round 2 grants include tasks related to expanding well registration and groundwater extraction reporting programs in the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin

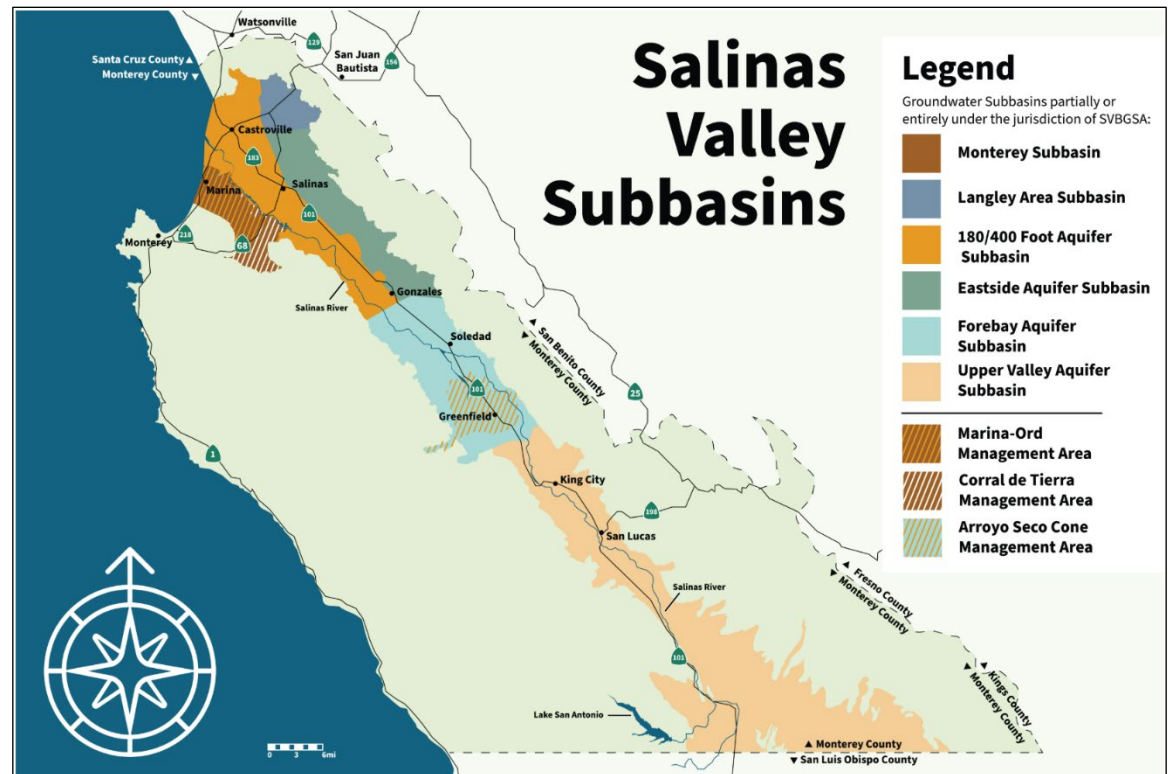


Figure source: www.svbgsa.org

Status of Round 1 Projects

Components/Budget Category		Original Sub Grant	Amendment 1	Amendment 2	Amendment 3	Total Sub Grant Amount	YTD Expenses	Sub Grant Balance	% Complete
COMPONENT 2: Dry Chlorine Scrubber Upgrade at Monterey One Water Recycled Water Plant									
(c): Implementation/Construction		1,185,000		310,000		1,495,000	1,495,000	0	100%
Component Total Amount		1,185,000				1,495,000	1,495,000	0	100%
COMPONENT 3: Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project (CSIP) Distribution System Upgrades									
(a): Component 3 Administration		5,000				5,000	2,258	2,742	45%
(b): Planning / Design / Environmental		520,000		867,000	-290,000	1,097,000	808,069	288,931	74%
(c): Implementation/Construction		1,622,000		-1,462,000	290,000	450,000	450,000	0	100%
(d): Monitoring / Assessment		3,000				3,000	199	2,801	7%
Component Total Amount		2,150,000			0	1,555,000	1,260,527	294,473	81%
COMPONENT 5: Conduct Feasibility Study on Aquifer Storage and Recovery									
(b): Planning / Design / Environmental		45,000			-8,700	36,300	36,300	0	100%
Component Total Amount		45,000			36,300	36,300	36,300	0	100%
COMPONENT 7: Compliance Reporting and Data Expansion²									
(b): Planning/Design/Environmental		0		250,000		250,000	250,000	0	100%
(c): Implementation/Construction		310,000		-250,000		60,000	60,000	0	100%
Component Total Amount		310,000				310,000	310,000	0	100%
COMPONENT 8: Implement Deep Aquifer Study Recommendation²									
(b): Planning / Design / Environmental		0			12,000	12,000	8,109	3,891	68%
Component Total Amount		0			12,000	12,000	8,109	3,891	68%
COMPONENT 9: Seawater Intrusion Feasibility Study²									
(b): Planning / Design / Environmental		0	131,000	-56,000		75,000	74,279	721	99%
Component Total Amount		0				75,000	74,279	721	99%
Subgrant Total Amount		3,690,000	3,821,000	3,480,000	3,483,300	3,483,300	3,184,216	299,084	91%

Status of Round 2 Projects

Components/Budget Category		Original Sub Grant	Amendment 1	Total Sub Grant Amount	YTD Expenses	Sub Grant Balance	% Complete
SALINAS COMPONENT 2: Data Expansion and SGMA Compliance							
(b): Environmental/Engineering/Design		200,000		200,000	75,646	124,354	38%
Component Total Amount		200,000		200,000	75,646	124,354	38%
MONTEREY COMPONENT 2: Monterey Subbasin Data Expansion and SGMA Compliance							
(b): Environmental/Engineering/Design		50,000	0	50,000	18,911	31,089	38%
Component Total Amount		50,000		50,000	18,911	31,089	38%
SALINAS COMPONENT 3: Engagement/Outreach							
(e): Engagement/ Outreach		0	150,000	150,000	14,385	135,615	10%
Component Total Amount		0	150,000	150,000	14,385	135,615	10%
Subgrant Total Amount		250,000	400,000	400,000	108,942	291,058	27%

Discussion (cont.)

- Timelines for relevant agreements:
 - Round 1 grant: activities end October 31, 2025, and reporting due by 12/31/2025
 - Round 2 grant: activities end March 31, 2026, and reporting due by April 15, 2026
 - GMP Service Agreement for March 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 recommended by BOD and being considered by BOS to fund full year of program activities
 - SVBGSA/MCWRA MOU for additional services valid through June 15, 2026
- Other coordination efforts
 - Staff-level meetings on a regular basis
 - Both SVBGSA and MCWRA Committee participation
 - e.g.: MCWRA BMAC and SVBGSA Advisory Committee

Next Steps

- Closeout Round 1 Grant
 - Complete final CSIP Distribution System project design
 - Report out on preferred project scope and estimated costs
 - Finalize Subgrant Completion Report and Deliverables
- GMP data collection activities have commenced and reporting will be provided as available
- Coordinated updates on Management Action Progress will be presented by SVBGSA and MCWRA staff this fall/winter
 - A roadmap to decision making will be developed for actions next year