

County of Monterey

*Saffron Room
1441 Schilling Place
Salinas, Ca. 93901*



Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

8:30 AM

Water Resources Agency Basin Management Advisory Committee

*John Baillie Chair
Deidre Sullivan
Matthew Simis
David Bunn
Kevin Piearcy
Patrick Breen
Marc Kelley
Richard Ortiz*

To participate in this Basin Management Advisory Committee meeting through the following methods:

1. You may attend in person,
2. For ZOOM participation please join by computer audio at:
<https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/99621772720>

OR to participate by phone call any of these numbers below: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
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+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
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Enter this Meeting ID number: 996 2177 2720 PASSWORD: 478310 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.

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5. If you wish to make either a general public comment for items not on the day's agenda or to comment on a specific agenda item as it is being heard, please submit your comment, limited to 250 words or less, to the Monterey County Water Resources Agency at WRAPubliccomment@co.monterey.ca.us. In an effort to assist Agency staff in identifying the

agenda item relating to your public comment please indicate in the subject line, the meeting body (i.e. Basin Management Advisory Committee) and item number (i.e. Item No. 10). Every effort will be made to read your comment into the record, but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Comments received after an agenda item will be made part of the record if received prior to the end of the meeting.

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9. The Chair and/or Secretary may set reasonable rules as needed to conduct the meeting in an orderly manner.

PARA PARTICIPAR EN LA REUNIÓN DEL COMITE DE ASESOR DE GESTION DE LA CUENCA A TRAVES DE LOS SIGUIENTES METODOS:

1. Poder asistir personalmente a la reunion; o,

2. El público puede observar la reunión ZOOM a través de computadora haciendo clic en el siguiente enlace: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/99621772720>

O el público puede escuchar a través del teléfono llamando al:

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4. Si un miembro del público desea comentar sobre un artículo de la agenda en particular, se le es sumamente recomendable que envíe sus comentarios por escrito por correo electrónico a la Agencia de Administración de Recursos del Agua (Agencia) a WRAPubliccomment@co.monterey.ca.us antes de las 5:00 P. M. el Martes antes de la reunión del Comité. Para ayudar al personal de la Agencia a identificar el número del artículo de la agenda con el cual se relaciona el comentario, se solicita al público que indique la fecha de la reunión del Comité y el número del artículo de la agenda en la línea de asunto. Comentarios recibidos en la fecha límite del Martes a las 5 P.M, serán distribuidos al Comité y serán colocados en el registro.

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9. El Presidente y / o Secretario pueden establecer reglas razonables según sea necesario para llevar a cabo la reunión de manera ordenada

Call to Order

Roll Call

Public Comment

Committee Member Comments

Consent Calendar

1. Approve the minutes of the Basin Management Advisory Committee meeting held on November 6, 2024.

Attachments: [Final BMAC Minutes November 6, 2024](#)

Staff Reports

2. Review of the 2024 August Trough Groundwater Elevation Contour Maps

Attachments: [Board Report](#)
[Attachment A ATShallow24](#)
[Attachment B ATDeep24](#)

3. Review of the 2024 Seawater Intrusion Contour Maps

Attachments: [Board Report](#)
[P180 2024 with250line \(A\)](#)
[P180 2024 SWlphases \(B\)](#)
[P400 2024 with250line \(C\)](#)
[P400 2024 SWlphases \(D\)](#)

Calendar

4. Set next meeting date and discuss future agenda items.

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: WRABMAC 24-046

December 04, 2024

Introduced: 11/25/2024

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA BMAC Item

Approve the minutes of the Basin Management Advisory Committee meeting held on November 6, 2024.

County of Monterey

*Saffron Room
1441 Schilling Place
Salinas, Ca. 93901*



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

8:30 AM

Water Resources Agency Basin Management Advisory Committee

*John Baillie Chair
Deidre Sullivan
Matthew Simis
David Bunn
Kevin Pearcey
Patrick Breen
Marc Kelley
Richard Ortiz*

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WHILE A FIX IS ATTEMPTED BUT THE BASIN MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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mediodía del Martes antes de a la reunión del Comité para dar tiempo a la Agencia para que atienda la solicitud .

9. El Presidente y / o Secretario pueden establecer reglas razonables según sea necesario para llevar a cabo la reunión de manera ordenada.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 am.

Roll Call

Present: Matthew Simis, David Bunn, Patrick Breen, Marc Kelley, Richard Ortiz, Deidre Sullivan (arrived 8:36am) John Baillie (arrived 9:07am)

Absent: Kevin Piearcy

Public Comment

None

Committee Member Comments

None

Consent Calendar

1. Approve the minutes of the Basin Management Advisory Committee meeting held on October 2, 2024.

Attachments: [Draft BMAC Minutes October 2, 2024](#)

Upon Motion by Patrick Breen, Second by Richard Ortiz the committee approved the Consent Calendar of the Basin Management Advisory Committee meeting held on November 6, 2024.

Ayes: David Bunn, Marc Kelley, Patrick Breen, Richard Ortiz, Deidre Sullivan

Absent: John Baillie, Kevin Piearcy

Abstained: Matthew Simis

Presentations

2. Review of the Quarterly Salinas Valley Water Conditions Report for the Fourth Quarter of Water Year 2024. (Staff Presenting: Guillermo Diaz-Moreno)

Attachments: [Quarterly Rpt 4thQtr WY24](#)

Committee Member Comments: Marc Kelley, David Bunn

Public Comments: None

3. Review of the 2024 Salinas River Discharge Measurement Series report. (Staff Presenting: Ricardo Carmona)

Attachments: [River Series 2024 Final](#)

Committee Member Comments: Deidre Sullivan, David Bunn, Matthew Simis, Richard Ortiz
Public Comments: None

Staff Reports

4. Update on Department of Water Resources Bulletin 74 Well Standards Project. (Staff Presenting: Amy Woodrow)

Committee Member Comments: None
Public Comments: None

5. Update on the Groundwater Monitoring Program and Extraction Reporting Timelines. (Staff Presenting: Amy Woodrow)

Committee Member Comments: John Baillie, David Bunn
Public Comments: Roger Van Horn

Calendar

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 a.m.



County of Monterey

Item No.2

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers

168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRABMAC 24-047

December 04, 2024

Introduced: 11/25/2024

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA BMAC Item

Review of the 2024 August Trough Groundwater Elevation Contour Maps

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency) is responsible for data collection and analysis of groundwater data throughout the Salinas Valley to support the ongoing groundwater level contouring, seawater intrusion mapping, and other programs related to current groundwater conditions. Conditions are assessed throughout the year to better understand how aquifers are responding during different hydrologic conditions as well as the relative groundwater storage fluctuations that occur on an annual basis.

These activities align with Strategic Plan Goals B7, Use of data and analysis to make informed decisions based on science and E1, improve public outreach to increase transparency, communication, education and information about Agency projects and programs. Activities associated with this program are included in Funds 111 & 116 of the FY 24-25 budget.

OVERVIEW OF 2024 DATA

August Trough Groundwater Level Survey

On a single day in August, Agency staff conducts an intensive groundwater level survey of the northern Salinas Valley referred to as August Trough. Groundwater levels (GWLs) are sampled at around 140 wells from Chualar to the coast, to obtain a snapshot of conditions within and beyond the seawater intrusion fronts. This is done during a time of the year when aquifers are most stressed by pumping. One of the key purposes of the August Trough survey is to monitor and assess the forces driving seawater intrusion, in particular groundwater level gradients sloping inland from the coast, which are most pronounced when pumping is at its seasonal peak.

The 2024 August Trough groundwater elevation contours for the 180-Foot and East Side Shallow Aquifers are included as Attachment A. Compared to the 2023 survey, groundwater elevations near the coast have increased by 1 to 3 feet. This increase resulted in groundwater elevations at the coast that are just above sea level.

In the East Side trough, groundwater elevations in the area north of Salinas have increased between 2 and 18 feet. However, a small area to the south experienced decreases of 1 to 5 feet. Similarly, the region south of Salinas towards Chualar saw increases between 1 and 2 feet from last year, while the area towards Spreckels saw decreases of 1 to 3 feet.

The 2024 August Trough groundwater elevation contours for the 400-Foot and East Side Deep Aquifers are included as Attachment B. Groundwater levels near the coast increased 1-2 feet. In the Espinosa Lake area, groundwater elevations rose between 1 and 3 feet, though a smaller northwest section experienced a 3 to 5 foot decrease. The absence of the 0-foot elevation contour near the coast indicates that the groundwater elevations in the 400-Foot Aquifer remained around 10 feet below sea level at the coast.

Groundwater elevations in the East Side trough increased in the area north of Salinas by 1 to 12 feet, though a smaller southeastern area saw decreases of 1 to 10 feet. South of Salinas, towards Chualar, groundwater elevations increased by 1 to 2 feet compared to last year, while a smaller area towards Spreckels experienced decreases of 1 to 2 feet.

Prepared by: Guillermo Diaz Moreno, Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860
Amy Woodrow, Senior Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860

Attachments: Attachment A: August Trough 2024 Groundwater Elevation Contours, 180-Ft, and East Side Shallow Aquifers
Attachment B: August Trough 2024 Groundwater Elevation Contours, 400-Ft, and East Side Deep Aquifers



County of Monterey

Item No.2

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRABMAC 24-047

December 04, 2024

Introduced: 11/25/2024

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In the East Side trough, groundwater elevations in the area north of Salinas have increased between 2 and 18 feet. However, a small area to the south experienced decreases of 1 to 5 feet. Similarly, the region south of Salinas towards Chualar saw increases between 1 and 2 feet from last year, while the area towards Spreckels saw decreases of 1 to 3 feet.

The 2024 August Trough groundwater elevation contours for the 400-Foot and East Side Deep Aquifers are included as Attachment B. Groundwater levels near the coast increased 1-2 feet. In the Espinosa Lake area, groundwater elevations rose between 1 and 3 feet, though a smaller northwest section experienced a 3 to 5 foot decrease. The absence of the 0-foot elevation contour near the coast indicates that the groundwater elevations in the 400-Foot Aquifer remained around 10 feet below sea level at the coast.

Groundwater elevations in the East Side trough increased in the area north of Salinas by 1 to 12 feet, though a smaller southeastern area saw decreases of 1 to 10 feet. South of Salinas, towards Chualar, groundwater elevations increased by 1 to 2 feet compared to last year, while a smaller area towards Spreckels experienced decreases of 1 to 2 feet.

Prepared by: Guillermo Diaz Moreno, Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860
Amy Woodrow, Senior Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860

Attachments: Attachment A: August Trough 2024 Groundwater Elevation Contours, 180-Ft, and East Side Shallow Aquifers
Attachment B: August Trough 2024 Groundwater Elevation Contours, 400-Ft, and East Side Deep Aquifers

Salinas Valley Basin August Trough 2024

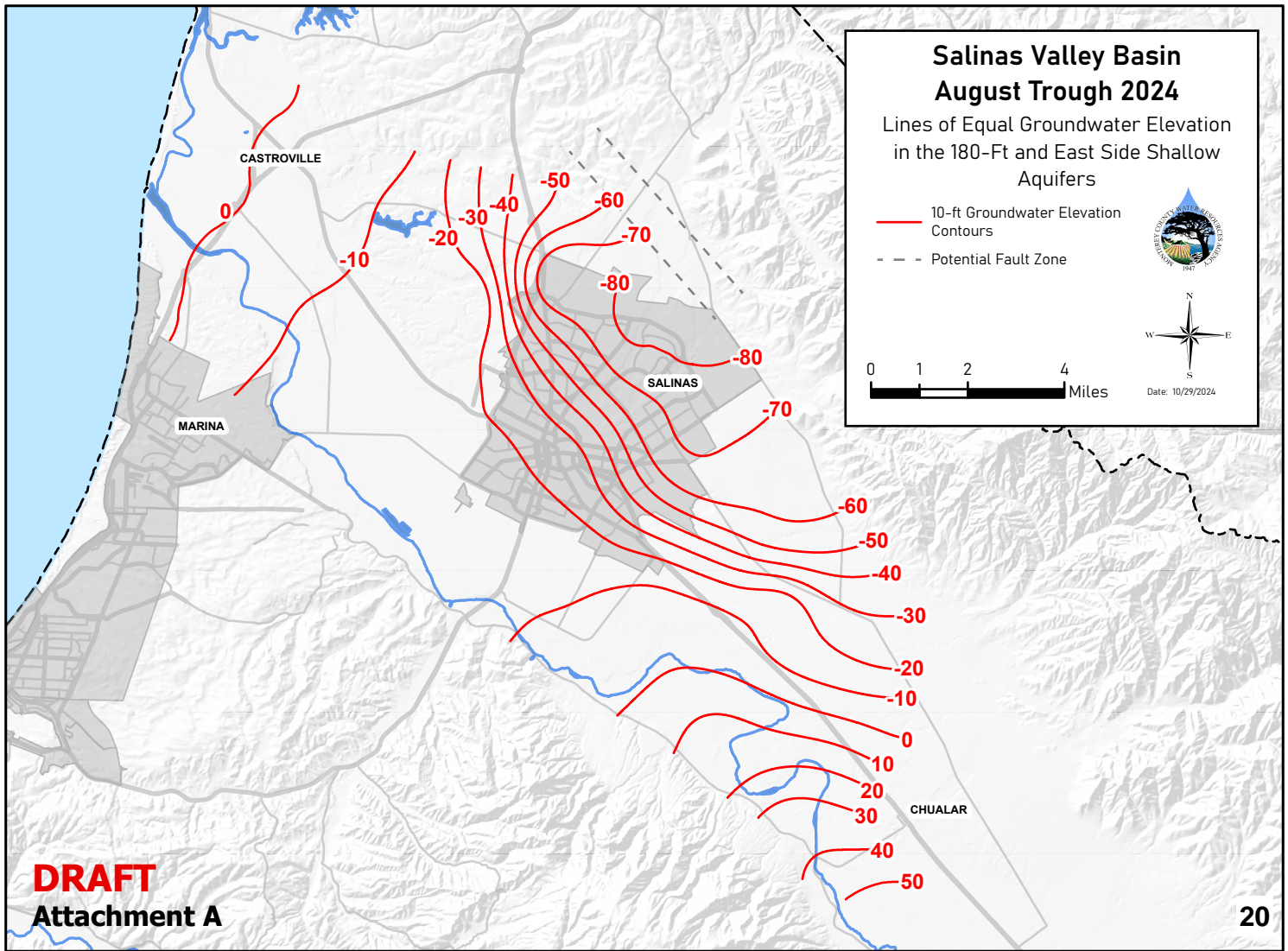
Lines of Equal Groundwater Elevation
in the 180-Ft and East Side Shallow
Aquifers

- 10-ft Groundwater Elevation Contours
- - - Potential Fault Zone

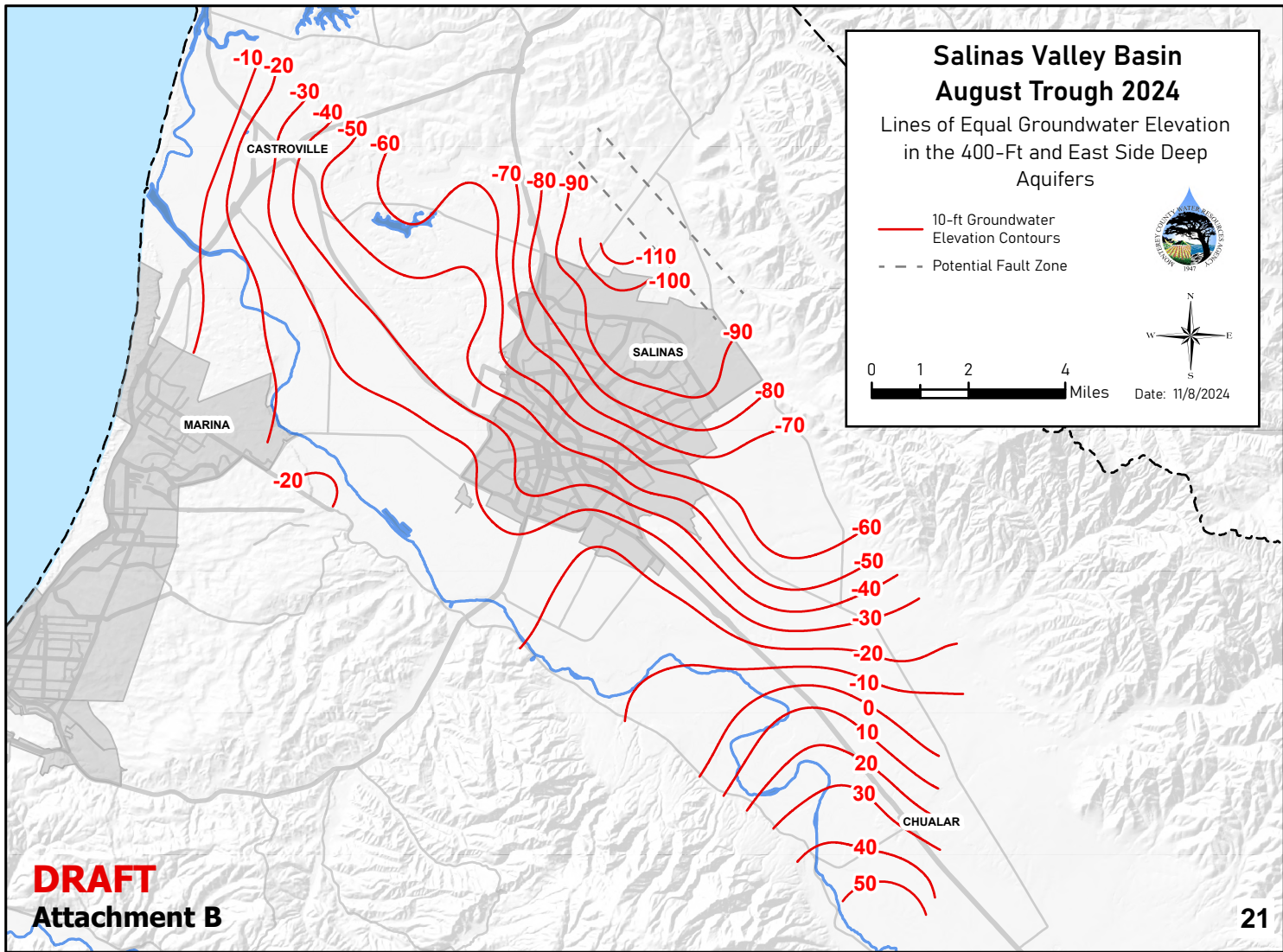


0 1 2 4 Miles

Date: 10/29/2024



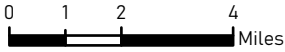
DRAFT
Attachment A



Salinas Valley Basin August Trough 2024

Lines of Equal Groundwater Elevation
in the 400-Ft and East Side Deep
Aquifers

- 10-ft Groundwater Elevation Contours
- - - Potential Fault Zone



Date: 11/8/2024

DRAFT
Attachment B



County of Monterey

Item No.3

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers

168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: WRABMAC 24-048

December 04, 2024

Introduced: 11/25/2024

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA BMAC Item

Review of the 2024 Seawater Intrusion Contour Maps

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency) is responsible for data collection and analysis of groundwater data throughout the Salinas Valley to support the ongoing groundwater level contouring, seawater intrusion mapping, and other programs related to current groundwater conditions. Conditions are assessed throughout the year to better understand how aquifers are responding during different hydrologic conditions as well as the relative groundwater storage fluctuations that occur on an annual basis. These activities align with Strategic Plan Goals B7, *Use of data and analysis to make informed decisions based on science* and E1, *improve public outreach to increase transparency, communication, education and information about Agency projects and programs*. Activities associated with this program are included in Funds 111 & 116 of the FY 24-25 budget.

Program Background

Seawater intrusion was first detected in the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin in 1933. As seawater intrudes into an aquifer there is a transition zone where seawater and freshwater mix. The chloride concentrations in this transition zone are between 50 milligrams per liter (mg/L), which is the native water quality of the 180-Foot and 400-Foot Aquifers, and 19,000 mg/L, which is the concentration of chloride in Pacific Ocean water.

The Agency uses the 500 mg/L chloride iso-contour as the threshold for determining seawater intrusion into the coastal aquifers. This definition of "seawater intruded" is described in Agency Ordinance No. 03790, Section 1.01.13. A chloride concentration of 500 mg/L is roughly ten times the native concentration of chloride in these aquifers, two times the regulatory limit set by the E.P.A Drinking Water Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (250 mg/L), and exceeds the USDA concentration (350 mg/L) for water considered to be of "Class III - injurious or unsatisfactory" quality for agricultural irrigation.

Data Collection and Analysis

Each summer, Agency staff samples approximately 120 agricultural, urban purveyor, and small diameter monitoring wells in the coastal area of the northern Salinas Valley. Water quality samples are collected from the agricultural and urban wells twice, once in June and again in August. This year the Agency's network of small diameter monitoring wells were sampled once in July.

The water quality samples are analyzed by the County's Consolidated Chemistry Lab (ELAP #

1395). The data are then evaluated with several geochemical tools and chloride isocontours are developed using an ArcMap interpolation tool to map the approximate location of the seawater intrusion front. Supporting data from several other Agency programs are used to provide additional data validation of the chloride isocontour locations. The new polygons depicting the areas that increased above the seawater intrusion threshold are then added to the Historical Seawater Intrusion maps, which illustrate the seawater intrusion front while highlighting the changes seen over the period of record. As in prior years, the 250 mg/L isocontour is also included on both the 180-Ft Aquifer and 400-Ft Aquifer Seawater Intrusion Maps as an indicator of areas where chloride concentrations are increasing but have not yet surpassed the 500 mg/L threshold. The evaluation of the geochemical composition of each groundwater sample is also represented in an additional map where the resulting seawater intrusion phase (Not Intruded, Phase I or Phase II) is indicated on the location of each well.

2024 Seawater Intrusion Maps

In 2024, the 500 mg/L contour within the 180-Foot Aquifer has not changed significantly in respect to 2023's contour. However, the 250 mg/L contour at the leading edge of the main lobe advanced slightly towards the western city limit of Salinas (Attachment A).

Most samples from wells screened in the 180-Foot Aquifer showed no change in the Seawater Intrusion Phase respect to 2023, except for two (2) samples from wells located within and near the southwestern boundary of the main lobe, which progressed from Phase 1 to Phase 2. One (1) sample collected near the leading edge of the 250 mg/l contour progressed from Not Intruded to Phase 1 (Attachment B).

Regarding the 400-Foot Aquifer, the main area of regional seawater intrusion did not show additional advancement in 2024, although the "island" of seawater intrusion that is isolated from the regional intrusion area displayed a slight expansion along the southeastern 500 mg/L contour that was identified in 2023 (Blanco and McFadden Roads area, shown in Attachment C).

Within the 400-Foot Aquifer, seven (7) groundwater samples from wells located ahead of the eastern edge of the 250 mg/L contour and ranging from the northern side of Espinosa Lake to Reservation Road showed a progression from Not Intruded in 2023 to Phase 1 in 2024 (Attachment D).

Prepared by: Ricardo Carmona, Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860
Amy Woodrow, Senior Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860

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

Attachments:

1. Attachment A: 2024 Historical Seawater Intrusion Map, 180-Ft Aquifer
2. Attachment B: 2024 Seawater Intrusion Phases Map, 180-Ft Aquifer
3. Attachment C: 2024 Historical Seawater Intrusion Map, 400-Ft Aquifer
4. Attachment D: 2024 Seawater Intrusion Phases Map, 400-Ft Aquifer



County of Monterey

Item No.

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRABMAC 24-048

December 04, 2024

Introduced: 11/25/2024

Current Status: Draft

Version: 1

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SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

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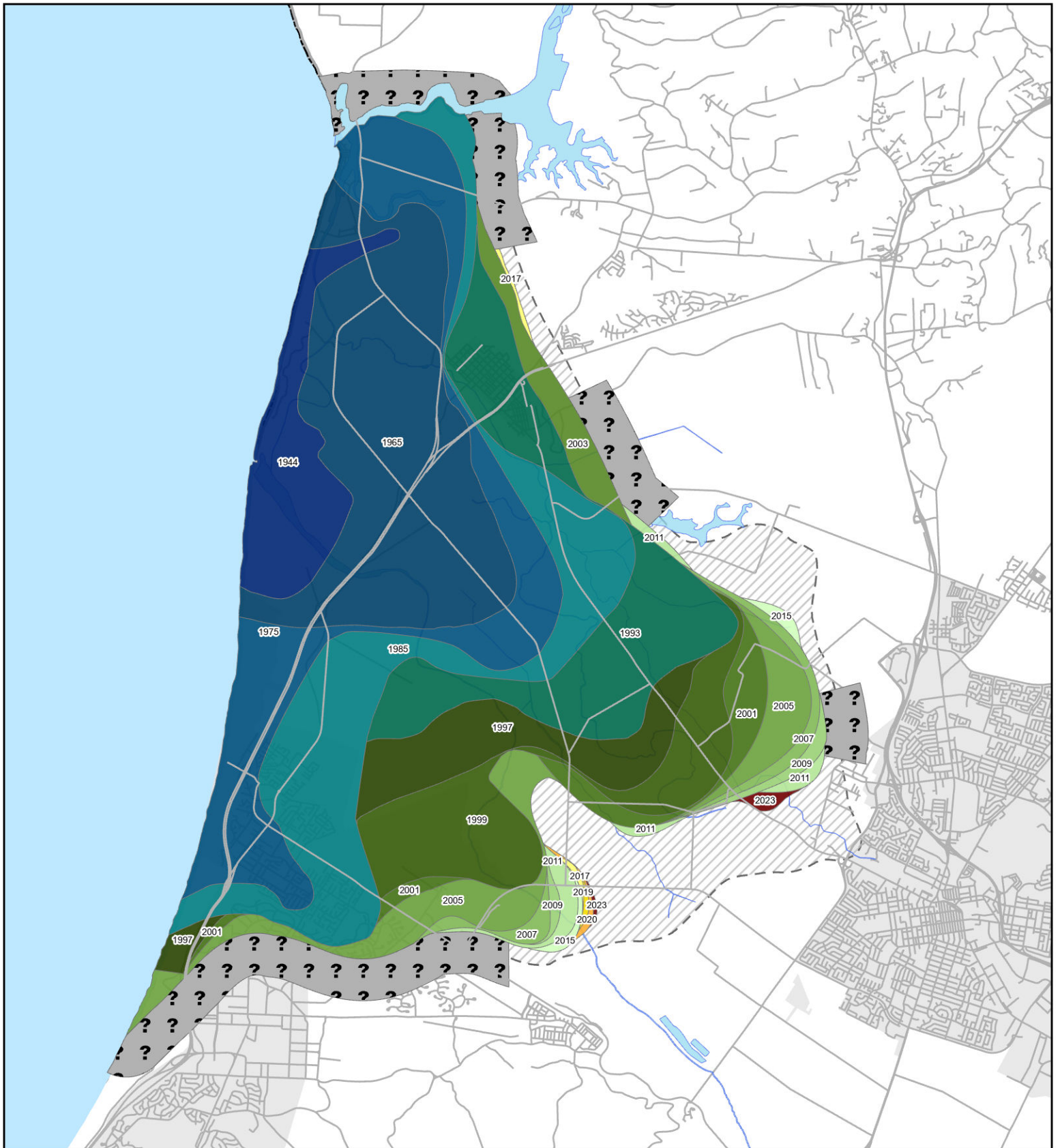
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Prepared by: Ricardo Carmona, Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860
Amy Woodrow, Senior Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860














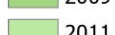


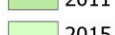
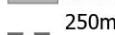





Approved by: Ara Azhderian, General Manager, (831) 755-4860

Attachments:

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2. Attachment B: 2024 Seawater Intrusion Phases Map, 180-Ft Aquifer
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4. Attachment D: 2024 Seawater Intrusion Phases Map, 400-Ft Aquifer



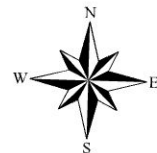
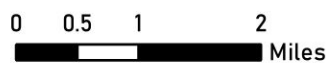
Seawater Intruded Area by Year

 1944	 2003	 2020
 1965	 2005	 2021
 1975	 2007	 2022
 1985	 2009	 2023
 1993	 2011	 No Data
 1997	 2015	 250mg/L line
 1999	 2017	 250mg/L area
 2001	 2019	

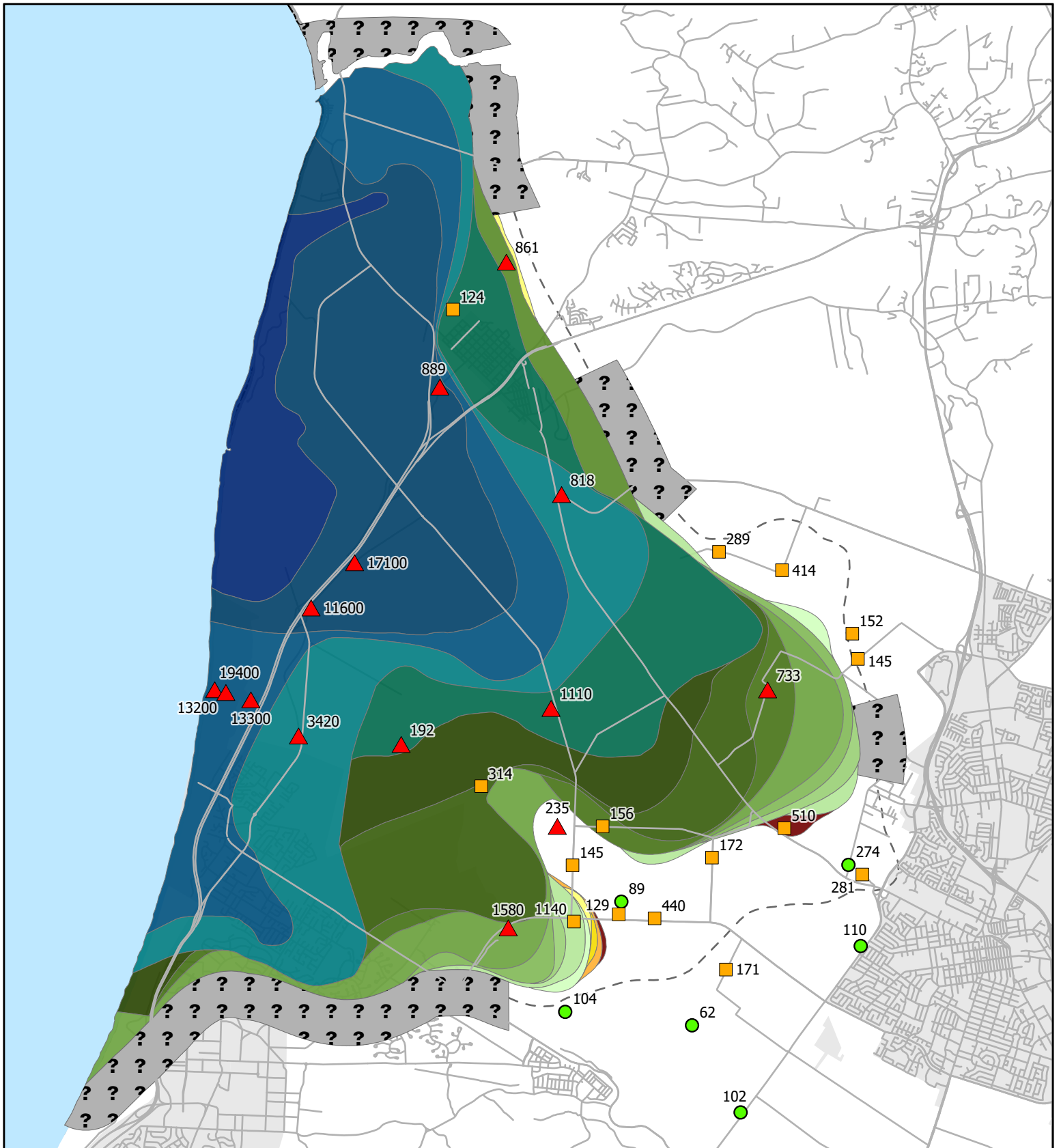
Historical Seawater Intrusion Map

180-Foot Aquifer

500 mg/L or Greater Chloride Areas



Monterey County
Water Resources Agency
Date : 10/28/2024



Seawater Intruded Area by Year

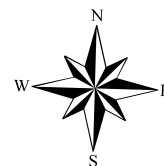
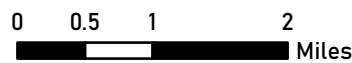
1944	2003	2020
1965	2005	2021
1975	2007	2022
1985	2009	2023
1993	2011	No Data
1997	2015	250mg/L area
1999	2017	250mg/L line
2001	2019	

Intrusion Phase

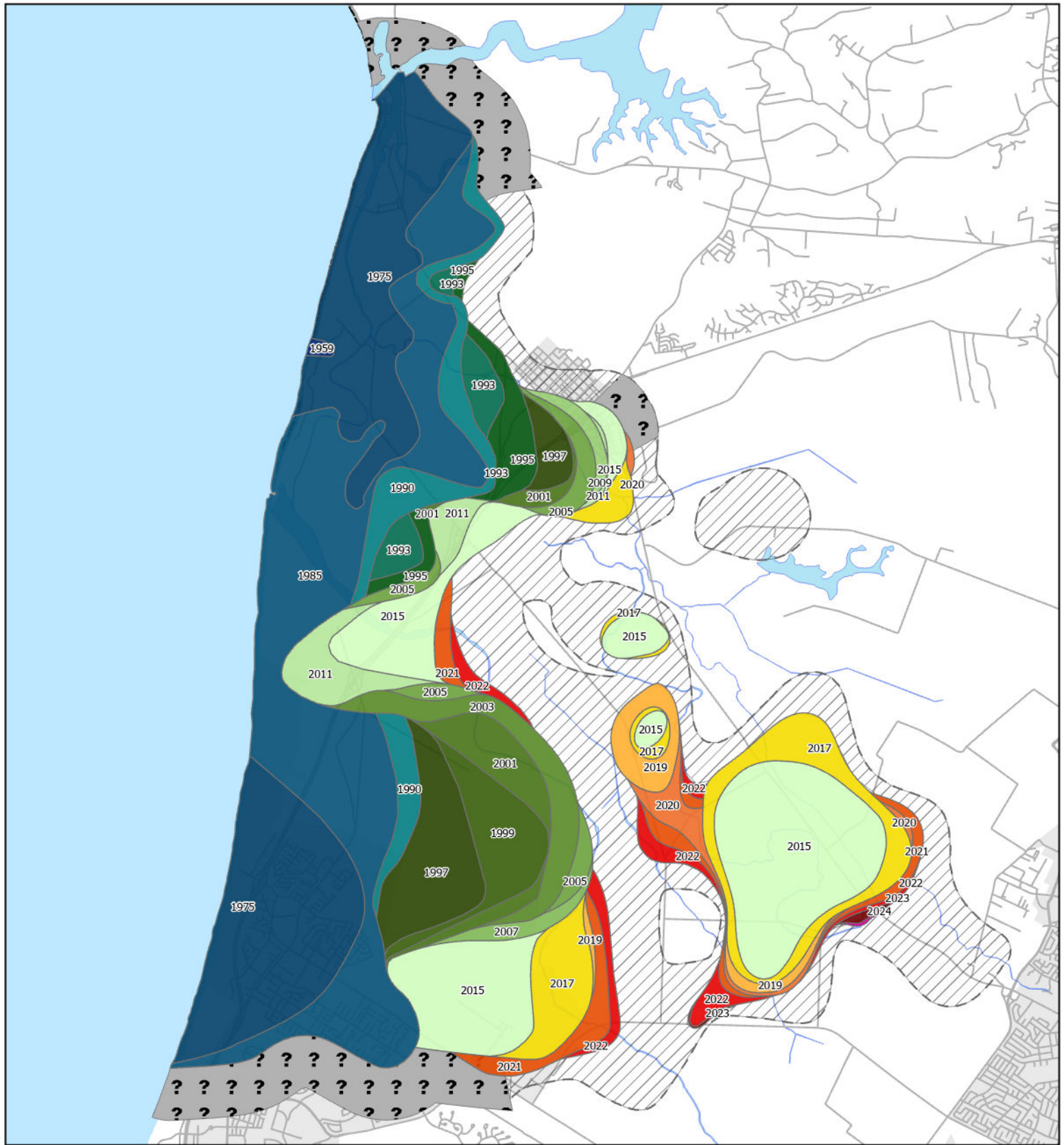
- Not Intruded
- Phase 1
- Phase 2

Seawater Intrusion Phases 2024

180-Foot Aquifer
Chloride Data and Contour Lines



Monterey County
Water Resources Agency
Date : 11/22/2024



Seawater Intruded Area by Year

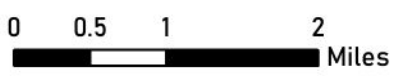
1959	2001	2019
1975	2003	2020
1985	2005	2021
1990	2007	2022
1993	2009	2023
1995	2011	2024
1997	2015	No Data
1999	2017	

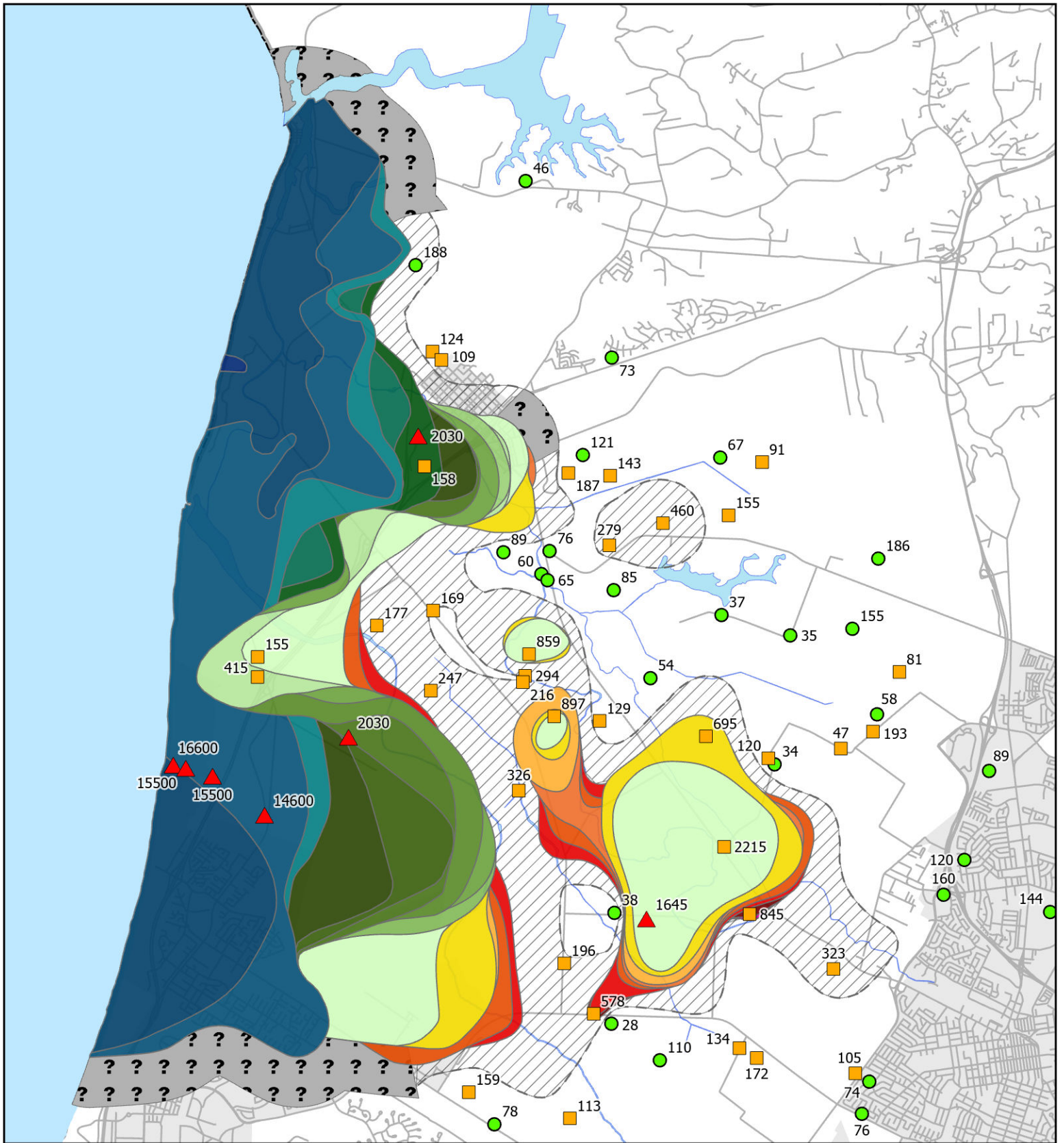
--- 250mg/L line
 // 250mg/L area

Historical Seawater Intrusion Map

400-Foot Aquifer

500 mg/L or Greater Chloride Areas





Seawater Intruded Area by Year

	1959		2001		2019
	1975		2003		2020
	1985		2005		2021
	1990		2007		2022
	1993		2009		2023
	1995		2011		2024
	1997		2015		No Data
	1999		2017		

--- 250mg/L line
 // 250mg/L area

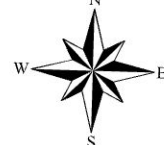
Intrusion Phase

- Not Intruded
- Phase 1
- Phase 2

Historical Seawater Intrusion Map

400-Foot Aquifer
 500mg/L or Greater Chloride Areas

0 0.5 1 2 Miles



Monterey County
 Water Resources Agency
 Date : 11/22/2024



County of Monterey

Item No.4

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRABMAC 24-049

December 04, 2024

Introduced: 11/25/2024

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA BMAC Item

Set next meeting date and discuss future agenda items.