

Reservoir Release Update

RECOMMENDATION:

None – item presented for informational purposes.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

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

RESERVOIR ELEVATION / STORAGE: As of May 15, 2018, San Antonio Reservoir is at an elevation of approximately 722.6 feet mean sea level (msl), 110,330 acre-feet of storage. Nacimiento Reservoir is at elevation 755.0 feet msl, 168,520 acre-feet of storage. San Antonio Reservoir is currently at 33% of storage capacity and Nacimiento Reservoir is at 45% of capacity.

RESERVOIR RELEASES: The Agency made releases from Nacimiento Reservoir to augment natural flows to support adult upstream migration from March 25th through March 31st after the Salinas River mouth opened to the ocean and other Salinas Valley Water Project Biological Opinion triggers were met simultaneously on March 25th. The Agency then transitioned into making conservation releases at the beginning of April. Currently conservation releases are being made from both reservoirs for groundwater recharge and to meet Salinas River Diversion Facility (SRDF) pumping and bypass demands.

Minor fluctuations in release rates are not presented in this report but are documented in the Salinas Valley Water Project Annual Flow Reports.

Releases as of May 15, 2018:

- Nacimiento Reservoir: 350 cfs
- San Antonio Reservoir: 260 cfs

Total releases from both reservoirs to the Salinas River are approximately 610 cfs. The following “provisional” flows have been recorded by the USGS:

- Salinas River near Spreckels: 49 cfs (increasing)
- Salinas River near Chualar: 112 cfs (steady)
- Salinas River at Soledad: 353 cfs (increasing)
- Salinas River near Bradley: 615 cfs (steady)