

Reservoir Release Update

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

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

RESERVOIR ELEVATION / STORAGE: As of April 5, 2019, San Antonio Reservoir has a water surface elevation of approximately 731.3 feet (NGVD 29), 134,135 acre-feet of storage. Nacimiento Reservoir has a water surface elevation of approximately 790.95 feet, 328,085 acre-feet of storage. San Antonio Reservoir is currently at 40% of storage capacity and Nacimiento Reservoir is at 87% of capacity.

From the seasonal low on November 28, 2018 Nacimiento Reservoir storage has increased by approximately 288,000 acre-feet. During the same period, San Antonio Reservoir storage has increased by approximately 92,500 acre-feet. Combined reservoir storage is currently 462,220 acre-feet.

RESERVOIR RELEASES: Based on rainfall and streamflow forecasts, the Agency increased releases from Nacimiento Reservoir on March 25th to ensure sufficient flow for adult steelhead upstream migration. In response to updated forecasts, Nacimiento Reservoir releases were returned to minimum fisheries flows on March 27th. Adult steelhead upstream passage conditions were met by natural flows. Conservation releases from Nacimiento Reservoir began on March 29th. Releases of 80 cfs from Nacimiento Reservoir and minimum releases of 10 cfs from San Antonio Reservoir are currently being made.

The Salinas River Lagoon opened to the ocean on January 19th in response to sandbar management activities conducted by the Agency. The Salinas River Lagoon remains open to the ocean.

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 April 5, 2019:

- Nacimiento Reservoir: 80 cfs
- San Antonio Reservoir: 10 cfs

Total releases from both reservoirs to the Salinas River are approximately 90 cfs. The following “provisional” flows have been recorded by the USGS:

- Salinas River near Bradley: 271 cfs (decreasing)
- Salinas River at Soledad: 317 cfs (decreasing)
- Salinas River near Chualar: 384 cfs (decreasing)
- Salinas River near Spreckels: 390 cfs (decreasing)

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

FINANCING:

None

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