

# County of Monterey

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



## Meeting Agenda - Final

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

9:00 AM

<https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747>

## **Board of Supervisors of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency**

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

### **Important Notice Regarding COVID 19**

Based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Office, in order to minimize the spread of the COVID 19 virus, please do the following:

1. While the Board chambers remain open, you are strongly encouraged to 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](http://www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV) or <https://www.facebook.com/MontereyCoInfo/>

If you attend the Board of Supervisors meeting in person, you will be required to maintain appropriate social distancing, i.e., maintain a 6-foot distance between yourself and other individuals.

2. 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 two 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](mailto: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.

3. You are encouraged to participate via Zoom; however, additional seating with audio of the Board meeting will be available in the Monterey Room on the 2nd floor of the County Government Center is needed for overflow.

## **Aviso importante sobre COVID 19**

Según la orientación del Departamento de Salud Pública de California y la Oficina del Gobernador de California, para minimizar la propagación del virus COVID 19, haga lo siguiente:

1. Mientras las cámaras de la Junta permanezcan abiertas, se le recomienda encarecidamente que observe 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](http://www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV) o <https://www.facebook.com/MontereyCoInfo/>

Si asiste a la reunión de la Junta de Supervisores en persona, se le pedirá que mantenga un distanciamiento social apropiado, es decir, mantenga una distancia de 6 pies entre usted y otras personas.

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

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](mailto:cob@co.monterey.ca.us). En un esfuerzo por ayudar al Secretario a identificar el ítem de la agenda relacionado con su comentario público, por favor indique en la Línea de Asunto, el cuerpo de la reunión (es decir, la Agenda de la Junta de Supervisores) y el número del ítem (es decir, el Ítem No. 10). Su comentario se colocará en el registro en la reunión de la Junta.

B. puede 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 los siguientes números:

+1669900 6833 EE. UU. (San José)

+ 1346248 7799 EE. UU. (Houston)

+1312626 6799 EE. UU. (Chicago)

+1929205 6099 EE. UU. (Nueva York)

+1 253215 8782 EE. UU.

+1 301 715 8592 EE. UU.

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

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

**3. Se le anima a participar a través de Zoom; sin embargo, se necesitarán asientos adicionales con audio de la reunión de la Junta en el Salón Monterey en el segundo piso del Centro de Gobierno del Condado para el desbordamiento.**

**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 COMMENT: 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.**

**Please refer to the separate agenda for the Board of Supervisors**

**Pursuant to AB361 some or all Supervisors may participate in the meeting by telephone or video conference.**

**9:00 A.M. - Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

**Additions and Corrections for Closed Session by County Counsel**

**Closed Session**

1. Closed Session under Government Code section 54950, relating to the following items:
    - a. Pursuant to Government Code section 54957(b)(1), the Board will confer regarding recruitment/appointment to the position of Monterey County Water Resources General Manager.
    - b. Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6, the Board will provide direction to labor negotiators:
      - (1) Designated representatives: Irma Ramirez-Bough, Director of Human Resources and Leslie J. Girard, County Counsel
- Employee Position: Monterey County Water Resources Agency General Manager

**Public Comments on Closed Session**

**The Board Recesses for Closed Session Agenda Items**

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

**Roll Call**

**Additions and Corrections by Clerk**

**General Public Comments**

**Consent Calendar**

2. Adopt a resolution to continue to delegate emergency contracting authority to the Monterey County Water Resources Agency General Manager pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22050 (4/5 vote required).

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)

**10:30 A.M. - Scheduled Matters**

3. Consider receiving the 2022 August Trough Groundwater Level and 2022 Seawater Intrusion Contour Maps

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                             [Attachment A - August Shallow 22](#)  
                             [Attachment B - August Deep 22](#)  
                             [Attachment C - 180Ft Aquifer SWI22](#)  
                             [Attachment D - 400Ft Aquifer SWI22](#)

**Read Out from Closed Session**

**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 23-011

February 28, 2023

**Introduced:** 2/21/2023

**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 54957(b)(1), the Board will confer regarding recruitment/appointment to the position of Monterey County Water Resources General Manager.

b. Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.6, the Board will provide direction to labor negotiators:

(1) Designated representatives: Irma Ramirez-Bough, Director of Human Resources and Leslie J. Girard, County Counsel

Employee Position: Monterey County Water Resources Agency General Manager



# County of Monterey

## Item No.2

### Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: 23-162

February 28, 2023

**Introduced:** 2/15/2023

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** General Agenda Item

Adopt a resolution to continue to delegate emergency contracting authority to the Monterey County Water Resources Agency General Manager pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22050 (4/5 vote required).

#### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution to continue to delegate emergency contracting authority to the Monterey County Water Resources Agency General Manager pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22050 (4/5 vote required).

#### SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

On January 10, 2023, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey ratified a Proclamation of Local Emergency due to an atmospheric river event commencing December 26, 2022, and continuing into January of 2023 throughout Monterey County. The proclamation gives the County certain emergency contracting authority pursuant to the Public Contract Code.

Public Contract Code section 22050 also provides that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency ("MCWRA") has similar emergency contracting authority in a proclaimed emergency to "repair or replace a public facility, take any directly related and immediate action required by that emergency, and procure the necessary equipment, services, and supplies for those purposes, without giving notice for bids to let contracts." That section also allows the MCWRA Board of Supervisors to delegate to the General Manager the emergency contracting authority. On January 24, 2023, the Board adopted Resolution No. 23-015 to delegate emergency contracting authority to the General Manager.

Pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22050(c), the General Manager shall report to the Board of Supervisors at each subsequent regular meeting so that the Board can review the emergency action to determine, by a 4/5ths vote, that there is a need to continue the emergency action. Here, MCWRA continues to respond to damage from the 2022/2023 atmospheric storm events, and to make necessary repairs to prevent further damage from potential future storm events this year. The time required to obtain to competitive bids continues to unduly delay MCWRA's ability to make emergency repairs to essential facilities and equipment. The public interest demands immediate action to prevent and mitigate loss of essential MCWRA infrastructure, including repairing damage to the Nacimiento spillway plunge pool, Pajaro Levee, Salinas River Lagoon slide gate levee, and flood and debris flow damage to other MCWRA infrastructure.



OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Numerous County departments and other agencies have participated in the response to the emergency including the Department of Emergency Management, Sheriff's Office, Information Technology Department, Department of Social Services, Health Department, County Administrative Office, Public Works, Facilities, and Parks Department, County Counsel's Office, the US Army Corps of Engineers, NOAA-National Marine Fisheries Service, US Fish and Wildlife Services, CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife, and the CA Coastal Commission.

FINANCING:

Preliminary damage estimates submitted to FEMA for repair costs to MCWRA facilities caused by January 2023 storm events were originally estimated at approximately \$16 million. These estimates continue to be refined as contracts for the emergency work are executed and work-in-progress is completed. Sources of financing for identified repairs projects include MCWRA unrestricted fund balances, and advance funding, subject to FEMA reimbursement, under the provisions of the recently approved Advanced Funding Agreement, approved the County Board of Supervisors and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors.

Prepared and Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lew Bauman, Interim General Manager (831)755-4860



# County of Monterey

**Item No.**

## Board Report

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

**Legistar File Number: 23-162**

**February 28, 2023**

**Introduced:** 2/15/2023

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** General Agenda Item

Adopt a resolution to continue to delegate emergency contracting authority to the Monterey County Water Resources Agency General Manager pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22050 (4/5 vote required).

### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution to continue to delegate emergency contracting authority to the Monterey County Water Resources Agency General Manager pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22050 (4/5 vote required).

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Legistar File Number: 23-162

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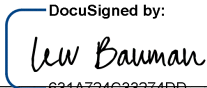
OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Numerous County departments and other agencies have participated in the response to the emergency including the Department of Emergency Management, Sheriff's Office, Information Technology Department, Department of Social Services, Health Department, County Administrative Office, Public Works, Facilities, and Parks Department, County Counsel's Office, the US Army Corps of Engineers, NOAA-National Marine Fisheries Service, US Fish and Wildlife Services, CA Dept of Fish and Wildlife, and the CA Coastal Commission.

FINANCING:

Preliminary damage estimates submitted to FEMA for repair costs to MCWRA facilities caused by January 2023 storm events were originally estimated at approximately \$16 million. These estimates continue to be refined as contracts for the emergency work are executed and work-in-progress is completed. Sources of financing for identified repairs projects include MCWRA unrestricted fund balances, and advance funding, subject to FEMA reimbursement, under the provisions of the recently approved Advanced Funding Agreement, approved the County Board of Supervisors and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors.

Prepared and Approved By:

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Lew Bauman, Interim General Manager (831)755-4860



# County of Monterey

## Item No.3

### Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: 23-163

February 28, 2023

Introduced: 2/15/2023

Current Status: Scheduled AM

Version: 1

Matter Type: General Agenda Item

Consider receiving the 2022 August Trough Groundwater Level and 2022 Seawater Intrusion Contour Maps

#### RECOMMENDATION:

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

Receive the 2022 August Trough Groundwater Level and 2022 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*.

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors received the 2022 August Trough Groundwater Level Contour and 2022 Historical Seawater Intrusion maps on February 21st, 2023. The data collection and analysis related to the mapping is described in more detail below.

#### August Trough Groundwater Level Survey - (Strategic Plan Programs No. 23 Groundwater monitoring of dedicated wells and No. 50 August Trough)

On a single day in August, Agency staff conducts an intensive groundwater level survey of the northern Salinas Valley. Groundwater levels (GWLs) are sampled at 143 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 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 2022 August Trough contours for the 180-Foot and East Side Shallow Aquifers are included as Attachment A. Compared to the 2021 survey, there was a decline in groundwater levels of 2-4 feet near the coast, meaning groundwater elevations remained below sea level. The East Side trough and

groundwater levels in the area north of Salinas deepened by 10 feet. Groundwater levels in the area south of Salinas and towards Chualar saw declines of 4 to 12 feet from last year.

The 2022 August Trough contours for the 400-Foot and East Side Deep Aquifers are included as Attachment B. Near the coast, groundwater levels declined 3-6 feet southwest of the Salinas River Lagoon, 10 feet towards Castroville, and declined 20-25 feet in the Espinosa Lake area. The -20 foot elevation contour is south of the Salinas Lagoon, meaning groundwater elevations in the 400-Foot Aquifer remained between 20 and 30 feet below sea level at the coast. The East Side trough widened towards the area north of Salinas and deepened by 10 feet. Groundwater levels in the area south of Salinas towards Chualar saw declines of 5 to 12 feet from last year.

2022 Seawater Intrusion (SWI) Maps - (Strategic Plan Programs No. 23 Groundwater monitoring of dedicated wells and No. 52 Coastal GW Quality Monitoring)

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 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 Monterey County Water Resources 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.

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. The Agency’s network of small diameter monitoring wells is sampled once in September.

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. Additionally, this year the 250 mg/L isocontours are included on both the 180-Ft Aquifer and 400-Ft Aquifer Seawater Intrusion Maps.

In 2022 the 500 mg/L or greater chloride areas show no advancement within the 180-Foot Aquifer (Attachment C).

Within the 400-Foot Aquifer, the 500 mg/L or greater chloride area of the main seawater intrusion front showed advancement occurring in two areas, along the middle section near where the Salinas River crosses Highway 1 and along the southern lobe, near Blanco Road (Attachment D). Interestingly, groundwater levels in both these areas have declined between 5 and 10 feet.

Additionally, the large southern “island” of seawater intrusion that is not contiguous with the regional seawater intrusion front expanded along its east and south margins and the “arm” that previously joined the southern and middle islands in 2020 also showed expansion. This occurred in the area of Nashua and Cooper Roads and groundwater levels have declined in these areas by 10 to 15 feet.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

FINANCING:

There is no financial impact in receiving this report. Activities associated with this program are funded by Funds 111 & 116 and included in each year’s budget.

Prepared by: Nicole Koerth, Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860  
Tamara Voss, Associate Hydrologist, (831)755-4860

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lew Bauman, Interim General Manager (831)755-4860

Attachments:

- A: August Trough 2022 Groundwater Elevation Contours, 180-Ft and East Side Shallow Aquifers
- B: August Trough 2022 Groundwater Elevation Contours, 400-Ft and East Side Deep Aquifers
- C: 2022 Historical Seawater Intrusion Map, 180-Ft Aquifer
- D: 2022 Historical Seawater Intrusion Map, 400-Ft Aquifer



# County of Monterey

**Item No.**

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
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**Legistar File Number: 23-163**

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OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

FINANCING:

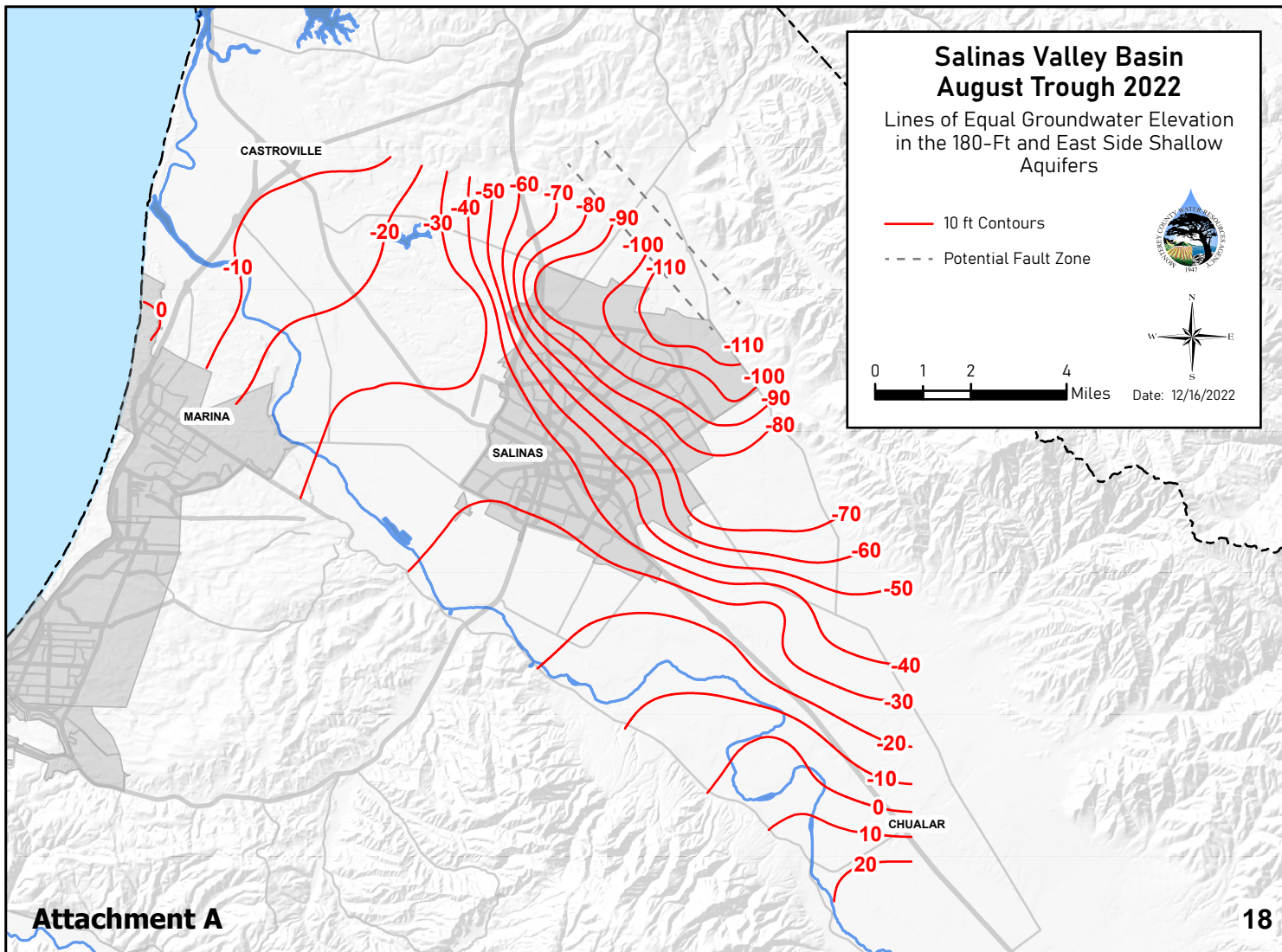
There is no financial impact in receiving this report. Activities associated with this program are funded by Funds 111 & 116 and included in each year’s budget.

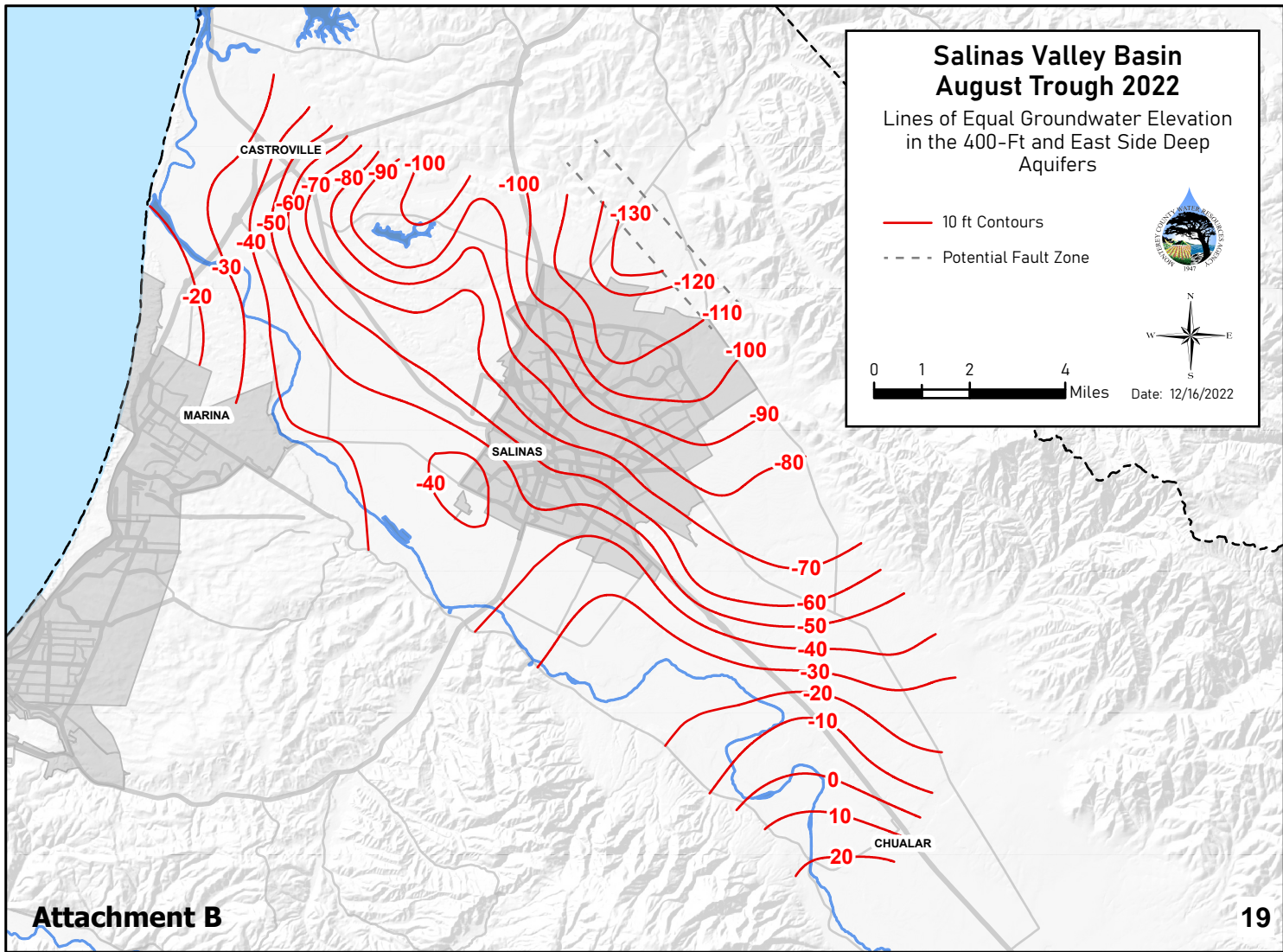
Prepared by: Nicole Koerth, Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860  
Tamara Voss, Associate Hydrologist, (831)755-4860

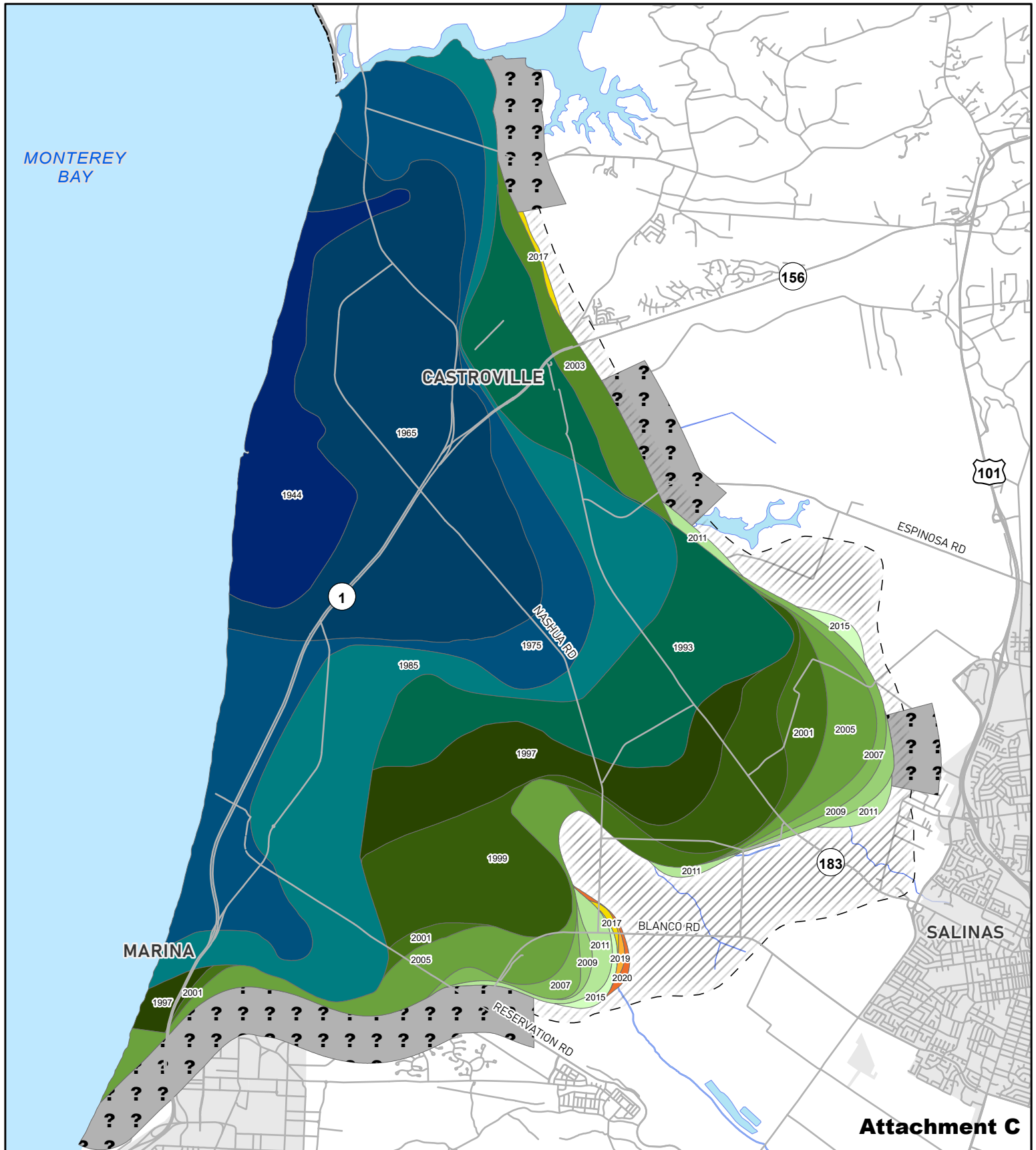
Approved by:   
Lew Bauman, Interim General Manager (831)755-4860

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- C: 2022 Historical Seawater Intrusion Map, 180-Ft Aquifer
- D: 2022 Historical Seawater Intrusion Map, 400-Ft Aquifer

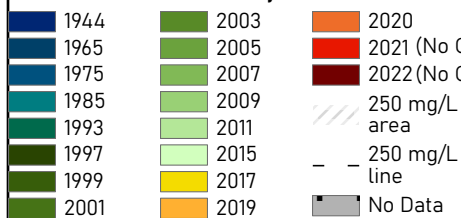






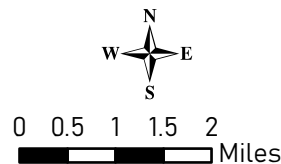
**Attachment C**

**Seawater Intruded Areas By Year**



**Historical Seawater Intrusion Map**

**180-Foot Aquifer  
500 mg/L or Greater Chloride Areas**



Monterey County  
Water Resources Agency

Date: 1/3/2023



