

Monterey County

1441 Schilling Place
Salinas, CA 93901



Meeting Agenda - Final

Thursday, January 28, 2021

1:30 PM

IMPORTANT COVID-19 NOTICE ON PAGE 2-4

AVISO IMPORTANTE SOBRE COVID-19 EN LA PAGINA 2-4

Water Resources Agency Reservoir Operations

Advisory Committee

John Baillie, Chair

Ken Ekelund

Mark Gonzalez

Matthew Simis

Benny Jefferson

Eric Morgan

Wes Thomson

Kevin Pearcy

John Huerta, Jr.

Jon Anthony

Bill Lipe

Don Bullard

Patrick Collins

Vacancy (3)

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING COVID 19 AND PARTICIPATION IN THE RESERVOIR OPERATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee meeting will be held by teleconference in order to minimize the spread of the COVID 19 virus, in accordance with the State of Emergency proclaimed by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020, Executive Order N 29 20 issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, and the Shelter in Place Order issued by the Monterey County Health Officer on March 17, 2020, as may be periodically amended.

To participate in this Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee meeting, the public is invited to observe and address the Committee telephonically or electronically. Instructions for public participation are below:

1. For ZOOM participation please join by computer audio at:

<https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/91007418619>

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: 910 0741 8619 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.

2. If you wish to comment on a specific agenda item while the matter is being heard, you may participate by the following means:

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3. If you wish to comment on a particular agenda item, please submit your comments in writing via email to Monterey County Water Resources Agency at WRAPubliccomment@co.monterey.ca.us by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the Committee meeting. To assist Agency staff in identifying the agenda item to which the comment relates please indicate the Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee meeting date and agenda number in the subject line. Comments received by

the 5:00 p.m. Wednesday deadline will be distributed to the Committee and will be placed in the record.

4. 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. Reservoir Operations 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.

5. If speakers or other members of the public have documents they wish to distribute to the Committee for an agenda item, they are encouraged to submit such documents by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday before the meeting to: WRAPubliccomment@co.monterey.ca.us. To assist Agency staff in identifying the agenda item to which the comment relates, the public is requested to indicate the Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee date and agenda number in the subject line.

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7. Individuals with disabilities who desire to request a reasonable accommodation or modification to observe or participate in the meeting may make such request by sending an email to WRAPubliccomment@co.monterey.ca.us. The request should be made no later than noon on the Wednesday prior to the Committee meeting in order to provide time for the Agency to address the request.

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

AVISO IMPORTANTE SOBRE COVID 19 Y PARTICIPACIÓN EN LA REUNIÓN DEL COMITE ASESOR DE LA OPERACION DE EMBALSES

La reunión del Comité Asesor de la Operación de Embalses se llevará a cabo por teleconferencia para minimizar la propagación del virus COVID 19, de acuerdo con el Estado de Emergencia proclamado por el Gobernador Newsom el 4 de Marzo del 2020, Orden Ejecutiva N 29 20 emitida por el Gobernador Newsom el 17 de Marzo del 2020, y la Orden de Refugio en el Lugar”) emitida por el Oficial de Salud del Condado de Monterey el 17 de Marzo del 2020, según se pueda enmendar periódicamente.

Para participar en esta reunión del Comité Asesor de la Operación de Embalses, el público están invitados a observar y dirigirse al Comité telefónicamente o por vía electrónica. Las instrucciones para la participación pública están a continuación:

1. El público puede observar la reunión ZOOM a través de computadora haciendo clic en el siguiente enlace: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/91007418619>

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2. Los miembros del público que desean comentar en un artículo específico de la agenda, mientras que el artículo se este presentando durante la reunión, pueden participar por cualquiera de los siguientes medios:

Cuando el Presidente del Comité solicite comentarios públicos sobre un artículo de la agenda, el anfitrión de la reunión Zoom o su designado, primero determinará quién quiere testificar (entre los que están en la reunión por vía electrónica o telefónica) y luego llamará a los oradores (speakers) y activará la bocina para el orador, uno a la vez. Todo orador, será transmitido por audio en altavoz solamente.

3. 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 Miércoles 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 Miércoles a las 5 P.M, serán distribuidos al Comité y serán colocados en el registro.

4. Los miembros del público que deseen hacer un comentario público general para temas que no

están en la agenda del día o que deseen comentar en un artículo específico mientras se escucha la presentación, lo pueden hacer enviando un comentario por correo electrónico, preferiblemente limitado a 250 palabras o menos, a WRAPubliccomment@co.monterey.ca.us. Para ayudar al personal de la Agencia a identificar el artículo de la agenda con el cual se relaciona el comentario, se solicita al público que indique el nombre del Comité (por ejemplo: Comité Asesor de la Operación de Embalses) y el número del artículo de la agenda (por ejemplo: Artículo # 10). Se hará todo lo posible para leer el comentario en el registro, pero algunos comentarios pueden no leerse en voz alta debido a limitaciones de tiempo. Los comentarios recibidos después del cierre del período de comentarios públicos sobre un artículo de la agenda serán parte del registro si se reciben antes que termine la reunión del Comité.

5. Si los oradores u otros miembros del público tienen documentos que desean distribuir al Comité para un artículo de la agenda, se les recomienda enviar dichos documentos antes de las 5:00 P.M. el Miércoles antes de la reunión a: WRAPubliccomment@co.monterey.ca.us. 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 reunion del Comité y el número de agenda en la línea de asunto.

6. Si los miembros del público desean presentar documentos o presentaciones de PowerPoint mientras hablan, deben enviar el documento electrónicamente antes de las 5:00 P.M. del Miércoles antes de la reunión a WRAPubliccomment@co.monterey.ca.us (Si se presenta después de ese plazo, el personal hará los mejores esfuerzos, pero no puede garantizar que esté disponible su PowerPoint para presentar durante la reunión del Comité).

7. Las personas con discapacidades que deseen solicitar una modificación o modificación razonable para observar o participar en la reunión pueden realizar dicha solicitud enviando un correo electrónico a WRAPubliccomment@co.monterey.ca.us. La solicitud debe hacerse a más tardar el mediodía del Miércoles antes de a la reunión del Comité para dar tiempo a la Agencia para que atienda la solicitud .

8. 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

Consent Calendar

1. Approve the Minutes of the Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2020.

Attachments: [Draft Action Minutes December 10, 2020](#)

Scheduled Items

2. Consider recommending that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors adopt “Standards and Guiding Principles of Reservoir Operations During Drought Conditions”.

Attachments: [Board Report](#)
[Attachment 1 Standards and Guiding Principles](#)

Staff Reports

3. Reservoir Release Update

Attachments: [Reservoir Release Update Report](#)
4. Update on operations and maintenance activities at the reservoirs
5. Update on Division of Safety of Dams Requirements
6. Update on Interlake Tunnel Project

Status Reports

7. Lake Recreation by Concessionaire and Parks Department
Quagga/Zebra Mussel Plan
Cloud Seeding
San Luis Obispo County Activities
National Marine Fisheries Service

Calendar

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

Adjournment



Monterey County

Item No.1

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRARO 21-004

January 28, 2021

Introduced: 1/21/2021

Current Status: Draft

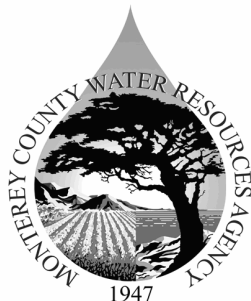
Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA ResOps Item

Approve the Minutes of the Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2020.

Monterey County

*Monterey County Government Center
Board of Supervisors Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901*



Action Minutes - Draft

Thursday, December 10, 2020

1:30 PM

RESERVOIR OPERATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**IMPORTANT COVID-19 NOTICE ON PAGE 2-4 AVISO IMPORTANTE
SOBRE COVID-19**

Water Resources Agency Board of Directors

Vice-Chair John Baillie

Mark Gonzalez

Deidre Sullivan

Ken Ekelund

Mike Scattini

Mike LeBarre

Jason Smith

Matt Simis

Marvin Borzini

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

Committee Members

Richard Ortiz, Chair
Ken Ekelund
John Baillie
Matthew Simis
Benny Jefferson
Jon Anthony

Eric Morgan
Bill Lipe
Layla Decker
Wes Thomson
Don Bullard
Kevin Pearcy

Call to Order at 1:30 P.M.

Present: Ortiz, Ekelund, Baillie, Simis, Anthony, Lipe and Thomson
Absent: Jefferson, Morgan, Decker and Pearcy

Public Comment

None

Consent Calendar

1. Approve the Minutes of the Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee Meeting held on October 29, 2020.

Attachments: [Draft Action Minutes October 29, 2020](#)

Upon Motion by John Baillie and Second by Matt Simis, the Committee approved the Action Minutes of the Meeting held on October 29, 2020.

Ayes: Ortiz, Ekelund, Baillie, Simis, Anthony, Lipe, Thomson
Noes: None
Abstain: Bullard
Absent: Jefferson, Morgan, Decker and Pearcy

Staff Reports

2. Reservoir Release Update

Attachments: [Reservoir Release Update](#)

3. Update on the release schedule for Nacimiento and San Antonio reservoirs for 2020

Attachments: [Reservoir Release Schedule 2020](#)
 [Reservoir Release Schedule 2020 - updated post meeting](#)

4. Update on operations and maintenance activities at the reservoirs

5. Update on Division of Safety of Dams Requirements

Attachments: [Presentation given at the meeting-uploaded post meeting](#)

6. Update on Interlake Tunnel Project

Status Reports

7. Lake Recreation by Concessionaire and Parks Department
Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program
Quagga/Zebra Mussel Plan
Cloud Seeding
San Luis Obispo County Activities
National Marine Fisheries Service

Calendar

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

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.



Monterey County

Item No.2

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRARO 21-011

January 28, 2021

Introduced: 1/21/2021

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA ResOps Item

Consider recommending that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors adopt "Standards and Guiding Principles of Reservoir Operations During Drought Conditions".

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee:

Recommend that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors adopt "Standards and Guiding Principles of Reservoir Operations During Drought Conditions".

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

In the summer of 2020, the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) formed and convened a Drought Operations Technical Advisory Committee (D-TAC) to develop a document of standards and guiding principles which would be used in the development of a proposed reservoir release schedule, when triggered under specific, seasonally defined conditions (Attachment 1). The D-TAC met formally on three occasions in August, November and December of 2020 to deliberate on a set of standards and guiding principles, ultimately reaching consensus at their December 28, 2020 meeting. The final document not only captured those standards and guiding principles, but also the triggers and procedures in which the D-TAC would reconvene to develop a proposed reservoir release schedule.

The D-TAC was formed through a litigation settlement agreement (Attachment 1, Appendix A) as an ad hoc committee of independent third-party experts with expertise in any of the following fields: hydrology, hydrogeology, hydrologic modeling, civil engineering, ecology, or fish and wildlife biology. In January 2020 the MCWRA opened an application cycle, via its website, available to all interested organizations and parties wishing to participate. The experts are retained and paid for, but not employed by any interested person or organization.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

None

FINANCING:

None

Prepared by: Howard Franklin, Senior Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860
Nicole Koerth, Hydrologist (831) 755-4860

Approved by: Brent Buche, General Manager

Attachments:

1. "Standards and Guiding Principles of Reservoir Operations During Drought Conditions"



Monterey County

Item No.

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRARO 21-011

January 28, 2021

Introduced: 1/21/2021

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA ResOps Item

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OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

None

FINANCING:

None

Prepared by: Howard Franklin, Senior Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860
Nicole Koerth, Hydrologist (831) 755-4860

Approved by: Brent Buche, General Manager

Attachments:

1. "Standards and Guiding Principles of Reservoir Operations During Drought Conditions"

Drought Operations Technical Advisory Committee

Standards and Guiding Principles of Reservoir Operations During Drought Conditions

This document provides a foundation of standards and guiding principles to be used in the development of a proposed reservoir release schedule triggered under specific, seasonally defined conditions.

Standards: a level of quality or achievement that is considered acceptable or desirable.

Standards are in place to ensure that basic needs are met by partners through clearly defined behaviors that are acceptable. The drought operations technical advisory committee will strive to have attainable standards.

Guiding Principles: guide an organization towards its goals.

Guiding Principles are in place to ensure we continue to move toward our goals with flexibility and unity of effort.

Introduction

Prior to being formally established in 1991, the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) was the Monterey County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, established in 1947 and organized as a division of the Public Works Department of the County of Monterey. MCWRA provides services related to the control of flood and storm waters in Monterey County, conservation, protection of water quality, reclamation of water and the exchange of water. MCWRA is a public agency created by the State of California pursuant to the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Act (California Water Code, Appendix 52).

MCWRA owns and operates two dams along with associated reservoirs. Nacimiento Dam is on the Nacimiento River, a tributary to the Salinas River. Nacimiento Dam is approximately 12.3 river miles upstream of its confluence with the Salinas River and forms the Nacimiento Reservoir, with a maximum storage capacity of approximately 377,900 acre-feet. San Antonio Dam, on the San Antonio River is approximately 8.6 river miles upstream of its confluence with the Salinas River. San Antonio Dam forms the San Antonio Reservoir, with a maximum storage capacity of approximately 335,000 acre-feet of water. The Nacimiento and San Antonio Rivers enter the Salinas River at river miles 108 and 104, respectively, from its mouth at the Pacific Ocean in Monterey Bay.

The purpose of the Drought Operations Technical Advisory Committee (D-TAC) is to provide, when drought triggers occur, technical input and advice regarding the operations of Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs. This document was developed by the members of the D-TAC to

provide a foundation of Standards and Guiding Principles to be used in the development of a proposed reservoir release schedule triggered under specific, seasonally defined conditions. A Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) is currently being developed to address the effects of reservoir operations and other actions on Federally endangered species and will further address drought operations in the Salinas River system. Documents and procedures developed by the D-TAC will be considered during development of the HCP. MCWRA will convene with stakeholders to determine if modifications to these drought procedures are warranted in light of the terms of the final HCP. Drought operations developed by the D-TAC will also consider management actions and sustainability criteria within the Groundwater Sustainability Plans for the Salinas Valley groundwater basin.

Formation of the D-TAC

The D-TAC was formed through a settlement agreement (Appendix A) to develop Standards and Guiding Principles and proposed reservoir release schedules for MCWRA drought operations. The D-TAC is an ad hoc committee of independent third-party experts with expertise in any of the following fields: hydrology, hydrogeology, hydrologic modeling, civil engineering, ecology, or fish and wildlife biology. The experts are retained and paid for, but not employed by any interested person or organization. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, State Water Resources Control Board, Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency are using in-house staff as D-TAC members. Each time a Drought Trigger occurs, the chair of the D-TAC shall rotate, in alphabetical order, by the name of the organization D-TAC members represent. Organizations with multiple members will only have one-person chair in the rotation.

D-TAC Members (ordered alphabetically by organization):

- Donald Baldwin, Environmental Scientist, - California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Dennis Michniuk, District Biologist Coastal Fisheries - California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Robert Abrams, PhD, PG, CHg – Grower-Shipper Association
- William Stevens, Natural Resource Management Specialist - National Marine Fisheries Service
- Shaunna Murray, Senior Water Resources Engineer – Monterey County Water Resources Agency
- Germán Criollo, PE, Associate Hydrologist – Monterey County Water Resources Agency
- Jason Demers, Associate Engineer – Monterey County Water Resources Agency
- Emily Gardner, Dep. General Manager – Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- Curtis Weeks, PE, - Salinas Valley Water Coalition
- Mark Ogonowski, Senior Fish and Wildlife Biologist – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Facilitation and Support:

- Howard Franklin, PG, Senior Hydrologist – Monterey County Water Resources Agency
- Nicole Koerth, GIT, Hydrologist – Monterey County Water Resources Agency

D-TAC Triggers

Drought Triggers, or reservoir storage thresholds for when the D-TAC shall meet to develop a release schedule, are defined in Exhibit B of the Settlement Agreement (Appendix A). These triggers are based on operational considerations and not water year type. The storage thresholds defined assume that MCWRA can make conservation releases to the Salinas River Diversion Facility (SRDF) for two months and maintain minimum releases until September.

A Drought Trigger occurs if the following criteria is met:

- At the October Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee meeting of each year, MCWRA staff will present an updated reservoir release schedule and the then-current forecast for December 1st storage at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs. If the December 1st forecasted combined reservoir storage volume at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs is below 220,000 acre-feet and the San Antonio Reservoir's December 1st forecasted storage is below 82,000 acre-feet, the D-TAC process shall commence.
- The MCWRA will schedule the first D-TAC meeting to occur no earlier than February 15th and the D-TAC will meet as needed through March 31st. The D-TAC will develop a recommended release schedule that is consistent with the Standards and Guiding Principles.
- If at any time between December 1st and March 31st the actual reservoir storage volumes equals or exceeds the combined or individual minimum storage thresholds, the D-TAC process will terminate, and no release schedule will be prepared by the D-TAC.

Standards:

- The proposed reservoir release operations schedule triggered under specific, seasonally defined conditions of drought will be developed based on the best available scientific knowledge, data, and understanding of the environmental biology, hydrology and hydrogeology of the Salinas Valley; under the technical expertise of the members of the D-TAC.
- The proposed reservoir release schedule will be implemented based on specific tools and templates made available to the D-TAC. These are discussed further in the Implementation Procedures section.
- The proposed reservoir release schedule will acknowledge, address, and balance the water needs of various stakeholders for limited resources during a drought.

Guiding Principles:

- MCWRA is a public agency charged with the long-term management of water resources in the Salinas Valley and is also the flood control agency for Monterey County. Therefore, any releases of water from Nacimiento or San Antonio Reservoirs will be made with consideration given first to safety, including flow conditions and the structural integrity of Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams.
- MCWRA operates Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs under regulatory authorizations; as well as through legal agreements (Appendix C).
- Any reservoir release schedule developed by the D-TAC should:
 - When conservation releases are made, maintain geographic equity to fullest extent possible;
 - Comply with applicable regulations and agreements relating to the operation of Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs;
 - Avoid, to the extent possible, consecutive years where only minimum releases are made from the reservoirs;
 - Avoid, to the extent possible, adverse effects to native species and their habitats;
 - Safely use existing MCWRA infrastructure while balancing water availability and use; and
 - Avoid, to the extent possible, adverse impacts to valley-wide agricultural operations.

Implementation Procedures:

- The D-TAC will use a MCWRA provided template when developing the release schedule. The specific actions will also be described in a narrative form to expound upon the actions taken for each month shown in the release schedule.
- The release schedule will be developed for April through December of the current year. If significant inflow occurs during this period, then modifications to the release schedule will be made through existing MCWRA protocols.
- The D-TAC will develop a dry winter scenario narrative for the following January- March period to allow for the possibility of multiple dry winter release operations.
- The reservoir release schedule includes estimated values for demands, releases and associated reservoir elevations and storage volumes. It serves as a guideline for reservoir operations. Actual operations will require the flexibility to respond to current hydrologic and facility conditions.
- The release schedule will be updated on a monthly basis for discussion at the Reservoir Operations Committee.
- Reservoir releases will be made under direction of the MCWRA Board of Directors or Board of Supervisors through the adoption of a reservoir release schedule or dry winter release priorities, to be executed by MCWRA staff.

Summary Actions

The Standards and Guiding Principles Document and any recommended release schedule prepared by the D-TAC will first be received by the Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee. The Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee will meet to discuss the Standards and Guiding Principles or release schedule and will solicit information, data and public comment regarding appropriate MCWRA operations during droughts. Following receipt of public input regarding the Standards and Guiding Principles or any subsequent release schedule, the Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee will then prepare a written recommendation regarding reservoir operations which will be transmitted to the MCWRA Board of Directors for consideration and action. Any interested party that dissents from the Reservoir Operations Committee's recommendation may submit separate written comments to the MCWRA Board of Directors. The MCWRA Board of Directors will determine, in accordance with applicable law, whether MCWRA will adopt and implement the Standards and Guiding Principles or release schedule, provided the MCWRA General Manager may, in his sole discretion, refer the question of whether MCWRA should adopt and implement the Standards and Guiding Principles or a release schedule to the MCWRA Board of Supervisors for final determination. In the event the MCWRA General Manager elects not to refer the question of adoption and implementation of Standards and Guiding Principles or a release schedule to the MCWRA Board of Supervisors, the decision of the MCWRA Board of Directors regarding such questions shall constitute final agency action for all purposes. The MCWRA Board of Directors (or MCWRA Board of Supervisors, if applicable) will retain full discretion and authority to accept or reject, in whole or in part, the written recommendations of the Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: *Settlement Agreement Between Monterey County Water Resources Agency, The Agency Board of Supervisors, the Agency Board of Directors, the County of Monterey, the County Board of Supervisors, and the Salinas Valley Water Coalition; November 15, 2019*

- <https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/Home/ShowDocument?id=98911>

Documents referenced in Exhibit B of the Settlement Agreement

- *Salinas Valley Water Project, Engineer's Report, January 2003*
 - <https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=24202>
- *Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement for the Salinas Valley Water Project*
 - *Draft, June 2001:*
<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=24180>
 - *Final Volume 1, April 2002:*
<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=24186>
 - *Final Volume 2, April 2002:*
<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=24188>
- *Salinas Valley Water Project EIR Addendum, July 17, 2007*
 - <https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/home/showpublisheddocument?id=98572>

Appendix B: *Definition of Terms*

Appendix C: *Monterey County Water Resources Agency's Water Rights and Agreements*

Appendix B: Definition of Terms

Adult Steelhead Upstream Migration Releases – Reservoir releases made to facilitate upstream migration of adult steelhead between February 1st- March 31st, when triggers are met. If the 1) combined storage of Nacimiento and San Antonio reservoirs is greater than 220,000 AF, 2) 340 cfs or higher flows are present at the Arroyo Seco near Soledad gage (USGS streamflow gage 11152000), and 3) 173 cfs or higher flows are present at the Arroyo Seco below the Reliz Creek gage (USGS streamflow gage 11152050), MCWRA will provide flows of at least 260 cfs at the Salinas River near Chualar (USGS streamflow gage 11152300) for five or more consecutive days, when the river mouth is open to the ocean.

Block Flow Releases – Reservoir releases made to facilitate the downstream migration of smolts and rearing juvenile steelhead in the Salinas River beginning March 15th in normal-category type years. The following triggers must be met for releases to be made 1) water year type is dry-normal, normal or wet-normal, 2) combined storage of Nacimiento and San Antonio reservoirs is 150,000 AF or more on March 15th, and 3) 125 cfs or higher at the Nacimiento River below Sapaque Creek gage (USGS streamflow gage 111489000) or 70 cfs at the Arroyo Seco below Reliz Creek gage (USGS streamflow gage 11152050). Amount and duration of block flow depends on when the flows are triggered.

Conservation Pool – Water in reservoirs used for groundwater recharge, operation of the Salinas River Diversion Facility, water supply, fish migration, and fish habitat requirements. Volume of 289,013 acre-feet between 687.8 feet and 787.75 feet in Nacimiento Reservoir and volume of 282,000 acre-feet between 666 feet and 774.5 feet in San Antonio Reservoir.

Conservation Releases – Water discharged for the purpose of recharging the groundwater basin.

Dead Pool – The storage between the bottom of the reservoir and elevation 670 feet for Nacimiento Reservoir, the invert of the intake structure of the low-level outlet works, and elevation 645 feet for San Antonio Reservoir, the invert of the intake structure of the outlet works. The volume of the Dead Pool is 10,300 acre-feet in Nacimiento Reservoir and 10,000 acre-feet in San Antonio Reservoir. Water cannot flow out by gravity out of Nacimiento Reservoir below 670 feet elevation and out of San Antonio below 645 feet elevation.

Downstream Migration of Juvenile Steelhead and Kelts Releases – Reservoir releases and SRDF bypass flows made to enhance migration opportunities for juvenile steelhead and post-spawn adult steelhead (kelts) made in years when block flow releases for smolt migration don't occur by April 1st.

Dry Year – Water year in which unimpaired annual mean flow at the USGS streamgage on the Arroyo Seco near Soledad (USGS streamgage 11152000) falls in the 75-100% percentile of mean annual flows ranked in descending order (as defined in the Salinas Valley Water Project Flow Prescription for Steelhead Trout in the Salinas River).

Environmental Compliance – Conforming to any environmental regulatory requirements currently imposed or those that become imposed in the future.

Flood Pool – Water used to temporarily store flood water during the winter. Volume of 66,587 acre-feet between 787.75 feet and 800 feet in Nacimiento Reservoir and volume of 30,000 acre-feet between 774.5 feet and 780 feet in San Antonio Reservoir.

Maximum Reservoir Elevation – Maximum reservoir elevation that can be sustained, and the level at which the reservoir is considered full. Elevation of 800 feet in Nacimiento Reservoir and 780 feet in San Antonio Reservoir.

Minimum Releases – Reservoir releases made to provide steelhead spawning and rearing habitat flows. Minimum releases are 60 cfs from Nacimiento Dam as long as the water surface elevation of Nacimiento Reservoir is above 687.8 feet, and 10 cfs from San Antonio Dam as long as the water surface elevation of San Antonio Reservoir is above 666 feet.

Minimum Pool – The storage above Dead Pool and below Conservation Pool. This is between elevation 670 feet and 687.8 feet in Nacimiento Reservoir. The volume of this pool is 12,000 acre-feet which is reserved for use by the County of San Luis Obispo per the 1959 San Luis Obispo County Agreement. In San Antonio Reservoir, minimum pool is between elevation 670 feet and 687.7 feet, with a volume of 12,000 acre-feet.

Minimum Recreation Elevation – Lowest Nacimiento Reservoir elevation at which most of the boat ramps around the reservoir are useable and which most private property owners have access to the reservoir.

Natural Flow – Water that would exist in a stream at a given point in time in the absence of human activity (Source: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/board_info/faqs.html)

NWP Intake Elevation – Lowest Nacimiento Reservoir elevation at which San Luis Obispo County can take water through the Nacimiento Water Project. Elevation of 670 feet.

Operations Ratio – The ratio of empty space in the conservation pools of San Antonio and Nacimiento Reservoirs, with Nacimiento as the numerator. Historically, this ratio was defined as 3 to 1, and reservoir releases were made in such a manner that the ratio was reached prior to halting releases at onset of the rainy season.

Salinas River Diversion Facility (SRDF) – A component of the Salinas Valley Water Project that consists of an inflatable Obermeyer dam and a river intake structure to provide treated river water to growers within the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project service area. This facility is located approximately 5 river miles upstream of the mouth of the Salinas River.

Salinas Valley Water Project (SVWP) – A project developed by MCWRA and Salinas Valley interests that consists of the modifications of the spillway at Nacimiento Dam and the construction of the Salinas River Diversion Facility, near the city of Marina. The goals of the project are to help stop seawater intrusion, improve flood control, recharge Salinas Valley groundwater, and improve conditions for steelhead trout.

Top of Dam – The dam crest. Elevation of 825 feet at Nacimiento Dam and 802 feet at San Antonio Dam.

Water Year – The 12-month period from October 1st through September 30th. The water year is designated by the calendar year in which it ends, and which included 9 out of the 12 months. For examples, the year ending on September 30th, 1959 is called “1959 water year”.

Water Year Type – Determination of water year type (e.g. dry, normal, wet) is made based on unimpaired annual mean flows at the USGS streamgage on the Arroyo Seco near Soledad (USGS Streamgage 11152000). Annual mean flows are ranked in descending order and stream flow corresponding to the 25th and 75th percentile are selected as the thresholds. Wet years are defined as flows below the 25th percentile, Normal years between the 25th and 75th percentile, and Dry years above the 75th percentile. Year type determinations are made on March 15th (preliminary) and April 1st (official) of each year. (as defined in the Salinas Valley Water Project Flow Prescription for Steelhead Trout in the Salinas River).

Appendix C: Monterey County Water Resources Agency's Water Rights and Agreements

Nacimiento Reservoir

Water Rights License 7543 – License for Diversion and Use of Water, No. 7543, from the California State Water Resources Control Board, was issued November 4, 1965.

This license was last amended September 5, 2008 to specify that the place of use of water from this license changed to include 421,435 acres of land comprising MCWRA's Zone 2C assessment zone, to add a point of rediversion at the Salinas River Diversion Facility (SRDF), and to add fish flow requirements that were consistent with the June 21, 2007, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) biological opinion issued to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (biological opinion).

License No. 7543 gives MCWRA the right to store 350,000 AF from October 1 of each year to July 1 of the succeeding year and to withdraw a maximum of 180,000 AF per year. The purpose of use are for irrigation, domestic, municipal, industrial, and recreational uses.

Documents for this can be found in Appendix B of the Nacimiento Dam Operation Policy:

<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/Home/ShowDocument?id=63151>

Water Rights Permit 21089 – Permit for Diversion and Use of Water, No. 21089, from the California State Water Resources Control Board, was issued March 23, 2001. This permit was last amended September 5, 2008, to specify that the place of use of water from this license changed to include 421,435 acres of land comprising MCWRA's Zone 2C assessment zone, to add a point of rediversion at the SRDF, and to add fish flow requirements that were consistent with the NMFS biological opinion.

The original reservoir volume computations submitted and subsequently approved in License No. 7543, were based on United States Geological Survey (USGS) Quad sheets from the 1940s. In the early 1990s, aerial surveys with increased accuracy showed that the actual volume of Nacimiento Reservoir was greater than the 350,000 AF in License 7543. In order to correct this discrepancy, MCWRA filed water rights Application No. 30532. Nacimiento Dam has never been modified in any way to increase storage and the reservoir volume is unchanged from the time of the dam's construction, with the exception of the inflow of silt from natural runoff which has decreased storage volume.

As a result of this application, MCWRA has a permit to collect to storage 27,900 AF per annum from October 1 of each year to July 1 of the succeeding year. The total quantity of water collected to storage under this permit and License 7543 shall not exceed 377,900 AF per year.

Documents for this can be found in Appendix B of the Nacimiento Dam Operation Policy:

<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/Home/ShowDocument?id=63151>

Water Rights Permit 19940 – Permit for Diversion and Use of Water, No. 19940, from the California State Water Resources Control Board, was issued December 31, 1986. Permit 19940 gives MCWRA the right to divert up to 500 cfs through the Hydroelectric Plant from January 1 to December 31 of each year for irrigation, domestic, municipal, industrial and recreational uses. Diversion under this permit is incidental to releases being made for other purposes.

Documents for this can be found in Appendix B of the Nacimiento Dam Operation Policy:

<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/Home/ShowDocument?id=63151>

San Luis Obispo County Agreement – MCWRA's Water Rights License No. 7543 is subject to an agreement between MCWRA and SLO District which gives SLO District the right to use 17,500 AF of water annually from Nacimiento Reservoir. The SLO District Board has adopted a policy designating a portion of the total, approximately 1,750 acre-feet per year (AFY), for use around Nacimiento Reservoir; Heritage Ranch Community Services District (HRCSD) has agreements with SLO District which collectively entitle HRCSD to use 889 AFY of the 1,750 AFY; pursuant to these agreements, HRCSD takes its allotment from a well gallery in the Nacimiento River downstream of the Dam. SLO District can use up to the remaining 15,750 AF per water year through the NWP. The agreement also provides that MCWRA shall not make conservation releases during the water year that result in a reservoir elevation below 687.8 feet on September 30 of each year in order to assure SLO District of its rights and entitlements to water under the terms of the agreement (i.e. in order to assure the maintenance of a minimum storage pool of 12,000 AF above the present low-level outlet works for SLO District use). The original agreement is dated October 19, 1959, and it has been amended six different times in 1959, 1967, 1970, 1977, 1988, and 2007. These documents are collectively referred to as the SLO County Agreement.

Documents for this can be found in Appendix C of the Nacimiento Dam Operation Policy:

<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/Home/ShowDocument?id=63151>

Nacimiento Water Company Agreement – The 1984 agreement with MCWRA allows the Nacimiento Water Company a water allocation of up to 600 AF per year to be extracted from wells within the floodage easement of Nacimiento Reservoir. The Nacimiento Water Company shall pay MCWRA quarterly for water from the allocation on the basis of AF used at a rate determined by this agreement.

Documents for this can be found in Appendix D of the Nacimiento Dam Operation Policy:

<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/Home/ShowDocument?id=63151>

San Antonio Reservoir

Water Rights License 12624 - License for Diversion and Use of Water, No. 12624, from the California State Water Resources Control Board, was issued December 2, 1965 and amended April 22, 1990. This license was most recently amended September 5, 2008 to specify that the place of use of water from this license changed to include 421,435 acres of land comprising MCWRA's Zone 2C assessment zone, to add a point of rediversion at the SRDF, and to add fish flow requirements consistent with the June 21, 2007, National Marine Fisheries Service BO.

License No. 12624 gives MCWRA the right to store 220,000 AF from October 1 of each year to July 1 of the succeeding year and to withdraw a maximum of 210,000 AF per year for municipal, domestic, industrial, irrigation, and recreational uses.

The amended license can be found on the CA State Water Resources Control Board website:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/board_decisions/adopted_orders/orders/2008/wro2008_0037dwr.pdf



Monterey County

Item No.3

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRARO 21-005

January 28, 2021

Introduced: 1/21/2021

Current Status: Draft

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA ResOps Item

Reservoir Release Update

Reservoir Release Update

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

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

RESERVOIR ELEVATION / STORAGE: As of January 19, 2021, San Antonio Reservoir has a water surface elevation of approximately 693 feet (NGVD 29), with 53,050 acre-feet of storage. Nacimiento Reservoir has a water surface elevation of approximately 725.6 feet, with 81,460 acre-feet of storage. San Antonio Reservoir is currently at 16% of storage capacity and Nacimiento Reservoir is at 22% of capacity.

RESERVOIR RELEASES: The Agency continues to make minimum fisheries releases from both reservoirs. Current release rates are 70 cfs (60 cfs from Nacimiento Reservoir and 10 cfs from San Antonio Reservoir).

The Salinas River Lagoon has been closed since May 17th, 2020.

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

Releases as of January 19, 2021:

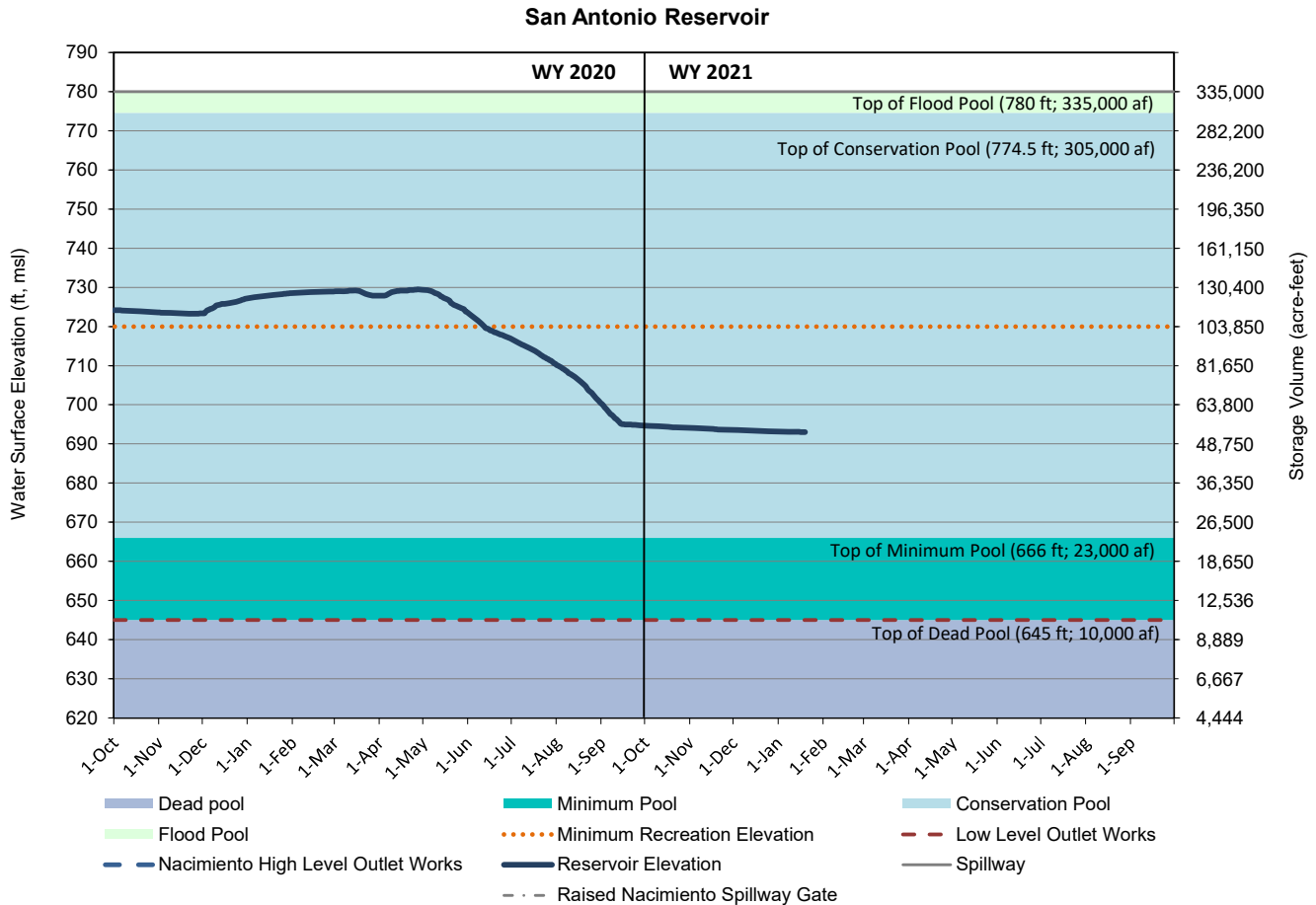
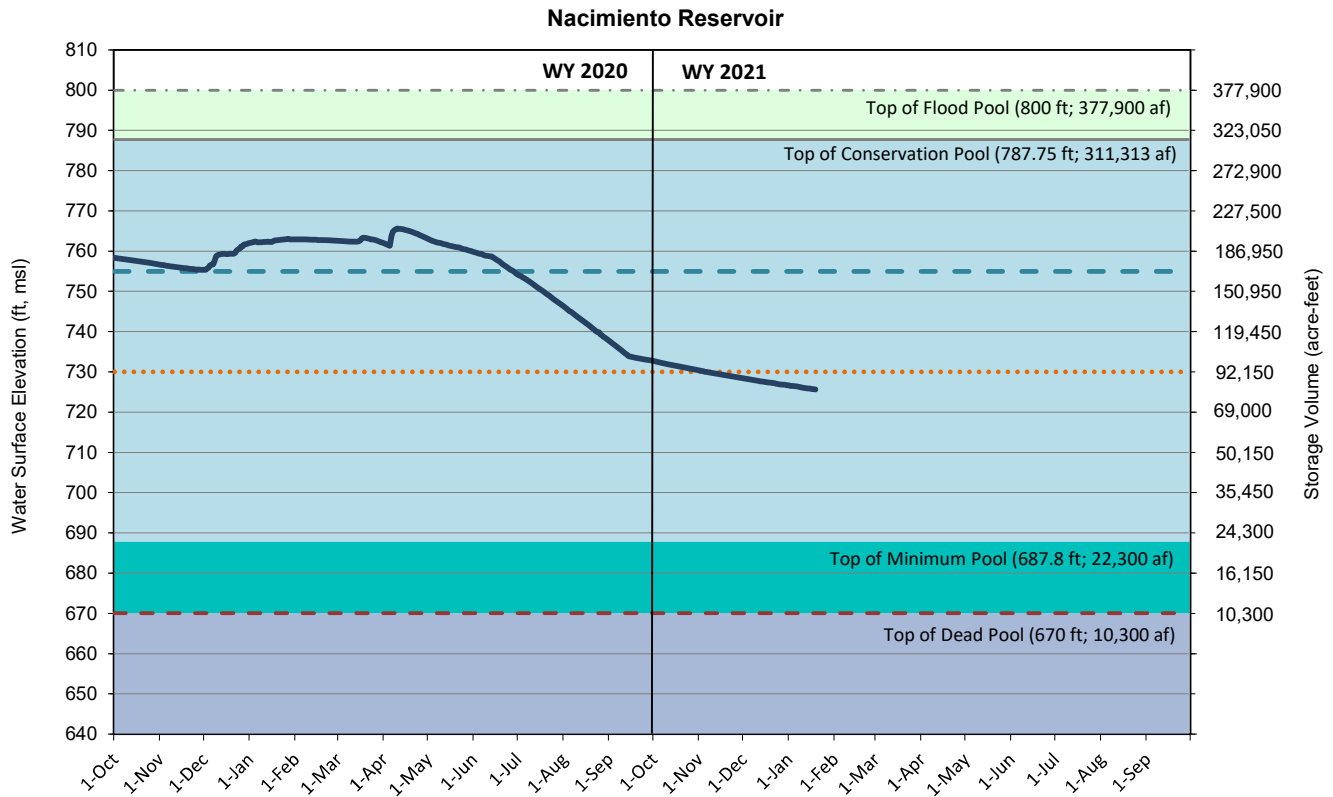
- Nacimiento Reservoir: 60 cfs
- San Antonio Reservoir: 10 cfs

Total releases from both reservoirs to the Salinas River are approximately 70 cfs. The following “provisional” flows have been recorded by the USGS:

- Salinas River near Bradley: 67.7 cfs
- Salinas River at Soledad: 0 cfs
- Salinas River near Chualar: 0 cfs
- Salinas River near Spreckels: 0 cfs

Prepared by: Germán Criollo, Associate Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860
Peter Kwiek, Hydrologist, (831) 755-4860

Reservoir Elevation and Storage



Synopsis of Reservoir Release Changes from September 14, 2020 to January 19, 2021

[illegible]



Monterey County

Item No.4

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRARO 21-006

January 28, 2021

Introduced: 1/21/2021

Current Status: Draft

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA ResOps Item

Update on operations and maintenance activities at the reservoirs



Monterey County

Item No.5

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRARO 21-007

January 28, 2021

Introduced: 1/21/2021

Current Status: Draft

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA ResOps Item

Update on Division of Safety of Dams Requirements



Monterey County

Item No.6

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRARO 21-008

January 28, 2021

Introduced: 1/21/2021

Current Status: Draft

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA ResOps Item

Update on Interlake Tunnel Project



Monterey County

Item No.7

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRARO 21-009

January 28, 2021

Introduced: 1/21/2021

Current Status: Draft

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA ResOps Item

Lake Recreation by Concessionaire and Parks Department
Quagga/Zebra Mussel Plan
Cloud Seeding
San Luis Obispo County Activities
National Marine Fisheries Service



Monterey County

Item No.8

Board Report

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

Legistar File Number: WRARO 21-010

January 28, 2021

Introduced: 1/21/2021

Current Status: Draft

Version: 1

Matter Type: WRA ResOps Item

Set next meeting date and discuss future agenda items.