

Reservoir Storage & Release Update

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

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

RESERVOIR ELEVATION / STORAGE: As of May 14, 2024, San Antonio Reservoir has a water surface elevation of approximately 768.8 feet (NGVD 29), with 276,340 acre-feet of water in storage. Nacimiento Reservoir has a water surface elevation of approximately 790.95 feet, with 328,085 acre-feet of water in storage. San Antonio Reservoir is currently at 82% of storage capacity and Nacimiento Reservoir is at 87% of capacity.

RESERVOIR RELEASES: Several storm events in April and May brought inflow to the Nacimiento Reservoir requiring an extended period of maintenance releases to ensure meeting a target elevation of 787.75 feet, required for spillway maintenance scheduled to begin in early June, 2024. On May 10, the Salinas River Diversion Facility (SRDF) began rediverting flows to supplement the recycled water project deliveries in the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project (CSIP).

SALINAS LAGOON: High tides and large waves on December 28 and 30, 2023 caused the Salinas Lagoon to fill to over 7 feet in elevation. Agency staff managed the sandbar to open the lagoon to the ocean on January 4, 2024. The lagoon has remained open to the ocean since this action.

Releases as of the morning of May 14, 2024:

- Nacimiento Reservoir: 325 cfs
- San Antonio Reservoir: 10 cfs

Total releases from both reservoirs to the Salinas River are approximately 335 cfs. The following “provisional” flows have been recorded by the USGS:

- Salinas River near Bradley: 487 cfs
- Salinas River at Soledad: 416 cfs
- Salinas River near Chualar: 391 cfs
- Salinas River near Spreckels: 277 cfs

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