



County of Monterey

Item No.4

Board Report

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

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Reservoir Storage and Release Update.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

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

RAINFALL: After a dry March, April had a series of storms which brought inflow to the reservoirs. Despite these rain events, flows in the Salinas River downstream of the reservoirs were uninfluenced by the April storms and were mainly influenced by the conservation releases that started on March 26.

RESERVOIR ELEVATION / STORAGE: As of May 21, 2026, San Antonio Reservoir has a water surface elevation of approximately 753.15 feet (NGVD 29), with 208,285 acre-feet of water in storage. Nacimiento Reservoir has a water surface elevation of approximately 769.75 feet, with 226,425 acre-feet of water in storage. San Antonio Reservoir is currently at 62% of storage capacity and Nacimiento Reservoir is at 60% of capacity.

RESERVOIR RELEASES: Releases are being made from San Antonio and Nacimiento Reservoirs for beneficial uses including groundwater recharge, operation of the Salinas River Diversion Facility, and support downstream fish habitat.

Releases as of May 21, 2026:

- Nacimiento Reservoir: 280 cfs
- San Antonio Reservoir: 130 cfs

Total releases from both reservoirs to the Salinas River are approximately 410 cfs. The following “provisional” flows have been recorded by the USGS:

- Nacimiento River below Nacimiento Dam: 261 cfs
- Salinas River near Bradley: 362 cfs
- Salinas River near King City: 261 cfs
- Salinas River at Soledad: 190 cfs
- Salinas River near Chualar: 91 cfs
- Salinas River near Spreckels: 65 cfs

SALINAS RIVER DIVERSION FACILITY: Diversions started April 6. As of May 20, SRDF

has diverted 1,437 AF.

SALINAS RIVER LAGOON: Following storms in late December and early January, the lagoon was breached January 4, 2026. The Salinas Lagoon closed to the ocean on April 10.

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