

## MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY

### PROJECT: GRAZING LEASES MONTEREY COUNTY AND SAN LUIS OBISBO, CALIFORNIA PROJECT NO. 26-004 BID PACKAGE NO. 26-004

#### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA or Agency) manages grazing leases on Agency-owned lands surrounding the Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs. The Grazing Lease Program supports responsible livestock grazing while promoting watershed protection, vegetation management, wildfire fuel reduction, infrastructure stewardship, and long-term land management objectives. Grazing activities are governed by Grazing Lease Agreements and the Grazing Lands Management Plan (GLMP), which outline operational standards, stewardship responsibilities, monitoring requirements, and compliance procedures.

The program covers approximately 16,400 acres of Agency-owned rangelands associated with the two reservoir systems. These lands are separated into five separate grazing lease areas that will be available, beginning on November 1, 2026, for a ten-year lease term. The leases are described as follows: San Antonio 1&2; San Antonio 3; San Antonio 4 & Nacimiento 1; Nacimiento 2; and Nacimiento 3A&3B. Maps of the lease areas can be found at [mcwater.info](http://mcwater.info) on the Grazing Lease Program page.

#### **Bid Pre-qualification Requirement**

Only individuals who submit a complete Bid Pre-qualification Form by **12:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 23, 2026**—either at 1441 Schilling Place, North Building, Salinas, CA 93901, or by email to [WRAl easeadmin@countyofmonterey.gov](mailto:WRAl easeadmin@countyofmonterey.gov)—and whose forms are approved by the Agency, are eligible to participate in the bidding process.

Bidders with an existing Agency grazing lease must be deemed a **Lessee in Good Standing**, meaning they have met all requirements of their current lease. The Agency may disqualify individuals or corporations based on financial capability, insufficient grazing-operations experience, or for other legitimate cause.

A list of qualified bidders will be posted on the Agency website at least one day prior to the public auction. Only individuals whose names appear on the posted list may bid.

#### **Sealed Bids**

Sealed bids will be received at the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, 1441 Schilling Place, North Building, Salinas, CA 93901, until **9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 29, 2026**.

Each bid must comply with the Bid Pre-qualification Form, Grazing Lease Agreement specifications, all addenda, Special Provisions/Conditions, General Conditions, and all other Lease Documents. Bids must be submitted using the bid form prescribed by the Agency. Minimum bids for each lease are listed in the **2026 MCWRA Grazing Lease Minimum Bid Schedule** available at mcwater.info.

Bids shall be sealed and clearly marked on the outside of the envelope with the Bidder name and Bid Number. BIDS RECEIVED AFTER THIS DEADLINE WILL BE REJECTED REGARDLESS OF POSTMARK DATE AND WILL BE RETURNED UNOPENED TO BIDDER.

### **Bid Opening and Live Auction**

The sealed bids will be publicly opened and read, beginning at **10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 29, 2026**, in the Cayenne Conference Room at 1441 Schilling Place, North Building, Salinas, CA 93901. The live auction will begin immediately after. The highest sealed bid submitted by a qualified bidder, for each lease, will serve as the opening bid at auction.

### **Lease Documents and Questions**

Lease documents may be downloaded from the Agency's website (mcwater.info) under the **Grazing Lease Program** or examined in person at the Agency office during normal business hours. Electronic copies may also be requested by contacting Jessell Fenley at WRAl easeadmin@countyofmonterey.gov or (831) 755-4860.

All questions during the bidding period must be submitted by email to WRAl easeadmin@countyofmonterey.gov, Attention: Jessell Fenley, no later than **12:00 p.m. on July 17, 2026**. Responses will be posted on the project webpage on July 21, 2026. No questions will be accepted after the deadline.

### **Agency Rights**

The Agency reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive irregularities or informalities, or re-bid the leases. No bidder may withdraw a bid for sixty (60) days after the opening without written Agency consent.