



County of Monterey

Item No.18

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.

RESERVOIR ELEVATION / STORAGE: As of April 15, San Antonio Reservoir has a water surface elevation of approximately 754.3 feet (NGVD 29), with 212,785 acre-feet of water in storage. Nacimiento Reservoir has a water surface elevation of approximately 773.7 feet, with 243,715 acre-feet of water in storage. San Antonio Reservoir is currently at 64% of storage capacity and Nacimiento Reservoir is at 64% of capacity.

RAINFALL: There was no significant rain in March. An early April storm produced a small pulse of renewed inflow to the reservoirs, with provisional peaks of 185 cfs at the Nacimiento River below Sapaque Creek gage and 70 cfs at the San Antonio River near Lockwood gage recorded by USGS.

SALINAS RIVER LAGOON: Following warm weather in March and startup of the Salinas River Diversion Facility (SRDF) in early April, the Salinas Lagoon closed to the ocean on April 10, 2026.

RESERVOIR RELEASES: Releases of the 2026 conservation release season began from Nacimiento reservoir on March 26, 2026. Conservation releases began from San Antonio Reservoir on April 6, 2026. Releases were increased in steps up to a peak of 360 cfs on April 7, 2026. Once the Salinas Lagoon closed to the ocean on April 10, 2026, releases were reduced to address lower bypass requirements and water buildup in the lagoon.

Releases as of April 15, 2026:

- Nacimiento Reservoir: 280 cfs
- San Antonio Reservoir: 10 cfs

Total releases from both reservoirs to the Salinas River are approximately 290 cfs. The following "provisional" flows have been recorded by the USGS:

- Nacimiento River below Nacimiento Dam: 279 cfs
- Salinas River near Bradley: 263 cfs
- Salinas River near King City: 271 cfs
- Salinas River at Soledad: 168 cfs
- Arroyo Seco below Reliz Creek near Soledad: 0 cfs

- Salinas River near Chualar: 118 cfs
- Salinas River near Spreckels: 86 cfs

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