

**MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
RESERVOIR OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

David Hart, Chair
Ken Ekelund
Richard Ortiz
Mark Nielsen
David Pozzi
Mark Gonzalez

John Baillie
Benny Jefferson
Dean Benedix
Michael Tozzi (Parks)
Mark Sandoval (CalParks)

TIME: 1:30 p.m.
DATE: Thursday September 3, 2015
PLACE: Monterey County Water Resources Agency
Board Room
893 Blanco Circle
Salinas, CA 93901

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**
(Limited to three (3) minutes per speaker on matters within the jurisdiction of the Agency not listed on this agenda. The public will have the opportunity to ask questions and make statements on agenda items as the Committee considers them.)
- 3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE RESERVOIR OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 6, 2015**
The Committee will consider approval of the minutes of the above-mentioned meeting (Attachment 1).
- 4. REVIEW THE STATUS OF BOTH RESERVOIRS; REVIEW RELEASES AND RELEASE SCHEDULE**
Staff will present a summary of current conditions at both reservoirs, as well as provide a synopsis of release changes that have occurred since the last meeting (Attachments 2, 2a, 3, 3a, 4).
- 5. RECEIVE REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE OPERATIONS POLICY MANUAL FOR SAN ANTONIO AND NACIMIENTO RESERVOIRS**

Staff will report on the status of the current San Antonio and Nacimiento Reservoirs Operations Policy manual and discuss incorporating reservoir operational requirements implemented with the construction of the Salinas Valley Water Project.

6. RECEIVE REPORT ON CLOUD-SEEDING

Staff will report on and discuss possible options for cloud-seeding opportunities.

7. RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES AT THE RESERVOIRS

Staff will present a verbal report discussing the various Operations and Maintenance activities at both reservoirs that have occurred over the last month.

8. RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING INTERLAKE TUNNEL PROJECT

Staff will report on current activities regarding the Interlake Tunnel Project.

9. RECEIVE REPORTS ON STATUS OF:

- A. LAKE RECREATION BY CONCESSIONAIRE & PARKS DEPARTMENT**
- B. EASEMENTS AND AGENCY LEASES**
- C. QUAGGA / ZEBRA MUSSEL PLAN**
- D. UPDATE ON SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY ACTIVITIES**

10. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND DISCUSS FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Committee will discuss and determine details for its next meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT

**MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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TIME: 1:30 PM
DATE: Thursday, August 6, 2015
**PLACE: Monterey County Water Resources Agency
Board Room
890 Blanco Circle
Salinas, CA 93901
(831) 755-4860**

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER @ 1:32 PM by Chair David Hart.**
Members present: David Hart, Ken Ekelund, David Pozzi, John Baillie, Benny Jefferson, Bill Caps (*for Mark Nielsen*), Michael Tozzi, Mark Sandoval

Members absent: Richard Ortiz, Mark Gonzalez, Dean Benedix

A quorum was established.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
None
3. **APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE RESERVOIR OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JULY 2, 2015**
Committee Action: On motion and second of Committee members John Baillie and Ken Ekelund, the Committee approved the minutes.
4. **REVIEW THE STATUS OF BOTH RESERVOIRS; REVIEW RELEASES AND RELEASE SCHEDULE**
Germán Criollo, Associate Hydrologist, provided a status report. Nacimiento Reservoir elevation is 728.20 feet and 87,740 acre-feet of storage, 23% of capacity, and current release is 60 cfs. San Antonio Reservoir elevation is 653.50 feet and 14,480 acre-feet of storage, 4% of capacity, and current release is 5 cfs. End of flow in the Salinas River is approximately at river mile 86.
5. **RECEIVE REPORT ON RESERVOIR RELEASES**

Howard Franklin, Senior Water Resources Hydrologist, provided an update on the meetings between Agency staff and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). On July 31, 2015, the Agency provided a letter to NMFS requesting consideration of release option plans for San Antonio and Nacimiento for a 60-day period. The Agency received a response from NMFS on August 4, 2015 stating that the release options provided are outside the scope of analysis of the Salinas Valley Water Project biological opinion and would not be exempt from Endangered Species Act take prohibitions.

Staff is currently developing four additional analyses for release options which will be presented to the Board of Directors at a Special Board Meeting scheduled for August 11, 2015. A proposal for San Antonio and a separate proposal for Nacimiento will be presented to the Board of Directors at that meeting.

The San Antonio release proposal is being presented to allow necessary maintenance and repairs. There was discussion of options for conducting a fish survey at San Antonio and requesting NMFS to provide the Agency a technical assistance letter if no steelhead were found during the fish survey. This technical assistance letter would cover the Agency for take if San Antonio releases would be increased to bring San Antonio to dead pool.

Comments were provided by Bill Stevens from NMFS, via conference call-in, and public members Ron Braga and Bob Martin.

Committee Action: On motion and second of Committee members John Baillie and Benny Jefferson, the Committee unanimously approves making a recommendation to the Board of Directors to direct the Agency to maximize releases from San Antonio Reservoir in order to reach deadpool, to allow maximum accessibility and ensure worker safety, for making necessary repairs prior to the rainfall season, if it is found through a fish survey that maximizing releases will not result in a “take” of threatened or endangered species.

6. RECEIVE REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE OPERATIONS POLICY MANUAL FOR SAN ANTONIO AND NACIMIENTO RESERVOIRS

Brent Buche, Deputy General Manager, provided a verbal report and stated a draft document will be presented to the Committee next month for review and comment.

7. RECEIVE REPORT ON CLOUD SEEDING

There was no update.

8. RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES AT THE RESERVOIRS

A. NACIMIENTO HYDROELECTRIC PLANT

Chris Moss, Senior Water Resources Engineer, gave a report and provided a hand-out.

B. QUARTERLY REPORT ON DAM OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE PROJECT PRIORITY LIST

Chris Moss provided an update.

- 9. RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING INTERLAKE TUNNEL PROJECT**
Brent Buche provided a verbal report. Agency staff plans to meet with NRWMAC and landowners in August. Staff will meet with California Department of Fish & Wildlife in Sacramento on August 18, 2015. Interviews for engineering and environmental consulting firms are scheduled for Monday August 10, 2015 at the Agency.

- 10. RECEIVE REPORTS ON STATUS OF:**
 - A. LAKE RECREATION BY CONCESSIONAIRE & PARKS DEPARTMENT**
Mark Sandoval, CalParks, and Mike Tozzi, Parks Department provided an update.

 - B. EASEMENTS AND AGENCY LEASES**
Brent Buche provided a report.

 - C. QUAGGA / ZEBRA MUSSEL PLAN**
Michael Tozzi provided a brief report.

 - D. UPDATE ON SLO COUNTY ACTIVITIES**
No representative present to provide update.

- 11. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND DISCUSS FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 3, 2015 at 1:30 PM at the Agency.

- 12. ADJOURNMENT BY CHAIR DAVID HART AT 3:36 PM.**

SUBMITTED BY: TERESA CAMPA

**MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS - RESERVOIR OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

MEETING DATE:	September 3, 2015	AGENDA ITEM:	
AGENDA TITLE:	Reservoir Release Update		
Consent ()		Action ()	
Information (X)			
SUBMITTED BY:	Germán Criollo	PREPARED BY:	Jason Demers
PHONE:	(831) 755-4860	PHONE:	(831) 755-4860
DEADLINE FOR BOARD ACTION:		September 3, 2015	

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION:

None – item presented for informational purposes.

SUMMARY:

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

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

RESERVOIR ELEVATION / STORAGE: As of August 26, 2015, San Antonio Reservoir is at an elevation of approximately 652.85 feet mean sea level (msl), 14,060 acre-feet of storage. Nacimiento Reservoir is at elevation 726.55 feet msl, 83,720 acre-feet of storage. San Antonio Reservoir is currently at 4% of storage capacity and Nacimiento Reservoir is at 22% of capacity.

RESERVOIR RELEASES: As directed by the Agency Board of Directors at the May 26, 2015 meeting releases from Nacimiento were increased to a target flow rate of 60 cfs. Releases from San Antonio Reservoir remain at 5 cfs.

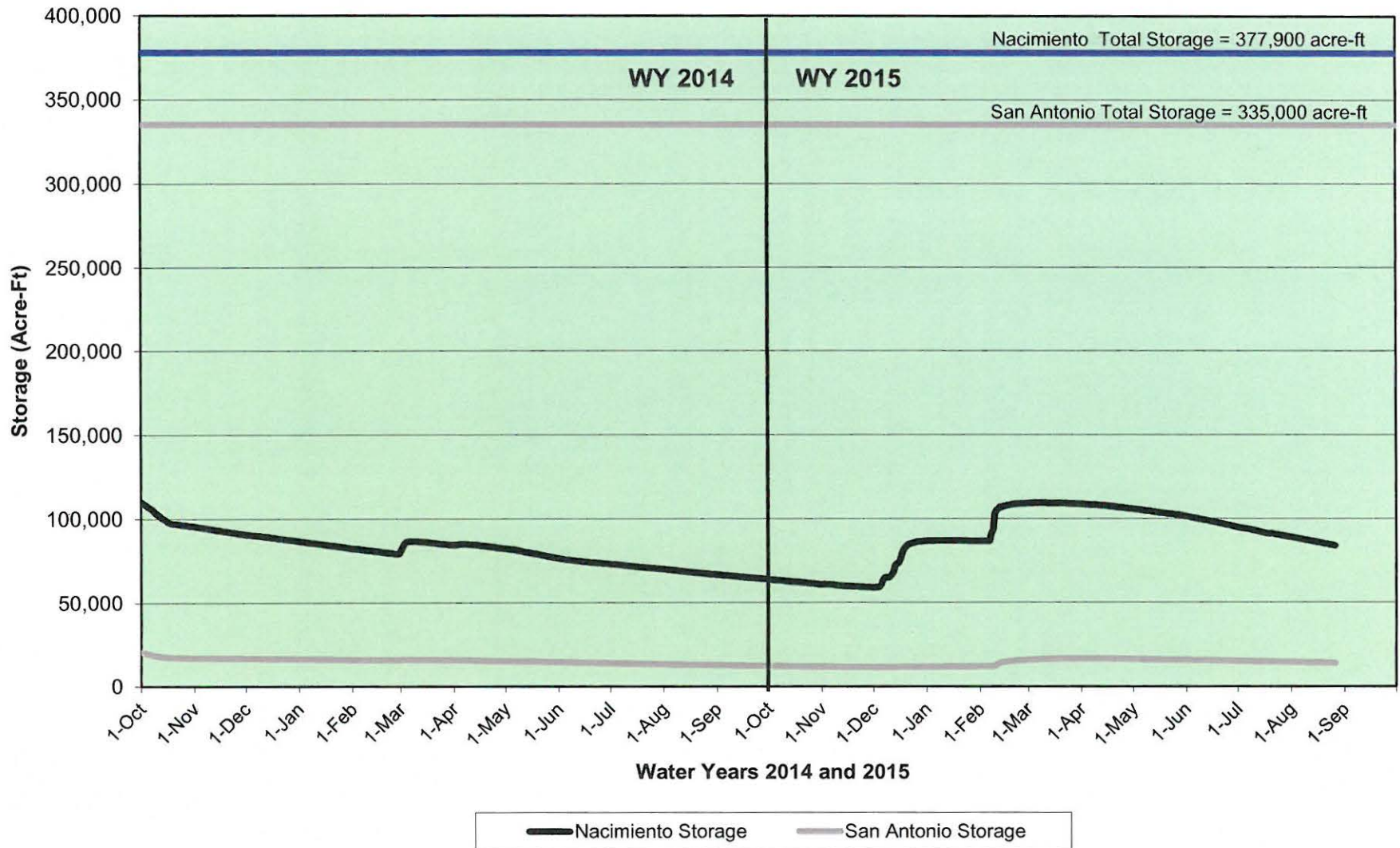
Releases as of August 26, 2015:

- Nacimiento Reservoir: 60 cfs
- San Antonio Reservoir: 5 cfs

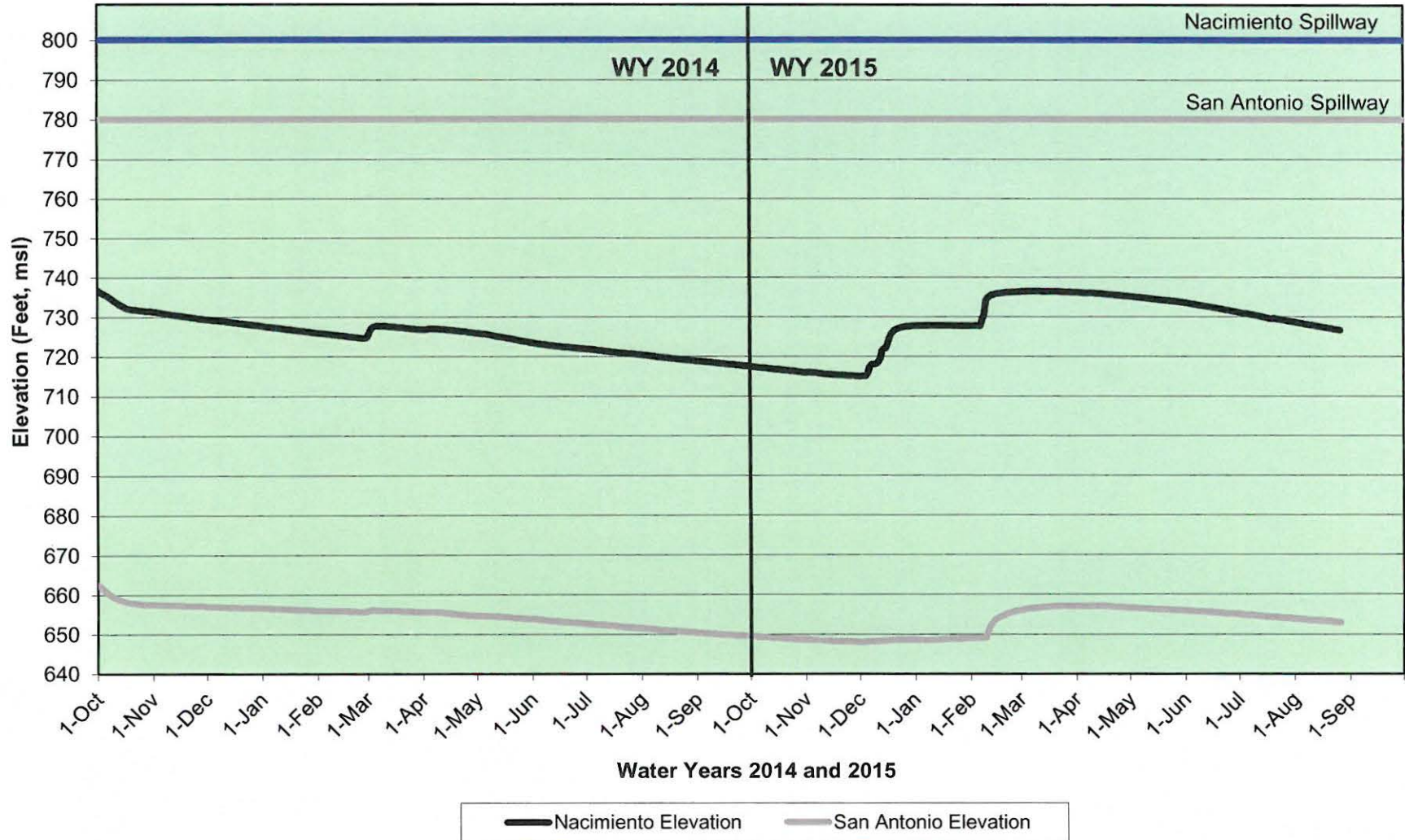
Total releases from both reservoirs to the Salinas River are approximately 65 cfs. The following “provisional” flows have been recorded by the USGS:

- Salinas River near Spreckels: 0 cfs
- Salinas River near Chualar: 0 cfs
- Salinas River near Soledad: 0 cfs
- Salinas River near Bradley: 52 cfs (steady)

Reservoir Storage



Reservoir Elevation



MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY

PRELIMINARY - Estimated Elevation/Storage/NWP Diversions; after August 1st

8/26/2015

RESERVOIR RELEASE SCHEDULE FOR 2015

	NACIMIENTO									SAN ANTONIO				
	Combined Releases (cfs)*	Combined Releases (ac-ft)	Evap. Losses (ac-ft)**	Reservoir Releases (cfs)*	Reservoir Releases (ac-ft)	NWP Orders (ac-ft)	NWP Diversions (ac-ft)	Storage (ac-ft)	Elev. (ft)	Evap. Losses (ac-ft)**	Reservoir Releases (cfs)*	Reservoir Releases (ac-ft)	Storage (ac-ft)	Elev. (ft)
1/1/2015								86,638	727.8				11,775	648.6
2/1/2015	35	2,152	263	30	1,845	175	0	86,515	727.7	67	5	307	12,003	649.0
3/1/2015	35	1,944	282	30	1,666	310	0	109,100	736.4	70	5	278	15,903	655.9
4/1/2015	35	2,152	600	30	1,845	923	0	108,550	736.2	141	5	307	16,618	657.0
5/1/2015	35	2,083	862	30	1,785	1,469	965	105,525	735.1	201	5	298	16,325	656.5
6/1/2015	41	2,549	756	36	2,241	2,009	1,303	101,225	733.5	180	5	307	15,838	655.8
7/1/2015	65	3,868	1,740	60	3,570	2,353	1,264	94,650	731.0	310	5	298	15,230	654.8
8/1/2015	65	3,997	1,070	60	3,689	2,334	1,171	88,720	728.6	293	5	307	14,630	653.8
9/1/2015	65	3,997	1,584	60	3,689	2,393	TBR	81,054	725.4	388	5	307	13,934	652.6
10/1/2015						2,175	TBR							
11/1/2015						1,436	TBR							
12/1/2015						951	TBR							
1/1/2016						512	TBR							
TOTALS:		22,741	7,156		20,331	17,040	4,704			1,650		2,410		

* Mean daily flow for the month in cubic feet per second.

** Evap. Losses estimated from long term pan evaporation data at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs.

NOTES:

- Nacimiento Reservoir storage capacity 377,900 acre feet.
- San Antonio Reservoir storage capacity 335,000 acre feet.
- Reservoir Operations Committee may make release considerations for fish spawn and holiday periods to benefit recreation.
- Shaded areas represent periods when elevations are influenced by inflow/runoff; releases may include flood control releases.
- Preliminary Schedule assumes no inflow to reservoirs after May 1st.
- "NWP Diversions" are San Luis Obispo County - Nacimiento Water Project conveyance facilities diversions. Max. allowable diversions for water year (Oct. 1 - Sept. 30) are 15,750 ac-ft. To Be Reported (TBR)
- NACIMIENTO "NWP Diversions" do not include lakeside water use which is estimated at approximately 1,750 acre feet per year.