

**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  
Richard Riddle (Parks)  
Mark Sandoval (CalParks)

**TIME:** 1:30 pm  
**DATE:** Thursday January 8, 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 DECEMBER 4, 2014**  
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). Staff will discuss reservoir inflow and inflow forecasts.
5. **RECEIVE REPORT ON CLOUD-SEEDING**  
Staff will report on and discuss possible options for cloud-seeding opportunities.

6. **RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES AT THE RESERVOIRS**  
Brent Buche, Assistant General Manager / Chief of Operations and Maintenance will present a verbal report discussing the various Operations and Maintenance activities at both reservoirs and the Nacimiento Hydroelectric Plant production that have occurred over the last month.
  - A. **OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES**
  - B. **NACIMIENTO HYDROELECTRIC PLANT**
  
7. **RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING REQUEST FROM THE USDA FOREST SERVICE TO ACCESS NACIMIENTO AND SAN ANTONIO RESERVOIRS WITH FIXED WING WATER SCOOPER AIRCRAFT FOR FIRE-FIGHTING**  
Chris Moss, Senior Water Resources Engineer, will present a verbal report discussing a request from USDA Forest Service.
  
8. **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 SLO COUNTY ACTIVITIES**
  
9. **SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND DISCUSS FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**  
The Committee will discuss and determine details for its next meeting.
  
10. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
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**TIME:** 1:30 p.m.  
**DATE:** **Thursday, December 4, 2014**  
**PLACE:** Monterey County Water Resources Agency  
Board Room  
893 Blanco Circle  
Salinas, CA 93901  
(831) 755-4860

**MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER @ 1:30 p.m. by Chair David Hart.**

Members present: David Hart, Ken Ekelund, Richard Ortiz, Mark Nielsen, David Pozzi,  
Mark Gonzalez, John Baillie, Dean Benedix, Mark Sandoval

Members absent: Benny Jefferson, Richard Riddle

A quorum was established.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Phil Humfrey, Nacimiento Regional Water Management Advisory Committee (NRWMAC), representing Betty Eyraud, made a statement about the easement delay for Ms. Eyraud. Since 1959, she has been trying to get an easement to her property. Prior to Nacimiento reservoir being built, the Eyraud family had a cattle ranch in the area and they had access to their property along the river via a road that they built and maintained. When the Nacimiento reservoir was built in 1959 the Eyraud family lost their access and at that time the Agency agreed to grant them an easement. That was 55 years ago and Ms. Eyraud is still waiting for that easement.

Mr. Humfrey provided the Committee with copies of the following documents: Handout #1: A letter from the Agency dated 1998 stating the easement is approved and will be issued, and Handout #2: the Board of Directors Minutes dated 2004 stating the easement is unanimously approved.

**3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE RESERVOIR OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 6, 2014**

**Committee Action: On motion and second of Committee members John Baillie and Ken Ekelund, the Committee unanimously approved the minutes.**

**4. REVIEW THE STATUS OF BOTH RESERVOIRS; REVIEW RELEASES AND RELEASE SCHEDULE**

Jason Demers, Hydrologist, provided a status report. The USGS gage has recorded 35 cfs in the Salinas River near Bradley. The inflow from rainfall received to date is approximately 500 acre-feet into Nacimiento reservoir and 100 acre-feet into San Antonio. Currently, there is a flow of 700 cfs at the Nacimiento River below the Sapaque River gage.

The National Weather Service (NWS) outlook for December, January, February is a 33-40% chance of above-normal rainfall. The outlook indicates there is a 58% chance of an El Nino weather pattern for this season. The Committee reviewed charts showing the projected inflows for Nacimiento and San Antonio reservoirs. The charts are developed and updated by staff each month using current 3-month weather outlooks from the NWS.

**NACIMIENTO** elevation is 715.10 feet and 59,240 acre-feet of storage, 16% of capacity, and current release is 30 cfs.

**SAN ANTONIO** elevation is 648.10 feet and 11,561 acre-feet of storage, 3% of capacity, and current release is 5 cfs.

In response to questions from the Committee last month, the amount of water conserved from reduced releases from Nacimiento is 11,000 acre-feet.

**5. RECEIVE REPORT ON CLOUD-SEEDING**

Howard Franklin, Senior Water Resources Hydrologist/Program Manager, reported on possible options for cloud-seeding opportunities. Staff has contacted the counties of Santa Clara and Santa Cruz. San Benito County has stated they have a limited budget. Santa Barbara County was contacted by SLO and they provided information but were not willing to include us in their current program. Their program is doing well and did not require an EIR and they do not want to jeopardize that.

The Committee encouraged the Agency to seek partnership with other agencies on cost-sharing and strongly urged staff to recommend to the Board of Directors to consider resuming a reserve fund for cloud-seeding. The Committee will discuss this again next month prior to making a recommendation to the BOD.

**Committee Action: On motion and second of Committee members Ken Ekelund and John Baillie, the Committee strongly urges the Board of Directors to consider resuming a reserve fund for cloud seeding.**

**6. RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES AT THE RESERVOIRS**

Brent Buche, Assistant General Manager & Chief of Operations and Maintenance, provided an update on operations and maintenance activities at the reservoirs. The piezometers at San Antonio are in the process of being flushed; this procedure is done on an annual basis. The Agency has obtained prices on the trash racks that will be replaced at San Antonio. A purchase order will be issued for the fabrication of the trash racks. Staff has completed updating the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for Nacimiento Dam and the document has been provided to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the California Department of Water Resources - Department of Safety of Dams (DSOD). An orientation meeting on the EAP is scheduled for Agency staff next week and another meeting that will include staff from other pertinent agencies will be scheduled.

The Nacimiento Hydroelectric Powerplant was shut down in mid-November due to insufficient pressure to operate.

**7. RECEIVE REPORTS ON STATUS OF:**

**A. LAKE RECREATION BY CONCESSIONAIRE & PARKS DEPARTMENT**

Mark Sandoval, CalParks, provided a report. There has not been much activity to report. There is minimal staffing at CalParks, including Parks rangers. There has been flow into the lake from local runoff in the resort area.

**B. EASEMENTS AND AGENCY LEASES**

Chris Keehn, Right-Of-Way Specialist, provided an update to the Committee. Mr. Keehn expressed thanks to Mr. Phil Humfrey for the public comment on behalf of property owner Ms. Betty Eyraud. The Agency has received different opinions on easements from each County Counsel who has reviewed the situation. Agency staff has been in communication with the road association to discuss possible solutions including issuing an annual license to property owners who would want secured access to their property. This method would ensure the Agency maintains a record of individuals who have access across Agency property.

In 2004 Ms. Eyraud presented her request for an easement to the Agency's Personnel & Administration Committee and it was approved by that Committee but did not go to the Board of Directors. At that time staff worked with County Counsel on the development of the legal documentation. The documentation did not go to the Board of Directors for the final approval. Now, County Counsel indicated too much time had passed since the property owner was offered the easement. There is a problem with the gifting of public funds. The Committee stated they would commit to work with Staff and County Counsel to get this resolved.

Property owner, Jim Irving, has contacted the Agency for confirmation of an easement to his property. It appears that the granting of the easement dates back to 1957. His property is a 24-acre parcel next to Agency land. This Committee has requested staff to look at lake front properties that the Agency may purchase.

The Committee requested a list of all property issues awaiting County Counsel review so that this delay issue can be discussed at the Board of Directors meeting.

**C. QUAGGA / ZEBRA MUSSEL PLAN**

Elizabeth Krafft, Senior Hydrologist, provided a report. A meeting was held recently between Ms. Krafft, staff from San Luis Obispo County (SLO), NRWMAC, and Parks Department to review last year's program and discuss proposed changes and expectations for next year's program. Changes to SLO's residential vessel program for 2015 include the addition of kayaks and canoes, and also a choice for boat owners to opt out of the program if they have unusable ramps. Another change includes establishing a deadline for renewal into the vessel program.

The Agency has received a request to install new Mussel Prevention signs around the reservoir. Larger print and re-wording are being considered for the new signs. There are also plans to develop new boater information packet about the program. Screening protocols will be updated and posted on the Agency's website. Approximately 120 screeners from SLO County will be recertified.

Staff provided answers to questions from the Committee: The grant funding is expected to be awarded in March 2015. Staff believes that SLO County Parks Department had planned on applying for grant funds. SLO County Public Works was not eligible for grant funds for Nacimiento.

Dean Benedix, San Luis Obispo County, added that a new 4x8 sign was placed at Nacimiento Lake Drive near Paso Robles.

Phil Humfrey added that NRWMAC is looking forward to being involved with developing the new boater information packet that will include new information about the lakes, mussels, and impacts of mussel infestation. NRWMAC has also discussed expanding the education program to include the non-boater community, plans for public service announcements, and the distribution of educational information to the community.

**D. UPDATE ON SLO COUNTY ACTIVITIES**

Dean Benedix, San Luis Obispo County, provided an update. SLO County has a new Public Works Director, Wade Horton, who is scheduled to begin on December 8, 2014. He previously worked with the City of San Luis Obispo.

On December 2, 2014 the SLO Board of Supervisors approved a \$1.1 Million project on the Nacimiento Water Project. The project involves the installation of a new 22-inch diameter pipe inside the existing 30-inch pipe that is leaking. The new pipe, made of high-density polyethylene material, will provide approximately 85% capacity of the original project. The project contract includes a \$50,000 incentive clause for early completion, and we anticipate a start-up date of March or April 2015. A parallel pipe, to gain full capacity, will likely be done at a later date.

**8. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND DISCUSS FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday January 8, 2015 at 1:30 pm at the Agency. A report on Nacimiento hydroelectric revenue will be provided each month, and updates on the list of maintenance items will be provided quarterly beginning in January. Both items will be reported as part of the O&M Activities agenda item.

**9. ADJOURNMENT BY CHAIR DAVID HART @ 3:12 P.M.**

**SUBMITTED BY: TERESA CAMPA**



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

|                                   |                          |                     |                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| <b>MEETING DATE:</b>              | January 8, 2015          | <b>AGENDA ITEM:</b> |                |
| <b>AGENDA TITLE:</b>              | Reservoir Release Update |                     |                |
| Consent ( )                       |                          | Action ( )          |                |
| Information ( X )                 |                          |                     |                |
| <b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>              | Germán Criollo           | <b>PREPARED BY:</b> | Jason Demers   |
| <b>PHONE:</b>                     | (831) 755-4860           | <b>PHONE:</b>       | (831) 755-4860 |
| <b>DEADLINE FOR BOARD ACTION:</b> |                          | January 8, 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 December 18, 2014, San Antonio Reservoir is at an elevation of approximately 648.5 feet mean sea level (msl), 11,762 acre-feet of storage. Nacimiento Reservoir is at elevation 725.7 feet msl, 81,695 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 and in coordination with guidelines provided by the National Marine Fisheries Service, releases from Nacimiento were incrementally decreased to a target flow rate of 25 cfs. Releases from San Antonio Reservoir remain at 5 cfs.

Releases as of December 18, 2014:

- Nacimiento Reservoir: 30 cfs
- San Antonio Reservoir: 5 cfs

Total releases from both reservoirs to the Salinas River are approximately 35 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: 72 cfs (declining)

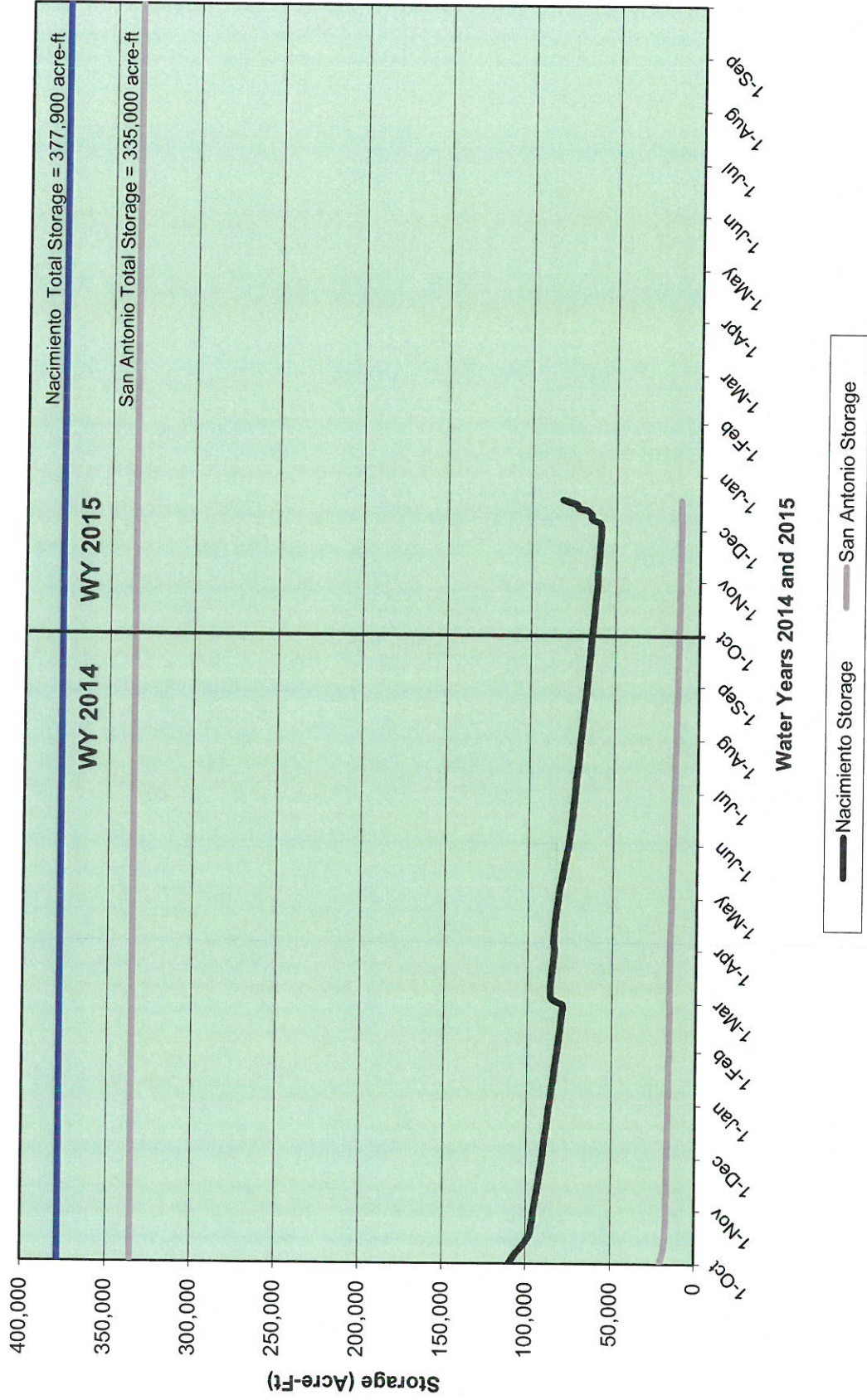


**Synopsis of Reservoir Release Changes from  
July 3, 2014 to December 18, 2014**

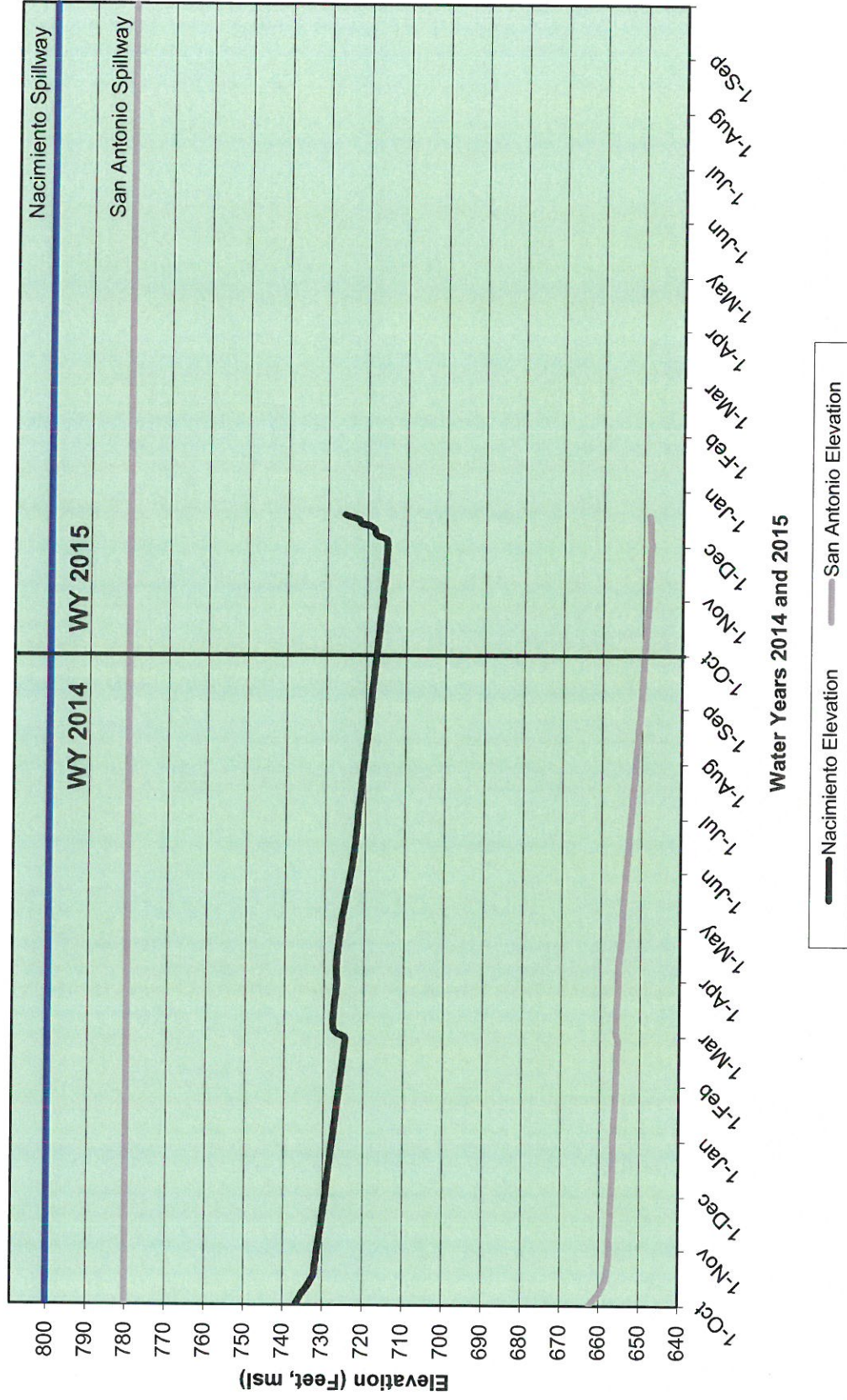
| Date            | San Antonio Reservoir |             | Nacimiento Reservoir |             | Total Releases |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|
|                 | Starting Flow         | Ending Flow | Starting Flow        | Ending Flow |                |
| July 3, 2014    | 5                     | 5           | 26                   | 31**        | 36             |
| August 2, 2014  | 5                     | 5           | 31                   | 26**        | 31             |
| August 30, 2014 | 5                     | 5           | 26                   | 30**        | 35             |
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\*Release reduction due to head loss.  
\*\*Release change in response to USGS gage measurement and flow adjustment.

# Reservoir Storage



# Reservoir Elevation





**MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY**

**PRELIMINARY - Estimated Elevation/Storage/NWP Diversions after December 1st**

12/19/2014

**RESERVOIR RELEASE SCHEDULE FOR 2014**

|                | 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) |
| 1/1/2014       | 70                       | 4,304                     | 237                    | 60                        | 3,689                      | 755                | 123                    | 86,393          | 727.7      | 68                     | 10                        | 615                        | 16,390          | 656.6      |
| 2/1/2014       | 70                       | 3,888                     | 300                    | 60                        | 3,332                      | 1,037              | 86                     | 82,165          | 725.9      | 87                     | 10                        | 555                        | 15,935          | 655.9      |
| 3/1/2014       | 71                       | 4,346                     | 563                    | 61                        | 3,731                      | 1,033              | 91                     | 81,695          | 725.7      | 151                    | 10                        | 615                        | 15,935          | 655.9      |
| 4/1/2014       | 69                       | 4,128                     | 561                    | 60                        | 3,570                      | 1,133              | 106                    | 84,200          | 726.8      | 154                    | 9                         | 558                        | 15,675          | 655.5      |
| 5/1/2014       | 65                       | 3,997                     | 1,215                  | 60                        | 3,689                      | 1,165              | 819                    | 82,012          | 725.8      | 135                    | 5                         | 307                        | 15,042          | 654.5      |
| 6/1/2014       | 41                       | 2,418                     | 1,198                  | 36                        | 2,120                      | 1,707              | 100                    | 76,288          | 723.5      | 422                    | 5                         | 298                        | 14,600          | 653.8      |
| 7/1/2014       | 36                       | 2,188                     | 1,237                  | 31                        | 1,880                      | 1,907              | 0                      | 72,870          | 721.8      | 302                    | 5                         | 307                        | 13,880          | 652.6      |
| 8/1/2014       | 31                       | 1,934                     | 1,637                  | 26                        | 1,626                      | 1,966              | 0                      | 69,753          | 720.4      | 295                    | 5                         | 307                        | 13,271          | 651.5      |
| 9/1/2014       | 30                       | 2,083                     | 1,055                  | 30                        | 1,785                      | 1,758              | 0                      | 66,490          | 718.8      | 130                    | 5                         | 298                        | 12,669          | 650.3      |
| 10/1/2014      | 35                       | 2,152                     | 950                    | 30                        | 1,845                      | 1,243              | 0                      | 63,650          | 717.4      | 121                    | 5                         | 307                        | 12,241          | 649.4      |
| 11/1/2014      | 36                       | 2,142                     | 335                    | 31                        | 1,845                      | 953                | 0                      | 60,855          | 716.0      | 44                     | 5                         | 298                        | 11,813          | 648.6      |
| 12/1/2014      | 30                       | 1,845                     | 264                    | 25                        | 1,537                      | 744                | TBR                    | 58,865          | 714.9      | 90                     | 5                         | 307                        | 11,496          | 647.9      |
| 1/1/2015       |                          |                           |                        |                           |                            |                    |                        | 56,320          | 713.5      |                        |                           |                            | 11,099          | 647.2      |
| <b>TOTALS:</b> |                          | <b>35,423</b>             | <b>9,552</b>           |                           | <b>30,651</b>              | <b>15,403</b>      | <b>1,325</b>           |                 |            | <b>1,999</b>           |                           | <b>4,772</b>               |                 |            |

\* 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.

1. Nacimiento Reservoir storage capacity 377,900 acre feet.

2. San Antonio Reservoir storage capacity 335,000 acre feet.

3. Reservoir Operations Committee may make release considerations for fish spawn and holiday periods to benefit recreation.

4. Shaded areas represent periods when elevations are influenced by inflow/runoff; releases may include flood control releases.

5. Preliminary Schedule assumes no inflow to reservoirs after May 1st.

6. "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)

7. Nacimiento "NWP Diversions" do not include lakeside water use which is estimated at approximately 1,750 acre feet per year.