

MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE
SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER

DATE: Wednesday, December 10, 2025

MEETING TIME: 1:30 p.m.

THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED BY TELECONFERENCE AND WILL NOT BE HELD IN THE MONTEREY ONE WATER OFFICES. YOU MAY ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING AS FOLLOWS: JOIN FROM A PC, MAC, IPAD, IPHONE OR ANDROID DEVICE (NOTE: ZOOM APP MAY NEED TO BE DOWNLOADED FOR SAFARI OR OTHER BROWSERS PRIOR TO LINKING) BY GOING TO THIS WEB ADDRESS:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87355002001?pwd=75XnlT2e5foelm1NBF19XrYP2m7fjR.1>

If joining the meeting by phone, dial this number: +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

If you encounter problems joining the meeting using the link above, you may join from your Zoom screen using the following information:

Meeting ID: 873 5500 2001

Passcode: 367262

TAC Member Teleconferencing Information is on the Next Page

OFFICERS

Chairperson: Jon Lear, MPWMD

Vice-Chairperson: Kim Shirley, City of Del Rey Oaks

MEMBERS

California American Water Company	City of Del Rey Oaks	City of Monterey
City of Sand City	City of Seaside	Coastal Subarea Landowners
Laguna Seca Property Owners	Monterey Peninsula Water Management District	Monterey County Water Resources Agency

Agenda Item

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7. Other Business	
There will be no need for a January 2026 TAC meeting, so the next TAC meeting will be on Wednesday February 11, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.	

TAC MEMBER TELECONFERENCING INFORMATION

NAME	ENTITY	LOCATION
Amy Woodrow	Monterey County Water Resources Agency	1441 Schilling Place, Salinas, CA
Kim Shirley	City of Del Rey Oaks	4 Baxter Place, Del Rey Oaks, CA
Andreas Baer	City of Seaside	Engineering Trailer, 440 Harcourt Avenue Seaside, CA
David Pezzini	California American Water	511 Forest Lodge Rd. Suite 100 Pacific Grove, CA
Cody Hennings	City of Monterey	Orca Conference Room, 735 Pacific Street #B, Monterey CA
Jon Lear	Monterey Peninsula Water Management District	5 Harris Court, Bldg. G, Monterey, CA
Leon Gomez	City of Sand City	City Hall in Sand City, 1 Pendergrass Way, Sand City, CA 93955
Paul Bruno	Coastal Subarea Landowners	192 Healy Ave, Marina, CA
Eric Tynan	Laguna Seca Subarea Landowners	11528 Castro Street, Castroville, CA. 95012

**SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * ***

MEETING DATE:	December 10, 2025
AGENDA ITEM:	2.A
AGENDA TITLE:	Approve Minutes from the October 8, 2025 Meeting
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager
SUMMARY:	<p>Draft Minutes from this meeting were emailed to all TAC members. Any changes requested by TAC members have been included in the attached version.</p>
ATTACHMENTS:	Minutes from this meeting
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Approve the minutes

D-R-A-F-T
MINUTES

**Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
October 8, 2025**

Attendees: TAC Members

City of Seaside – Andreas Baer
California American Water – David Pezzini
City of Monterey – Cody Hennings
Laguna Seca Property Owners – Eric Tynan
MPWMD – Jon Lear
MCWRA – Amy Woodrow
City of Del Rey Oaks – Kim Shirley
City of Sand City – Leon Gomez
Coastal Subarea Landowners – No Representative

Watermaster

Technical Program Manager-Bob Jaques

Others

MCWD – Patrick Breen, Charly Liscomb
MPWMD – Maureen Hamilton

The meeting was convened at 1:32 by Chair Lear.

1. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

2. Administrative Matters:

A. Approve Minutes from the August 13, 2025 Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Pezzini, seconded by Mr. Gomez, the minutes were unanimously approved as presented, with Mr. Tynan abstaining as he had not attended that meeting.

B. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update

Mr. Jaques summarized the agenda packet materials for this item. There was no other discussion.

3. Approve Initial RFSs for Montgomery & Associates, Martin Feeney, and Gus Yates, and Scope of Work for MPWMD for 2026

Mr. Lear said that he would abstain from this item as it involves a contract with MPWMD. Therefore, Ms. Shirley took over chairing the meeting for this item.

Mr. Jaques summarized the agenda packet materials for this item. He highlighted two corrections to be made to Montgomery & Associates RFS No. 2026-01:

- On agenda packet page 27 the \$15,220 figure should be corrected to read \$15,784 to match the cost table on page 28 of the packet.
- On agenda packet page 28 the \$17,914 figure should be corrected to read \$18,478 to match the cost table on that same page of the packet.

Mr. Lear had informed Mr. Jaques that the SOW to MPWMD for 2026 as-presented in the agenda packet was ok as-is, since there would likely be negligible cost reduction to the contract as a result of their not having to obtain data from monitoring well FO-10.

Ms. Shirley asked if the start of work on Part 1 of the Pumping Redistribution Plan under the Updated Seawater Intrusion Response Plan would be covered by a separate RFS, not the Montgomery & Associates RFSs included in today's agenda packet. Mr. Jaques confirmed that a separate RFS for Part 1 work would be brought to the TAC for its approval at a future date.

On a motion by Ms. Woodrow, seconded by Mr. Pezzini, the contracts were all unanimously approved, with the corrections to Montgomery & Associates RFS No. 2026-01 as described above.

4. Progress Report on Updating Seaside Basin Groundwater Model

Mr. Jaques summarized the agenda packet materials for this item, and there were a few questions and answers.

5. Progress Report on Geophysical Imaging Work Near Sentinel Well No. 4

Mr. Jaques summarized the agenda packet materials for this item.

Ms. Shirley asked if the imaging work would be able to tell if leakage from the SNG well was contributing to the apparent detection of seawater intrusion. Mr. Jaques said he was not sure, but that Geophysical Imaging Partners was able to take soundings on the SNG property, just not close to the SNG well itself because it had an active power line going to it. He expected this to be clarified in the final report on the imaging work.

Ms. Woodrow asked if the final imaging report could be sent out prior to the December TAC meeting, and Mr. Jaques said he would send it to the TAC as soon as he receives it.

6. Schedule

Mr. Jaques highlighted that there will be no TAC meeting in November, and that the next meeting will be on December 10, 2025.

7. Other Business

Mr. Lear and Mr. Jaques briefly described the difficulty being experienced with getting access permission from State Parks for the induction logging van to be able to drive to the well head of Sentinel Well No. 4. As a Coastal Development Permit condition, once the Ord Village Pump Station where this well is located was demolished, the site was to be revegetated. State Parks was concerned that having the van drive to this site could disturb the revegetation.

Mr. Jaques appealed to State Parks to allow the van to be able to access this important monitoring well, and they agreed, with certain restrictions on the driving route to be used by the van. Mr. Lear cautioned that in future years the well site access road (which is unpaved) might become impassible due to vegetation overgrowth, and if that happens there will need to be discussion about how to continue induction logging the well. Mr. Tynan asked if there was portable (not van-mounted) logging equipment that could be hand-carried to the site. Mr. Lear and Mr. Jaques said yes, such equipment could be rented, but Mr. Lear said MPWMD does not have staff trained in performing that type of work, so a contractor who could do the work would have to be found. Mr. Jaques also noted that if different equipment is used to perform the logging in the future, it might not be possible to continue using the new data with the prior data to identify data trends.

The meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

**SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * ***

MEETING DATE:	December 10, 2025
AGENDA ITEM:	2.B
AGENDA TITLE:	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager

At the State level:

Since the last TAC meeting I have not received anything from the State that impacts the Watermaster.

At the Monterey County level:

Attached are summaries of meetings held in October and November 2025.

ATTACHMENTS:	Meeting Summaries and Draft Report
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	None required – information only

SUMMARY OF
PURE WATER MONTEREY, AND
SALINAS VALLEY AND
MARINA COAST WATER DISTRICT GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY ZOOM MEETINGS
IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2025

Note: This is a synopsis of information from these meetings that may be of interest to the Seaside Basin Watermaster

Monterey Peninsula Water Operations Committee Meeting, October 29, 2025:

Information provided at this meeting included:

- So far in FY 25-26 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026) the PWM Project has delivered 907 AF of water to Cal Am and 164 AF has been added to the Operating Reserve. There is a total of 2,353 AF in the Operating Reserve.
- The underground retention time requirement of a minimum of 4 months was met at all times. The retention times have ranged from 5.1 to 7.7 months.
- No water quality problems or exceedances were reported.
- Construction of Cal Am's Extraction Wells No. 1 and 2 is in progress with completion expected in September of 2026. These will increase the extraction capacity to match the increase in water injected from the PWMX Project.
- MCWD is connecting more customers to its RUWAP recycled water system.
- The PWMX project had its Operating Permit approved by the RWQCB on October 9, 2025, and the project started up on October 22, 2025.
- The next meeting of this Committee will be on January 21, 2026.

There Were No Meetings in November That I Needed to Attend.

**SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * ***

MEETING DATE:	December 10, 2025
AGENDA ITEM:	2.C
AGENDA TITLE:	Results from Fall 2025 Induction Logging of the Sentinel Wells
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager

The logging performed on October 30, 2025 and was supervised by Cory Steinmetz of MPWMD. Mr. Steinmetz is familiar with these wells and supervised the logging in 2024. He downloaded and plotted the attached induction logging results.

Mr. Steinmetz provided this evaluation of the logging results: Induction logging was completed on 10/30/2025. We logged Sentinel Wells 1-4, PCA East Deep, and PCA West Deep. The PCA West Deep log ends at about 360 ft depth due to the obstruction in the well. Below are some observations:

- Sentinel Well 1 continues to show increasing conductivity at ~530 ft depth in the Paso Robles Formation. There are two other zones that also show increasing conductivity over time that I'm not sure have been discussed in previous years. One at ~615 ft depth (near the Paso Robles and Purisima boundary), and another at ~690 ft in the Purisima. To be clear, these are not newly intruded zones, I'm just unsure whether they've been pointed out before.
- Sentinel Well 2 continues to show increasing conductivity in the ~350-380 ft depth range in the Paso Robles. Of all the wells, this increase is the most pronounced over time.
- Sentinel Well 3 didn't evidence any clear indication of increasing conductivity anywhere. There is maybe a slight migration towards higher conductivity over the years in the ~900-1100 ft zone in the Purisima, but it is subtle and did not appear to increase in the most recent year.
- Sentinel Well 4 continues to show increasing conductivity in the ~180 ft depth zone of the Paso Robles.
- PCA West Deep and PCA East Deep - this is the first year of duplicate surveys for comparative analysis in these wells. I don't notice any obvious increases in conductivity. It's hard to pick out any patterns with only two surveys, but they generally line up well.

In summary, we are still observing increases in conductivity in localized zones where it has already been identified. None of the identified areas appear to be spreading vertically to other zones in the aquifer.

**SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

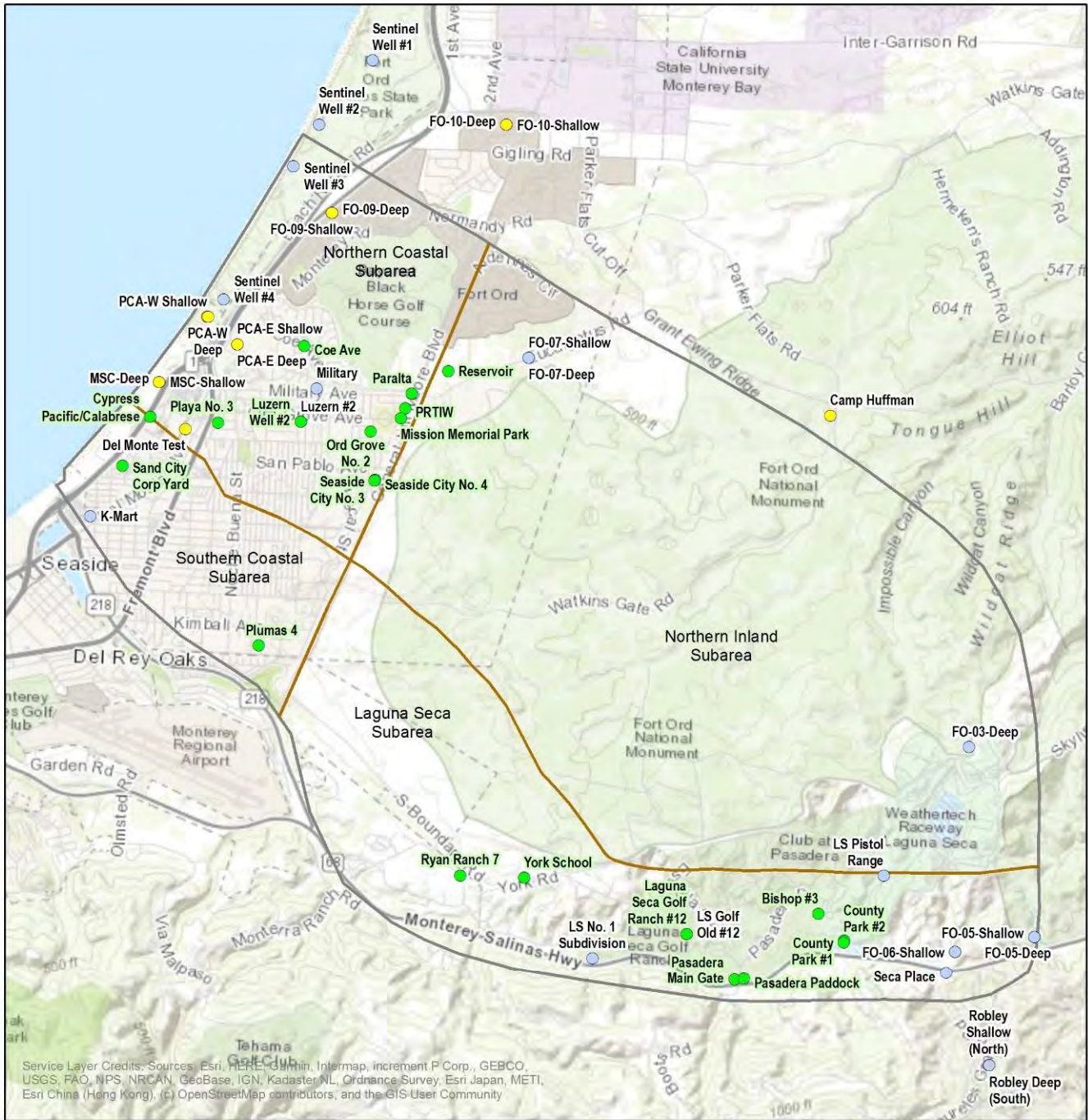
*** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * ***

AGENDA ITEM:	2.C (Continued)
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For Sentinel Well No. 4 I prepared the two attached blow-up plots so the change in conductivity in both of the two areas of concern that were identified last year can be more easily seen. I used a thick blue line to show the 2025 data so it would be more easily seen to compare to the prior years' data. As Mr. Steinmetz noted there is some continuing increase in conductivity in the deeper area of concern. However, there does not appear to be a continuing increase, in fact it appears there may even be a slight decrease, in conductivity in the shallow area of concern. In any case the changes from this year compared to prior years do not appear to be significant.

ATTACHMENTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Maps showing locations of the Sentinel Wells2. Induction Logging Results from Watermaster's Sentinel Wells and PCA-West Deep and PCA-East Deep, including the 2025 logging results. For the Sentinel Wells the plots also show the induction logging results from prior years, all plotted on the same graphs for ease of comparison. Blowups of the shallower and deeper areas of concern in Sentinel Well No. 4 are shown to highlight them.
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RECOMMENDED ACTION:	None required – information only
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X:\2022 Projects\SIAR\GIS\Fig10_WellLocations_2022.mxd

EXPLANATION

- Monitoring Wells used for Groundwater Levels
- Monitoring Well with Water Level and Quality Data
- Production Well with Water Level and Quality Data
- Adjudicated Seaside Groundwater Basin Boundary
- Basin Boundary
- Subarea Boundary

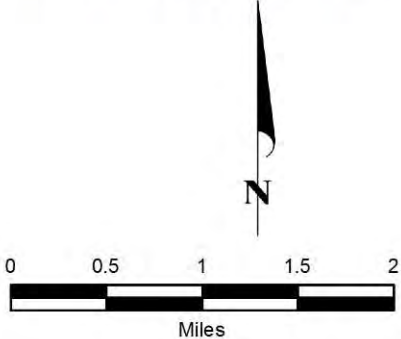


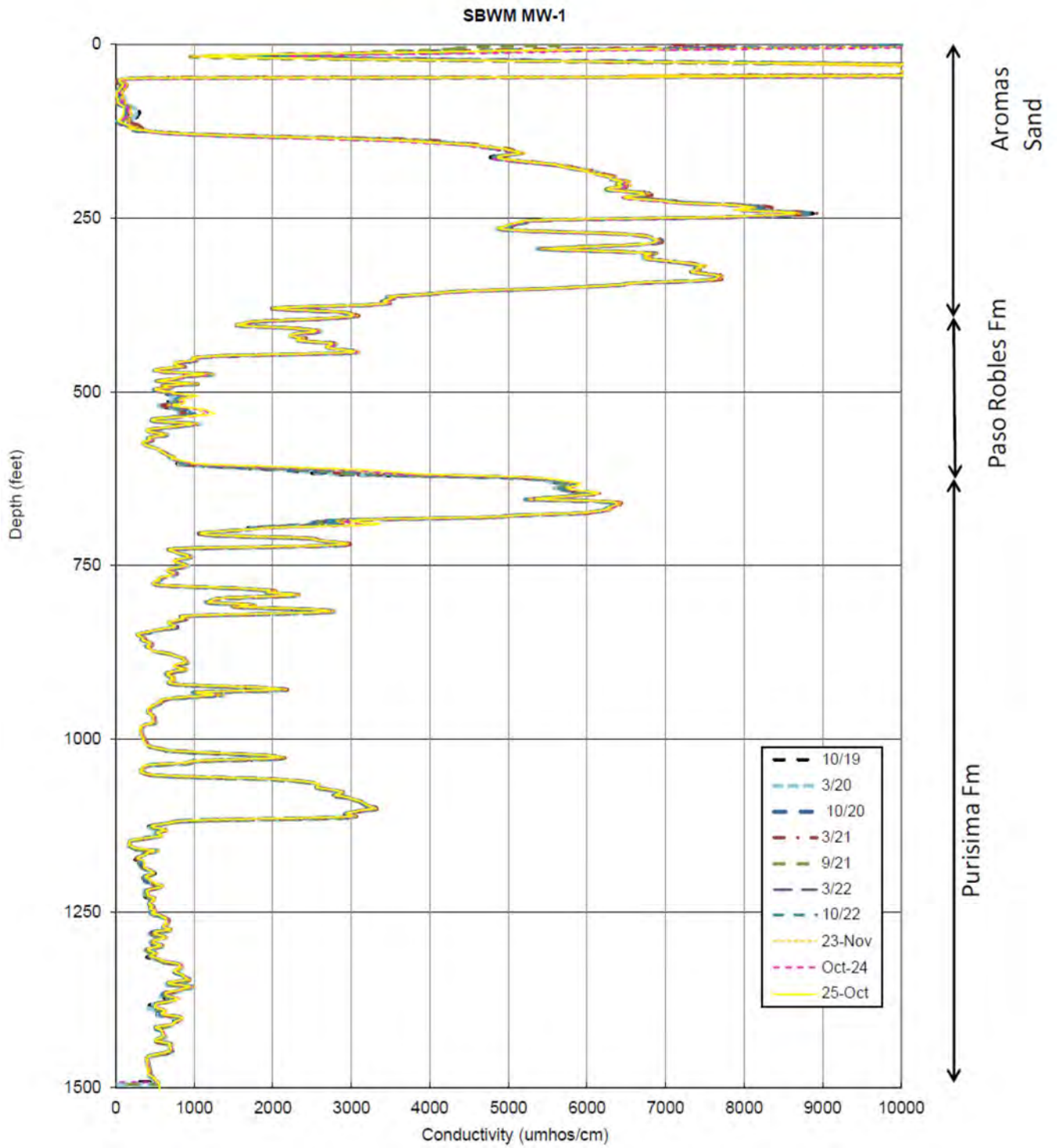


FIGURE 1

Orthophoto base from HJW (1999), 1:36,000 scale imagery

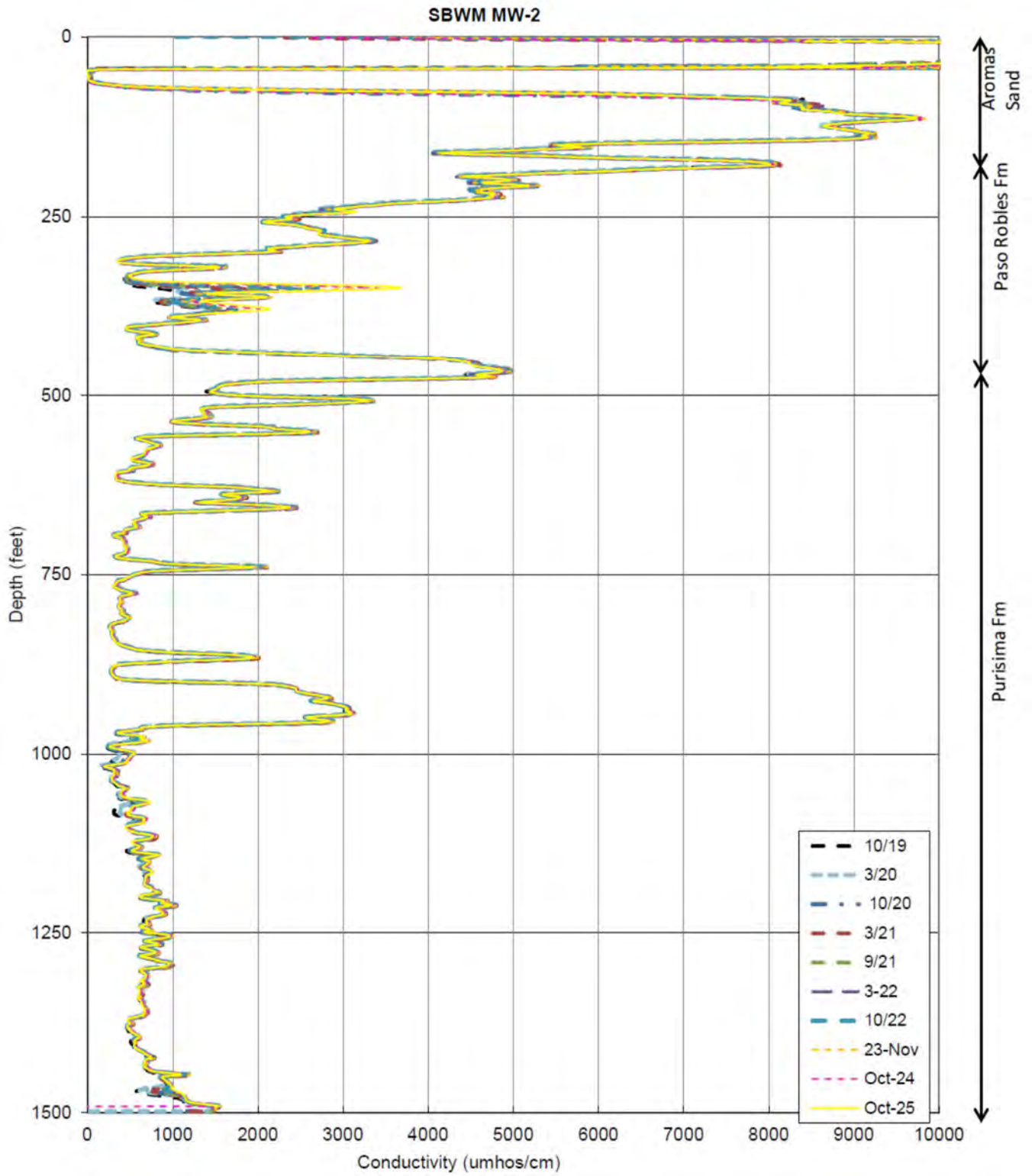
SBWM MW-1

SENTINEL WELLS CONDUCTIVITY



SBWM MW-2

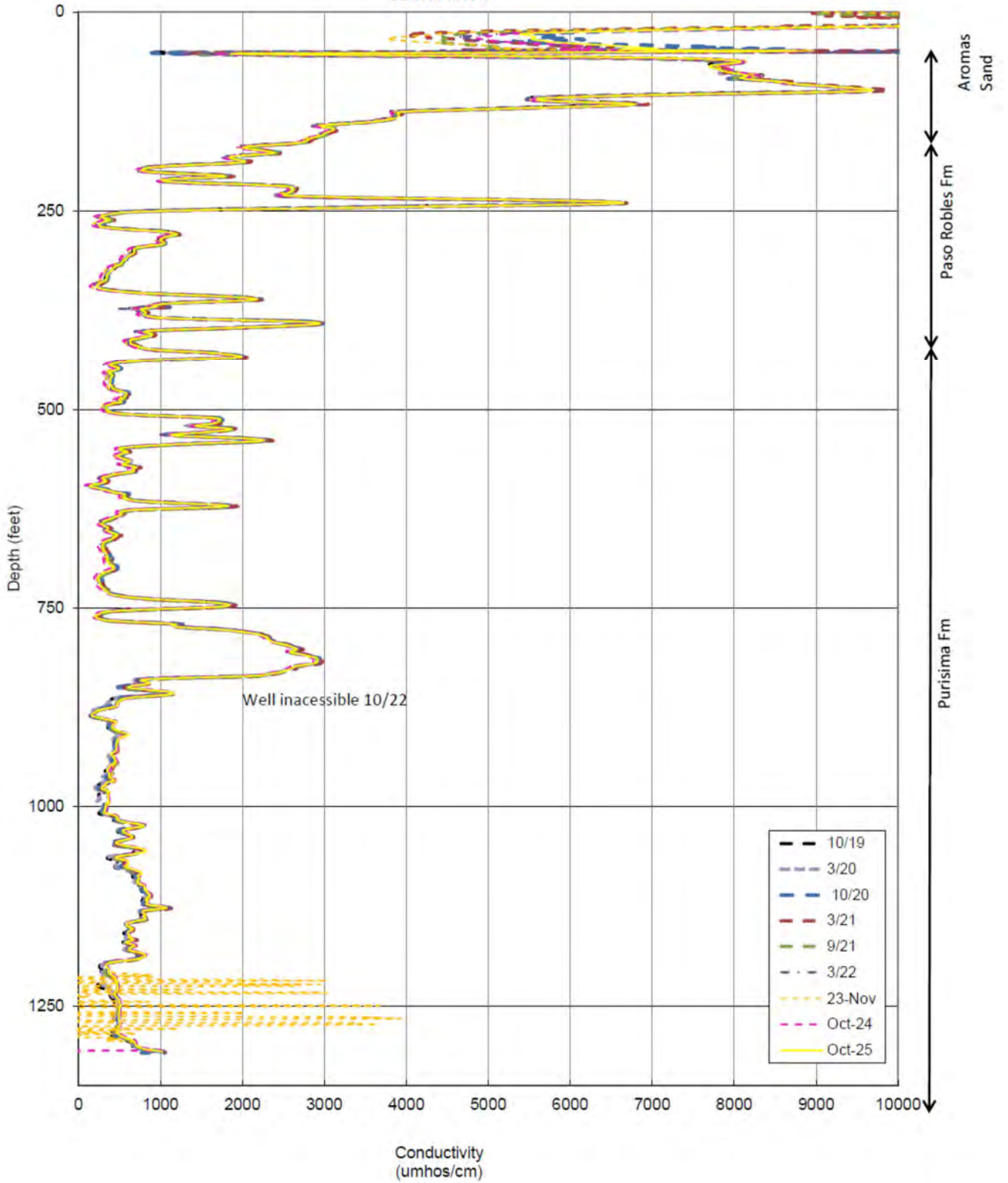
SENTINEL WELLS CONDUCTIVITY



SBWM MW-3

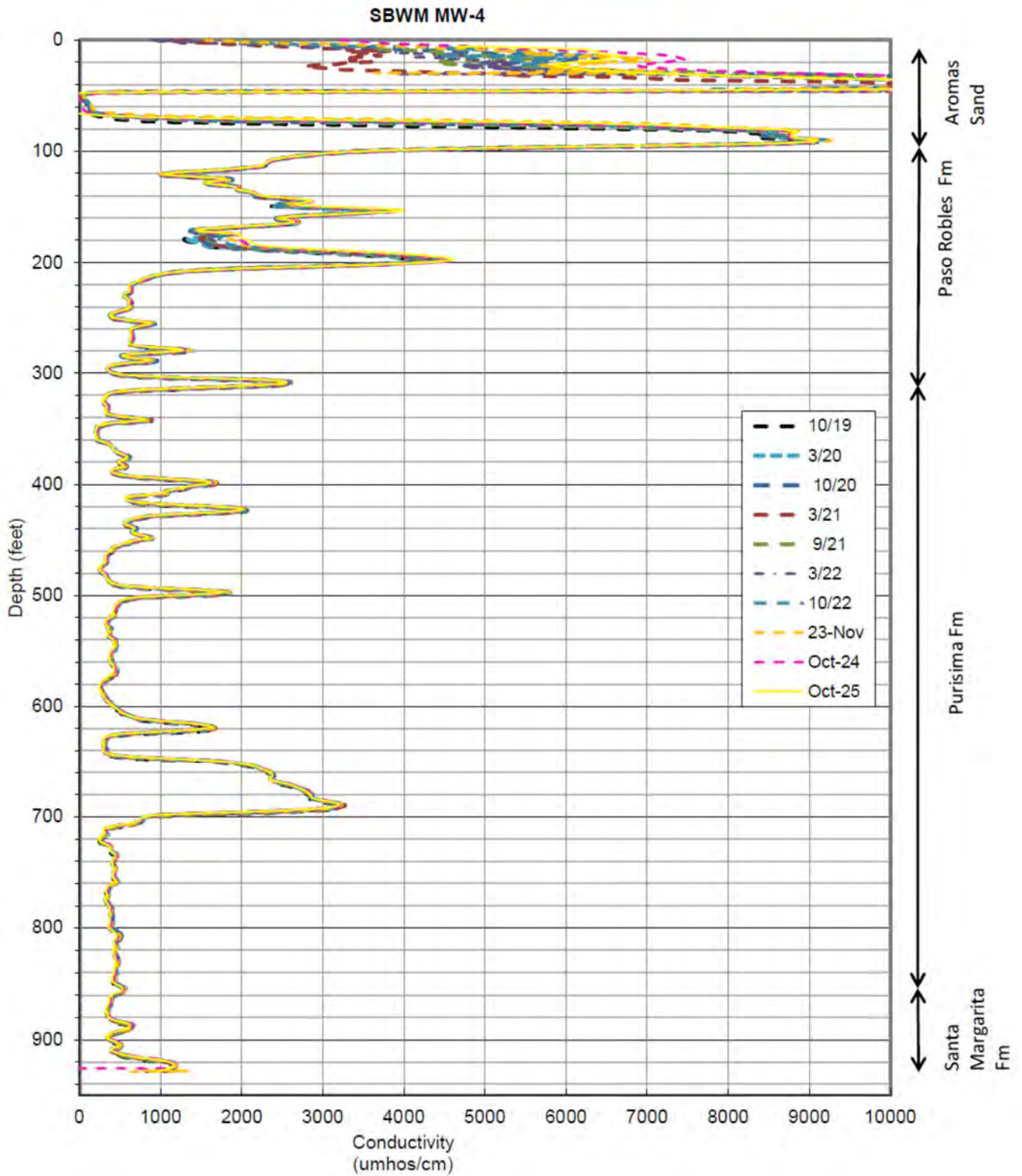
SENTINEL WELLS CONDUCTIVITY

SBWM MW-3



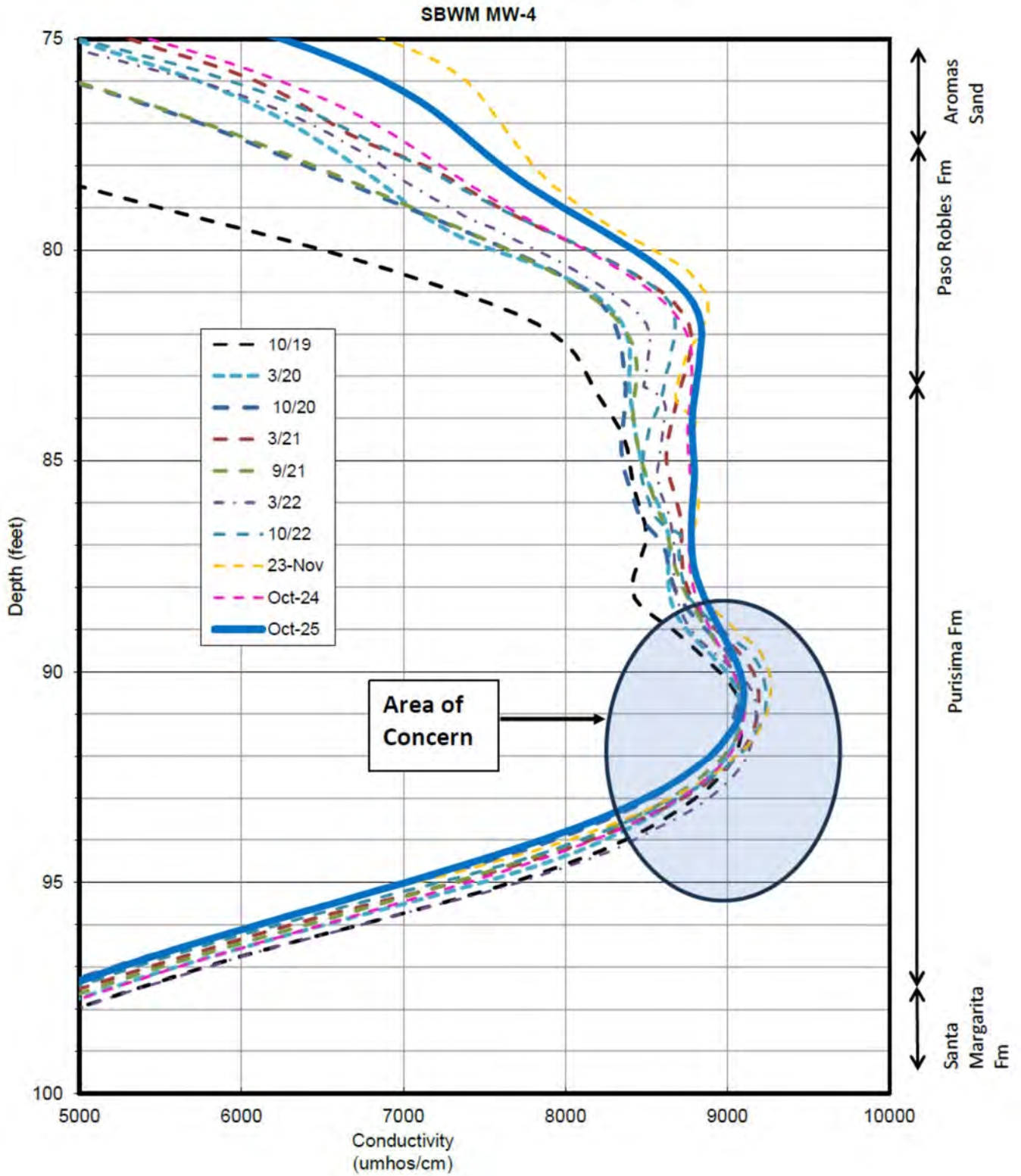
SBWM MW-4

SENTINEL WELLS CONDUCTIVITY



SBWM MW-4
Shallower Area of Concern Enlarged

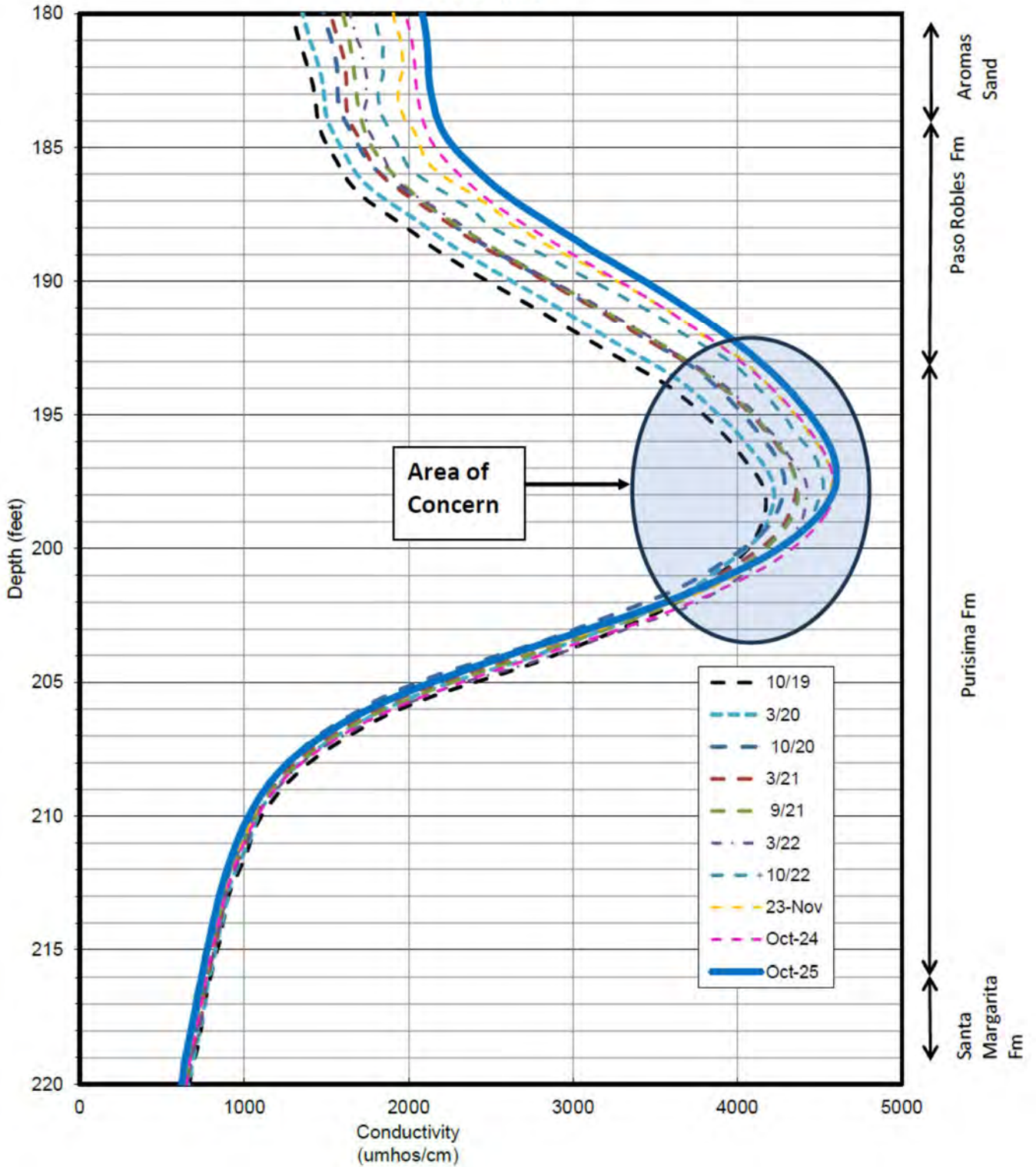
SENTINEL WELLS CONDUCTIVITY
Blow-up Of Shallow Area of Concern



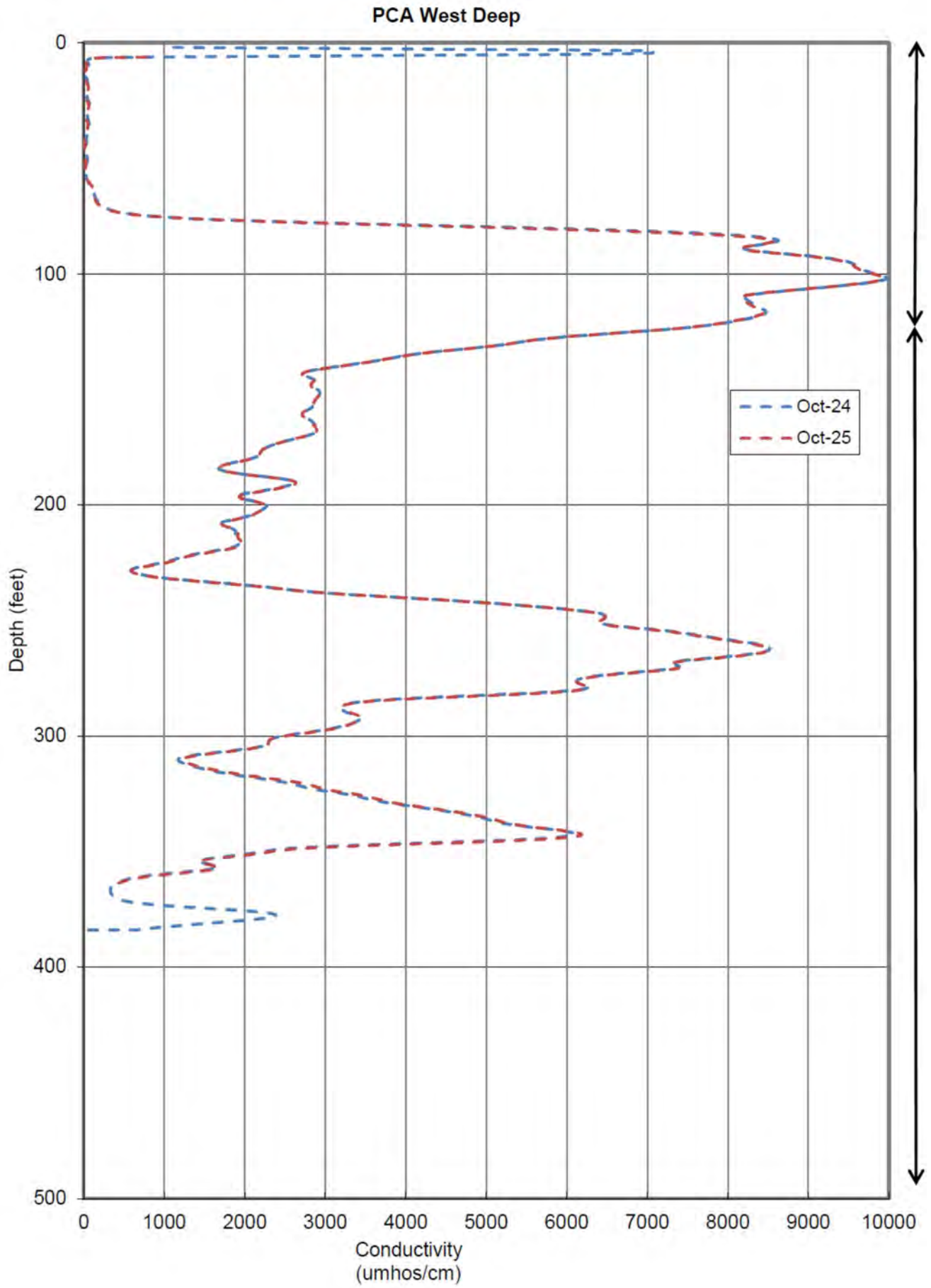
SBWM MW-4
Deeper Area of Concern Enlarged

SENTINEL WELLS CONDUCTIVITY
Blow-up Of Deeper Area of Concern

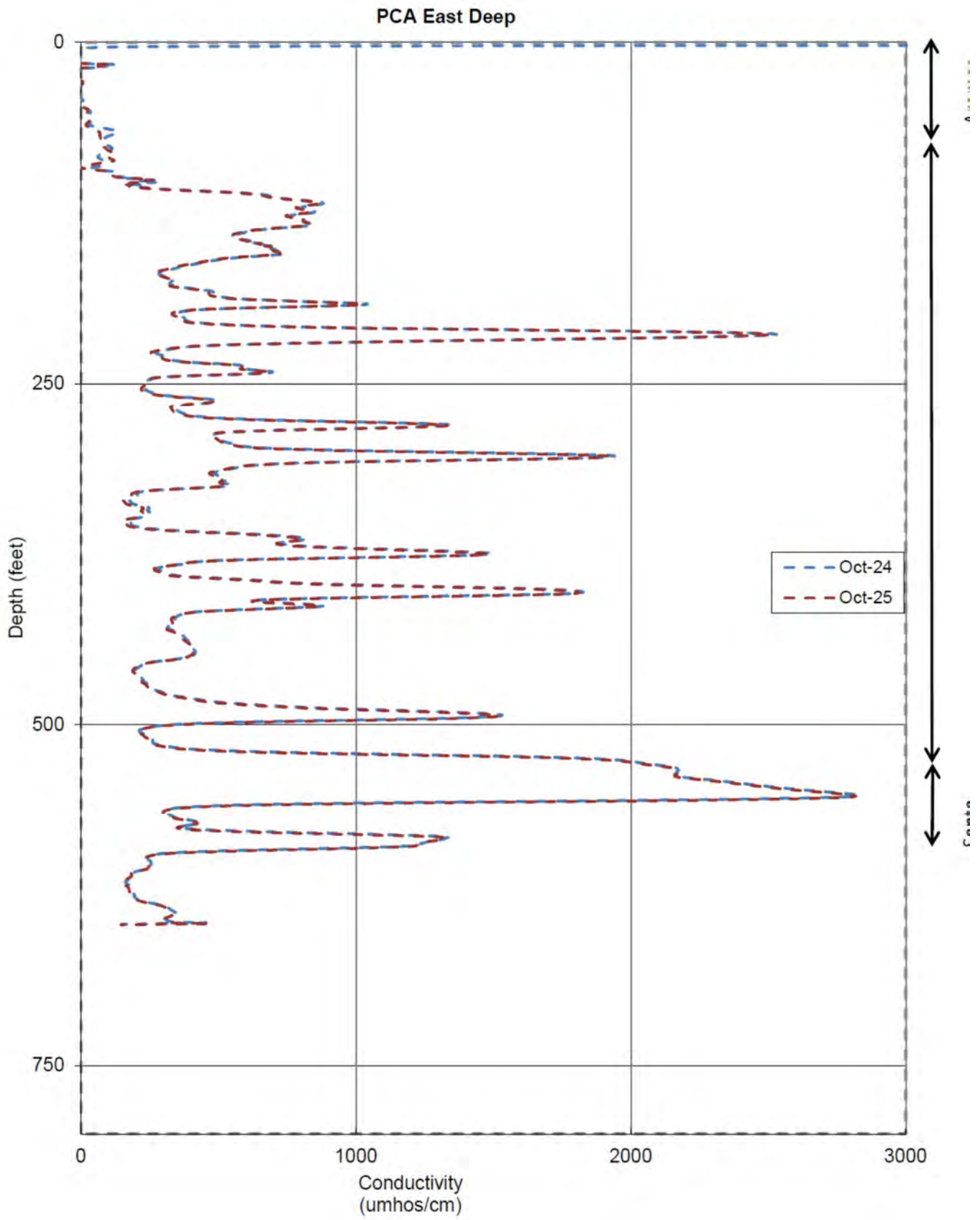
SBWM MW-4



PCA-West



PCA-East



**SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * ***

MEETING DATE:	December 10, 2025
AGENDA ITEM:	2.D
AGENDA TITLE:	Update on SNG Well
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager

SUMMARY:

As reported and discussed at several TAC meetings in prior months, the Security National Guaranty (SNG) well, located in the dunes area in the northern portion of Sand City, is believed to have a deteriorating steel casing that is allowing seawater intruded shallow groundwater to leak downward into the deeper aquifer. Because of litigation in progress the well owner reported that he was not allowed to do any work to repair or destroy the well.

In the late summer of 2024 the Watermaster Board directed its legal counsel to contact the Court where the litigation is being conducted, and to ask that the well owner be allowed to proceed with repairs or destruction of the well prior to the completion of that litigation. As of November 2024 legal counsel has had limited success in making progress on this issue, but did report that it is their understanding that SNG is now working with Craig Evans Pump Testing Services to investigate the well and determine next steps. Legal counsel is also continuing to press for more rapid action.

In April 2025 the Monterey County Health Department, Environmental Health Bureau, sent a letter to the well owner directing him to have the well destroyed. A copy of that letter is contained in Attachment 10. In September 2025 the Monterey County Health Department, Environmental Health Bureau, reported that they had not received any response to their April 2025 letter, and were working with County Counsel to issue a Notice of Violation giving the well owner 30 days to comply. In November 2025 the County Health Department reported that they had spoken with the well owner, and explained to him that if he did not comply, then the County would issue a citation, fine, and recordation. He subsequently submitted an application to destroy the well and an application to replace it with a new well (copy attached).

Mr. Feeney explained that blasting is needed to properly destroy the well, because they need to rip the casing so the cement can get into the gravel pack. He went on to say that a lot of times they will destroy a casing using a ripper knife, but in a well this old the well might collapse, preventing a seal, so blasting is used instead.

So in summary, it appears the leaking well will be destroyed sometime in the near future, and a new replacement well will be installed somewhere on the SNG site.

ATTACHMENTS:	1. Application to Destroy Existing SNG Well 2. Application for New SNG Well
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	None required – information only

FA026-000629

RECEIVED

MONTEREY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Environmental Health Bureau
Drinking Water Protection Services

Job # X00140

1270 Natividad Road, Salinas, CA 93906
Phone: (831)755-4507 Fax: (831)796-8691

NOV 07 2025
Environmental Health

APPLICATION TO DESTROY:

WATER WELL, BOREHOLE, MONITORING WELL OR CATHODIC PROTECTION WELL

Estimated Work: Start ___/___/___ Finish ___/___/___ Receive Permit by: - Mail - E-Mail - Pick Up

Property Owner:			
Name/Title:	SNG Evariste LLC		
Mailing Address:	P.O.Box 1056		
City:	Santa Rosa	Zip:	95402
Phone:	415-233-1736		
E-Mail:	edg.sng@outlook.com		
Applicant-If different from Property Owner:			
Name/Title:			
Mailing Address:			
City:		Zip:	
Phone:			
E-Mail:			
Contractor:			
Company:	Maggiora Bros. Drilling, Inc.		
Contact:	Michael F. Maggiora		
Mailing Address:	595 Airport Blvd.		
City:	Watsonville, CA	Zip:	95076
Phone:	831-724-1338	C-57 License:	249957
E-Mail:	watsonville@maggiorabros.com		
Proposed Site:			
Site Address:	2200 California Ave.		
City:	Sand City	Zip:	93955
APN:	011-501-014-000	Acres:	39.2
GPS Coordinates:			

Site Preparation: Any grading required (leveling, pit, road, containment area, etc.?) -No
 -Yes: (Describe): _____

Original Use:

- Irrigation
- Domestic Single Connection
- Domestic/Multiple Connection
- Test (borehole)*
- Geothermal
- Cathodic Protection
- Monitoring
- Industrial
- Stock

*each hole required a separate permit. Indicate if proposal includes 2 holes (test hole and production well)

Date Constructed: 03/09/1966 Reason for destruction: High TDS & sand production

Monterey County GSA areas -Yes - No

Total number of wells on property: 1 Number of wells in use? 1 Inactive? _____ Abandoned? _____

----- M. C. H. D. -E. H. B. OFFICE USE ONLY -----			
Date:	<u>11 / 12 / 25</u>	Record ID:	<u>SEA26-000321</u>
Check #:	<u>055951</u>	Amount:	<u>\$1916.00</u>
		Received by:	<u>V. Mand.</u>
		Invoice #:	<u>1235538</u>

\$ 1916

Site Address: 2200 California Ave.

APN: 011-501-014-000

A map showing the location of the well to be destroyed, the nearest crossroad and an arrow indicating north, along with written directions to the proposed site, must accompany this application. A well log, if available, and a diagram of the well casing showing the perforations and location of water strata and formations must also accompany this application. If inadequate information is provided and a second well site field visit is required, a charge at the current hourly rate may be required for the additional site visit.

DESTRUCTION PROPOSAL:

Type of well construction: - Mud Rotary - Reverse Rotary - Air - Cable Tool - Other: _____

Gravel packed? Yes Bore hole diameter 28 in Well depth 660 ft.

Open to original depth: - Yes - No, depth open _____ ft.

Conductor casing: Length Yes ft. Diameter 30 in. Seal-depth 12 ft./width _____ in

Production casing: Length 650 ft. Diameter 12 in. Material _____ ft./width _____ in Seal-depth _____ ft./width _____ in

Perforations or screens: type/size mill slot Location: see attached _____ to _____ ft. _____ to _____ ft.

Liner Present: - Yes - No Removable? - Yes - No Length _____ ft. Diameter: _____ ft.

Liner perms/screen: type/size _____ Location: _____ to _____ ft. _____ to _____ ft.

Condition of casing? poor Cleaning required? no

Video available: - Yes, attach - No DWR available: - Yes, attach - No

Proposed method of destruction: If casing needs to be perforated, attach detailed destruction plan

Material	Volume	Length	Location
<u>10.3 sack</u>	<u>20</u> cu. yds.	<u>650</u> ft	<u>650</u> to <u>0</u> ft.
	cu. yds.	ft	to _____ ft.

I hereby agree to comply with all conditions, laws and regulations of the County of Monterey and the State of California pertaining to well construction. I understand approval of a well permit does not indicate whether this property is suitable for an individual sewage disposal system or that a permit to install such a system is granted. I understand fees submitted with this application are non-refundable. I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the County and its officers, agents and employees from actions or claims of any description brought on account of any injury or damages sustained, by any person or property resulting from the issuance of the permit and the conduct of the activities authorized under requested permit.

Additionally, I understand submitting an incomplete application will delay the processing of my permit.

SIGNATURE OF PROPERTY OWNER***:

Ed Ghandour President, SNG Date: 10 / 23 / 25 Print Ed Ghandour

SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR:

Michael F. Maggiora Date: 10 / 29 / 25 Print Michael F. Maggiora

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT (IF DIFFERENT FROM PROPERTY OWNER):

Date: _____ / _____ / _____ Print _____

***If signed by authorized representative instead of owner, submit proof of authorization

Wellblaster

9530 Hageman Rd. STE B #349 Bakersfield CA, 93312
 Phone: (916) 761-5224 Email: taylor@wellblaster.com
 Website: www.wellblaster.com



Wellblaster

Date: October 29, 2025

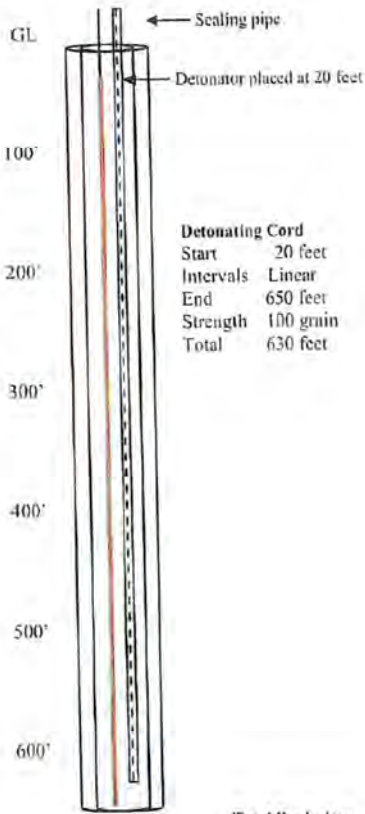
BLASTING WORK PLAN

Well: SNG Evariste LLC Well

Location: 2200 California Ave.
Sand City, CA

Plan date and time : Pending

Casing 30 -inch ID Steel to 120 feet
 Casing 12 -inch ID Steel to 650 feet
 Casing 8 -inch ID PVC to 650 feet



Detonating Cord
 Start 20 feet
 Intervals Linear
 End 650 feet
 Strength 100 grain
 Total 630 feet

Total Explosives
8.82 lbs.

Boosters		
Density g/cc	1.55	g/cc
Detonation Velocity	24,000	ft/s 7,315 m/s
Casing Diameter	12	inches
Charge Wt.	0.15	Kg 150 grams
Detonation pressure	207	k/bar
Total energy ea	13,997	k/bar
Pressure at casing	15.47	k/bar 231,567 psi
Pressure at 10 feet	0.00	29 psi

Explosive Cord		
Density g/cc	1.60	g/cc
Detonation Velocity	22,000	ft/s 6,706 m/s
Casing Diameter	12	inches
Grains	100	gr/lb 6.48 g/lb

Detonation pressure	180	k/bar
Total energy per ft.	44	k/bar
Pressure at casing	0.39	k/bar 5,785 psi

*These are estimated pressure for a empty well

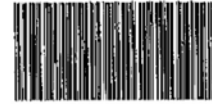
Site procedure

1. Check site and measure well depth
2. Clear work site of all unessential personal
3. Lower charges and drop pipe into the well
4. Pump sealing material to top of well
5. Check and clear blast area (sound blast warning)
6. Ann explosives
7. Confirm area clear (final blast warning)
8. Detonate charge
9. Check hole and sound all clear
10. Refill cement to top of well to form a mushroom cap

Name of Blaster Preparing Plan: Tylor McMillan

*Tylor McMillan's Well Service reserves the right to change or modify the charge in any way necessary to maintain the safety of all personnel onsite and in surrounding areas

Monterey County Health Department
 Environmental Health Bureau
 1270 Natividad Road
 Salinas, CA 93906
 (831) 755-4505



SEA26-000321

***Payment is due 30 days from**

Invoice Date
 Date Printed: 11/12/2025

Site Address: 2200 CALIFORNIA
 AVENUE

Pay online at: <https://aca-prod.accela.com/MONTEREYEH>
***Payment plans are available by contacting our office.**

MAGGIORA BROS. DRILLING, INC
 595 AIRPORT BLVD
 WATSONVILLE, CA 95076

INVOICE

Total Amount Due: \$1,916.00

Amount Enclosed: _____

Please make checks payable to: Monterey County.

Return the bottom portion with payment and write invoice number or numbers on check.

If paid late, a Late Penalty shall be assessed, the greater of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) or twenty-five (25) percent of the total accumulated fees in addition to the prescribed fee, inspection fees, or total accumulated fees. Open balances are subject to Collections. Food facilities that have not paid the permit fee before July 1st are prohibited from operating and will be closed per Cal code Section 114387. If you do not plan to operate your business after July 1st, please notify our office at the contact information listed on this statement.

FEEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE AND NON-TRANSFERRABLE
 The higher of a 2.25% or \$1.95 will be assessed for online credit card payments

Record ID	Record Type	Terms	Due Date
SEA26-000321	Water Well Permit Application/Plan Check	Due on Receipt - Delinquent After Due Date	6/30/2026

Invoice #	Invoice Date	Description	Amount Due
1235538	11/12/2025	WRA - DATABASE MAINTENANCE	368.00
1235538	11/12/2025	WATER WELL DESTRUCTION	1,550.00
TOTAL FEES INVOICES:			\$1,916.00
TOTAL DUE:			\$1,916.00

SEA 26-000320

RECEIVED

MONTEREY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Environmental Health Bureau
Drinking Water Protection Services

Job # D00980

1270 Natividad Road, Salinas, CA 93906
Phone: (831)755-4502 Fax: (831)786-8691

NOV 07 2025

APPLICATION TO CONSTRUCT: WATER WELL, MONITORING WELL, BOREHOLE,
CATHODIC PROTECTION WELL, INJECTION WELL OR GEOTHERMAL WELLS

Estimated Work: Start ___/___/___ Finish ___/___/___ Receive Permit by: Mail E-Mail Pick Up

Property Owner:			
Name/Title:	SNG Evariste LLC		
Mailing Address:	P.O.Box 1056		
City:	Santa Rosa	Zip:	95402
Phone:	415-233-1736		
E-Mail:	edg.sng@outlook.com		
Applicant-if different from Property Owner:			
Name/Title:			
Mailing Address:			
City:		Zip:	
Phone:			
E-Mail:			
Contractor:			
Company:	Maggiora Bros. Drilling, Inc.		
Contact:	Michael F. Maggiora		
Mailing Address:	595 Airport Blvd.		
City:	Watsonville, CA	Zip:	95076
Phone:	831-724-1338	C-57 License:	249957
E-Mail:	watsonville@maggiorabros.com		
Proposed Site:			
Site Address:	2200 California Ave		
City:	Sand City	Zip:	93955
APN:	011-501-014-000	Acres:	39.2
GPS Coordinates:			

Site Preparation: Any grading required (leveling, pit, road, containment area, etc.?) -No
 -Yes: (Describe): _____

Intended Use:
 - Agricultural Irrigation - Residential Irrigation (no domestic use) - Domestic/Single Connection
 - Domestic/Multiple Connection: # of connections: _____ Name of system: _____
 - Geothermal - Cathodic Protection - Monitoring - Industrial - Injection - Stock - Test (borehole)*

GPM needed: 300 Associated PLN/BP: _____
Replacement Well: - No Emergency Well: - Yes - No
 - Yes: If yes, Reason for Replacement/Emergency? Replacing damaged PCA well on site
Must complete Emergency Supplemental Emergency Application.

Monterey County GSA areas - Yes - No If yes which area (see below top of page 2 for area)
Total number of wells on property: _____ Number of wells in use? _____ Inactive? _____ Abandoned? _____

-----M. C. H. D. -E. H. B. OFFICE USE ONLY-----			
Date:	/ /	Record ID:	SEA26-000320
Check #:		Amount:	64206.00
		Received by:	V. Mandryano
		Invoice #:	1235536

4206

GSA SUBBASIN

180/400 Monterey Langley Eastside Forebay Upper Valley PVWMA
 Marina Coast Arroyo Seco MPWMD

Site Address: 2200 California Ave APN: 011-501-014-000

Distance to nearest: Property Line 150 ft. Existing well ft. Leach line ft. Seepage pit ft. Septic tank ft.
 Sewer lines, mains, or laterals ft. fuel tank ft. - above - below ground Animal encl. ft.

Type of Onsite Waste Disposal: Sewer Leach field Seepage pit

A map containing the following information **must accompany** this application: Written directions to the proposed site; nearest crossroad, arrow indicating north; property lines; distance from proposed well to property lines; location of other wells on property; location of septic tanks, seepage pits and leach lines on property and within 150 feet of well site. Additionally, an aerial photo of the property indicating the proposed location and photos of well site is requested. If an inadequate map is provided and a second well site field visit is required, a charge at the currently hourly rate may be required for the additional site visit. **Flag the precise site location of the proposed well with a surveyor's stake with the words "Proposed Well."**

PROPOSED DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION FEATURES:

Type of well construction: - Mud Rotary - Reverse Rotary - Air - Cable Tool - Other:
 - Geothermal - Cathodic Protection

Conductor casing: To be installed? Yes If yes, Length 30 ft. Diameter 16 in. Thickness .250 in.
 Bore hole diameter 22 in. Seal width ** 3 in. Seal Depth 30 ft

Production casing: () - Standard or () - line pipe - Structural Steel - Thermoplastics: type - Thermoset Plastic
 Seal Depth 300 ft Borehole Depth 650 ft Casing Depth 650 ft
 Diameter 8 in. - Single - Double Type of joint Glue
 Bore hole diameter 15 in Seal Width** 3.5 in Type/method of centralizing Centralizers
 **Minimum of 3" for public water system wells, minimum of 2" for all others

Logging to be used: - Electric - Caliper - Fluid movement - Geologic - Other:

Proposed Seal: Material	Volume	Length	Location
<u>10.3 sack sand slurry</u>	<u>12</u> cu. yds.	<u>300</u> ft	<u>0</u> to <u>300</u> ft.
	cu. yds.	ft	to ft.

Proposed location of perforations or screens: to ft. to ft. to ft.
 to be determined from exploratory borehole and geophysical log

Concrete pump base: Length 72 in. Width 72 in. Thickness 6 in.

I hereby agree to comply with all conditions, laws and regulations of the County of Monterey and the State of California pertaining to well construction. I understand approval of a well permit does not indicate whether this property is suitable for an individual sewage disposal system or that a permit to install such a system is granted. I understand fees submitted with this application are non-refundable. I hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the County and its officers, agents and employees from actions or claims of any description brought on account of any injury or damages sustained, by any person or property resulting from the issuance of the permit and the conduct of the activities authorized under requested permit.

Additionally, I understand submitting an incomplete application will delay the processing of my permit.

SIGNATURE OF PROPERTY OWNER***:
Ed Ghandour President, SNG Date: 10 / 23 / 25 Print Ed Ghandour

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT-IF DIFFERENT FROM PROPERTY OWNER:
Michael F. Magiera Date: 10 / 29 / 25 Print Michael F. Magiera

SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTOR:
 Date: / / Print

***If signed by authorized representative instead of owner, submit proof of authorization

**SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * ***

MEETING DATE:	December 10, 2025
AGENDA ITEM:	3
AGENDA TITLE:	Report on Geophysical Imaging Work Near Sentinel Well No. 4
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager
SUMMARY:	
<p>Subsurface imaging near Sentinel Well No. 4, where there has been a steady increase in conductivity in the strata between 180 and 200 feet below ground surface, was performed by Geophysical Imaging Partners in July of this year. Attached are the Conclusions section of the report. To save TAC members from having to read the entire report, I have only included the Conclusions section for today’s meeting. The full final version of the report is posted on the Watermaster’s website for those persons who wish to review the entire report at this link:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">https://seasidegroundwaterbasinwatermaster.wpcomstaging.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/25-0901-Geophysical-Investigations-to-Map-Possible-Saltwater-Intrusion-Seaside-California.pdf</p> <p>A representative from Geophysical Imaging Partners will provide a summary presentation on the findings of the report and respond to questions at today’s meeting.</p>	
ATTACHMENTS:	Conclusions from this work
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	None required – information only

Conclusions

This section provides general conclusions and an overall interpretation of the results in terms of the structures observed in the geophysical data. The interpretations are made based on very limited supplementary data (i.e. limited borehole information across the study area). Two geophysical logs (Induction log) and the lithology described in the well completion report for four wells are included on the vertical sections.

The vertical distribution of sTEM resistivities measured during this field event is consistent with a sequence (from surface downward) of:

- Unsaturated sand (dune sands and Aromas Fm.)
- Freshwater-saturated sand (dune sands and Aromas Fm)
- Saltwater saturated sand (Aromas Fm)
- Relatively fine-grained Paso Robles Fm.
- Relatively coarse-grained Paso Robles Fm.
- Underlying Purissima Fm.

The spatial distribution of sTEM resistivities shows a general pattern of increasing resistivity moving inland at most depths. However, the zone of interest (180-200 ft) shows local variations from this pattern, with certain soundings showing relatively lower resistivity values, with the best examples seen in soundings (soundings 6 and 7) to the south and east of SW4. Due to the heterogeneous nature of the Paso Robles Formation, these variations could be driven by lithologic and/or pore fluid salinity changes. Given the observations at SW4, it is likely that pore fluid salinity is a contributing factor to the observed pattern, consistent with some level of variable seawater intrusion in this zone.

Within the study area, this pattern did not appear to extend inland further than approximately SW4. Because SW4 has a consistent pattern of decreasing resistivity in the zone of interest (180-200 ft) and sits at the landward edge of the observed pattern (relatively lower resistivity values) in the sTEM results, it is likely that seawater intrusion impacts are greater in the areas of notably lower sTEM resistivity values than the impacts observed at SW4. The irregular spatial distribution of this effect would be consistent with seawater intrusion occurring preferentially in higher-permeability pathways within the heterogeneous Paso Robles Formation, such as channel sands.

Soundings further inland (east of Highway 1) were likely impacted by noise from electrical infrastructure but measured notably higher resistivities within the zone of interest, which may suggest that seawater intrusion has not yet reached these areas.

**SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * ***

MEETING DATE:	December 10, 2025
AGENDA ITEM:	4
AGENDA TITLE:	Discuss and Provide Input on the 2025 Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report (SIAR)
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager
SUMMARY:	
<p>Montgomery & Associates has completed preparing the Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report (SIAR) for Water Year 2025 and the Executive Summary, which contains conclusions and recommendations, is attached. The complete SIAR is lengthy, so rather than including it in this agenda packet it is being posted on the Watermaster’s website so TAC members wishing to review the entire document could do so. The website link is:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://seasidegroundwaterbasinwatermaster.wpcomstaging.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2025-Seawater-Intrusion-Analysis-Report-Draft-Version-for-12-10-25-TAC-Meeting.pdf</p> <p>The Appendices to the SIAR are posted directly beneath the <i>Seawater-Intrusion-Analysis-Report-Draft-Version-for-12-10-25-TAC-Meeting</i> on the website.</p> <p>The SIAR examines the “health” of the Basin with regard to whether or not there are any indications that seawater intrusion is either occurring or is imminent. Previous SIARs have stated that depressed groundwater levels, continued pumping in excess of recharge and freshwater inflows, and ongoing seawater intrusion in the nearby Salinas Valley all suggest that seawater intrusion could occur in the Seaside Groundwater Basin. In spite of these factors, the previous SIARs stated that neither the Piper nor the Stiff Diagrams nor any of the other parameters indicated the presence of seawater intrusion in the existing monitoring wells. In the 2025 data, some of the Sentinel Wells are showing a trend of increasing conductivity, and a few wells now have Piper diagrams that may be starting to show a trend toward seawater. Both of these are indications that seawater may be starting to mix with the native water in those wells. However, the 2025 SIAR reports that the evaluation of the data from the sampling and monitoring program continues to indicate that seawater intrusion, as defined in the Seawater Intrusion Response Plan, has not yet occurred.</p> <p>A representative from Montgomery & Associates will participate in today’s TAC meeting to provide an oral summary of the report and to respond to questions by TAC members.</p>	
ATTACHMENTS:	Executive Summary from the 2025 SIAR
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Discuss and either modify or approve the SIAR and forward the document to the Board with the TAC’s recommendation for approval

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report fulfills part of the annual reporting requirements contained in the Seaside Groundwater Basin Adjudication (California American Water v. City of Seaside, Monterey County Superior Court, Case Number M66343). The annual report addresses the potential for, and extent of, seawater intrusion in the Seaside Groundwater Basin.

Seawater intrusion may occur under basic hydrogeologic conditions as a wedge beneath fresh groundwater or in more complex hydrogeology with various intrusion interfaces among the different aquifers. Continued pumping in excess of recharge and freshwater inflows, coastal groundwater levels well below sea level, and ongoing seawater intrusion in the nearby Salinas Valley all suggest that seawater intrusion could occur in the Seaside Basin.

Seawater intrusion is typically identified through regular chemical analyses of groundwater that can identify geochemical changes in response to seawater intrusion. No single analysis definitively identifies seawater intrusion, however by examining various analyses it is possible to determine when fresh groundwater mixes with seawater. At low chloride concentrations, it is often difficult to identify incipient seawater intrusion. This is due to the natural variation in freshwater chemistry at chloride concentrations below 1,000 milligrams per liter (mg/L). Mixing trends between groundwater and seawater are more easily defined when chloride concentrations exceed 1,000 mg/L. Common geochemical indicators of seawater intrusion are cation and anion ratios, chloride trends, sodium/chloride ratios, and electric induction logging.

Groundwater levels below sea level, the cumulative effect of pumping in excess of recharge and freshwater inflows, and ongoing seawater intrusion in the nearby Salinas Valley all suggest that seawater intrusion has the potential to occur in the Seaside Groundwater Basin.

Data collected in Water Year (WY) 2025 from monitoring and production wells do not indicate seawater intrusion is occurring within the Seaside Groundwater Basin. However, induction logging shows continued incremental increases in conductivity over time in Sentinel wells SBWM-1, 2, and 4 within zones of the Upper Paso Robles Formation (shallow aquifer) that are not screened within nearby monitoring wells. Continual increases in conductivity may be a precursor to seawater intrusion.

Based on the findings of this report, the following ongoing detrimental groundwater conditions pose a direct threat of seawater intrusion:

- All aquifers in the Seaside Groundwater Basin are susceptible to seawater intrusion. The shallow aquifer is in direct hydrogeologic connection with Monterey Bay, and seawater

will eventually flow into it if inland groundwater levels continue to be below sea level. It is uncertain whether the deep aquifer is in direct connection with Monterey Bay. If it is not in direct connection, then seawater intrusion will take longer as seawater in the shallow aquifer would need to move down through the clay rich deposits overlying the Purisima and Santa Margarita aquifers before entering the deep aquifer itself and making its way into deep aquifer production wells. It is not if, but when, seawater intrusion into these aquifers will occur if protective water elevations are not achieved.

- Sentinel wells SBWM-1 and SBWM-2, located north of the Seaside Basin, and SBWM-4, located in the Northern Coastal subarea where most of the Seaside Basin's groundwater extraction occurs, exhibit sustained increases in conductivity over time within the shallow aquifer's Upper Paso Robles Formation. It is believed the increased conductivity in the shallow portions of SBWM-1 and SBWM-2 are associated with the mapped extent of seawater intrusion emanating from the Salinas Valley Basin shown on Figure 20. Since SBWM-3 does not have increasing conductivity in the Paso Robles Formation like the other three Sentinel wells, the cause of increasing conductivity in SBWM-4 may be different than SBWM-1 and SBWM-2 to the north. Evaluation of SBWM-4 conductivity data collected prior to 2019 indicates conductivity has been increasing within this zone from at least 2007 when induction logging started. An estimate of the total dissolved solids (TDS) increase associated with the logged change in conductivity in SBWM-4 since 2007 is approximately 1,000 mg/L. The Secondary Drinking Water limit is 500 mg/L. This indicates a significant salinity increase in the Paso Robles Formation. Induction logging conducted at monitoring well Pacific Cement Aggregates (PCA)-West Deep—located 780 feet southwest of SBWM-4—to verify increasing conductivity in this area does indicate high salinity within the Upper Paso Robles Formation. However, several years of induction logs are needed to compare against the first baseline before it can be determined if conductivity is increasing at that well too.
- While most groundwater samples for WY 2025 from depth-discreet monitoring wells generally plot in a single cluster on Piper diagrams with no water chemistry changes toward seawater, there are three monitoring wells—PCA-West Shallow (Appendix C, Figure C-1), PCA-East Deep (Appendix C, Figure C-4), Ord Terrace Shallow (Appendix C, Figure C-5)—that have trends indicating groundwater may be mixing with seawater.
- Groundwater levels in some portions of both the shallow and deep aquifers in the Northern Coastal subarea continue to be below sea level year-round. Groundwater levels below sea level create hydraulic conditions causing onshore flow. WY 2025 fourth quarter (summer/fall) groundwater levels in the deep aquifer are almost 30 feet below sea

level north of the Seaside Basin and approximately 20 feet below sea level in the southern portion of the Northern Coastal subarea. The Northern Coastal subarea pumping depression in the deep aquifer is slightly larger in horizontal extent than the previous year. The pumping depression in the shallow aquifer is about the same as last year's depression.

- Groundwater levels remain below protective elevations in all three deep aquifer protective elevation monitoring wells (Monterey Sand Company [MSC] deep, PCA-W Deep, and Sentinel well SBWM-3), and in one of the three shallow aquifer protective elevation monitoring wells (MSC Shallow). In fall of WY 2025, groundwater elevations in the deep aquifer (MSC-Deep, PCA-West Deep, and Sentinel Well 3) decreased to seasonal lows similar to those observed in WY 2016 and WY 2022. In WY 2025, seasonal high groundwater levels at all three deep aquifer monitoring wells increased slightly or were about the same as the previous year. Groundwater elevations at all three shallow aquifer protective elevation monitoring wells showed an increase in seasonal highs. Increased shallow groundwater levels in the Northern Coastal subarea is likely due to Bayonet/Blackhorse golf courses irrigation switching from locally pumped groundwater to recycled water.

The following evidence from this report demonstrates that seawater intrusion has not been detected in monitoring and production wells from which groundwater quality samples are collected:

- In some production wells, groundwater quality plots on Piper diagrams are different than groundwater quality in monitoring wells. This may be a result of mixed water quality because these wells are perforated in both the shallow and deep aquifers. None of the production wells' groundwater qualities are indicative of seawater intrusion.
- None of the Stiff diagrams for monitoring and production wells show the characteristic chloride spike that typically indicates seawater intrusion in Stiff diagrams.
- Maps of chloride concentrations for the shallow aquifer do not show chlorides increasing toward the coast. Deep aquifer chloride concentration maps show that the highest chloride concentrations are limited to coastal monitoring wells PCA-West Deep and MSC Deep, but these are not indicative of seawater intrusion since their sodium/chloride molar ratios are not less than 0.86, and they do not have increasing trends.

Other important findings from the analysis contained in this report include the following:

- It is evident from comparing the long-term groundwater level trends of PCA-West Shallow and PCA-East Shallow, both in the shallow aquifer, that golf course irrigation

pumping was the cause of groundwater levels falling below protective elevations at PCA-West Shallow over the past 7 years. Using recycled water for golf course irrigation has allowed shallow groundwater levels to recover to above the protective elevations at PCA-West Shallow and they remain above protective elevations at this well.

- Due to its distance from the coast, seawater intrusion is not an issue of concern in the Laguna Seca subarea. However, groundwater levels in the eastern Laguna Seca subarea have historically declined at rates of 0.6 feet per year in the shallow aquifers, and up to 4 feet per year in the deep aquifers. These declines have occurred since 2001 despite triennial reductions in allowable pumping and California American Water Company (CAWC) ceasing pumping its Ryan Ranch and Bishop wells. The cause of the declines is the subarea's limited groundwater inflows and natural recharge compounded by the influence of wells pumping east of the Seaside Basin in the Monterey Subbasin Corral de Tierra Management Area.
- Native groundwater production in the Seaside Basin for WY 2025 was 2,112 acre-feet, which is 239 acre-feet less than WY 2024 and 888 acre-feet less than the Decision-ordered Operating Yield of 3,000 acre-feet. Though WY 2025 was a below average year for rainfall, recovery of 3,851 acre-feet of recycled water from Pure Water Monterey and use of recycled water at the Bayonet/Blackhorse golf courses helped offset pumping of native groundwater. As outlined in the Basin Management Action Plan (M&A, 2018), it is vital that the Watermaster continues to identify ways to reduce pumping native groundwater and/or to recover groundwater elevations with water that is left in the Seaside Basin and is not extracted out as water supply.

It is important to closely monitor groundwater quality at different depths through the Seaside Basin's aquifers. Although existing monitoring and production wells are not detecting seawater intrusion, it does not mean seawater intrusion is not occurring. The discovery of increasing conductivity in specific zones in the Sentinel wells that are not screened in nearby monitoring wells illustrates this fact. Using geophysical methods such as induction logging and electromagnetic surveys to identify salinity provides a more complete "scan" of the depth of the Seaside Basin than discreetly screened wells cannot provide.

Based on the findings of this report, the following recommendations should be implemented to monitor and track potential seawater intrusion:

1. Actions Regarding Increased Conductivity Observed in Induction Logs in SBWM-1, SBWM-2, and SBWM-4

- Inform EKI and Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MCWD GSA) that Sentinel wells SBWM-1 and SBWM-2 continue to show

increases in conductivity from 520 to 540, 605 to 625, and 685 to 695 feet below ground surface (bgs) at SBWM-1 and 340 to 390 feet bgs at SBWM-2 in defined coarser-grained zones in the Paso Robles aquifer and the upper Purisima aquifer. These monitoring wells are located outside of the Seaside Basin and are within the Marina-Ord Management Area of the Monterey Subbasin.

- Annual induction logs in PCA-West Deep and PCA-East Deep should continue to be conducted to expand the area being monitored by geophysical methods.

2. Verify Chloride Concentrations and Water Chemistry in the 140 – 200 foot Zone of SBWM-4

Watermaster has been unable to find a site for a new monitoring well near SBMW-4 to verify chloride levels. However, other subsurface access options may exist. By monitoring well activity in the Basin, Watermaster could leverage opportunities to access the subsurface near SBMW-4. An upcoming example is to request permission from the SNG well owner for isolated water quality sampling during the construction of the replacement SNG well and to offer reimbursement for that additional work.

3. Destroy the Existing Damaged SNG Well

The privately owned Security National Guaranty (SNG) well with damaged casing is scheduled to be destroyed and replaced in WY 2026. Watermaster should provide input on recommended well construction and coordinate with the owner of the SNG well to take depth-specific samples at the SNG replacement well when it is drilled.

4. Continue to Analyze and Report on Water Quality Annually

Seawater intrusion is a threat to the Seaside Basin, and data must be collected and analyzed regularly to identify incipient intrusion. Maps, graphs, and analyses similar to what are found in this report should continue to be developed every year.

**SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

***** AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM *****

MEETING DATE:	December 10, 2025
AGENDA ITEM:	5
AGENDA TITLE:	Discuss and Provide Input on the Preliminary Draft Watermaster 2025 Annual Report
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager
SUMMARY:	
<p>The Watermaster submits an Annual Report to the Court after the end of each Water Year to fulfill one of its obligations under the Court Decision that created the Watermaster.</p> <p>A Preliminary Draft Annual Report for 2025 is being presented to the TAC for its review and input at today's TAC meeting. Due to its large file size, a complete copy of the Preliminary Draft 2025 Annual Report cannot be included with the agenda packet. However, a copy of the <u>body</u> of the Preliminary Draft is attached. A copy of the complete Preliminary Draft Annual Report is being posted on the Watermaster's website for anyone that would like to examine the entire document. The website link to this is:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://seasidegroundwaterbasinwatermaster.wpcomstaging.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Preliminary-Draft-2025-Annual-Report-for-Posting-12-4-25-1.pdf.</p> <p>The purpose of this Agenda item is to provide an opportunity for the TAC to raise questions, provide input, and/or provide suggested edits to the document.</p>	
ATTACHMENTS:	Preliminary Draft 2025 Annual Report (Body only)
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Provide input to the Technical Program Manager regarding any edits to the Preliminary Draft Annual Report that the TAC wishes to propose

Preliminary Draft

**SEASIDE BASIN
WATERMASTER
ANNUAL REPORT – 2025**

November 28, 2025

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SEASIDE BASIN WATERMASTER

ANNUAL REPORT – 2025

Integral to the Superior Court Decision (Decision) rendered by Judge Roger D. Randall on March 27, 2006 is the requirement to file an Annual Report. This 2025 Annual Report is being filed on or before January 15, 2026, consistent with the provisions of the Decision, as amended by the Order Amending Judgment filed March 29, 2018.

This Annual Report addresses the specific Watermaster functions set forth in Section III. L. 3. x. of the Decision. In addition, this Annual Report includes sections pertaining to:

- Water quality monitoring and Basin management
- Information that the Watermaster would otherwise include within a Case Status Conference Statement, including:
 - A summary of basin conditions and important developments concerning the management of the Basin
 - Planned near- and long-term actions of the Watermaster
 - Information concerning the status of regional water supply issues
 - Management activities that may bear on the Basin's wellbeing.

A. Groundwater Extractions

The schedule summarizing the Water Year 2025 (WY 2025) groundwater production from all the producers allocated a Production Allocation in the Seaside Groundwater Basin is provided in Attachment 1, “Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster, Reported Quarterly and Annual Water Production from the Seaside Groundwater Basin for all Producers Included in the Seaside Basin Adjudication During Water Year 2025.” Water Year 2025 is defined as beginning October 1, 2024 and ending on September 30, 2025.

B. Groundwater Storage

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), in cooperation with California American Water (CAWC), operates the Seaside Basin Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) program. Under the ASR program, CAWC diverts water from its Carmel River sources during periods of flow in excess of NOAA-Fisheries’ bypass flow requirements, and transports the water through the existing CAWC distribution system for injection and storage in the Seaside Basin at the MPWMD’s Santa Margarita ASR site and CAWC’s Seaside Middle School ASR site. During WY 2025 716 acre-feet was diverted and stored in the Seaside Basin under the ASR program. Rainfall in the area was about 79% of normal, and Carmel River flow was about 50% of normal.

Based upon production reported for WY 2025, the following Standard Producers are entitled to Carryover Credits to WY 2025 in accordance with the Decision, Section III. H. 5:

<u>Producer</u>	<u>Carryover Credit</u> (Acre-feet)
Granite Rock	301.96
DBO Development	532.21 (includes -5.29 transfer)
Calabrese (Cypress)	16.91 (includes -3.17 transfer)
CAWC	2,084.82 (includes +8.46 transfer)
City of Seaside Muni	32.32

C. Amount of Artificial Replenishment, If Any, Performed by Watermaster

Per the Decision, “Artificial Replenishment” means the act of the Watermaster, directly or indirectly, engaging in contracting for Non-Native Water to be added to the Groundwater supply of the Seaside Basin through Spreading or Direct Injection to offset the cumulative Over-Production from the Seaside Basin in any particular Water Year pursuant to Section III.L.3.j.iii. It also includes programs in which Producers agree to refrain, in whole or in part, from exercising their right to produce their full Production Allocation where the intent is to cause the replenishment of the Seaside Basin through forbearance in lieu of the injection or spreading of Non-Native Water (referred to herein as “In-lieu Replenishment”).

During Water Year 2025 the Watermaster did not indirectly engage in In-lieu Replenishment of the Basin.

As reported in the 2019 Annual Report, on September 4, 2019 the City of Seaside filed a motion with the Court seeking the Court’s approval of the City’s request for a Storage and Recovery Agreement for in-lieu storage and recovery of water. On October 25, 2019 the Court approved the City’s request. Court documents pertaining to the City’s request were contained in Attachment 15 of the 2019 Annual Report. On February 5, 2020 the Watermaster executed a Storage and Recovery Agreement with the City of Seaside, a copy of which was included in Attachment 7 of the 2020 Annual Report. 422.72 AF of non-native water was made available to the Basin during Water Year 2025 under this Storage and Recovery Agreement. The 422.72 AF accrues as a storage credit for any future City of Seaside Municipal or Golf Course use per the agreement.

D. Leases or Sales of Production Allocation and Administrative Actions

As reported in the 2017 Annual Report, on April 7, 2017, D.B.O Development No. 30 transferred/assigned 0.16 acre-feet (AF) of its Standard Production Allocation within the Seaside Groundwater Basin to California American Water for the Water Year ending 2017 applied to Water Year 2017. This transfer of water allocation was the first assignment of water pursuant to MPWMD Ordinance No. 166 and the Front-Loading Agreement between D.B.O and California American Water contained in Attachment 10 of the 2017 Annual Report.

As reported in the 2017 Annual Report, on June 15, 2017, D.B.O Development No. 30 transferred/assigned 2.15 acre-feet (AF) of its Standard Production Allocation within the Seaside Groundwater Basin to California American Water for the Water Year ending 2017 applied to Water Year 2017. This transfer of water allocation was the second assignment of water pursuant to MPWMD Ordinance No. 166 and the Front-Loading Agreement between D.B.O and California American Water contained in Attachment 10 of the 2017 Annual Report.

As reported in the 2019 Annual Report, in WY2019 a transfer or assignment of water allocation was activated, as provided for in the Cypress Pacific Investors (CPI), successor to

Muriel L. Calabrese 1987 Trust, front-loading delivery of water agreement that was contained in Attachment 14 of the 2019 Annual Report. Per the agreement, CPI leases to California American Water Company (CAWC) 8.0 AF of water (subject to reduction per the formulas in the Decision) for the purpose of producing such water from, or moving the production of such water to, the inland wells operated by CAWC and for delivery of such water by CAWC to one or more CPI properties. In WY 2017 CPI assigned its entire Standard Production Allocation water right to CAWC effective October 1, 2016.

As discussed in Attachment 13 of the 2018 Annual Report, in 2019 Security National Guarantee (SNG) indicated it intended to convert a portion of its Alternative Production Allocation to Standard Production. However, SNG subsequently decided not to make such a conversion.

During WY 2025 the Watermaster Board did not make any changes to the *Rules and Regulations*.

During WY 2025 the Watermaster Board was comprised of the following Members and Alternates:

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Director Paul Bruno	Director John Gaglioti	Coastal Subarea Landowner
Tim O'Halloran	David Pezzini	California American Water
Director John Gaglioti	Director Paul Bruno	Laguna Seca Subarea Landowner
Director Alvin Edwards	Director George Riley	MPWMD
Mayor Mary Ann Carbone	City Manager Vibeke Norgaard	City of Sand City
Supervisor Wendy Askew	Kate Daniels	Monterey County (MCWRA)
Councilmember Kim Shirley	Councilmember Mike Burger	City of Del Rey Oaks
Councilmember Kim Barber	Mayor Tyller Williamson	City of Monterey
Mayor Ian Oglesby	Mayor Pro Tem David R. Pacheco	City of Seaside

E. Use of Imported, Reclaimed, or Desalinated Water as a Source of Water for Storage or as a Water Supply for Lands Overlying the Seaside Basin

The CAWC/MPWMD ASR Program operated in WY 2025 and 715.64 acre-feet of water was injected into the Basin as Stored Water Credits and 0 acre-feet was extracted.

As reported in the 2019 Annual Report, the Watermaster issued a Storage and Recovery Agreement to CAWC and MPWMD governing the injection and recovery of water from the Pure Water Monterey (PWM) Project. A copy of the agreement was included in Attachment 13 of the 2019 Annual Report. The quantities of water that were stored and recovered in accordance with that Agreement during WY 2025 are reported in the lower portion of the spreadsheet in Attachment I.

F. Violations of the Decision and Any Corrective Actions Taken

Section III. D. of the Decision enjoins all Producers from any Over-Production beyond the Operating Yield in any Water Year in which the Watermaster declares that Artificial Replenishment is not available or possible. Section III. L. 3. j. iii. requires that the Watermaster declare the unavailability of Artificial Replenishment in December of each year, so that the Producers are informed of the prohibition against pumping in excess of the Operating Yield.

In WY 2021 the Watermaster implemented a final ramp-down in production to achieve the Basin’s Decision-established Natural Safe Yield of 3,000 AFY. The Watermaster made its declaration regarding the availability of Artificial Replenishment Water, and the Total Usable Storage Space of the Basin, for WY 2025 at its Board meeting of November 6, 2024. Copies of these declarations are contained in Attachment 2.

Total pumping for WY 2025 did not exceed the Operating Yield (OY) of the Basin, and did not exceed the Natural Safe Yield (NSY) of the Basin.

G. Watermaster Administrative Costs

The total estimated administrative costs through the end of Fiscal Year 2025 amounted to \$100,000 including a \$25,000 dedicated reserve. Costs include fees for one Administrative Officer and legal counsel. The “Fiscal Year 2025 Administrative Fund Report” and “Fiscal Year 2025 Operations Fund Report” are provided in Attachment 3.

H. Replenishment Assessments

At its meeting of October 1, 2025 the Watermaster Board determined that beginning with WY 2026 the Natural Safe Yield Replenishment Assessment unit cost should be updated to \$4,962 per acre-foot, and the Operating Yield Replenishment Assessment unit cost should be updated to \$1,241 per acre-foot. The spreadsheet that was included with the agenda transmittal for the October 1, 2025 meeting, and which explains the basis of calculation for these new unit costs, is contained in Attachment 4.

Alternative and Standard Producers report their production amounts from the Basin to the Watermaster on a quarterly basis. Based upon the reported productions for WY 2025, no replenishment assessments were made.

A summary of the calculations for Replenishment Assessments for WY 2025 is contained in Attachment 5.

I. All Components of the Watermaster Budget

The Watermaster budget has four separate funds: Administrative Fund; Monitoring & Management–Operations; Monitoring and Management–Capital Fund and; Replenishment Fund. At its meeting of October 1, 2025 the Watermaster Board approved these budgets for Fiscal Year 2026, and copies of these budgets are contained in Attachment 6

The Watermaster Board is provided monthly financial status reports on all financial activities for each month with year-to-date totals.

J. Water Quality Monitoring and Basin Management

Water Quality Analytical Results

Groundwater quality data continued to be collected and analyzed on a quarterly basis during WY 2025 from the enhanced network of monitoring wells. The low-flow sampling method implemented in 2009 continued to be used in 2025 and is expected to continue to be used in the future to improve the efficiency of sample collection.

Monitoring and Management Program for the Upcoming Year

The 2026 Monitoring and Management Program (M&MP) contained in Attachment 8 includes the same types of basin management activities that have been conducted in prior years.

Most of the proposed revisions between the 2025 and 2026 Monitoring and Management Programs are relatively minor, but:

- A new Task I.4.e.1 has been added to begin implementing the recommendations in the Updated Seawater Intrusion Response Plan (Updated SIRP).
- Tasks I.2.b.1, I.2.b.5, and I.4.e.1 all include the potential for installing additional monitoring wells starting in 2026. If new wells are to be installed, the costs of constructing the wells would be included in the M&MP Capital Budget, not the M&MP Operations Budget, but the locations of those wells would be identified through work under Task I.4.e.1. The need to install those wells will not be known until after the groundwater model has been updated under Task I.3.a.1. This is expected to occur in late 2026. So no new wells would be installed, if any are needed, until at least 2027 or later.
- Task I.3.a.1 includes the potential updating or replacement of the Watermaster's Seaside Basin Ground Water Model in 2026, in order for it to coordinate more closely with the updated models being prepared for the Salinas Valley Basin (which includes the adjacent Monterey Subbasin). The scope and cost of that work will not be known until the evaluation of the most cost-effective means of either modifying or replacing the existing Seaside Basin model has been completed. That evaluation is expected to be completed in early to mid-2026.
- Task I.3.a.3 has been updated to reflect Cal Am's updated schedule for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project's desalination plant.

The following are comments and/or principal revisions from the 2025 M&MP Budget:

- Technical Program Manager: The Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the adjacent Monterey Subbasin was completed and submitted in early 2022 by the Salinas Valley Basin and the Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, and the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency completed and submitted GSPs for the other subbasins. There will continue to be regular meetings of their GSP-related committees that I either serve on representing the Watermaster, or monitor to keep the Watermaster informed on the topics discussed at those meetings. Also, there will likely be further work related to obtaining replenishment water for the Basin. Therefore, I anticipate that the 2026 workload will be similar to that of 2025, so the proposed line-item budget amount has been maintained at \$75,000 in 2026.
- Tasks Involving MPWMD and Montgomery & Associates: The scopes-of-work for both MPWMD and Montgomery & Associates are essentially unchanged from 2025. However, both will have hourly-rate increases in 2026, so the costs of the Tasks in which they are involved reflect somewhat higher dollar amounts in 2026 compared to 2025.

- Tasks I.2.b.1, I.2.b.5, and I.4.e.1: All of these Tasks include the potential for installing additional monitoring wells. The need to install those wells will not be known until the Updated SIRP has been completed and approved by the Board. Hopefully that will occur in late 2025. The location of additional monitoring wells, if any are needed, would not be determined until the Seaside Basin Groundwater Model has been updated or replaced with a new model developed under Task I.3.a.1. That work will not be completed until late in 2026. Therefore, no new monitoring wells are expected to be installed in 2026.
- Task I.2.b.8: This Task, which was added in 2025, has been carried on into 2026 to perform additional subsurface electromagnetic imaging in the vicinity of Sentinel Well No. 4, if the work performed in 2025 was found to be useful and beneficial in helping to determine if seawater is beginning to intrude inland in this location.
- Task I.3.a.1: This is to update the groundwater modeling of the Seaside Basin, and was originally included in the 2025 M&MP. However, completion of the modeling work being performed in the adjacent Salinas Valley Basin has taken longer than originally expected, so this Task could not be performed in 2025 and has been moved to 2026. Significant changes in the understanding of the hydrogeology of the Monterey Subbasin, which abuts the Seaside Basin, have been identified through work being conducted by the Salinas Valley Basin and Marina Coast Groundwater Sustainability Agencies. The Salinas Valley Integrated Hydrogeologic Model (SVIHM) and the Seawater Intrusion Model are now expected to be completed in late 2025. In order for the Watermaster to have a model to incorporate that new information and to more closely coordinate with the groundwater models in the adjacent subbasins, it may be desirable to update the Watermaster's modeling work in 2026. The existing Seaside Basin Model was last updated in 2018 at a cost of approximately \$55K. However, that update only consisted of inputting more recent groundwater measurements (water level, production, etc.) but no changes to the actual model itself were made. The 2026 proposed updating work would be a much more complex and vigorous undertaking, with a commensurate significantly higher cost. The consultant (Montgomery & Associates) has provided a ballpark cost range of \$100K to \$150K to update the existing Seaside Basin Model. However, discussions with Montgomery and Associates and the TAC may lead to the conclusion that rather than simply updating the existing Seaside Basin Model, there may be a more useful and cost-effective way to prepare a model that incorporates the newer information and data and better integrates with the modeling being done in the other subbasins of the Salinas Valley Basin. The Budget includes \$125K for this Task (midpoint of ballpark cost range). In the 2018 Model update, the cost was shared between the Watermaster, MPWMD, and M1W. The Watermaster paid 50% of the cost and the two other agencies collectively paid the other 50%. If this model updating work is undertaken in 2026, efforts will be made to again cost-share as was done with the 2018 update.
- Task I.4.e.1: This new Task has been added to begin implementing the recommendations in the Updated Seawater Intrusion Response Plan (Updated SIRP). The recommendations to be implemented will not be known until the Updated SIRP has been completed and approved by the Board. Hopefully that will occur in late 2025. Following discussions with Montgomery & Associates it does not appear that any significant work under this Task should be performed until the Groundwater Modeling update work of Task I.3.a.1 has been completed. Therefore, a place-holder amount to only perform preliminary work on Task I.4.e.1 has been included in the 2026 M&MP Operations Budget.

As a result of the changes described above, as indicated by the right-hand column titled “Comparative Costs from 2025 Budget” in the M&MP Operations Budget for 2026 contained in Attachment 6, the proposed 2026 Budget is \$12,367 higher (\$491,606 -\$479,239) than the 2025 Budget.

Basin Management Database

Pertinent groundwater resource data obtained from a number of sources has been consolidated into the Watermaster’s database to allow more efficient organization and data retrieval. No modifications or enhancements to the database are planned in FY 2026.

Enhanced Monitoring Well Network

The Seaside Basin M&MP uses an Enhanced Monitoring Well Network to fill in data gaps in the previous monitoring well network used by the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD), and others, in order to improve the basin management capabilities of the Watermaster. The Enhanced Monitoring Well Network has been described in detail in previous Watermaster Annual Reports. It continues to be used to obtain additional data that is useful to the Watermaster in managing the Basin. In response to concerns that induction logging of the Sentinel Wells, and in particular Sentinel Well No.4, might be showing the start of an increasing trend in conductivity, beginning in 2024 two additional wells were added for induction logging. These are wells PCA-W Deep and PCA-E Deep. The induction logging results are discussed in the Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report.

As discussed in the 2023 Annual Report, the Security National Guaranty (SNG) well located in the dunes area in the northern portion of Sand City is suspected to have a casing leak that is allowing salty water from a shallow aquifer to flow downward into the Paso Robles aquifer. The well owner reported that the development project on this property was in the midst of litigation and he was prevented by the Court from doing any work on the well until the litigation was concluded. In late 2024 the Watermaster’s legal counsel reported that the attorney representing the development project had contacted them. A teleconference with that attorney and the SNG representative was held, with SNG offering some assurances that they were working with Craig Evans Pump Testing Services to investigate the well and determine next steps. However, as of the date of preparation of this Annual Report the well remained unrepaired. In April 2025 the Monterey County Health Department, Environmental Health Bureau, sent a letter to the well owner directing him to have the well destroyed. A copy of that letter is contained in Attachment 10. In September 2025 the Monterey County Health Department, Environmental Health Bureau, reported that they had not received any response to their April 2025 letter, and were working with County Counsel to issue a Notice of Violation giving the well owner 30 days to comply. In November 2025 the County Health Department reported that they had spoken with the well owner, and explained to him that if he did not comply, then the County would issue a citation, fine, and recordation. He subsequently submitted an application to destroy the well and an application to replace it with a new well.

Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP)

The BMAP constitutes the basic plan for managing the Seaside Groundwater Basin. The BMAP identifies both short-term actions and long-term strategies intended to protect the groundwater resource while maximizing the beneficial use of groundwater in the basin. It

provides the Watermaster a logical set of actions that can be undertaken to manage the basin to its Safe Yield.

The Watermaster's first BMAP was completed in 2009 and the Executive Summary from that BMAP was contained in Attachment 9 of the 2009 Annual Report. The BMAP was updated in 2019 and the Executive Summary from the updated BMAP was contained in Attachment 7 of the 2019 Annual Report. These complete documents are posted on the Watermaster's website.

In the 2024 Annual Report there is a discussion regarding the Natural Safe Yield (NSY) of the Basin, and whether the Watermaster should change to a different approach (Sustainable Yield) rather than continuing to use the Natural Safe Yield approach that was used in the Adjudication Decision, for basin management purposes. At its September 1, 2021 meeting the Watermaster Board discussed this topic, and concluded the following:

- Sustainable Yield (SY) is a technically superior Basin management approach compared to the Natural Safe Yield (NSY) approach used in the Decision, and an SY analysis should be performed at some point in time.
- Because of the historical over pumping from the Basin, regardless of the approach that is used for Basin management, be it NSY or SY, even reducing pumping levels to match either the NSY or SY pumping levels will not achieve protective groundwater elevations. This is because these approaches only seek to stabilize groundwater levels and do not take into account that the Basin would still be at risk of seawater intrusion at some time in the future. An additional source(s) of water (replenishment water) that can be injected into the Basin to raise groundwater levels, and to maintain them at protective water levels, will be necessary regardless of which approach is used for Basin management.
- In view of the expense and complexity of changing to the SY approach, the Board concluded that making this change would not be justified until a source for this replenishment water has been secured.

As discussed below in Section K under the subheading titled "*Obtaining Replenishment Water*" efforts are underway by the Watermaster to obtain replenishment water. At such time as a firm plan to accomplish this has been developed, the Watermaster will revisit the issue of changing to the Sustainable Yield approach.

Seawater Intrusion Response Plan

HydroMetrics LLC (now Montgomery and Associates) was hired by the Watermaster to prepare a long-term Seawater Intrusion Response Plan (SIRP), as required in the M&MP.

The Final SIRP was approved by the Watermaster Board in 2009 and a summary of the Seawater Intrusion Contingency Actions from the SIRP were contained in Attachment 10 of the 2009 Annual Report. The complete document may be viewed and downloaded from the Watermaster's website at: <http://www.seasidebasinwatermaster.org/>.

Due to the observation of increasing conductivity in the 2023 induction logging in some of the shallower formations near the coastline, it was determined that in 2025 it would be appropriate to update the 2009 SIRP. At its October 1, 2025 meeting the Watermaster Board of Directors approved an *Updated Seawater Intrusion Response Plan* dated October 1, 2025, the body of which is contained in Appendix 9. The full document with its appendices can be accessed on the Watermaster's website at:

<https://seasidegroundwaterbasinwatermaster.wpcomstaging.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/25-1001-Updated-Seawater-Intrusion-Response-Plan-with-Appendices.pdf>.

The update incorporates data that has been obtained since 2009, examined technology and techniques that make the SIRP more practical and useful, and includes updated seawater intrusion indicators, triggers, and contingency actions.

Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report

The Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report (SIAR) examines the “health” of the Basin with regard to whether or not there are any indications that seawater intrusion is either occurring or is imminent. Previous SIARs have stated that depressed groundwater levels, continued pumping in excess of recharge and freshwater inflows, and ongoing seawater intrusion in the nearby Salinas Valley all suggest that seawater intrusion could occur in the Seaside Groundwater Basin.

The 2022 Annual Report included a discussion of two monitoring wells which have experienced increased chloride concentrations. One of these, monitoring well FO-10 Shallow, is north of and outside of the Seaside Basin, and the other, monitoring well FO-9 Shallow, was just inside the northern boundary of the Northern Coastal Subarea of the Seaside Basin. As reported in the 2023 Annual Report, the original monitoring well FO-9 Shallow was destroyed and was replaced with a new FO-9 Shallow monitoring well in late 2023. Also as reported in the 2023 Annual Report, further investigation of Well FO-10 Shallow led to the conclusion that it might be allowing leakage to occur from the shallower Aromas or Dunes Sands formation into the Paso Robles aquifer below. In late 2024 MCWD video inspected monitoring wells FO-10 and FO-11, in an effort to determine why higher chloride levels were being detected in the groundwater samples from the deep aquifer at this location. As a result of that inspection MCWD confirmed that Well FO-10 was leaking. Since the well is owned by MPWMD, MPWMD budgeted to have the well destroyed, and in October 2025 the MPWMD Board approved a contract with a firm to perform the destruction.

The Watermaster retained Montgomery & Associates to prepare the WY 2025 SIAR required by the M&MP. The WY 2025 SIAR provided an analysis of data collected during that Water Year. There continue to be ongoing detrimental groundwater conditions within the Basin that pose a potential threat of seawater intrusion. Although in recent years pumping from the Basin has been reduced to less than the Basin’s Natural Safe Yield of 3,000 AFY, groundwater levels in some parts of the Basin continue to be below sea level. This, coupled with the ongoing seawater intrusion in the nearby Salinas Valley, suggests that seawater intrusion has the potential to occur in the Seaside Groundwater Basin. In the 2025 data, some of the Sentinel Wells are showing a trend of increasing conductivity, and a few wells now have Piper diagrams that may be starting to show a trend toward seawater. Both of these are indications that seawater may be starting to mix with the native water in those wells. However, the 2025 SIAR reports that the evaluation of the data from the sampling and monitoring program continues to indicate that seawater intrusion is not occurring.

The SIAR is lengthy, but the full *Executive Summary Section* from it is provided in Attachment 7. A complete copy of the document will be posted for viewing and downloading from the Watermaster’s website. All of the recommendations contained in the SIAR are being or will

be carried out and are included in the budgeted activities contained in Attachment 6 and described in Attachment 8.

Geochemical Impact Assessments

When new sources of water are introduced into an aquifer, with each source having its own unique water quality, there can be chemical reactions that may have the potential to release minerals into solution which have previously been attached to soil particles, such as arsenic or mercury, and thus into the water itself. This has been experienced in some other locations where changes in water quality occurred as a result of water being injected into an aquifer.

The 2022 Annual Report includes a discussion of geochemical impact assessments pertaining to the introduction of desalinated water, additional ASR water, and advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) water under the Pure Water Monterey Project (PWM).

In 2025 no additional geochemical impact assessments needed to be performed, since the desalination plant component of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project was still in the process of complying with permit conditions necessary to move forward.

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)

As reported in the 2015 Annual Report the Watermaster Board determined that the Watermaster should monitor the development of the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) and the State Department of Water Resources' (DWR) development of SGMA regulations with the intent to collaborate with these entities as appropriate.

At the State Level:

During 2025 DWR did not issue any new regulations, or revisions to prior regulations, that impacted the Seaside Groundwater Basin or the Watermaster. In March of 2025 the Watermaster submitted to DWR the reporting information required of it, as an adjudicated basin, under SGMA.

At the Monterey County level:

The 2022 Annual Report includes a discussion of the formation of the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) involved in the development and implementation of the GSP for the Monterey Subbasin. The Watermaster participated in the development of the Monterey Subbasin GSP and continued monitoring the implementation of that GSP in 2023. In late 2024 the Watermaster's request to the SVBGSA to become a member of the Monterey Subbasin GSP Implementation Committee was approved, and starting with the October 16, 2024 meeting of that Committee the Watermaster became an active member of it. The Watermaster also continued monitoring the implementation of the GSP for the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin GSP, since that subbasin has a direct impact on groundwater conditions in the Monterey Subbasin. Its participation as a member of the SVBGSA's Advisory Committee, the MCWDGSA's Stakeholder Group, and the Monterey Subbasin GSP Implementation Committee has helped to ensure that there is close coordination between the SVBGSA, MCWDGSA, and the Watermaster on matters of mutual interest. Monthly summary reports of meetings of those groups are provided to the Watermaster's Technical Advisory Committee and Board by the Watermaster's Technical Program Manager.

In 2025 the SVBGSA Board revised the membership of its Advisory Committee, and limited membership on that committee such that the Watermaster, and many other parties, could no longer be members. However, the Watermaster continues to serve on the Monterey Subbasin GSP Implementation Committee, thereby ensuring its continued close involvement on matters affecting the Seaside Basin.

K. Information that the Watermaster Would Otherwise Include within a Case Status Conference Statement

This Section was added to the Annual Report beginning in 2018 year as directed by the Court in its Order Amending Judgment filed March 29, 2018. It is formatted to contain the topic headings below, which were requested by the Court in its March 29, 2018 Order.

Summary of Basin Conditions and Important Developments Concerning the Management of the Basin

The condition of the Basin is discussed in the *Water Quality, Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report*, and *Basin Management Action Plan* subheadings in Section J of this Annual Report.

In summary, the *2025 Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report*, which analyzes the water quality data collected under the Watermaster’s sampling program, reported that while conditions exist within the Basin that pose a risk of seawater intrusion, the data collected in WY 2025 indicate that seawater intrusion has not yet actually occurred.

The 2019 updated *Basin Management Action Plan* found that in spite of recent pumping at levels less than the Decision-established Natural Safe Yield of 3,000 AFY, water levels in some portions of the Basin are continuing to drop. It is expected that once the desalination plant component of the MPWSP becomes operational, or if that plant is not constructed but an expansion of the PWM project is constructed, and CAWC is able to further reduce its pumping from the Basin by 700 AFY through its 25-year overpumping repayment program, the rate of drop in groundwater levels will be at least partially mitigated. However, unless the Basin is replenished to raise groundwater levels to protective elevations, the Basin will remain vulnerable to seawater intrusion.

As the Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) were developed under the State’s Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), the Watermaster became more aware of the impact of adjacent groundwater basins on the Seaside Groundwater Basin. In the context of the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin, as recognized and defined by the DWR, each basin within that larger Basin is referred to as a “subbasin”. Therefore, in this section of this Annual Report the Seaside Basin is referred to as the “Seaside Subbasin.” The GSP for the Monterey Subbasin (which abuts the Seaside Subbasin to the north and east) made it clear that:

- The portion of the Monterey Subbasin to the east of the Seaside Subbasin (referred to as the Corral de Tierra/Toro Subarea) will not be able to achieve sustainability as defined under the SGMA without the importation of additional sources of water supply.
- The portion of the Monterey Subbasin to the north of the Seaside Subbasin (referred to as the Marina-Ord Subarea) will not be able to achieve sustainability unless the subarea immediately to the north (the 180/400-foot Aquifer Subbasin) raises its groundwater levels high enough to stop seawater from intruding that subbasin.
- There is significant loss of groundwater from the Seaside Subbasin to the Monterey Subbasin because the groundwater levels in the Monterey Subbasin are lower than those in the Seaside Subbasin.

During 2024 the SVBGSA obtained new and more accurate data on the stratigraphy of the Monterey Subbasin as it developed its Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model (HCM) for the Salinas Valley Basin. Development of that model, and of a Seawater Intrusion Model, was nearing completion in late 2025. The new data will provide a better understanding of the hydrogeology of the Corral de Tierra/Toro Subarea, and will be useful in better understanding the hydrogeologic interactions between these parts of the Monterey Subbasin and the Seaside Subbasin.

Planned Near and Long-term Actions of the Watermaster

Near-term actions are described in the 2026 Monitoring and Management Program discussed in Section J and Attachment 8 of this Annual Report.

Near-term actions (to be carried out in 2026) include updating the Watermaster’s Seaside Basin Groundwater Model.

Long-term actions will include:

- Continuing to carry out the duties and responsibilities assigned to the Watermaster by the Decision
- Continuing to coordinate with the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, the SVBGSA, and the MCWDGSA:
 - In their development of updated hydrogeologic models to ensure that there is hydrogeologic agreement between those models and the Watermaster’ Seaside Basin model, and
 - Continuing to coordinate with the SVBGSA to develop measures to aid in groundwater management of the Laguna Seca Subarea.
- Conducting meetings of the ad hoc “Replenishment Ad Hoc Committee” of the Watermaster Board to:
 - Develop information about potential sources and quantities of replenishment water
 - Identify potential funding mechanism options for the purchase of replenishment water

Information Concerning the Status of Regional Water Supply Issues

MPWSP

1. Implementation of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (MPWSP) continues to be actively pursued by CAWC. CAWC received approval of the project from the Coastal Commission in November 2022. The MPWSP 4.8 MGD desalination plant is currently anticipated to be operational in 2028.
2. In 2025 the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) completed its deliberations on CAWC’s request to update supply and demand estimates for the MPWSP. On August 14, 2025 the CPUC unanimously approved the *Phase 2 Decision Approving Demand and Supply Estimates for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project*. In this Decision, the CPUC ruled that CAW faces a water supply deficit on the Monterey Peninsula and approved CAW’s updated demand and supply estimates, which concluded a deficit of approximately 815 million gallons per year. The CPUC approved a CAW projected demand of 13,732 acre-feet per year by 2050, a number lower than CAW’s initial request but still higher than many opponents’ estimates, and approved a

current water supply of 11,114 acre-feet per year. A minor correction to the supply figure in the Decision, raising the figure from 11,114 to 11,204, was subsequently made by the CPUC to correct an error in the calculations, but the result did not alter the outcome of the Decision. Below is a direct excerpt from the Decision:

Summary

This Phase 2 decision approves the updated water demand and supply estimates for the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project. This decision uses the baseline water demand amount calculated by California-American Water Company (Cal-Am) using the same forecasting methodology that produced the water demand forecast approved in Decision 18-09-017. This decision adds additional forecasted water demand from legal lots of record, tourism rebound, and Pebble Beach entitlements. This decision also adopts:

(a) Cal-Am's water supply estimates for the Carmel River, the Seaside Groundwater Basin, the Sand City Desalination Project, and Pure Water Monterey;

(b) Revised supply estimates for Aquifer Storage and Recovery and the Pure Water Monterey Expansion; and

(c) Projected 2050 water demand of 13,732 acre-feet per year and current water supply of 11,114 acre-feet per year.

This proceeding is closed.

This ruling supports CAW's plan to build a desalination plant as part of the MPWSP. Construction of that plant is expected to begin in January 2026.

PWM

1. Construction work on the Monterey One Water (M1W) and Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) Pure Water Monterey (PWM) recycled water project in Marina was completed in late 2019, and the Advanced Water Treatment (AWT) plant began producing water in early 2020. Water began being injected into the Seaside Groundwater Basin in February 2020. In WY 2025 a total of 3,843.33 acre-feet of water was injected. Of this amount, 3,679.57 acre-feet was available to CAWC for extraction and 163.76 acre-feet was added to the operating reserve. Cal Am extracted 3,679.57 acre-feet.
2. As reported in the 2024 Annual Report, in September 2021 the State Division of Drinking Water (DDW) issued a letter to CAWC stating that "the drinking water source designation of ASR Well 01 (ASR-1) had been changed from active to inactive." DDW issued this letter because tracer studies indicated that the minimum retention time requirement for water injected by the PWM project was likely not being met for this well. That inactive status remains in effect today since no changes were made in the operation of the PWM project that would enable the status to revert to "active."
3. During WY 2024-25 CAWC continued to work on getting well ASR-4 permitted for use so it could be used in place of ASR-1 as a supply well. Because ASR-4 had been found to have a mercury concentration level above the drinking water standard, CAWC installed a mercury removal treatment unit so it could be permitted for use as a supply well. The Mercury Treatment system has been approved by DDW. However, the well supply has also experienced significant odor issues that CAWC is working to

rectify. CAWC is currently working on startup and commissioning of the well and treatment system.

4. CAWC is in the process of constructing EW-1 and EW-2 as part of the Pure Water Monterey Expansion Project. EW-1 and EW-2 have been drilled and CAWC is currently working with PG&E on establishing power to the site. Both EW-1 and EW-2 site work and piping construction is anticipated to be performed in 2026. These wells are anticipated to be complete and online in late 2026.

Public Buyout of CAWC's Water System

- As discussed in the 2022 Annual Report, the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) passed a resolution denying MPWMD's application to activate its latent powers in order to acquire CAWC's Monterey Water System. MPWMD filed an Application for Reconsideration of LAFCO's disapproval, and LAFCO denied MPWMD's Application.
- MPWMD initiated litigation against LAFCO on April 1, 2022 as set forth in Monterey County Superior Court Case No. 22CV000925. Numerous filings were made by the parties involved in the litigation, and the case was heard in late September 2023. A "Statement of Intended Decision" was issued by the Court on October 25, 2023 which essentially ruled in favor of MPWMD and reversed LAFCO's earlier disapproval. LAFCO has appealed that decision, and Appeal briefings will be filed in coming months. A hearing schedule will be set in 2026. In addition LAFCO has entered into an indemnification agreement with CAWC.
- At its meeting on October 10, 2023 the MPWMD Board voted to approve a "resolution of necessity" authorizing MPWMD to move ahead with the forced acquisition of the CAWC system and convert it to government ownership. On December 15, 2023 the MPWMD filed an eminent domain complaint in Monterey County Superior Court to first determine the District's "right to take" and then ultimately the value of CAWC, and to acquire it. As of the date of preparation of this Annual Report a trial date had not been set.
- On February 26, 2024, Cal Am filed a demurrer motion asking the Monterey County Superior Court to dismiss the MPWMD lawsuit seeking a government takeover of CAWC's Monterey Peninsula water system through eminent domain. The motion argued that MPWMD's lawsuit fails to meet fundamental legal requirements necessary to proceed with such a significant action and should be dismissed. CAWC's motion asserts that MPWMD lacks legal authorization from both the California Legislature and the Monterey County LAFCO to become the retail water service provider on the Monterey Peninsula. In addition, CAWC asserts that MPWMD's lawsuit improperly seeks to take property outside the boundaries of MPWMD's territory.
- The Court heard initial argument on May 3, 2024 and again on August 23, 2024. On November 14, 2024 the demurrer was overruled.
- On August 20, 2025 CAWC filed a motion for summary judgement on the grounds that there is no triable issue as to any material fact and that CAWC is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. CAWC asserted summary judgment is warranted because MPWMD is not authorized to acquire CAWC's property for the purpose of the Project alleged in the Complaint because MPWMD is not legally authorized to provide retail potable water service. On the same day MPWMD filed a motion for summary adjudication in MPWMD's favor on the grounds that, as a matter of law, MPWMD does not need approval from the Monterey County Local Agency Formation Commission because

MPWMD does not propose to exercise a “new or different function or class of services” under the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act, Government Code section 56000 et seq. Because no triable issue of fact exists regarding this affirmative defense, MPWMD is entitled to judgment on the defense as a matter of law. Both motions are to be heard in Superior Court on December 12, 2025.

Management Activities that May Bear on the Basin's Wellbeing

1. *Water Conservation.* From a water conservation standpoint, customers of CAWC are doing an exceptional job. CAWC’s Monterey system has one of the highest levels of voluntary conservation in the state. There has essentially been no back-off in conservation following the end of mandatory conservation that occurred after the wet winter of 2016-2017.

2. *Storm Water and Recycled Water.* Storm water and recycled water are both components of the Pure Water Monterey (PWM) project that has been implemented by M1W and MCWD. CAWC has already contracted to receive 3,500 AFY of PWM recycled water for injection into, and recovery from, the Seaside Basin. M1W has completed construction of the PWMX project to expand the delivery capacity of the PWM project by using additional sources of recycled water and storm water. The project became operational on October 22, 2025, and is expected to deliver an additional 2,250 AFY of recycled water.

3. *Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.* Coordination between the Watermaster and the SVBGSA and the MCWDGSA is ongoing and is discussed in more detail above under Section J of this Annual Report. That coordination will aid in groundwater management of the Seaside Basin.

4. *Climate Change.* Higher seawater levels could exacerbate seawater intrusion concerns, which punctuates the importance of monitoring and long-term management to avoid seawater intrusion. From a water supply perspective, reliance on groundwater with sustainable management is ideal because the resource is a reservoir and therefore not subject to sharp fluctuations in availability resulting from year-to-year precipitation amounts as is the case with surface water supplies. Updating of the Watermaster’s *Groundwater Model* in 2018 (discussed in Section J of the 2018 Annual Report) and *Basin Management Action Plan* in 2019 (discussed in Section J of the 2019 Annual Report) incorporated projected impacts from climate change and sea level rise.

5. *New Technical Issues or Activities.*

Stormwater Projects Being Evaluated in the Monterey Peninsula Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP). As reported in the 2018 Annual Report, Monterey One Water as the lead entity coordinated the development of a Stormwater Resource Plan (SWRP) for the Monterey Peninsula, Carmel Bay, and South Monterey Bay (Monterey Peninsula) Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) area.

Subsequently a Greater Monterey County SWRP (GMCSWRP) was prepared to cover a larger geographic area and fulfill the SWRCB’s requirements for being eligible to receive grant funds for stormwater-related projects. The GMCSWRP was prepared by *Coastal Conservation and Research, Inc.* with funding support from a State Water Resources Control Board Proposition 1 Storm Water Planning Grant. *Coastal Conservation and Research* worked collaboratively with the Monterey Regional SWRP planning team to ensure consistency between the two plans and to explore possibilities for coordination and partnerships. The GMCSWRP can be accessed

at https://www.greatermontereyirwmp.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Greater-Monterey-County-SWRP_Final-Plan_2023_01_20_low-res.pdf.

Some of the projects discussed in the 2018 SWRP have the potential to minimally benefit the Seaside Basin. These are described below.

City of Seaside: The Del Monte Manor project in the City of Seaside was completed in 2023. This project diverts portions of the stormwater that is captured in this area into an infiltration structure.

City of Sand City:

West End Stormwater Improvement Project

The West End Stormwater Improvement Project is a retrofit of two existing collector streets, Contra Costa Street and Catalina Street, to incorporate Low Impact Development (LID) best management practices (BMPs) to improve stormwater runoff quality, augment local groundwater supplies, mitigate flooding, provide urban green space, and reduce pollutant load discharges to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The project proposes to install bioretention facilities (i.e., urban rain gardens), trash capture devices, permeable pavement, drought tolerant landscaping and trees, and subsurface infiltration chambers. The project will construct new curb, gutter, sidewalks, curb extensions, crosswalks, and it will improve pedestrian access throughout the corridor. The project will install traffic calming measures to improve safety for users.

Both projects are designed to capture, treat, and infiltrate urban storm water runoff to reduce pollutants such as metals, bacteria, nutrients, and trash that are currently being discharged into Monterey Bay. Both projects will increase the reliability of the Seaside Groundwater Basin through infiltration of treated storm water and will incorporate City and regional objectives for economic vitality, community livability, and environmental equity. In addition, the projects will improve regional water self-reliance and strengthen collaborative efforts between local agencies to provide sustainable water resources. The City obtained community input regarding storm water management priorities which influenced the design of the projects.

The Contra Costa Street portion is funded by an SWRCB Proposition 1 Stormwater Grant (technical assistance and implementation) and the Catalina Street portion is funded by a DWR Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP) Grant. The projects have encountered some challenges with utility relocations, coordination with adjacent businesses, and implementing parking solutions. At the time of preparation of this 2025 Annual Report, both projects are in final design with construction anticipated in early 2026.

City of Monterey:

Oliver Street Stormwater Diversion Project

In October 2022, the City of Monterey received a \$25,000 Local Agency MPWMD grant to help with the costs of survey work for the Olivier Street Stormwater Diversion Project (previously known as the Tunnel Diversion Project). The Project will divert urban stormwater drainage from an existing storm drain, currently discharging untreated into the Harbor/Monterey Bay, to an existing City sanitary sewer utility for treatment at M1W's Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. This diversion is estimated to provide 10-12 acre-feet of dry-weather source water for water recycling at the time of year when source water is not abundant, and reduce the discharge into the Bay. In October 2023, the City secured an

additional \$500,000 Proposition 1 funding award through MPWMD to assist with the design and construction of the project. The project has currently completed a Basis of Design Report and 30% Civil plans, and is currently evaluating its CEQA needs. Planning, Design, and Environmental documentation is anticipated to be completed by 6/30/26. Construction and implementation is tentatively scheduled for 7/1/26 through 6/30/27.

Lake El Estero Urban Diversion Project

In September 2022, the City of Monterey received State funding in the amount of \$1M for this project and is working on the design and environmental permitting for it. The City has completed 100% plans and specifications and has updated the EIR for the Pure Water Monterey Ground Water Replenishment Project to include the Lake El Estero project site. Permit applications have been submitted for Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (CDFW), 401 Water Quality Certification (SWRCB), 404 Dredge & Fill (ACOE), and Water Rights Appropriation, which are all under review. Upon permit approval the City is ready to advertise for construction. The current funding agreement uses AB 179 funds which are set to expire June 2026, which may not be enough time to complete permitting, award construction contract, procure materials, and complete the project. The City is currently working with State Water Board and State Legislators to pursue a legislative extension in the 2025-26 Budget Act to extend the current funding deadline.

These diversion projects will increase the amount of water that can be recycled for beneficial reuse.

One project described in the GMCSWRP pertinent to this Annual Report identifies an opportunity to capture stormwater and/or industrial wastewater from the City of Salinas that could be utilized as new water supply source for the PWM. This is referred to as the *Salinas Project to Enhance Regional Stormwater Supply (SPERSS) Design Project*. The City of Salinas provided a description and status report on the SPERSS that is included in the 2024 Annual Report. Also in the 2024 Annual Report was a description by Kevin Dayton in the *Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce Business Journal* providing amplifying background information related to this topic. In the fall of 2025 the City provided this update on the status of this project:

The SPERSS project is for the purpose of constructing stormwater improvements at existing facilities to increase water supply reliability and reduce nonpoint source pollution in the Salinas region and the Monterey Peninsula.

The project was bid twice. Phase 2B, the electrical improvements at the Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility (IWTF), was opened on October 15, 2024 and the bids exceeded the grant amount. The plans were repackaged to include 2A and 2B and the scope reduced to fit within the grant amount. On February 27, 2025 one bid was received, which again was above the grant amount. Since there was only one bidder the City negotiated with the bidder for a project that fit within the grant. The contract was awarded to Mountain Cascade Inc. in the amount of \$7,050,000.

The modified scope of work includes:

- Stormwater Pump Station at TP-1
- Pipelines A and B (required to connect)
- Rehabilitation of 33-Inch Industrial Waste Water Pipeline

- Electrical/Instrumentation Work at TP-1
- Structural/Electrical/Instrumentation work at IWTF

The notice to proceed was issued on August 20, 2025 with 600 calendar days for completion. The contractor is in the submittal process and has ordered long lead time items. The contractor expects to start actual construction in April 2026 and complete by April 2027.

Regional Urban Water Program

Under its 1989 annexation agreement with MCWD, MIW provides recycled water for MCWD's Regional Urban Water Augmentation Program (RUWAP). RUWAP is intended to provide recycled water for landscape irrigation, including California State University Monterey Bay playing fields. In 2023 MCWD began delivering recycled water for irrigation of the Bayonet and Blackhorse golf courses in the City of Seaside. In the fall of 2025 MCWD reported that it was in the process of connecting more users to its recycled water distribution system within the former Fort Ord area.

Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project

Source water for this project is supplied subject to the terms and conditions of the Amended and Restated Water Recycling Agreement (ARWRA) between the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) and MIW.

As discussed in the 2024 Annual Report, in June 2022 MCWRA notified MIW that the conditions precedent to share new source waters for PWM groundwater replenishment and the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project (CSIP) could not be met and therefore the two agencies will split the source waters, as described in the ARWRA. The two agencies have been working on a long-term agreement between themselves and the City of Salinas, to utilize the Industrial Wastewater. The ARWRA states that MCWRA is the recipient of that water but also contemplates various ways for the parties to share resources when deemed excess or unwanted.

As of October 2025 MCWRA reported that the ARWRA with MIW is still active and the water allocations remain the same. In terms of water rights under the ARWRA, MCWRA has first right to most water supplies available and MIW may use them when MCWRA is not. The feasibility studies referenced last year are still underway and have some preliminary results.

6. Reduction in Pumping in the Laguna Seca Subarea

As mentioned in the 2022 Annual Report, in 2020 CAWC completed construction of an intertie pipeline that enabled it to serve the customers in its Bishop and Ryan Ranch Units in the Laguna Seca Subarea with water from its Main System. With the completion of this pipeline, CAWC has been able to discontinue pumping from the Laguna Seca Subarea to serve those customers. This is expected to reduce total pumping from the Laguna Seca Subarea by about 28%.

7. Obtaining Replenishment Water.

As described in the 2024 Annual Report in Section J under the subheading "Basin Management Action Plan," and in the subsection of this Section titled "Summary of Basin Conditions and Important Developments Concerning the Management of the Basin," portions of the Seaside Basin have groundwater levels below sea level. Therefore, even with the pumping reductions achieved to date the Basin will remain vulnerable to seawater intrusion.

Replenishing the Basin by injecting water and leaving it in the Basin, rather than withdrawing it as is done in the ASR and PWM projects, could help to raise groundwater levels high enough to protect the Basin against seawater intrusion.

Potential sources of replenishment water include the MPWSP's desalination plant and the PWMX project during their initial years of operation when projected water demands will be less than the production capacities of either of these projects. The replenishment water would be obtained by operating either of these projects at their full capacities and injecting the excess water into the Basin. Doing this would increase the operational costs of those projects, and funds to cover those costs would be needed. Other potential sources being evaluated by MCWD include a Phase II PWM project to deliver recycled water to areas in the former Fort Ord, MCWD's Reservation Road desalination project, and pumping groundwater from MCWD's wells for injection into the Seaside Basin.

As reported in the 2022 Annual Report, it was found that there are no State or Federal funding programs that could provide money to purchase replenishment water. All of those programs only provide funding for planning, design, and construction of projects, but not for operational costs once the projects are constructed. Discussions involving the Watermaster, MPWMD, MIW, and CAWC led to the conclusion that MPWMD had the legal authority to levy fees to help pay for replenishment of the Basin. In 2023 the Watermaster formed an ad hoc committee to develop concepts and/or funding mechanisms for replenishing the Seaside Basin, once replenishment water becomes available. On October 7, 2024 the ad hoc committee received a presentation from MCWD regarding the potential replenishment water sources described in the preceding paragraph. A meeting of that ad hoc committee was held on July 23, 2025 at which a potential four-point strategy to raise groundwater levels toward preventing seawater intrusion into the Seaside Basin was discussed. However, as of the date of preparation of this 2025 Annual Report no action on this strategy had been recommended to the Board for its consideration.

Studies performed for the Watermaster in 2022 pertaining to the need for replenishment water to raise ground water levels in the Seaside Subbasin to protect it against seawater intrusion concluded:

- Under a "best case" scenario based on future water demand projections, Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) injection rates, and Pure Water Monterey Expansion (PWMX) injection rates prepared by MPWMD, 1,000 acre-feet-per-year (AFY) of water would need to be injected into the Seaside Basin every year to replenish it and raise groundwater levels high enough to prevent seawater intrusion from occurring.
- Under a more "conservative" scenario based on future water demand projections and the timing of start-up of CAWC's desalination plant contained in CAWC's 2020 Urban Water Management Plan, ASR and PWMX injection rates with a built-in margin of safety, and revised water demands for the City of Seaside's golf courses proposed by Cal Am and the City of Seaside, the amount needed would be 3,600 AFY every year.
- Unless replenishment water in these quantities is added annually, the Seaside Basin will be at risk of seawater intrusion, and that risk will increase each year that groundwater levels continue to fall and remain below sea level.
- Implementation of the PWMX project alone does not accomplish this, and an additional source of replenishment water will be needed.

A summary of the Technical Memorandum describing the work that led to these conclusions was contained in Attachment 9 of the 2022 Annual Report.

As reported in the 2023 Annual Report, studies performed for the Watermaster pertaining to the directions and inland velocities that seawater intrusion into the Seaside Subbasin would move, if intrusion should occur, concluded:

- Under current conditions inland seawater intrusion encroachment of 250 ft/yr could occur.
- Periods of prolonged drought with no ASR injection increases inland travel rates and the risk of seawater intrusion.
- The number of critically dry rainfall years has greatly increased in the last 50 years compared to the prior 50 years of data. Critically dry years now exceed the number of “normal rainfall” years thus becoming the “new norm”.

These studies highlight the vulnerability of the Seaside Subbasin to seawater intrusion, and the need for replenishment water to raise groundwater levels within the Seaside Subbasin to prevent that from occurring. A summary of this work was contained in Attachment 9 of the 2023 Annual Report.

The Watermaster considered performing additional analyses to reflect the impacts from more severe climatic conditions of reduced rainfall and longer periods of drought. However, it was concluded that such additional analyses would be unlikely to provide any further information that would be useful in Basin management. A Memorandum summarizing this work and the basis for not conducting additional analyses was contained in Attachment 10 of the 2023 Annual Report.

L. Conclusions and Recommendations

The Seaside Basin Watermaster Board has worked diligently to meet all of the Court’s established deadline dates. All of the Phase 1 Scope of Work activities, which are described in the “Implementation Plan for the Seaside Basin Monitoring and Management Program” dated March 7, 2007, have been completed. The FY 2026 budgets contained in [Attachment 6](#) support carrying out all elements of the 2026 Seaside Groundwater Basin Monitoring and Management Program (M&MP). The M&MP is contained in [Attachment 8](#) and describes the activities that the Watermaster plans to conduct during Fiscal Year 2026.

As described in Section J above, information from the Enhanced Monitoring Well Network is being utilized to detect seawater intrusion. The response actions described in the Watermaster’s Seawater Intrusion Response Plan, which was contained in the 2009 Annual Report and which was updated in 2025, will be implemented if seawater intrusion is detected within the Basin.

The Watermaster acknowledges that as an adjudicated basin the Seaside Basin is not required under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act to prepare and carry out a Groundwater Sustainability Plan. However, the Watermaster takes seriously its responsibility to ensure the sustainability of the Seaside Basin. Seawater intrusion remains a threat to the Basin and is a regular topic of conversation for our body. The Watermaster recognizes its responsibility to monitor sea water intrusion to prevent harm to the Basin. The Watermaster’s Board is engaged in discussion about actions necessary to bring the Seaside Basin into sustainability and expects to continue providing future updates to the Court regarding this issue.

As of the date of preparation of this 2025 Annual Report, no future status conferences with the Court have been scheduled.

LISTING OF ACRONYMS USED IN THIS ANNUAL REPORT

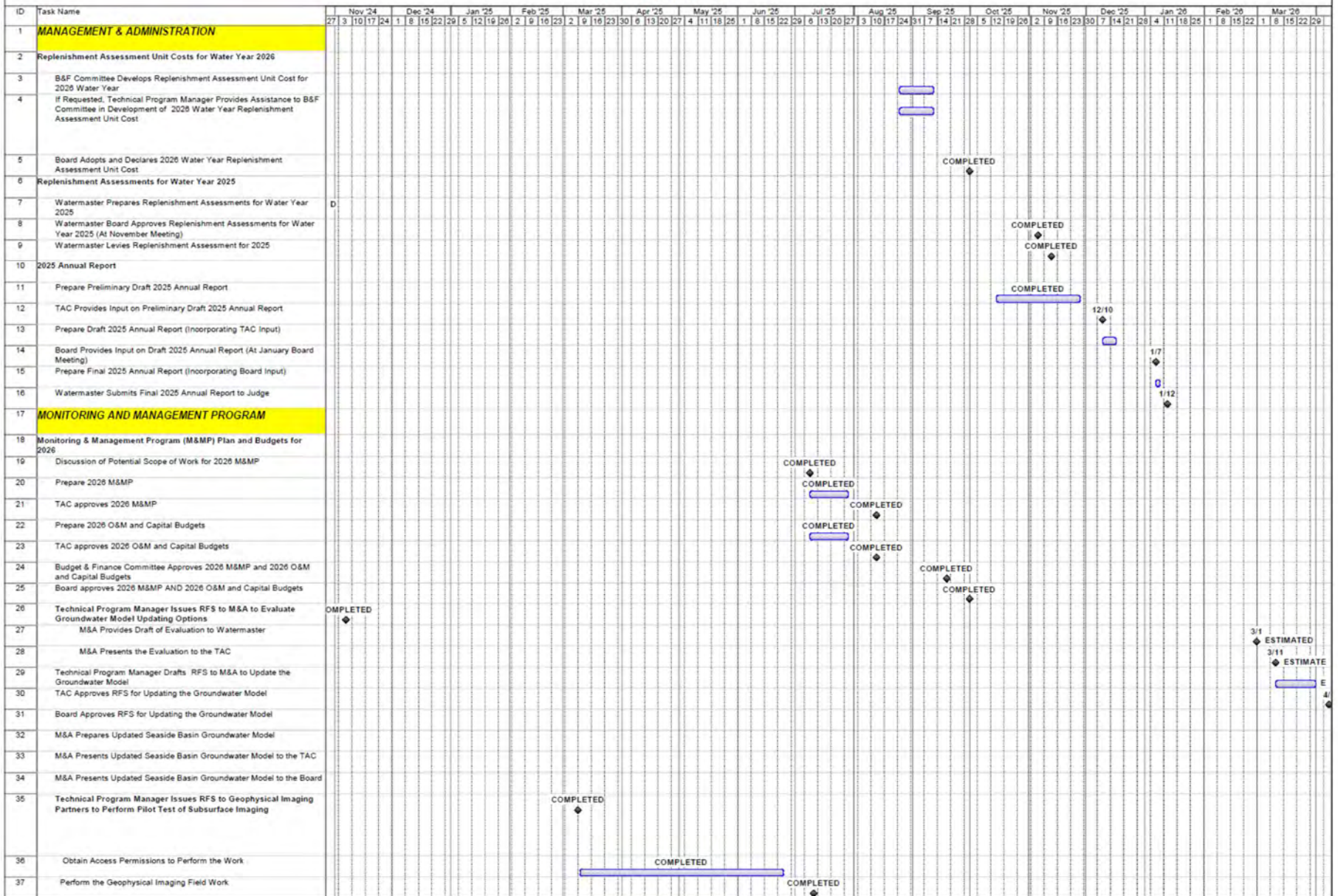
AF - acre-feet
ASR - Seaside Basin Aquifer Storage and Recovery program
Basin - The adjudicated Seaside Groundwater Basin
BLM - Bureau of Land Management
BMAP - Basin Management Action Plan
CASGEM - California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring
CAWC - California American Water Company
CCRWQCB – Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
DDW – State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water
Decision - Decision filed February 9, 2007 by the Superior Court in Monterey County under Case No. M66343 - California American Water v. City of Seaside et al.
DWR - California State Department of Water Resources
GMCSWRP - Greater Monterey County Storm Water Resources Plan
GSA - Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP - Groundwater Sustainability Plan
LSSA - Laguna Seca Subarea
MIW - Monterey One Water (formerly Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency)
MCWD - Marina Coast Water District
MCWDGSA - Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency
MCWRA - Monterey County Water Resources Agency
MPWMD - Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
MPWSP - Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project
M&MP - Monitoring and Management Program
NSY - Natural Safe Yield
PWM - Pure Water Monterey Project
PWMX – Pure Water Monterey Expansion Project
RUWAP - Regional Urban Water Augmentation Program
SGMA - Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SIAR - Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report
SIRP - Seawater Intrusion Response Plan
SVBGSA - Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
SWRCB - State Water Resources Control Board
SWRP - Storm Water Resources Plan
TAC - Technical Advisory Committee
USGS - United States Geological Survey
WY - Water Year

**SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

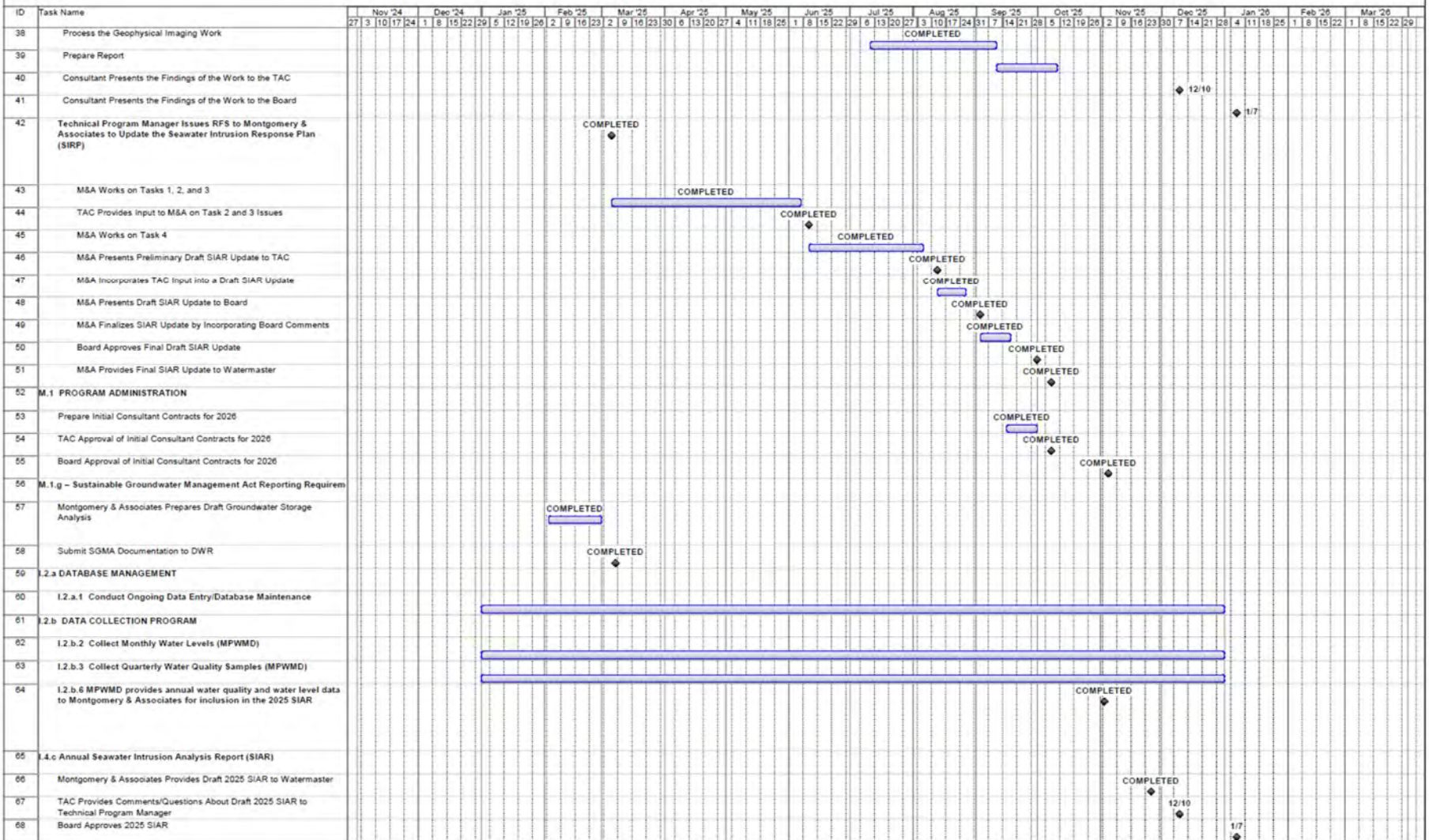
***** AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM *****

MEETING DATE:	December 10, 2025
AGENDA ITEM:	6
AGENDA TITLE:	Schedule
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager
SUMMARY:	
<p>As a regular part of each monthly TAC meeting, I will provide the TAC with an updated Schedule of the activities being performed by the Watermaster, its consultants, and the public entity (MPWMD) which are performing certain portions of the work.</p> <p>Attached are the updated schedule for 2025 activities, and the proposed schedule for 2026 activities.</p> <p>With regard to updating the Watermaster’s Seaside Basin Groundwater Model, Mr. Benito said that based on the schedule the SVGBGSA modelers are working with it looks like the next round of model updates that focuses on improving the performance of the SVBGSA models in the Seaside subbasin area would be finished at end of this year. That would be followed by model documentation during the first two months of 2026. He is now projecting that he could provide us his model update recommendations sometime in early to mid- 2026. This is reflected in the attached 2026 schedule.</p> <p>Some activities which may be needed in 2026, such as further geochemical modeling if the MPWSP desalination plant begins construction or if groundwater modeling is needed to assess the impacts of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Monterey Subbasin, will be added during the year if necessary.</p> <p>There will be no need for a January 2026 TAC meeting, so the next TAC meeting will be on Wednesday February 11, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.</p>	
ATTACHMENTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Updated Schedule of Work Activities for FY 2025 2. Proposed schedule for 2026 activities
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Provide Input to Technical Program Manager Regarding Any Corrections or Additions to the Schedules

Seaside Basin Watermaster 2025 Monitoring and Management Program Work Schedule



Seaside Basin Watermaster 2025 Monitoring and Management Program Work Schedule



Seaside Basin Watermaster 2026 Monitoring and Management Program Work Schedule

ID	Task Name	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26	Jul '26	Aug '26	Sep '26	Oct '26	Nov '26	Dec '26	Jan '27
1	MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION													
2	Replenishment Assessment Unit Costs for Water Year 2026													
3	B&F Committee Develops Replenishment Assessment Unit Cost for 2027 Water Year													
4	If Requested, Technical Program Manager Provides Assistance to B&F Committee in Development of 2027 Water Year Replenishment Assessment Unit Cost													
5	Board Adopts and Declares 2027 Water Year Replenishment Assessment Unit Cost													
6	Replenishment Assessments for Water Year 2026													
7	Watermaster Prepares Replenishment Assessments for Water Year 2026													
8	Watermaster Board Approves Replenishment Assessments for Water Year 2026 (At November Meeting)													
9	Watermaster Levies Replenishment Assessment for 2026													
10	2025 Annual Report													
11	Prepare Preliminary Draft 2026 Annual Report													
12	TAC Provides Input on Preliminary Draft 2026 Annual Report													
13	Prepare Draft 2026 Annual Report (Incorporating TAC Input)													
14	Board Provides Input on Draft 2026 Annual Report (At January Board Meeting)													
15	Prepare Final 2026 Annual Report (Incorporating Board Input)													
16	Watermaster Submits Final 2026 Annual Report to Judge													
17	MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM													
18	Monitoring & Management Program (M&MP) Plan and Budgets for 2027													
19	Discussion of Potential Scope of Work for 2027 M&MP													
20	Prepare 2027 M&MP													
21	TAC approves 2027 M&MP													
22	Prepare 2027 O&M and Capital Budgets													
23	TAC approves 2027 O&M and Capital Budgets													
24	Budget & Finance Committee Approves 2027 M&MP and 2027 O&M and Capital Budgets													
25	Board approves 2027 M&MP AND 2027 O&M and Capital Budgets													
26	I.3.a.1 Groundwater Model Updating													
27	M&A Provides Draft Evaluation of Updating Options to Watermaster													
28	M&A Presents the Evaluation to the TAC													
29	Technical Program Manager Drafts RFS for M&A to Update the Groundwater Model													
30	TAC Approves RFS for Updating the Groundwater Model													
31	Board Approves RFS for Updating the Groundwater Model													
32	M&A Prepares Updated Seaside Basin Groundwater Model													
33	M&A Presents Updated Seaside Basin Groundwater Model to the TAC													
34	M&A Presents Updated Seaside Basin Groundwater Model to the Board													
35	I.2.b.8 Subsurface Electromagnetic Imaging													

Seaside Basin Watermaster 2026 Monitoring and Management Program Work Schedule

ID	Task Name	Jan '26	Feb '26	Mar '26	Apr '26	May '26	Jun '26	Jul '26	Aug '26	Sep '26	Oct '26	Nov '26	Dec '26	Jan '27
36	TAC Evaluates the Value of Performing Additional Electromagnetic Imaging in 2026													
37	If TAC Recommends Performing Additional Electromagnetic Imaging in 2026 Develop a Work Plan and Schedule for this Work		2/11											
38	M.1 PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION													
39	Prepare Initial Consultant Contracts for 2027													
40	TAC Approval of Initial Consultant Contracts for 2027										10/14			
41	Board Approval of Initial Consultant Contracts for 2027											11/4		
42	M.1.g – Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Reporting Requirements													
43	Montgomery & Associates Prepares Draft Groundwater Storage Analysis													
44	Submit SGMA Documentation to DWR					3/6								
45	I.2.a DATABASE MANAGEMENT													
46	I.2.a.1 Conduct Ongoing Data Entry/Database Maintenance													
47	I.2.b DATA COLLECTION PROGRAM													
48	I.2.b.2 Collect Monthly Water Levels (MPWMD)													
49	I.2.b.3 Collect Quarterly Water Quality Samples (MPWMD)													
50	I.2.b.6 MPWMD provides annual water quality and water level data to Montgomery & Associates for inclusion in the 2026 SIAR										11/2			
51	I.4.c Annual Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report (SIAR)													
52	Montgomery & Associates Provides Draft 2026 SIAR to Watermaster											11/25		
53	TAC Provides Comments/Questions About Draft 2026 SIAR to Technical Program Manager												12/9	
54	Board Approves 2026 SIAR													1/6

**SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

*** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * ***

MEETING DATE:	December 10, 2025
AGENDA ITEM:	7
AGENDA TITLE:	Other Business
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager
SUMMARY:	<p>The “Other Business” agenda item is intended to provide an opportunity for TAC members or others present at the meeting to discuss items not on the agenda that may be of interest to the TAC.</p>
ATTACHMENTS:	None
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	None required – information only