SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN WATERMASTER
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
DRAFT AGENDA

Wednesday, January 7, 2026–2:00pm HYBRID

City Hall, City of Sand City
1 Pendergrass Way, Sand City, CA 93955 and

To access the meeting virtually, please click on the Zoom link or copy/paste it into your browser:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7265830564?pwd=RkFJbUpTUDNsNm9hbUV0YUkzM1Y4QT09&omn=88608518128
Meeting ID: 726 583 0564 **Passcode:** 4pgXtn
If your computer does not have audio, you can join the meeting via phone. To participate via phone, please call:
408 638 0968 US (San Jose) • 669 444 9171 US • 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
If you would like to comment on any item on the Agenda or any item not on the Agenda, please submit those in writing to our office or via email at watermasterseaside@sbcglobal.net by 10 a.m. on the day before the Board meeting. All submitted written comments will be provided to the Board and you may also comment during the meeting.

Watermaster Board
Coastal Subarea Landowner—Director Paul Bruno
City of Seaside—Mayor Ian Oglesby—Chair
California American Water (CAW)—Director Tim O'Halloran
City of Sand City—Mayor Mary Ann Carbone—Vice Chair
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD)—Director Alvin Edwards
Laguna Seca Subarea Landowner—Director John Gaglioti
City of Monterey—Council Member Kim Barber
City of Del Rey Oaks—Council Member Kim Shirley
Monterey County/Monterey County Water Resources Agency—Supervisor Wendy Root Askew, District 4

I. **CALL TO ORDER – Please note new contact information for Watermaster. Email address remains watermasterseaside@sbcglobal.net.**

II. **ROLL CALL**

III. **ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2026**
- A. Chairperson (Must be member of the Board of Directors)—Currently Mayor Oglesby
- B. Vice Chairperson (Must be member of the Board of Directors)—Currently Mayor Carbone
- C. Secretary (Need not be a member of the Board of Directors)—Currently Admin. Officer Paxton
- D. Treasurer (Need not be a member of the Board of Directors)—Currently Director Askew

IV. **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**
Oral communications are on each meeting agenda to provide members of the public an opportunity to address the Watermaster on matters within its jurisdiction. Matters not appearing on the agenda will not receive action at this meeting but may be referred to the Watermaster Administrator or may be set for a future meeting. Presentations will be limited to three minutes or as otherwise established by the Watermaster. In order that the speaker may be identified in the minutes of the meeting, it is helpful if speakers state their names.

V. **REVIEW OF AGENDA AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**
A vote may be taken to add to the agenda an item that arose after the 72-hour posting deadline pursuant to the requirements of Government Code Section 54954.2(b). (a 2/3-majority vote is required)

VI. **ORAL PRESENTATION**
Update from the Monterey County Water Resources Agency and Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency on their work related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Amy Woodrow and Sarah Hardgrave) 3

VII. **CONSENT CALENDAR**
A. Minutes of Regular Board meeting held on November 5, 2025 27
B. Board and TAC Schedule of Meetings for 2026 29
C. Summary of Payments made October - November 2025 31
D. Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Reports through November 30, 2025 33

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**
A. Consider Approving Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report for 2025—Montgomery & Associates presentation. The Executive Summary is included in the Board agenda packet. The complete SIAR is posted on the Watermaster website at: https://seasidegroundwaterbasinwatermaster.wpcomstaging.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2025-Seawater-Intrusion-Analysis-Report.pdf.....37
B. Consider Approving Water Year 2025 Watermaster Annual Report. The body of the Draft 2025 Annual Report is included in the Board agenda packet. The complete Draft version is posted at: https://seasidegroundwaterbasinwatermaster.wpcomstaging.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2025-Annual-Report-Draft.pdf.....43
C. Deep Aquifers Monitoring Plan and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).....69

IX. **OLD BUSINESS**
Water Year 2026 **RE**-Declaration of Unavailability of Artificial Replenishment Water (Water Year 2026 Production Allocations and Basin Storage Allocations attached) 75

X. **INFORMATIONAL REPORTS (No Action Required)**
A. Watermaster report of Water Year 2025 Production of the Seaside Basin (October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025) 81
B. Update on Security National Guaranty Well.....83
C. Progress Report on Geophysical Imaging Work Near Sentinel Well No. 4 85
D. Notice of transfers of water rights – DBO to CAW https://seasidegroundwaterbasinwatermaster.wpcomstaging.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/2018-19-20-Water-Entitlement-Transfer-Letters-1.pdf

XI. **DIRECTOR REPORTS**

XII. **STAFF COMMENTS**

XIII. **CLOSED SESSION –** No closed session is scheduled however may be held if needed.

XIV. The Watermaster will consider a motion to adjourn to the next regular Watermaster Board meeting to be held on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 2:00 P.M.

This agenda was forwarded via email to the City Clerks of Seaside, Monterey, Sand City, and Del Rey Oaks; the Clerk of the Monterey Board of Supervisors, the Clerk to the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District; the Clerk at the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, Monterey One Water, and California American Water Company for posting on or before January 2, 2026, per the Ralph M. Brown Act, Government Code Section 54954.2 (a).

SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN
WATERMASTER

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Robert S. Jaques, Technical Program Manager

DATE: January 7, 2026

SUBJECT: Informational Report from the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency

- -

RECOMMENDATIONS:
None required – information only.

BACKGROUND:
At your November meeting Director Askew requested that the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency be invited to make a presentation to the Board describing the work they are currently doing regarding groundwater management that would be of interest to the Watermaster.

DISCUSSION:
Sarah Hardgrave, Deputy General Manager of the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, and Amy Woodrow, Professional Geologist with the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, will make an oral presentation describing their work at today's meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:
PowerPoint Slide Deck: Salinas Valley Basin GSA Update
PowerPoint Slide Deck: Introduction to the Monitoring Plan for the Deep Aquifers

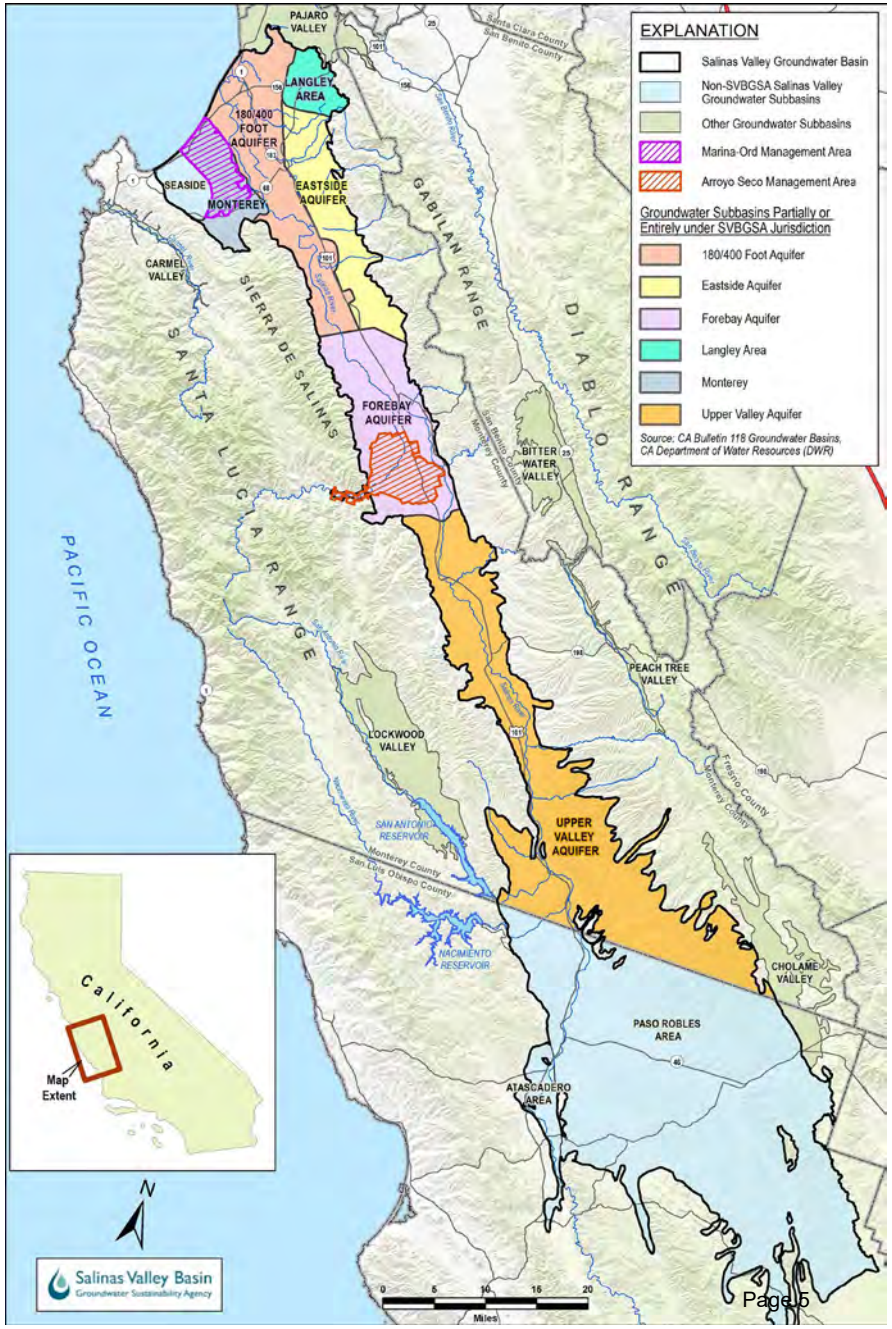
Salinas Valley Basin
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Salinas Valley Basin GSA Update

January 7, 2025
Seaside Watermaster Board of Directors Meeting

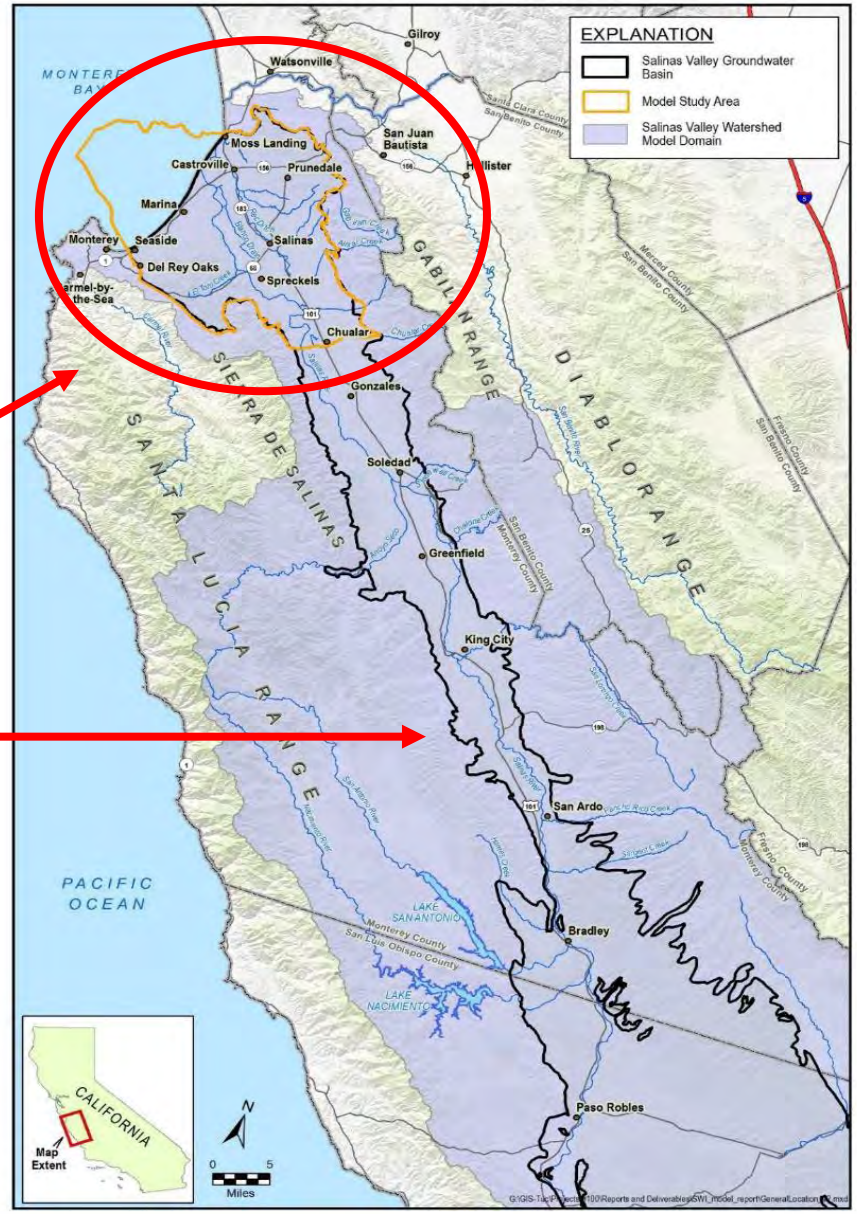
SVBGSA Updates

- Groundwater Model Updates
  - Salinas Valley Integrated Hydrologic Model (SVIHM)
  - Salinas Valley Seawater Intrusion Model
  - Coordination underway with Seaside Technical Consultants
- Deep Aquifers Study Follow Up
- Projects and Management Action Feasibility Studies
- Next Steps



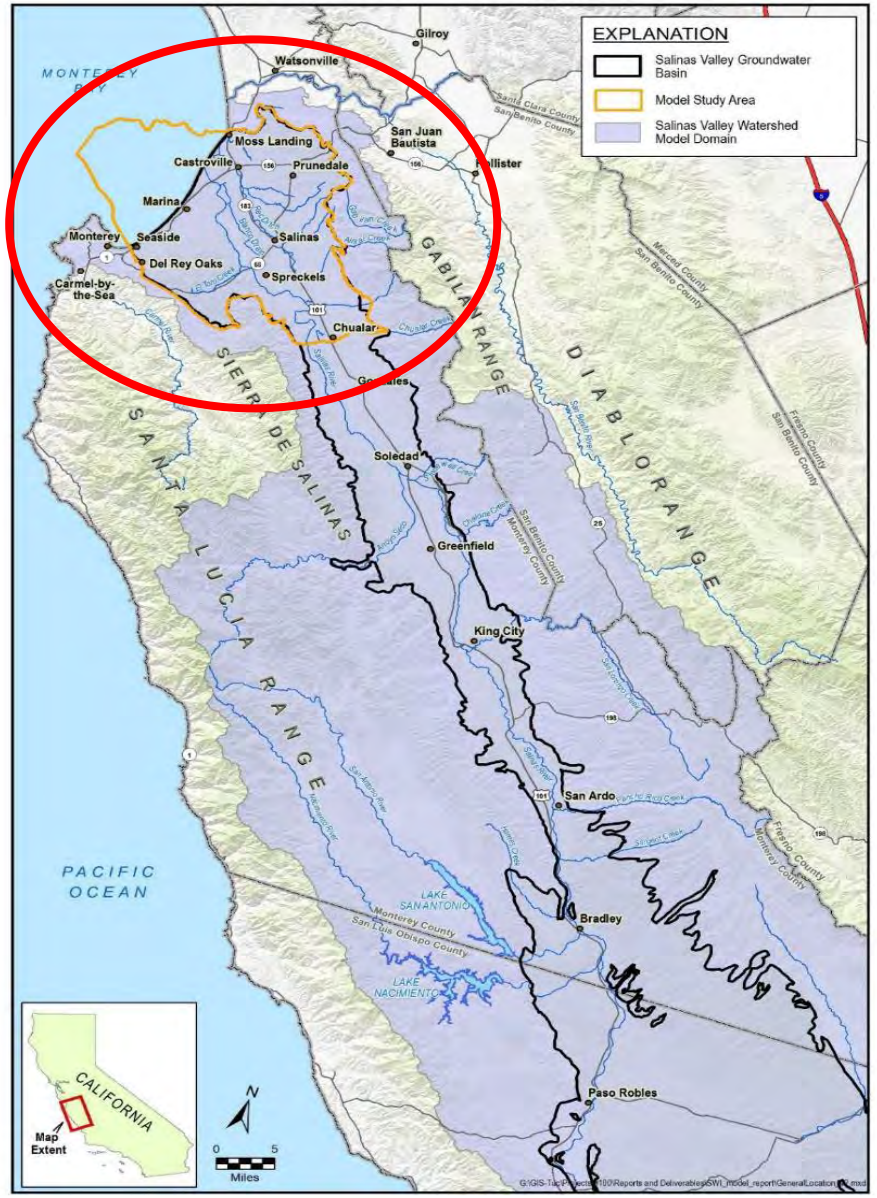
Several Groundwater Models

- Currently 3 groundwater models cover the Seaside Basin:
  - Seaside Watermaster Model
  - Seawater Intrusion Model (SWIM) covering coastal Salinas Valley
  - Salinas Valley Integrated Hydrologic Model (SVIHM) covering the entire Valley
- Additionally, the Monterey Subbasin Model abuts the Seaside Basin



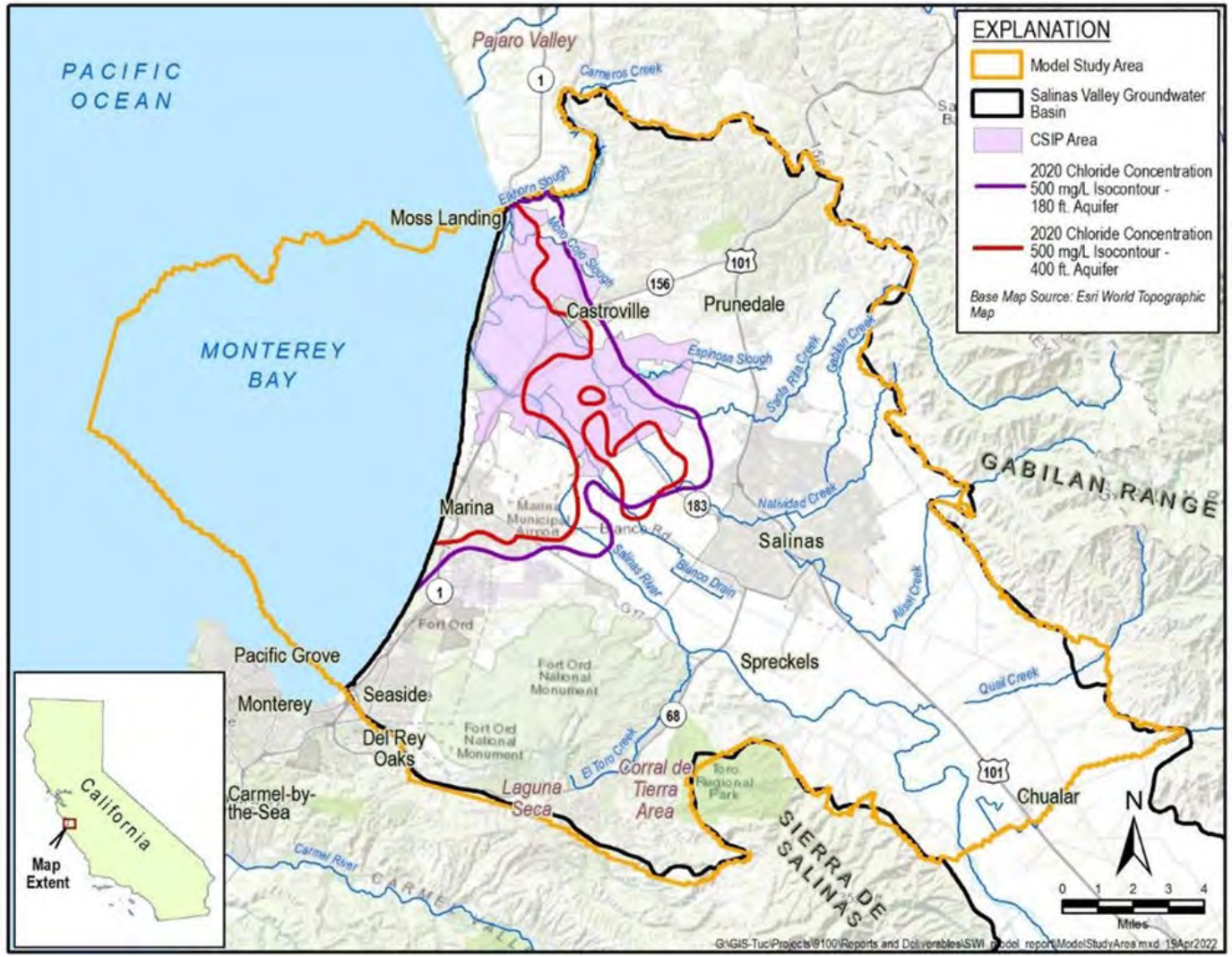
Modeling Background and History

- 2016: USGS began developing the Valley-wide SVIHM
- 2020-2021: MCWD developed the Monterey Subbasin Model
- 2021-2022: SVBGSA and Monterey County developed the Seawater Intrusion Model (SWIM) specifically built for:
    - Coupled flow and chloride transport model with variable density

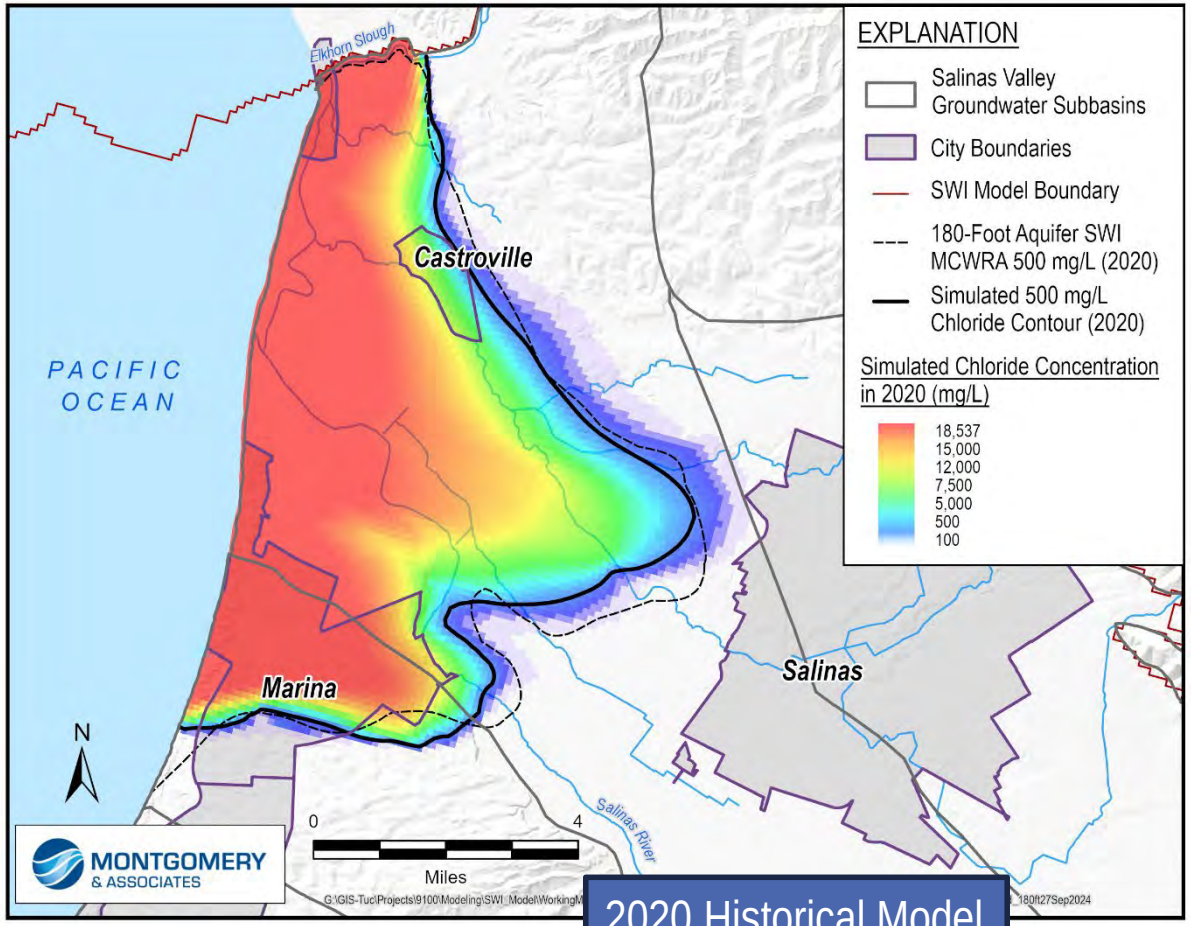


SWIM Needed to Simulate Seawater Intrusion and Response Plans

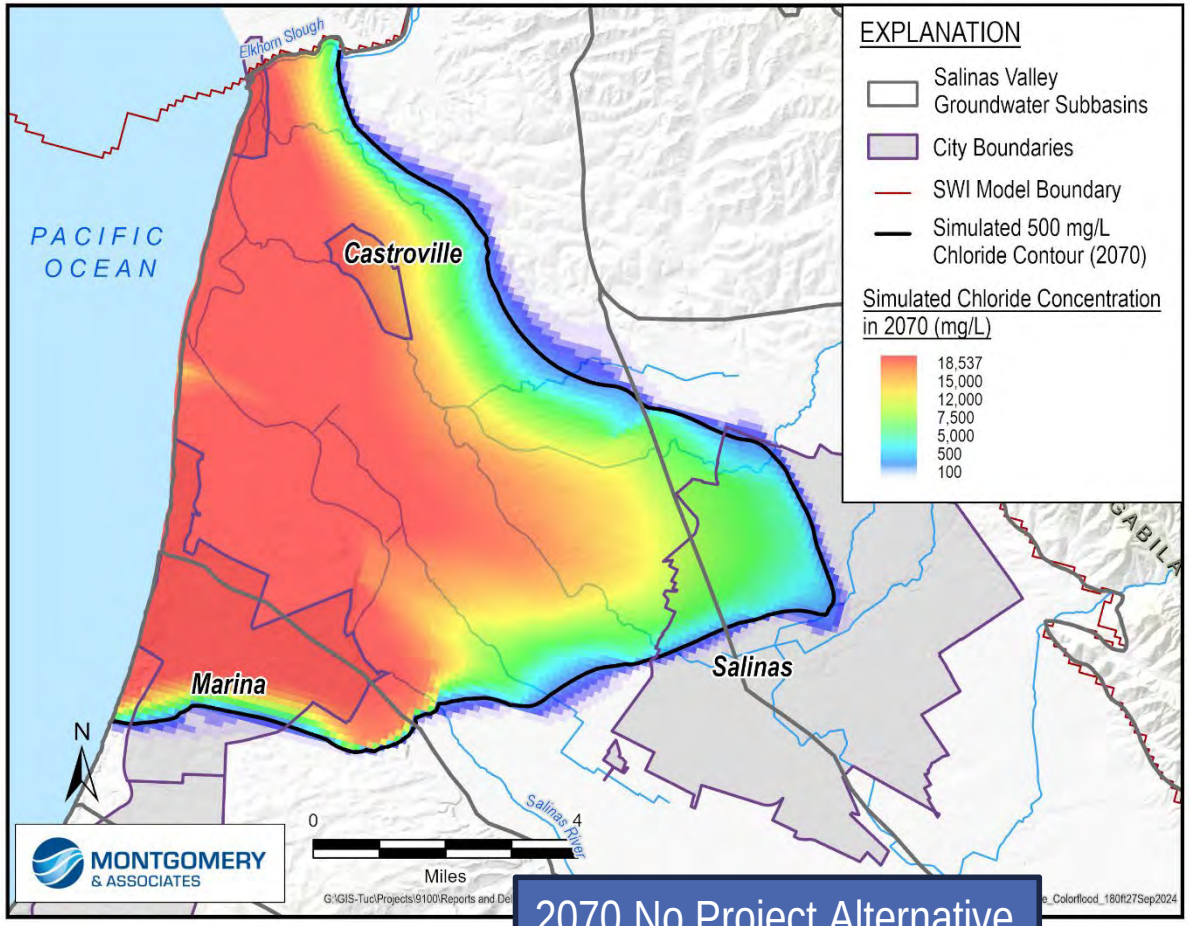
- **Purpose**: To assess SWI risks, as well as potential options for projects and management actions and their effects
- **Broader Intent/Goal**: To have a single regional model for all current and potential seawater intruded areas in the Salinas Valley that can be used by multiple agencies



2070 Baseline Scenario
Chloride Concentrations – 180-Foot Aquifer

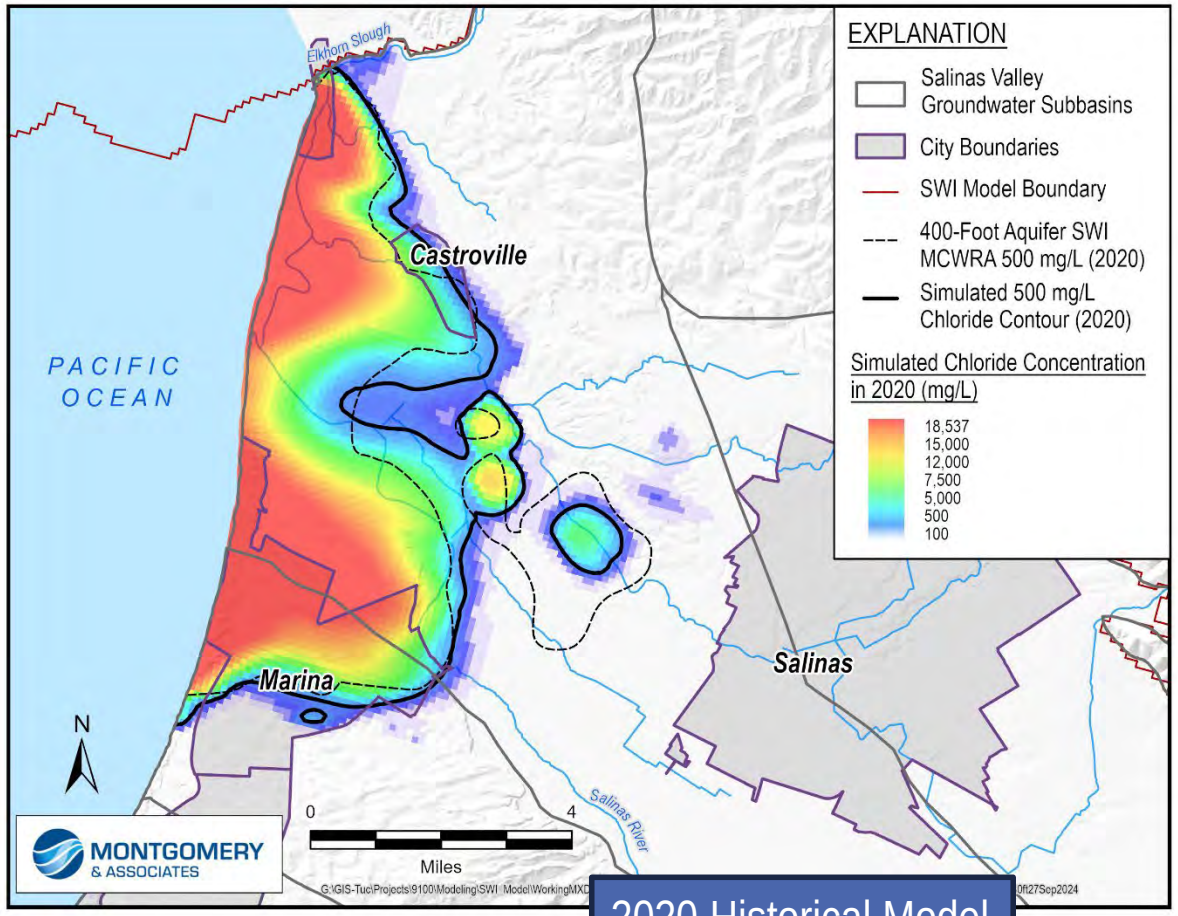


2020 Historical Model

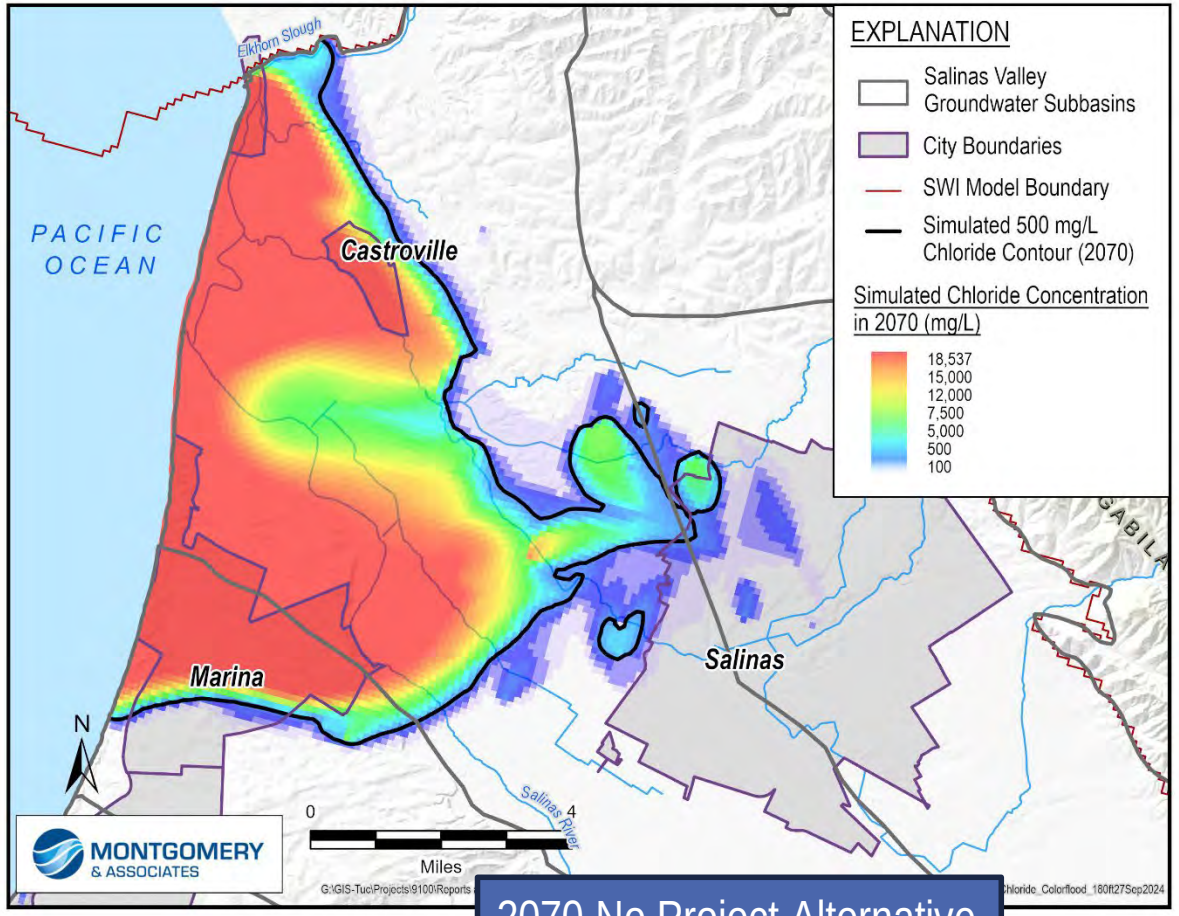


2070 No Project Alternative

2070 Baseline Scenario
Chloride Concentrations – 400-Foot Aquifer



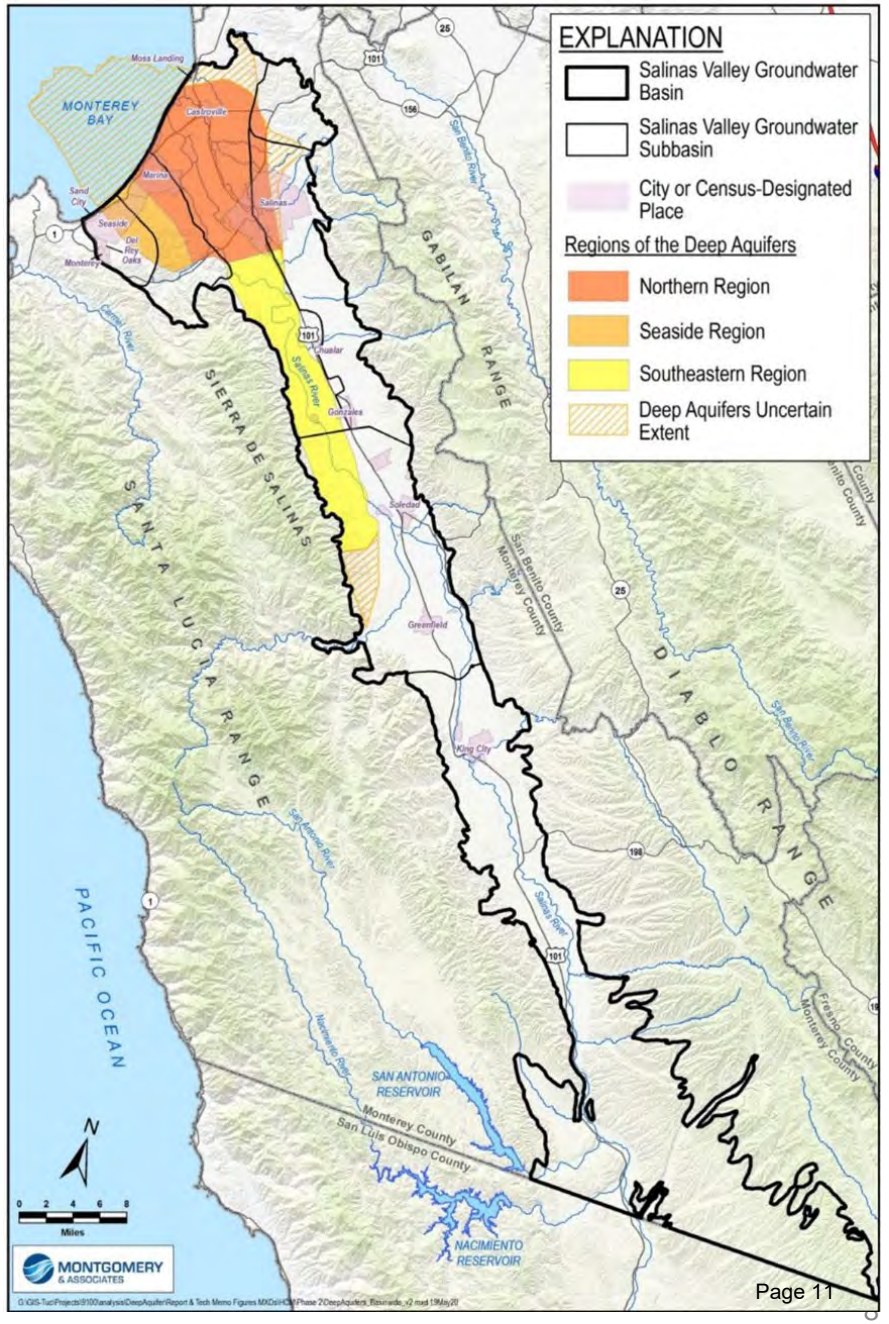
2020 Historical Model



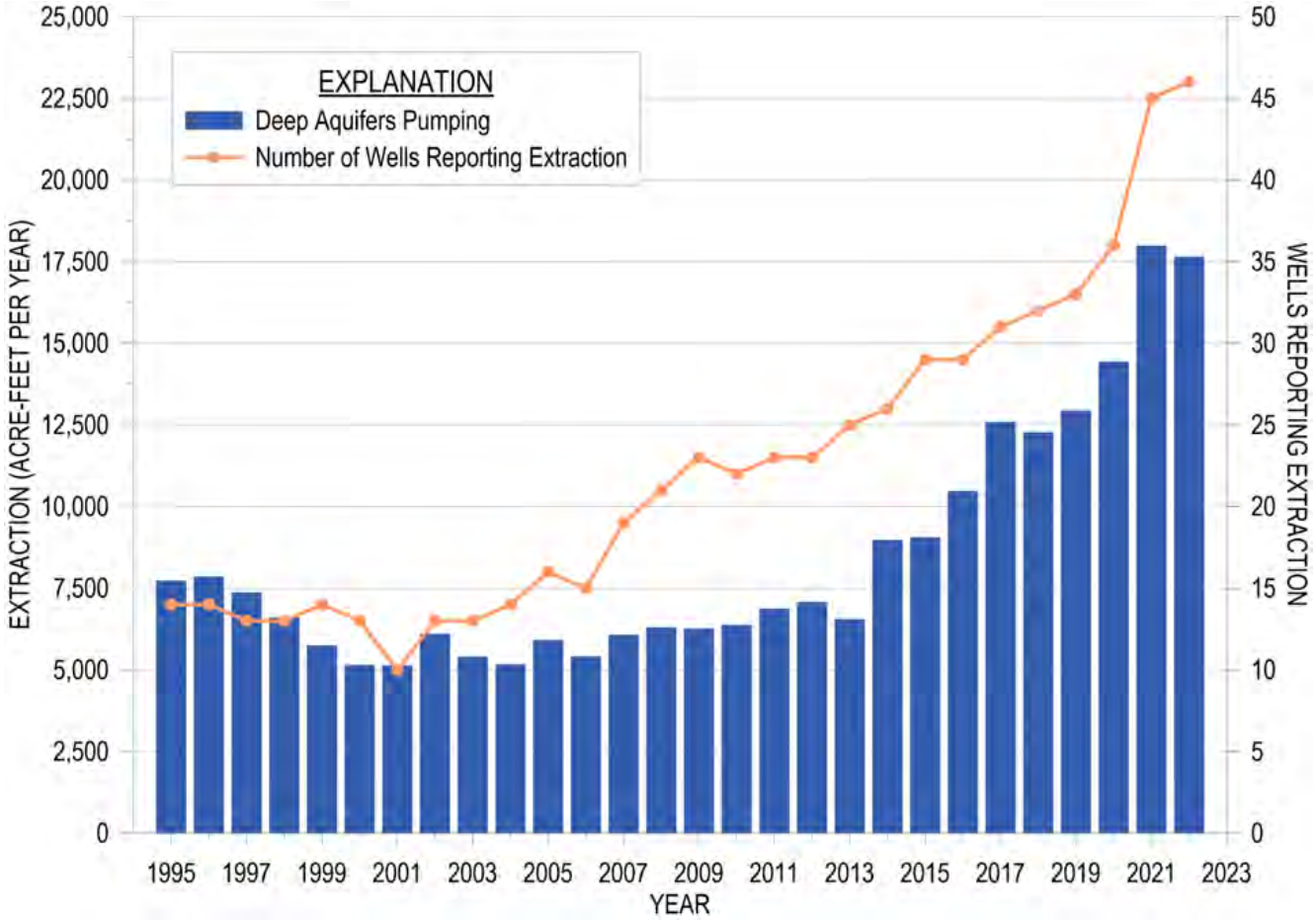
2070 No Project Alternative

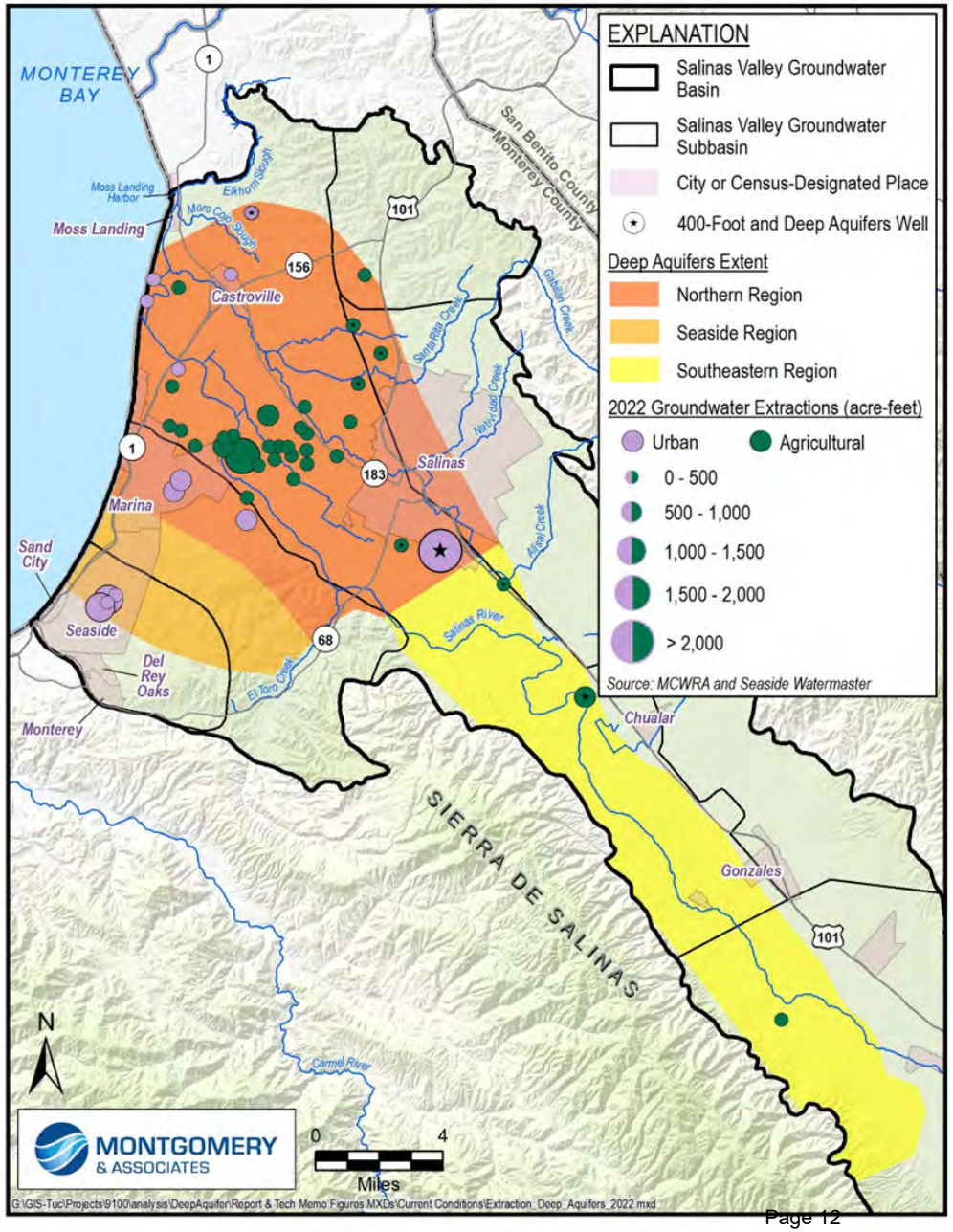
Deep Aquifers Study

- Developed a water budget
- Made monitoring recommendations
- Provided guidance for management based on findings



Extractions from the Deep Aquifers



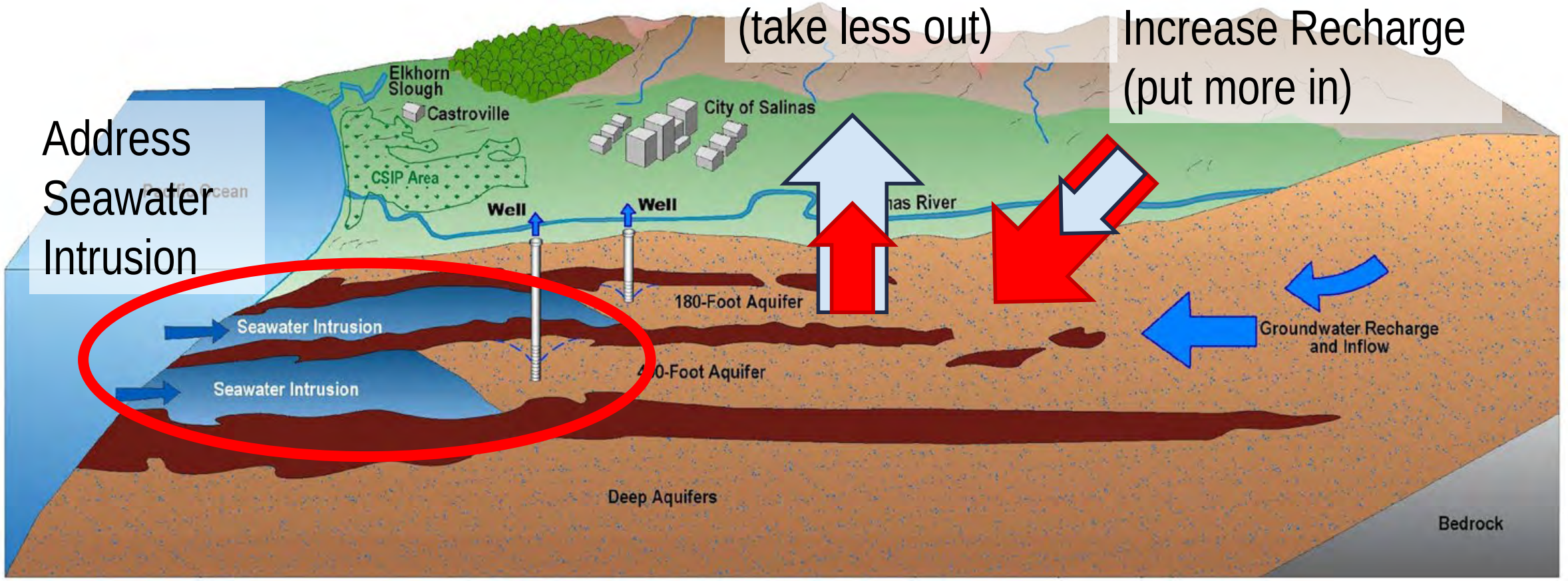


Achieving Groundwater Sustainability

Decrease Pumping
(take less out)

Increase Recharge
(put more in)

Address
Seawater
Intrusion



Project and Management Action (PMA) Feasibility Studies

Preliminary feasibility studies to address seawater intrusion:

- Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project (CSIP) Optimization – led by MCWRA
- Brackish Groundwater Restoration Project https://svbgsa.org/brackish-groundwater-restoration-project/
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery https://svbgsa.org/aquifer-storage-and-recovery-2/
- Demand Management Framework https://svbgsa.org/demand-management/

Additional studies to address groundwater challenges:

- CSIP Expansion or New Seawater Intrusion Project (NSIP)
- Castroville and Eastside Canals and Alternatives (C&E/Permit 11043) https://svbgsa.org/castroville-and-eastside-canals-and-alternatives/
- Deep Aquifers Management Framework https://svbgsa.org/deep-aquifer-study/

Next Steps

Late January 2026

- Public Review Draft Deep Aquifers Management Framework

March 2026

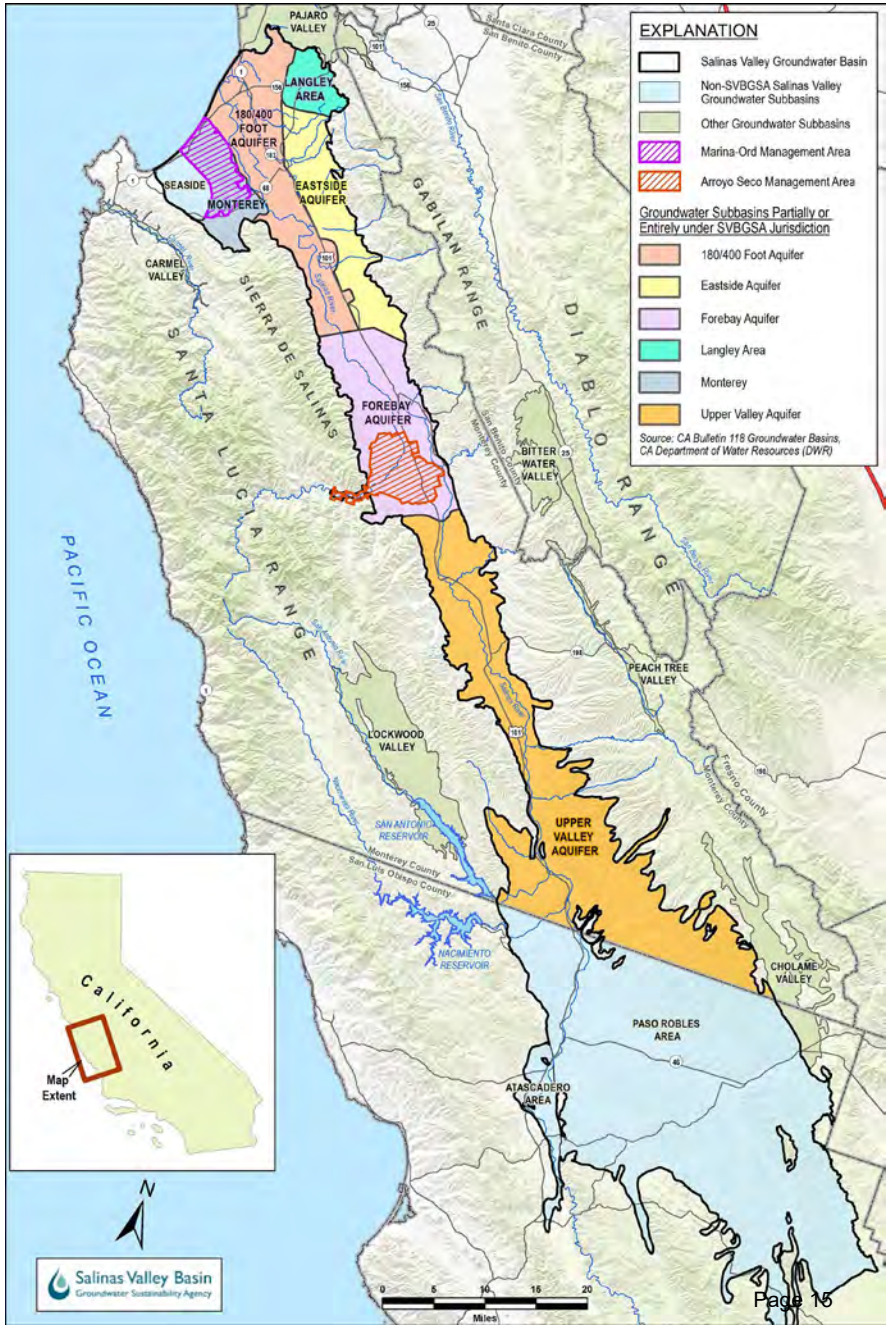
- Complete Model Updates in Seaside and Monterey Subbasins
- Complete grant funded Feasibility Studies

Spring - Fall 2026

- GSP 5-year evaluations for all 6 Subbasins
- Determine which PMA to move forward in next 5-year GSP implementation cycle

January 2027

- DWR Deadline for GSP evaluations



Questions and Comments

Piret Harmon
Sarah Hardgrave

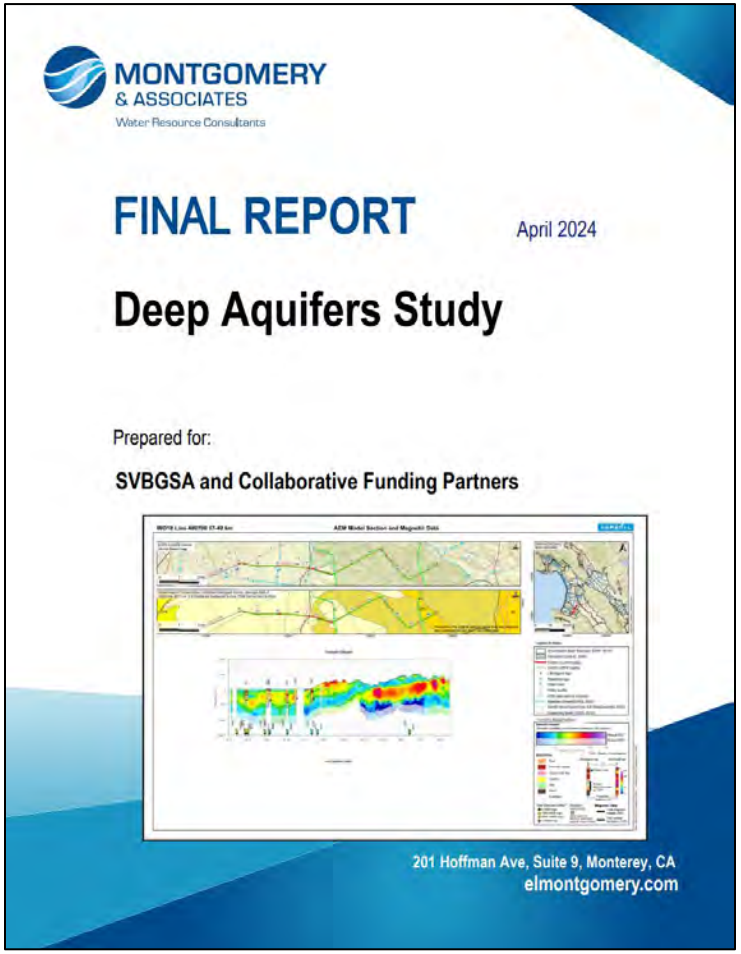
harmonp@svbgsa.org
hardgraves@svbgsa.org

Salinas Valley Basin
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Introduction to the Monitoring Plan for the Deep Aquifers

Background

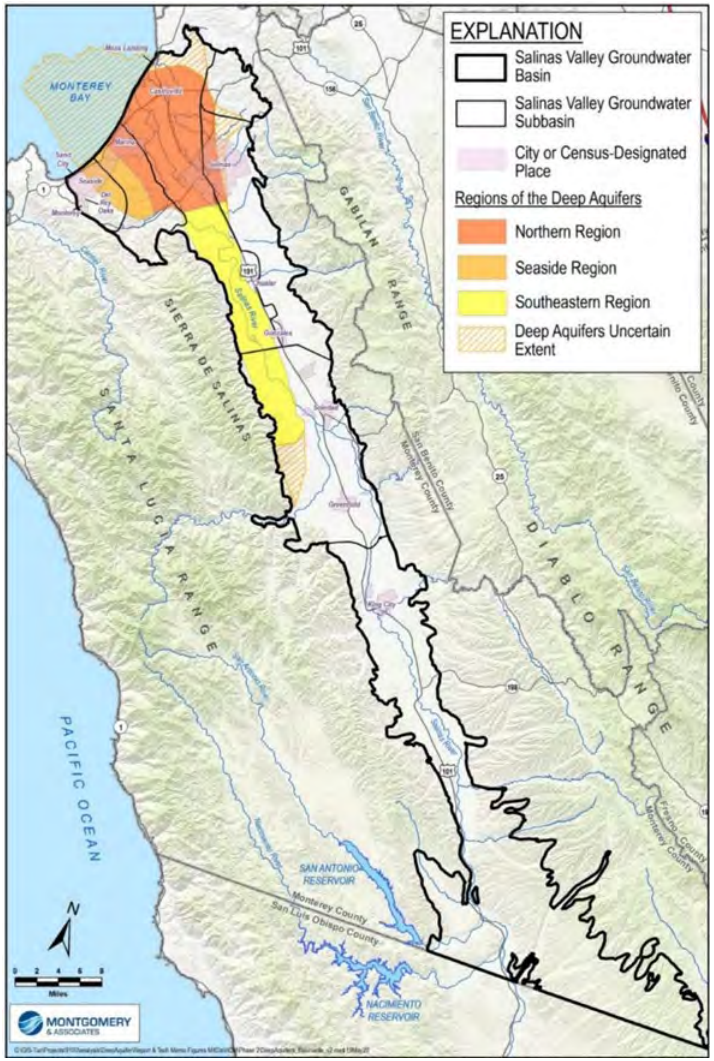
- The Deep Aquifers Study (“Study”) was completed in 2024.
- The Study included recommendations, one of which was to for refine existing monitoring networks across the entirety of the Deep Aquifers.



Available at www.svbgsa.org/deep-aquifer-study

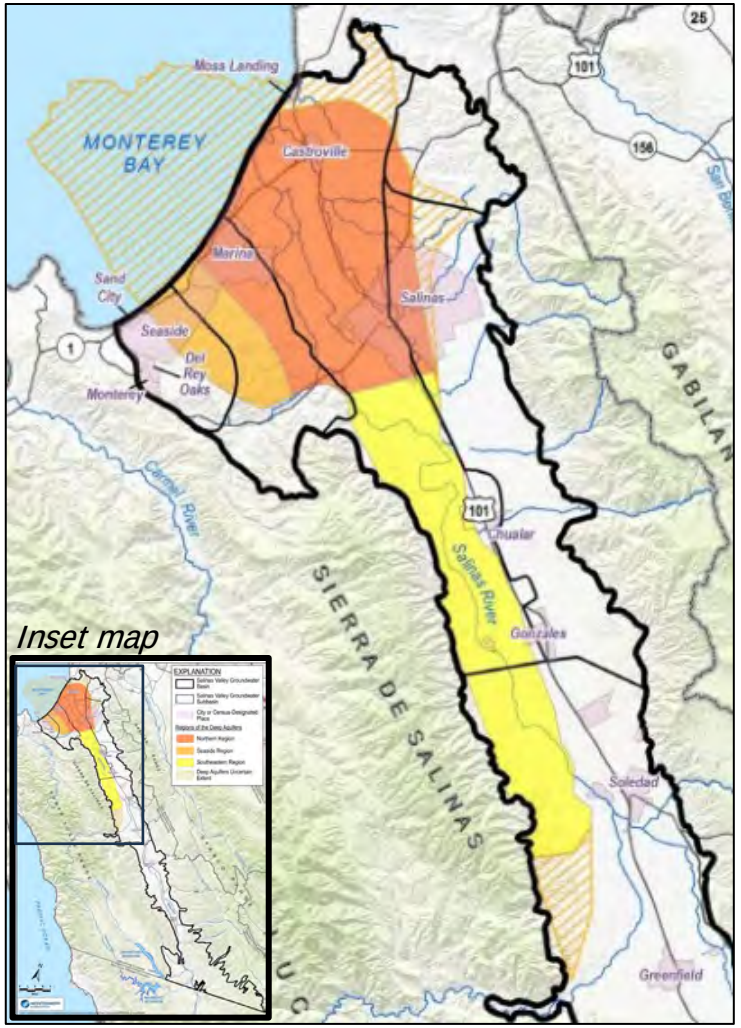
Background

- The Study defined the geographic extent of the Deep Aquifers and three “regions” within that extent.
- The extent was defined using field studies, data on geologic structure and formations, water quality data, and aquifer tests.



Background

- The Deep Aquifers extent covers areas that are managed by multiple agencies, including a portion of the Seaside Groundwater Basin.
    - Approximately coincident with the Northern Coastal Subarea and Northern Inland Subarea.



Monitoring Plan Overview

- In response to the Study recommendation, the Monterey County Water Resources Agency ("MCWRA") prepared a *Monitoring Plan for the Deep Aquifers in the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin* ("Monitoring Plan").

- The Monitoring Plan describes the types and frequencies of monitoring across the Deep Aquifers extent as conducted by:
  - MCWRA
  - Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency
  - Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
  - Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
  - Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster

Purpose

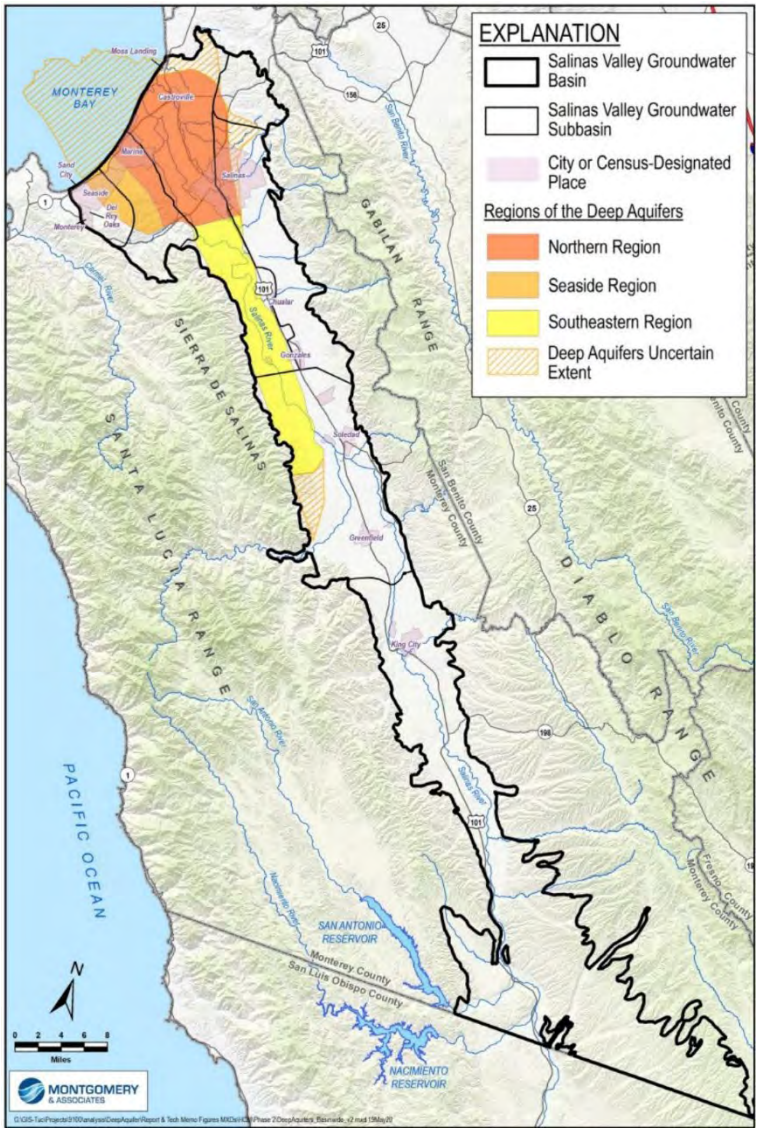
The Monitoring Plan is intended to:

- Describe current groundwater monitoring activities and methodologies.
- Identify data gaps and present an approach for enhancing and expanding monitoring to minimize or eliminate data gaps.
- Improve a collective regional understanding of conditions in the Deep Aquifers.
- Provide a mechanism for the monitoring entities to regularly review and, if needed, refine the monitoring network.

Monitoring Plan Elements

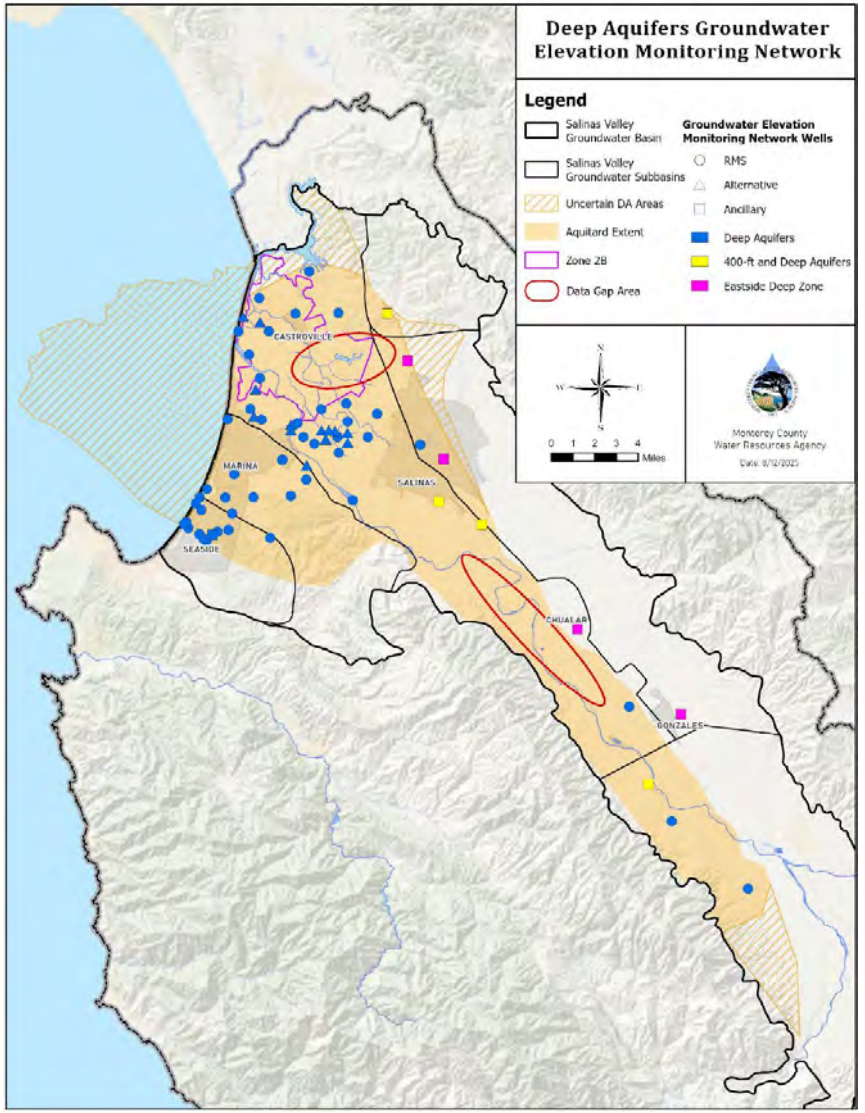
- Geographic extent is based on the definition in the Deep Aquifers Study.

- Data collection includes:
  - Groundwater extraction and injection
    - Annually
  - Groundwater elevation
    - At least quarterly
  - Groundwater quality
    - At least annually



Monitoring Plan Elements

- Groundwater Elevation Monitoring
  - 76 existing wells
  - 2 data gaps
- Groundwater Quality Monitoring
  - 59 existing wells
  - 2 data gaps
- The Monitoring Plan does not provide a schedule or funding mechanism for filling data gaps.



Monitoring Plan Elements

- An annual assessment of the monitoring networks is included in the Monitoring Plan. The purpose of this is to provide a time for the monitoring entities to:
  - Identify wells that may need to be replaced.
  - Capture information about new wells to add to the monitoring network(s).
  - Discuss changes to monitoring methodologies.
  - Update the Monitoring Plan.
  - As they arise, work on other topics related to Deep Aquifers monitoring that may require coordination.

Questions and Comments

Amy Woodrow
Senior Hydrologist

woodrowa@countyofmonterey.gov

SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN WATERMASTER
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT
Wednesday, November 5, 2025
City of Sand City, City Hall, 1 Pendergrass Way, Sand City, CA 93955 (Virtual and In-person)

I. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Directors Present:
City of Seaside – Mayor Ian Oglesby, Chair
Coastal Subarea Landowner – Director Paul Bruno
City of Monterey – Council Member Kim Barber
Monterey County/Water Resources Agency – Supervisor Wendy Root Askew
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) – Director Alvin Edwards
Laguna Seca Subarea Landowner – Director John Gaglioti
California American Water (CAW) – Director Tim O'Halloran
City of Del Rey Oaks – Council Member Kim Shirley

Directors Attending as Public:
City of Sand City – Mayor Mary Ann Carbone (see below)

Others Present:
Bob Jaques, Watermaster Technical Program Manager (TPM)
Laura Paxton, Watermaster Administrative Officer (AO)
Mike McCullough, Assistant General Manager (MPWMD)
Jon Lear, Water Resource Manager/District Hydrogeologist (MPWMD)
Aiko Yamakawa, Counsel (CAW)*
Greg McDanel, City Manager, City of Seaside
Samantha Sakhrani, Human Resources Director, City of Seaside
Melisa Rangel, Student Intern, Monterey County District 4
Susan Schiavone, Director, Public Water Now*
Svetlana Peshkoff*
An asterisk (*) signifies virtual attendance.

III. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS – There were no public communications.

IV. REVIEW OF AGENDA AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Member Carbone participated in the meeting virtually as a member of the public. There were no changes to the agenda requested.

V. ORAL PRESENTATIONS – There were no oral presentations.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes of Regular Board meeting held on October 1, 2025
B. Check Register of Payments made in September 2025
C. Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Reports through September 30, 2025
D. Professional Services Contracts
  1. Two Professional Service Contracts for Fiscal Year 2026 with Montgomery & Associates, Inc.—one for $18,478 for providing ongoing and as-requested general hydrogeologic consulting services during the year, and the second for $36,346 to prepare the Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report (SIAR) for 2026
  2. One Professional Service Contract for Fiscal Year 2026 with Martin Feeney for $4,000 to provide on-call/as-requested hydrogeologic consulting services for 2026

3. One Professional Service Contract for Fiscal Year 2026 and one Professional Services Agreement with Gus Yates for $4,000 to provide on-call/as-needed hydrogeologic consulting services for 2026
4. One Professional Service Contract for Fiscal Year 2026 with Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) for $81,506 to perform monitoring and other work on the 2026 Seaside Groundwater Basin Monitoring and Management Program (M&MP), including Sentinel Wells induction logging previously performed by Martin Feeney
5. One Professional Service Contract for Fiscal Year 2026 with Klein, DeNatale, Goldner, Rosenlieb and Kimball, LLP for $20,612 to provide Watermaster legal services for 2026

It was moved by Director O'Halloran, seconded by Director Barber, and unanimously carried 8-0 to approve Consent Calendar Items as presented.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Water Year 2026 Declaration of Unavailability of Artificial Replenishment Water

AO Paxton gave highlights of her transmittal regarding the Watermaster's annual declaration of the availability of artificial replenishment water to comply with the Adjudication Decision.

It was moved by Director Bruno, seconded by Director O'Halloran, and unanimously carried 8-0 to approve Water Year 2026 Declaration of Unavailability of Artificial Replenishment Water as presented.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS – There was no old business.

IX. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS AND STAFF COMMENTS

A. Watermaster report of Water Year 2025 Quarter 4 Production of the Seaside Basin (August 1 – Sep 30, 2025)
B. 2025 Calculated Replenishment Assessments
C. Progress Report on Updating Seaside Basin Groundwater Model
D. Progress Report on Geophysical Imaging Work Near Sentinel Well No. 4
E. Funding Assistance from the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) for Assistance with Groundwater Modeling Work

X. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Director Askew requested an update from Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) and Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) on agency efforts to comply the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

XI. STAFF REPORTS – AO Paxton reported the 2026 budgets have been distributed for public review.

XII. CLOSED SESSION

The Board met in closed session at 2:14 p.m. to review a personnel matter related to appointment of Administrative Officer position. The Board reconvened open session at 4:03 p.m. The following action was taken during closed session:

Moved by Director Bruno, seconded by Director Shirley, and unanimously carried to extend a conditional offer of employment to Toni Gibbs for the position of Administrative Officer at a rate of $125 per hour, contingent upon successful completion of the required background check, and to authorize Chair Oglesby to negotiate compensation up to the advertised rate and execute all necessary employment documents.

XIII. ADJOUNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:04 p.m. to the next regular board meeting on January 7, 2026.

SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN WATERMASTER

2026 PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Month	Board	TAC
January	7	no meeting
February	4	11
March	4	11
April	1	8
May	6	no meeting
June	3	10
July	1	8
August	5	12
September	2	9
October	7	7
November	4	11
December	2	9

12/10/25

Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster
Account QuickReport
As of November 30, 2025

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount	Balance
City of Seaside Finance						-254,853.16
Administrative Fund						434,171.92
Check	10/31/25	251031JH	Klein DeNatale Goldner (Hughes)	Legal services through 093025	-750.00	433,421.92
Check	10/31/25	251032PA	Paxton Associates	AO services 09/26/25 - 10/25/25	-5,718.75	427,703.17
Check	11/30/25	251130KDG	Klein DeNatale Goldner (Hughes)	Legal Services through November 19, 2025	-375.00	427,328.17
Check	11/30/25	251131PA	Paxton Associates	AO services 10/26/25-11/25/25	-6,968.75	420,359.42
Check	11/30/25	251132TG	Gibbs, Toni	AO services through November 30, 2025	-837.00	419,522.42
Total Administrative Fund					-14,649.50	419,522.42
Monitoring & Mgmt Ops Fund						-689,025.08
Water and/or Quality Services						71,698.81
Total Water and/or Quality Services						71,698.81
Monitoring & Mgmt Ops Fund - Other						-760,723.89
Check	10/30/25	251031MA	Montgomery & Associates	RFS2025-01, 02, 03 October 31, 2025	-3,177.50	-763,901.39
Check	10/31/25	251031BJ	Robert Jaques	Program Manager services October 2025	-7,350.00	-771,251.39
Check	10/31/25	251031MPWMD	MPWMD	INV00446 2025-02 Jul-Sep	-10,079.00	-781,330.39
Check	11/30/25	251032RJ	Robert Jaques	TPM 11/01/25-11/30/25	-4,987.50	-786,317.89
Check	11/30/25	251131MA	Montgomery & Associates	Invoice # 9150-25-90 Seervices through Nov 2025	-26,838.00	-813,155.89
Total Monitoring & Mgmt Ops Fund - Other					-52,432.00	-813,155.89
Total Monitoring & Mgmt Ops Fund					-52,432.00	-741,457.08
Total City of Seaside Finance					-67,081.50	-321,934.66
TOTAL					-67,081.50	-321,934.66

Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster

Budget vs. Actual Administrative Fund

Fiscal Year (January 1 - December 31, 2025)
Balance through November 30, 2025

	2025 Adopted Budget		Contract Amount	Year to Date Revenue / Expenses
Available Balances & Assessments				
Other Assessments	-			
FY (Rollover)	2,500.00			30,000.00
Admin Assessments	113,000.00			113,000.00
Replenishment Assessments	10,474.00			10,474.00
Available	**125,974.00**			**153,474.00**
Expenses				
Contract Staff	78,000.00		78,000.00	63,734.06
Legal Counsel			12,500.00	
General	12,500.00			4,444.50
Replenishment	10,474.00	*		2,670.00
				7,114.50
Filing fees and postage				-
Total Expenses	**100,974.00**		**90,500.00**	**70,848.56**
Total Available	25,000.00			
Dedicated Reserve	25,000.00			-
Net Available	**-**			**82,625.44**

** $10,474 Replenishment related legal and administrative costs will be covered by funds transferred into the Administrative Fund from the Replenishment Assessment Fund*

Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster

Budget vs. Actual Monitoring & Management - Operations Fund

Fiscal Year (January 1 - December 31, 2025)
Balance through November 30, 2025

	2025 Adopted Budget Adjusted 10/1/25	Contract Encumbrance	Year to Date Revenue/Expenses
Available Balances & Assessments			
Operations Fund Assessment	$ 335,000.00	$ -	$ 335,000.00
Pass Through		-	4,902.00
FY 2022 Rollover (estimated)	143,973.00	-	188,000.00
Total Available	**$ 478,973.00**	**$ -**	**$ 527,902.00**
Appropriations & Expenses			
GENERAL			
Technical Project Manager*	$ 75,000.00	$ 75,000.00	$ 72,174.50
Contingency @ 10% (not including TPM)	39,692.00		
Total General	**$ 114,692.00**	**$ 75,000.00**	**$ 72,174.50**
CONSULTANTS (Montgomery; Web Site Database)			
Program Administration	$ 16,694.00	$ 22,694.00	$ 26,449.00
Production/Lvl/Qlty Monitoring	-		
Basin Management	187,000.00		
Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report	55,531.00	30,050.00	29,125.50
Seawater Intrusion Response Plan		37,481.00	36,187.00
Total Consultants	**$ 259,225.00**	**$ 90,225.00**	**$ 91,761.50**
MPWMD			
Production/Lvl/Qlty Monitoring	$ 81,556.00	81,556.00	34,891.73
Pass Through 2024	-	-	-
Basin Management	-		-
Seawater Intrusion	-	-	-
Direct Costs	-	-	-
Total MPWMD	**$ 81,556.00**	**$ 81,556.00**	**$ 34,891.73**
CONTRACTOR (Martin Feeney)			
Hydrogeologic Consulting Services	$ 4,000.00	4,000.00	630.00
Production/Lvl/Qlty Monitoring		-	-
	$ 4,000.00	**$ 4,000.00**	**$ 630.00**
CONTRACTOR (Gus Yates)			
Hydrogeologic Consulting Services	**$ 4,000.00**	**$ 4,000.00**	590.00
CONTRACTOR (Subsurface Imaging)			
Hydrogeologic Consulting Services	**$ 15,500.00**	**$ 15,500.00**	-
Total Appropriations & Expenses	**$ 478,973.00**	**$ 254,781.00**	**$ 200,047.73**
Total Available	**-**		**327,854.27**

Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster

Replenishment Fund

1/7/26

Page 1

Water Year 2025 (October 1 - September 30) / Fiscal Year (January 1 - December 31, 2025)

Balance through November 30, 2025

Replenishment Fund		**2006**	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2016**
Assessment Water Year		WY 05/06	WY 06/07	WY 07/08	WY 08/09	WY 09/10	WY 10/11	WY 11/12	WY 12/13	WY 13/14	WY 14/15	WY 15/16
Unit Cost:	a	$1,132 / $283	$1,132 / $283	$2,485 / 621.25	$3,040 / $760	$2,780 / $695	$2,780 / $695	$2,780 / $695	$2,780 / $695	$2,702/$675.50	$2,702/$675.50	$2,702/$675.50
Cal-Am Water Balance Forward	b	**$ -**	**$ 1,641,004**	**$ 4,226,710**	**$ (2,871,690)**	**$ (2,839,939)**	**$ (3,822,219)**	**$ (6,060,164)**	**$ (8,735,671)**	**$ (6,173,771)**	**$ (3,102,221)**	**$ (676,704)**
Cal-Am Water Production (AF)	c	*3,710.00*	*4,059.90*	*3,862.90*	*2,966.02*	*3,713.52*	*3,416.04*	*3,070.90*	*3,076.61*	*3,232.10*	*2,764.73*	*1,879.21*
Cal-Am Water NSY Over-Production (AF)	d	*1,862.69*	*2,266.32*	*2,092.16*	*1,241.27*	*1,479.47*	*1,146.71*	*820.48*	*856.42*	*1,032.77*	*782.17*	-
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield Considering Alternative Producers	e	$ 2,106,652	$ 2,565,471	$ 5,199,014	$ 3,773,464	$ 4,112,933	$ 3,187,854	$ 2,280,943	$ 2,380,842	$ 2,790,539	$ 2,113,414	-
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	f	**$ -**	$ 20,235	$ 8,511	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 154,963	$ 181,057	$ 281,012	$ 312,103	-
Total California American	g	***$ 2,106,652***	***$ 2,585,706***	***$ 5,207,525***	***$ 3,773,464***	***$ 4,112,933***	***$ 3,187,854***	***$ 2,435,907***	***$ 2,561,899***	***$ 3,071,550***	***$ 2,425,516***	***$ -***
CAW Credit Against Assessment	h	$ (465,648)		$ (12,305,924)	$ (3,741,714)	$ (5,095,213)	$ (5,425,799)	$ (5,111,413)				
CAW Unpaid Balance	i	***$ 1,641,004***	***$ 4,226,710***	***(2,871,690)***	***$ (2,839,939)***	***$ (3,822,219)***	***$ (6,060,164)***	***$ (8,735,671)***	***$ (6,173,771)***	***$ (3,102,221)***	***$ (676,704)***	***$ (676,704)***
City of Seaside Balance Forward	j	**$ -**	**$ 243,294**	**$ 426,165**	**$ 1,024,272**	**$ 1,619,973**	**$ 891,509**	**$ (110,014)**	**$ (773,813)**	**$ (1,575,876)**	**$ (2,889,325)**	**$ (3,346,548)**
City of Seaside Municipal Production (AF)	k	*332.00*	*287.70*	*294.20*	*293.44*	*282.87*	*240.68*	*233.72*	*257.73*	*223.64*	*185.01*	*195.16*
City of Seaside NSY Over-Production (AF)	l	*194.07*	*153.78*	*161.99*	*153.06*	*113.21*	*50.84*	*58.82*	*85.17*	*52.71*	*25.77*	*37.87*
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield Considering Alternative Producers	m	$ 219,689	$ 174,082	$ 402,540	$ 465,300	$ 314,721	$ 141,335	$ 163,509	$ 236,782	$ 142,410	$ 69,630	$ 102,330
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	n	$ 12,622	$ 85	$ 4,225	$ 16,522	$ 20,690	$ -	$ 1,689	$ 27,007	$ 3,222	$ 38	$ 11,959
Total Municipal	o	***$ 232,310***	***$ 174,167***	***$ 406,764***	***$ 481,823***	***$ 335,412***	***$ 141,335***	***$ 165,198***	***$ 263,788***	***$ 145,631***	***$ 69,667***	***$ 114,290***
City of Seaside - Golf Courses (APA - 540 AFY)												
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield - Alternative Producer	p	-	-	$ 131,705	$ 69,701	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	q	-	-	$ 32,926	$ 17,427	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Golf Courses	r	$ -	$ -	$ 164,631	$ 87,128	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total City of Seaside*	s	**$ 232,310**	**$ 174,167**	**$ 571,395**	**$ 568,951**	**$ 335,412**	**$ 141,335**	**$ 165,198**	**$ 263,788**	**$ 145,631**	**$ 69,667**	**$ 114,290**
City of Seaside Late Payment 5%	t	$ 10,984	$ 8,704	$ 26,712	$ 26,750	$ 15,737						
In-lieu Credit Against Assessment	u					$ (1,079,613)	$ (1,142,858)	$ (828,996)	$ (1,065,852)	$ (1,459,080)	$ (526,890)	$ (162)
City of Seaside Unpaid Balance	v	***$ 243,294***	***$ 426,165***	***$ 1,024,272***	***$ 1,619,973***	***$ 891,509***	***$ (110,014)***	***$ (773,813)***	***$ (1,575,876)***	***$ (2,889,325)***	***$ (3,346,548)***	***$ (3,232,420)***
Mission Memorial Park												
Mission Memorial Park Production (AF)	w			*20.80*	*26.40*	*12.80*	*22.40*	*27.00*	*24.95*	*24.89*	*17.97*	*13.67*
Mission Memorial Park NSY Over-Production (AF)	x	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield - Alternative Producer	y	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	z	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Mission Memorial Park	aa	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**
Total Replenishment Fund Balance	bb	**$ 1,884,298**	**$ 4,652,874**	**$ (1,847,417)**	**$ (1,219,966)**	**$ (2,930,710)**	**$ (6,170,178)**	**$ (9,509,483)**	**$ (7,749,648)**	**$ (5,991,546)**	**$ (4,023,252)**	**$ (3,909,125)**
Replenishment Fund Balance Forward	cc	$ -	**$ 1,884,298**	**$ 4,652,874**	**$ (1,847,417)**	**$ (1,219,966)**	**$ (2,930,710)**	**$ (6,170,178)**	**$ (9,509,483)**	**$ (7,749,648)**	**$ (5,991,546)**	**$ (4,023,252)**
Total Replenishment Assessments	dd	$ 2,349,946	$ 2,768,576	$ 5,805,632	$ 4,369,165	$ 4,464,082	$ 3,329,189	$ 2,601,104	$ 2,825,688	$ 3,217,182	$ 2,495,183	$ 114,290
Total Paid and/or Credited	ee	$ (465,648)	$ -	$ (12,305,924)	$ (3,741,714)	$ (6,174,826)	$ (6,568,657)	$ (5,940,409)	$ (1,065,852)	$ (1,459,080)	$ (526,890)	$ (162)
Grand Total Fund Balance	ff	**$ 1,884,298**	**$ 4,652,874**	**$ (1,847,417)**	**$ (1,219,966)**	**$ (2,930,710)**	**$ (6,170,178)**	**$ (9,509,483)**	**$ (7,749,648)**	**$ (5,991,546)**	**$ (4,023,252)**	**$ (3,909,125)**

Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster — 1/7/26

Replenishment Fund — Page 2

Water Year 2025 (October 1 - September 30) / Fiscal Year (January 1 - December 31, 2025)

Balance through November 30, 2025

Replenishment Fund		2017	2018	2019	2020	WY 2021	WY 2022	WY 2023	WY 2024	Totals WY 2006 Through 2024	Budget WY 2025	Projected Totals Through WY 2025
Assessment Water Year		WY 16/17	WY 17/18	WY 18/19	WY 19/20	WY 20/21	WY 21/22	WY 22/23	WY 23/24		WY 24/25	
Unit Cost:	a	$2,872 / $718	$2,872 / $718	$2,872 / $718	$2,872 / $718	$2,947 / $737	$3,260/ $815	$3,461/ $865	$4,529/$1,132		$4,845/$1,211	
Cal-Am Water Balance Forward	b	**$ (676,704)**	**$ (491,747)**	**$ (48,797,949)**	**$ (47,979,852)**	**$ (46,855,121)**	**$ (46,855,121)**	**$ (46,855,121)**	**$ (46,855,121)**		**$ (46,855,121)**	
Cal-Am Water Production (AF)	c	*2,029.51*	*2,229.45*	*2,120.22*	*2,245.88*	*1,664.04*	*1,648.71*	*1,569.60*	*1,594.25*	*50,853.59*		
Cal-Am Water NSY Over-Production (AF)	d	*64.40*	*374.65*	*284.85*	*334.21*	-	-	-		*14,638.57*		
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield Considering Alternative Producers	e	$ 184,957	$ 1,075,995	$ 818,097	$ 959,859	-	-	-	-	$ 33,550,034	-	$ 33,550,034
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	f				164,872	-	-	-	-	$ 1,122,753	-	$ 1,122,753
Total California American	g	**$ 184,957**	**$ 1,075,995**	**$ 818,097**	**$ 1,124,731**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ -**	**-**	**$ 34,672,786**	**-**	**$ 34,672,786**
CAW Credit Against Assessment	h		$ (49,382,196)	-	-	-	-	-	-	$ (81,527,907)	-	$ (81,527,907)
CAW Unpaid Balance	i	***$ (491,747)***	***$ (48,797,949)***	***$ (47,979,852)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***	***$ (46,855,121)***
City of Seaside Balance Forward (120.28 AF)	j	**$ (3,232,420)**	**$ (3,142,500)**	**$ (3,022,249)**	**$ (2,919,806)**	**$ (2,802,831)**	**$ (2,708,829)**	**$ (2,661,184)**	**$ (2,661,184)**		**$ (2,661,184)**	
City of Seaside Municipal Production (AF)	k	*188.31*	*184.63*	*178.40*	*181.65*	*174.69*	*155.12*	*158.46*		*4,047.41*		
City of Seaside NSY Over-Production (AF)	l	*30.47*	*32.46*	*27.82*	*32.06*	*25.52*	*11.69*	-		*1,247.31*		
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield Considering Alternative Producers	m	$ 87,512	$ 93,225	$ 79,893	$ 92,089	$ 75,197	$ 38,116	-	0.00	$ 2,898,358	0.00	$ 2,898,358
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	n	2,409	27,026	22,550	24,886	18,806	9,529	-	0.00	$ 203,263	0.00	$ 203,263
Total Municipal	o	$ 89,920	$ 120,251	$ 102,443	$ 116,975	$ 94,002	$ 47,645	$ -	0.00	$ 3,101,621	0.00	$ 3,101,621
City of Seaside - Golf Courses (APA - 540 AFY)												
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield - Alternative Producer	p	-	-	-	-	-	-			$ 201,406		$ 201,406
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	q	-	-	-	-	-	-			$ 50,353		$ 50,353
Total Golf Courses	r	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -		$ 251,759		$ 251,759
Total City of Seaside*	s	**$ 89,920**	**$ 120,251**	**$ 102,443**	**$ 116,975**	**$ 94,002**	**$ 47,645**	**-**	**0.00**	**$ 3,353,380**	**0.00**	**$ 3,353,380**
City of Seaside Late Payment 5%	t									$ 88,887		$ 88,887
In-lieu Credit Against Assessment	u									$ (6,103,451)		$ (6,103,451)
City of Seaside Unpaid Balance	v	***$ (3,142,500)***	***$ (3,022,249)***	***$ (2,919,806)***	***$ (2,802,831)***	***$ (2,708,829)***	***$ (2,661,184)***	***$ (2,661,184)***	***$ (2,661,184)***	***$ (2,661,184)***	***$ (2,661,184)***	***$ (2,661,184)***
Mission Memorial Park (APA - 31 AFY)												
Mission Memorial Park Production (AF)	w	*13.74*	*14.43*	*16.07*	*20.00*	*46.77*	*33.95*			*335.84*		
Mission Memorial Park NSY Over-Production (AF)	x	-	-	-		*15.77*	*2.95*			*18.72*		
Exceeding Natural Safe Yield - Alternative Producer	y	-	-	-	-	$ 46,488	$ 9,608			$ 56,096		$ 56,096
Operating Yield Overproduction Replenishment	z	-	-	-	-	11,626.00	2,401.97			$ 14,028		$ 14,028
Board Approved (5/4/22) Credit Against Assessment						(33,114.00)				$ (33,114)		$ (33,114)
$8,500 Applied to Admin Fund to cover expenses						(8,500.00)						
Mission Memorial Park Unpaid Balance	aa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	$ -	-	$ -
Total	o	***$ -***	***$ -***	***$ -***	***$ -***	***$ 16,500***	***$ 12,010***	***$ (16,500)***	***$ (12,010)***	***$ (0)***	***$ -***	***$ (0)***
Balance of Available Funds								***$ 16,500***	***$ 22,461***	$ 38,961	***$ 16,521***	
Total Replenishment Fund Balance	bb	**$ (3,634,247)**	**$ (51,820,198)**	**$ (50,899,658)**	**$ (49,657,952)**	**$ (49,563,950)**	**$ (49,516,305)**	**$ (49,538,853)**	**$ (49,528,315)**	**$ (49,477,344)**	**$ (49,532,702)**	**$ (49,532,702)**
Replenishment Fund Balance Forward	cc	**$ (3,909,125)**	**$ (3,634,247)**	**$ (51,820,198)**	**$ (50,899,658)**	**$ (49,657,952)**	**$ (49,563,950)**	**$ (49,516,305)**	**$ (49,522,353)**		**$ (49,532,702)**	
Total Replenishment Assessments	dd	$ 274,877	$ 1,196,246	$ 920,540	$ 1,241,706	$ 110,502	$ 59,655	$ -	$ -	$ 38,143,563	$ -	**$ 38,143,563**
Total Paid and/or Credited	ee		$ (49,382,196)			$ (16,500)	$ (12,010)			(87,659,868)		**(87,659,868)**
Total Paid for Replenishment Legal Services	ff							$ (6,049)	(10,349)	(16,398)	(16,521)	**(32,919)**
Grand Total Fund Balance	gg	***$ (3,634,247)***	***$ (51,820,198)***	***$ (50,899,658)***	***$ (49,657,952)***	***$ (49,563,950)***	***$ (49,516,305)***	***$ (49,522,353)***	***$ (49,532,702)***	***$ (49,532,702)***	***$ (49,549,223)***	***$ (49,549,223)***

SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN
WATERMASTER

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Robert S. Jaques, Technical Program Manager

DATE: January 7, 2026

SUBJECT: Consider Approving the Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report for 2025

- -

RECOMMENDATIONS:
It is recommended that the Board approve the Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report for WY 2025.

BACKGROUND:
Montgomery & Associates has prepared the Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report (SIAR) for Water Year 2025. 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.

At its December 10, 2025 meeting the TAC received a presentation on the Draft version of the 2025 SIAR, found it to be satisfactory as-is, and did not recommend making any changes to it. The Draft document thus became the Final version. The TAC recommended that it be sent to the Board with the TAC's recommendation for approval. The Executive Summary from the WY 2025 SIAR is attached. The complete SIAR is lengthy, so rather than including it in this agenda packet it has been posted on the Watermaster's website so Board members and members of the public wishing to review the entire document can do so. The website link is:
https://seasidegroundwaterbasinwatermaster.wpcomstaging.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2025-Seawater-Intrusion-Analysis-Report.pdf

DISCUSSION
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.

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.

ATTACHMENTS:
Executive Summary from the WY 2025 Seawater Intrusion Analysis Report

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 GROUNDWATER BASIN
WATERMASTER

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Robert S. Jaques, Technical Program Manager

DATE: January 7, 2026

SUBJECT: Discussion/Consider Approving Watermaster Annual Report for WY 2025

- -

RECOMMENDATIONS:
It is recommended that the Board approve the Watermaster Annual Report for WY 2025.

BACKGROUND:
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. This document summarizes and provides information on all of the Watermaster's principal activities of the year, and as required by the Decision is organized into the following Sections:

A. Groundwater Extractions
B. Groundwater Storage
C. Amount of Artificial Replenishment, if any, performed by Watermaster
D. Leases or sales of Production Allocation and Administrative Actions
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
F. Violations of the Decision and any corrective actions taken
G. Watermaster administrative costs
H. Replenishment Assessments
I. All components of the Watermaster budget
J. Water Quality Monitoring and Basin Management
K. Conclusions and Recommendations

DISCUSSION:
A Preliminary Draft of the Annual Report was presented to the TAC for its review and input at the TAC's December 10, 2025 meeting. The TAC requested some clarifying revisions to it, and recommended that with those revisions made, the Report be forwarded to the Board for its approval.

Due to its large file size, a complete copy of the Final Draft 2025 Annual Report cannot be included with the agenda packet. However, a copy of the body of the Final Draft is attached. The complete Final Draft version is posted on the Watermaster's website at:
https://seasidegroundwaterbasinwatermaster.wpcomstaging.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2025-Annual-Report-Draft.pdf

The Draft version of the Annual Report will be made into a Final version, reflecting any comments or recommendations from the Board at today's meeting. The Final version will be submitted to the Court not later than the January 15, 2026 submittal deadline established by the Court. Due to the length of the Annual Report, rather than making a presentation at today's meeting, Staff will respond to questions about the Annual Report from the Board and the Public.

ATTACHMENTS: Body of the Final Draft version of the Watermaster 2025 Annual Report.

Draft

SEASIDE BASIN WATERMASTER ANNUAL REPORT – 2025

December 11, 2025

Table of Contents

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.

Effective January 1, 2026 the Watermaster will have a new Administrative Officer, Toni Gibbs, and the new contact information for the Watermaster will be:

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1271, Seaside, CA 93955-9998
Telephone: 831-649-9916

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:

Producer	Carryover Credit (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:

MEMBER	ALTERNATE	REPRESENTING
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 1.

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 Revised Final Draft *Update of the Seawater Intrusion Response Plan*, which the Board approved at its October 1, 2025 meeting, is further revised once the Seaside Basin Groundwater Model has been updated or replaced with a new model developed under Task I.3.a.1. Updating or replacing the Model is not expected to be completed until late in 2026. The location of additional monitoring wells, if any are needed, would not be determined until after that work has been completed. 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 Vally 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 Revised Final Draft *Update of the Seawater Intrusion Response Plan* has been further revised following updating or replacing the Seaside Basin Groundwater Model as discussed above. That is expected to occur in late 2026. 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 SPERRS 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, M1W 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 M1W.

As discussed in the 2024 Annual Report, in June 2022 MCWRA notified M1W 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 M1W 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 M1W 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, M1W, 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
M1W - 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 GROUNDWATER BASIN
WATERMASTER

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Robert S. Jaques, Technical Program Manager

DATE: January 7, 2026

SUBJECT: Deep Aquifers Monitoring Plan and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Authorize the Technical Program Manager to execute the attached Memorandum of Understanding for implementing the Deep Aquifers Monitoring Plan.

BACKGROUND:
In 2024, Montgomery & Associates completed the Deep Aquifers Study (Study) for the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) and collaborative funding partners, which included Alisal Water Company, California Water Service, Castroville Community Services District, the City of Salinas, the County of Monterey, Irrigated Agriculture, the Marina Coast Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MCWDGSA), and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA).

The Study addresses critical questions regarding the geology and hydrogeology of the Salinas Valley's Deep Aquifers and provides a scientific basis for sustainable management. The Study included recommendations for refining existing monitoring networks to track trends, identify changes, and enhance the understanding of groundwater conditions in the Deep Aquifers which, as defined in the Study, are present within portions of the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin, the Forebay Subbasin, the Monterey Subbasin, and the Seaside Subbasin, and adjacent to/abutting the Eastside Aquifer Subbasin and Langley Subbasin, within the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin.

DISCUSSION:
In response to the Study recommendations related to monitoring the Deep Aquifers, the MCWRA has jointly prepared a Monitoring Plan for the Deep Aquifers in the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin (Monitoring Plan) with input from SVBGSA, County of Monterey Health Department (Environmental Health Bureau), MCWDGSA, Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) and the Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster (SGBW). SVBGSA's Groundwater Technical Advisory Committee also reviewed the Monitoring Plan. The Monitoring Plan captures, in a single document, the type and frequency of existing monitoring of the Deep Aquifers that is conducted by the MCWRA, in partnership with SVBGSA on the Groundwater Monitoring Program, the MCWDGSA, MPWMD and SGBW. The Monitoring Plan also presents an approach for enhancing and expanding monitoring of groundwater levels, groundwater quality, and groundwater extraction in the Deep Aquifers to minimize or eliminate data gaps and improve the collective regional understanding of conditions in the Deep Aquifers, Attachment 1.

There are several groundwater management agencies spanning the Deep Aquifers. Each agency has its own governance and performs various monitoring tasks throughout the Deep Aquifers. The purpose of the MOU is to generally describe each agency's respective activities, and the respective commitments to cooperate towards implementation of the Monitoring Plan, including the annual sharing of data and reevaluation of the Monitoring Plan to make adjustments, as appropriate, as new information emerges. The MOU also provides

each participating agency's governing body and the public at large a non-technical explanation of the roles of each agency and the cooperation necessary to better implement the Monitoring Plan.

Monitoring, data collection, reporting, and sharing of information among agencies are essential activities that support sound and sustainable groundwater management decisions. Each agency party to the MOU relies upon the monitoring activities of other agencies to help inform groundwater management decisions within each agency's jurisdiction that affects the shared Deep Aquifers resource. In addition to the agencies who are party to the MOU, the County of Monterey is responsible for land use decisions in unincorporated areas, and its Health Department is responsible for the permitting of construction, repair, destruction, and reconstruction of wells. The County of Monterey can also benefit from the Monitoring Plan and collaboration envisioned by the MOU.

I had the Watermaster's legal counsel Joe Hughes review a draft version of this document because I was not comfortable with some of the proposed language. He agreed with me, and he recommended some changes in the language regarding Indemnification an**d** Data Use and Warranty Disclaimer which is incorporated in the attached MOU. I am now comfortable with the language.

There will be no fiscal or other impact on the Watermaster as a result of executing the MOU, since the data the Watermaster will be sharing is data which the Watermaster is already collecting on an ongoing basis.

ATTACHMENTS:
Memorandum of Understanding for the Monitoring Plan for the Deep Aquifers

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
MONITORING PLAN FOR THE DEEP AQUIFERS

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is effective upon the date executed by the last signatory hereto, by and between the MONTEREY COUNTY WATER RESOURCES AGENCY ("MCWRA"), the SALINAS VALLEY BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ("SVBGSA"), the MARINA COAST WATER DISTRICT GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ("MCWDGSA"), the SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN WATERMASTER ("SGBW") and the MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ("MPWMD"), all individually referred to as an "AGENCY" and collectively referred to as "AGENCIES".

RECITALS

The Deep Aquifers Study ("Study") was prepared by Montgomery and Associates in April 2024 for the SVBGSA and collaborative funding partners[1] to address crucial questions regarding the geology and hydrogeology of the Salinas Valley's Deep Aquifers and provide a scientific basis for sustainable management.

The Study defines the Deep Aquifers as the water-bearing sediments that are below a relatively continuous aquitard or area of higher clay content encountered between approximately 500 feet and 900 feet below land surface within the portions of the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin within Monterey County. The relatively continuous high-clay aquitard, or 400/Deep Aquitard, must be below the identified 400-Foot Aquifer or its stratigraphic equivalent, and the sediments must be within the Paso Robles Formation, Purisima Formation, and/or Santa Margarita Sandstone.

As defined in the Study, the Deep Aquifers are present within portions of the 180/400-Ft. Aquifer Subbasin, the Monterey Subbasin, the Seaside Subbasin and the Forebay Subbasin, all located within the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin;

The Study provided recommendations for the monitoring of the Deep Aquifers, and, in cooperation with the AGENCIES, MCWRA has developed a Monitoring Plan for the Deep Aquifers ("Monitoring Plan") to cover the entire Deep Aquifers extent across multiple groundwater management jurisdictions. The Monitoring Plan considers and includes monitoring activities that are already being conducted and data that is collected by the AGENCIES and will be evaluated annually to consider future actions.

Monitoring, data collection, reporting, and sharing of information among AGENCIES are essential activities that support sound and sustainable groundwater management decisions. Each AGENCY party to this MOU relies upon the monitoring activities of other AGENCIES to help inform groundwater management decisions within each AGENCY'S jurisdiction that affects the shared Deep Aquifers resource. In addition, the County of Monterey is responsible for land use decisions in unincorporated areas, and its Health Department is responsible for the permitting for construction, repair, destruction, and reconstruction of wells. Each can also benefit from the Monitoring Plan and collaboration envisioned by this MOU.

[1] The Deep Aquifers Study collaborative funding partners were SVBGSA, MCWRA. MCWDGSA, County of Monterey, Alisal Water Company, California Water Service, Castroville Community Services District, City of Salinas, and Irrigated Agriculture.

AGREEMENT

1) Monitoring Program.

a) Each AGENCY, through its individual and independent authorities, agrees to cooperate with the implementation of a Monitoring Plan, as it may be revised from time to time through this MOU, to improve understanding and inform management decisions affecting the shared Deep Aquifers resource;

b) In the Monterey Subbasin Marina-Ord Management Area and within MCWDGSA's jurisdiction, MCWDGSA will collect Deep Aquifers data and share that data with MCWRA in a readily accessible format at least annually;

c) In the Seaside subbasin and within SGBW's jurisdiction, the SGBW will collect Deep Aquifers data and share that data with MCWRA by including it in its Seawater Intrusion Analysis Reports, which are posted to SGBW's website at least annually;

d) In the Seaside Groundwater Basin and within MPWMD's jurisdiction, MPWMD will collect Deep Aquifers data and share that data with MCWRA in a readily accessible format at least annually;

e) Within SVBGSA areas of jurisdiction, MCWRA will collect Deep Aquifers data as part of the Groundwater Monitoring Program;

f) MCWRA will compile the data and make it available to the AGENCIES as requested for annual reporting or other purposes related to implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans or similar groundwater management activities in the adjudicated Seaside Basin.

2) Term.

a) This MOU shall go into effect upon the date executed by the last signatory hereto, and shall remain in effect until withdrawal of the second to last AGENCY, per section 4 of this MOU.

b) Prior to the start of each water year (October 1), the AGENCIES will convene to review the efficacy of the Monitoring Plan and make recommended changes, if any, to the data collection, sharing, and/or reporting for the upcoming year, by consensus of the participating AGENCIES.

3) Monitoring Program Costs.

a) The AGENCIES will be responsible for covering the costs of data collection within their respective jurisdictions at no cost to the other AGENCIES.

4) Withdrawal.

a) Any AGENCY may withdraw from this MOU for any reason or no reason by giving written notice of termination to the other AGENCIES at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of termination, which date shall be specified in any such notice.

5) Indemnification.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, each AGENCY shall indemnify and hold harmless, but shall have no duty to defend, the other AGENCIES and their directors, officers, employees, and agents from and against third-party Claims to the extent finally determined (by agreement, settlement, or final judgment) to have been caused by that AGENCY's gross negligence or willful misconduct in performing this MOU. No AGENCY shall have any obligation to indemnify or defend against claims arising from another AGENCY's acts or omissions, or from such other AGENCY's review, interpretation, reliance upon, or use of data provided under this MOU. The parties expressly waive any implied duty to defend prior to such final determination

and do not intend to expand or waive any immunities, defenses, or limitations of liability available under applicable law.

6) Confidentiality.

AGENCIES shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, which provide for the confidentiality of records and other information. AGENCIES shall not disclose any confidential records or other confidential information received from others or prepared in connection with the performance of this MOU, unless specifically permitted to disclose such records or information by law or court order. AGENCIES shall promptly notify other AGENCIES about all requests for disclosure of any such confidential records or information. AGENCIES shall not use any confidential information gained in the performance of this MOU except for the sole purpose of carrying out obligations under this MOU

7) Data Use and Warranty Disclaimer.

All data exchanged under this MOU is provided AS IS, with no representation or warranty (express or implied) as to accuracy, completeness, currency, merchantability, or fitness for a particular purpose. Each receiving AGENCY is solely responsible for validating and determining the appropriate use of any data it receives.

8) Miscellaneous Provisions.

a) Amendment. This MOU may be amended or modified only by an instrument in writing signed by the AGENCIES.

b) Authority. Any individual executing this MOU on behalf of an AGENCY represents and warrants hereby that he or she has the requisite authority to enter into this MOU on behalf of such party and bind the party to the terms and conditions of this MOU.

c) Benefit. This MOU shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the AGENCIES and their respective successors, assigns and, if applicable, heirs and administrators.

d) Counterparts. This MOU may be executed in multiple originals and by counterpart.

e) Governing Law. This MOU shall be construed under the laws of the State of California.

f) Headings. The headings in this MOU are for convenience of reference only and are not part of the substance hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement on the day and year first written above.

MCWRA	SVBGSA
By: _____	By: _____
Ara Azhderian, General Manager Monterey County Water Resources Agency 1441 Schilling Place, North Bldg. Salinas, CA 93901 AzhderianA@countyofmonterey.gov	Piret Harmon, General Manager Salinas Valley Basin GSA PO Box 1350 Carmel Valley, CA 93924 harmonp@svbgsa.org

MCWDGSA

By: _____

Remleh Scherzinger, General Manager
Marina Coast Water District GSA
ADDRESS
Marina, CA 93901
RScherzinger@mcwd.org

Seaside Watermaster

By: _____

Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager
Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster
P.O. Box 51502
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
bobj83@comcast.net

MPWMD

By: _____

David Stoldt, General Manager
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
5 Harris Ct.
Monterey, CA 93940
dstoldt@mpwmd.net

ITEM IX
1/7/2026

SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN WATERMASTER

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Laura Paxton/Toni Gibbs, Administrative Officer

DATE: January 7, 2026

SUBJECT: Corrected: Watermaster Water Year 2026 Declaration of **NO** Replenishment Water Available

PURPOSE: To notify all Seaside Groundwater Basin producers that the Watermaster has revised its Declaration for Water Year 2026 that **NO** Artificial Replenishment Water is available to offset Over-Production in excess of Basin Operating Yield

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RECOMMENDATION:
Consider approving revised Water Year 2026 Declaration of No Artificial Replenishment Water Available.

DISCUSSION:
The Court has declared in Section III L 3 j iii of the adjudication Decision that in the event Watermaster cannot procure Artificial Replenishment Water to offset Operating Yield Over-Production during the ensuing Water Year that the Watermaster Board shall so declare in December that no Operating Yield Over-Production then in effect may occur during the ensuing Water Year.

Watermaster has determined that there is no foreseeable replenishment water available for Water Year 2026.

In the original declaration provided at the previous board meeting, the unused portion of the City of Seaside's golf course alternative allocation was incorrectly allocated to Standard Producers. The City of Seaside did not use its allocation from the Seaside Basin but purchased water from Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) through an In-Lieu program. As a result, the unused portion of the In-Lieu allocation should not be given to Standard Producers as regular unused portions of Alternative Producers' allocations are. The amount of allocation equivalent to what MCWD provides will remain in the basin and count toward the City of Seaside's water storage available to its municipal system.

The allocation for 2026 were recalculated as a result of this discovery.

If replenishment water becomes available in Water Year 2026, a revised Declaration will be issued.

ATTACHMENTS
1) Revised 2026 Declaration of Unavailability of Replenishment Water with production limits
2) 2020 Declaration of Useable Storage Space in the Basin
3) Corrected Calculations for Allocations

NOTICE TO ALL SEASIDE GROUNDWATER PRODUCERS:

Case No. M66343 Amended Decision Section III.B.2.

Commencing with the fourth Water Year, and triennially thereafter, the Operating Yield for both Subareas will be decreased by ten percent (10%) until Operating Yield is the equivalent of the Natural Safe Yield unless:

a. *The Watermaster has secured and is adding an equivalent amount of Non-Native water to the Basin on an annual basis; or*
b. *The Watermaster has secured reclaimed water in an equivalent amount and has contracted with one or more of the Producers to utilize said water in lieu of their Production Allocation, with the Producer agreeing to forego their right to claim a Stored Water Credit for such forbearance; or*
c. *Any combination of a and b above which results in the decrease in Production of Native Water required by this Decision; or*
d. *The Watermaster has determined that Groundwater levels within the Santa Margarita and Paso Robles aquifers are at sufficient levels to ensure a positive offshore gradient to prevent seawater intrusion.*

The Watermaster has determined that the conditions necessary to avoid the ten percent Operating Yield reduction have not been met as follows:

1. Watermaster has not secured water for adding an equivalent amount of Non-Native water to the Basin on an annual basis.
2. The Watermaster has not secured reclaimed water in an equivalent amount.
3. The Watermaster has not secured Non-Native water or reclaimed water that results in the decrease in Production of Native Water required by the Decision.
4. The firm contracted by Watermaster for technical analyses continued to report in 2019 that Groundwater levels within the Santa Margarita and Paso Robles aquifers are not at sufficient levels to ensure a positive offshore gradient to prevent seawater intrusion, so the requirement for this item continues to not be met.

Section III.L.3.j.iii: Watermaster declares that for Water Year 2026 Artificial Replenishment Water is not available to offset Operating Yield Over-Production and producers are limited in production to the following quantities of water [(1)]:

Coastal Subarea Alternative Producers:

Seaside (Golf)	540.00 acre-feet
SNG.....	90.00 acre-feet
Mountain Lake Development Corp	59.00 acre-feet
Cypress (Calabrese)	6.00 acre-feet
Mission Memorial (Alderwood)	31.00 acre-feet
Sand City	9.00 acre-feet

Laguna Seca Subarea Alternative Producers:

The Club at Pasadera	251.00 acre-feet
Bishop	320.00 acre-feet
York School	32.00 acre-feet
Laguna Seca County Park	41.00 acre-feet

Coastal Subarea Standard Producers:

California American Water.....	2,388.25 acre-feet*
Seaside (Municipal).....	120.28 acre-feet**
Granite Rock	305.05 acre-feet***
D.B.O. Development 30	534.83 acre-feet****
Cypress (Calabrese).....	17.66 acre-feet*****

Laguna Seca Subarea Standard Producers:

California American Water.....	0.0 acre-feet

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(1) "Free" and "Not-free" carryover was a function of ramp down in production; now that ramp down is complete and NSY = Operating Yield, carryover is no longer divided into "Free and Not-free" (NSY and Operating Yield) carryover.

* Total is the 2026 base allocation of 1,466.03 acre-feet, plus transferred credits of 3.17 & 5.29 acre-feet plus 913.76 of carryover. California American Water has a positive balance of 6,552.47 acre-feet of stored water credit at WY-end 2023 from Basin injections exceeding extractions since WY 2010 under the CAW/MPWMD ASR Program, formalized through a Storage Agreement in 2012; and under the CAW/M1W Pure Water Monterey Program formalized through a storage agreement in 2019.

** Total is the 2026 base allocation of 120.28 acre-feet with no carryover.

*** Total is the 2026 base allocation of 11.35 acre-feet plus 293.70 acre-feet of carryover credit from previous water years.

**** Total is the 2026 base allocation of 20.59 acre-feet plus 519.53 acre-feet of carryover credit from previous water years, minus 5.29 in transferred water rights.

***** Total is the 2026 base allocation of 2.76 acre-feet plus 18.07 acre-feet of carryover credit from previous water years, minus 3.17 acre-feet in transferred water rights.

NOTICE TO ALL SEASIDE GROUNDWATER PRODUCERS

Pursuant to Section III.3.L.3.j.xix of the Amended Decision Filed February 2, 2007 in the Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the County of Monterey, Case No. M66343 (the "Decision"), the Seaside Basin Watermaster hereby Declares that the Total Usable Storage Space in the Seaside Groundwater Basin ("Basin") is as follows:

Total Usable Storage Space in the Coastal and Northern Inland Subareas is 75,610 acre-feet.
Total Usable Storage Space in the Laguna Seca Subarea is 28,560 acre-feet.
Total Usable Storage Space in the entire Seaside Groundwater Basin is 104,170 acre-feet.

Pursuant to Section III.B.3.b of the Decision, Alternative Producers do not receive a storage allocation, only Standard Producers receive such an allocation. Pursuant to Section III.H.2 of the Decision, the Seaside Basin Watermaster further Declares that the Total Usable Storage Space in the Basin shall be allocated to the Standard Producers, who are identified in the Decision, as follows:

	Current Allocation (Using Table 1 of the Decision)		
Producer	**Operating Yield Allocation Percentage (1)**	**Usable Storage Allocation Percentage (2)**	**Useable Storage Allocation Acre-Feet**
Coastal and Northern Inland Subareas			
California American Water (3)	77.55%	90.44%	68,382
City of Seaside (Municipal)	6.36%	7.42%	5,610
Granite Rock Company	0.60%	0.70%	529
DBO Development No. 27	1.09%	1.27%	960
Calabrese (Cypress Pacific Investors LLC)	0.15%	0.17%	129
SUBAREAS TOTAL	**85.75%**	**100.00%**	**75,610**
Laguna Seca Subarea			
California American Water (3)	45.13%	100.00%	28,560
SUBAREA TOTAL	**45.13%**	**100%**	**28,560**
BASIN TOTAL		**100%**	**104,170**

Footnotes:
(1) From Table 1 on page 19 of the Decision.
(2) Calculated as each Standard Producer's percentage of the total Standard Producers' operating yield allocation percentages within each subarea.
(3) CAW's Usable Storage Allocation is subject to the provisions and requirements of Section III.H.3 of the Decision.

Pursuant to Section III.H.6 of the Decision, no Producer may store water in the Basin without first executing with the Watermaster a Storage and Recovery Agreement. *Nov 2, 2019*

WATERMASTER PRODUCER ALLOCATIONS WATER YEAR 2025 IN ACRE-FEET (AF)

TRIENNIEL REDUCTION FINAL END OF WATER YEAR 2021 TO 3,000 AFY

Initial Basin-Wide Operating Yield [1]	**3000.00**	**Coastal Operating Yield.** [1]	**2356.00**
Natural Safe Yield (NSY) [2]	**3000.00**	**Laguna Seca Operating Yield.** [1]	**644.00**

ALTERNATIVE PRODUCER ALLOCATIONS

Coastal Subarea [3]	AF	Laguna Seca Subarea [3]	AF
Seaside (Golf)	540.00	Nicklaus Club Monterey	251.00
SNG(90) / MLD (59)	149.00	Bishop	320.00
Calabrese	6.00	York School	32.00
Mission Memorial (Alderwood)	31.00	Laguna Seca County Park	41.00
Sand City	9.00		
Total[1]	**735.00**	**Total**[1]	**644.00**

ALTERNATIVE PRODUCER AMOUNT PUMPED WY 2025

Coastal Subarea [3]	AF	Laguna Seca Subarea [3]	AF	Total Alternative Producer WY 2025 Production
Seaside (Golf)	1.19	The Club at Pasadera	251.00	
SNG/MLD	0.00	Bishop	274.34	
Calabrese	0.00	York School	18.87	
Mission Memorial (Alderwood)	0.00	Laguna Seca County Park	28.36	
Sand City	1.00			
Total[1]	**2.19**	**Total**[1]	**572.57**	**574.76**

STANDARD PRODUCER ALLOCATIONS

Coastal Operating Yield Available to Standard Producers (AF)			**1621.00**	**Laguna Seca Operating Yield Available to Standard Producers (AF)**			**0.00**
Coastal Subarea	**Standard Producer Allocations**		**AF Available to This Producer**	**Laguna Seca Subarea**	**Standard Producer Allocations**		**AF Available to This Producer**
	Base Water Right % [4]	**Weighted %.** [5]			**Base Water Right %** [4]	**Weighted %.** [5]	
California American Water (CAW)	77.55%	90.44%	1,466.03	CAW	45.13%	100.00%	0.00
Seaside (Municipal)	6.36%	7.42%	120.28				
Granite Rock	0.60%	0.70%	11.35				
D.B.O. Development No. 30	1.09%	1.27%	20.59				
Calabrese (Cypress Pacific Investors LLC)	0.15%	0.17%	2.76				
Total	**85.75%**	**100.0%**	**1,621.00**	**Total**	**45.13%**	**100.0%**	**0.00**

Allocation of Available Operating Yield Among Standard Producers	**Base Water Right Available to this Producer (AF)**	**% NSY to SPA (Base Water Right ./. Total Water Right)**	**% NSY to SPA * APA Non-production**[7]	**Carryover Credits from Prior Water Year (6)**	**Water Rights Transferred / Sold DBO to CAW**	**Water Rights Transferred / Sold Calabrese to CAW Ryan Ranch CHOMP**	**Water Rights Transferred / Sold City of Seaside to CAW Ascent (Seaborn) Apartments**	**Total Authorized Production Current WY (Total Authorized NSY Production + Water Rights Transferred/Sold)**	**Actual AF Pumped by Producer in WY 2025**	**Seaside In-lieu to Muni Allocation**	**Carryover** [8] **Credits to WY 2026**	**Stored Water Credits to WY 2026**
		NSY 3000 - 574.76 - 422.72 AF =	WY 2023 APA Pumped 574.76 AF City of Seaside Golf Course Recycle 422.72 AF 2002.52									
California American Water	1,466.03	90.44%	1,811.08	556.66	5.29	3.17	0.00	2,376.20	1,462.44		913.76	7,459.80
Seaside (Municipal)	120.28	7.42%	148.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	148.58	194.44	45.86	0.00	1,194.35
Granite Rock	11.35	0.70%	14.02	279.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	293.70	0.00		293.70	0.00
D.B.O. Development No. 30	20.59	1.27%	25.44	499.39	(5.29)	0.00	0.00	519.53	0.00		519.53	0.00
Calabrese (Cypress Pacific Investors LLC)	2.76	0.17%	3.40	17.84	0.00	(3.17)	0.00	18.07	0.00		18.07	0.00
Total	**1,621.00**	**100.00%**	**3,814.50**	**1,353.56**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**3,356.08**	**1,656.88**	**45.86**	**1,745.06**	**8,654.15**

Footnotes:
(1) From page 17 of Exhibit A (Amended Decision)of Court Order filed February 9, 2007.
(2) From page 14 of Exhibit A (Amended Decision)of Court Order filed February 9, 2007.
(3) From page 21 of Exhibit A (Amended Decision)of Court Order filed February 9, 2007.
(4) From Table 1 on page 19 of Exhibit A (Amended Decision) of Court Order filed February 9, 2007.
(5) Calculated from the Base Water Right percentages in the adjacent column. Any discrepancy in totals is due to rounding.
(6) Carryover is capped at each producer storage capacity. In 2019, Base Water Right plus Carryover Credit had caps increased due to increase in storage allocations (see 2020 Declaration of Usable Storage Space)
(7) Commencing Water Year 2021 Natural Safe Yield = Operating Yield of 3,000AF. Therefore, the remainder of 3,000AF - APA production is applied to both NSY & OY Standard Producer allocations
(8) "Free" and "Not-free" carryover was a function of ramp down in production; now that rampdown is complete and NSY = Operating Yield, carryover is no longer divided into "Free and Not-free" (NSY and Operating Yield) carryover.
Note: Calabrese (Cypress Pacific Investors LLC) opted to convert 8AF of its 14AF Alternative Production Allocation to Standard Production Allocation on January 22, 2015 (notice filed by Cypress with Superior Court).

CALCULATION OF REPLENISHMENT ASSESSMENTS WATER YEAR 2025

Using the Basin-wide methodology approved by the Court on January 12, 2007, and as shown in detail on the spreadsheet contained in this attachement, Watermaster calculated the Water Year (WY) (October 1st through September 30th) 2025 Replenisment Assessments as follows:

2025 Replenishment Assessment NSY Overproduction Unit Charge =	$4,845.21
2025 Replenishment Assessment OSY Overproduction Unit Charge =	$1,211.30

Volume of NSY Available = Base water right + (% of NSY available x APA allocation underproduction [2,002.5]) + carryover

Operating Yield Available = NSY Available + Water Rights Transferred/Sold

Standard Producers	WY 2025 Production (AF)	Volume of NSY Available (AF)	Volume of NSY Available Plus NSY Carryover (AF)	NSY Overproduction (AF)	NSY Overproduction Assessment	Operating Yield (Equals NSY) (AF)	Operating Yield Overproduction (AF)	Operating Yield Overproduction Assessment	Total Assessment
California American Water	1,462.44	1,811.08	2,367.74	-	$ -	2,376.20	-	$ -	$ -
Seaside (Municipal)	148.58	148.59	148.58	-	-	148.58	-	-	-
Granite Rock	-	14.02	293.70	-	-	293.70	-	-	-
D.B.O. Development No. 30	-	25.44	524.82	-	-	519.53	-	-	-
Calabrese (Cypress Pacific Inv.)	-	3.40	21.24	-	-	18.07	-	-	-
Total Production	**1,611.02**	**2,002.52**	**3,356.08**	**-**	**$ -**	**3,356.08**	**-**	**$ -**	**$ -**

Alternative Producers	WY 2025 Production (AF)	% of NSY Available	Volume of NSY Available (AF)	NSY Overproduction (AF)	NSY Overproduction Assessment	Operating Yield Available (AF)	Operating Yield Overproduction (AF)	Operating Yield Overproduction Assessment	Total Assessment
City of Seaside (Golf Courses)	1.19	N/A	540.00	0.00	$ -	540.00	0.00	$ -	$ -
Security National Guaranty	-	N/A	90.00	0.00	-	90.00	0.00	-	-
Mountainlake Development LLC	-	N/A	59.00	0.00	-	59.00	0.00	-	-
Calabrese (Cypress Pacific Inv.)	-	N/A	6.00	0.00	-	6.00	0.00	-	-
Mission Memorial (Alderwoods)	-	N/A	31.00	0.00	-	31.00	0.00	-	-
City of Sand City	1.00	N/A	9.00	0.00	-	9.00	0.00	-	-
The Club at Pasadera	251.00	N/A	251.00	0.00	-	251.00	0.00	-	-
Laguna Seca Golf Resort (Bishop)	274.34	N/A	320.00	0.00	-	320.00	0.00	-	-
York School	18.87	N/A	32.00	0.00	-	32.00	0.00	-	-
Laguna Seca County Park	28.36	N/A	41.00	0.00	-	41.00	0.00	-	-
Total Production	**574.76**	**N/A**	**1,379.00**	**0.00**	**$ -**	**1,379.00**	**0.00**	**$ -**	**$ -**

SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN WATERMASTER

Reported Quarterly and Annual Water Production From the Seaside Groundwater Basin

(All Values in Acre-Feet [AF])

	Type	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct-Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan-Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Apr-Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Jul-Sep	Reported Total	Yield Allocation	from WY 2024	for WY 2025
Coastal Subareas																					
CAW - Coastal Subareas	SPA	240.17	27.59	32.10	**299.86**	201.99	(72.94)	101.00	**230.05**	70.86	10.90	171.52	**253.27**	102.14	182.23	275.00	**559.37**	**1,342.55**	1,466.03	556.66	2,022.69
Luzern		53.64	6.91	(0.00)	**60.55**	0.00	9.79	0.00	**9.79**	0.00	0.00	24.26	**24.26**	16.50	0.00	51.95	**68.45**	**163.05**			
Ord Grove		132.32	117.05	87.89	**337.26**	124.28	113.48	126.73	**364.49**	94.91	55.34	125.42	**275.67**	129.14	123.65	120.21	**373.00**	**1,350.42**			
Paralta		162.68	95.25	87.02	**344.95**	152.20	145.89	159.32	**457.41**	120.00	135.51	166.97	**422.48**	211.38	210.67	176.40	**598.45**	**1,823.28**			
Playa		7.30	0.00	28.35	**35.65**	41.37	35.90	39.30	**116.56**	16.41	4.86	36.70	**57.97**	36.62	36.36	34.14	**107.12**	**317.30**			
Plumas		21.59	2.52	18.19	**42.29**	29.06	26.13	28.50	**83.69**	12.03	12.33	27.76	**52.11**	27.13	27.45	22.30	**76.88**	**254.98**			
Santa Margarita		0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	**0.00**			
Seaside Middle School Well #3		132.19	90.87	88.66	**311.72**	97.58	116.37	120.16	**334.10**	89.69	101.69	121.85	**313.23**	127.64	132.88	114.44	**374.96**	**1,334.01**			
ASR Recovery		0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	**0.00**			
PWM Recovery		(269.55)	(285.00)	(278.00)	**(832.55)**	(242.50)	(520.50)	(373.00)	(1,136.00)	(262.18)	(298.83)	(331.44)	**(892.45)**	(446.27)	(348.78)	(244.44)	**(1,039.49)**	**(3,900.49)**			
Seaside Municipal	SPA	15.34	12.62	12.12	**40.08**	12.69	14.31	16.61	**43.61**	17.89	18.38	18.16	**54.42**	19.51	19.23	17.60	**56.33**	**194.44**	120.28	(0.00)	120.28
Inlieu Extraction					**0.00**				**0.00**				**0.00**				**0.00**	**0.00**			
Granite Rock Company	SPA	--	--	--	**0.00**	--	--	--	**0.00**	--	--	--	**0.00**	--	--	--	**0.00**	**0.00**	11.35	279.69	291.04
DBO Development No. 30	SPA	--	--	--	**0.00**	--	--	--	**0.00**	--	--	--	**0.00**	--	--	--	**0.00**	**0.00**	20.59	499.39	519.98
Calabrese (Cypress Pacific Inv.)	SPA	--	--	--	**0.00**	--	--	--	**0.00**	--	--	--	**0.00**	--	--	--	**0.00**	**0.00**	2.76	17.84	20.60
City of Seaside (Golf Courses)	APA	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.21	0.00	0.07	**0.28**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.91	**0.91**	**1.19**	540.00		540.00
Sand City	APA	0.11	0.09	0.08	**0.29**	0.07	0.09	0.08	**0.23**	0.08	0.09	0.11	**0.28**	0.10	0.10	0.00	**0.20**	**1.00**	9.00		9.00
SNG (Security National Guaranty) /	APA	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	**0.00**	90.00		90.00
MLDC (Mountain Lake Dev. Corp.)	APA	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	**0.00**	59.00		59.00
Calabrese (Cypress Pacific Inv.)	APA	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	**0.00**	6.00		6.00
Mission Memorial (Alderwoods)	APA	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	**0.00**	31.00		31.00
Coastal Subareas Totals					**340.23**				**274.17**				**307.97**				**616.81**	**1,539.18**	**2,356.01**	**1,353.56**	**3,709.57**
Laguna Seca Subarea																					
CAW - Laguna Seca Subarea	SPA																		0.00		0.00
Ryan Ranch Unit	06/21/21: Ryan Ranch Wells #7, #8, and #11 physically disconnected from the distribution system.																				
Hidden Hills Unit/Bay Ridge		12.43	10.37	9.53	**32.33**	9.47	6.65	7.72	**23.84**	8.12	13.79	9.93	**31.85**	10.48	11.21	10.17	**31.86**	**119.88**			
Bishop Unit 3																					
Bishop Unit 1																					
The Club at Pasadera	APA	22.00	4.00	0.00	**26.00**	1.00	3.00	0.00	**4.00**	23.00	38.00	42.00	**103.00**	36.00	42.00	40.00	**118.00**	**251.00**	251.00		251.00
Laguna Seca Golf Resort (Bishop)	APA	18.40	24.26	0.00	**42.66**	0.00	0.00	4.86	**4.86**	30.19	32.19	40.78	**103.16**	39.90	43.67	40.09	**123.66**	**274.34**	320.00		320.00
York School	APA	2.33	1.36	0.01	**3.70**	0.27	0.01	0.03	**0.31**	2.20	2.43	2.49	**7.12**	3.02	3.24	1.48	**7.74**	**18.87**	32.00		32.00
Laguna Seca County Park	APA	3.41	2.18	1.57	**7.16**	0.59	2.59	2.95	**6.13**	4.07	2.83	0.93	**7.83**	5.72	0.82	0.70	**7.24**	**28.36**	41.00		41.00
Laguna Seca Subarea Totals					**79.52**				**15.30**				**221.11**				**256.64**	**572.57**	**644.00**	**0.00**	**644.00**
Total Production by WM Producers					**419.74**				**289.47**				**529.08**				**873.45**	**2,111.75**	**3,000.01**	**1,353.56**	**4,353.57**
														Annual Production from APA Producers				574.76			1,379.00
														Annual Production from SPA Producers				1,656.88			2,974.57

CAW / MPWMD ASR (Carmel River Basin source water)																		***Previous***	***Total***
Injection	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	301.80	335.33	**637.13**	78.51	0.00	0.00	**78.51**	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**715.64**		
(Recovery)	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	**0.00**		
Net ASR	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	301.80	335.33	**637.13**	78.51	0.00	0.00	**78.51**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	**715.64**	**3,241.44**	**3,957.08**
Pure Water Monterey (PWM) Injection and Cal-Am Recovery																			
Delivery to Basin (Injection)	269.55	328.83	342.22	**940.61**	377.95	345.81	379.18	**1102.94**	262.18	298.83	331.44	**892.45**	314.12	348.78	244.44	**907.33**	**3843.33**		
CAW (Recovery)	(269.55)	(285.00)	(278.00)	**(832.55)**	(242.50)	(520.50)	(373.00)	**(1136.00)**	(237.00)	(204.00)	(402.00)	**(843.00)**	(446.27)	(348.78)	(244.44)	**(1039.49)**	**(3851.04)**		
Net PWM	0.00	43.83	64.22	**108.06**	135.45	(174.69)	6.18	**(33.06)**	25.18	94.83	(70.56)	**49.45**	(132.15)	(0.00)	(0.00)	**(132.16)**	**(7.71)**	**1,157.48**	**1,149.77**
Injection Operating Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	163.76	**163.76**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	**163.76**	**2,189.19**	**2,352.95**
Injection Drought Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	**0.00**		
																		6,588.11	**7,459.80**
City of Seaside Golf Course Recycled Water Use/Municipal Potable Water Recovery *2,361AF Max*																		***Previous***	***Total***
In-lieu Storage/Recycled Water Use	38.77	10.25	1.24	**50.26**	5.72	4.19	4.31	**14.22**	46.65	67.02	71.14	**184.81**	68.75	55.37	49.31	**173.43**	**422.72**		
City of Seaside Municipal Extraction	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00	0.00	45.86	**45.86**	**45.86**		
Net In-lieu	38.77	10.25	1.24	**50.26**	5.72	4.19	4.31	**14.22**	46.65	67.02	71.14	**184.81**	68.75	55.37	3.45	**127.57**	**468.58**	**771.63**	**1,240.21**

Notes:

1. The Water Year (WY) begins October 1 and ends September 30 of the following calendar year. For example, WY 2025 begins on October 1, 2024, and ends on September 30, 2025.
2. "Type" refers to water right as described in Seaside Basin Adjudication decision as amended, signed February 9, 2007 (Monterey County Superior Court Case No. M66343).
3. Values shown in the table are based on reports to the Watermaster received by October 15, 2025.
4. All values are rounded to the nearest hundredth of an acre-foot. Where required, reported data were converted to acre-feet utilizing the relationships: 325,851 gallons = 43,560 cubic feet = 1 acre-foot.
5. "Base Operating Yield Allocation" values are based on Seaside Basin Adjudication decision. These values are consistent with the *Watermaster Producer Allocations Water Year 2025* (see Item IX.B. in 11/6/2024 Board packet).
6. Any minor discrepancies in totals are attributable to rounding.
7. APA = Alternative Producer Allocation; SPA = Standard Producer Allocation; CAW = California American Water.
8. CAW/MPWMD ASR "Injection" and "Recovery" amounts are not expected to "balance" within each Water Year due to the injection recovery "rules" that are part of SWRCB water rights permits and/or separate agreements with state and federal resources agencies that are associated with the water rights permits.
9. Cal-Am Toro Well #3 Destroyed 09/30/21
10. Ryan Ranch and Bishop systems fed by Monterey Main System as of December 2020 -- those wells eliminated from Cal-Am reporting as of January 15, 2025

SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN
WATERMASTER

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Robert S. Jaques, Technical Program Manager

DATE: January 7, 2026

SUBJECT: Update on the SNG Well

- -

RECOMMENDATIONS:
None required – information only.

BACKGROUND:

As reported and discussed in the past, 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.

DISCUSSION:

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.

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:

None

SEASIDE GROUNDWATER BASIN
WATERMASTER

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Robert S. Jaques, Technical Program Manager

DATE: January 7, 2026

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

- -

RECOMMENDATIONS:
None required – information only.

BACKGROUND:
At your November meeting an informational item was on the agenda pertaining to the subsurface imaging work that was performed near Sentinel Well No. 4. Sentinel Well No. 4 is near the coastline on the west side of Highway 1 in the Fort Ord Dunes State Park, a short distance north of the Park's boundary with Sand City. The report on this work was still being finalized at the time of your November meeting, but the preliminary conclusions section from the report was included in the November meeting agenda packet.

DISCUSSION:
The report has now been completed and a presentation on it was made to the TAC at its December 10, 2025 meeting. The TAC unanimously accepted the report without any changes or edits being requested. The report is lengthy and very technical in nature, so rather than including the full report in your agenda packet, the Conclusions section of the final report has been attached. The full report is posted on the Watermaster's website.

The conclusions are essentially the same as those presented to you at your November meeting. In summary, the subsurface imaging work confirms what was expected from the induction logging of Sentinel Well No. 4 – that it appears that a seawater wedge is beginning to move inland near the coast in a shallow zone of the Paso Robles aquifer. However, based on the limited data that was able to be obtained, it has only advanced to the vicinity of Sentinel Well No. 4, and does not appear in the aquifer on the east side of Highway 1.

Data collection from the subsurface imaging work was limited due to the presence of numerous items of infrastructure that interfere with the imaging process, such as power lines, underground metallic piping, chain link fence lines, etc.

The 2026 Monitoring and Management Program Operations Budget includes a line-item to perform additional subsurface imaging later this year, if that is deemed to be desirable. This will be discussed by the TAC at one of its future meetings, and a recommendation on whether to perform additional imaging will then be made to the Board.

ATTACHMENTS:
Conclusions from the Subsurface Imaging Work

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 Sentinel Well No. 4. 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 Sentinel Well No. 4, 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 Sentinel Well No. 4. Because Sentinel Well No. 4 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 Sentinel Well No. 4. 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.