MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER

DATE: Wednesday, April 8, 2026

MEETING TIME: 1:30 p.m.

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

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87515913195?pwd=UjtiIOb5ODMlRca1aE9DAsFrDDTwce.1

If joining the meeting by phone, dial this number: +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
If you encounter problems joining the meeting using the link above, you may join from your Zoom screen using the following information:
Meeting ID: 875 1591 3195
Passcode: 124813
TAC Member Teleconferencing Information is on the Next Page

OFFICERS
Chairperson: Jon Lear, MPWMD
Vice-Chairperson: Kim Shirley, City of Del Rey Oaks
MEMBERS

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

TAC MEMBER TELECONFERENCING INFORMATION

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

SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * **

MEETING DATE:	
AGENDA ITEM:	2.A
AGENDA TITLE:	Approve Minutes from the February 11, 2026 Meeting
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager

SUMMARY:

Draft Minutes from this meeting were emailed to all TAC members. Any changes requested by TAC members have been included in the attached version.

ATTACHMENTS:	Minutes from this meeting
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Approve the minutes

D-R-A-F-T
MINUTES

Seaside Groundwater Basin Watermaster
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
February 11, 2026

Attendees: TAC Members

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

Watermaster
Technical Program Manager-Bob Jaques

Others
Montgomery & Associates – Georgina King
MPWMD – Mike McCullough
Gus Yates
Martin Feeney

The meeting was convened at 1:31 by Chair Lear.

1. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

2. Administrative Matters:

A. Approve Minutes from the December 10, 2025 Meeting

On a motion by Ms. Shirley, seconded by Mr. Pezzini, the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

B. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update

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

3. Discuss Issues Regarding Sentinel Well No. 4

A. Access Issues for Induction Logging of Sentinel Well No. 4

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

Mr. McCullough asked if this well was used solely for induction logging. Mr. Jaques responded "yes" and that it is also used for groundwater level monitoring.

B. Determine Chloride Levels at Depth of Concern in Sentinel Well No. 4

Mr. Jaques summarized the agenda materials for this item.

Mr. Baer asked if it would be possible to install inflatable doughnuts in Sentinel Well No. 4 to obtain a water quality sample from the specific depth of interest? Mr. Yates responded that there is a cement

seal that goes down to and beyond the depth of interest and therefore it would not be possible to get a water quality sample at the depth of interest.

Mr. Lear asked if a shallow monitoring well could be put near Sentinel Well No. 4 at the depth of interest. Mr. Yates responded that if access would be provided to that location by State Parks then that would probably be possible. He went on to note, however, that if a monitoring well was put in at that depth and at that location, if future conductivity increases at other depths or at other Sentinel wells was observed, it would be necessary to install additional monitoring wells. Mr. Yates went on to say that due to the heterogeneity of the Paso Robles aquifer, any new monitoring well intended to identify water quality at the depth of interest in Sentinel Well No. 4 would need to be very close to that well in order to get water quality that is representative of the water quality at that well. Mr. Feeney echoed Mr. Yates' comments and provided amplifying information about this Sentinel well and its history.

Mr. Lear said he felt it is important to seek State Parks permission to put in a shallow monitoring well there, even though the request might be denied. Mr. McCullough said that Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (MPWMD) would probably be willing to partner with the Watermaster and share 50-50 for the cost of putting in a new monitoring well. Mr. Lear commented that it might be possible to put in a monitoring well in the access road to the former pump station site where Sentinel Well No. 4 is located.

Mr. Feeney commented that he did not feel that a monitoring well is needed, because the induction logging shows seawater intrusion is occurring - what else could it be?

Ms. King said she would like to correlate the induction logging results at Sentinel Well No. 4 with actual chloride concentration levels by getting a water quality sample to see if the increase is large or small.

Mr. Yates said that he was convinced that seawater intrusion is occurring at Sentinel Well No. 4. He further commented that having the Seaside golf course wells go from groundwater to recycled water would have a significant beneficial impact. Mr. McCullough noted that the use of recycled water on the golf courses started in November 2022. Ms. King said the beneficial impact is already being seen - that there is a clear response of increased groundwater levels once the use of recycled water on the golf courses began. She went on to say, however, that the inland downward gradient of the groundwater level is still too large even with the golf course recycled water being used, and that having the golf course switch over to using recycled water did not sufficiently increase groundwater levels to solve the problem.

Ms. Shirley suggested looking at the Seawater Intrusion Response Plan (SIRP) to see if the chloride levels have reached a trigger point. She voiced support for putting in a monitoring well near Sentinel Well No. 4 if possible. Mr. Lear did not feel that the geophysical data that has been obtained was adequate by itself to determine whether seawater intrusion was occurring, and that a water quality sample would be needed. He went on to say that perhaps a water quality sample could be taken from the screened portion of Sentinel Well No. 4. Mr. Feeney responded that the Sentinel Wells were not intended to be used for obtaining water quality samples. He noted that water quality sampling was done for a while some years ago and it proved that the screens are too long to get a representative sample from a specific depth.

Mr. Jaques noted that the chloride concentration triggers in the SIRP were developed for specific monitoring wells that are further inland, and that there is no trigger value established for Sentinel Well No. 4.

Mr. Lear reported that he had spoken with Maggiora Brothers well drillers and that they gave him a rough estimate of between $200 and $400 per linear foot to install a shallow monitoring well.

Mr. Baer went on to say he felt that putting in a shallow monitoring well should be done, and that correlating chloride with induction logging results would be worthwhile doing.

Ms. Woodrow felt that it would be worthwhile to explore the feasibility of installing a shallow monitoring well.

Mr. Pezzini asked Mr. Lear what direction the TAC should provide to Mr. Jaques on this matter. Mr. Lear responded that he felt it would be good to put together a partnership between the Watermaster and the MPWMD for cost-sharing with the Watermaster for installing a new monitoring well, and then to approach State Parks to seek their permission to install a monitoring well.

A motion was made by Ms. Shirley, seconded by Mr. Baer, to have Mr. Jaques work with the MPWMD to approach State Parks on putting in a monitoring well. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Discuss Deep Aquifers Monitoring Plan Issues

Mr. Jaques summarized the agenda materials for this item and turned the discussion over to Ms. Woodrow to continue.

She reported that stable isotope monitoring is being done by some of the other entities associated with the Deep Aquifer Monitoring Program. However, she noted that since ASR and PWM waters are being injected into the Seaside basin, this may make stable isotope monitoring not useful or valuable in the Seaside basin.

Mr. Lear said that tracer tests show the ASR and PWM water moves around in a large area, so it would be necessary to stay out of that area of impact if isotope monitoring were to be performed.

Ms. Woodrow said it may not be worth the effort to do this in the Seaside basin for these reasons.

Mr. Lear said he did not feel such data would be of any use to the Watermaster in carrying out the Physical Solution of the Decision.

Ms. Woodrow explained that the isotope monitoring in the Salinas Valley is being done to better understand groundwater movement in the aquifers there and to help inform management decisions in the 180/400, Eastside, and Monterey subbasins. MCWRA is doing all of the isotope monitoring within the Salinas Valley basin.

Ms. Shirley asked if MCWRA would be willing to do this type of monitoring at its expense in the Seaside basin. Ms. Woodrow said she did not feel the Watermaster needs to do this, but that MCWRA may be able to do it at its expense for a few samples within its monitoring work.

Mr. Lear noted that City of Seaside Well No. 4 is <u>not</u> impacted by PWM or ASR injection but that the Paralta and Ord Grove wells <u>are</u> impacted by the injection. Ms. King noted that the anion/cation results are showing changes in the Paralta and Ord Grove wells as a result of this injection.

Mr. Lear offered to coordinate with Ms. Woodrow with regard to where and when to take the isotope samples, if any samples are to be collected. The movement of groundwater in the Seaside basin is already well informed, according to Mr. Lear, from the work that is already been done.

Ms. Shirley said the Board would be interested in what the TAC has concluded on this topic. Mr. Jaques said he would prepare an informational item on this for the Board for an upcoming board meeting.

5. **Schedule**
   Mr. Jaques highlighted the item pertaining to Mr. Pascual Benito's recommendations about updating the Seaside basin groundwater model, which will hopefully be on the March TAC agenda.

6. **Other Business**
   There was no other business.

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * **

MEETING DATE:	April 8, 2026
AGENDA ITEM:	2.B
AGENDA TITLE:	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager

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

At the Monterey County level:
Attached are summaries of meetings held in February and March 2026.

ATTACHMENTS:	Meeting Summaries
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	None required – information only

SUMMARY OF
PURE WATER MONTEREY, AND
SALINAS VALLEY AND
MARINA COAST WATER DISTRICT GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ZOOM MEETINGS
IN FEBRUARY 2026

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

180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin Implementation Committee Meeting, February 9, 2026

I did not attend this meeting but did review the agenda packet materials for it to look for items of interest to the Watermaster. Below is a synopsis of two such items:

- The SVBGSA is beginning to undertake a "New Seawater Intrusion Project" (NSIP) Feasibility Study
  - The NSIP Project Goals are:
    1. Investigate potential source water that can be utilized to offset groundwater pumping.
    2. Identify and prioritize areas/users that could be served by potential sources – focused on demands in areas at risk of SWI.
    3. Identify infrastructure needs and siting for serving new users.
    4. Develop alternatives for paired source waters and infrastructure systems that will be used to estimate project costs.
  - The Study Area is shown in the attached map.
  - The Study will include looking at source water usability
    - Where is it located?
    - What is available when?
    - How does the quality look?
  - The NSIP Scenarios to be evaluated are:
    1. Maximum system size, i.e. serving all wells within the NSIP Area. This would serve an average annual demand ≈ 27,600 AF, and would include approximately 251 wells with average monthly usages of between 5 and 150 AF.
    2. A smaller system size to serve all wells within the 500 mg/L chloride intruded zone. This would serve approximately 88 wells with average annual demand of ≈11,000 AF.
    3. Expansion of CSIP in order to serve off season demands ≈ 860 AF in November.
  - Next Steps for the NSIP
    - Preparing cost estimates:
      »Treatment required
      »Pipelines needed
      »Storage required
    - Report being prepared:
      »Summary of what evaluated
      »Issues related to each supply and scenario
      »GW Modeling of one scenario
      »Next steps for if want to implement

- The SVBGSA reported on the Castroville & Eastside Canals and Alternatives Preliminary Feasibility Study (C&E FS)
  - The purpose of the Study is to identify project concepts to divert surface water from the Salinas River
  - It will focus on MCWRA's Permit 11043; inclusive of other water right alternatives. Permit 11043 pertains to making diversions from the Salinas River.

- Groundwater Goals – Potential Project Scenarios
  1. Raise groundwater levels in the Central/Southern 180/400 and Eastside Subbasins
  2. Raise groundwater levels in the Northern Eastside Subbasin
  3. Stop seawater intrusion in the 400 foot aquifer
  4. Provide in-lieu supply to reduce pumping from seawater intruded areas and Deep Aquifers
- Project Scenarios: Focus on Permit 11043 with Modification to Add Storage
  - New water right would be last in priority, limiting flow availability to large infrequent events. Timeline for acquiring new right does not align with SGMA timeframe.
  - Without storage, project benefits are limited by timing of available flow and timing not aligned with demand.
  - Focus on Castroville Intake and a potential new downstream location because closer to groundwater challenges.
- Next Steps and Environmental Review
  - Project scenarios need to be evaluated through current conditions and regulatory and environmental requirements.
  - Permit 11043 doesn't include current physical constraints and environmental requirements. Bypass requirements may be reanalyzed.
  - A barrier style diversion structure will have additional environmental requirements.
  - Conduct high-level engineering feasibility and cost analysis of key scenarios
  - Model project scenario impacts on groundwater conditions relative to SMC

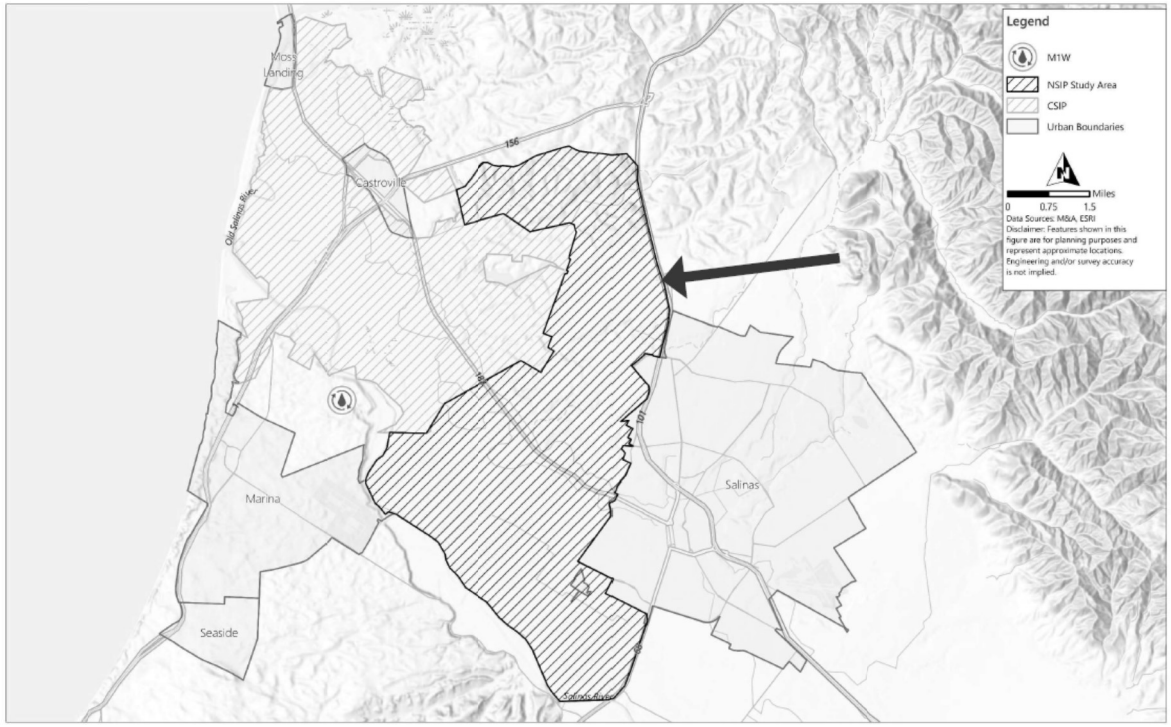
Monterey Subbasin Implementation Committee Meeting, February 25, 2026

A number of the items on the agenda for this meeting were administrative issues that do not impact the Watermaster. However, below is a bullet list of informational items I felt were of interest to the Watermaster:

- There was discussion regarding the 2025 annual report for this subbasin and the work plan for 2026 and 2027.
- A map showing the locations of newly installed monitoring wells is available on the website. Groundwater level measurements are made by transducers and loaded quarterly by MCWRA. The data goes into the annual report. I reviewed the map on the website and found that there is only one new monitoring well that has been put in in the Corral de Tierra area of the Monterey subbasin on San Benancio Road. None were installed in the Marina Ord area that are close to the Seaside basin boundary along the north or northeast portions of the basin.
- The Brackish Groundwater Restoration Project alternative that is being pursued will not provide any new water supply to the Monterey subbasin or the Corral de Tierra area of the Monterey subbasin.
- Questions were raised by some of the committee members as to whether the Corral de Tierra water supply problem can be solved without getting additional water supply from the Brackish Groundwater Restoration Project. However, no answers were yet available to this question. These issues will be discussed at the Advisory Committee meetings, not at the subbasin GSP committee meetings. Therefore I'll need to resume attending the Advisory Committee meetings to stay abreast of this issue.
- In response to my question Ms. Hardgrave said that the Seawater Intrusion Model updating process will be completed in March and an update report on that will be provided. This should then allow Pascual Benito to give us his recommendations with regard to updating the Seaside basin groundwater model.

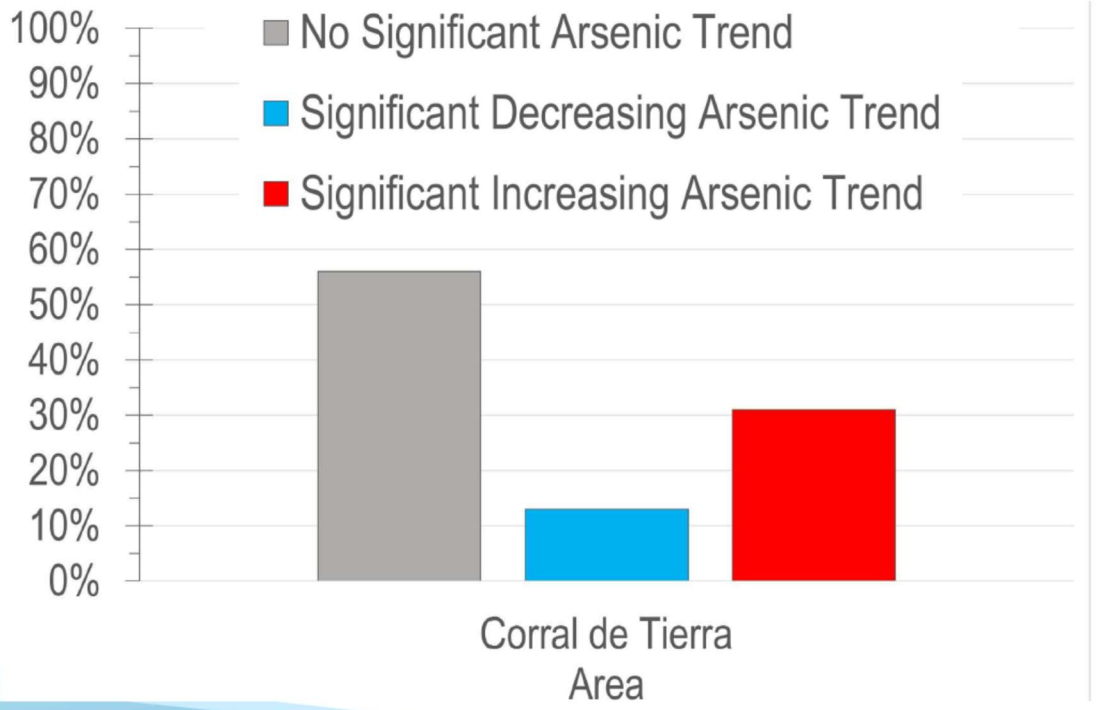
- One attendee expressed continuing concern that lack of progress on actually solving the seawater intrusion problem in the 180/400 foot aquifer subbasin puts that subbasin at risk of being put on probation by the Department of Water Resources. One Committee member felt too much work was being done on "process" and not enough in terms of actually getting down to brass tacks on the controversial demand management issues. These same concerns have been previously raised by Mr. Versik who is an attorney who represents various parties in different parts of the Salinas Valley Basin.
- Future work items include demand management development, preparation of a seawater intrusion response plan, and pursuing Brackish Groundwater Restoration Project issues.
- Questions were raised about whether de minimis users will be included in the demand management program, but there was no clear conclusion on that at this point.
- Ms. Piret reported that no further grant funding will be coming - all work from this point forward, except completion of previously grant funded work, will need to be paid for locally via fees if no other funding sources can be found.
- More work needs to be done on the arsenic problem in the Corral de Tierra area. They will continue to evaluate the impact of groundwater extraction on this issue. The Paso Robles aquifer has higher arsenic levels than the Santa Margarita. This suggests that if groundwater levels rise and move above the Santa Margarita aquifer into the Paso Robles aquifer, arsenic levels may increase. The attached slides show that a number of wells did show a significant trend toward increasing arsenic levels, and a number of wells showed a significant trend toward falling groundwater levels very close to the boundary of the Seaside basin's Laguna Seca subarea. There was much discussion on this topic.
- There was a brief discussion regarding well registration matters.
- Bill Lipe provided correspondence and briefly discussed the risk of State intervention due to a lack of real progress on actually solving problems. There seemed to be little concern on the part of staff regarding the issues Mr. Lipe raised, as they did not pursue any dialogue with him on his concerns.
- The next meeting of the Committee will be April 29.

NSIP Study Area

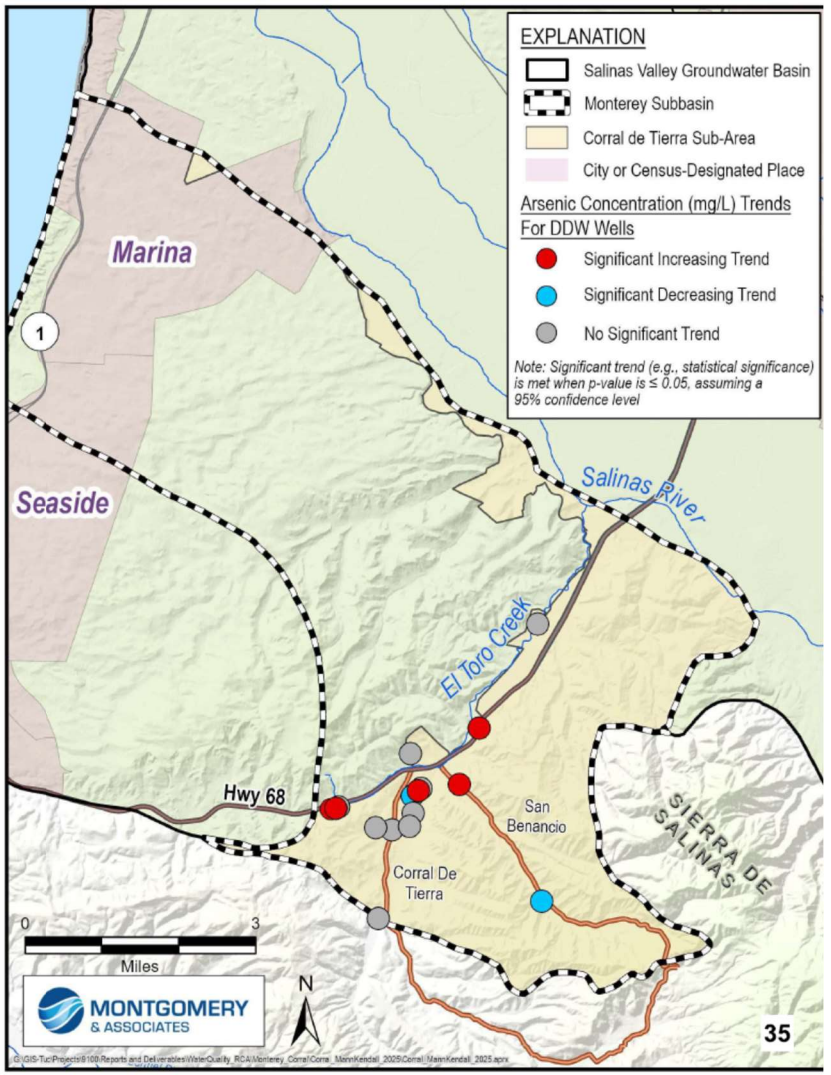


Arsenic Trends 1995-2024

(Mann-Kendall Analysis)

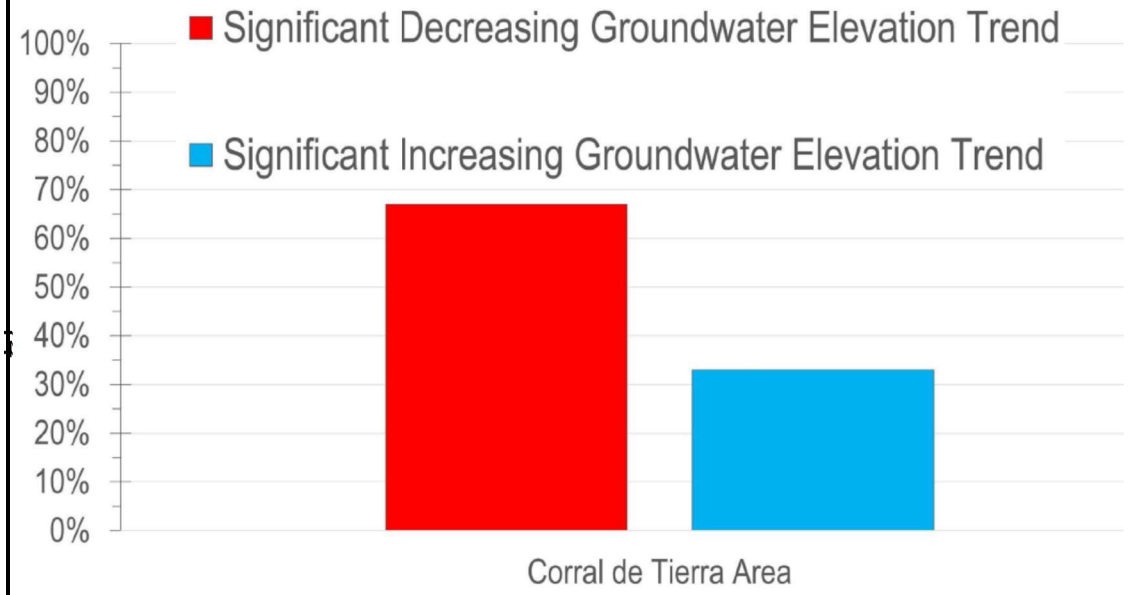


MONTGOMERY & ASSOCIATES

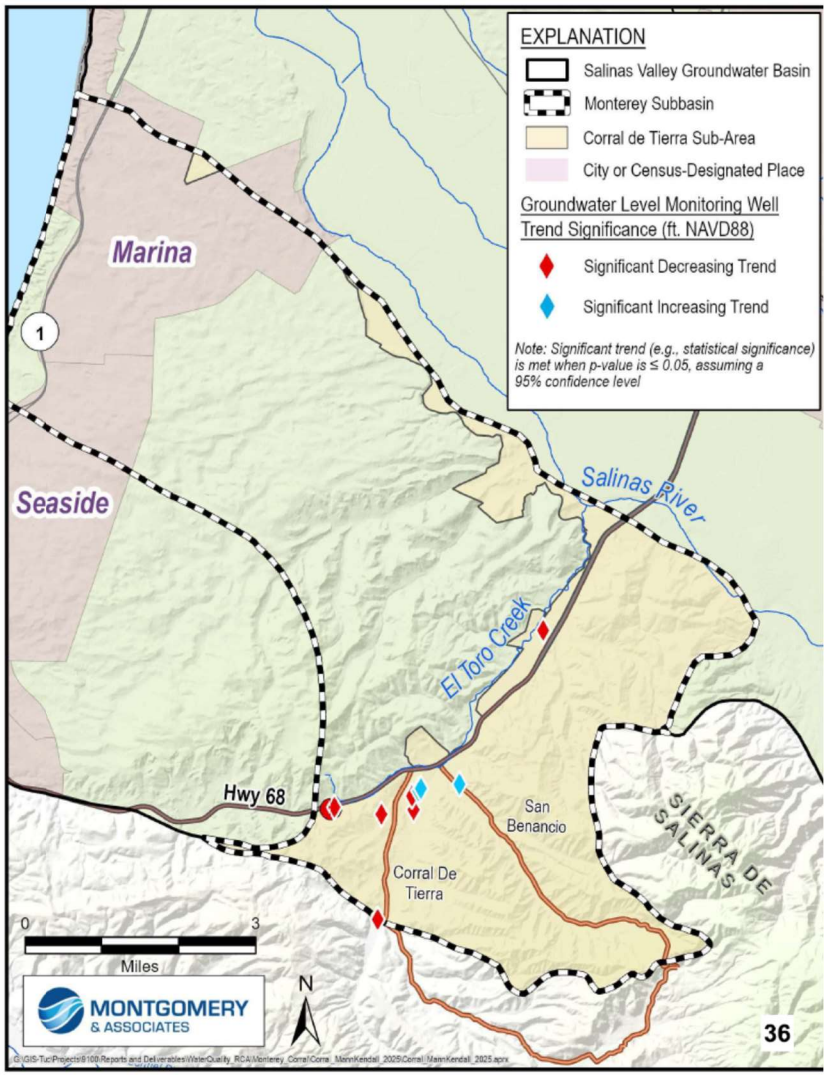


Groundwater Elevation Trends 1995-2024

(Mann-Kendall)



MONTGOMERY & ASSOCIATES



SUMMARY OF
PURE WATER MONTEREY, AND
SALINAS VALLEY AND
MARINA COAST WATER DISTRICT GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY ZOOM MEETINGS
IN MARCH 2026

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

There were no meetings in March that involved issues affecting the Watermaster.

SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * **

MEETING DATE:	April 8, 2026
AGENDA ITEM:	3.A
AGENDA TITLE:	Update on Seeking State Parks Approval to Install a Shallow Monitoring Well Near Sentinel Well No. 4
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager

Background

At its February 11, 2026 meeting the Watermaster TAC discussed the potential benefit of installing a new shallow monitoring well near the existing Sentinel Well No. 4. This is one of the four Sentinel Wells the Watermaster drilled in 2007 along the coast in what is now the Fort Ord Dunes State Park. At the time of well installation, the land was still owned by the Army. These wells are named Sentinel Wells because they serve the purpose of monitoring for seawater intrusion along the coastline of the Seaside Groundwater Basin. A map of the well locations is included in the Attachment. Instead of using these wells to collect water samples, they are induction logged to determine if water quality is changing. Induction logging is a process of lowering an instrument into the well that measures the electrical conductivity of the materials in the strata in which the well is drilled. This process produces a vertical profile of the electrical conductivity of the strata surrounding the well. By comparing the induction logs other over time, one can see if the conductivity is changing. If the logging shows that conductivity is increasing, it indicates that the water around the well is becoming more saline, and this would likely be due to sea water beginning to intrude into the strata. While induction logging can detect increasing salinity, it does not provide a water quality sample that can be analyzed to determine the actual level of salinity. State Parks had recently restricted access for the induction logging van to go to Sentinel Well No. 4. However, after I contacted them to describe the importance of being able to continue doing the induction logging, they responded that they do not plan to remove the road base that currently constitutes the roadway to the former pump station, and that they are aware of our need for vehicular access once per year. Therefore, ongoing induction logging of this well should be able to continue.

The Watermaster's *Seawater Intrusion Response Plan* requires a specific water quality analysis to be performed to determine if seawater intrusion is occurring, before any of the response actions are triggered. The locations of the monitoring wells used for triggering response actions are highlighted in orange shading in the attached map.

The 2007 Sentinel Well construction report prepared by Mr. Martin Feeney, who managed that construction work, includes this recommendation:

> *The need for additional monitoring wells may change over time as data accumulates. If changes in conductivity are detected over several induction logging cycles, monitoring well(s) should be installed as appropriate to allow sampling of the locations and zones of interest. These changes will occur gradually and will need to be confirmed over time before initiating well construction. As such, it is unlikely that Watermaster will need to budget for construction of additional monitoring wells for the coming year. The Watermaster, however, might include in the budget for 2009, a contingency for installing monitoring wells in response to the detection of significant changes in conductivity, as measured by induction logging, in the Sentinel Wells. An appropriate budget for permitting, construction and hydrogeologic oversight of a new monitoring well would be approximately $150,000.*

SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * **

AGENDA ITEM:	3.A (Continued)

Discussion

Over the past 5 years, the strata from 150 to 200 feet below ground surface in Sentinel Well No. 4 has shown a steady increase in electrical conductivity. Two of the three Watermaster hydrogeological consultants (Mr. Martin Feeney and Mr. Gus Yates) felt that the induction logging alone showed that seawater intrusion is occurring at Sentinel Well No. 4, and that obtaining a water quality sample to establish this was not necessary. The other hydrogeological consultant, Ms. Georgina King, felt it would be beneficial to obtain an actual chloride measurement to determine how saline the strata was becoming. Following much discussion of this issue at the February11, 2026 Watermaster TAC meeting, the TAC voted unanimously to partner with MPWMD to approach State Parks to seek permission to install a monitor well near Sentinel Well No. 4. The well would be perforated in the 150 to 200 foot depth range so that a water quality sample could be collected from this zone of the aquifer.

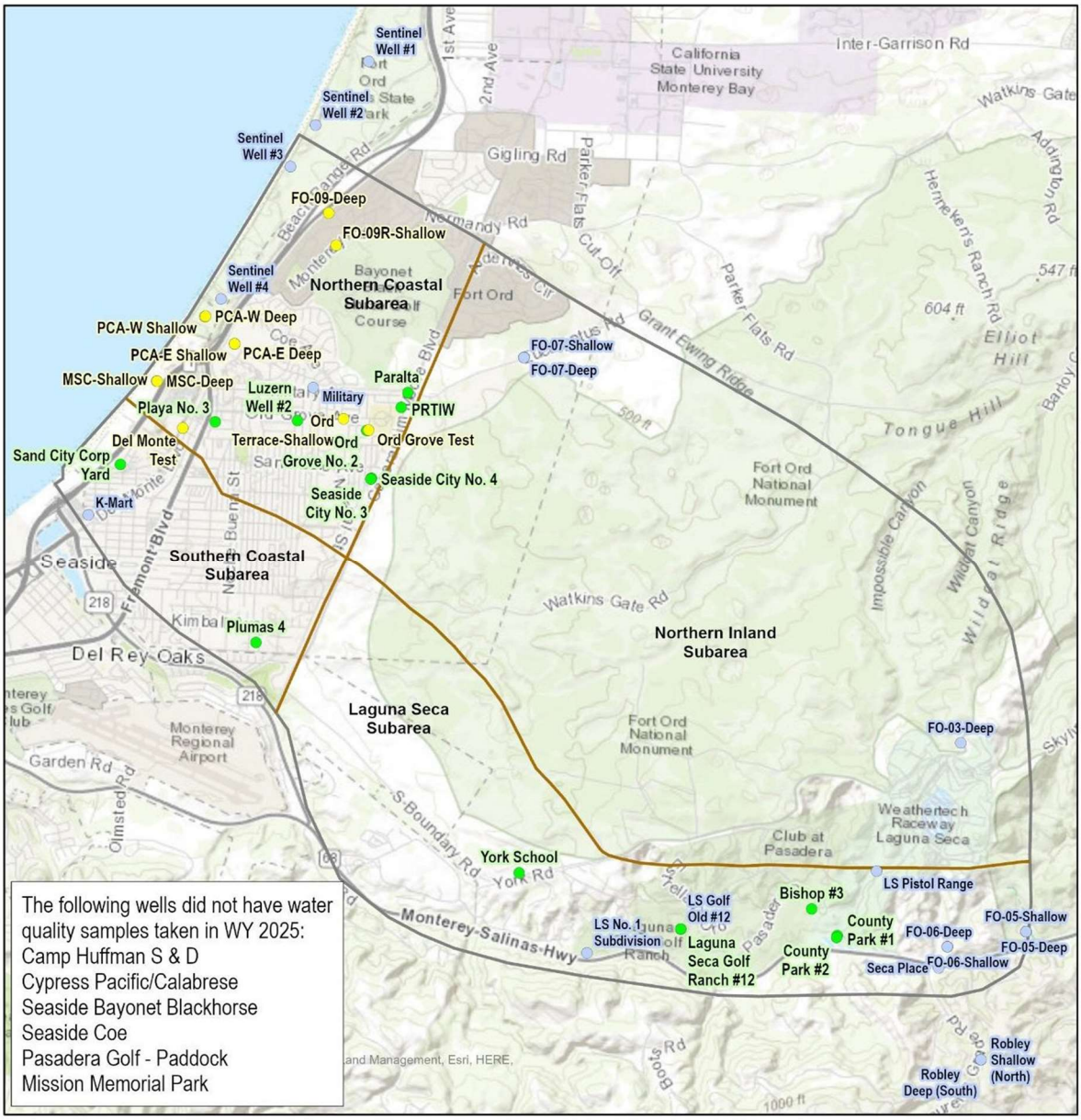
Pursuant to the TAC's direction to me, I met with MPWMD staff to discuss proceeding with this effort. As a result of that discussion, MPWMD staff offered to take the lead by asking their Board to authorize them to send a letter to State Parks outlining the importance of drilling this monitor well, and to authorize MPWMD's staff to partner with the Seaside Watermaster for a 50/50 cost share for the new monitor well. MPWMD staff would complete the permitting, well design, and construction management for the new well. This would help keep the costs of installing the new well to a minimum. The cost of this well is not yet known and is not budgeted. However, MPWMD staff reached out to local drillers for an informal back-of-the-envelope estimate for budget purposes and were told to budget for $400 per foot. Therefore, a 200 foot deep well would cost approximately $80K. If shared 50/50 with MPWMD the Watermaster's cost would be approximately $40K. Environmental work was completed in 2007 for the installation of the initial wells. MPWMD staff will consult with their legal counsel to see if a new well could fall under the initial environmental work, or if an addendum would be necessary. If an addendum were necessary, there would be additional cost to prepare it.

If State Parks grants permission to install the monitoring well, MPWMD would draft a cost-sharing agreement for consideration by the Watermaster Board. This would come to the Board for discussion and potential approval at a future Board meeting.

Mr. Lear will provide an oral update on progress on this matter at today's meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:	Map showing locations of the Sentinel Wells and other wells in their vicinity
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	None required – information only

Well Location Map



EXPLANATION

- Monitoring Wells used for Groundwater Levels
- Monitoring Well with Water Level and Quality Data
- Production Well with Water Level and Quality Data

Adjudicated Seaside Groundwater Basin Boundary
- Basin Boundary
- Subarea Boundary

N

0 0.5 1 1.5 2

Miles

SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

MEETING DATE:	April 8, 2026
AGENDA ITEM:	3.B
AGENDA TITLE:	Discuss Whether or Not Further Geophysical Imaging Should be Performed Near Sentinel Well No. 4
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager

Subsurface imaging near Sentinel Well No. 4, where there has been a steady increase in conductivity in the strata between 180 and 200 feet below ground surface, was performed by Geophysical Imaging Partners in July of 2025. The conclusions and overall interpretation of the results are summarized below. These were made based on very limited supplementary data, i.e. limited borehole information, geophysical logs, and the lithology described in well completion reports.

The results showed a general pattern of increasing resistivity moving inland at most depths. However, the zone of interest (180-200 ft) showed local variations from this pattern. 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. 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. Therefore, it is likely that seawater intrusion impacts are greater in some of the other areas, 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.

Based on the input of our hydrogeological consultants, MPWMD, and MCWRA as described in the Attachment, I concur that performing geophysical imaging again in 2026 would not be justified. However, I believe we should budget for it again in 2027 and reassess the value of doing it again in 2027. The TAC is invited to provide input and direction to the Technical Program Manager regarding this issue.

ATTACHMENTS:	Input from consultants and MPWMD
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Do not perform any geophysical imaging in 2026, but budget for it in 2027 so the funds will be available then if further imaging is deemed desirable

Input from Consultants and MPWMD

I asked each of our hydrogeologic consultants, MPWMD, and MCWRA for their opinion regarding the value of performing additional subsurface geophysical imaging. Their input is described below:

From Georgina King: My opinion is that this is not something that needs to be done regularly. It is more important that the induction logging gets done annually. The land-based EM survey did provide some information but was limited by man-made interferences.

From Gus Yates: It was disappointing that the northernmost transect of the geophysical survey last year did not include a point right at SBWM No. 4, plus a few points farther east along that alignment. That would have provided better spatial extrapolation of the borehole resistivity survey. If there were electrical interference issues that prevented extending the survey line eastward, then the same issues would continue to be present. In that case, I would not recommend additional surveying. If the northern survey line could be extended east through SBWM No. 4, that might be worth doing.

From Martin Feeney: Whereas the complexity of the Paso Robles will always be a problem for geophysics with resolving the stratigraphy/SWI spatially, reoccupying the same locations at a different time would be valuable. Looking for temporal changes. This was the concept behind the Sentinel wells to begin with; we didn't have to understand exactly what the data meant, only the that it was changing over time. Changes in the electrical response at a given location could only be SWI. Maybe repeat in a couple years, depending on induction log data.

From Jon Lear: I don't think we need to do this every year. Possibly if we continue to see changes. I think the Monitor well is the next move instead of more geophysics.

From Amy Woodrow: The impression I got from the presentation [made by Geophysical Imaging Partners at the December 2025 TAC meeting] was that there are access and interference issues that limit the additional geographic scope of where the geophysical imaging can occur. If these persist, I see limited value in repeating the imaging near Sentinel Well No. 4 on a regular basis. Perhaps it could be a tool to revisit if the induction logging shows significant changes or other data suggest it would be of value.

SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * **

MEETING DATE:	April 8, 2026
AGENDA ITEM:	4
AGENDA TITLE:	Status Report on Getting Recommendations from Montgomery & Associates (M&A) Regarding Updating the Seaside Basin Groundwater Model
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager

SUMMARY: The 2026 Monitoring and Management Program (M&MP) Operations Budget includes a line-item to update or replace the Watermaster's Seaside Basin Groundwater Model. As a prelude to undertaking that work, in 2025 the Watermaster issued a contract to M&A to review options and provide their recommendations to the Watermaster on the most effective and cost-efficient approach to doing this. I had hoped that those recommendations would have been received in time to include them on today's agenda.

Pascual Benito will be the M&A staff member that will provide the recommendations and also perform the work to carry them out, subject of course to TAC and subsequently Board approval. He recently updated me to say that the SVGBGSA modeling group was just running the final updated version of the Seawater Intrusion Model (SWI model) on March 23rd, and so things have gotten very compressed time-wise because of the grant funding for that work ending in March. He is also in the midst of finalizing the future predictive baseline scenario with all the Seaside, Cal-Am, PWM and ASR availability assumptions from the recent CPUC decisions built into it that is going to be used to represent the pumping and injection in the Seaside subbasin for the GSP predictive simulations. He said that this data would also be used for future Watermaster simulations. That work also has to be done by the end of March, so he is not sure he can finish the predictive scenario work as well as the SWI model review and prepare recommendations to the Watermaster in time for them to be included in the agenda packet for today's meeting.

In view of this, here is the planned approach:

- Toward the end of March Mr. Benito will finish this review of the SWI model and then in April he will develop his Seaside Groundwater Basin model update recommendations.
- Following development of the recommendations, he will develop a detailed proposed scope of work and cost estimate to complete the recommended work.
- Assuming the draft of the proposed scope of work, and its associated costs, are provided to me in early May, I will negotiate with M&A on the scope and costs of the draft proposal so it can be revised into a final proposal.
- At the TAC's June meeting Mr. Benito will present both his recommendations and the final proposal for the TAC's review and potential approval or modification.

ATTACHMENTS:	None
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	None required – information only

SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * **

MEETING DATE:	April 8, 2026
AGENDA ITEM:	5
AGENDA TITLE:	Schedule
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager

SUMMARY:

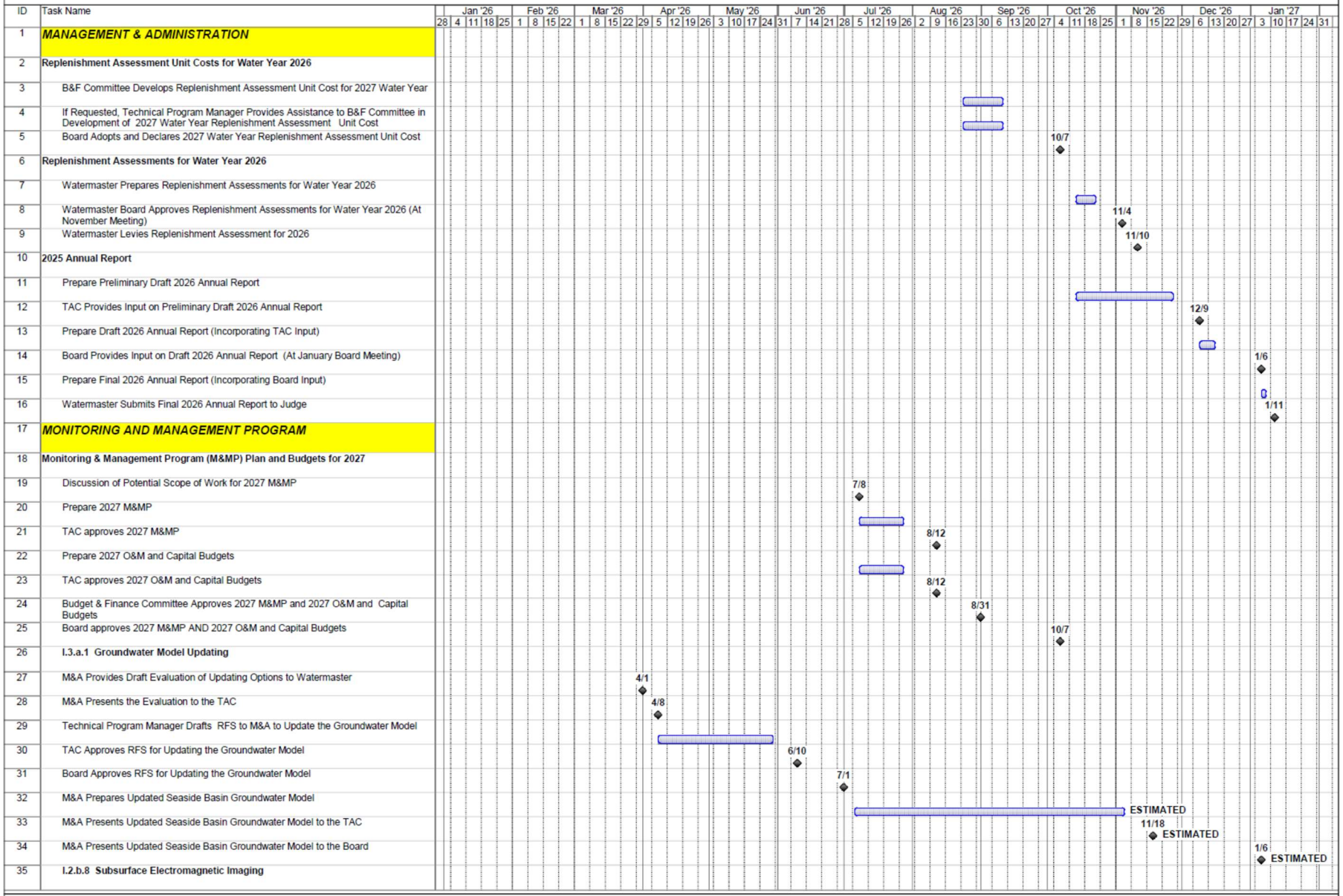
As a regular part of each monthly TAC meeting, I will provide the TAC with an updated Schedule of the activities being performed by the Watermaster, its consultants, and the public entity (MPWMD) which are performing certain portions of the work.

Attached are the updated schedule for 2026 activities, and the proposed schedule for 2026 activities.

There will be no need for a TAC meeting in May, so the next meeting will be on June 11, 2026.

ATTACHMENTS:	Updated Schedule of Work Activities for FY 2026
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Provide Input to Technical Program Manager Regarding Any Corrections or Additions to the Schedules

Seaside Basin Watermaster
2026 Monitoring and Management Program
Work Schedule



2026 Consultants Work Schedule 4-8-26

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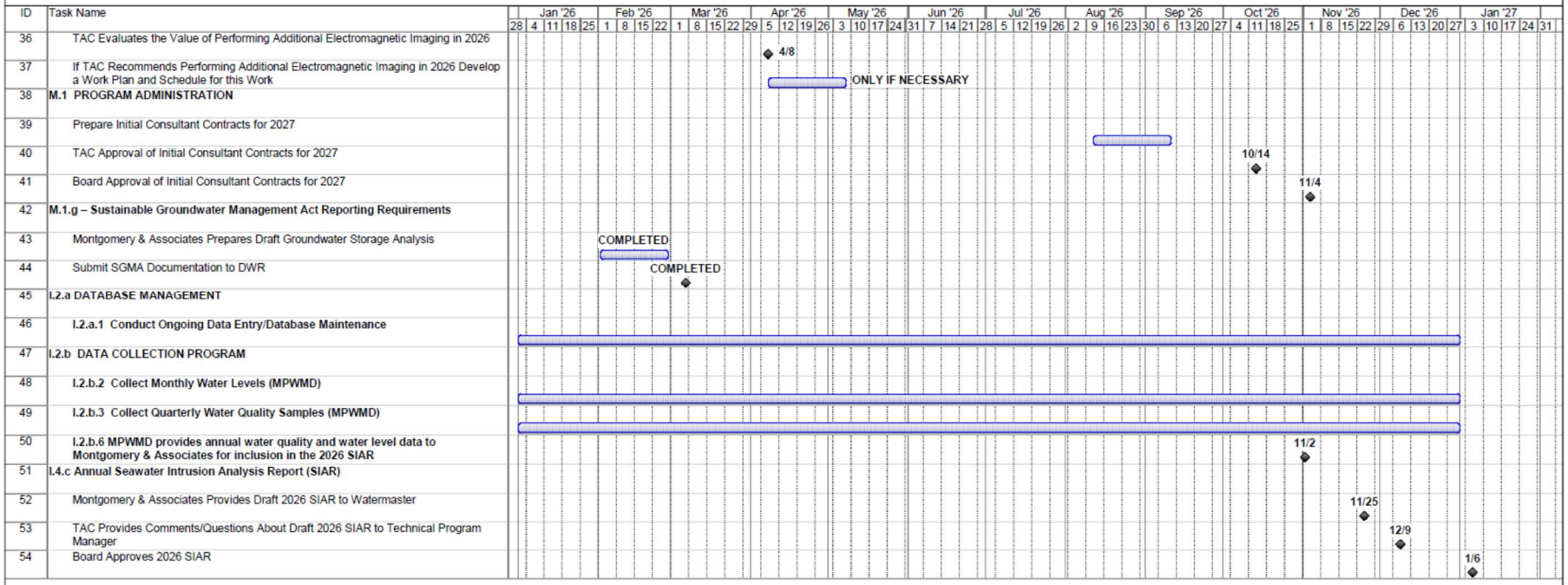
Seaside Basin Watermaster
2026 Monitoring and Management Program
Work Schedule



SEASIDE BASIN WATER MASTER
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

** * * AGENDA TRANSMITTAL FORM * * **

MEETING DATE:	April 8, 2026
AGENDA ITEM:	6
AGENDA TITLE:	Other Business
PREPARED BY:	Robert Jaques, Technical Program Manager

SUMMARY:
The "Other Business" agenda item is intended to provide an opportunity for TAC members or others present at the meeting to discuss items not on the agenda that may be of interest to the TAC.

ATTACHMENTS:	None
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	None required – information only