Notice of Regular Meeting

NACIMIENTO PROJECT COMMISSION
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
THURS., AUGUST 26, 2021 – 4:00 PM

Phone line: +1 (408) 650-3123
Webinar: https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/465467445
Public comments can be submitted to: wthomson@co.slo.ca.us
For more information: https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Public-Works/Forms-Documents/Committees-Programs/Nacimiento-Project-Commission.aspx

Chair: Grigger Jones; Vice-Chair: Andy Pease

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER (Roll Call, Quorum Count & Flag Salute)
II. PUBLIC COMMENT *Non-agenda items within Commission jurisdiction; subject to three-minute limit each.
III. MEETING MINUTES (Recommend Approval)
   A. Naci Commission, May 27, 2021
IV. COMMISSION INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (No Action Required):
   A. Utilities Division Manager's Report
   B. Fourth Quarter Operations Budget Report – FY 2020-21
   C. County Board Drought Emergency Declaration on July 13, 2021
V. PRESENTATIONS (No Action Required):
   A. Water Right Applications - Presentation by Shandon-San Juan Water District
VI. COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS (No Subsequent Action by BOS Required): None
VII. COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS (Action Subsequently Required by BOS): None
VIII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS DESIRED BY COMMISSION
     Next Commission Meeting: Nov. 18, 2021

ATTACHMENTS
1. Naci Commission Minutes – May 27, 2021
2. Item IV.A – Staff Report
3. Item IV.B – Staff Report
4. Item IV.C – Staff Report

CONTACT: All Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accommodations shall be promptly reviewed and resolved.
Persons who require accommodations for any audio, visual or other disability in order to review an agenda, or to participate in the meeting per the ADA, are encouraged to request such accommodation 48 hours in advance of the meeting from Wes Thomson at (805) 781-5252.
NACIMIENTO WATER PROJECT

NACIMIENTO PROJECT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
May 27, 2021

QUORUM: **YES**
(5/5 Seats & Voting Share > 51%)

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT (Voting Share %)
Atascadero MWC (17%): Grigger Jones (Chair)
City of SLO (28%): Andy Pease (Vice Chair)
District (20%): John Peschong
Paso Robles (33%): John Hamon
Templeton CSD (2%): Wayne Petersen

CLERK (District): Mark Chiaramonte

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**
The special quarterly meeting of the Nacimiento Project Commission was held on Thursday, May 27, 2021, at 4:00 P.M., with Grigger Jones in the Chair, and Mark Chiaramonte present as the Clerk. Present: Hamon, Petersen, Jones, Pease, and Peschong. Quorum established.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

3. **REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**
Minutes from April 2021 meeting were presented and approved without changes. **Motion for approval: W. Petersen; Seconded: J. Hamon; All approved.**

4. **COMMISSION INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (No Action Required):**
- **Third Quarter Operations Budget Report – FY 2020-21**
  Katie Franco gave a third quarter update. Operations and maintenance are under budget. No variable energy billing for quarter three, but variable energy billing expected to occur in July.

- **Report on Board Action Concerning Shandon-San Juan WD’s Water Right Applications**
  John Peschong provided an update on the County Board action to submit a letter to the State Board communicating their opposition to the SSJWD applications. Steve Sinton of SSJWD provided comments on the purpose of the applications seeking water to offset reductions required by SGMA. The Commission invited SSJWD to come back to make a presentation & continue discussion.

5. **PRESENTATIONS (NO ACTION REQUIRED): None.**

6. **COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS (NO SUBSEQUENT ACTION BY BOS REQUIRED): None.**

7. **COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS (ACTION SUBSEQUENTLY REQUIRED BY BOS): None**

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS DESIRED BY COMMISSION:**
Next commission meeting: Aug 26, 2021
The meeting was adjourned by Jones at 4:24 P.M.
Wes Thomson, Secretary
TO:    Nacimiento Project Commission
FROM:  Mark Chiaramonte, Utilities Division Manager
DATE:  August 26, 2021
SUBJECT: NWP Operations Update

SUMMARY
- NWP is operational with no current active non-routine or capital outlay (CIP) project updates to report on.
- Recently completed projects include the Isolation Valve installation and SCADA server upgrade, and most notably, the start-up of water delivery to the T-9 turnout at Santa Margarita Ranch.
- The July reservoir release schedule provided by MCWRA shows that we could be approaching the minimum pool level of 687.8 ft in elevation around Feb 2022 if there are no significant precipitation events between now and then.

ATTACHMENTS
# NWP Delivery Report – July 2021 DRAFT

## Deliveries

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**Notes**

1. All table values listed are in units of acre-feet (AF).
2. Deliveries are based on monthly reporting provided by County Operations.
3. Requests based on latest schedule request submitted for project "Water Year 2021" deliveries. WY = Oct thru Sep.
4. "Ops Water" is water sent through the turnout for O&M needs and not counted against Participants’ Delivery Entitlement.
5. NWP offline mid-Nov. 2020 for HDPE slip line at N. Salinas Crossing; deliveries resumed mid-April 2021.
6. March 2021 required some pumping at Intake PS in order to fill Camp Roberts Tank during the slip line repair effort.
7. Credit to Paso on their April total for flushing during startup.
8. DRAFT report does not yet reflect deliveries to T9 at SMR.

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**NACIMIENTO WATER PROJECT**

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

G:/NWP/O&M Phase_DELIVERY & REQUESTS_Actuals/2021/210811-NWP 2021 Delivery Report_July-DRAFT

8/11/2021
Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee – July 29, 2021
Monterey County Water Resources Agency
WT, 7/29/21

SLO COUNTY STAFF NOTES

Call to Order & Roll Call / Quorum Count at 1:30 PM.
Public Comment – None.

CONSENT CALENDAR
   Approved.

STAFF REPORTS
2. Reservoir Release Update – By Peter Kwiek, MCWRA
   Attachments: Reservoir Release Update.
   
   Current Reservoir Conditions, as of 7/29/21 –
   
   San Antonio –
   - WSE of 667.4 ft.
   - Storage at 24,270 AF (7% of capacity).
   - Current releases at 10 cfs.

   Nacimiento –
   - WSE of 713.5 ft.
   - Storage at 56,390 AF (15% of capacity).
   - Current releases at 60 cfs.

   Conservation releases were curtailed over a month ahead of what was scheduled previously. MCWRA is now making minimum releases for fisheries at both reservoirs.
   - San Antonio is almost at its unofficial minimum pool. Naci is still not projected to hit its minimum pool until the new year. See graphs below.
- Presentation of a synopsis of the release changes during the year. See table graphic below.
Summary of the current flow rates at key monitoring stations, as recorded/reported by USGS.

MCWRA was able to release more out of Naci and save more in SA, and in the end, which enabled them to go an extra week before hitting Minimum Pool at SA. The total volume difference was said to be a few thousand AF.

Discussion

- Bill Lipe – What is Minimum Pool (MP) for San Antonino?

  - P. Kwiek –
    - There is not an associated agreement like with Naci that defines MP for San Antonino. It is MCWRA’s policy that they don’t make conservation releases when they hit this level (666 ft elev., at the 23,000 AF storage level, see graph above).
    - It’s difficult to fill San Antonio, so that is part of the consideration.
    - MP also enables them to make minimum releases for fisheries.
3. **Update on the release schedule for Nacimiento and San Antonio reservoirs for 2021** – Peter Kwiek, MCWRA. Attachments: Reservoir Release Schedule Update

**Proposed and Updated 2021 Reservoir Release Schedule**

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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Combined Releases (cfs)</th>
<th>Nacimiento Releases (cfs)</th>
<th>San Antonio Releases (cfs)</th>
<th>Nacimiento Elevation (ft)</th>
<th>San Antonio Elevation (ft)</th>
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<td>726.6</td>
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<td>10</td>
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Note: Values in blue are projected values presented at the March 2021 Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee meeting and values in red and parentheses are updated values.

**Comments:**

- The last two columns show the reservoir elevation at beginning of the month. Red values are updates – consistent with what's in the agenda packet.
- Updates show that if there is no additional inflow, San Antonio will end the year right about where it was projected (about 1 ft diff), Nacimiento about 6 ft lower.
  *Compare with the Minimum Pool elevation for Naci at a WSE of 687.8 ft.*

4. **Update on Update on operations and maintenance activities at the reservoirs** – Shaunna Murray, MCWRA

- **Nacimiento**
  - General clean-up of maintenance yards; gearing up to move heavy equipment out to sites, and prep for maintenance on the hydro unit.
  - Fall maintenance on Nacimiento spillway is scheduled for the fall.
1. San Antonio
   - Spillway investigation is ongoing (piezometer and borings).

5. **Update on Division of Safety Dams Requirement** – No update.

6. **Update on Interlake Tunnel Project** – No update.

7. **Status Reports**
   A. Lake Recreation by Concessionaire and Parks Department – No update.
   
   B. Boat Docks – No update.
   
   C. Quagga/Zebra Mussel Plan – Update from SLO County, WT.
      - During the Mid-State Fair weekends at the Paso Robles fair grounds, mussel sniffing canines are out helping public officials at Lake Nacimiento inspect vessels for invasive aquatic species – otherwise known as quagga or zebra mussels.
      - Dates are July 24/25 and July 31/Aug 1.
      - “Mussel dogs,” sniff around boats, alerting handlers to the presence of mussels and help to dramatically decrease the time it takes to inspect boats.
   
   D. Cloud Seeding –
      - No Update from SLO County, WT.
      - Discussion
         - Look for article on drone-supported seeding that accomplishes goal w/o silver iodide.
         - Discussion on potential funding for MCWRA to pilot an effort. Potentially $100K.
         - Bill Lipe shared the following links and excerpt:
            - "Rain triggered through cloud seeding is much cheaper than desalinated water, where about 42% of the country's water originates. Cloud seeding via drones has enormous potential and shows water can be tapped from the sky. This technology might be helpful to North and South America, where huge megadroughts impact water supplies and damage crops. The downside to artificial rain in arid climates is that these areas aren't well-positioned to handle downpours and may result in flash floods. There's always a caveat when playing with Mother Nature."
   
   E. San Luis Obispo County Activities – No update from SLO County, WT.
F. National Marine Fisheries Service – No update from NMFS, Bill Stevens.

G. Drought Update – Shaunna M.
- July 8th, Governor declared drought emergency for Monterey and SLO County (with many others).
- Review of “Drought TAC Guiding Principles”
  o Dec. 1 storage at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs.
    ▪ If the Dec. 1 forecasted combined reservoir storage volume at Nacimiento and San Antonio Reservoirs is below 220,000 AF, and the San Antonio Reservoir's Dec. 1 forecasted storage is below 82,000 AF, the D-TAC process shall commence.
  o First D-TAC meeting no earlier than Feb. 15 and end Mar. 31.
    ▪ D-TAC will develop recommended release schedule for April-Dec of current year.
    ▪ D-TAC will develop dry winter scenario for following Jan-Mar to allow for the possibility of multiple dry winter scenarios.
- Per attached “Reservoir Release Schedule” (dated 7/20/21), the Dec. 1 forecasted combined storage will be below the 220 TAF threshold.
  o Projected combined storage on Dec. 1 is approx. 51 TAF (~31 TAF at Naci).
  o This assumes no rain through Dec.

RESERVOIR PROJECTIONS July 20, 2021
• DECEMBER 2021 projected storage
  • Nacimiento: 31,417 AF at elevation 696.8
  • San Antonio: 19,604 AF at elevation 661.3
  • Combined storage = 51,021 AF
  • Nacimiento storage above minimum pool = 9,117 AF
  • San Antonio will be in minimum pool (~3,396 AF below)

NACIMIENTO: Minimum pool: 22,300 ac/ft; elevation 687.8
  Dead pool: 10,300 ac/ft; elevation 670
SAN ANTONIO: Minimum pool: 23,000 ac/ft; elevation 666
  Dead pool: 10,000 ac/ft storage; elevation 645

- Reservoir Projections – Jul7 20, 2021 (slide).
- The “Net Reservoir Inflow Totals Since 2010” Chart (above) – shows the variability of inflow to Naci (blue) and San Antonio (orange). 2022 is unpredictable.
  o Question – What are the “triggers” for fisheries releases at Naci (flow prescription triggers)?
- Discussion
  o Tom Virsik (attorney, public comment) – Speaking to MCWRA about the limits on the activation of the D-TAC, “with respect to the settlement agreement - since it was an agreement, you can always agree to agree to change.”

8. Calendar: Set next meeting date and discuss future agenda items.
  - Aug. 26, next ResOps.
  - Chair Bailey requested update from Kellie D. (Monterey Co. Counsel on the settlement and Drought TAC); Shaunna M. to pass that request along.

9. Adjournment – 2:14 PM.
### RESERVOIR RELEASE SCHEDULE FOR 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Combined Releases (cfs)</th>
<th>Combined Releases (ac-ft)</th>
<th>NACIMIENTO</th>
<th>SAN ANTONIO</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evap. Losses (ac-ft)</td>
<td>Reservoir Releases (ac-ft)</td>
<td>NWP Orders (ac-ft)</td>
<td>NWP Diversions (ac-ft)</td>
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<td>74</td>
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<td>Jan 2021</td>
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**Totals:**
- NACIMIENTO: 166,666, 9,577, 118,764, 16,162, 1,145
- SAN ANTONIO: 4,733, 47,902

**Notes:**
1. Mean daily flow for the month in cubic feet per second.
2. Shaded areas denote actual values. Non-shaded areas are projected values.
3. Nacimiento Reservoir storage capacity: 377,900 acre feet; San Antonio Reservoir storage capacity: 335,000 acre feet.
4. Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee may make release considerations for fish spawn and holiday periods to benefit recreation.
5. Schedule assumes no inflow to reservoirs after April 1st. Actual elevations may be influenced by inflow.
6. "NWP Diversions" are San Luis Obispo County - Nacimiento Water Project conveyance facilities diversions. Max. allowable water year (Oct. 1 - Sept. 30) diversions: 15,750 ac-ft.
7. Nacimiento "NWP Diversions" do not include lakeside water use which is estimated at approximately 1,750 acre feet per year.
Figures summarizing the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Fourth Quarterly Operating Fund Budget are provided for your information. Estimated credits due back to Participants in Fiscal Year 2020-21 Final Billings (aka True-Up Billings) are $656,443, subject to final analysis and calculations. The detailed Budget Status Report is included in your packet.

### Operations and Maintenance (O&M) anticipated savings:
The $633,574 of savings in O&M is primarily a result of (1) O&M expenses on the pipeline were suspended when the pipe was out of commission due to repairs being made on the pipeline. (2) Non-Routine O&M ended the Fiscal Year with savings primarily due to SCADA efforts at the booster station and non-routine projects that were completed during the year.

### Capital Outlay anticipated savings:
Capital Outlay reflects a savings of just under $23,000 from the completed shed installation at the Santa Ysabel Pump Station and the Nacimiento River crossing capacity study.

### Non-Routine O&M and Capital Outlay:
Budget for the remaining projects that span between FY 2020-21 into FY 2021-22 will be carried into FY 2021-22 to fund continued efforts.
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Katie Franco at (805) 781-5250 or via e-mail at KFranco@co.slo.ca.us. Staff will be available to answer questions at the meeting.
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<th>Total Purchase</th>
<th>Total Expenses</th>
<th>Exps &amp; POs Available</th>
<th>Carryforward FY21-22</th>
<th>Variance</th>
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SUBTOTAL: ROUTINE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE $ 4,294,272 $ 2,410,378 $ 0 $ 2,410,383 $ 57,317 $ 1,763,983 $ 1,474,674 $ 319,215

SUBTOTAL: NON ROUTINE OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE (NON-CAPITAL ACCOUNTS) $ 4,955,533 $ 1,768,999 $ 0 $ 1,768,999 $ 0 $ 1,768,999 $ 0 $ 1,768,999

SUBTOTAL: CAPITAL OUTLAY (ACCOUNTS) $ 6,277,197 $ 0 $ 0 $ 0 $ 6,277,197 $ 0 $ 6,277,197 $ 0

SUBTOTAL: TOTAL BUDGET / INSTALLMENT BILLINGS $ 6,277,197 $ 0 $ 0 $ 0 $ 6,277,197 $ 0 $ 6,277,197 $ 0
(1) DEPARTMENT
Office of Emergency Services
(2) MEETING DATE
7/13/2021
(3) CONTACT/PHONE
Scotty Jalbert
805-781-5454

(4) SUBJECT
Request to 1) receive and file a report on current drought conditions and related management actions and 2) adopt a resolution issuing a proclamation of local emergency due to drought conditions in San Luis Obispo County. All Districts.

(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION
It is recommended that the Board:
1. Receive and file the presentation and update on current drought conditions and related management actions;
2. Adopt a proclamation proclaiming a local emergency due to drought conditions in San Luis Obispo County;
3. Direct the Office of Emergency Services to return no later than every 30 days or as otherwise required by law to confirm the ongoing need for the local emergency; and
4. Provide additional staff direction as deemed appropriate.

(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S)
N/A
(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT
$0.00
(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT
$0.00
(9) BUDGETED?
yes

(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT
{ } Consent  { } Presentation  { } Hearing (Time Est. _______  {X} Board Business (Time Est. 30 min)

(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS
{ } Resolutions  { } Contracts  { } Ordinances  {X} Proclamations  { } N/A

(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR)
N/A

(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED?
BAR ID Number: N/A
{ } 4/5th's Vote Required  {X} N/A

(14) LOCATION MAP
N/A
(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT?
No
(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY
{X} N/A  Date _________________

(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW
Zachary A. Lute

(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S)
All Districts
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Office of Emergency Services / Scotty Jalbert  
805-781-5454

DATE: 7/13/2021

SUBJECT: Request to 1) receive and file a report on current drought conditions and related management actions and 2) adopt a resolution issuing a proclamation of local emergency due to drought conditions in San Luis Obispo County. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Receive and file the presentation and update on current drought conditions and related management actions;
2. Adopt a proclamation proclaiming a local emergency due to drought conditions in San Luis Obispo County;
3. Direct the Office of Emergency Services to return no later than every 30 days or as otherwise required by law to confirm the ongoing need for the local emergency; and
4. Provide additional staff direction as deemed appropriate.

DISCUSSION

SUMMARY

California is facing a water shortfall for the second consecutive year of drought conditions. This year, the lack of rain has caused record low rivers and reservoirs, snowpack below 40 percent of normal levels (Based on April 1 conditions-normally the peak), and extremely low rainfall totals throughout California. On March 5, 2021, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) declared 50 Counties in California to be designated as primary natural disaster areas due to drought conditions. San Luis Obispo County was designated as a contiguous natural disaster area due to drought conditions. Subsequently, on May 10, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom expanded his drought State of Emergency proclamation to include a total of 41 counties (30 percent of the state geographically). It is most likely that without significant rainfall this summer, expansion will include San Luis Obispo County.

San Luis Obispo County received below normal levels of precipitation for this last rainy season. As of the writing of this document, rainfall amounts in the County this season have some reservoirs as low as 22% of capacity. As
of June 28, 2021, the vast majority of the County is experiencing an “Extreme Drought” (D3) as reported by the U.S. Drought Monitor and will likely move into the Exceptional Drought Category (D4) by the start of the fall. The U.S. Drought Monitor measures intensity levels on a five-scale rating from D0 to D4. Significant impacts associated with drought conditions include a loss in agricultural production, drinking water shortages, decline in water quality, threat to wildlife, and fire danger, among others.

The County Administrative Officer reassembled the County Drought Task Force to coordinate drought monitoring, impact assessments, responses to emergency health and human safety, and public communication and outreach. The Task Force consists of representatives from County Office of Emergency Services, County Public Works, County Fire, County Agricultural Commissioner, County Planning and Building, Farm Advisor, County Health Agency, and County Counsel.

The Drought Task Force prepared this report in order to update the Board and the public on five key areas as they pertain to the drought: 1) USDA Secretarial Disaster Designation 2) 2020-2021 Rainfall totals and the current condition of countywide reservoir levels 3) Potential impacts from future State water delivery 4) Public communication and outreach efforts and 5) The recommendation to the Board to proclaim a local drought emergency.

The Drought Task Force will continue to hold meetings, monitor drought conditions, support water conservation efforts and county drought preparedness.

1) USDA SECRETARIAL DISASTER DESIGNATION

On March 5, 2021, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a Drought Disaster Designation for all 58 counties in California. Of the 58 counties, 47 were designated as primary disaster areas and 11 counties were designated as contiguous. San Luis Obispo County is currently considered a contiguous but will most likely move to a primary disaster area.

When a disaster designation is made by USDA, financial assistance is made available for qualifying agricultural producers. The type of assistance provided, as well as the eligibility for assistance, is dependent on the type of disaster event and the type of agricultural operation requiring relief. The USDA Farm Services Agency administers these programs and provides support to affected agricultural producers.

The San Luis Obispo County Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures provides support in the form of outreach and the dissemination of information to agriculturalists regarding disaster declarations, and refers individuals to the Farm Services Agency for possible assistance. Additionally, the Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures, along with UC Cooperative Extension, may help to assess crop loss in the event that information is required by the Farm Services Agency. UC Cooperative Extension provides information resources to agriculture and residential clientele on drought strategies.

2) 2020-2021 RAINFALL TOTALS AND THE CURRENT CONDITION OF COUNTYWIDE RESERVOIR LEVELS

Rain and stream real-time data monitoring is managed by the Water Resources Division of SLO County Public Works Department. This data is used to monitor hydrologic conditions during storm events; monitor current reservoirs levels; and to capture historical information on rainfall.
Nacimiento Lake
Rainfall Total: 19.89” (50% of Normal)
Current capacity level: 22%

Nacimiento Lake has a total capacity of 377,900-acre feet. The annual allocation for use in San Luis Obispo County is 17,500-acre feet, with 1,750-acre feet reserved for uses around Lake Nacimiento and 15,700-acre feet deliverable by the Nacimiento (pipeline) Project. If conditions persist, it is expected that the lake will reach a Minimum Pool Status (the lowest elevation to which the reservoir surface is allowed to be drawn during normal operating conditions) in January 2022. Water quality concerns are a factor since low lake levels can result in higher-than-normal water temperatures and the growth of organic matter such as algae.

Lopez Lake
Rainfall Total: 10.66” (53% of Normal)
Current capacity level: 35%

The reservoir's total capacity is 49,388-acre feet. It is currently at 17,329-acre feet. Of the existing capacity, 1750-acre feet is the amount below the intake inlet level and unavailable for use. Lopez provides treated potable water to its participating agencies as well as downstream releases for agricultural, groundwater recharge, and environmental needs.

With annual deliveries up to 4,530-acre feet established by contract with its participating agencies, and a downstream release allocation up to 4,200-acre feet, Lopez currently has about two years of water in storage under current drought conditions, which will decrease without inflow due to evaporation and seepage losses. The Low Reservoir Response Plan (LRRP) helps manage critical water supply levels in Lopez reservoir when a local drought emergency has been declared (last enacted in 2015). When implemented, the plan utilizes trigger points and actions:

- At 20,000-acre feet (AF), no water supplies are reduced. At 15,000 AF, water supplies to contractors are reduced by 10%
- At 10,000 AF, water supplies to contractors are reduced by 20%
- Downstream releases to Arroyo Grande Creek would be reduced per the plan

Santa Margarita Lake (Salinas Dam)
Rainfall Total: 11.54” (52% of Normal)
Current capacity level: 64%

The City of San Luis Obispo is the sole beneficiary of water stored in Santa Margarita Lake. Storage can only occur while the Salinas River is flowing between Salinas Dam and the confluence with Nacimiento River. The City coordinates its use of the supply with its other supplies to provide the greatest degree of reliability for the City's overall sources of supply. As such, County Public Works does not manage deliveries but instead establishes deliveries to the City based on requests from the City.

3) STATE WATER
On March 23, 2021, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced a water allocation adjustment to 5%, down from 10% in December 2020. District storage at San Luis Reservoir is projected to be at about 12,900 AF at end of year, December 31, 2021 which is about 2-1/2 years of supply for the District to meet full contracted allocations of the subcontractors (annually contracted for 4830 AF).

The County Operations Center provides critical public safety and other governmental needs. Their water system is wholly reliant on State Water supplies, which are delivered via the California Men's Colony (CMC) pursuant to contractual arrangements. While most of 2021 State Water deliveries are currently occurring from stored water, the overall supply is at a level that warrants monitoring and contingency planning.

4) PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH EFFORTS

The County is currently examining multiple channels of communication for water conservation outreach efforts. Research shows that the public is willing to conserve but do not always know what to do. The County has developed tips on how to reduce water usage and has been included in Attachment 1. The Drought Task Force is currently working to develop a communications plan in order to remind residents county wide of the importance of water supply.

The following channels of communication are in use by the County:

Website

Save Our Water (www.saveourwater.com)
On April 7, 2017, Governor Brown ended the drought state of emergency for most of California and issued Executive Order B-40-17, directing state agencies to update temporary emergency water restrictions and transition to permanent, long-term improvements in water use, making conservation a California way of life. The State mandated water conservation regulations that continue to remain in effect:
- No watering of outdoor landscapes that cause runoff
- No using hoses without shut-off nozzles
- No using water in a fountain or decorative water feature, unless the water is recirculated
- No washing of driveways & sidewalks
- No outdoor irrigation during and 48 hours following rain
- Restaurants and other food service establishments can only serve water to customers upon request
- Hotels and Motels must provide guests with the option of not having towels and linens laundered daily

SLO Water Wise Landscaping (www.slowaterwiselandscaping.com)
San Luis Obispo County Department of Public Works collaborates with Partners in Water Conservation (PIWC), a network of water purveyors and cities, to sponsor a website tool for residential and commercial water conservation landscaping. While each purveyor plays a distinct role in communicating and providing water conservation information to their ratepayers, together these agencies work together for broad public outreach.

San Luis Obispo County Water Resources (https://wr.slocountywater.org/)
The San Luis Obispo Water Resources website provides rainfall, reservoir, groundwater and stream data.

University of California Cooperative Extension ([http://cesanluisobispo.ucanr.edu/Drought Information/](http://cesanluisobispo.ucanr.edu/Drought Information/))

The UCCE Farm Advisor website provides drought resources for local rangeland, vegetable and strawberry, and orchard and vineyards on tools and drought strategies as well as information for home gardens and landscapes.

Water Bills

Public Works utilizes customer billing statements for water conservation messaging.

Radio

In partnership with Atascadero Mutual Water Company (AMWC), the City of Paso Robles, Templeton Community Services District (TCSD), San Luis Obispo County Public Works and Administration (SLO County) share the costs of radio advertising with American General Media (AGM) for water conservation public outreach and education engaging with the community through 30-second radio spots on local radio stations.

Community Outreach Messaging Campaign

County Public Works is preparing to launch a new water conservation campaign through the use of billboards and social media.

Water Conservation Coordinator

County Public Works has a designated Water Conservation Coordinator to manage, track, plan and report on applicable water demand management measures (DMMs).

5) PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

The Drought Task Force is recommending that the Board Proclaim a Local Emergency due to current drought conditions, as outlined in the attached proposed Proclamation of Local Emergency (Attachment 2). The immediate and long-term impacts of the drought pose a threat to the health and welfare of our residents and a negative impact on the economy of San Luis Obispo County.

A local emergency may be proclaimed when there is a condition of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property, and the condition is beyond the capability of the local forces to control effectively. Having a local emergency proclamation in place will allow the county to respond more promptly to immediate concerns, such as the ability to make immediate purchases or fund other immediate needs in order to obtain vital supplies, equipment, and other resources that are lacking and necessary for the protection of life and property. Because all public employees in California are disaster service workers, the proclamation would also require, as necessary, the emergency services of any county officer, employee, or resources from any County department. A proclamation of local emergency also demonstrates the need for state or federal drought related assistance, including funding, should any become available.

Per California Government Code 8630 and San Luis Obispo County Code section 2.80.070, once proclaimed the Board of Supervisors shall review the need for continuing the local emergency at least once every 30 days or as otherwise required by law.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT
At the direction of the County Administrative Officer, a Drought Task Force was formed. The Drought Task Force is comprised of multiple County Departments, including: County Office of Emergency Services (County OES), County Public Works, County Fire, County Agricultural Commissioner, County Planning and Building, Farm Advisor, County Health Agency, and County Counsel. All member departments provided input to this report and County Counsel assisted in preparing the proposed Proclamation of Local Emergency.

County OES continues to be in regular contact with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to receive and provide situation status information.

San Luis Obispo County Public Works continues to coordinate with water purveyors and cities, comprising the Partners in Water Conservation (PIWC). Recently the PIWC met with water purveyors of Santa Barbara County to share water contingency planning models.

Public Health is coordinating with relevant state agencies, including through the State California Department of Public Health and Emergency Medical Services Authority Health Coordination Center.

County Counsel has approved the proclamation as to form and legal effect.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

There is no cost associated with proclaiming a local emergency. The long-term financial impact on the local economy, including the demand on County and other legal agency services, cannot be forecast at this time. Proclaiming a local emergency due to the current extreme and exceptional drought conditions within the county will also facilitate emergency funding, if funding is made available.

**RESULTS**

This report provides an update on local drought conditions and current management actions. The issuance of a Proclamation of Local Emergency will allow the County Public Works Department and other agencies to take immediate action as necessary to respond to the existing extreme and exceptional drought conditions within the County by allowing temporary reduction of certain regulatory and purchasing requirements. This would also allow County staff to assist in drought-related work and tasks in its capacity as Disaster Service Workers.

Note that any policy related issues would be subject to Board approval.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Attachment 1_Tips for Conserving Water
2. Attachment 2_Proclamation of Local Emergency
3. Attachment 3_PowerPoint Presentation
IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PRESENT: This 13th day of July, 2021

ABSENT:

PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO EXTREME
DROUGHT CONDITIONS CAUSING PERIL TO THE SAFETY OF PERSONS
AND PROPERTY WITHIN THE COUNTY

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8630 empowers a county board of supervisors to proclaim
an emergency within the territorial limits of the county whenever conditions of extreme peril to the safety
of persons and property, as described in Government Code section 8558, exist within the county; and

WHEREAS, in February 2020 and 2021, the County of San Luis Obispo recorded the driest back-
to-back months in 150 years; and

WHEREAS, to date, record rainfall statistics indicate that the County has received only 50% of
its average rainfall; and

WHEREAS, Nacimiento Lake, which provides water to northern regions of the County, as well
as the City of San Luis Obispo and Cayucos, is currently at 22% capacity and Lake Lopez, which
provides water to the City of Arroyo Grande and other southern regions of the County, is at
approximately 35% capacity; and

WHEREAS, the primary industry in San Luis Obispo County is agriculture, and any negative
economic impact on this industry will have a significant adverse effect on the local economy; and

WHEREAS, water allocations from the state have been at approximately 5% this year and it is
possible that there will be zero water deliveries from the State Water Project in the coming year; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor on June 24, 2021, the entire County of San
Luis Obispo is listed as suffering from “extreme” drought conditions, classified as drought level category
D3, indicating major crop and pasture losses within the agricultural community and widespread water
shortages or restrictions; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the eastern most
portion of the County (approximately 17.5%) is in drought level category D4, the most severe classification
of drought level conditions as reported by the U.S. Drought Monitor, indicating exceptional drought
conditions resulting in widespread crop and pasture losses; shortages of water in reservoirs, streams, and
wells; and creating water emergencies in the geographical areas identified at this drought level; and
WHEREAS, on March 5, 2021, the United States Department of Agriculture issued a Drought Disaster Designation for all 58 counties in California, designating 47 as primary disaster areas and 11 as contiguous disaster areas, including San Luis Obispo County, which will likely move to a primary disaster area over the next several weeks; and

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2021, the U.S. Department of Agriculture granted a secretarial disaster designation for the primary counties of Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara and the contiguous counties of Fresno, Kern, Kings, Merced, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz and Ventura due to drought intensity levels of D2 (for 8 consecutive weeks), D3, and D4, as reported by the U.S. Drought Monitor; and

WHEREAS, the above-referenced drought conditions adversely impact public and private drinking water supplies and threaten to decrease supplies of groundwater and other sources; and

WHEREAS, long term forecasts indicate no relief from the current drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, water supplies necessary to provide both domestic and fire protection uses are threatened in a number of our communities; and

WHEREAS, the long-term ramifications of the drought will have a significant impact on San Luis Obispo County and pose a danger to the health and welfare of its residents, livestock, and agriculture; and

WHEREAS, the above-referenced conditions of extreme drought warrant and necessitate that the County proclaim the existence of a local emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO DOES HEREBY PROCLAIM this 13th day of July, 2021, pursuant to the provisions of the California Emergency Services Act and Chapter 2.80 of the County Code, that there exists a condition of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the entire County of San Luis Obispo due to the existence of extreme drought conditions, and that these drought conditions are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the County and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that:

1. During the existence of the local emergency proclaimed herein the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of the County shall be those prescribed by state law, by county ordinance, and by resolutions of the Board of Supervisors.

2. The Board shall review the need for continuing this local emergency at least once every 30 days or as otherwise required by law.
3. This proclamation of local emergency shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until the Board terminates the proclamation of local emergency.

4. A copy of this proclamation shall be posted on all outside public access doors of the County Government Center and in one public place within any area of the County of San Luis Obispo within which this proclamation applies, and that personnel of said county shall endeavor to make copies of this proclamation available to news media.

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAINING:
the foregoing resolution is hereby adopted.

_______________________________________
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

WADE HORTON
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: __________________________
   Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:

RITA L. NEAL
County Counsel

By: __________________________
   Deputy County Counsel

Date: __________________________

Dated: July 1, 2021