



SALINAS RIVER FLOWING “LIVE STREAM” –

The County of San Luis Obispo Department of Public Works has confirmed the end of the "live stream" event for the Salinas River. On Monday, May 18, 2026, at 9:30 AM, officials observed a dry section between Salinas Reservoir and the confluence with the Nacimiento River in Bradley.

Consequently, in accordance with the 1973 State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) "Live Stream" Ruling, the discovery signifies the termination of the "live stream" as of Monday, May 18, 2026, and all inflow into the Salinas Reservoir will now be released at the dam into the Salinas River.

The Salinas River originates from the Salinas Reservoir Dam (Santa Margarita Lake), a key water source for the City of San Luis Obispo. Rainfall generated a natural "live stream" flow in the Salinas River, facilitating water storage in the reservoir between December 26 – May 18. The Salinas Reservoir is at 99.4% capacity.

For questions regarding the Salinas River “Live Stream”, please contact Public Works Water Utilities Division Program Manager, Laura Holder (805) 781-5135.

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