Salinas River
Long-Term Management Plan

Planning Group & Technical Design Team Joint Meeting | Agenda

Thursday, August 2, 3:00-5:00

Location: Monterey County Water Resources Association
Cayenne Room, 1441 Schilling Place, Salinas

Meeting Purpose

- Get to know the Salinas River Long-term Management Plan (LTMP) team, Planning Group, and Technical Design Team members
- Agree on roles and responsibilities
- Review the Salinas River LTMP development process and develop mutual understanding of the goals, opportunities / constraints, and data collection

3:00	**Welcome**
3:05	**Agenda Review and Meeting Purpose** Facilitator Gina Bartlett, Consensus Building Institute
3:10	**Introductions**
3:20	**Collaborative Process Design: Presentation and Discussion** Facilitators Gina Bartlett and Stephanie Horii, Consensus Building Institute – Discuss and develop shared commitment to roles and responsibilities during LTMP development – CBI to develop draft communication and engagement plan
3:45	**LTMP Overview: Goals, Outline, and Development Process** Elizabeth Krafft, Monterey County Water Resources Agency and Consultant Kathryn Gaffney, ICF – Provide feedback on LTMP goals and outline
4:05	**Opportunities and Constraints** – What opportunity does the LTMP provide? What would you like to see this LTMP address? – What are limitations or constraints that this planning process must manage or confront?
4:45	**Public Comment**
4:55	**Next Steps and Meeting**
5:00	**Adjourn**

Salinas Long-Term Management Plan (LTMP)

DRAFT Purpose and Goals

Drafted by ICF with Review from Monterey County Water Resources Agency
Last updated: July 25, 2018

Purpose: The purpose of the Salinas River LTMP is to describe a multi-benefit management program that addresses needs related to Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency) facilities and operations, as well as related issues such as flood risk reduction, water supply, water quality, natural resource conservation, threatened and endangered species management, and federal and state Endangered Species Act compliance.

Goals:

Goals 1-5 are based on the Salinas River Management Program grant issued by the California State Coastal Conservancy. Goals are numbered to facilitate discussion, not to suggest any prioritization.

1. Identify long-term solutions for management of the Salinas River that include flood reduction, water resource management, and habitat management for threatened and endangered species.
2. Investigate the Salinas River Lagoon for the potential of reducing flooding on all lands in the vicinity.
3. Identify potential improvements to steelhead migration issues in the Salinas River utilizing existing management efforts and anticipated future projects.
4. Integrate with the Agency's multi-benefit Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program, including documenting effectiveness.
5. Develop the framework for implementing the LTMP that meets a variety of multi-benefit management goals, including implementation of the forthcoming Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Salinas River Basin.
6. Build upon and incorporate public/private partnerships, compatible with existing land uses and water rights.
7. Establish the historical and existing conditions in the lower Salinas River watershed regarding the physical, biological, and chemical changes in the system over time, and to the extent possible, the sources driving those changes.
8. Inform development of a future Agency habitat conservation plan (HCP) and other planning documents.

Salinas Long-Term Management Plan
DRAFT Outline

Drafted by ICF with Review from Monterey County Water Resources Agency
Last updated: July 16, 2018

Executive Summary

Chapter 1 Introduction

- 1.1 Purpose and Goals
- 1.2 Scope
  - 1.2.1 Geographic Scope
  - 1.2.2 Management Activities Considered
  - 1.2.3 Planning Horizon
- 1.3 Preparation Process
  - 1.3.1 LTMP Consulting Team
  - 1.3.2 Stakeholder Engagement
    - 1.3.2.1 Technical Design Team and Scientific Working Group
    - 1.3.2.2 Planning Group
    - 1.3.2.3 Public Outreach
- 1.4 Document Organization

Chapter 2 Background

- 2.1 Monterey County Water Resources Agency Mission
- 2.2 Jurisdiction and Funding Mechanisms
- 2.3 Water Resource Management
  - 2.3.1 Water Supply Operations
  - 2.3.2 Flood Management
  - 2.3.3 Facilities
    - 2.3.3.1 Reservoirs
    - 2.3.3.2 Groundwater Recharge
    - 2.3.3.3 Additional Facilities
- 2.4 Agency Projects and Programs
  - 2.4.1 Agency-led Projects and Programs
    - 2.4.1.1 Castroville Seawater Intrusion Program
    - 2.4.1.2 Salinas River Lagoon Management and Enhancement Plan
    - 2.4.1.3 Salinas Valley Water Project
    - 2.4.1.4 Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program
    - 2.4.1.5 Interlake Tunnel and Spillway Modification Project
    - 2.4.1.6 Operations and Maintenance Activities in Salinas River
  - 2.4.2 Agency Partnership Projects and Programs
    - 2.4.2.1 Pure Water Monterey Project

Salinas River Long-Term Management Plan Data Sources Tracking

Compiled by ICF

Category	Complete Reference	Citation	Summary of Contents and Other Notes
2013 Outreach Program			
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2013. Salinas River Management Program Comments from Public Meeting. December	MCWRA 2013	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2013. PowerPoint Presentation of Salinas River Management Program Comments from Public Meeting. December	MCWRA 2013	
Arroyo Seco			
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2013. Low Flow Fisheries Monitoring Feasibility Evaluation of Tributaries of the Arroyo Seco River	MCWRA 2013	
	Londquist, Brian. 2001. Steelhead (Oncoryhynchus mykiss) Habitat Assessment along the Arroyo Seco River. California State University Monterey Bay. April.	Londquist 2001	
	Central Coast Watershed Studies (CCoWS). 2003. Fish Species Distribution and Habitat Quality For Selected D76 in the Salinas Watershed. Summer and Fall 2002. The Watershed Institute, Earth Systems Science and Policy. California State University, Monterey	CCoWS 2003	
	The Nature Conservancy (TNC). 2008. Main Stem Lower Salinas River, Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties CAP Workbook Threats Assessment Summary Tables.	TNC 2008	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2014. *Minimum Passage Criteria Survey for Adult and Juvenile Steelhead.* Annual monitoring report for the Salinas Valley Water Project prepared for NMFS. April	MCWRA 2014	
Castroville Seawater Intrusion Program			
	RMC Water and Environment. 2007. Zone 2B Proposition Engineer's Report. Prepared for Monterey County Water Resources Agency. November	RMC 2007	To document the basis of delivery charges for recipients of water delivered by the SRDF. The rpt also addresses allocation of benefits for the purpose of establishing water delivery charges under Prop 218. Good source for background on SVWP and SRDF.
	Geoscience. 2013. Protective Elevations to Control Sea Water Intrusion in the Salinas Valley. Technical Memorandum. November. 36 pp.	Geoscience 2013	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2017. *Recommendations to Address the Expansion of Seawater Intrusion in the Salinas River Groundwater Basin* . Special Reports Series 17-01. October. 244 pp.	MCWRA 2017	
Fisheries Restoration Grant Program Application			

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	California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2016. Aquatic Invasive Species Disinfection/Decontamination Protocols (Northern Region). The State Resource Agency. February.	CDFW 2016	
	National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). 2013. South Central California Steelhead Recover Plan. West Coast Region. NMFS. Long Beach, CA. December.	NMFS 2013	
	Brown and Caldwell. 2015a. *State of the Salinas River Groundwater Basin.* Prepared for Monterey County Water Resources Agency. January. 240 pp.	Brown and Caldwell 2015a	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2018. California Department of Fish and Wildlife Fishery Restoration Grant Program 2018/2019 Funding Opportunity Final Application. March.	MCWRA 2018	
Funding			
	Monterey One Water . 2018. Reclamation Budgets Presentation. May.	Monterey One Water 2018	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2017. Monterey County Water Resources Agency Recommended Budget for Fiscal Year ending June 30th 2018. 36 pp.	MCWRA 2017	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2017. Monterey County Water Resources Agency Budget Summary by Fund for Fiscal Year ending June 30th 2018.	MCWRA 2017	
	Raftelis Financial Consultants. 2017. Monterey County Water Resources Agency Rate Study Presentation. March.	Raftelis Financial Consultants 2017	
Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP)			
	Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP). 2013. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the Greater Monterey County Region. Regional Water Management Group. April.	IRWMP 2013	
	Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP). 2013. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the Greater Monterey County Region. Section E Resource Management Strategies. Regional Water Management Group. April.	IRWMP 2013	
	Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP). 2013. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the Greater Monterey County Region. Section F Project Review Process. Regional Water Management Group. April.	IRWMP 2013	

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	Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP). 2013. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the Greater Monterey County Region. Section G Projects Amended. Regional Water Management Group. April.	IRWMP 2013	
	Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP). 2013. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the Greater Monterey County Region. Section R Climate Change. Regional Water Management Group. April.	IRWMP 2013	
	Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP). 2013. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the Greater Monterey County Region. Appendix J Invasive Species. Regional Water Management Group. April.	IRWMP 2013	
	Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP). 2013. Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the Greater Monterey County Region. Appendix N Storm Water Resources Plan. Regional Water Management Group. April.	IRWMP 2013	
Groundwater Monitoring Reports			
	Brown and Caldwell. 2015a. *State of the Salinas River Groundwater Basin.* Prepared for Monterey County Water Resources Agency. January. 240 pp.	Brown and Caldwell 2015a	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2012. *Ground Water Summary Report 2011* . October. 16 pp.	MCWRA 2012	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2013. *Ground Water Summary Report 2012* . October. 16 pp.	MCWRA 2013	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2014. *Ground Water Summary Report 2013* . October. 16 pp.	MCWRA 2014	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2015. *Groundwater Extraction Summary Report 2014* . October. 20 pp.	MCWRA 2015	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2017. *Groundwater Extraction Summary Report 2015* . April. 20 pp.	MCWRA 2017	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2015. *CASGEM Monitoring Plan for High and Medium Basins in the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin.* March.	MCWRA 2015	
Historical Ecology Reconnaissance for Lower Salinas River			
	San Francisco Estuary Institute. 2009. Historical Ecology Reconnaissance for the Lower Salinas River. Prepared for the Nature Conservancy; Monterey County Region. August. 32pp.	SFEI 2009	
Interlake Tunnel			

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	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2016. *Interlake Tunnel and Spillway Modification Project Notice of Preparation/Initial Study* . April. 65 pp.	MCWRA 2016	EIR for white bass for the state
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2016. Interlake Tunnel and Spillway Modification Project Presentation.	MCWRA 2016	
	California Department of Fish and Game. 1984. Draft Environmental Impact Report for the White Bass Management Program. The State Resource Agency. June. 287 pp.	CDFG 1984	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2015. Status of White Bass in Lake Nacimiento and its Relationship to the proposed Interlake Tunnel Project and the Sustainability of Monterey County's Water Resources	MCWRA 2015	Summarizes the issues with white bass presence in the watersheds and how the Interlake tunnel project has potential to release more of the population into the Salinas and its direct effects on steelhead recovery. Options covered in the report include isolating, eradicating, and moving bass. Report dives into the effects of each of these options.
	Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application for Geotechnical Investigations at San Antonio Dam in prep for the Interlake Tunnel and Spillway Modification Project	MCWRA 2018	Application for geotech investigations at San Antonio Dam
	Section 1600 Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement Application for Geotechnical Investigations at San Antonio Dam in prep for the Interlake Tunnel and Spillway Modification Project	MCWRA 2018	
Moro Cojo			
	Santa Cruz Long-toed Salamander Survey in Upper Moro Cojo Slough, Monterey County, CA. Prepared for Saratoga Savings and Loan Association. May 26 pp.	ABA Consultants 1990	1990 study of Moro Cojo - found 4 SCLtS, 1 CRLF
	The Habitat Restoration Group. 1996. Moro Cojo Management and Enhancement Plan. Prepared for the Monterey County Planning and Building Inspection Department and State Coastal Conservancy October. 155 pp.	The Habitat Restoration Group 1996	1996 plan to enhance and manage Moro Coho Slough
Nacitone			
	Swanson Hydrology and Geomorphology. 2008. Water Resources, Water Quality, and Sediment Supply for the Nacitone Watershed Technical Memorandum. Prepared for Central Coast Salmon Enhancement and Monterey County Water Resource Agency. April. 49 pp.	Swanson Hydrology and Geomorphology, 2008	Hydrology of Nacitone Watershed (Both Nacimiento and San Antonio rivers.

Category	Complete Reference	Citation	Summary of Contents and Other Notes
	Nacitone Watersheds Steering Committee (NWSC) and Central Coast Salmon Enhancement, Inc. (CCSE). 2008. *San Antonio and Nacimiento Rivers Watershed Management Plan.* Prepared for Monterey County Water Resources Agency and the State Water Resources Control Board. October. 177 pp.	NWSC and CCSE 2008	Watershed Plan for Nacitone Watershed (Both Nacimiento and San Antonio rivers. Good info on both rivers and table on short term and long term goals for watershed planning between both counties.
	County of San Luis Obispo Flood Control and Water Conservation District. 2014. Nacimiento Water Project: Initial Watershed Sanitary Survey. Prepared for California Department of Public Health Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management Drinking Water Program District 06 Santa Barbara. January. 490 pp.	San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District 2014	
O&M Existing Facilities			
		MCWRA 2018	List of all the facilities in the management area.
Otter Project			
	Mills Legal Clinic. 2016. Sixty-Day Notice of Intent to Sue for Endangered Species Act and Clean Water Act Violations in relation to the Salinas Valley Water Project. June.	Mills Legal Clinic 2016	
	Downey Brand. 2016. Monterey County Water Resources Agency Response to 60-Day Notice of Intent to Sue for violations on the Salinas Valley Water Project. August.	Downey Brand 2016a	
	Downey Brand. 2016. Monterey County Water Resources Agency Response to 60-Day Notice of Intent to Sue for violations on the Salinas Valley Water Project- Appendices. August.	Downey Brand 2016b	
PureWater			
	Schaff & Wheeler. 2016. Water Right Application 32263A, Blanco Drain Flow Memorandum. Letter to Bill Stevens at National Marine Fisheries Service. February. 5 pp.	Schaff & Wheeler 2016	Memo answering NMFS questions regarding the Blanco Drain. Good water quality info.
	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2016. Biological Opinion for the Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project, Monterey County, CA (O8EVENOO-2016-TA-0643).	USFWS 2016	Biological Opinion from USFWS on PureWater Monterey Project. CRLF, Monterey spineflower and Monterey gilia. Good source for project description and analysis on plants.
	National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). 2016. Endangered Species Act Section 7(a)(2) Concurrence Letter and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat Response for the Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project. Reference # WCR-2016-5540. December	NMFS 2016	Letter of Concurrence from NMFS on the PureWater Monterey Project. May affect, but not likely to adversely affect: Great source for the project description and mentions reclamation ditch facilities as well as Blanco Drain.
	Denise Duffy & Associates. 2015. Biological Assessment for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service: Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project. Revised March 2016. 144 pp.	Denise Duffy & Associates 2015	USFWS Biological Assessment PWM

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	HDR. 2016. Draft Biological Assessment: Effects of the Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project on the South-Central California Coast Steelhead Distinct Population Segment. January 2016. 144 pp.	HDR 2016	NMFW Biological Assessment PWM
RCDMC Invasive Plant Removal Program			
	Resource Conservation District of Monterey County (RCDMC). 2011. Initial Study for the Salinas Watershed Invasive Non-native Plant Control and Restoration Program. September. 58 pp.	RCDMC 2011	Arundo Removal along the Salinas River. Good info on veg.
Reclamation Ditch			
	Central Coast Watershed Studies (CCoWS). 2006. Final MCWRA Reclamation Ditch Watershed Assessment and Management Strategy: Part A Watershed Assessment. The Watershed Institute, Earth Systems Science and Policy. California State University,	CCoWS 2006	Summary of the Reclamation Ditch Watershed
	H.T. Harvey & Associates. 2013. Potential Water Treatment Options for the Blanco Drain and the Reclamation Ditch Watersheds. July.	H.T. Harvey & Associates 2013	
	Central Coast Watershed Studies (CCoWS). 2006. Final MCWRA Reclamation Ditch Watershed Assessment and Management Strategy: Part B Management Strategy. The Watershed Institute, Earth Systems Science and Policy. California State University,	CCoWS 2006	Good info for management strategy
Salinas River Lagoon Enhancement Plan			
	Gilchrist & Associates, The Habitat Restoration Group, Philip Williams & Associates, Wetland Research Associates, and Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 1997. Salinas River Lagoon Management and Enhancement Plan. Prepared for the Salinas River Lagoon Task Force and MCWRA. March. 232 pp.	Gilchrist & Associates et al. 1997	
	Gilchrist & Associates, The Habitat Restoration Group, Philip Williams & Associates, Wetland Research Associates, and Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 1997. Salinas River Lagoon Management and Enhancement Plan. Prepared for the Salinas River Lagoon Task Force and MCWRA. March. 232 pp.	Gilchrist & Associates et al. 1997	
	Salinas River Lagoon Task Force Meeting Notes. 2016.	Salinas River Lagoon Task Force Meeting Notes 2016	
Salinas River Lagoon Sandbar Management			

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	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2007. Biological Opinion on Issuance of Department of Army Permits to the Monterey County Water Resources Agency for Construction of a Surface Water Diversion Structure in the Salinas River, near the City of Salinas (Corps File Number 24976S) and for Breaching of the Salinas River Lagoon (Corps File Number 16798S). July. 48 pp.	USFWS 2007	Discrepancy in measures for steelhead and plover. LTMP will need to address these conflicts.
	National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). 2009. Draft Biological Opinion for Breaching of the Salinas River Lagoon (Corps File Number 16798S). July. 42 pp.	NMFS 2009	
	Castaneda. J.F. 2015. Flooded Artichokes in SMF Ranches Presentation. January.	Castaneda 2015	Lagoon Flooding PPT in Dec. 2014
	H.T. Harvey & Associates. 2009. Salinas River Lagoon Fisheries Enhancement Project Biological Assessment for the Western Snowy Plover, California Brown Pelican, Steelhead, Smith's Blue Butterfly, and Essential Fish Habitat. June. 76 pp.	H.T. Harvey & Associates 2009	
	Cluer, B. and J. McKeon. 2005. The Problem of Repetitive Sand Dunes in the Salinas River: With Recommended Flows to Create Fish Passage through the Sand-Dune Field.	Cluer & Mckeon 2005	
	A checklist of fishes of the Monterey Bay including Elkhorn Slough, San Lorenzo, Pajaro, and Salinas Rivers	Kukowski 1972	
	Central Coast Wetlands Group at Moss Landing Marine Labs. 2015. Mouth Maintenance Permit Summary for Four River Mouth Lagoons in California. November. 3 pp.	Central Coast Wetlands Group 2015	
	Toft, J.D., S.H. Munsch, J.R. Cordell, K. Siitari, V.C. Hare, B. Holycross, L. A. DeBruyckere, and C. M. Greene. Nursery Functions of West Coast Estuaries: Data Assessment for Juveniles of 15 Focal Fish and Crustacean Species. Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership and National Fish Habitat Partnership. November. 60	Toft et al. 2015	
	Central Coast Wetlands Group at Moss Landing Marine Labs. 2015. Salinas River Lagoon Marsh Plain Condition Assessment. Prepared for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. November. 13	Central Coast Wetlands Group 2015	
	Central Coast Wetlands Group at Moss Landing Marine Labs. 2015. Salinas River Lagoon Water Quality Summary. November. 8 pp.	Central Coast Wetlands Group 2015	
	Hagar Environmental Science. 2010. Salinas River Lagoon Breach Monitoring Report 2008-2009. Prepared for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. July. 43 pp.	Hagar 2010	

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	Hagar Environmental Science. 2010. Salinas River Lagoon Breach Monitoring Report 2009-2010. Prepared for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. July. 40 pp.	Hagar 2010	
	Hagar Environmental Science. 2011. Salinas River Lagoon Monitoring Report 2010. Prepared for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. July. 91 pp.	Hagar 2011	
	Hagar Environmental Science. 2012. Salinas River Lagoon Monitoring Report 2011. Prepared for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. February. 45 pp.	Hagar 2012	
	Hagar Environmental Science. 2013. Salinas River Lagoon Monitoring Report 2011. Prepared for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. February. 53 pp.	Hagar 2013	
	Hagar Environmental Science. 2015. Salinas River Lagoon Monitoring Report 2014. Prepared for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. June. 46 pp.	Hagar 2015	
	Hughes, B. B., M. D. Levey, J. A. Brown, M. C. Fountain, A. B. Carlisle, S. Y. Litvin, C. M. Greene, W. N. Heady and M. G. Gleason. 2014. Nursery Functions of U.S. West Coast Estuaries: The State of Knowledge for Juveniles of Focal Invertebrate and Fish Species. The Nature Conservancy, Arlington, VA. 168pp.	Hughes et al. 2014	
	Central Coast Watershed Studies (CCoWS). 2001. Winter Water Quality of the Carmel and Salinas River Lagoons, Monterey, California 2000/2001. The Watershed Institute, Earth Systems Science and Policy. California State University, Monterey Bay	CCoWS 2001	
	Central Coast Watershed Studies (CCoWS). 2002. Monitoring Chlorpyrifos & Diazinon in Impaired Surface Waters of the Lower Salinas Region: Status Report No. 1. The Watershed Institute, Earth Systems Science and Policy. California State University, Monterey	CCoWS 2002	
	Central Coast Watershed Studies (CCoWS). 2004. Monitoring Chlorpyifos and Diazinon in Impaired Surface Waters of the Lower Salinas Region The Watershed Institute, Earth Systems Science and Policy. California State University, Monterey Bay	CCoWS 2004	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2015. Lagoon Breaching Data.	MCWRA 2015	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2016. Lagoon Breaching Data.	MCWRA 2016	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2018. Salinas River Sandbar Management Activities Report. March. 4 pp.	MCWRA 2018	

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	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2013. Salinas River Lagoon Sandbar Management Activities 2012. April. 4 pp.	MCWRA 2013	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2017. Notice of Termination of Dredged or Fill Discharges to Waters Deemed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to be Outside of Federal Jurisdiction. Water Quality Order No. 2004-0004-DWQ. January.	MCWRA 2013	
Salinas Valley Water Project (SVWP)			
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2001. Salinas Valley Water Project Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement. January. 806 pp.	MCWRA 2001	Phase I
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2007. Salinas Valley Water Project Addendum to Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement. July. 18 pp.	MCWRA 2007	Phase I
	Montgomery Watson. 1998. Salinas Valley Historical Benefits Analysis (HBA); Final Report. April. 294 pp.	Montgomery Watson 1998	Phase I
	Ali Taghavi Associates. 2000. Update of the Historical Benefits Analysis (HBA) Hydrological Investigation in the Arroyo Seco Cone Area. Prepared for Monterey County Water Resources Agency. February. 169 pp.	ATA 2000	Phase I
	RMC Water and Environment. 2003. Salinas Valley Water Project Engineer's Report. Prepared for Monterey County Water Resources Agency. January. 55 pp.	RMC 2003	Phase I
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2018. Draft Nacimiento Dam Operation Policy.	MCWRA 2018	Phase I
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2014. 2014 Low Flow Adaptive Management Fisheries Monitoring Arroyo Seco River. October. 25 pp.	MCWRA 2014	Phase I - Fisheries Rpts
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2014. Arroyo Seco and Nacimiento Rivers Index Reach Monitoring: Dive Count Surveys. October. 29 pp.	MCWRA 2014	Phase I - Fisheries Rpts
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2014. Salinas Valley Water Project Annual Fisheries Report for 2013. May. 289 pp.	MCWRA 2014	Phase I - Fisheries Rpts
	FISHBIO. 2014. Salinas River Basin Adult Steelhead Escapement Monitoring. 2014 Annual Report prepared for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. June. 18 pp.	FISHBIO 2014	Phase I - Fisheries Rpts
	FISHBIO. 2014. Salinas River Basin Juvenile O. mykiss Downstream Migration Monitoring. 2014 Annual Report prepared for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. June. 21 pp.	FISHBIO 2014	Phase I - Fisheries Rpts

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	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2005. Salinas Valley Water Project Flow Prescription for Steelhead Trout in the Salinas River. October. 140 pp.	MCWRA 2005	Phase I - Flow Rpts
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2014. *Salinas Valley Water Project Annual Flow Monitoring Report Operational Season 2013* . July. 139 pp.	MCWRA 2014	Phase I - Flow Rpts
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2015. *Salinas Valley Water Project Annual Flow Monitoring Report Operational Season 2014* . August. 79 pp.	MCWRA 2015	Phase I - Flow Rpts
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2016. *Salinas Valley Water Project Annual Flow Monitoring Report Operational Season 2015* . May. 80 pp.	MCWRA 2016	Phase I - Flow Rpts
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2017. *Salinas Valley Water Project Annual Flow Monitoring Report Operational Season 2016* . September. 80 pp.	MCWRA 2017	Phase I - Flow Rpts
	Section 404 Permit to Discharge fill into Salinas River for the Salinas Valley Water Project	USACE 2007	Phase I - Permits
	Biological Opinion for South Central California Coast Steelhead affected by the Salinas Valley Water Project.	NMFS 2007	Phase I - Permits
	Water Quality Certification Number 32707WQ03 for the Salinas Valley Water Project, Monterey County	RWQCB 2007	Phase I - Permits
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). Timeline of Events for the Salinas Valley Water Project. Graphic.	MCWRA	Phase II
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2014. Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and Public Scoping Meeting for the Salinas Valley Water Project.	MCWRA 2014	Phase II
	State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). 2013. Right to Divert Water Permit #11043. Permit Holder: Monterey County Water Resources Agency. September. 33 pp.		Phase II
Stream Maintenance Program			
	Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program Long-Term Effectiveness Assessment Plan. May. 14 pp.	MCWRA et al. 2017	
	Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program's River Management Unit Association Agreement. October. 13 pp.	Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program River Management Unit Association 2016	

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	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2016. User's Manual: A Field Guide for Operators and Participants for Pre-Maintenance and Post-Maintenance Activities. Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program River Management Units 1-7. September. 14 pp.	MCWRA 2014	
	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Department of the Army Regional General Permit 20 for the Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program. 2016. September. 8 pp.	USACE 2016	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2016. Biological Assessment for the Stream Maintenance Program.	MCWRA 2016	
	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2016. Biological Opinion for the Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program, Monterey County, CA (2016-F-0319) (Corps File No, 22309S). August. 78 pp.	USFWS 2016	may affect LBV, Tidewater Goby and its critical habitat, and CRLF - not likely to affect SJKF, CTS, Monterey Spineflower and CH, and yellow billed cuckoo
	National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). 2016. Endangered Species Act Section 7(a)(2) Concurrence Letter and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat Response for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency Stream Maintenance Program, Corps File #22309S.	NMFS 2016	
	Technically Conditioned Water Quality Certification Number 32716WQ02 for 2016-2025 Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program, Monterey County. August. 25 pp.	RWQCB 2016	
	California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). 2018. Amendment No. 3 of Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement Notification No. 1600-2016-0016-R4 for the Salinas River Stream Maintenance Project-Monterey County. April. 3 pp.	CDFW 2018	
	Board of Directors Meeting Notes, 2011-2015	MCWRA 2011-2016	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2014. Salinas River Stream Maintenance Project Final Revised EIR Volume 1. June. 388	MCWRA 2014	SMP_EIR
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2014. Salinas River Stream Maintenance Project Final Revised EIR Volume 2. June. 334	MCWRA 2014	SMP_EIR
	Appendices A through I	MCWRA 2014	SMP_EIR
	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Department of the Army Regional General Permit 10 for mechanized vegetation removal along sandbars of the Salinas River. 2003. August. 110 pp.	USACE 2003	Old Channel Maintenance Program 2003
	Technically Conditioned Water Quality Certification Number for Salinas River Channel Maintenance Program. November. 12 pp.	RWQCB 2002	Old Channel Maintenance Program 2003

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	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2003. Biological Opinion for the Regional General Permit for Channel Maintenance of the Salinas River, Monterey County, CA. August. 20 pp.	USFWS 2003	Old Channel Maintenance Program 2003
	National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). 2003. Programmatic Biological Opinion for the Regional General Permit for Channel Maintenance of the Salinas River, Monterey County, CA. July. 45	NMFS 2003	Old Channel Maintenance Program 2003
WaterSMART Basin Plan			
	Bureau of Reclamation. 2017. *Plan of Study, Salinas and Carmel Rivers Basin Study* . January. 91 pp.	Bureau of Reclamation 2017	
Other Resources			
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 2017. Proposed Strategies for Habitat Conservation Plan Development. 20	MCWRA 2017	
	Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA). 1995. Monterey County Water Resources Agency Act. April. 37 pp.	MCWRA 1995	
	Kennedy and Jenks Consultants. 2017. Storm Water Resource Plan for the Greater Salinas Area. Final. Prepared for the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency. February. 121 pp.	Kennedy and Jenks 2017	
	California Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2016. Aquatic Invasive Species Disinfection/Decontamination Protocols (Northern Region). Revised. February. 10 pp.	CDFW 2016	
	ICF. 2016. Administrative Final OCTA M2 Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan. October. 440 pp.	ICF 2016	
	City of Santa Cruz Water Department. Coastal Watershed Council. County of Santa Cruz Water Resources Division. Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County. San Lorenzo Valley Water District. 2018. San Lorenzo River Riparian Conservation Program. May. 44 pp.	City of Santa Cruz et al. 2018	
Websites to Consider			
	http://www.greatermontereyirwmp.org/documents/disadvantaged-community-plan-for-drinking-water-and-wastewater/	GMCIRWMP	This link is for a report that was done specifically for disadvantaged communities in the Salinas Valley and groundwater [drinking water] quality
	https://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=1aea37e5150c425f987bd7129ad40a53	GMCIRWMP	Monterey County Environment Health partnered and their data was used to generate the Greater Monterey County Water Tool
	http://www.ccamp.us/ca/view_data.php?org_id=rb3	Central Coast RWQCB	Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP) which is the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's regionally scaled water quality monitoring and evaluation program

Category	Complete Reference	Citation	Summary of Contents and Other Notes
	https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/NCDatasetViewer/	CADWR	CA Dept. of Water Resources Natural Communities Mapping Tool based on Groundwater
	https://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentID=109225&inline	United States National Vegetation Classification System	USNVC Macrogroup vegetation communities used in State Wildlife Action Plan (2015), Appendix D
GIS Data			
	Shapefiles of the SMP RMUs	MCWRA	Shapefiles of Stream Maintenance Program River Management Units
	Shapefiles of MCWRA facilities	MCWRA	

Salinas Long-Term Management Plan (LTMP)
DRAFT Opportunities and Constraints

Drafted by ICF with Review from Monterey County Water Resources Agency

Last updated: July 24, 2018

Constraints:

- **Grant funding timeline.** The grant supporting development of the LTMP has a deadline of December 31, 2018.
- **Future funding.** Future funding for revisions to the LTMP has not yet been identified.
- **Law and regulations.** Various regulatory permits will be required to implement LTMP management actions that would affect specific resources including waters of the U.S., waters of the state and associated riparian habitat, state and federal listed species, coastal resources.
    - Federal Clean Water Act, Sections 404 (dredge and fill), 402 (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System), and 401 (water quality certification)
    - Federal Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10 (navigable waters)
    - Federal Endangered Species Act
    - Migratory Bird Treaty Act
    - National Environmental Policy Act
    - National Historic Preservation Act
    - California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
    - California Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement
    - California Endangered Species Act
    - California Environmental Quality Act
    - California Coastal Act
- **Landownership.** Almost all land along the river is private, which is challenging for management implementation.
- **Existing commitments.** Exiting commitments (e.g., water rights, permits, agreements) may create constraints around how resources are managed.
- **Others?**

Opportunities:

- **Support.** Past listening exercises by the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency) and the current Issues Assessment by Consensus Building Institute show that most stakeholders believe a comprehensive management solution for the Salinas River is needed. No major issues against the LTMP were identified at the first public meeting on June 20, 2018.
- **Active Participation.** Approximately 40 people attended the June 20, 2018 public meeting.
- **Available Data.** There is a strong body of past and ongoing research, permits, and management plans from which to draw guidance and recommendations.
- **Need.** The Agency needs a habitat conservation plan (HCP) to comply with the federal Endangered Species Act and the Agency has time to develop a thoughtful conservation strategy for species that meets regulatory needs while also working for landowners/growers.
- **Funding.** A comprehensive approach to management planning will make the LTMP competitive for federal and state grants to support implementation.
- **Momentum.** Development of the LTMP is the next step in a process to establish a comprehensive solution to management challenges on the Salinas River and lagoon.
- **Others?**

Stakeholder Engagement Charter [DRAFT]

[Draft 7/26/18]
Developed by the Consensus Building Institute

Purpose

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency (Agency) is developing the Salinas River Long-Term Management Plan (LTMP). The purpose of this document is to outline the intent and operating guidelines for stakeholder engagement for developing the Long-Term Management Plan.

The Agency is convening a collaborative process to engage interested parties, landowners, technical experts, scientists, and the public in developing and shaping the plan. To support this process, the Agency is convening a broad-based planning group, a small technical design team, science working groups, and other conversations as needed. The Agency will work with the planning group to develop and implement a communication and engagement plan to share information and solicit feedback from community members.

The Agency has received grant funding that requires it to develop the plan in 2018.

Roles and Responsibilities

Convener

The Agency is responsible for developing the Long-Term Management Plan, and its Board of Directors will consider approving the plan upon completion. The Agency is convening a planning group and technical design team as well as scientific working groups to support plan development. The convener commits to running a clear, transparent process. Staff represent the Agency and weigh in on planning group, scientific working group, and technical design team deliberations. Staff will also develop materials to inform planning and scientific working group discussions.

Planning Group

The planning group is made up of a broad group of individuals and organizational representatives including state and federal regulatory staff, landowners, land managers, agriculture representatives, water resource planners, advocacy staff, biological resource specialists, and other interested parties.

The role of the planning group is to shape the goals, components, and overall Long-Term Management Plan. The planning group problem solves on opportunities, challenges, and implementation. The planning group can recommend when scientific experts need to convene. The planning group shares information and promotes understanding about the plan. A vital outcome of planning group deliberations is to build widespread support and understanding for the Long-Term Management Plan and its implementation. Planning group meetings are open to the public. The membership list is included in the appendix to this charter.

Technical Design Team

The technical design team is made up of staff from agencies and a few organizations that focus on resource management. The technical design team provides detailed input on technical and scientific information; guides development of the LTMP from technical, scientific, political, and funding viewpoints. The technical design team partners and problem solves with the Agency staff and consultants. Technical design team members identify management issues and coordinate with landowners on solutions. Lastly, the technical design team helps prepare materials to support effective planning group dialogue.

Scientific Working Groups

Scientific working groups meet as-needed to delve into specific issues and provide insights and guidance to the Agency and consultants. Scientific working groups draw on experts from a range of disciplines that may or may not be active in the planning process. For example, the Agency is convening a lagoon management-working group to focus on the specific issues there.

Technical Consultants

Technical consultants work in close partnership with the Agency to conduct analyses and to develop the plan. The technical consultants will share information and draft materials to inform planning group and technical design team discussions. During planning group meetings, technical consultants will provide expertise and answer planning group and technical design team member questions; however, technical consultants do not weigh in on planning group final recommendations.

Facilitator

The facilitator will be Gina Bartlett with Consensus Building Institute. The facilitator will design meetings and guide the process toward achieving mutually agreed-upon purpose and goals. The facilitator will work with all the parties to ensure the process is credible, fair, and effective. The facilitator will facilitate meetings, identify and synthesize points of agreement and disagreement, and assist in building consensus among members. Another key role of the facilitator will be to serve as a confidential communication channel for planning group and technical design team members, as well as other stakeholders. This allows stakeholders who wish to express views privately if they do not feel comfortable doing so in a larger group or to facilitate problem solving and conflict resolution.

If a planning group and technical design team member has a concern about neutrality or performance of the facilitator, s/he should raise the concern first with the facilitator and then with Elizabeth Krafft or Shaunna Murray of the Agency.

Decision-Making

The purpose of this stakeholder engagement process is to develop a Long-Term Management Plan with widespread support. As such, the planning group and technical design team will strive for consensus in its decisions and recommendations. The Agency will be the ultimate decision maker on plan content given that the plan must be complete in 2018. However, the Agency is committed to working with interested parties and stakeholders through the planning group, technical design team, and scientific working groups to reach agreement (as much as possible) on the plan.

The definition of consensus is that everyone can at least "live with" the decision or recommendation. A member can "stand aside" and let the group reach consensus. This would still constitute a consensus agreement and outcome.

When unable to reach consensus, the group will summarize different perspectives in the meeting summary for the Agency to consider in its final decision-making.

Process Agreements

All Planning Group meetings are open to the public.

Everyone agrees to negotiate in good faith. All participants agree to participate in decision making, to act in good faith in all aspects of this effort, and to communicate their interests during meetings. Good faith also requires that parties not make commitments they do not intend to follow through with, and that parties act consistently in the meetings and in other forums where the issues under discussion in these meetings are also being discussed.

Everyone agrees to address the issues and concerns of all participants and create a problem-solving environment, treating concerns as problems to be solved rather than battles to be won. All the parties agree to consider the issues and concerns of the other parties and strive to reach an agreement that takes all the issues under consideration.

Everyone agrees to inform their leadership and constituents about the outcome of the facilitated discussions.

Agreements stand even if representatives change. If an organization changes its representatives, organizations commit to a thorough debriefing of new representatives with the facilitator. New representatives agree to uphold previous agreements reached.

Working Together

Participants and the facilitator will work together to create a problem-solving environment and follow these agreements to that aim:

- Listen to understand
- Encourage others to contribute
- Focus on the topic
- All ideas and points of view have value
- Be honest, fair, and as candid as possible
- Think innovatively and welcome new ideas, creative thinking, and problem solving
- Invite humor and good will
- Be comfortable

Communication and Media

The facilitator, in cooperation with the planning group and the Agency, will develop a communication plan to organize briefings and information about the plan. The facilitator will provide meeting summaries; each will begin with a concise description of meeting highlights and outcomes, intended for participants to easily share with others.

Participants reserve the freedom to express their own opinions to media representatives, but not opinions of others nor on behalf of the planning group or technical design team. Participants can refer media inquiries to other members for individual comments, or to Agency staff for comments on planning group or technical design team deliberations or outcomes.

If contacted by the press or an external party concerning the discussions, participants are asked to:

- Point out that they are not speaking on behalf of the group;
- Present their views only and conscientiously refrain from expressing, characterizing or judging the views of others; and
- Avoid using the press as a vehicle for negotiation.

The facilitator will avoid speaking with the media.

Planning Group Membership

Regulatory Agencies

California Department of Fish & Wildlife, Annee Ferranti and Sarah Paulson
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, Phil Hammer or Mark Cassady
NOAA Fisheries, Bill Stevens
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Jake Martin
(Tentative) California Coastal Commission

Resource Issues: Scientists and Interest Groups

Water Quality and Lagoon Management: Monterey Bay Natural Marine Sanctuary, NOAA, Bridget Hoover, Director
Habitat / Wetlands and Lagoon Management: Central Coast Wetlands Group, Ross Clark, Kevin O'Connor
Fisheries: Trout Unlimited, Tim Frahm
Natural Resource Management (focus on steelhead habitat): Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District, Devin Best
Aquatic, Coastal: The Otter Project and Monterey Coastkeeper, Steve Shimek
Natural Resource Management (focus on vegetation management): Resource Conservation District of Monterey County, Paul Robins
Plants and Watershed Restoration: CSU Monterey Bay School of Natural Resources, Nicole (Nikki) Nedeff

(Tentative) Geomorphology: CSU Monterey Bay, Fred Watson
(Tentative) Birds: Audubon Society

Invited but unable to participate
The Nature Conservancy
Doug Smith, CSU Monterey Bay

Stream Maintenance River Management Unit Association and Agriculture / Landowners

RMU Association Board Member David Costa, Costa Farms (mid-Valley)
RMU Association Member Merrill Farms, John Bramers with alternate Allan Clark (northern)
RMU Association Member Melissa Duflock, Rancho San Bernardo (south)
Water Quality and Operations Committee Chair Dale Huss (lagoon)
Bill Lipe, Rava Farms and Eric Morgan, Braga (south) – *one as primary and one as alternate*

Waters Operations and Groundwater Plan Coordination

Monterey County Water Resources Agency, Elizabeth Krafft, and Shaunna Murray
Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, Gary Peterson, General Manager
Greenfield GSA, Curtis Weeks, General Manager
Marina Groundwater Sustainability Agency, Keith Van Der Maaten, General Manager
Monterey County Resource Management Agency, Melanie Beretti

Other

Steph Wald, Salinas River Watershed Coordinator, Steph Wald
(Tentative) San Luis Obispo County
(Tentative) State Coastal Conservancy

Technical Design Team Participants

Monterey County Water Resources Agency: Shaunna Murray and Elizabeth Krafft

ICF Consultant Team: Kathryn Gaffney

Regulatory: Bill Stevens (Santa Rosa), NMFS

Regulatory: Jake Martin (Santa Cruz), USFWS

Regulatory: Phil Hammer (San Luis Obispo), RWQCB (Mark Cassady, alternate)

Regulatory: Annee Ferranti and Sarah Paulson, CDFW

Regulatory: California Coastal Commission (tentative)

Funding and Political Dynamics: Abby Taylor Silva, Grower-Shipper Association of Monterey County

Landowner Outreach, Stream Maintenance Program—Donna Meyers, River Management Unit Association

Lagoon Management —Ross Clark and Kevin O'Connor, Central Coast Wetlands

Natural Resources Management, Landowner Outreach, Paul Robins, Resource Conservation District of Monterey County

Consensus Building Institute

Salinas River Long-Term Management Plan Stakeholder Issue Assessment

Developed by Associate Julia Golomb, Senior Mediator Gina Bartlett, and Senior Associate Laura Sneeringer, Consensus Building Institute
June 2018

Summary of Findings

In spring 2018, the Consensus Building Institute, an impartial nonprofit that helps groups collaborate, conducted a stakeholder issue assessment on developing a Long-Term Management Plan for the Salinas River. CBI's role is to *help facilitate* local decision-making, recommending and leading a process that brings together all affected parties in productive dialogue to develop the Long-Term Management Plan (LTMP).

To understand and reflect the range of perspectives and to develop recommendations for the process to develop a LTMP, CBI conducted 17 in-depth interviews with 25 individuals from a range of stakeholder interests in the Salinas Valley, including agencies, agriculture, community representatives, environmental, lagoon and stream maintenance specialists, landowners, and water resources managers. Interviews were confidential (to foster candor) and were conducted either in-person or by phone. A list of those interviewed as part of the formal assessment process, as well as the interview protocol, is in the appendix.

Given the importance of the Salinas River to the region's environment and economy, CBI's methodology is grounded in three core principles: (1) being comprehensive in soliciting input from the range of potentially impacted stakeholders; (2) being transparent in the feedback and recommendations provided; and (3) drawing on CBI's experience and best practices to recommend an approach likely to foster effective and inclusive deliberations. This document presents CBI's assessment findings and recommendations for a transparent, inclusive process to develop a LTMP for the Salinas River.

Please note that CBI did not attempt to independently validate the claims or concerns of the interviewees. Rather, this document seeks to summarize the range of views, ideas, and concerns expressed. Additionally, this brief document cannot do justice to the deep knowledge, experience, and nuances of ideas and concepts that stakeholders shared. Rather, the document tries to reflect back key themes and concerns that help shape the way forward. CBI has sought to present these findings, in its role as an impartial facilitator, as accurately and fairly as possible. Any errors or omissions are the sole responsibility of CBI.

Findings

The following summarizes findings from interviews conducted by the Consensus Building Institute. Findings reflect a range of feedback on LTMP development, the process, challenges and critical issues.

Key Issues

The Salinas River is the lifeblood of the Valley. As one interviewee observed, "The river is essential to everyone but in different forms." The people of the Salinas Valley depend on the Salinas River for a variety of economic and ecological benefits. **Stakeholders suggest that** effective management of the Salinas River depends on establishing a shared understanding of the broad range of benefits and risks to be addressed through the LTMP, as well as a shared vision of a sustainable future for the Salinas River and the Salinas River Valley.

"The river is essential to everyone but in different forms."

It is important to expand the scale of river maintenance and engage all property owners in implementation. Interviewees noted that a piecemeal approach to river management and stream maintenance is inadequate, as landowners that do not conduct river management work undermine the efforts of property owners who do. To support full landowner participation in river management, it may be important to streamline permitting processes and to simplify and incorporate incentives into regulations.

Some interviewees note a valuable opportunity to link LTMP development with local groundwater sustainability planning efforts. Stakeholders emphasize the need to look at all water in the Salinas Valley as part of a single system. Many encourage expanding the conversation around the Salinas River to consider how the river and groundwater interact as part of the same system, with hydrogeology that links river flows and groundwater recharge.

"We need a model for our future that creates a path forward, a success story from elsewhere that is applicable to this context."

"We need a model for our future that creates a path forward, a success story from elsewhere that is applicable to this context." Interviewees remarked that landowners may come to the process with the perspective that the LTMP creates more work and negative impacts for them. "We need to disrupt that mentality by presenting a much broader, united vision," observed an interviewee. Some interviewees suggest beginning with a success story from elsewhere or from one of the existing river management units and from there establishing a shared vision of future possibilities for the river. With a shared vision, local stakeholders believe they can shift away from making decisions based solely on personal self-interest and toward collectively beneficial resource decisions.

Sound, accessible scientific and technical information is key to building a shared path forward and dissuading misconceptions as they arise. Many interviewees spoke to the importance of working with scientific and technical information that is both robust and accessible. One interviewee noted, "We need good information that is presented in a very user-friendly way but not dumbed down." Interviewees suggest that the planning process begin with educating interested parties, thereby establishing a shared baseline vocabulary and technical and spatial understanding. An interviewee observed that when establishing the stream maintenance program, "Once people had maps in their hands and a list of terms, it completely changed the conversation to one that was far more productive." Some interviewees also note the importance of utilizing and validating local knowledge by asking growers to provide feedback on models and visuals. Further, an interviewee advises utilizing data to politely correct misconceptions among the broader public.

Models and other scientific information can help define areas of planned flooding and habitat along the river. Interviewees point to the following information needs:

- Hydrogeological models to understand recharge and how the river behaves under certain circumstances
- Data on the positive impacts of the stream maintenance program to-date
- Species: What have we learned about species to-date, what are key considerations and what species might no longer need to be listed as threatened or endangered
- Study the best approach to water releases
- Wetland development
- A high resolution digital image of the river corridor may be useful

"We need good information that is presented in a very user-friendly way but not dumbed down."

Interviewees highlight a range of issues to be addressed in the Salinas River Long-Term Management Plan. Key issues include:

- Flow management (systems for dam releases, timing of river maintenance work, and opportunities to better align the two), with a primary focus of improving flow conditions on key tributaries
- Water storage and transfer
- Water quality management
- Sediment management and gravel mining
- Opportunities to utilize bursts from Arroyo Seco and headwaters
- Clarity around biological opinion requirements
- Lagoon management
- Flooding
- Invasive species
- Habitat management, including managing habitat for fish and endangered species
- Fisheries and riparian corridor protection
- Food safety (related to wildlife in agricultural areas)

- Vegetation management
- Fish passage
- Saltwater intrusion

For some stakeholders, the health of steelhead populations serves as an indicator of the environmental health of the broader river system; however, issues related to releases and timing for steelhead may figure more centrally in future development of a Habit Conservation Plan.

Some interviewees warn that maintaining a focused planning effort may prove challenging, given the range of issues and interests. Key to success is clarity around objectives for management plan development.

Many stakeholders seek a long-term balance between environmental and agricultural interests. Interviewees express the importance of managing for a healthy river system that protects clean water, fish, and wildlife while simultaneously streamlining the regulatory landscape for agriculturalists.

Varied perspectives exist on how best to manage for flooding and other impacts to landowners adjacent to the river. Some stakeholders point to a need for the river to flood more than it has been allowed to in recent years while other stakeholders prefer to minimize or closely manage flooding. Given that some degree of flooding will continue to be a part of the system, many find it important to designate areas where flooding should occur, particularly wetland areas. Several interviewees express concern that flooding disperses pesticide rich soil and other chemicals throughout the system at significant cost to the environment and growers.

Some believe that costs associated with LTMP implementation should be carried regionally rather than by individual property owners. Given that the environmental and economic benefits of effective river management are regional and substantial, interviewees suggest finding creative approaches to regionally share the costs of implementation.

Stakeholders articulate the following keys to success:

- Interviewees readily talk about historic tensions and sources of distrust in the region that the process must manage. For example, some environmentalists lack trust in the process and program.
- Take time to understand needs from a range of perspectives, including environmental and agricultural. Encourage agency staff to listen deeply to the range of perspectives and concerns.
- Critical to engage private property owner representatives that have influence, enthusiasm, and hesitation at the table.
- Build trust by focusing on areas where there is some agreement (win/wins) before turning to areas of disagreement.
- Use a scientific approach to identify key management areas.
- Clarify objectives and set ground rules.

- Important to manage varied scales of expectations among stakeholders; some are concerned about specific flood areas and lagoon management while others are focused on the big picture.

Consensus Building Institute Process Recommendations

Create a Transparent, Inclusive Collaborative Process for LTMP development
Stakeholders are broadly unified on several core aspects related to a process for developing a LTMP. It must be transparent. It must be inclusive. It must be accompanied by broad outreach. And it should draw on the best available data.

Many stakeholders are looking to CBI to draw on its expertise and experience elsewhere, while also drawing lessons from successful local collaborative planning efforts, to put forward a recommended approach. With this is in mind, CBI has crafted recommendations structured to achieve the following:

- Ensure ongoing opportunities for meaningful public input and dialogue
- Balance the need for broad participation with the imperative for focused and effective technical conversations
- Foster cross-interest group discussions on all aspects of LTMP development and implementation to ensure participants understand and integrate each other's interests and concerns
- Provide sufficient time for thoughtful deliberations without exhausting people's time and resources
- Achieve agreements and reach outcomes in a timely manner

Closely coordinate with existing efforts, including development of the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan, reservoir operations (Salinas Valley Water Project), and the Stream Management Program.

Convene a Stakeholder Planning Group
CBI recommends that the Monterey County Water Resources Agency convene a broad planning group that shapes the overall Long-Term Management Plan, including its goals and key components. The planning group would have a set membership, with broad representation of interests. The goal of the planning group would be to contribute substantially to the LTMP content while building support and understanding for the LTMP and its implementation. The planning group would meet several times over the next six months to guide LTMP development. Meetings would be open to the public. CBI would work with the Water Resources Agency and stakeholders to develop recommendation on the planning group composition. CBI advises active inclusion of the following stakeholder interest groups in the planning group:

- Agriculture
- Environmental interests focused on birds, fish or aquatic species, habitat, and plants
- Landowners along different reaches of the river
- Regulatory agencies
- Scientific community

- Stream maintenance and lagoon management expertise
- Water operations and groundwater

Convene a Small Technical Design Team

Based on stakeholder input, CBI recommends establishing a small and nimble technical design team to guide the planning effort. The technical design team would provide detailed input on the technical and scientific information going into the plan and recommend when scientific experts might need to meet to inform the planning effort. The technical design team would identify permitting needs and coordinate with landowners. The technical design team would help prepare materials for the planning group, identifying key questions for planning group consideration. CBI would suggest that experts on the following engage in the technical design team:

- MCWRA staff
- Invasive species / plants
- Lagoon management
- Stream maintenance and landowner engagement
- Groundwater planning
- Specialists on endangered or threatened species
- Permitting

Design and Implement a Public Engagement Plan

Given the importance and level of interest in the future of the Salinas River, CBI recommends designing and implementing a public engagement plan and suite of activities to create transparency and information about LTMP development for the general public, including Spanish-language materials to reach Spanish-speaking communities. Translating technical information such that it is clear and accessible to the general public is of critical importance to deepening understanding of the importance and role of long-term river management.

Conclusion

The overarching goal of this effort is to reach widespread support on developing a Long-Term Management Plan for the Salinas River. The keys to success are creating a transparent, inclusive process that engages interested stakeholders while simultaneously forming a nimble technical work group that can efficiently and effectively address a range of issues and balance interests. A viable and broadly supported LTMP is the essential first step toward a future Salinas River that supports robust ecosystems and a vibrant economy.

About the Consensus Building Institute

Founded in 1993, the Consensus Building Institute improves the way that community and organizational leaders collaborate to make decisions, achieve agreements, and manage multi-party conflicts and planning efforts. A nationally and internationally recognized not-for-profit organization, CBI provides collaborative problem solving, mediation and highly-skilled facilitation for state and federal agencies, non-profits, communities, and international development agencies around the world. CBI senior staff are affiliated with the MIT-Harvard Public Disputes Program and the MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning. Learn more about CBI at: www.cbi.org

Appendix A: List of Persons Interviewed

Interviews alphabetized by last name of interviewee.

1. John Ballie, Landowner
2. Devin Best, Upper Salinas/Las Tablas Resource Conservation District
3. Don Bullard and Phil Humphrey, Nacimiento Regional Water Management Advisory Committee
4. Ross Clark and Kevin O'Connor, Central Coast Wetlands Group at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
5. Darlene Din, Salinas River Channel Coalition
6. Melissa Duflock, Landowner
7. Ken Ekeland, Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors
8. Tim Frahm, Trout Unlimited
9. Norm Groot, Monterey County Farm Bureau
10. Dale Huss, Ocean Mist and Sea Mist Farms
11. Jerry Lohr, Eric Morgan, Allan, Roger Maitoso, Michael Griva, Curtis Weeks and Steve McIntyre, Salinas Valley Water Coalition
12. Donna Meyers, Salinas River Management Unit Association
13. Gary Petersen, Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
14. Deidre Sullivan, Monterey County Water Resources Agency Board of Directors
15. Steve Shimek, Monterey Coast Keeper and The Otter Project
16. Dennis Sites, Salinas Valley Sustainable Water Group
17. Abby Taylor Silva, Grower-Shipper Association

Appendix B: Interview Protocol

Assessment Questions
Developed by Gina Bartlett and Julia Golomb, Consensus Building Institute
May 1, 2018

The Monterey County Water Resources Agency is developing a long-term management plan for the Salinas River this year. The plan will address a range of issues and projects on the river, including stream maintenance, lagoon management, steelhead habitat and population, and associated regulatory compliance. The Consensus Building Institute is conducting a series of interviews to better understand stakeholder perspectives on issues and concerns and the best way to shape the planning process to benefit from stakeholder expertise and ultimately create an effective long-term management plan.

Introductions
Confidentiality: *CBI Facilitators will use what we discuss to report back findings without attributing it to interviewee personally; anything that interviewee wishes to stay confidential will remain between the facilitator and interviewee.*

Please tell us about your history of involvement and interests related to the Salinas River.

Salinas River and Planning
When you look ahead 10, 25, or 50 years from now, how would you like to be able to describe the Salinas River?

What key issues or concerns would you like to see the plan address?

What issues do you anticipate others might raise?

What value does the Salinas River provide to you individually and to the Valley?

What conflicts would you envision might emerge when developing the plan? And, how might you envision resolving those issues? Where do you see opportunities for mutual gain?

What is the best way to take advantage of the strong interest in the river (among different landowners and stakeholders) during implementation?
Given that much of the Salinas River is privately owned, what are some options for funding projects? What role might private landowners play during plan implementation?

What kinds of information might be needed to support development of the long term management plan?

Who would have credibility to provide that technical information?

Stakeholder Engagement
CBI has been hired to facilitate a small technical team and a planning group to help guide development of the management plan and to organize a broader public outreach process.

- What composition might you recommend for the small technical team or planning group (interests, # of people, etc.)?
- Who might you recommend serve on the planning group?
- Who might be able to represent your interests?

- As the stakeholder engagement process comes together to work on developing the long-term management plan, how would you like to be involved?

Conclusion
Is there anything else that you haven't mentioned? What advice would you offer or what else would you recommend to move this effort forward?

Who else, if anyone, would you recommend that I interview on these issues?