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)
 - o Federal Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10 (navigable waters)
 - o Federal Endangered Species Act
 - o Migratory Bird Treaty Act
 - o National Environmental Policy Act
 - o National Historic Preservation Act
 - o California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act
 - o California Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement
 - o California Endangered Species Act
 - o California Environmental Quality Act
 - o 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?