

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-68

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARINA RECEIVING INFORMATION REGARDING THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DEIR) FOR THE PURE WATER MONTEREY GROUNDWATER REPLENISHMENT PROJECT; PROVIDING DIRECTION TO AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SEND A COMMENT LETTER REGARDING THE ABOVE MENTIONED DEIR.

WHEREAS, the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA) has released a DEIR for the Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project (GWR Project). MRWPCA is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and is doing this project in partnership with the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

WHEREAS, The GWR Project would divert new source waters to the MRWPCA Regional Treatment Plant for two purposes:

- 1) To create purified recycled water for recharge of the Seaside Groundwater Basin to replace 3,500 acre-feet per year of CalAM's current water supplies, enabling CalAM to reduce its diversions from the Carmel River by the same amount;
- 2) To provide additional recycled water to growers within the existing Castroville Seawater Intrusion project service area for crop irrigation.

WHEREAS, the GWR Project would be located within northern Monterey County and would include new facilities located within unincorporated areas of the Salinas Valley and within the cities of Salinas, Marina, Seaside, Monterey, Pacific Grove, and within former Fort Ord areas in Seaside and Marina. (**"Exhibit A"**)

WHEREAS, the attached (**"Exhibit B"**) is a Summary of the DEIR. A full copy of the DEIR is available by going to the website: www.purewatermonterey.org.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Marina does hereby:

- 1) Adopt Resolution No. 2015-, receiving information regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project; providing direction to and authorize the City Manager to send a comment letter regarding the above mentioned DEIR

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Marina at a adjourned regular meeting duly held on this 4th day of June 2015 by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCIL MEMBERS: Amadeo, Brown, Morton, O'Connell, Delgado

NOES, COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

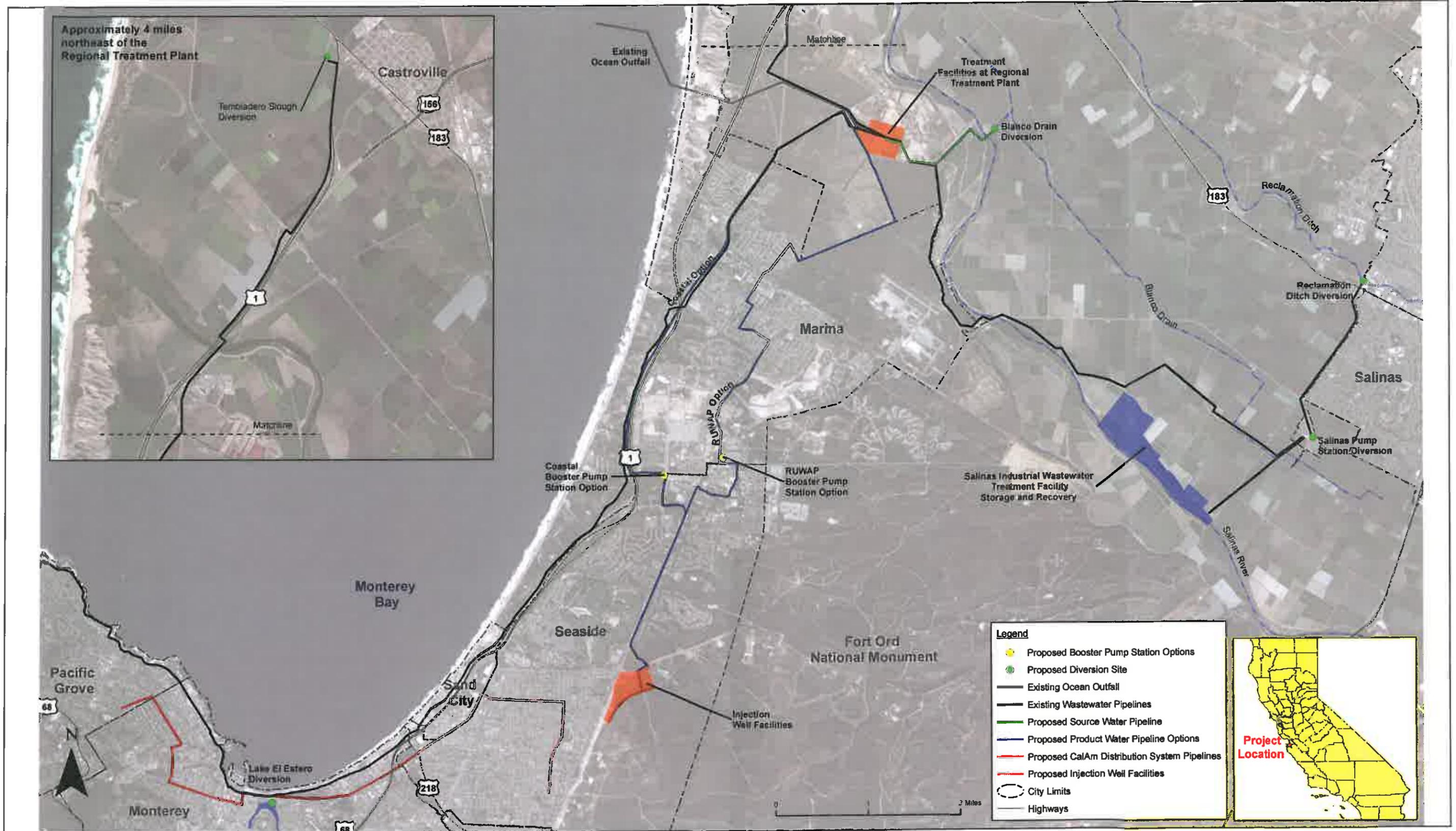
ABSTAIN, COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

ABSENT, COUNCIL MEMBERS: None

Bruce C. Delgado, Mayor

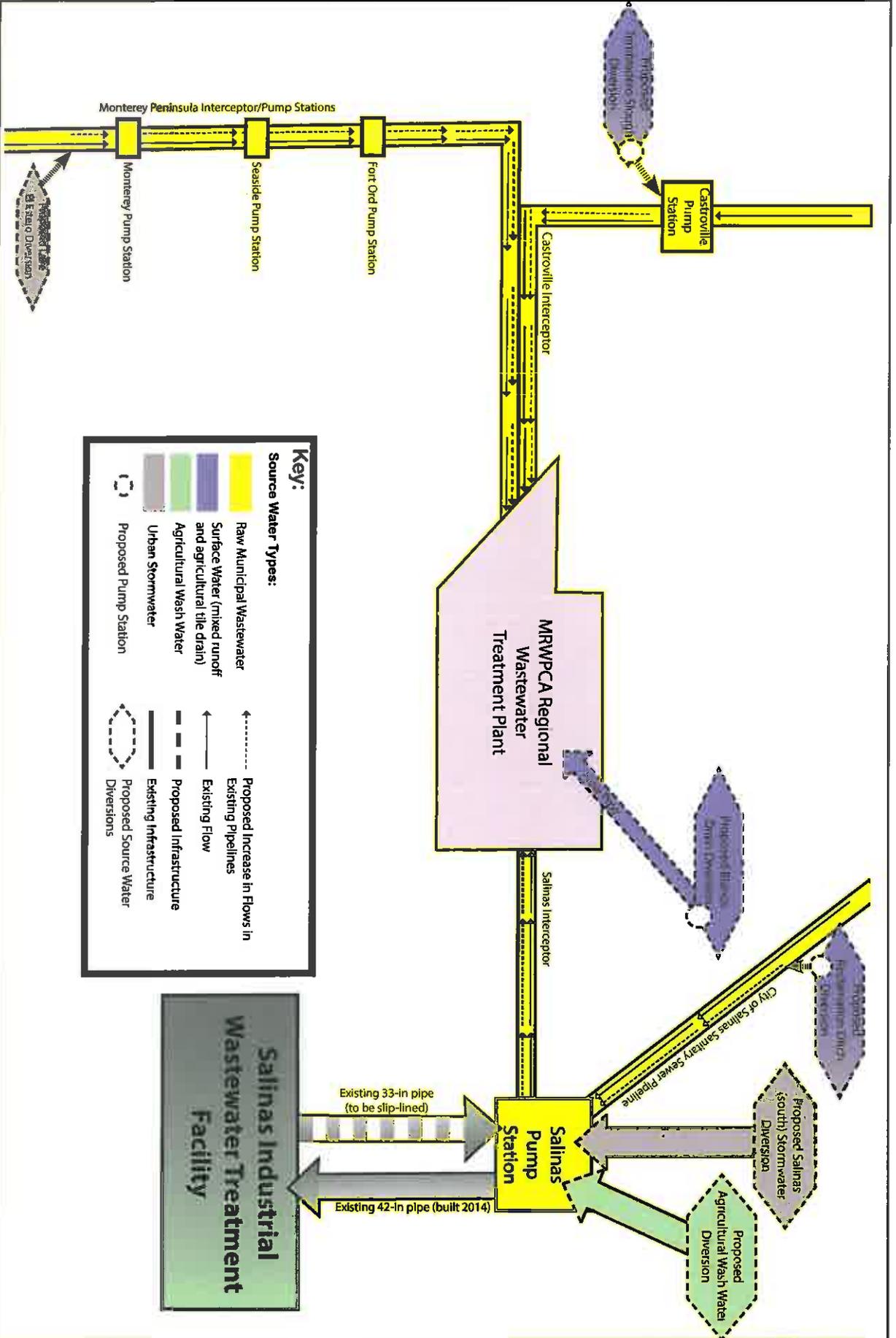
ATTEST:

Anita Sharp, Deputy City Clerk



Proposed GWR Project Facilities Overview
 DD&A April 2015

Pure Water Monterey GWR Project Draft EIR
 Figure S-1



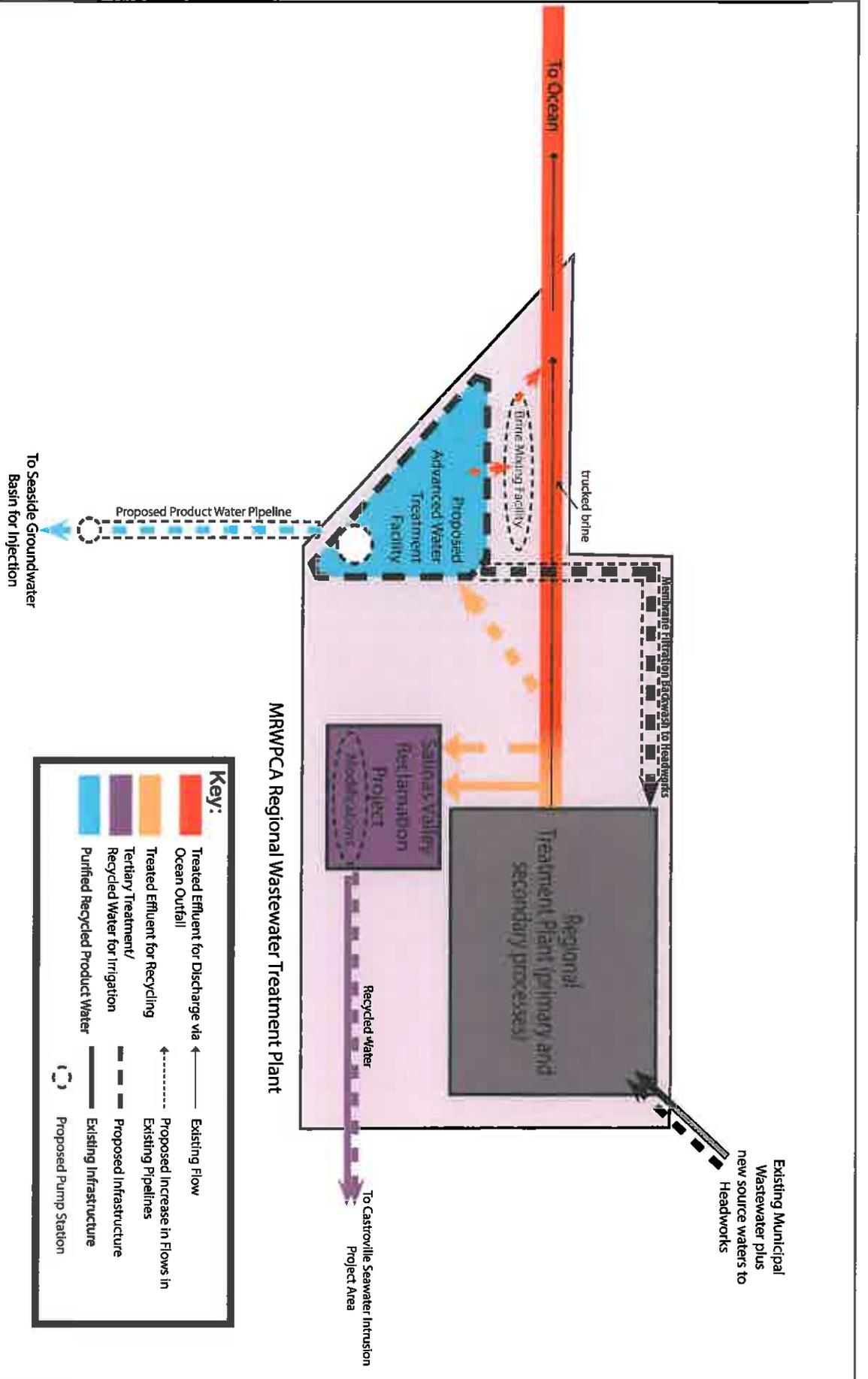
Proposed Project Flow Schematic - Source Water to Treatment

April 2015

Pure Water Monterey GWR Project
Draft EIR

Figure S-2





Proposed Project Flow Schematic - Regional Treatment Plant

April 2015

Pure Water Monterey GWR Project
Draft EIR

Figure S-3



SUMMARY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

S.1 INTRODUCTION

This Environmental Impact Report (EIR) assesses the potential environmental impacts of the Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project proposed by the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA) in partnership with the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District. This document has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) statutes and guidelines. MRWPCA is the lead agency for this CEQA process. Inquiries about the project and the CEQA process should be directed to:

Robert Holden, P.E., Principal Engineer
Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency
5 Harris Court, Building D
Monterey, CA 93940
Email: gwr@mrwpca.com

S.2 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the Proposed Project is to replenish the Seaside Groundwater Basin with 3,500 AFY of purified recycled water to replace a portion of CalAm's water supply as required by state orders. To accomplish this primary objective, the Proposed Project would need to meet the following objectives:

- Be capable of commencing operation, or of being substantially complete, by the end of 2016 or, if after 2016, no later than necessary to meet CalAm's replacement water needs;
- Be cost-effective such that the project would be capable of supplying reasonably-priced water; and
- Be capable of complying with applicable water quality regulations intended to protect public health.

Secondary objectives of the Proposed Project include the following:

- Provide additional water to the Regional Treatment Plant that could be used for crop irrigation through the Salinas Valley Reclamation Plant and Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project system;
- Develop a drought reserve to allow the increased use of Proposed Project source waters as crop irrigation within the area served by the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project during dry years
- Assist in preventing seawater intrusion in the Seaside Groundwater Basin;
- Assist in diversifying Monterey County's water supply portfolio.

S.3 SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project is a water supply project that will serve northern Monterey County. The project will provide purified recycled water for recharge of a groundwater basin that serves as drinking water supply, and recycled water to augment the existing Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project's crop irrigation supply. The project is jointly sponsored by the Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA) and the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (Water Management District), and also includes participation by the City of Salinas, the Marina Coast Water District, and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency. The Proposed Project location and facilities are shown in **Figure S-1**.

The project includes the collection of a variety of new source waters and conveyance of that water to the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (Regional Plant) for treatment and recycling. The water would then be used for two purposes: replenishment of the Seaside Groundwater Basin with purified recycled water to replace some of CalAm's existing drinking water supplies; and provision of additional recycled water supply for agricultural irrigation in northern Salinas Valley (both described below).

The Regional Plant is located two miles north of the City of Marina and operated by MRWPCA. The Regional Plant currently collects wastewater and some stormwater from its eleven member service area, and treats a large portion of this incoming flow to a tertiary treatment standard that enables it to be used for unrestricted agricultural irrigation purposes in the northern Salinas Valley. Flow that is not sent to the tertiary treatment system is discharged through an outfall to Monterey Bay after receiving secondary treatment.

The new source waters would supplement the existing incoming wastewater flows, and would include the following: 1) water from the City of Salinas agricultural wash water system, 2) stormwater flows from the southern part of Salinas and the Lake El Estero facility in Monterey, 3) surface water and agricultural tile drain water that is captured in the Reclamation Ditch and Tembladero Slough, and 4) surface water and agricultural tile drain water that flows in the Blanco Drain. Most of these new source waters would be combined within the existing wastewater collection system before arriving at the Regional Plant; water from Blanco Drain would be conveyed on its own directly to the Regional Plant. A conceptual flow schematic of the existing and proposed systems to bring source water to the Regional Treatment Plant is shown in **Figure S-2**. The combined flow would be treated using the existing Regional Plant processes and then further treated to recycle it for the following two purposes:

- **Replenishment of the Seaside Groundwater Basin.** The project would enable California American Water Company (CalAm) to reduce its diversions from the Carmel River system by up to 3,500 acre-feet per year by injecting the same amount of highly-treated water into the Seaside Basin. This purified recycled water would be produced from a new advanced water treatment facility that would be constructed at the Regional Plant. This new facility would treat some of the new blend of source waters described above. The "product water" from the advanced treatment plant would be conveyed to and injected into the Seaside Basin via a new pipeline and new well facilities. The purified recycled water would then mix with the existing groundwater and be stored for future urban use by CalAm, thus enabling a reduction in Carmel River system diversions by the same amount.

- **Additional recycled water for agricultural irrigation in northern Salinas Valley.** Currently, the only sources of supply for the existing water recycling facility at the Regional Plant (called the Salinas Valley Reclamation Plant) are municipal wastewater and small amounts of urban dry weather runoff. Municipal wastewater flows have declined in recent years due to aggressive water conservation efforts by the MRWPCA member entities. By increasing the amount and type of source waters entering the existing wastewater collection system, additional recycled water can be provided for use in the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project's agricultural irrigation system. It is anticipated that during normal and wet years approximately 4,500 to 4,750 acre-feet per year of additional recycled water supply could be created for irrigation purposes. During drought years, as much as 5,900 AFY could be created for crop irrigation. Some modifications would be made to the water recycling facility to optimize and enhance the delivery of recycled water to growers.

A conceptual process flow schematic for the Proposed Project flows at the Regional Treatment Plant is provided in **Figure S-3**.

The project would also include a drought reserve component to support use of the new supply for crop irrigation during dry years. The project provides for an additional 200 acre-feet per year of purified recycled water that would be injected in the Seaside Basin in wet and normal years for up to five consecutive years. This will result in a "banked" drought reserve totaling up to 1,000 acre feet. During dry years, the Proposed Project could provide less than 3,500 acre feet of water to the Seaside Basin; however, CalAm would be able to extract the banked water to make up the difference to its supplies, such that its extractions and deliveries would not fall below 3,500 acre-feet per year. The source waters that are not sent to the advanced treatment facility during dry years would be sent to the Salinas Valley Reclamation Plant to increase crop irrigation supplies for the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project.

The Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project would require modifications to existing facilities and construction of new physical facilities, briefly listed below.

- **Source water diversion and storage.** New facilities would be required to divert and convey the new source waters through the existing municipal wastewater collection system and to the Regional Plant.
- **Treatment facilities at Regional Plant.** A new advanced water treatment plant would be constructed at the Regional Plant site. This facility would include a state-of-the-art treatment system that uses multiple membrane "barriers" to purify the water, product water stabilization to prevent pipe corrosion due to water purity, a pump station, and a brine and wastewater mixing facility. There would also be modifications to the Salinas Valley Reclamation Plant to optimize and enhance the delivery of recycled water to growers.
- **Product water conveyance.** New pipelines, a pump station and appurtenant facilities would be constructed to move the product water from the Regional Plant to the Seaside Groundwater Basin for injection.
- **Injection well facilities.** The injection facilities would include new wells (in the shallow and deep aquifers), back-flush facilities, pipelines, electricity/ power distribution facilities, and electrical/motor control buildings.

- **Distribution of groundwater from Seaside Basin.** Two new CalAm water distribution system pipelines would be needed to deliver the extracted groundwater to CalAm customers.

Construction of the Proposed Project is anticipated to require approximately 18 months, plus three months of testing and start-up, and the project is currently planned for initial operation by late 2017. MRWPCA is evaluating the use of alternative construction approaches, such as design-build, to expedite the construction schedule.

S.4 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Table S-1 summarizes the impacts of the Proposed Project. A summary of the cumulative impacts and the Proposed Project contribution to those impacts, as applicable, is presented in **Table S-2**. For each impact considered to be significant or potentially significant, the table summarizes the recommended mitigations. **Tables S-1** and **S-2** are intended to provide a summary of the Proposed Project impacts and mitigation measures that are described in detail in **Chapter 4, Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures**; please refer to that section for complete discussion.

S.5 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT

This chapter presents the alternatives analysis for the Proposed Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project. This section sets forth the objectives of the Proposed Project, summarizes its significant impacts, discusses the alternatives considered but eliminated from further analysis, describes the range of alternatives considered, and compares the impacts of the alternatives evaluated to the impacts of the Proposed Project.

The State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15126.6(a), state that an EIR must describe and evaluate a reasonable range of alternatives to the Proposed Project, or to the location of the project, that would feasibly attain most of the project's basic objectives, but that would avoid or substantially lessen any significant adverse effects of the project. An EIR is not required to consider every conceivable alternative to a Proposed Project. Rather, it must consider a reasonable range of potentially feasible alternatives that will foster informed decision-making and public participation. The CEQA Guidelines further state that the specific alternative of "no project" shall also be evaluated. The EIR must evaluate the comparative merits of the alternatives and include sufficient information about each alternative to allow meaningful evaluation, analysis, and comparison with the impacts of the Proposed Project. This chapter is organized into the following sections:

Section 6.1, Introduction and Approach, provides an overview of CEQA requirements pertaining to the identification and analysis of alternatives, and the Chapter organization. This section also includes the objectives of the Proposed Project and a summary of significant impacts of the Proposed Project by topical area (**Table 6-1**). The section concludes with the identification of CEQA alternatives evaluated in this Chapter.

Section 6.2, Alternatives Considered but Eliminated, discusses the alternatives that were considered, but eliminated from further analysis in this EIR. This section is organized into two parts.

6.2.1 Alternative Water Supplies Considered but Eliminated

6.2.2 Alternative Components of the Proposed Project Considered but Eliminated

Section 6.3, Alternatives Analysis, describes the alternatives to the Proposed Project, compares the impacts of the alternatives to the impacts of the Proposed Project, and also evaluates the alternatives' ability to accomplish the project objectives. This section is organized into three parts:

6.3.1 No Project

6.3.2 Alternatives to Proposed Project

6.3.1.1 Reduced Seaside Basin Replenishment Alternative

6.3.1.2 Alternatives to Source Water Diversion and Use

6.3.1.3 Alternatives for Product Water Conveyance

6.3.1.4 Alternatives to CalAm Distribution System Pipelines

6.3.3 Conclusion of Alternatives Analysis

Section 6.4, Environmentally Superior Alternative, identifies an environmentally superior alternative, as required by CEQA.

S.6 AREAS OF CONTROVERSY

Based on the comments received during the Notice of Preparation scoping periods, the following key topics and areas of controversy have been identified:

- alternatives to the proposed project
- relationship of the proposed project to the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project
- source water diversion methods and impacts
- effectiveness of proposed advanced water treatment facility
- disposal of reverse osmosis concentrate to the existing MRWPCA ocean outfall
- product water conveyance facility siting and impacts
- quality and quantities of purified recycled water to be replenished

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the Marina City Council

City Council Meeting
of June 2, 2015

**CITY COUNCIL CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 2015-,
RECEIVING INFORMATION REGARDING THE DRAFT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DEIR) FOR THE PURE WATER
MONTEREY GROUNDWATER REPLENISHMENT PROJECT;
PROVIDING DIRECTION TO AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER
TO SEND A COMMENT LETTER REGARDING THE ABOVE
MENTIONED DEIR.**

REQUEST: City Council consider:

1. Consider adopting Resolution No. 2015-, receiving information regarding the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project; providing direction to and authorize the City Manager to send a comment letter regarding the above mentioned DEIR.

BACKGROUND:

The Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency (MRWPCA) has released a DEIR for the Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project (GWR Project). MRWPCA is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and is doing this project in partnership with the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

The GWR Project would divert new source waters to the MRWPCA Regional Treatment Plant for two purposes:

- 1) To create purified recycled water for recharge of the Seaside Groundwater Basin to replace 3,500 acre-feet per year of CalAM's current water supplies, enabling CalAm to reduce its diversions from the Carmel River by the same amount;
- 2) To provide additional recycled water to growers within the existing Castroville Seawater Intrusion project service area for crop irrigation.

Water sources proposed to be recycled, treated and reused by the GWR Project include municipal wastewater, City of Salinas industrial wastewater, City of Salinas and City of Monterey urban stormwater runoff, and surface water diversions from the Blanco Drain, Reclamation Ditch and Tembladero Slough.

Purified water from a new Advanced Water Treatment Facility at the Regional Treatment Plant would be conveyed through a new Product Water Conveyance pipeline and pump station to new Injection Well Facilities in the City of Seaside for recharge to the Seaside Basin. CalAm would extract water from its existing wells, and would deliver the water to its customers via two new pipelines and its existing distribution system. Recycled water produced for crop irrigation would be distributed through the existing Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project system. The GWR Project is being proposed by the MRWPCA in partnership with the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

The GWR Project would be located within northern Monterey County and would include new facilities located within unincorporated areas of the Salinas Valley and within the cities of Salinas, Marina, Seaside, Monterey, Pacific Grove, and within former Fort Ord areas in Seaside and Marina. (“**EXHIBIT A**”)

ANALYSIS:

The purpose of the DEIR is to provide the public and responsible and trustee agencies with information on the potential environmental effects of implementation of the GWR Project. Marina has hired a consultant to review the DEIR and to provide written comments identifying potential effects of the project on the City of Marina. The comments are still being drafted and are expected to be ready on Monday, June 1, 2015. Any comments submitted by the City of Marina must be submitted in writing before Friday, June 5, 2015 at 5:00 PM.

The attached (“**EXHIBIT B**”) is a Summary of the DEIR. A full copy of the DEIR is available by going to the website: www.purewatermonterey.org.

Any additional comments or direction from the City Council can be incorporated into the comment letter. The primary impact of the projects as it relates to the City of Marina will involve the construction of the pipeline through the streets of the City of Marina, the utilization of wastewater from the Marina Coast Water District, and the effects of this project on long term water/wastewater and recycled water plans for the Marina Coast Water District.

REVIEWED/CONCUR:

Layne P. Long
City Manager
City of Marina