

# Salinas Watershed Resources Inventory Introduction and Explanation

## What is it?

The Watershed Resources Inventory contains references for over 450 documents related to issues of watershed management within the Salinas River valley and its contributing drainages. It is intended to be a tool for planners, managers, landowners, and citizens to use for discovering information on a broad range of topics. It is like a library of natural resources for the watershed, with an emphasis on data and management efforts of the last 20 years.

## Structure

This library is organized in a columnar format that can be sorted on a variety of attributes for each recorded document. It can be used to find more information on a source that might be cited in another document you are reading, or it can be a starting point for your research.

The **Citation** column is the unique identifier for each entry – containing either the official name of the document or a formal description of an unnamed document or collection of documents. All the other columns serve to give context that relates documents to each other or simplify filtering.

The **Relevant Information** column contains brief summaries or details of the document's contents that would not fit neatly into the other columns. In cases where this is blank, the document title may sufficiently explain the contents.

The document **Type** is simply a code that indicates the broad categorization of the document or collection, such as studies and plans.

The **Originating Source** is almost always the authoring person or agency. If authorship could not be determined, the agency or persons that released the information are noted. This column is not an official citation of ownership.

The **Reference Number** is associated with an annotated bibliography, a separate document that highlights some of the more important entries. In this case, importance is determined by a qualitative assessment of how essential the document is for understanding the multiple natural resource areas in the watershed, as well as how accessible the information is to a broad audience.

The **Year Published/Data Date** column is self-explanatory. It may be useful for filtering results further or capturing a snapshot of the current knowledge in any given year.

The **LTMP ToC Topic** occurs in two columns. These are topics taken from the draft Table of Contents for the Long Term Management Plan that provide a quick topic categorization for the cited document. There are two columns because some documents cannot be adequately summarized by one header in the Table of Contents. Filtering with these columns can create groups of documents that summarize different issue areas. The **LTMP ToC Number** is simply a reference to the corresponding section numbers in the table of contents.

The **Link to Publication** contains the most recent web address for the cited document. In many cases, documents are in hard copy or were obtained as offline electronic versions, so there are missing links.

Links are not always updated by the website hosting the document, so links may break over time if they are not updated in the WRI.

The **County** column simply attributes the document to either Monterey or San Luis Obispo County geographically. In many cases, both counties are entered because the document addresses an issue using the hydrologic definition of the Salinas, rather than the administrative dichotomy of the Upper and Lower Salinas Rivers.

The **Associated Project/Plan/Topics** column serves a function similar to the **LTMP ToC Topic** in that it creates categories for grouping documents. However, some projects or plans span many natural resource topics and this column can capture that.

The **HUC Common Name** uses the national Hydrologic Unit Code system to name the approximate geographic area that a cited document covers. In some cases, this is multiple HUCs. In cases where there are more than two relevant HUCs, the document is simply given the attribute "Salinas". The HUC units used here are the 10-digit subdivision, also known as HUC-10. The Hydrologic Units do not necessarily perfectly encompass the corresponding citation.

#### Tips:

- If you are looking for a specific document and you already know part or all of its name, it can be useful to conduct a universal search "Ctrl+F" in the **Citation** column.
- Universal searches in the **Relevant Information** column can also be useful for looking for more specific terms, such as species names.
- If you are generally interested in an unfamiliar topic, filter the **LTMP ToC Topic** columns or **Associated Project/Plan/Topics** column for that topic and browse the results by reading the **Relevant Information** column and clicking on the **Link to Publication**.
- You can personalize the WRI by adding additional citations that you encounter in your own research, using the spreadsheet as a citation tracking tool.
- Use the **List of Acronyms** tab to decode the many acronyms in the list.