

# Proposed Nicasio Spillway Modification Project

EIR Scoping Meetings

May 22, 2025  
May 27, 2025  
July 15, 2025

Nicasio

# Scoping Meeting Purpose

- Notice of Preparation published Apr. 30th
- Share information about the Proposed Project
  - *Proposed reservoir modifications*
  - *Environmental review process*
- Hear your comments on:
  - *Issues you would like to see addressed in the EIR*
  - *Suggestions for alternatives and measures to reduce environmental effects*



Nicasio Reservoir, February 2021

# Providing Comments

- Make oral comments during this meeting or a future scoping meeting (May 22, May 27, July 15)
- Submit written comments by comment card or mail or email to:

Elysha Irish, Project Manager  
Marin Municipal Water District  
220 Nellen Ave  
Corte Madera, CA 94925  
Email: [eirish@marinwater.org](mailto:eirish@marinwater.org)

Written comments due by **5:00 pm on August 4, 2025**

# Agenda

- Overview of Proposed Project
- Public Outreach
- Environmental Review Process
- Environmental Topics
- Public Comment Period



Nicasio Reservoir and Upper Portion of Spillway

# Overview of Proposed Project

# Marin Water Overview

- Serve over 190,000 people
- 147 square mile service area
  - San Rafael, Mill Valley, Fairfax, San Anselmo, Ross, Larkspur, Corte Madera, Tiburon, Belvedere, Sausalito, unincorporated areas
- 7 Local Reservoirs
- Sonoma water imported supply



# Need for Proposed Project

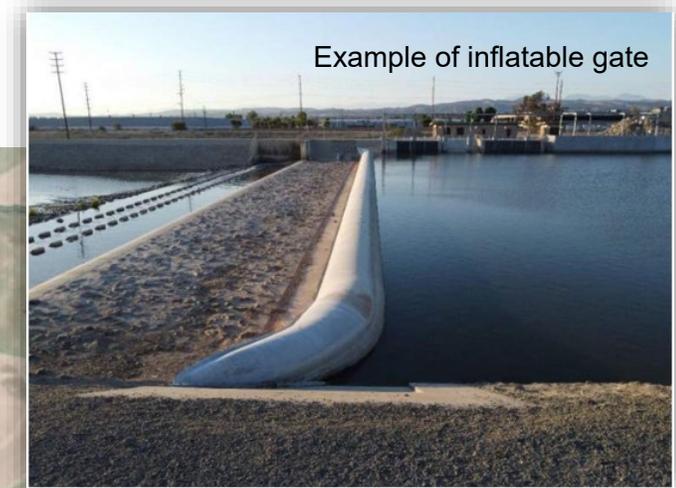
- Drivers
  - Changing Climate
  - 2021 Drought
- District's Water Supply Roadmap
  - Spillway Modifications for Storage Enlargement
  - Water Efficiency
  - Conveyance
  - In-District Improvements
  - Other Projects



Nicasio Reservoir, February 2021

# Characteristics of Proposed Project

- Inflatable rubber gate
- 280-ft long, 4.4 ft high gate
- Potentially adds ~3,700 ac-ft storage
- Flexibility to raise or lower spillway gate



# Public Outreach

# Public Outreach – Meetings to Date

- Regulatory Agencies: Jan. 30, Mar. 19
- Marin Water Planning Committee: Feb.13
- Lagunitas Technical Advisory Committee: Feb. 25, Mar. 25
- Nicasio Landowners Association: Apr. 1, Apr. 23
- Nicasio School Board: May 1

# Concerns Identified to Date

- Upstream concerns
  - Existing localized conditions
  - Effects of proposed project due to increased water surface elevation
    - On properties, wells, septic systems, schools, roads
  - Detailed hydrologic modeling of Nicasio and Halleck Creeks to understand channel dynamics and localized flooding
- Downstream concerns
  - Biological resources
  - Studies to be prepared, study area, surveys



# Public Outreach: Next Steps

- Scoping Meetings
  - May 27th
  - July 15th
- District Board Briefing at May 27th Planning Committee
- Continued regular meetings with:
  - Regulatory Agencies
  - Lagunitas Technical Advisory Committee
  - Nicasio Landowners Association
  - Nicasio School Board

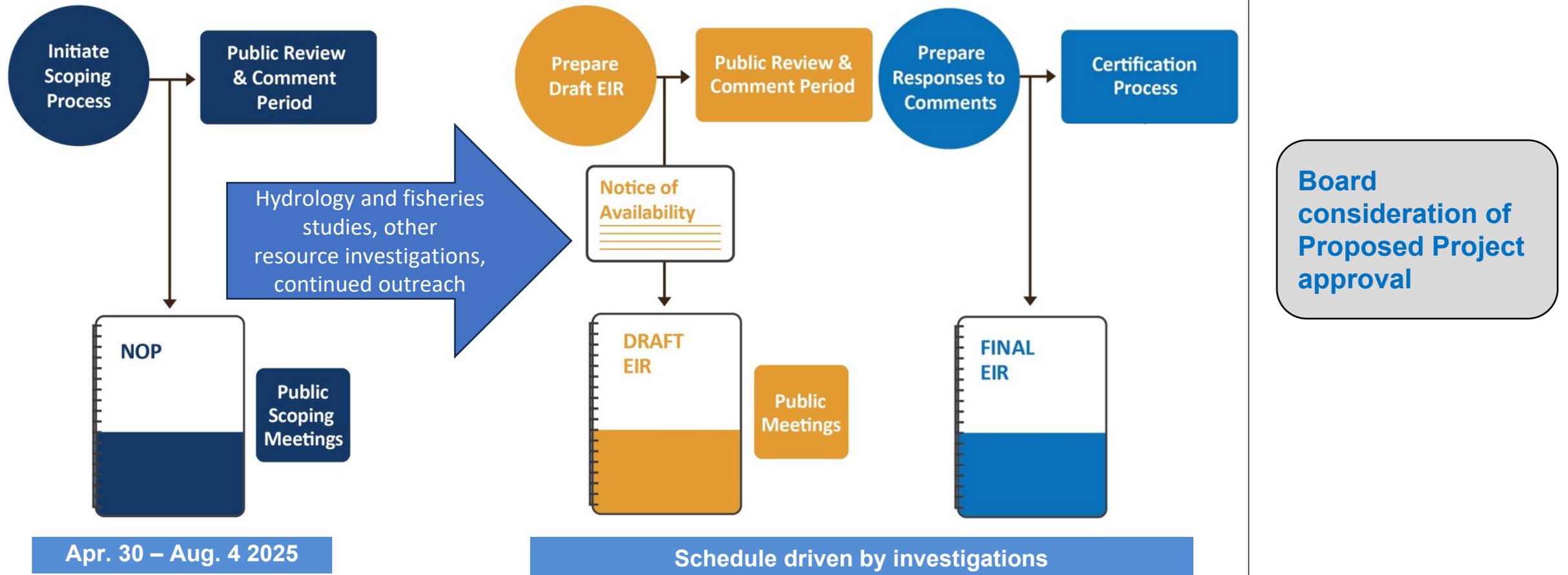
# Environmental Review Process



# California Environmental Quality Act

- Requires Agencies to:
  - Consider environmental consequences of projects
  - Identify measures, alternatives to reduce significant environmental impacts
- Facilitates public, agency involvement in project planning
- CEQA Roles and Responsibilities
  - Lead Agency – Marin Water
  - Other Agencies
  - The Community

# Environmental Impact Report Process



# EIR Content

- Executive Summary
- Project Description
  - Purpose and objectives, design, construction and operation of Project Components; Approvals
- Environmental Setting
- Environmental Impacts
- Ways to Reduce Significant Impacts
  - Mitigation Measures
  - Alternatives



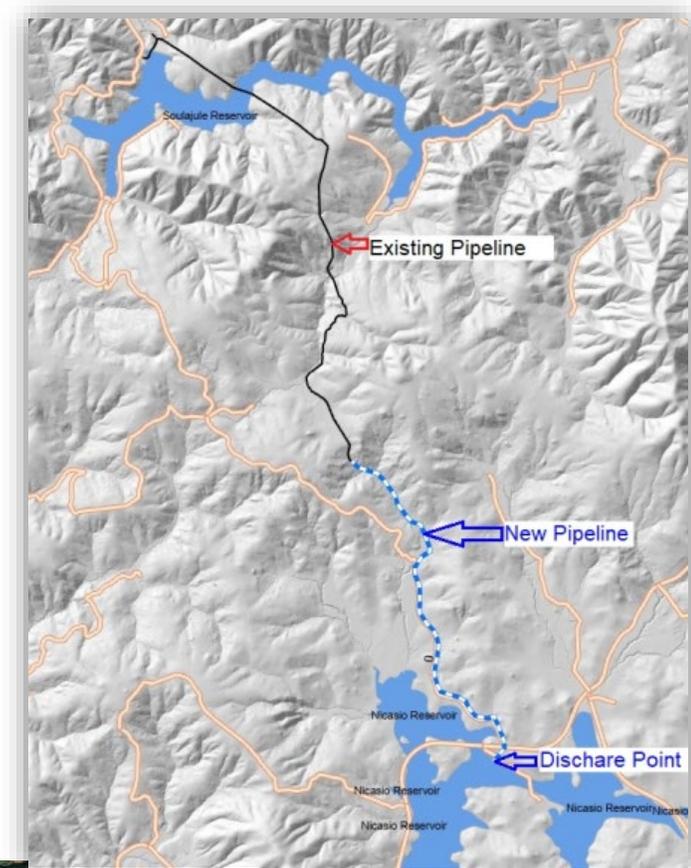
Nicasio Reservoir, February 2021

# Issues to be Investigated in the EIR

- Land Use and Agricultural Resources
- Surface Water, Groundwater, and Water Quality
- Biological Resources
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Noise
- Transportation and Traffic
- Cultural Resources
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Utilities
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Aesthetic Resources
- Alternatives
- Cumulative Impacts

# Other Proposed Projects

- Atmospheric River Capture (ARC) Project
  - New pipeline to convey water from North Marin Aqueduct to Nicasio
- Soulajule Pipeline
  - Completion of pipeline between Soulajule and Nicasio reservoir
- Projects by Others



Top: Proposed Soulajule Pipeline  
Bottom: Proposed ARC pipeline

# Comments

# Commenting on the EIR Scope, Content

- Notice of Preparation (NOP) available online:

[www.marinwater.org/SpillwayModifications](http://www.marinwater.org/SpillwayModifications)

- Oral Comments

- Written comments due by **5:00 pm, August 4, 2025**

Submit written comments by comment card, mail or email to:

Elysha Irish, Project Manager  
Marin Water  
220 Nellen Ave  
Corte Madera, CA 94925  
Email: [eirish@marinwater.org](mailto:eirish@marinwater.org)

# Guidelines for Oral Comments

- State your name, organization
- Five-minute limit
- Comments on:
  - *Issues you would like to see addressed in the EIR*
  - *Input on affected uses, resources, utilities*
  - *Suggestions for alternatives, measures to reduce environmental effects*
  - *Schedule and outreach process*
- Limited ability to respond to questions during meeting

# Public Comment Period