



March 12, 2023

## **Salinas River Crest May Cause Significant Flooding West of Salinas**

Residents Urged to Prepare for Possible Cut Off Between Highway 68, Salinas

Local and state public safety agencies and partners continue to monitor the atmospheric river events that began on March 9, 2023, in the County of Monterey and remain ready to respond to flooding impacts.

The forecasted impacts on the Salinas River have evolved over the last 24 hours. The projections now include a probable inundation of roadways between the Monterey Peninsula and the rest of the County to include the city of Salinas through Blanco Road and Highway 68. Impacts are being determined. Please plan for the potential cut off to these areas.

The Salinas River can crest at Spreckels/Highway 68 before daylight Monday morning, March 13<sup>th</sup> and is expected to result in significant flooding of nearby agricultural land and may affect structures and critical infrastructure.

You can follow the river flow, timing and see predictions for certain water levels at <https://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/graphicalRVF.php?id=SPRC1>

The Salinas River's behavior is unpredictable and coupled with the recent storms and the Pajaro River flooding we ask you to be prepared and plan for changing circumstances. Should flooding occur, roads most likely to be impacted are:

River Road  
Reservation Road

Blanco Road  
Nearby secondary roads

Already impacted in certain locations:

- Highway 1

Likely to be impacted:

- Highway 68

We will share all updated information as we receive it. Please use reliable resources as you plan for this emergency.

Residents can and should seek shelter at one of the County Evacuation Shelters, with family or friends. Additionally, many hotels on the Peninsula are offering discount accommodations for evacuees. Information is available by calling 2-1-1. Evacuation/warnings, shelter, emergency messages:

<https://tinyurl.com/PineappleExpress2023>

Monitor road conditions.

- For state routes: Caltrans Quickmaps: <https://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/>
- For Monterey County roads click here: <https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-i-z/public-works-facilities-parks/public-works/road-closures-information>
- Keep travel to a minimum to avoid traffic/keep roads clear for emergency vehicles.

Residents and businesses are encouraged to sign up for emergency alerts at Alert Monterey County, <https://member.everbridge.net/453003085611217/new>

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