



March 2026 911 Call To Action!

A Defining Moment for the Lake

As NRWMAC enters its eighth year of litigation against Monterey County, we are at a pivotal moment. After years of persistence, procedural battles, and extraordinary volunteer effort, the judge has ordered a Mandatory Settlement Conference (MSC) — requiring both sides to meet and attempt to resolve their differences before proceeding to trial. While NRWMAC has offered MC multiple opportunities to settle in the past, those offers were declined. So despite the court-ordered MSC, we must continue preparing for trial. The question before us now is stark: do we have the resources to carry this case through depositions and final arguments — or will we be forced to dismiss it before ever reaching a conclusion.

We want that decision to be made by the very people this effort exists to serve: the owners, families, and supporters who love this lake.

If you want this lawsuit completed, now is the moment for you to act!

Why This Case Matters

This lawsuit is not symbolic. It has substance.

- MC failed to produce required public records and later claimed key documents were lost — records they are legally obligated to retain.
- Their own operating data shows releases of up to 12,000 acre-feet beyond their permitted limits.
- NRWMAC’s claim of unjust enrichment may represent damages in the millions of dollars.
- If MC’s actions go unchallenged, it could set a dangerous precedent for future legal and environmental battles.

If the MSC does not resolve this case to NRWMAC’s satisfaction, these issues must be fully argued before a judge and decided at trial.

And that requires resources.

What It Will Take to Finish

If the MSC is not successful, the next phase — depositions and trial preparation — is critical and costly. To finish the lawsuit, we estimate we need to raise between **\$150,000 and \$250,000**. These funds will cover attorney fees, deposition costs, engineer reports, and expert witness preparation — the essential work required to present this case fully and effectively before a judge.

Without these funds, the case ends here — before the merits are ever heard. With your support, we see this through to completion.



What We've Overcome

Over the course of this lawsuit, our all-volunteer Board has faced:

- Eight years of procedural battles
- State Water Board delays
- Pandemic and court slowdowns
- Changes in counsel and engineering teams
- The loss of two dedicated leaders and the loss of an instrumental engineer
- A calculated war of attrition — including 6,000–7,000 separate document requests that required response regardless of relevance

Meanwhile, MC funds its defense with taxpayer dollars, while NRWMAC relies entirely on donations.

Every dollar raised so far has come from people who care about this lake.

What has been accomplished under these circumstances is nothing short of extraordinary.

This Lawsuit Is Only One Part of Our Work

While litigation has demanded enormous energy as well as funds, NRWMAC's broader mission continues:

- Protecting the lake from invasive species, including Quagga and Golden mussels
- Maintaining a seat on the Reservoir Operations Committee — a watchdog role secured through prior legal action
- Advocating for changes to water storage during drought periods.
- Challenging the proposed Interlake Tunnel Project, which threatens future lake levels
- Advocating for improved ranger presence, safety response times, and hazard marker maintenance
- Defending recreational rights promised in original property agreements, including maintaining lake levels through Labor Day

All of these efforts are vital to preserving the lake and ensuring it remains a resource for future generations.

Regardless of this lawsuit's outcome, NRWMAC remains committed to proper water management for all needs, as well as protecting safe and sustainable recreation at the lake.

But this case is a defining moment.



The Decision Is Now Yours

We cannot responsibly proceed without the funds to finish and knowing our communities stand behind this effort.

If you believe the case has merit —
If you believe accountability matters —
If you believe recreational access must be protected —

Then we ask you to give now!

Gifts of \$1,000, \$2,500, \$5,000 — and leadership gifts above that level — will determine whether this case continues.

This is not simply a contribution.
It is a decision about the lake's future.

Donate generously. The time is short.

A Personal Note to Leadership Supporters

There are individuals within our communities who can make a decisive difference. If 10-15 households step forward with leadership gifts of \$10,000–\$25,000, this lawsuit will be secured through completion.

Quite simply, leadership gifts will determine the outcome. Will you be one of the leaders who steps forward to protect the future of the lake?

If you have the ability to provide support at this level, we respectfully ask you to consider doing so now.

Your leadership donation will:

- Stabilize the legal effort
- Protect years of work already invested
- Send a clear message that this community stands behind accountability

If you would like to discuss a leadership commitment, please contact us directly and confidentially at info@nrwmac.org or 805.591.4738



Donations

Together, we've achieved something remarkable — eight years of fighting for this lake on nothing but volunteer effort and the generosity of people who care. We are closer than ever to a resolution, but we cannot cross that finish line without you.

Every contribution, at any level, moves us forward. This moment won't come again.

Please donate using one of these three methods.

Thank you for your support.

www.nrwmac.org/donate



If you prefer you can always send a check to:
NRW MAC
PO BOX 398
Paso Robles, CA 93447

Thank you for standing with us.