Sites | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Welcome

PUBLIC MEETING

Sites Project Authority
&
Bureau of Reclamation

Meeting Format

Information Stations*

Overview Presentation

Public Comment Session

*Staff with Badges to Answer Questions / Help Find Information

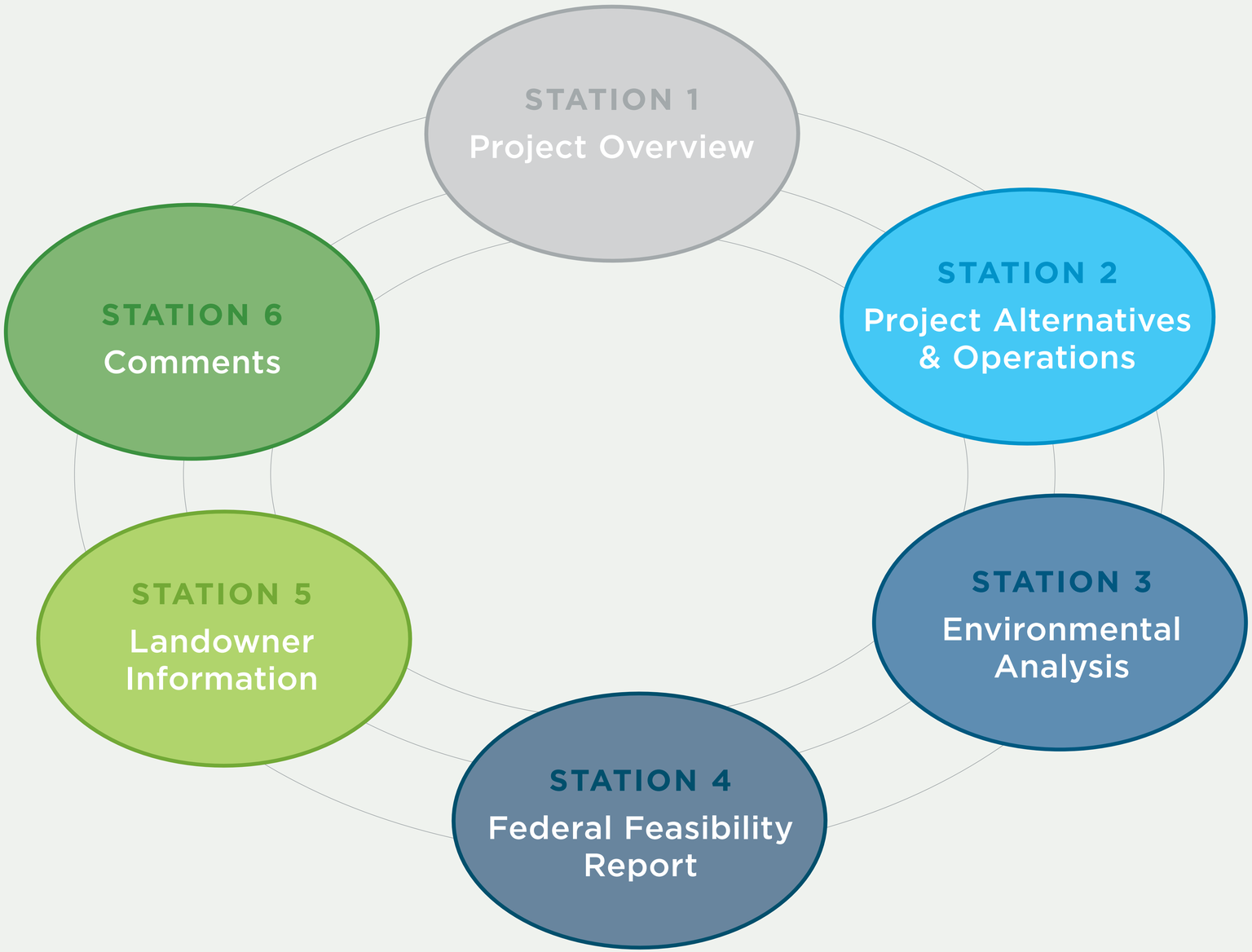
Meeting Purpose

Provide Information on the
Sites Project and Draft EIR/EIS

Solicit Comments on the Draft EIR/EIS

Inform the Environmental Analysis
for the Sites Project

Station Layout



Station 1: Project Overview

The Sites Project would provide surface water storage north of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to:

Enhance water management flexibility

Provide storage and operational benefits to enhance local and statewide water supply reliability, benefit Delta water quality and improve ecosystems

Allow for flexible hydropower generation in order to support the integration of renewable energy sources

Develop additional recreation opportunities

Provide opportunities for **flood damage reduction**

Provide operational flexibility to help **mitigate the effects of climate change** on water supply and ecosystems

Station 1: Project Benefits

Enhanced water management flexibility

Improved environmental flows

Increased water supply reliability

Ecosystem improvements

Potential new renewable energy resources

New recreation opportunities

Climate change resiliency

Flood management

Enhanced water quality

Station 1: Project Benefits

Net improvements in ecosystem and water quality conditions in the Sacramento River system and Delta

- **Conserve coldwater pools** in existing reservoirs later into the summer months to improve conditions for salmon spawning and rearing
- **Stabilize Sacramento River fall flows** for salmon
- **Provide nutrient rich water** to the Yolo Bypass/ Cache Slough to benefit smelt
- **Net improvements in** water supply reliability for fish protection, habitat management (including refuges) and other environmental water needs
- **Increase water supply availability** for refuges and managed wetlands north and south of the Delta

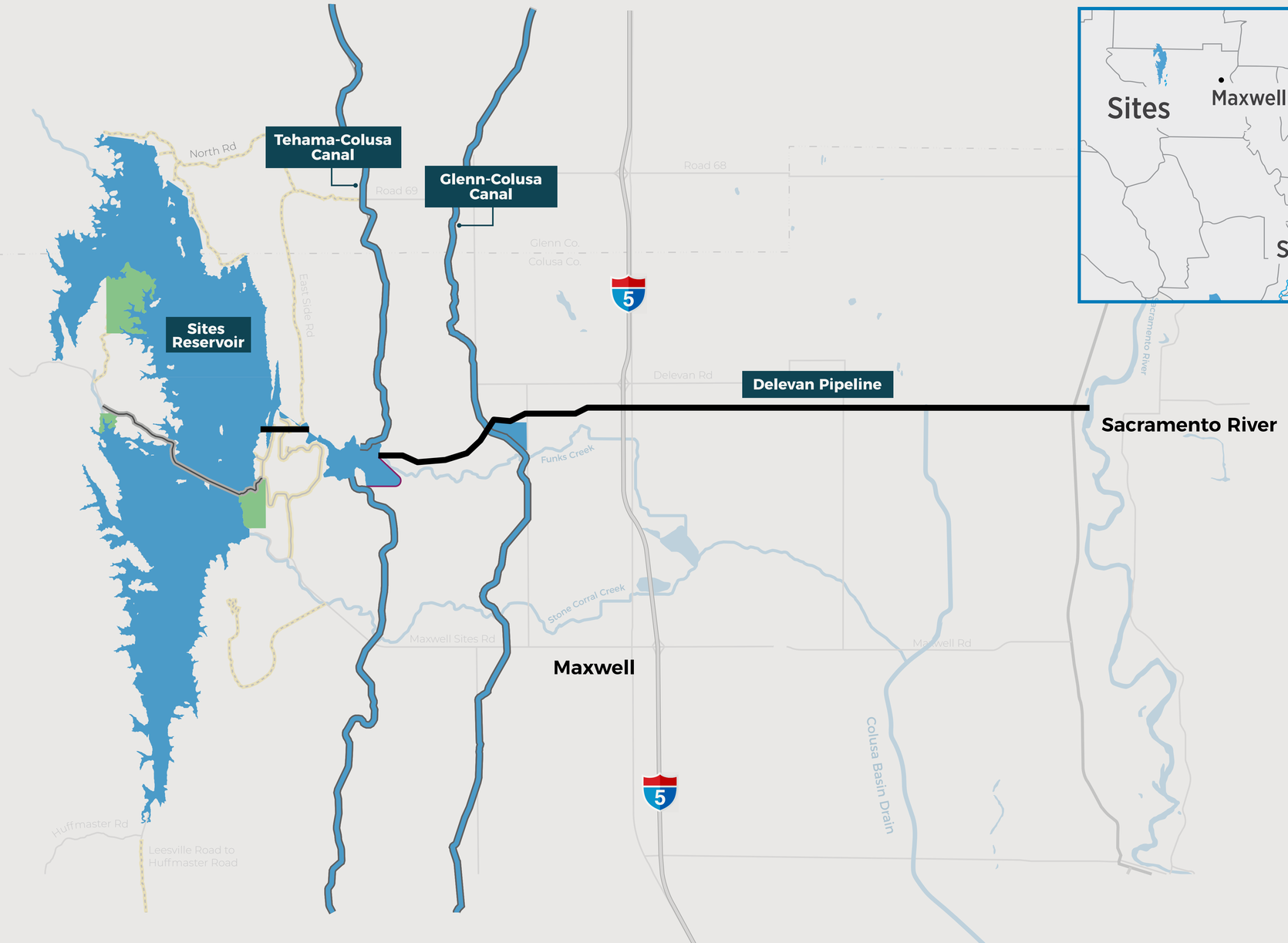
Stabilize Sacramento River fall flows for salmon

Conserve coldwater pools in existing reservoirs later into the summer months to improve conditions for salmon spawning and rearing

Provide nutrient rich water to the Yolo Bypass/Cache Slough to benefit smelt

Increase water supply availability for refuges and managed wetlands north and south of the Delta

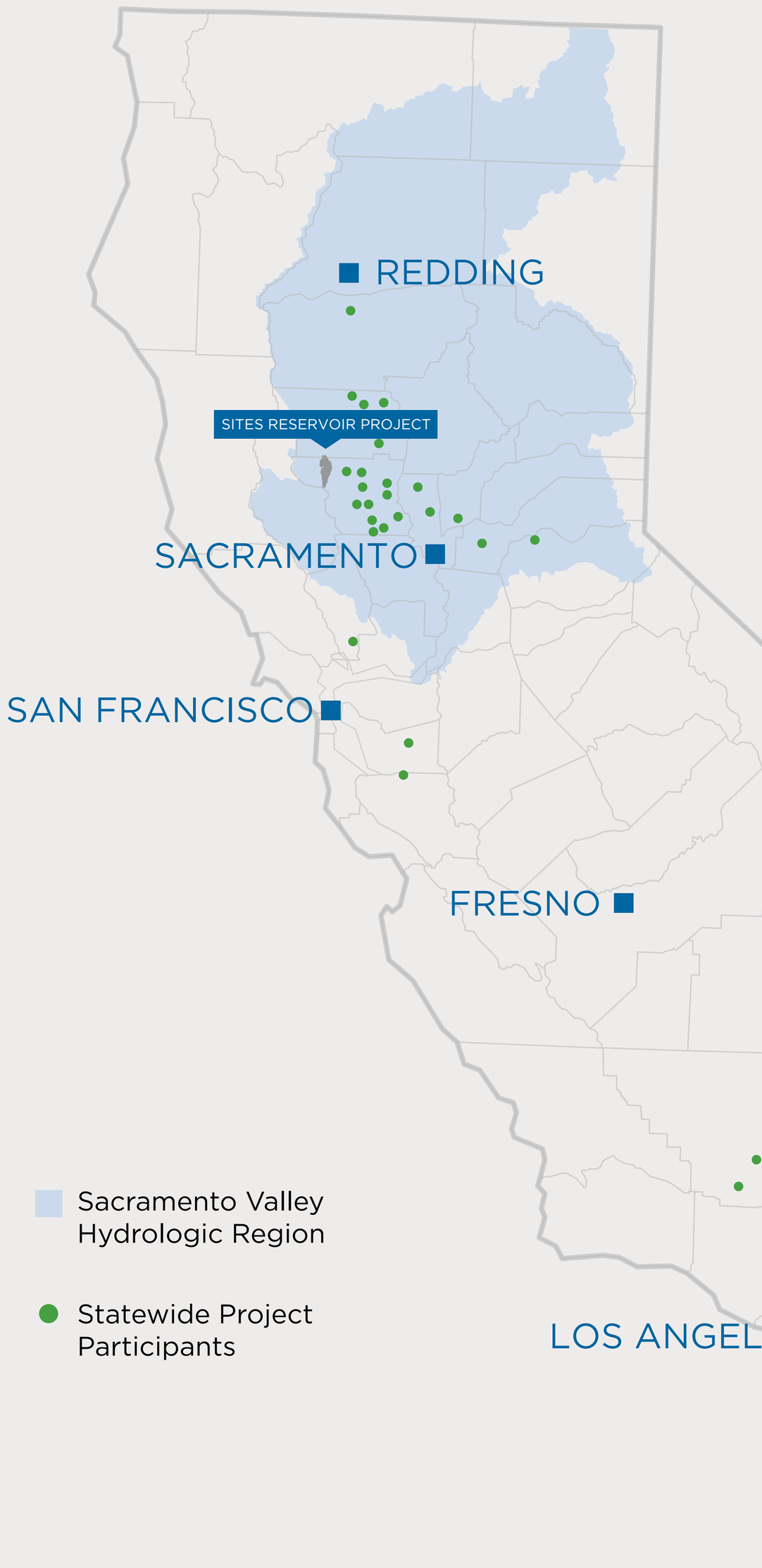
Station 1: Project Location



LEGEND

- Existing Canal
- County Line
- Pipelines
- Recreation Area

Station 1: Project Participants



Organizations Requesting Sites Water

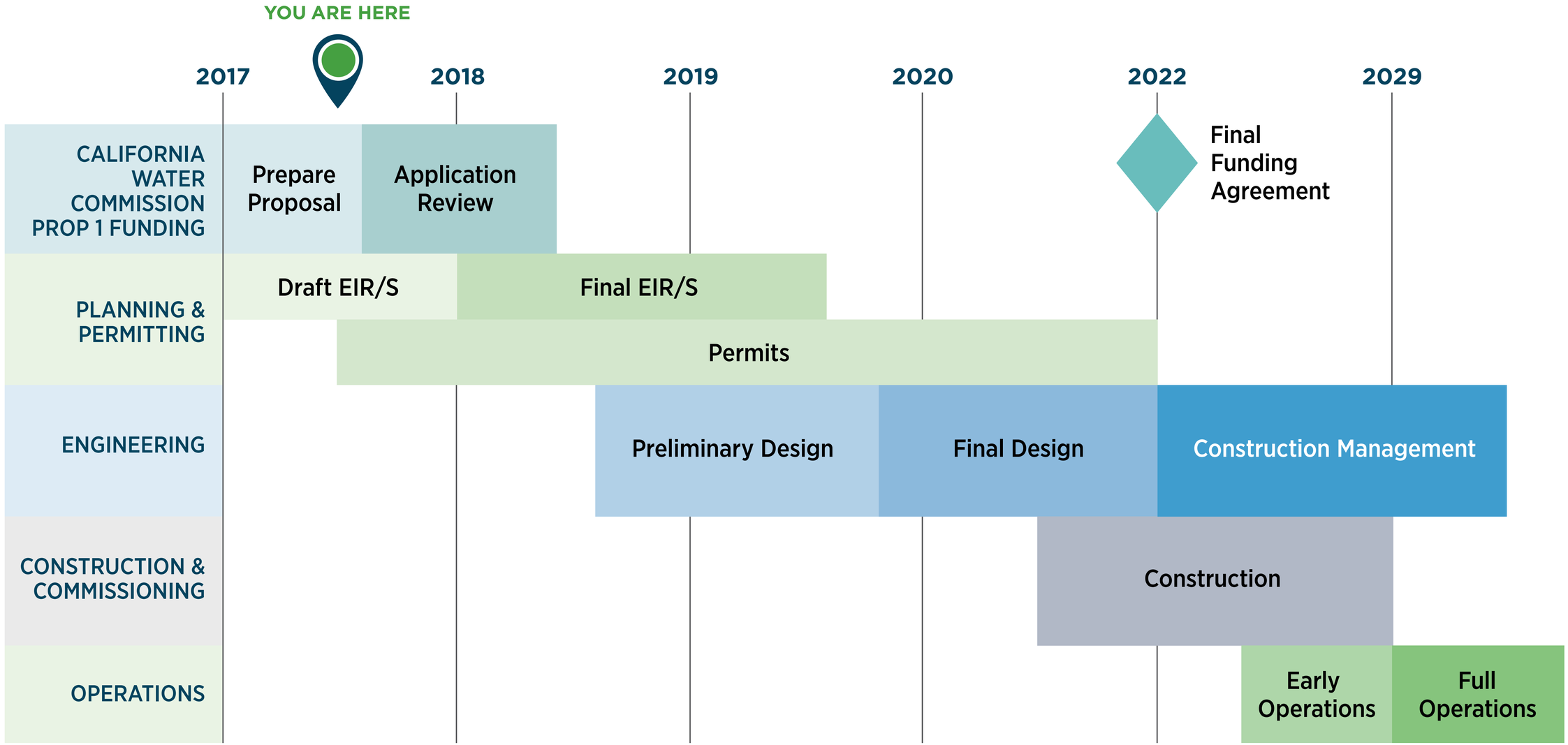
	Authority Board Members	Other Sacramento Water Agencies
SACRAMENTO VALLEY WATER AGENCIES	Colusa County	
	Colusa County Water District	**REPRESENTED**
	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District	4M Water District
	Orland-Artois Water District	Cortina Water District
	Proberta Water District	Davis Water District
	Reclamation District 108	Dunnigan Water District
	Western Canal Water District	LaGrande Water District
	Westside Water District	
	Glenn County	City of American Canyon
	Maxwell Irrigation District	Carter MWC
	Placer County Water Agency & City of Roseville	Garden Highway MWC
	Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority	

	Organization
NON-SACRAMENTO VALLEY WATER AGENCIES	Antelope Valley-East Kern WA
	California Water Service*
	Castaic Lake Water Agency
	Coachella Valley Water District
	Desert Water Agency
	Metropolitan Water District
	Pacific Resources MWC
	San Bernardino Valley Municipal WD
	San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
	Santa Clara Valley Water District
	Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD
	Zone 7 Water Agency

Total authorized to participate as of **8/14/17 = 33**

*Also provides water to Sacramento Valley communities

Station 1: Project Schedule



Station 2: Project Alternatives

Alternatives evaluated in the Draft EIR/EIS:

- Feasible and reasonable
- Meet project objectives and purpose and need
- Avoid or substantially reduce significant impacts

Result of:

- Completion of previous analyses
- Comments received during the scoping process
- Screening the range of feasible alternatives against the project objectives and purpose and need

FIVE ALTERNATIVES were developed **to avoid or substantially lessen** one or more of the Sites Project's significant impacts.

Project Features/Facilities[a]	Alternative A	Alternative B	Alternative C	Alternative C_1	Alternative D
Sites Reservoir Complex					
Sites Reservoir Inundation Area	1.3-MAF capacity (12,400 acres)	1.8-MAF capacity (14,200 acres)	Same as B	Same as B	Same as B
Golden Gate Dam, Sites Dam, Saddle Dams	9 dams (Golden Gate Dam; Sites Dam; Saddle Dams 1, 3, 5, 6, 8a, 8b, 10)	11 dams (Golden Gate Dam; Sites Dam, Saddle Dams 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)	Same as B	Same as B	Same as B
Borrow Areas	Approximately 920 acres in inundation area; 200 acres northeast and east of the inundation area	Same as A	Same as A	Same as A	Same as A
Sites Reservoir Inlet/Outlet Structure and Associated Facilities	Multi-level valve tower and gate shaft; 4,000-foot-long tunnel; 220-foot-high structure; four 32-foot-diameter intake openings at seven levels; trash racks and fish screens; bridge; 15,200-cfs emergency release outlet capacity	Same as A but taller structure (260 feet); intake opening at nine levels	Same as B	Same as B	Same as B
Sites Pumping/Generating Plant and Electrical Switchyard	5,900-cfs pumping capacity; 5,100-cfs generating capacity; 4-acre switchyard with overhead power line tower, at pumping/generating plant	3,900-cfs pumping capacity; 5,100-cfs generating capacity	Same as A	5,900-cfs pumping capacity; no generation	Same as A
Delevan Pumping/Generating Plant	2,000-cfs pumping capacity; 1,500-cfs generating capacity; approximately 6-acre substation near Funks/Holthouse Reservoir with power lines running east to Delevan	No pumping/generating plant (1,500-cfs gravity release flow); power line running east from Funds/Holthouse Reservoir not needed for Delevan	Same as A	2,000-cfs pumping capacity; no generation; substation and power line for Delevan same as A	Same pumping and generating capacity as A; approximately 6-acre substation west of Colusa with powerlines running north-south along State Route 45 (instead of west-east)
South Bridge and Roads	Temporary construction roads, several access roads to new facilities, and new roads to replace those currently in the inundation area; South Bride to provide access between Maxwell and Ladoga	Same as A but slight difference related to access for Saddle Dam 10 for A	Same as B	Same as B	Same as B but with a road to provide access to the community of Leesville; some southern roads not needed
Recreation Areas	Saddle Dam, Stone Corral, Antelope Island, Lurline Headwaters, Peninsula Hills	Same as A	Same as A	Same as A	Stone Corral, Peninsula Hills, boat ramp day use area
Field Office Maintenance Yard	Administration, maintenance buildings, asphalt batch plant (possible temporary location), and parking (also serves Holthouse Reservoir and TRR)	Same as A	Same as A	Same as A	Same as A

[a] The table is meant as a comparison illustrating the main differences between the alternatives; not all facilities or features of the project are included in this table.

Station 2: Operations

The Authority will partner with the State and Reclamation to:

Provide usable storage capacity that fish and wildlife resource agencies can adaptively manage to produce environmental benefits when the needs are greatest.

1. **Sacramento River:** Improve water temperature and stabilize flows between Keswick Dam and Bend Bridge (through a water exchange).

   Benefits: All four Chinook salmon runs (including the endangered Winter Run) and Steelhead.

2. **Feather River:** Conserve coldwater storage to augment flows during late summer and fall months (through a water exchange).

   Benefits: Minimize redd dewatering, juvenile stranding and isolation of Chinook salmon.

3. **Lower American River:** Conserve coldwater storage to augment flows during late summer and fall months (through a water exchange).

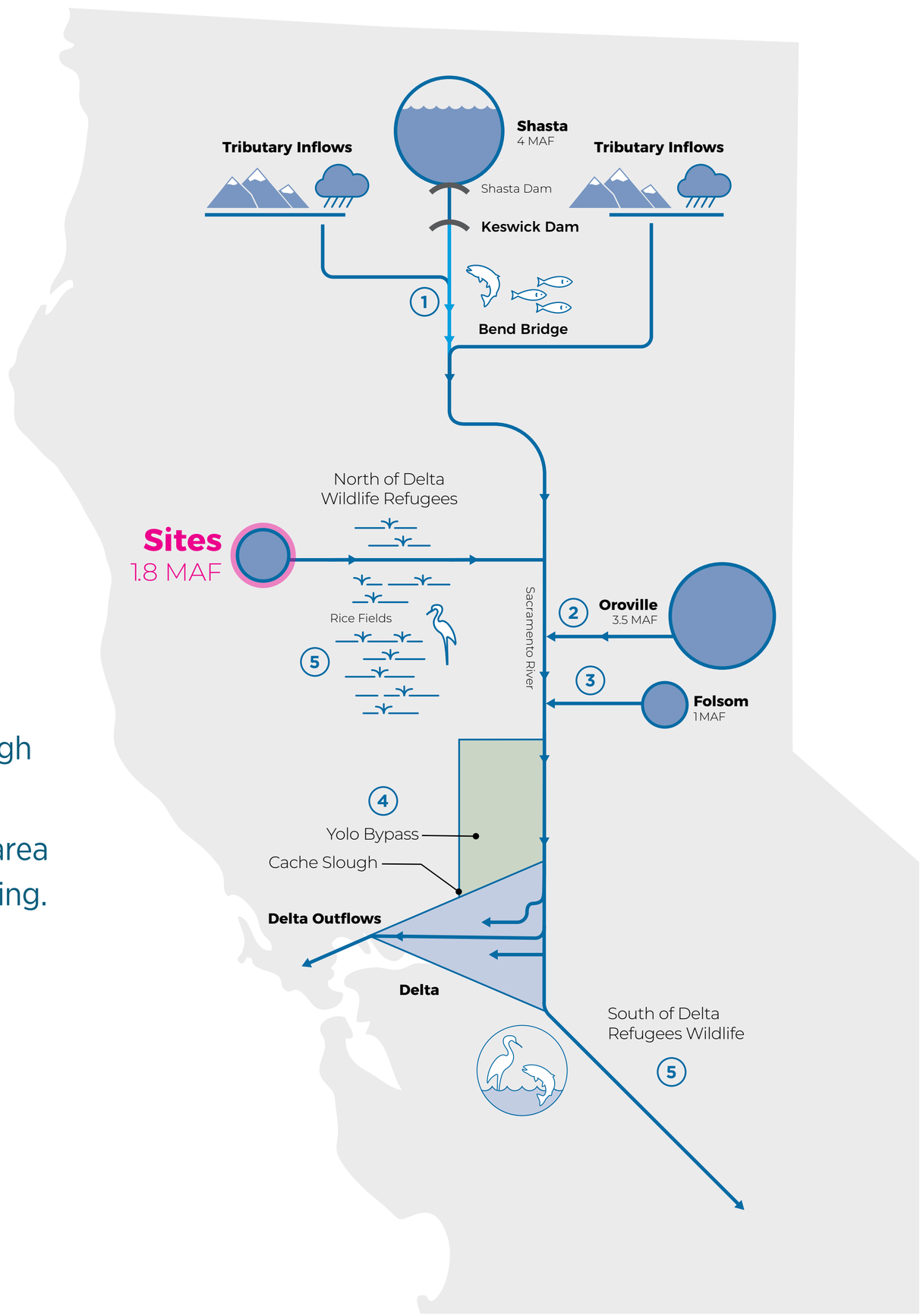
   Benefits: Juvenile steelhead summer rearing and fall-run Chinook salmon spawning.

4. **Yolo Bypass/Cache Slough:** Provide pulse flows into the Yolo Bypass to push water high in phytoplankton and zooplankton directly into the Cache Slough area (through direct reservoir releases).

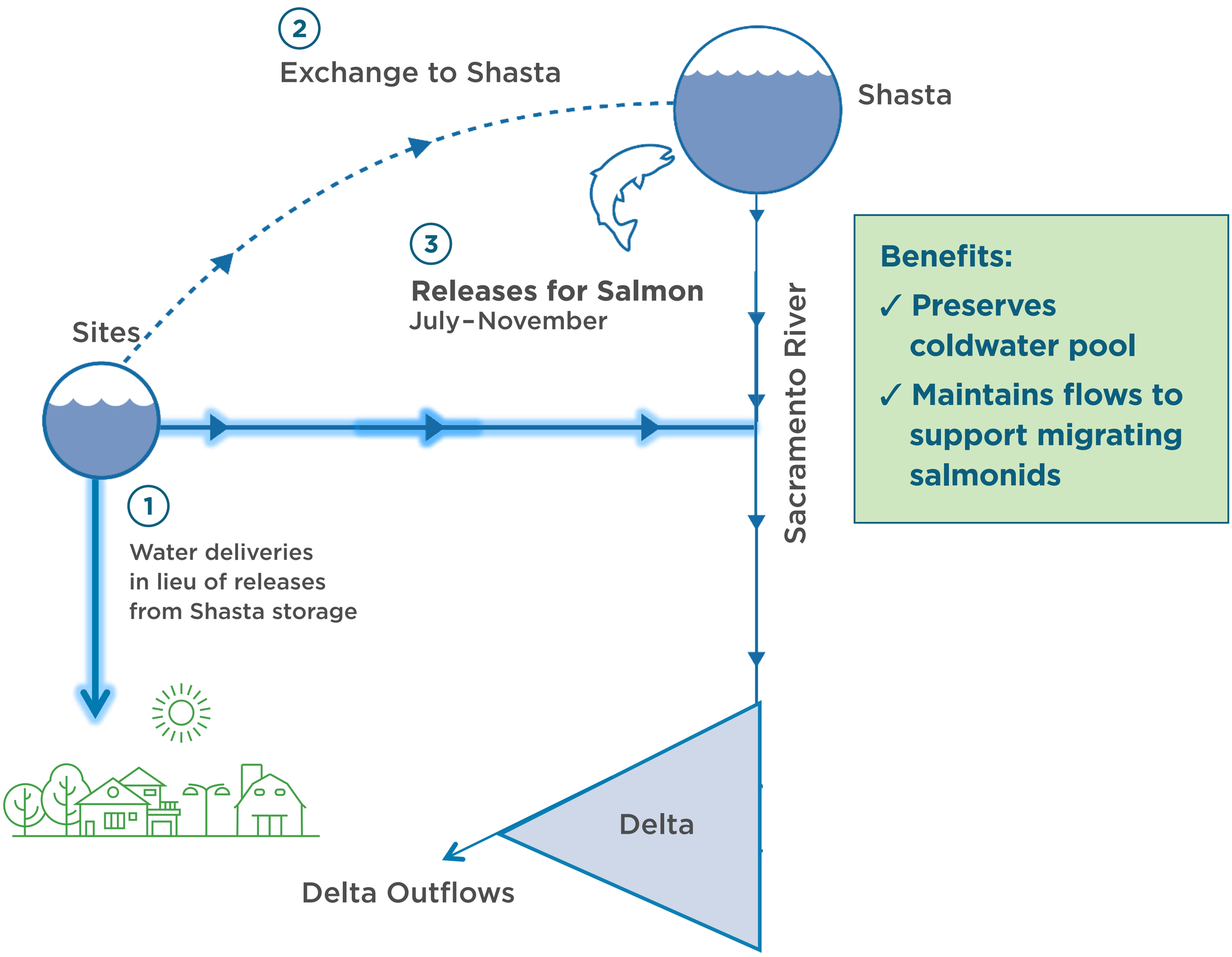
   Benefits: Endangered Delta smelt in an area where the population is currently improving.

5. **Refuges:** Provide incremental Level 4 wildlife refuge water (through direct reservoir releases and water exchanges).

   Benefits: Migratory birds, giant garter snake and tricolored blackbirds.



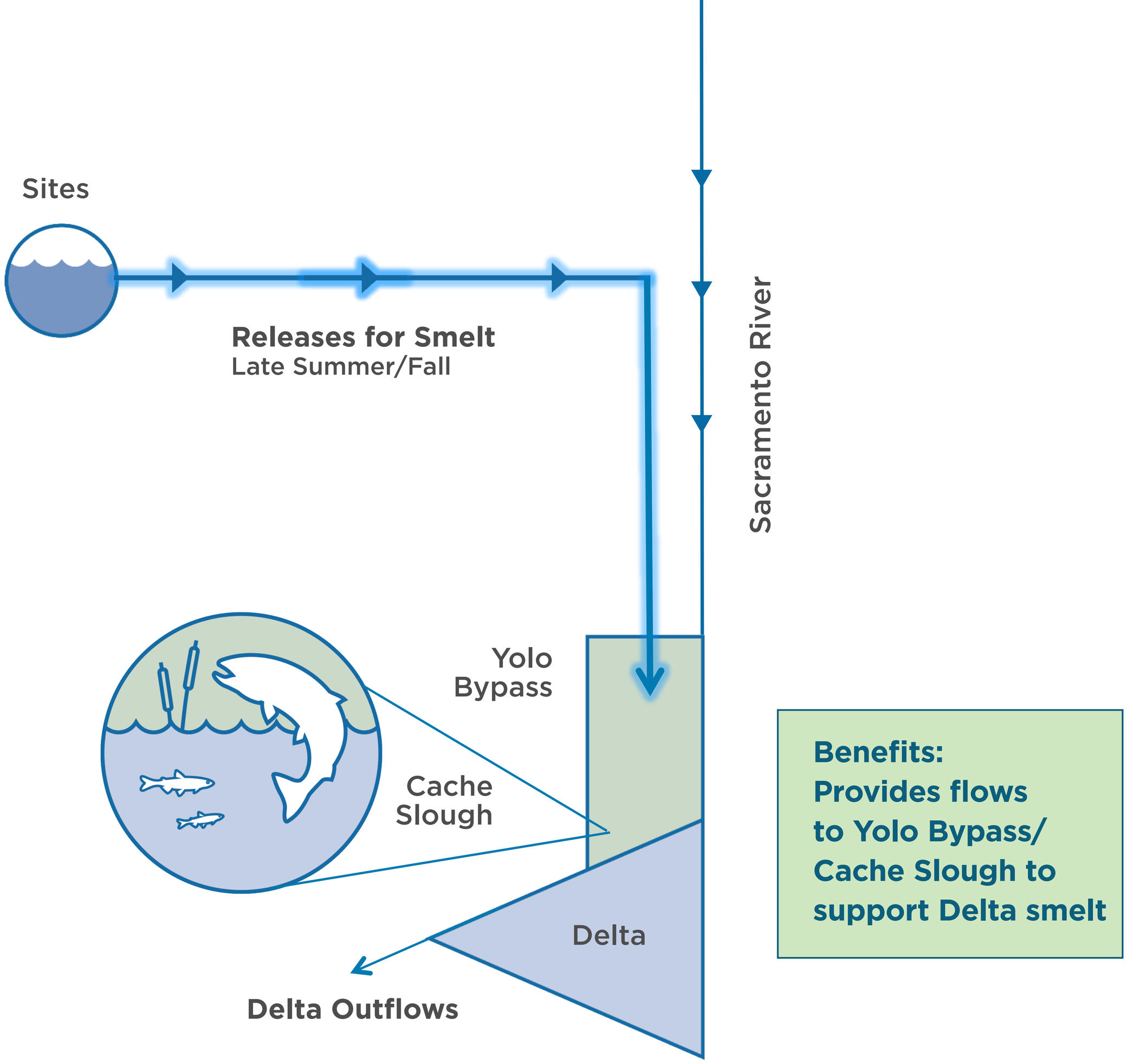
Station 2: Benefits of Coordinated Operations to Salmon



Benefits:

- ✓ Preserves coldwater pool
- ✓ Maintains flows to support migrating salmonids

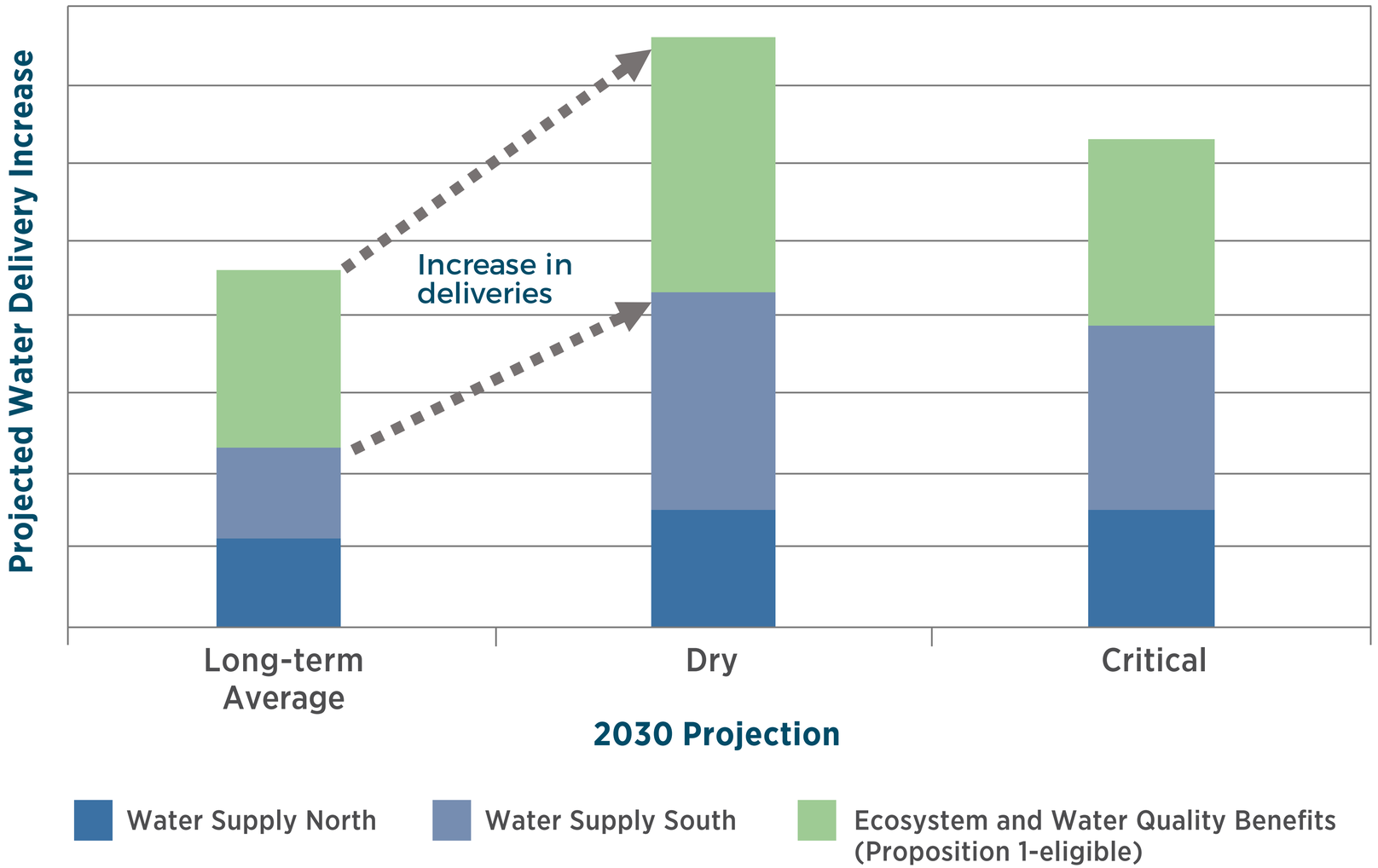
Station 2: Benefits of Coordinated Operations to Delta Smelt



Benefits:
Provides flows to Yolo Bypass/ Cache Slough to support Delta smelt

Station 2: Water Supply

Reliability: Example of Greater Deliveries in Dry Years



Station 3: Environmental Analysis

A Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement has been prepared by the Sites Project Authority (Authority) and Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to identify and address the potential effects of the proposed Sites Project.

The Authority is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, and Reclamation is the lead agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

This Draft EIR/EIS describes:

- The Project
- Feasible range of alternatives
- Environmental setting
- Potential direct and indirect impacts that could result from implementation of Project alternatives
- Mitigation measures for potentially significant impacts

Station 3: Environmental Review Process

JANUARY 31, 2017 — MARCH 2, 2017

SCOPING

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND SCOPING COMMENT PERIOD

AUGUST 2017

DRAFT

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIR/EIS)

YOU ARE HERE

AUGUST 14, 2017 – JANUARY 15, 2018

PUBLIC REVIEW

AND COMMENT

2019

FINAL EIR/EIS

Station 3: Environmental Analysis

Resource/Issue Areas Analyzed: 26

KEY: ***Beneficial (7 total)***

- Air Quality
- ***Aquatic Biological Resources***
- ***Botanical Resources***
- Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Cultural/Tribal Cultural Resources
- Environmental Justice
- Faults and Seismicity
- ***Flood Control***
- Fluvial Geomorphology and Riparian Habitat
- Geology, Minerals, Soils, and Paleontology
- ***Groundwater Quality***
- ***Groundwater Resources***
- Indian Trust Assets
- Land Use
- Navigation, Transportation, and Traffic
- Noise
- Power Production and Energy
- Public Health and Environmental Hazards
- Public Services and Utilities
- ***Recreation Resources***
- ***Socioeconomics***
- ***Surface Water Resources***
- Surface Water Quality
- Terrestrial Biological Resources
- Visual Resources
- Wetlands and Other Waters

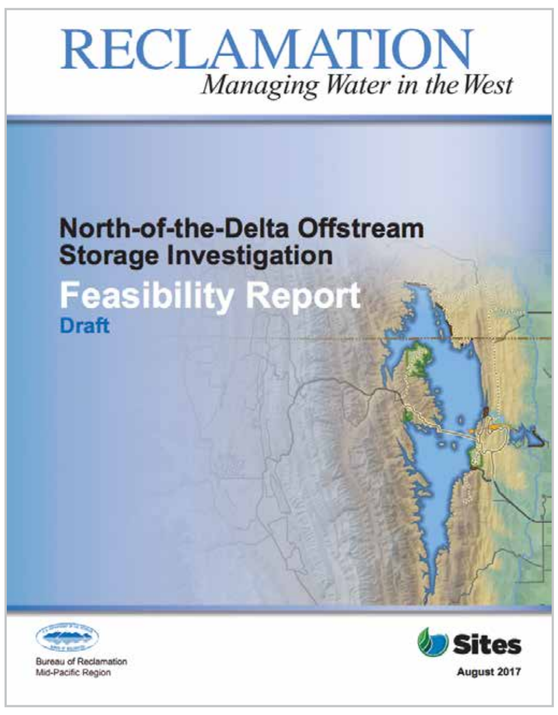
Total Impact Areas Analyzed Across all 5 Alternatives: **98**

Station 3: Environmental Commitments

The following environmental commitments would be incorporated into any action alternative for all project-related construction as well as operations and maintenance activities:

- Worker Environmental Awareness Program
- Environmental Site Assessment
- Construction Management Procedures
- Fire Safety and Suppression
- Construction Equipment, Truck, and Traffic Management
- Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
- Erosion Control, Management, and Dewatering
- Compliance with the Requirements of RWQCB Order No. 5-00-175
- Spill Prevention and Hazardous Materials Management
- Mosquito and Vector Control
- Groundwater/Dewatering Water Supply
- Visual/Aesthetic Design, Construction, and Operation Practices
- Emergency Action Plans (e.g., Sites Dam, Golden Gate Dam, Saddle Dams)

Station 4: Draft Feasibility Report



- **Completed by the Bureau of Reclamation and Sites Project Authority**, in coordination with cooperating agencies, other resource agencies, Native American tribes, stakeholders and the public
- **Presents the results** of planning, engineering, environmental, social, economic and financial analyses
- **Describes the potential physical accomplishments, benefits and impacts of the Sites Project Alternatives**

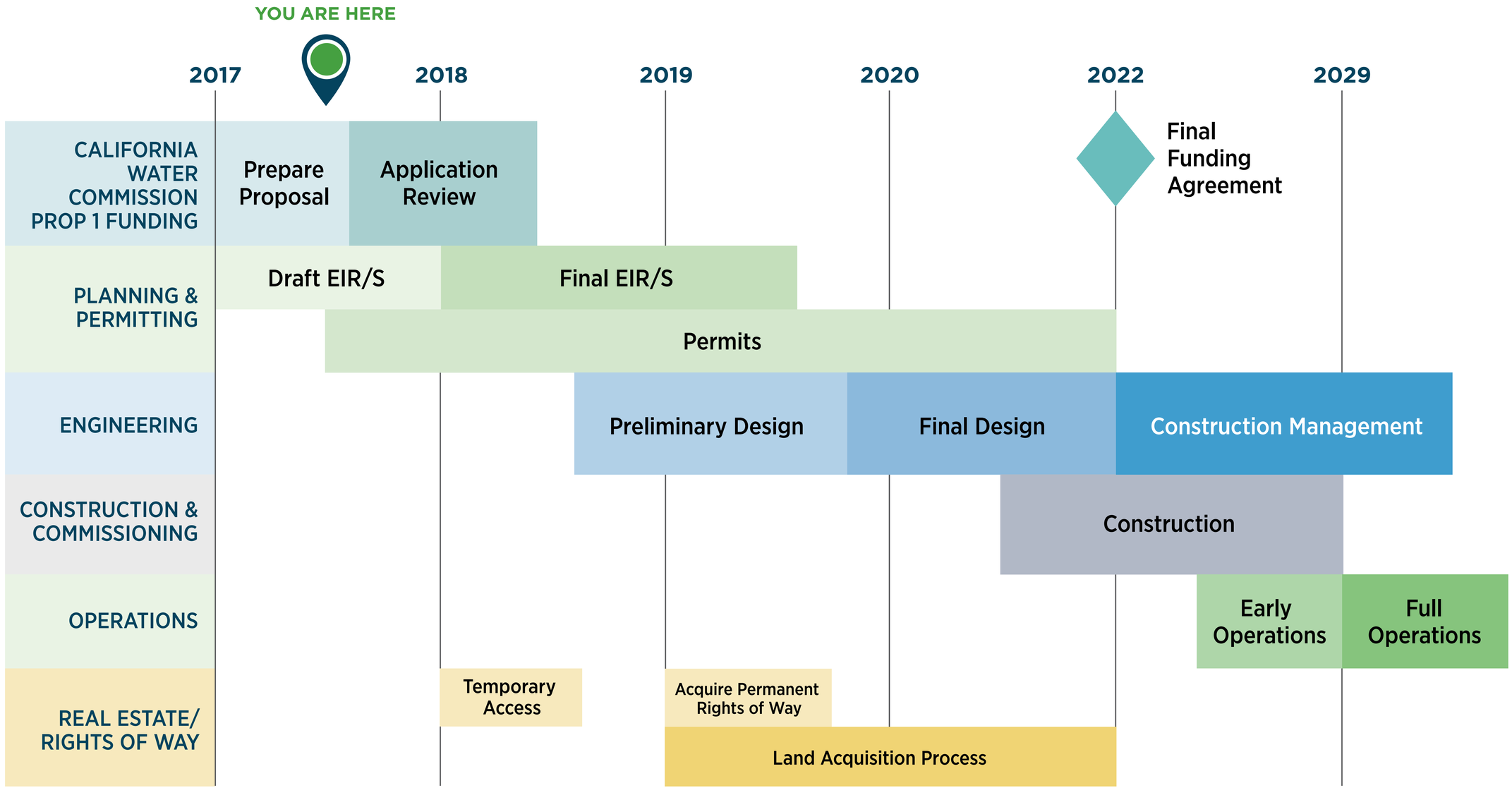
Report Need:

The operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project systems has become increasingly constrained. These increasing constraints threaten the ability of the two systems to meet water use needs while protecting ecosystems and water quality.

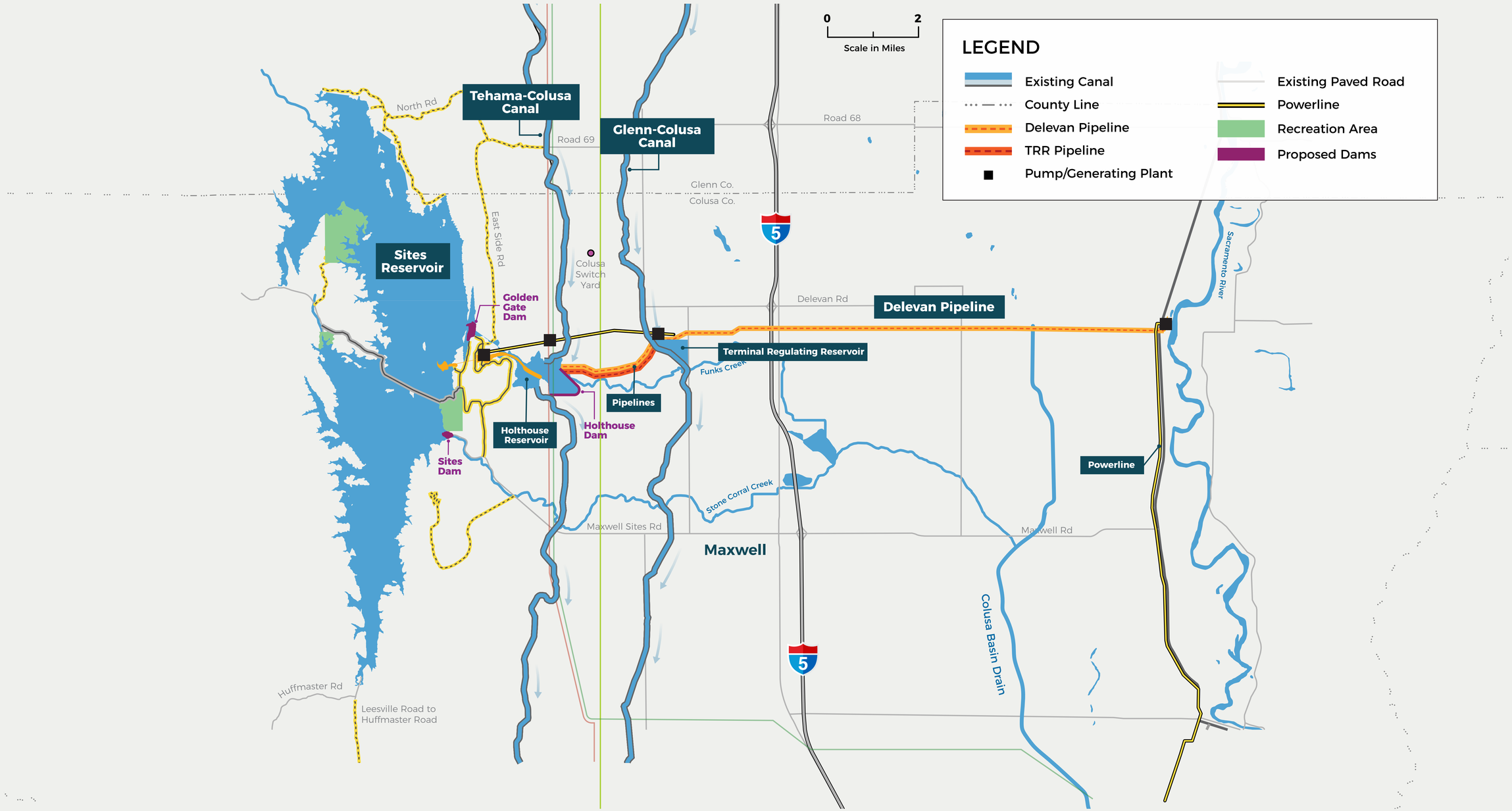
Primary Objectives:

- Improve Water Supply and Water Supply Reliability
- Provide Incremental Level 4 Refuge Water Supply
- Improve the Survival of Anadromous Fish and Other Aquatic Species
- Improve Delta Environmental and Export Water Quality

Station 5: Landowner Information



Station 5: Project Location



Station 6: Commenting

Comments Due:
January 15, 2018

Email to:
EIR-EIS-Comments@SitesProject.org

Mail to: Draft EIR/EIS Comments
Sites Project Authority
P.O. Box 517
Maxwell, CA 95955

Submit oral comments to a court reporter at a public meeting

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