



Sites Project

Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIR/EIS) At a Glance

Sites Project:



**New 1.8 million acre-foot
offstream surface storage
reservoir** in Glenn and
Colusa Counties



**Secures long-term water
sustainability** and benefits
California's economy and
environment



**Direct and real benefits
to instream flows** and
the Sacramento-San Joaquin
Delta (Delta) ecosystem



**Culmination
of decades
of planning**

Sites Project Draft EIR/EIS:



Prepared in accordance with the
California Environmental Quality
Act (CEQA) and National
Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)



**Discloses significant
environmental impacts**
and describes proposed
mitigation measures



**Analyzes a No-Action Alternative
and five action alternatives**
that meet the project objectives
and purpose and need



**Evaluates and describes
the environmental effects**
associated with construction and
operation of the Sites Reservoir
and associated facilities



**Allows for public
and agency review** and
comment that will inform
continued project
development

Sites Project Objectives and Purpose and Need:

- **Enhance water management flexibility** in the Sacramento Valley
- **Increase reliability of** California water supplies
- **Provide storage and operational benefits** to benefit Delta water quality and improve ecosystems

Lead Agencies:

CEQA

Sites Project Authority
(Authority)

NEPA

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
(Reclamation)

Environmental Review Process/Public Participation

Supplemental Scoping Process	Draft EIR/EIS	Public Review	Final EIR/EIS	Record of Decision/ Notice of Determination
January 31 – March 2, 2017	Released August 14, 2017	154-day comment period ending on January 15, 2018	Anticipated late 2019	Anticipated early 2020
Public input on the scope and content of the environmental analysis. Scoping report summarizing scoping activities and all com- ments received during that process included as an appendix to the Draft EIR/EIS.	Public review and comment	Opportunity for regulatory agen- cies and the public to comment on the adequacy and completeness of the environmental analyses and proposed mitiga- tion measures	Includes updated and revised analysis from the Draft EIR/EIS and responses to all substantive comments received on the draft environmental review documents	Completion of the environmental review process and project approval

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**

Sites Project Draft EIR/EIS Alternatives

Alternatives evaluated in the Draft EIR/EIS:



Feasible and reasonable



Avoid or substantially reduce significant impacts



Meet project objectives and purpose and need

Result of:



Completion of previous analyses



Comments received during the scoping process

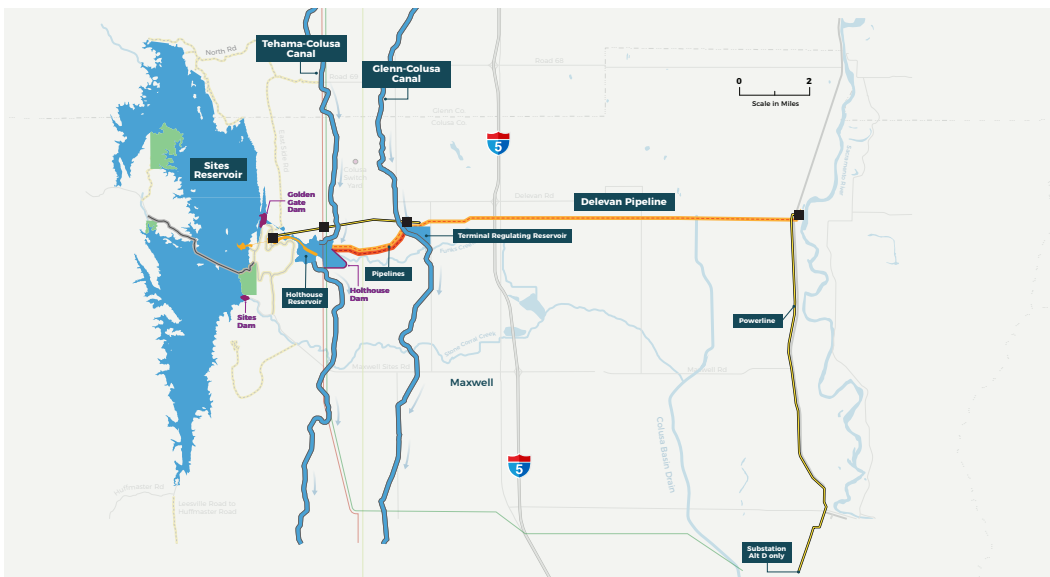


Screening the range of feasible alternatives against the project objectives and purpose and need

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 Funks/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 power lines 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

^aThe 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.

Sites Project Proposed Facilities



Legend

- Existing Canal
- - - County Line
- Delevan Pipeline
- TRR Pipeline
- Pump/Generating Plant
- Existing Paved Road
- Powerline
- Recreation Area
- Proposed Dams