



Topic: **Authority Board Agenda Item 6-2** **2019 September 23**

Subject: **CDFW 60-day Consultation**

Requested Action:

No action requested. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding consultation discussion with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Detailed Description/Background:

By September 23, the Sites Project staff will have organized and participated in 22 technical meetings with CDFW technical staff from their Water Branch and Region 2 (16 Aquatic/Operations and 6 Terrestrial, including 1 site visit for Terrestrial). Staff is being supported by key consultants from Service Area D (modeling) and Service Areas E and F (Environmental and Permitting), respectively. The purpose of the meetings is to work through items identified in CDFW's comment letter to the Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement.

The meetings are informational and collaborative in nature. The Sites Technical Team have provided project background information and analysis results covering a wide range of topics including:

- 60-day work plan, key topics.
- General project overview, models used and published results.
- Terrestrial species models and GIS analysis methods.
- Biological metrics.
- Temperature modeling of the Upper Sacramento River.
- Delta outflow analysis.
- Diversion flow options.
- Floodplains and bypass habitat benefits and impact.

The Sites Technical Team will continue working with our CDFW's counterparts to address the items identified in their comment letter. The Sites Technical Team is also working to prepare a revised, biologically based operations scenario along with a science, adaptive management and mitigation framework that would form the basis of upcoming permit applications.

In addition to the Technical Team, 8 management level meetings have occurred with CDFW's counterparts. Representing the Sites Project is Doug Headrick, Reservoir Committee Chair, Thad Bettner, Reservoir Committee Vice-Chair and

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key program management staff. These meetings have also been collaborative in nature.

Prior Authority Board Action:

None.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:

None.

Staff Contact:

Jim Watson/Ali Forsythe/Rob Thomson/Kevin Spesert

Attachments:

None.