# **AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING**

OCTOBER 21, 2020

Agenda Item 2.3: Reimbursable Agreement with CDFW



# Overview and Key Takeaways

- CDFW will need funding support to dedicate resources to Sites to meet our schedule and Strategic Plan goals
- Staff is recommending entering into a reimbursable agreement with CDFW to reimburse for CDFW's staff support to the project
- Stable, dedicated, senior CDFW staff will allow for resolution of many issues before permit applications are submitted and reduce permit processing time

### **Statement of Work**

- Preapplication consultations
- Permit development and post permit consultations
- Technical assistance in other specific topics areas
  - Resolution of CDFW's comments on the 2017 Draft EIR/EIS
  - Review of the Revised EIR
  - Assistance with and resolution of any concerns on the Authority's water right application
- Technical assistance and coordination with other permitting agencies and non-governmental organizations

#### **Cost and Staff**

- \$2.85M through June 2023:
  - Not to exceed \$1.5M through Dec 2021
    (about 5 full-time equivalents for 18 months)
  - Post 2021 work would require new Notice to Proceed
- Between 3 and 5 full-time equivalents at any one time
- Dedicated staff would be environmental scientists, scientific staff, hydraulic engineer and program manager

#### **Benefits to Sites Members**

- Stability of CDFW staff working on the Project reduces costs, schedule and risk
- Dedicated, qualified and Senior CDFW staff:
  - Bring experience, consistency and creativity
  - Ensure workload and schedule are anticipated
  - Allow more pre-application coordination, less permit processing time and more certainty

### **Recommended Action**

- Staff believes the agreement benefits members in stable, dedicated, senior CDFW staff
  - Important for meeting our schedule and Strategic Plan goals
- Staff recommending the that the Authority enter into a reimbursable agreement with CDFW

## Action Today -

- Recommend to the Authority Board that:
  - Executive Director be authorized to enter into a reimbursable agreement with CDFW for a total of \$2.85 million thru June 2023, with not to exceed \$1.5 million thru December 2021.

