



For Immediate Release:

March 26, 2020

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Jerry Brown Joins Sites Project Authority as Executive Director

Brown's Expertise Critical in Supporting Next Project Stages



Sacramento, Calif. – Following a comprehensive outreach and recruitment effort, the Sites Project Authority Board of Directors has selected Jerry Brown as the Executive Director for Sites Reservoir.

Jerry Brown previously served as general manager of Contra Costa Water District where he oversaw the operations and management of a large water system that served more than 500,000 customers. In this role, he also oversaw development of the first Los Vaqueros Reservoir expansion in 2012. Since leaving CCWD in 2019, he has been working closely with Bay Area water agencies, refuge managers and Central Valley water users to develop the second expansion of Los Vaqueros as a regional asset funded by Prop 1, similar to Sites Reservoir.

“As we enter the next phase of developing Sites Reservoir, the Authority Board was looking for someone with experience navigating the complexity of water storage development that could accelerate the pace of development. Among a well-qualified pool of candidates, Mr. Brown stood out as the person we needed to take the project through the next stage,” said Fritz Durst, chairman of the Sites Project Authority.

Last year, in response to a comprehensive organizational assessment directed by the Sites Project Authority and Reservoir Committee membership, the Sites Project Authority began recruitment for an executive director who could meet the needs of the project throughout the next phase of development. Mr. Brown will assume this role effective March 30, 2020.

“I’m looking forward to this exciting opportunity, especially working with the Authority Board and the local community which is so vital to the success of the project. My skills and experience along with the amazing team of professionals already working on the project make-up a strong, dedicated group that share in the commitment to get this project done in a manner that protects and enhances fish and wildlife and water reliability,” said incoming executive director Jerry Brown.

Located 10 miles west of the town of Maxwell in rural Glenn and Colusa counties, the Sites Reservoir would be an off-stream storage facility that captures and stores stormwater flows in the Sacramento River—after all other water rights and regulatory requirements are met—for release in dry and critical years for environmental use and for California communities, farms and businesses when it is so desperately needed.

Now more than ever, California needs to address its statewide water management challenges by implementing innovative solutions that address the need for a sustainable and affordable water supply. Sites Reservoir will provide a new water supply for both people and the environment, and significantly improve the state’s water management system in drier periods and restore much needed flexibility and reliability in the system.



Sites is an off-river reservoir proposed north of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, where it would provide unique water supply and environmental benefits during dry and critical water years, and especially during extended drought periods. Additional information can be found at: <https://www.sitesproject.org>. Follow the Sites Project on social media @SitesProject.