

Authority Board Meeting

Agenda Item 2.1, Approve Release of the
RDEIR/SDEIS Project Description

January 27, 2021



Overview – Action To Be Taken

- Project Description will be Chapter 2 of the Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS
- Foundation of the analysis in the RDEIR/SDEIS and of all of our permitting efforts
- Draft currently under review by team (Sites and Reclamation staff)
- Recommend release of the Draft Project Description
 - For information / discussion purposes with regulatory agencies, NGOs, interested members of the public
 - Continue to refine until release Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS in July

Alternatives Summary

Facilities / Operations	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
Reservoir Size	1.5 MAF	1.3 MAF	1.5 MAF
Hydropower	Incidental upon release	Same as Alt 1	Same as Alt 1
Diversion Locations	Red Bluff Pumping Plant and Hamilton City	Same as Alt 1	Same as Alt 1
Conveyance Release / Dunnigan Release	1,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) into new Dunnigan Pipeline to Colusa Basin Drain	1,000 cfs into new Dunnigan Pipeline to Sacramento River. Partial release into the Colusa Basin Drain	Same as Alt 1
Reclamation Involvement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Funding Partner 2. Operational Exchanges <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Within Year Exchanges b. Real-time Exchanges 	Operational Exchanges <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Within Year Exchanges b. Real-time Exchanges 	Same as Alt 1, but up to 25% investment
DWR Involvement	Operational Exchanges with Oroville and use of SWP facilities South-of-Delta	Same as Alt 1	Same as Alt 1
Route to West Side of Reservoir	Bridge across reservoir	Paved road around southern end of reservoir	Same as Alt 1

More Substantial Project Description Changes Since Previous Updates

- Hydropower – All alternatives include power generation incidental upon release up to 40 MW at Funks and up to 40 MW at TRR
 - Confirmed with FERC staff that this qualifies for a FERC exemption
- Emergency Release Flows, Alternative 2 – Refinements to emergency release locations
 - Inlet/Outlet Works, Sites Dam, and Saddle Dam 8B into Hunters Creek watershed
- Stored Water Release Location, Alternative 3 – Colusa Basin Drain
- Reclamation Investment, Alternative 2 – Operational exchanges only, not a funding partner

More Substantial Project Description Changes Since Previous Updates (cont)

- Diversion criteria:
 - Refined, shifted upstream for practical operations at diversion locations
 - Additional pulse protection criteria added to protect migrating juvenile salmon
 - Analysis underway, but initial results show little changes in flows throughout the system (including Freeport and Net Delta Outflow Index)
- More details on Operations added

Recommended Action

- Staff is recommending release of the Draft Project Description
 - For information / discussion purposes with regulatory agencies, NGOs, interested members of the public
 - Continue to refine until release Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS in July
 - Post to Authority’s website for access and transparency
 - Include preamble clearly identifying that the Authority is not taking public comments / not responding to comments

Questions?

