



Topic: **Reservoir Committee Meeting Agenda Item 3.1**

2021 June 23

Subject: **Revised Draft EIR/ Supplemental Draft EIS Third Briefing - Operations-Related Sections and Growth Inducement**

Requested Action:

Review and comment on the key outcomes of the operations-related chapters and growth inducement analysis in the Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS (RDEIR/SDEIS).

Detailed Description/Background:

Staff is continuing to make progress on the development of the RDEIR/SDEIS. This is the third of a three-part briefing in preparation for the consideration of approving release of the RDEIR/SDEIS at the July Reservoir Committee and Authority Board meetings for public review in August. This briefing focuses on the key outcomes of the operations-related chapters and the growth inducement chapter.

There are 34 chapters anticipated to be included in the RDEIR/SDEIS. Eighteen of those chapters were covered in May 2021 and this report covers 5 chapters. There are 6 chapters serving as introductory or closing chapters and 3 chapters pertain to NEPA only. The final review in the July meetings will cover the remaining chapters and policy areas. See Attachment A for full list of all of the chapters of the RDEIR/SDEIS.

Operations-Related Chapters

Table 1 provides a brief summary of the impacts requiring mitigation and significant and unavoidable impacts, if any, associated with the subject chapters. These impact findings should be considered preliminary and are subject to change as the Authority and Reclamation teams continue to review and refine these chapters.

All of these chapters will also have varying degrees of construction-related Project effects and these effects are also covered in this presentation.

Table 1. Preliminary CEQA Findings for Chapters Sufficiently Developed Since the May 2021 Meeting

Chapter (# and Title)	Impacts Requiring Mitigation	Significant and Unavoidable Impacts
5, Surface Water Resources	None	None
11, Aquatic Resources	All Alts – Tidal habitat restoration to address operations effects on Longfin Smelt	None
20, Air Quality*	All Alts – Increase in criteria pollutant for which region is nonattainment during construction; odors from asphalt batch plant during construction and operations; recreational boat emissions during operations	Analysis underway
21, Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG)	All Alts – Develop a GHG Reduction Plan to achieve net-zero emissions during construction and operations	None

Note: This table provides preliminary determinations and is not intended to be a final or conclusive resolution of the CEQA findings for the Project. These determinations may change as chapters undergo additional review and are revised prior to public release. This table also only focuses on those impacts that have found to be significant and thus require mitigation or are significant and unavoidable. It is not intended to provide a comprehensive summary of the Project’s impacts. Additional impacts will be discussed and addressed in the respective chapters.

* Some air quality modeling is still underway, and any additional effects will be reported at the July meeting.

Growth Inducement

The State CEQA Guidelines and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations under NEPA require that an EIR and EIS, respectively, address the potential growth-inducing effects of a Project. This analysis looks at the direct and indirect growth inducing effects from both construction and operations of the Project. No impact determinations are made in the growth inducement analysis.

The analysis in the RDEIR/SDEIS considered, among other factors, CALSIM modeling output to consider the water supply reliability to members, population growth over the last 20 years and projected future growth, and the role of local governments over land use planning. Based on a number of factors, the RDEIR/SDEIS concludes that construction and operation of any of the alternatives would not be growth-inducing and would not induce secondary growth impacts.

Prior Action:

May 2021: Reviewed and commented on the approach for Project commitments, key outcomes of the construction-related chapters of the RDEIR/SDEIS and discuss local issues and challenges.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:

None.

Staff Contact:

Ali Forsythe

Attachments:

None

Sites Reservoir Project Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS List of Chapters

The Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS includes the following chapters:

- Executive Summary
- Ch. 1 - Introduction
- Ch. 2 - Project Description and Alternatives
- Ch. 3 - Approach to Environmental Analysis
- Ch. 4 - Regulatory and other Approvals
- Ch. 5 - Surface Water Resources
- Ch. 6 - Surface Water Quality
- Ch. 7 - Fluvial Geomorphology
- Ch. 8 - Groundwater Resources
- Ch. 9 - Vegetation and Wetlands
- Ch. 10 - Wildlife Resources
- Ch. 11- Aquatic Resources
- Ch. 12 - Geology and Soils
- Ch. 13 - Minerals
- Ch. 14 - Land Use
- Ch. 15 - Agricultural Resources
- Ch. 16 - Recreation
- Ch. 17 - Energy
- Ch. 18 - Navigation, Transportation and Traffic
- Ch. 19 - Noise
- Ch. 20 - Air Quality
- Ch. 21 - Greenhouse Gases
- Ch. 22 - Cultural Resources
- Ch. 23 - Tribal Cultural Resources
- Ch. 24 - Visual Resources
- Ch. 25 - Population and Housing
- Ch. 26 - Public Services and Utilities
- Ch. 27 - Public Health and Environmental Hazards
- Ch. 28 - Climate Change (NEPA only)
- Ch. 29 - Indian Trust Assets (NEPA only)
- Ch. 30 - Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice (NEPA only)
- Ch. 31 - Cumulative Impacts
- Ch. 32 - Other Required Analyses (includes Growth Inducement)
- Ch. 33 - Consultation and Coordination; List of Preparers
- Ch. 34 - EIR/EIS Document Distribution