



**Requested Action:**

Receive an update on status of release of the Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS (RDEIR/SDEIS) along with an update on changes to the aquatic biological resources effects determinations in the document.

**Detailed Description/Background:**

Staff and the team have continued to work to resolve the last changes to the RDEIR/SDEIS in preparation for release of the document. In working with the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) additional changes have been made to Chapter 11, Aquatic Biological Resources. These changes resulted in changes to some of the effects determinations in the chapter as summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1. Summary of CEQA Finding Changes for Aquatic Biological Resources**

Effects Area	Impacts Requiring Mitigation	Significant and Unavoidable Impacts
Operations Effects on Winter-Run, Spring-Run, Fall-Run/Late Fall-Run Chinook Salmon and Central Valley Steelhead	All Alts – Implement Wilkins Slough Flow Protection Criteria whereby Project diversions would not occur from March through May of all water year types if flows in the Sacramento River at Wilkins Slough are below or would be reduced below 10,700 cubic feet per second	None
Operations Effects on Delta Smelt	All Alts – Evaluate and prevent potential detrimental water temperature and dissolved oxygen effects to Delta Smelt associated with moving Colusa Basin Drain water through the Yolo Bypass by monitoring and ceasing flows through the Yolo Bypass if detrimental effects are projected to occur	None
<p>Note: This table provides a summary of the 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.</p>		

The RDEIR/SDEIS is anticipated to begin the Reclamation Executive Review process shortly and is expected to be released publicly in mid-October. Planning for the public review process is underway and no substantial changes have been made to the plans previously discussed with the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board.

**Prior Action:**

July 2021: Authorized release of Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS (RDEIR/SDEIS) and authorized the Executive Director to file a Notice of Completion with the State Clearinghouse and complete other noticing requirements to initiate the public review process.

**Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:**

The additional efforts on the RDEIR/SDEIS have resulted in this task exceeding the budgeted funds in the Service Area E Amendment 2 Work Plan. Agenda Item 1.8 on today's Joint Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Agenda, if approved, provided additional funding for the RDEIR/SDEIS efforts. All remaining efforts are expected to stay within the revised budget.

**Staff Contact:**

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**Primary Service Provider:**

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**Attachments:**

None