



Topic: **Authority Board Meeting Agenda Item 3.1**

August 25, 2021

Subject: **Update on Release of the RDEIR/SDEIS**

Requested Action:

Receive an update on status of release of the Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS (RDEIR/SDEIS) and public review process.

Detailed Description/Background:

Staff and the team have largely completed the development of the RDEIR/SDEIS. However, review of Chapter 11, Aquatic Biological Resources continues with the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and is expected to result in some changes to the document. These efforts are expected to be completed in the coming weeks. With these additional reviews and based on the current status of discussions, the release of the document is expected to be behind schedule.

Staff, Reclamation and the team have continued to develop the public review process for the RDEIR/SDEIS. The team continues to plan for a 60-day public review period and holding three public meetings with one in-person meeting in Maxwell and two virtual meetings during the review period. A Spanish interpreter will be available at the in-person public meeting.

The team is planning for a number of notifications of the release of the document including the required notices under CEQA and NEPA, a joint Authority / Reclamation press release, postcard mailers to impacted and adjacent landowners, e-blasts, and newspaper display ads. The team is also preparing a number of written materials to accompany the document including a fact sheet, a RDEIR/SDEIS community guide, and frequently asked question sheets. The RDEIR/SDEIS Executive Summary, press release, and fact sheet will be translated into Spanish.

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 may result in this task exceeding the budgeted funds in the Service Area E Amendment 2 work plan. Staff is currently assessing the budget and efforts and will report back to the Reservoir Committee

and Authority Board at the September meeting. However, the increased cost for this task will be accommodated with underruns occurring on other Amendment 2 tasks so there is will not be a total budget impact from these additional costs.

Staff Contact:

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Attachments:

None