



Meeting: **Joint Reservoir Committee & Authority Board  
Agenda Item 3.1**

**December 17, 2021**

Subject: **Reservoir Operations Plan, Version 1**

---

**Requested Action:**

Review and comment on components of the Draft Reservoir Operations Plan, Version 1.

**Detailed Description/Background:**

Staff have prepared Version 1 of a Reservoir Operations Plan that provides an overview of overall Project facilities and operations. The purpose of the Operations Plan is to provide Storage Partners with an overview of current operational assumptions. The Plan does not commit the Project to specific operations, but instead discusses operational coordination and constraints and provides modeling output on key operational parameters. All modeling results and project description information are consistent with Alternative 1B in the Revised Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS.

**Annual Operations Cycle:** Included in the Reservoir Operations Plan is a graphic that depicts the Project's annual operations cycle, including seasons for diverting, exchanging water, and releasing. The cycle also provides an overview of when preliminary and final requests for releases from Sites Reservoir would be provided to the Authority during Project operations.

**Project Diversions:** The Operations Plan describes both project-specific and regulatory (or system-wide) constraints on operations. These include diversion criteria specific to the Project as well as regulatory requirements on the Sacramento River and in the Delta that must be considered when the Project is diverting. Diversions for Sites Project water is allocated to Storage Partners as identified in the Principles for the Storage, Delivery, and Sale of Sites Reservoir Project Water (approved April 2021). There are no priorities given for diversions; all Storage Partners are treated equitably.

**Storage in Sites Reservoir:** The Operations Plan describes storage account management by Storage Partners and the concept of leasing or selling storage space. It identifies possible methodology for calculating losses from storage. These losses will be allocated proportionally based on the amount of storage in the reservoir by Storage Partner.

**Releases from Sites Reservoir:** The Operations Plan provides an overview of release facilities along with the criteria and timing for releasing water from

storage. It discusses release order and forecasting for deliveries. Forecasts will be updated weekly during the release season, and deliveries south-of-Delta will be coordinated closely with DWR and Reclamation. An attachment to the Plan provides estimated deliveries by Storage Partner by water year type.

The Plan also discusses exchanges with DWR and Reclamation; Proposition 1 operations for environmental benefits; coordination with GCID, TCCA, CBD, DWR, and Reclamation; Funks and Stone Corral Creeks including the MOU with Colusa County; and Flood Control.

The Draft Operations Plan is under review by the Ad Hoc Operations and Engineering Workgroup. The final Reservoir Operations Plan, Version 1 will be available to all Reservoir Committee and Authority Board members in January 2022. It will be updated in 2022 and 2023 as further information becomes available related to daily operations and permitting considerations.

**Prior Authority Board Action:**

None.

**Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:**

None.

**Staff Contact:**

Erin Heydinger

**Primary Service Provider:**

HDR, Jacobs

**Attachments:**

None