



**Sites Project Authority**  
**Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration**  
**for the 2022-2024 Sites Reservoir Geologic, Geophysical, and**  
**Geotechnical Investigations**

The Sites Project Authority (Authority), as the Lead Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in coordination with the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), as the Lead Agency pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) has prepared an Environmental Assessment/Initial Study (EA/IS) with Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the 2022-2024 Sites Reservoir Geologic, Geophysical, and Geotechnical Investigations (proposed Project; also referred to as the Proposed Action in the Draft EA/IS). The Authority and Reclamation are proposing to conduct geologic, geophysical, and geotechnical investigations in Glenn, Colusa, and Yolo Counties. The purpose of the proposed Project is to conduct field investigations and surveys to obtain data and information needed to formulate and refine the engineering design and to assist in the preparation of permit applications for the proposed Sites Reservoir and associated facilities in western Sacramento Valley. The proposed Project includes up to 70 pavement cores, 258 augers and borings, and 33 cone penetration tests at varying depths. In addition, approximately 70 piezometers would be installed at select auger or boring locations in the proposed Project Area. Non-invasive geophysical surveys would occur at each investigation location. Non-invasive geologic surveys would also occur at various locations in the proposed Project Area.

Through analysis presented in the Draft EA/IS, the proposed Project may result in potentially significant environmental impacts to biological resources; cultural resources; paleontological resources; and, tribal cultural resources. However, with implementation of the proposed Project's standard protocols and procedures and mitigation measures, any potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed Project would be reduced to less than significant levels as described in the Draft EA/IS.

The Draft EA/IS is being circulated for public review and comment for a 30-day period starting on **May 23, 2022**, through **June 21, 2022**. Comments on the Draft EA/IS must be received in writing via e-mail or U.S. mail to the contact listed below by 5:00 p.m. on **June 21, 2022**. For e-mailed comments, please include the project title in the subject line.

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During the 30-day public review period the Draft EA/IS will be available for review on the Authority's Website at: <https://sitesproject.org/environmental-review> or on the CEQAnet web portal at: <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/>. Copies of the Draft EA/IS can also be reviewed at the Authority's Office at 122 Old Highway 99 West, Maxwell, CA, 95955. For individuals requesting reasonable accommodations, please contact the Sites Project Authority at 530-438-2309 or [Boardclerk@SitesProject.org](mailto:Boardclerk@SitesProject.org).

