



Meeting: **Joint Reservoir Committee & Authority Board  
Agenda Item 2.2**

**June 16, 2023**

Subject: **Contracts with Cachil Dehe and Paskenta Tribes**

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**Requested Action:**

Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider authorizing the Executive Director to enter into two contracts for geotech monitoring as-needed services with the Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun along with geotech monitoring as-needed services and an ethnographic study with the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians for a total of up to \$370,000 through December 2024, with a not-to-exceed of \$210,000 for fiscal year 2023.

**Detailed Description/Background:**

As part of the 2022-2024 Geologic, Geophysical, and Geotechnical Investigations and the 2023-2024 Test Pits, Fault Studies and Quarry Study Investigations, the Authority committed to obtaining the services of a tribal monitor to monitor ground disturbing activities. The Authority has an existing contract with the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation for this effort and Yocha Dehe has completed the tribal monitoring for the 2022-2024 Geologic, Geophysical, and Geotechnical Investigations efforts to date.

The Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun previously held a contract with the Authority and completed tribal monitoring for geotechnical activities in 2020 and 2021. In 2022, noting the challenges of staffing, the Cachil Dehe identified that they did not have staff at that time to continue monitoring activities and requested the Authority contract for monitoring services with the Yocha Dehe. The Cachil Dehe recently indicated interest in re-engaging on tribal monitoring for geotechnical activities. The Authority has an existing contract with Cachil Dehe. The proposed action would add \$120,000 through December 2024 to the existing contract with a not to exceed amount of \$60,000 in FY 23. Authority staff will work with the Cachil Dehe and Yocha Dehe to reduce overlap in monitoring activities.

Authority staff has recently begun re-engaging with the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians (Nomlāqa Bōda). Recently Paskenta added a Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and is working to develop its cultural preservation department and staff capabilities. Paskenta has expressed an interest in conducting tribal monitoring for geotechnical activities in portions of the Project area. The proposed action would include \$50,000 through December 2024 with a not to exceed amount of \$25,000 in FY 23 for tribal monitoring services.

Authority staff will work with all three tribes to reduce overlap in monitoring activities.

In addition, and as part of the mitigation measures anticipated in the Final EIR, the Authority has committed to working with Tribes to continue to identify Tribal Cultural Resources in the Project area. Thus far, the only specific request made is for funding to be provided to the Paskenta for their completing an ethnographic study for the Project area. This study would document the Paskenta culture and community related to the Project area and would be prepared by the Tribe and its consultant using Tribal traditional and scientific knowledge. Such a study will lay the groundwork for Tribal Cultural Resources identification efforts in the Project area. Paskenta has also indicated a willingness to collaborate with the Grindstone Indian Rancheria of Wintun-Wailaki Indians, who are also traditionally and culturally affiliated with the northern portion of the reservoir footprint, into this effort. A total of \$200,000 would be allocated to the Paskenta for these efforts through December 2024, with a not to exceed of \$125,000 in FY 23. Payments for the study would be based on actual invoiced costs incurred. None of the other Tribes have made any specific requests at this time. Staff will continue to engage with Tribes and bring warranted items to the Board for consideration as they arise.

These proposed contracts were reviewed with the Environmental Planning and Permitting Workgroup and the group concurred with the recommended action.

**Prior Action:**

None.

**Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:**

This action can be completed within the Amendment 3 Work Plan funding amounts. The Amendment 3 Work Plan includes sufficient funds to support these proposed expenditures.

**Staff Contact:**

Ali Forsythe

**Primary Service Provider:** N/A

**Attachments:** None.