

From: [Marcia Kivett](#)
To: [Alicia Forsythe](#); [EIR-EIS-Comments](#)
Cc: [Jerry Brown](#); [Laurie Warner Herson](#); [Fisher, Linda](#)
Subject: FW: Sites letter....
Date: Friday, January 28, 2022 7:51:36 AM
Attachments: [SitesEISEIRcomments.ian2022.pdf](#)

Good Morning,

Please see the attached .

From: David Guy <dguy@norcalwater.org>
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 7:47 AM
To: 'Fritz Durst (fritz.durst@gmail.com)' <fritz.durst@gmail.com>; Jerry Brown <jbrown@sitesproject.org>; Marcia Kivett <MKivett@sitesproject.org>
Subject: Sites letter....



David J. Guy
President
Northern California Water Association
(916) 442-8333



*To advance the economic, social and environmental sustainability of Northern California
by enhancing and preserving the water rights, supplies and water quality.*

January 27, 2022

Sites Project Authority
P.O. Box 517
Maxwell, CA 95955

Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way, W-2830
Sacramento, CA 95825

EIR-EIS-Comments@SitesProject.org

The Northern California Water Association (NCWA) offers the following comments on Sites Reservoir and the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report/Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

We appreciate you seeking comments on the potential impacts to the project, which are important to address for the benefit of the region and to make the project more effective. Our comments, rather than discussing potential *impacts*, encourages a look at Sites Reservoir through a lens where the significant environmental *benefits* are fully seen and acknowledged. Through this lens, Sites Reservoir offers a new and modern approach for the environment by developing a water asset that can be used in a flexible manner for the benefit of fish and wildlife in the Sacramento Valley and the Delta. For this reason, there is strong support from every part of the Sacramento River Basin.

As Sacramento River Basin water resources managers look to serve multiple benefits in the future, including fish and wildlife, farms, cities and rural communities, the importance and need for Sites Reservoir becomes clear. Sites Reservoir is an innovative 21st century water project: an off-stream regulating reservoir that can store water for the future by capturing it during high runoff periods, and then releasing water for various beneficial uses at a later time. With its location upstream of the Delta and near the Sacramento River, water in Sites Reservoir would serve multiple benefits in the Sacramento River Basin, as well as the Delta and the rest of the state. Recent dry years have shown the value that similar off-stream reservoirs, such as Diamond Valley and Los Vaqueros, provide California communities and regional water management.

Sites Reservoir would be a dramatic enhancement to California's water system and the first storage project in California with a dedicated supply for the environment. This facility would provide multiple benefits to improve aquatic habitat conditions and withstand dry year conditions. This reservoir would be operated to accommodate and address the uncertainties created by a changing climate and improve environmental and water supply system resilience. Sites Reservoir can provide

a freshwater ecosystem water budget that would help provide flexibility and make water available during drier years--which would help ensure water availability for the ecosystem. Most importantly, Sites Reservoir would significantly improve the state's water management system in drier periods and restore much needed flexibility and reliability that have been lost in the system.

Recent climate studies have shown that California's winter runoff is likely to remain similar in volume but come in fewer months of the year, concentrating runoff and increasing flood risks. Adapting to this challenge requires infrastructure that can store surplus water when it is available and deploy it for the ecosystem and human uses when water is not available. Sites Reservoir is one of the best opportunities to re-imagine our water system in the 21st century, prepare for future climate variability, and add value to our current water system by providing high-quality water to enhance the environment, natural infrastructure, public safety, the economy, and quality of life for Californians.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Guy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "G".

David J. Guy
President