

# Sites Storage Reservoir

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The

Sites Storage Reservoir proposed for the western Sacramento Valley would be filled by water diversions from the Sacramento River. During dry years, these diversions could take more than half of the flows in the Sacramento River.

More than 20,000 acres of public lands that were

acquired to protect the river's riparian habitats could be degraded by the diversions. The reservoir would drown up to 15,000 acres of existing oak woodlands, grasslands, wetlands, and agricultural land. Impacts from the reservoir would harm the bald eagle

and other wildlife species, rare plants, historical and cultural resources, endangered salmon, and water quality. The project will also take away fresh water that is needed in the Delta to maintain water quality and endangered fish.

Sites will cost more than \$4.7 billion to build

and supporters hope taxpayers will cover up to \$1.6 billion of that cost from the state water bond (Prop. 1). Ultimately, the reservoir will increase the dependency of southern California on imported water and subsidize more almond orchards in the southern Central Valley for the Asian export market.

The Sites project's environmental impacts could

be severe and it fails to provide significant environmental benefits.