

Sites Off-Stream Reservoir

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To:EIR-EIS-Comments <eir-eis-comments@sitesproject.org>;

Mr. Watson, et.al.,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

It is not good science or public policy to promote a project of large surface area and shallow water level to provide water for consumption. Significantly higher percentages of the yield are lost to evaporation, especially in a climate that is very hot, windy, and dry during the period when this water would presumably be consumed. The funds that some hope to use for this would be more wisely allocated to developing aquifer recharge opportunities, improving irrigation systems, replacing some of the almond orchards which are very water intensive with annual crops that can be fallowed in drought years, and incentivizing water conservation.

In addition, low gradient river systems like the Sacramento need considerable steady flows during the rainy season to maintain a productive environment for salmonids and other species. Much of that potential flow is already impounded by Shasta, Oroville, Englebright, and numerous other reservoirs. To think that impounding even more of that flow will yield environmental benefits sounds like alternative science to me.

Please oppose acceptance of the DEIR/S, and recommend that more effective solutions be developed and promoted as a beneficial use of Prop 1 funds.

Sincerely,
Jonathan McClelland