



Meeting: **Reservoir Committee & Authority Board  
Agenda Item 3.1**

**May 17, 2024**

Subject: **Operations Plan Development**

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**Requested Action:**

Review and comment on the status of the Operations Plan, Version 2.0 preparation.

**Detailed Description/Background:**

Staff are continuing to prepare Version 2.0 of the Operations Plan<sup>1</sup>. As part of the water right application process, staff committed to providing a draft Version 2.0 of the Operations Plan on May 24, 2024. This draft Version 2.0 will be provided to the State Water Resources Control Board and parties to the water right hearing. This draft Version 2.0 of the Operations Plan will include updates to reflect current operation assumptions and will aggregate information from other public documents the Board has previously authorized including in the Final EIR/EIS, the water right application and the Incidental Take Permit applications. Version 2.0 will focus on diversions, storage, and release operations for the Project.

Continued development of the Operations Plan should be viewed as an evolving process not fully culminated until the end of construction. Staff is planning the following immediate activities to take place subsequent to this May release of draft Version 2.0:

- Added sections covering member activities will be provide for Operations and Engineering Work Group review in early July.
- The updated Benefits and Obligations (B&O) contract sections (currently Section 4 and 8), will be cross-referenced to the Operations Plan.

Following completion of these activities, staff will prepare a final Version 2.0 with the intent for it to be accepted at the August 2024 Reservoir Committee/Authority Board meeting. Further version revisions will occur in the future as needed.

To clarify Staff's approach in terms what goes in the B&O versus the Operations Plan, consider that the B&O contract grants capacity interest in the Project facilities and a right to water diversions and defines obligations for payment of debt, etc. Whereas the Operations Plan describes day-to-day operations including the process the Authority will use to operate Sites facilities and coordinate with Partner facilities - with primary concern

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<sup>1</sup> As discussed in February, Version 1.0 of the Operations Plan, completed January 2022, focused on presenting model results associated with Alternative 1B of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)/Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

to when and where to divert water, how to manage creek flows into and out of the reservoir, and managing and coordinating the release and delivery of water to Storage Partners. The Operations Plan is meaningful in understanding the anticipated day to day evaluation and decision-making processes that the Authority will undertake in meeting conditions of the Capacity Rights Contracts (of all the Storage Partners), agreements with other agencies, and all of its permits and approvals. The Operations Plan is not meant to define contractual obligations between the Authority and the Storage Partners.

**Prior Action:**

February 2024 – Reviewed and commented on the status of the Operations Plan, Version 2.0 preparation.

September 2023 – Version 2.0 preparation. Concur with proposed roles and responsibilities relative to Sites Project Water deliveries.

**Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:**

The preparation of the Operations Plan, Version 2.0 can be completed within the Amendment 3 Work Plan total budget.

**Staff Contact:**

Ali Forsythe / Angela Bezzone

**Primary Service Provider:**

MBK

**Attachments:**

None