

Topic: **Sites Reservoir Project, Phase 1**

Subject: **Monthly Status Report**

Report Period: **2017 July**

Executive Summary: The principle activities approved as part of the amended Phase 1 work plan are underway with consultant work products being submitted for review and comment and stakeholder meetings. Based on the Water Commission's schedule, work is on track to have the application submitted ahead of the August 14 deadline.

Program Management & Administration:

Onboarding: Authority conditionally approved a request by the City of Sacramento and Sacramento County Water Agency to participate as a joint Authority Member. This will bring the total number of Authority Members to 13 comprised of 15 agencies.

Staffing: Process to hire a Project Administrator is in progress.

Office: The Maxwell office has reopened for business.

Engagement & Outreach:

Continuing to respond to requests for information, maintain and present an updated project overview and status, and meet with the local community and landowners.

Work continues to monitor media and social media, post content on social media, schedule and participate in editorial board meetings, and respond to comments generated from the website. Continued preparation of additional outreach materials, including a benefits motion graphic and operations graphic. Continued work on landowner outreach activities, specifically coordination and participation in community meetings, and correspondence to landowners in the powerline alternative footprint.

Outreach staff supported preparation of the WSIP application's executive summary, including creation of several new graphics and materials. In addition, Outreach staff prepared messaging for various audiences including state and federal elected officials. Development of a diverse coalition of regional and statewide organizations in support of the project continues to be a top priority, with several important actions underway. Outreach staff also continued work associated with the upcoming Draft EIR/S public review period, including reviewing planning documents, preparing notification materials, coordinating website updates, logistics and other related tasks. The Outreach team provided support for various project briefings, and coordinated project participants "communications coordination group" outreach call.

Monthly Website Usage: 833 unique users or visitors and 1,208 times they visited.

Proposition 1 (WSIP) Application:

The environmental and engineering teams provided technical support to key elements of the application. The primary activity focused on the application's early funding request, which includes preparing an inventory and budget-level cost estimate to obtain the prerequisite authorizations, permits, and approvals needed to start construction and for the Water Commission to encumber any funds.

The modeling team continued their work to prepare the modeling technical appendix and providing technical support on interpretation of operations, economic, and fisheries modeling results. They also responded to comments on the draft technical sections of the WSIP application; including the preliminary operations plan; model assumptions of the proposed project for the current conditions, year 2030, and year 2070 simulations; and the Water Commission's required uncertainty analysis using extreme hydrologic conditions.

For all sections of the WSIP application, draft documents have been provided for internal review by the Reservoir Committee's work group. Workshops on the economic benefits and preliminary financing strategy were provided for the Authority on July 10 and the Reservoir Committee on July 13. The Financial and Economics Work Group reviewed the section on financial feasibility and provided comments that were addressed. The entire application was provided to the Document Review Work Group for review. On July 20, the findings were reviewed by the Reservoir Committee with the results summarized at the Authority's July 31st meeting.

The process to upload documents into the GRanTS website was tested and work has begun to finalize the documents for upload and submission.

Environmental Documentation (EIR/S):

The environmental team continued to respond to comments on the administrative draft EIR/S and associated appendices in developing the public draft and in support of the WSIP application. Coordination continues with the Authority, the Reservoir Committee, Reclamation, and DWR, related to requested revisions to chapters. Supported and assisted in development of presentations in support of Authority and Reservoir Committee meetings that will present status and receive direction.

Revisions to the aquatic biological resources, growth inducement, land use, and power chapters, the administrative record, as well as additional revisions across the document as necessary are being finalized. In addition, modeling results associated with the WSIP application process are being finalized for inclusion in the Climate Change chapter of the EIR/S.

On July 20, the Reservoir Committee determined that the EIR/S is sufficient to be released as a draft for public and agency review. On July 31, the Authority agreed with the Reservoir Committee's recommendation and decided that a 90-day review period would be appropriate for this document.

Federal Feasibility Report:

Reclamation submitted their Draft Feasibility Report to the Authority on July 20. Some further editorial changes were made subsequent to the July 20 deliverable. These changes will be provided to the Authority in early August and Reclamation will upload the document onto its website. On July 31, the Authority agreed with the Reservoir Committee's July 20th recommendation to accept Reclamations draft report and to include it as part of the WSIP application.

Engineering & Technical:

Prepared the drawing package for inclusion into the WSIP Application.