

Sites Reservoir Project Monthly Status Report (May)

Monthly Status Summary:

The development of the Sites Project continues to make progress in the critical areas, including the following activities:

Engineering:

- Initiated preliminary engineering design reviews.
- Continued planning and coordination of Golden Gate Dam value engineering activities.
- Continued development of preliminary engineering Opinion of Probable Construction Cost Estimate.
- Ongoing Division of Safety of Dams coordination.

Coordination with Reclamation:

- Meetings with Reclamation and DWR to discuss technical aspects of coordinating operations continues. Most of the current effort is related to defining the circumstances under which close coordination is to occur during diversions. Next up will be review of releases and delivery, and exchanges with Oroville.
- The State Water Contractors are providing input on the Operations Coordination through DWR.
- Technical discussions with Reclamation involving the development of the Partnership Agreement (which is the Federal equivalent to the B&O) continue.
- Ongoing coordination with Reclamation on the status of the Long Term Operations (LTO) EIS and the schedule for signing the ROD.

Environmental Planning and Permitting:

- Ongoing CEQA litigation support, as needed.
- Completed a qualitative summary of the combined operational effects of LTO and Sites, to support the LTO Reconsultation EIS efforts and associated BA/BO process.
- Continued meetings with Reclamation and USFWS on the processing of construction BA.
- Continued to perform seasonal surveys required by the Project's Aquatic Study Plan.
- Finalize Section 404(b)(1) Alternatives Analysis for Section 404 permitting and continued meetings with the Corps on resolving comments received during the 404 application public notice.
- Continued meetings with CDFW staff on responding to additional information requests

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for the Project's Operations ITP application. Provided substantial information to CDFW to address their requests.

- Continued coordination with CDFW on the Revised Construction ITP and Master Streambed Alteration Agreement.
- Continued discussions with several parties protesting the Project's water right application and continued preparation for the water right hearing.
- Preparation for initiation of the Section 408 approval process with the Army Corps of Engineers.
- Continued coordination with design and engineering team on Project Delivery planning.

Operations:

- Continued effort to transition Sites into the CalSim 3 model platform.
- Continued efforts on additional modeling in CalSim II for the Operations ITP analysis.
- Continued effort to develop Sites Operations Plan Version 2.1.

Partner Engagement, Public Outreach & Real Estate:

- Conducted project site tour for Las Virgenes MWD
- Conducted project presentation/tour to support Metropolitan Water's State Water Project Tours Program for Upper San Gabriel MWD and Foothill MWD
- Facilitated a project briefing at the 2024 ACWA Conference in Sacramento.
- Conducted Washington DC Legislative trip.
- Planning for July Landowner meetings
- Planning for a Virtual Town Hall in 2024 and future 2024 LCWG meetings.
- Continued ongoing coordination with landowners who are part of the Early Acquisition Program.
- Ongoing coordination with landowners to discuss Temporary Right Of Entry for geotechnical, biological, environmental, and cultural field activities and other real estate actions.

Program Management & Administration:

- Ongoing Participant coordination in response to comments received on the draft of the Benefits & Obligations Contract and Joint Powers Agreement and Bylaws amendments.