

Sites Reservoir Project Monthly Status Report (August)

Monthly Status Summary:

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

Engineering:

- Continued planning and coordination of Golden Gate Dam value engineering activities.
- Continued development of engineering Opinion of Probable Construction Cost Estimate.
- Continued workforce and community benefits assessment.

Coordination with Reclamation:

- Meetings with Reclamation and DWR to discuss technical aspects of coordinating operations continue.
- The State Water Contractors are providing comments on the Operations Coordination Agreement through DWR.
- Technical discussions with Reclamation involving the technical aspects of the Partnership Agreement (which is the Federal equivalent to the B&O) continue.
- Ongoing coordination with Reclamation on schedule and timing for signing the ROD.

Environmental Planning and Permitting:

- Ongoing CEQA litigation support, as needed. Preparation of oral arguments scheduled for September 17, 2024 at California Court of Appeals, 3rd District.
- Finalize testimony and supporting documentation for water right hearing.
- Continued meetings with Reclamation & USFWS on the Project's Construction Biological Opinion.
- Continued to perform seasonal botanical surveys.
- Continued meetings with the Army Corps of Engineers and EPA to resolve EPA comments on the Section 404 permit.
- Continued meetings with CDFW staff on responding to additional information requests 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.

Monthly Status Report Continued

- Continued working on the Section 408 approval process with the Army Corps of Engineers and working to address concerns raised by EPA.
- 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:

- Organized a Maxwell Community Project Update Meeting for September 12, 2024.
- 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.
- Continued 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:

- Letter sent to USDA requesting extension to Letter of Conditions for USDA Rural Development Loan.
- Continued coordination with the Environmental Protection Agency on Water Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Master Agreement Loan document development.