

Operations & Engineering Workgroup

November 22, 2024



Agenda

1.1 – Review components of the draft Sites Operations Plan

- Flood Operations
- Water Right Development Period
- Exchanges
- Downstream Facilities Capacity Interest
- Questions and Discussion

Hierarchy and Interaction between Documents



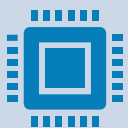
Benefits and Obligations Contract

Grants capacity interests in the Project and a right to water service to Participants and defines obligations



Operations Plan

Describes day to day operations including decision process for when/how to divert and release



Operations Manual (to be developed)

Will explain actual operations and physical project components, such as which valves to open, etc.

Flood Operations

Flood Operations

- There may be times when the Authority operates Sites Reservoir to provide downstream flood benefits
- Spillway is notched at reservoir storage capacity (1.47 MAF) and spills to Hunter Creek (north of the reservoir)
- Considerations:
 - How full is Sites Reservoir?
 - What are the regional hydrologic conditions?
 - Do conditions allow storage of creek water under the water right?
 - Do any Storage Partners have a current demand for Sites Water?

Flood Operations

- If all Storage Partners' Storage Allocations are full and there is a forecasted storm event for the local watershed (Funks and Stone Corral Creeks), the Authority may need to release stored water to make room
 - Storage Partner(s) may voluntarily release a portion of their Sites Water
 - The Authority may release water from Dead Pool
 - The Authority may make emergency releases from Storage Partner supplies
 - Working on parameters for this and how to re-fill this space to avoid or reduce losses to Storage Partners

Water Right Development Period

Water Right Development Period

- While a water right is a permit, the goal is to maximize diversion to storage and use under the permit
 - Development period will be 20 years
 - There is potential to file a Petition for Extension of Time if water right has not been “maximized”
- Provides for best possible limits when going to license
- Example: If permit allows for up to 1.5 MAF diverted to storage per year, then the Authority wants to get as close to 1.5 MAF as possible so that the license will not be limited to a smaller volume of water

Water Right Development Period

- Section 4.3.4 of Draft B&O states that Participants will make efforts to optimize diversion and beneficial use of Sites Water during the Sites Water Right Development Period and not interfere with the Sites Authority's efforts to do the same
- Section 3.6.2 of Draft Operations Plan further explains that Authority staff will coordinate with Participants towards this optimization

Exchanges

Exchanges

- Exchanges are expected to primarily occur with Shasta Lake and Lake Oroville, and may also take place in real-time with local Storage Partners
- Exchanges would only be conducted when they would be neutral or net beneficial to CVP and SWP operations
- Details regarding exchange operations are still being worked out; information presented is based on Final EIR/EIS and staff assumptions
- A Participant's involvement in any exchange will be voluntary

Real-time Exchanges

- Will be used to support timing of releases and deliveries to Storage Partners north and south of the Delta
- Expected to help minimize capacity constraints along the Dunnigan Pipeline as well as the delivery of water to Storage Partners upstream of the release facilities

Oroville Exchanges

- Will be used primarily to increase flexibility and yield of Sites Reservoir
- Water would be released from Sites Reservoir to meet SWP purposes, resulting in reduced releases from Lake Oroville which would be stored for use later in the year
- Expected to facilitate Sites Project deliveries to Storage Partners
- Would be initiated by Participant

Shasta Exchanges

- Formulated to target coldwater pool preservation and anadromous fish benefits
- Water would be released from Sites Reservoir storage to meet Reclamation's obligations via Sites Reservoir to preserve water stored in Shasta Lake
- Coordinated operations would be intended to minimize effects on Sites Project deliveries to Storage Partners
- Anticipated that Reclamation will initiate and the Authority will coordinate with willing Participants

Downstream Facilities Capacity Interest

Background

- Staff presented concepts regarding downstream capacity conditions in January
 - Included proposed principles
 - Four examples of constrained/unconstrained capacity conditions
- Continued discussion with Workgroup in May
- Additional comments and questions have been received
 - Including potential policy issues raised by Mr. Kunde

B&O Contract Policy Issue

- When developing B&O Contract, one major remaining policy issue was identified:
 - How to address downstream capacity limitations
- B&O Contract establishes Base/Downstream capacity interest and allocation of costs
- Operations Plan needs to describe how capacity limitations will be addressed through operations

Overarching Capacity Assumption

- Downstream capacity interest for those that need to use Dunnigan Pipeline to receive their Sites Water
- Downstream capacity interest is proportionate to Base capacity interest

Example Storage Partner and Location	Base Capacity Interest	Downstream Capacity Interest
A – South of Dunnigan	25%	36%
B – North of Dunnigan	10%	0%
C – South of Dunnigan	10%	14%
D – North of Dunnigan	20%	0%
E – South of Dunnigan	35%	50%
Total	100%	100%

Overview of Concepts and Principles

- Storage Partners with downstream capacity have first priority
 - Are limited to their proportionate Downstream Capacity Interest when capacity is limited
 - Have first priority to move transfer water over Storage Partners without downstream capacity
- Storage Partners without downstream capacity have second priority
 - Would need to use unused capacity and may need to adjust schedule to find that opportunity
 - Or consider other ways to move water south of Delta (such as exchanges)

Staff Proposing Downstream Capacity Workgroup

- Downstream capacity ownership will be a smaller group than Reservoir Committee
- Form Downstream Capacity Workgroup comprised of Downstream Capacity owners
- “Ownership” questions related to Downstream Capacity to be addressed by the workgroup
 - Examples:
 - Wheeling rates and whether those are set by individual owners or set as a group
 - Timestep for allocating capacity interest
 - If and how to address under or overuse of capacity by other owners
 - Number of factors to consider in these decisions
 - Ensuring approach is operational and works to maximize usage
 - Timestep for administering and allocating capacity

Staff Proposal for Discussion

- Ownership
 - Downstream capacity interest for those that need to use Dunnigan Pipeline to receive their Sites Water
 - Ownership is proportionate to Base capacity interest
- Capacity Limitation Priorities
 - 1st Priority – Storage Partners with downstream capacity
 - 2nd Priority – Storage Partners *without* downstream
- Decision-making
 - Downstream Capacity Workgroup to make decisions on things like wheeling rates for downstream capacity
 - These decisions to be made in the next Phase of the Project (not decided now)
- Staff needs to consider and review B&O Contract language and governance discussions relative to these items

Questions, Open Discussion, other Topics



Operations Plan V2 – Next Steps

- Continue updates
 - Address comments and adjust based on discussions
 - Incorporate Operations ITP revised diversion terms
- December 2024 RC/AB Meeting
 - Status update
- February 2025
 - Updated Operations Plan completed and available
- RC/AB adopt Operations Plan closer to B&O Contract Escrow period
 - Continue to make updates in response to comments, permits issued, and agreements developed until this time

Thank you!

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, January 8, 2025 (1:30 pm – 3:30 pm)

