

# Reservoir Committee and Authority Board Meeting

Agenda Item 3.2:  
Operations Plan Development

December 20, 2024



# Background

- Released draft Operations Plan v2.1 for E&O Workgroup review
- Participants provided comments on the draft
- Further discussion occurred at a Special E&O Workgroup on November 22, 2024 which focused on:
  - Flood Operations
  - Water Right Development Period
  - Exchanges
  - Downstream Facilities Capacity Interest

# 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” for high local inflows
  - Staff are coordinating to evaluate spillway design, downstream conditions, and equitable ways to manage reservoir storage
  - Although an uncommon scenario, requires consideration
- Staff will return to E&O Workgroup in Q1 2025

# 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”
- 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 furthers explains that Authority staff will coordinate with Participants towards this optimization

# 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
- A Participant's involvement in any exchange will be voluntary

# Downstream Facilities Capacity Interest

- Ownership
  - Downstream Facilities Capacity Interest (DCFI) for those that need to use Dunnigan Pipeline to receive their Sites Water
  - Ownership is proportionate to Base Facilities capacity interest
- Capacity Limitation Priorities
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Priority – Storage Partners with DCFI
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Priority – Storage Partners *without* DCFI (this does not preclude these Storage Partners from leasing DCFI)
- Decision-making
  - Downstream Capacity Ad Hoc Workgroup is proposed to make decisions on things like wheeling rates for downstream capacity
- Staff needs to consider and review B&O Contract language and governance discussions relative to these items and ensure DCFI can be managed consistent with beneficiary pays

# Schedule and Operations Plan Input

- Staff are updating Ops Plan v2.1 to address various comments
- Other contracts, documents, and permits are concurrently being developed
- The Ops Plan will remain in draft form while staff proceed with revisions in coordination with other documents
- A focused review of these ongoing revisions is anticipated as we approach the B&O Contract escrow period
- Operations Plan v2.1 will be adopted prior to the escrow period

# Questions?