

Meeting: Reservoir Committee & Authority Board Agenda Item 2.2

Subject: Master Lake & Streambed Alteration Agreement

Requested Action:

Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider authorizing the Executive Director to sign the Project's Master Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (Master LSA Agreement or Agreement).

Detailed Description/Background:

As discussed at the March 2025 Reservoir Committee and Authority Board meeting, staff and the Authority's consultants have been working with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) on the Master LSA Agreement since 2023. Since the March 2025 meeting, staff have coordinated with the Tehama Colusa Canal Authority (TCCA) and Glenn Colusa Irrigation District (GCID) on components of the Agreement that may affect their facilities. The coordination has resulted in language being included in the Agreement that clarifies that the terms and conditions of the Agreement are only applicable to the activities undertaken by the Authority. No other changes have been made to the Agreement. CDFW has completed the Agreement, and it is ready for the Authority to sign and execute.

Per the direction of the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board at the March 2025 meeting, staff is preparing a letter to CDFW that reflects the Authority's understanding that: (1) removing portions of the financial security will be allowed and will be timely as progress is made on completion of mitigation (reminder that a financial security is only required when mitigation is not completed and approved prior to construction activities); and (2) it is important that CDFW approve mitigation timely and has some flexibility in approval processes and requirements to better allow for mitigation stacking. Per the direction of the Reservoir Committee and Authority Board at the March 2025 meeting, the letter will also identify that the Authority is willing to continue to reimburse CDFW for staff time while working on the Sites Project during mitigation implementation and would want CDFW to commit to timeframes for review and approval of mitigation actions. The letter is in preparation and will be sent in conjunction with the signing of the Agreement.

Prior Action:

<u>March 2025</u>: Reviewed and discussed the Project's anticipated Master Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:

The Amendment 3 Work Plan includes sufficient budget to implement the nearterm actions in the Master LSA Agreement. Subsequent funding for annual Master Agreement fees and development of Subnotification packages are accounted for in the mitigation portion of the project cost estimate.

Staff Contact: John Spranza/Ali Forsythe

Primary Service Provider: ICF and HDR

Attachments: None