

# Sites Reservoir Project Workshop #1 Zone 7 Board Meeting

July 16, 2025

### **Project Supports Strategic Plan**

#### **GOAL B**

Reliable Water Supply and Infrastructure

Provide customers with reliable water supply and infrastructure.

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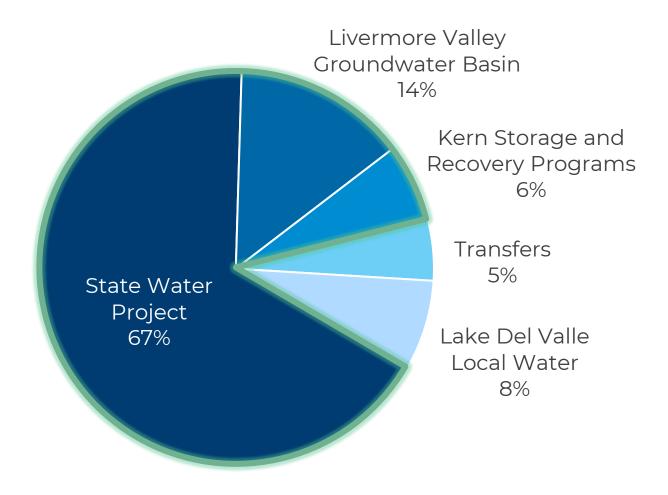
Develop a diversified water supply plan and implement supported projects and programs



# **Zone 7's Existing Water Supply**

- 90% of Zone 7's annual water supply originates from the State Water Project (SWP)
- SWP delivery reliability
  has been declining and is
  projected to continue
  declining in the future

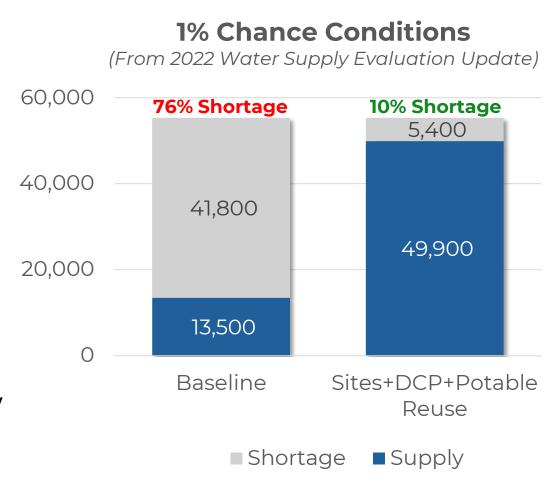
#### **Average Annual Water Supply**





#### Why is Zone 7 Considering the Sites Project?

- Investing in new projects is needed to meet Zone 7's Reliability Policy
- Water supply portfolios containing 3+ new projects satisfy the Reliability Policy
- Sites Project with 2 new projects can significantly reduce shortages in dry and critical years
- Sites Project provides both new water supply and storage





### **Sites Project Overview**

- 1.5 million acre-feet (AF) of new water storage
- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest off-stream reservoir in California
- Captures excess flows from the Sacramento River
- Participation from local agencies,
   State, and Federal agencies
- Currently fully subscribed with waitlist
- Fully operational 2032





#### **Project Participants**

#### **Sacramento Valley**

City of American Canyon
Colusa County

Colusa County Water Agency

Cortina Water District

**Davis Water District** 

Dunnigan Water District

Glenn County

Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District

LaGrande Water District

Placer County Water Agency

Reclamation District 108

City of Roseville

Sacramento County Water Agency

City of Sacramento

Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority

Westside Water District

Western Canal Water District

#### **Bay Area**

Santa Clara Valley Water District
Zone 7 Water Agency

#### San Joaquin Valley

Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage

District

Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District

#### **Southern California**

Antelope Valley – East Kern Water Agency

Coachella Valley Water District

Desert Water Agency

Irvine Ranch Water District

Metropolitan Water District

San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency

Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency

#### **Waiting List**

Cal-Am Sacramento

City of Napa

Delta View WUA

Eastern Municipal WD

Glenn County

La Cumbre MWC

Madera County

Pacific Resources MWC

Palmdale WD

Santa Clara Valley WD

Western Municipal WD

Westlands WD

Wheeler Ridge Maricopa WSD

Woodland Davis CWA



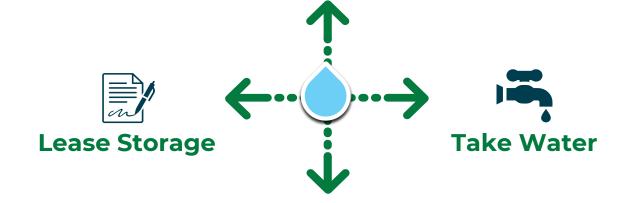
# **History of Sites Project**

1950s- 1990s	2000	2010	2018	2023	2024	2025
Various studies and reports	CALFED Program recommends	Sites JPA formed to advance	Awarded \$875M* by CWC for	Published Final EIR/EIS	Completed preliminary designs for	Water Right Permit
identify opportunity for new surface	pursuing studies on Sites Reservoir	project	Prop 1 funding Received	Completed water right application	project facilities	Wrap up Planning Phase
storage in Sacramento Valley	Sacramento		\$449M loan from USDA			Prepare participants for final investment decision



#### **How does Sites work?**







- Participants receive:
  - share of storage space
  - proportional share of Sites water diverted into reservoir
- Participants manage their own storage space
- Flexibility with storing, leasing, and selling water
- Water supply yield will depend on hydrology and operations



# **Operations**

- Sites water is junior to existing water rights
- Utilizes existing and new conveyance facilities
- Conveyance capacity is shared proportionally to capacity interest
- Water is delivered through the Delta during transfer window





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### **Operations Simulation Results**

550,000 AF captured in 2025

850,000 AF captured in 2024

95% full

- Sites Reservoir is designed to capture water in wet periods
- If it were operational today, the reservoir could have captured 1,400,000 AF over 2024-2025
- Enough to serve 3 million California households for a year



### **Project Benefits**



New water supply and storage



Climate adaptation strategy



Environmental, flood control, and recreation benefits



Local leadership and cooperation

#### **Key Benefits to Zone 7**

- 62,340 AF of new storage capacity
- Long-term average yield of 10,000 AF per year before conveyance losses

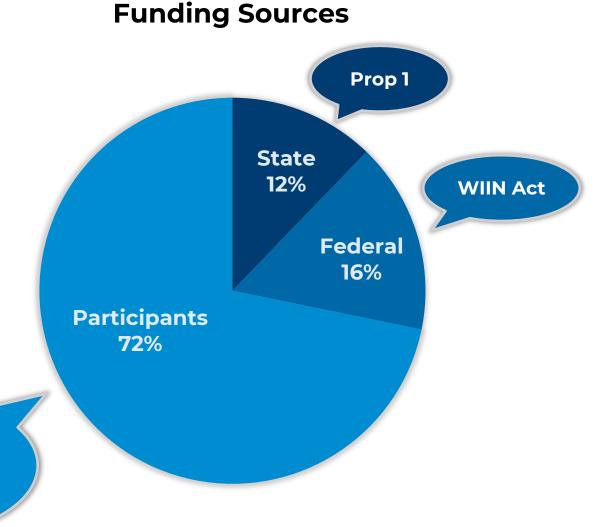




### **Project Funding**

- Construction cost estimate: \$6.2B-\$6.8B
- Cost estimate is still being refined
- Zone 7's current share of capacity is 4.4%

WIFIA Loan
USDA Loan
Revenue Bonds





### **Recent Highlights**

- Initiated land acquisition of key parcels
- Concluded CEQA process
- Water right decision expected in 2025
- Received an additional \$134M in federal funding in 2025
- Continued development of key agreements



# **Getting to Investor Commitment Period**

Investor commitment period: 6 months "hold" for commitment decisions

Key Deliverables	Description			
Operating Agreements	Agreements facility partners, State, and Federal agencies on how Project will operate			
Permits	Required for construction			
Water Right	Affects the water supply benefits			
Program Baseline Report	Updated cost and benefits analysis			
JPA Agreement and Bylaws	Establishes JPA governance			
Benefits & Obligations Contract	Agreement with Participants for commitment to the Project			
Public Benefits Agreements	Agreement with State for providing public benefits			
Federal Partnership Agreement	Agreement for Federal commitment to the Project			



#### **Zone 7 Planning Studies**

- 2025 Urban Water Management Plan and M&I Demand Assessment
  - > Anticipated completion: June 2026
- M&I Water Connection Fee Study
  - > Anticipated completion: November 2025
- 10-Year Water System Capital Improvement Plan
  - > Anticipated completion: November 2025



#### **Timeline**

