

2017 Progress Report

The Sites Project continues to build momentum.

The past year was important for the project as it moves toward the construction of an offstream storage reservoir in Northern California that will secure statewide water supplies while benefiting critical ecosystems. Highlights from 2017 include taking several key steps in the environmental review process, submitting an application for Proposition 1 funding and generating critical financial and general project support. The below items are a summary of the events and milestones from the past year.

Fast Facts

Social Media



Facebook

489 Page likes
5,264 Reached on Facebook
571 Page engagement



Twitter

667 Followers
250 Retweets and mentions
85,500 Tweet impressions



Website

8,431 Users
14,151 Sessions
44,888 Pageviews

55

Media Coverage

Print and online articles and editorials related to the project

45

Event Participation

Briefings, public meetings, legislative brownbags, site tours and community events

2017 SITES PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

▶ January

- [Supplemental Notice of Preparation for an Environmental Impact Report](#) published by the Sites Project Authority (Authority), signaling initiation of the scoping public review period (January 31, 2017 – March 2, 2017)
 - [Press Release](#)
- Conducted a project site tour for several legislative representatives, labor organizations and various statewide stakeholders

▶ February

- Two public open house scoping meetings held in Sacramento and Maxwell
 - [Environmental Review Process Overview fact sheet](#)
 - [Meeting Poster Boards](#)
 - [Meeting Presentation](#)



▶ March

- Project representative from the Placer County Water Agency [testified in support of the project before the House Committee on Natural Resources](#)
- Four Community Coffee meetings held in Maxwell to provide local residents the opportunity to identify areas where the project can be improved, ask questions and express concerns
- Conducted briefings for several Congressional Representatives in Washington D.C.

▶ April

- Participation in several important events by project representatives, including the California Water Commission's monthly meeting and a brownbag at the Capitol for legislative staff
- Held briefings for various stakeholders, including several non-governmental organizations



▶ May

- As of May 3rd, 1.8 million acre-feet could have been stored in the Sites Reservoir if it existed during 2017's rainy spring

▶ June

- In response to common questions and concerns about property and community impacts and the Authority's plans to mitigate for impacts, [a Landowner Frequently Asked Questions document was released](#), covering a variety of topics including the Authority's organizational structure and purpose, land acquisition, operations and design
- First quarterly Landowner Newsletter sent to potentially impacted property owners in the project footprint covering news and updates, upcoming meetings and events and other relevant topics
- Two Community Coffee meetings held in Maxwell to discuss project status and updates

▶ October

- Extensive and diverse coalition representing labor, business, water and agricultural interests, residents, various local and statewide agencies, as well as several cities and counties from the Bay Area to Southern California formalize support for the project
 - [List of Supporters](#)
 - [Letters, Cards and Resolutions](#)

- Project represented on the Association of California Water Agency's Spring Conference Water Storage Integration Study Panel

▶ July

- Property owners in the newly identified "Power Alternative" alignment participated in a meeting with project representatives to discuss project status and updates, potential impacts to their properties, ask questions and identify future information sources



▶ November

- [Updated benefits infographic published](#), detailing the public benefits of the Sites Reservoir
- [Animation](#) covering the multiple and diverse benefits of the Sites Project published
- Tour stop on the Water Education Foundation's Northern California Tour
- Conducted a project site tour for a Northern California Senator and several stakeholders from his district
- Participated in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Water and Power Subcommittee Roundtable on Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovative Project Delivery/Partnerships

If constructed, SITES RESERVOIR would be

FULL!*

Providing an additional **1.8 million** acre-feet of water

Or more than **580 billion** gallons of water

*this water year starting October 1.
Source: CA Department of Water Resources

More Stored Water for:



1. The Environment



2. Urban Use



3. Agriculture

▶ August

- [Application for Proposition 1](#), Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) funding submitted to the California Water Commission
 - [WSIP Application Executive Summary](#)
- [Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement](#) (Draft EIR/EIS) released by the Authority and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) for public review and comment through November 13, 2017
 - [Press Release](#)
- [Draft Federal Feasibility Report released by the Authority and Reclamation](#)
- [List of current and prospective non-Federal and non-State agency participants](#) in the Phase 1 development of the Sites Project expands to 33. List includes agencies representing the Sacramento Valley, San Joaquin Valley, Bay Area and Southern California.

▶ September

- Quarterly Landowner Newsletter sent to potentially impacted property owners in the project footprint
- Community Coffee held in Maxwell to discuss project status and updates
- [Draft EIR/EIS public review period extended to January 15, 2018](#)
 - [Informational Document](#)



▶ December

- Two public open house meetings on the Draft EIR/EIS held in Sacramento and Maxwell
 - [Draft EIR/EIS fact sheet](#)
 - [Meeting Poster Boards](#)
 - [Meeting Presentation](#)
- [Presentation](#) to the California Water Commission
- Quarterly Landowner Newsletter sent to potentially impacted property owners in the project footprint
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