



SITES RESERVOIR

Increasing Drier Year Supplies

Now more than ever, California needs to address its statewide water management challenges by implementing innovative solutions that address our state's need for a sustainable and affordable water supply.

Managing our state's water resources remains one of the greatest challenges that will continue to face California policy makers well into the future. The state's water infrastructure is getting older and stressed beyond its capabilities.

Sites Reservoir will significantly improve the state's water management system in drier periods, and restore much needed flexibility and reliability that has been lost in the system.

How It Works

Located 10 miles west of the town of Maxwell in rural Glenn and Colusa counties, the Sites Reservoir would be an off-stream storage facility that captures and stores stormwater flows in the Sacramento River—after all other water rights and regulatory requirements are met—for release in dry and critical years for environmental use and for California communities, farms and businesses when it is so desperately needed.

When operated in coordination with other Northern California reservoirs such as Shasta, Oroville and Folsom, which function as the backbone to both the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project, Sites Reservoir will greatly increase flexibility, reliability and resiliency of statewide water supplies in drier periods.

With Sites Reservoir, California has a rare opportunity to enhance statewide water supplies and provide a dedicated allocation of water specifically for the environment.

It provides federal and state resource agencies with a dedicated and reliable supply of water they can manage to provide environmental benefits, especially during drier years.

Up to half of the project's annual water supplies will be provided for environmental flows, which will help to improve conditions for Delta smelt; help preserve cold-water pools in Shasta later into the summer months to support salmon development, spawning and rearing; and improve Pacific Flyway habitat for migratory birds and other native species.

Sites Reservoir Fast Facts



Provide water for up to **1.2 million homes and businesses** for one year



Increases Sacramento Valley water storage capacity by up to **15 percent**



Creates **reliable supplies** for environmental, agricultural, and municipal uses



Adds up to **500,000 acre-feet** annually, on average, to California's water system and over 700,000 in drier periods



29 participating agencies representing communities across California

Sites Reservoir Benefits

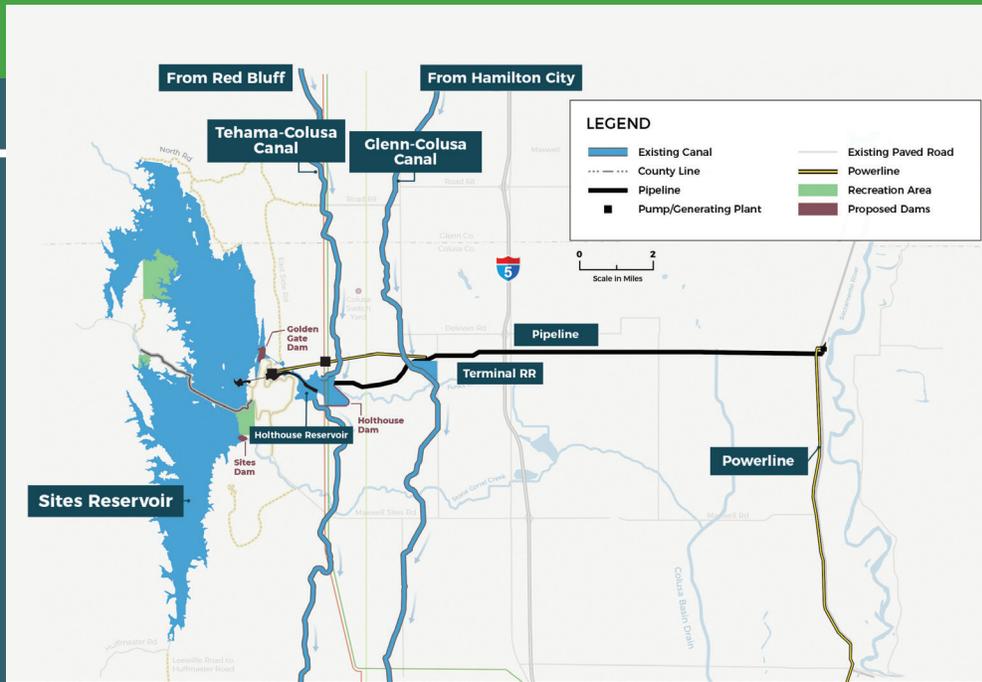
- **Reliable dry-year water supply for California communities, farms and businesses**
- **Improved water quality**
- **Groundwater recharge**
- **Flood management**
- **Contribution to California's renewable energy goals**
- **Environmental water in drier periods for native fish and Pacific Flyway habitat for migratory birds and other native species**
- **Recreational opportunities**
- **Creation and protection of middle class jobs, including a large skilled work force during seven-year construction**





Support and Funding

Widely supported both regionally and statewide, the project has made significant progress. A bipartisan group of more than 175 organizations, agencies, businesses and elected officials support the Sites Reservoir Project. In 2018, the project was awarded \$816 million in funding from California's Proposition 1 water bond, and secured a \$449 million investment from the United States Department of Agriculture. The United States Bureau of Reclamation is also a significant project partner.



The Sites Reservoir would be an off-stream storage facility located 10 miles west of the town of Maxwell, California in rural Colusa County.

Sites Reservoir Participating Entities

- Colusa County *
- Colusa County Water District *
- Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District *
- Glenn County *
- Placer County Water Agency & City of Roseville *
- Reclamation District 108 *
- Sacramento County Water Agency & City of Sacramento *
- Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority *
- Westside Water District *
- Maxwell Irrigation District **
- TC 4 **
- Western Canal Water District **
- American Canyon, City of
- Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency
- CA Department of Water Resources (Ex Officio)
- Carter MWC
- Coachella Valley Water District
- Cortina Water District
- Davis Water District
- Desert Water Agency
- Dunnigan Water District
- LaGrande Water District
- Metropolitan Water District
- San Bernardino Valley Municipal WD
- San Geronio Pass Water Agency
- Santa Clara Valley Water District
- Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
- US Bureau of Reclamation (Cost-share)
- Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD
- Zone 7 Water Agency

* Authority Board Member
 ** Associate Board Member



What Makes Sites Reservoir Different?

| Features | Benefits |
|---|--|
| Off-stream storage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not create barriers to native fish migration Improves local flood management Improved conservation of stored water to be available when it is needed most |
| Cooperative operations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases effectiveness and efficiency of existing water storage infrastructure |
| Sacramento Valley-led | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aligns with Sacramento Valley's values Authority will be an integral part of community Fosters regional and statewide collaboration |
| Beneficiary pays | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides equity among participating partners Improves accountability and value creation |
| Federal and state agencies manage environmental water | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptable to current and future conditions and priorities Ensures federal and state environmental priorities are met—today and into the future |
| Adaptable to climate change | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational flexibility to ensure the water will be applied to the highest beneficial uses despite an uncertain future |

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT WWW.SITESPROJECT.ORG.

