SUSTAINABLE STORAGE

Sites

A Water System in Need of an Upgrade

- Sustainable water resource management is a priority now and for the future
- California's water infrastructure is aging and stressed beyond its capabilities
- Current drought management tools are limited and inflexible

More frequent, intense storms

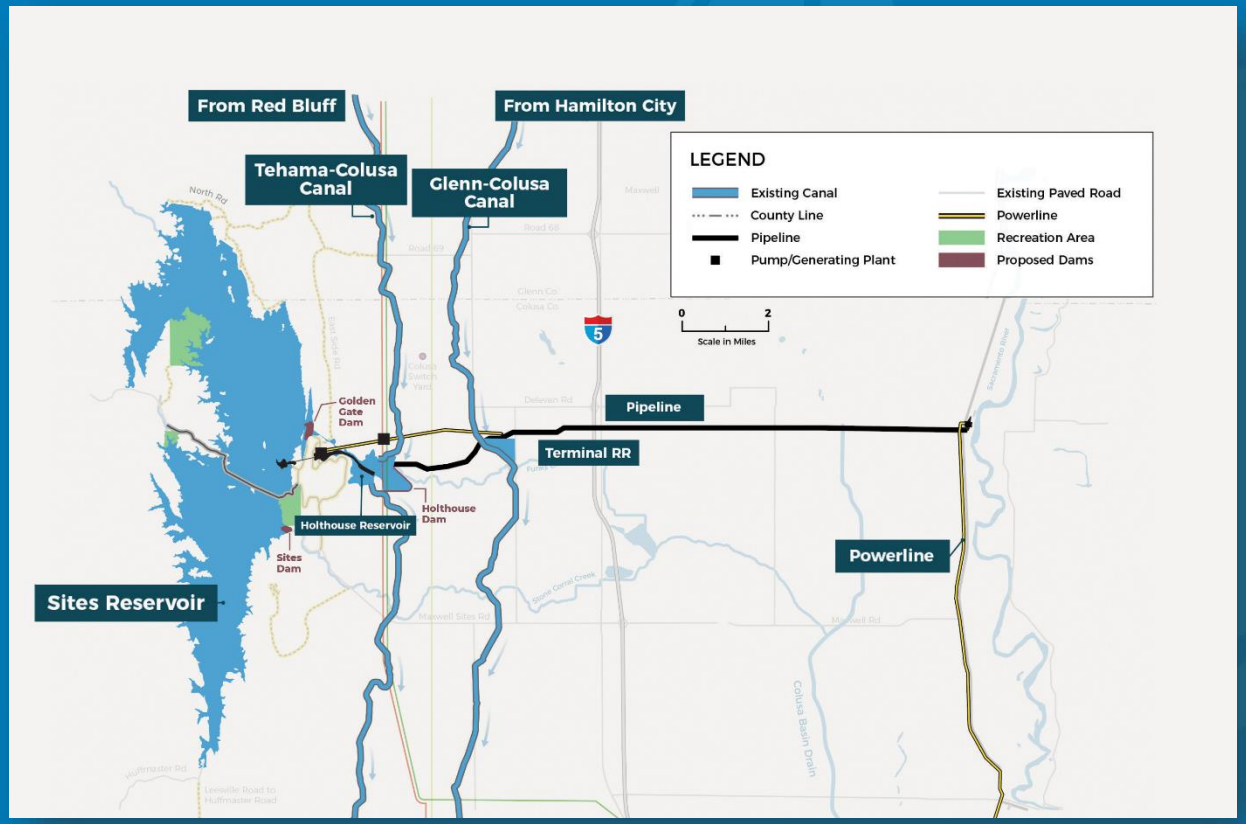
Limited flexibility to access water when it's needed most

Longer periods of drought

Created unintended impacts to the environment

Sites Reservoir: A Storage Solution

- Strategically located in Colusa and Glenn counties
- Proposed 1.8 million acre-foot, off-river, storm-related reservoir
- Can provide over 150,000 acre-feet of water dedicated to the environment



A Unique Project with Statewide Benefits

Offers a unique opportunity to construct multi-benefit water storage that helps achieve local, state and federal goals for **water supply reliability**, the **environment**, the **economy** and **flood protection**

How It Works

Strategically located to support existing infrastructure

Captures water from extreme storm events

Stores excess water for use during drier periods

Water for Drier Periods

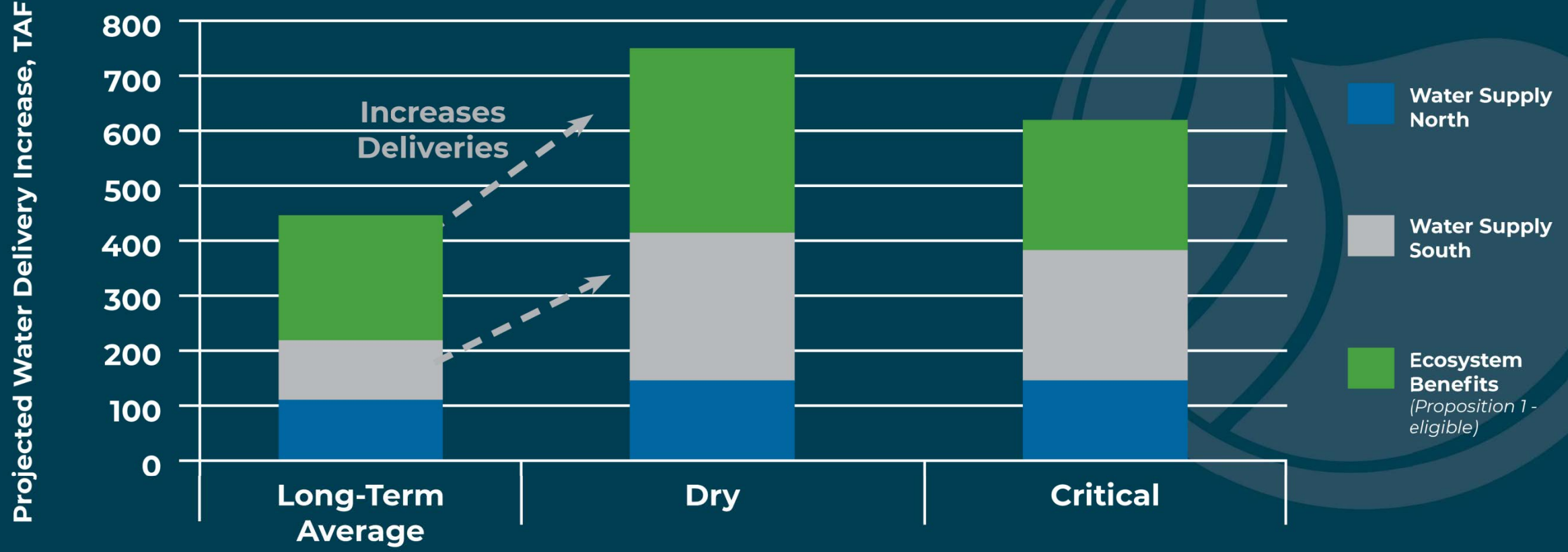
Will provide significantly more water during drier periods to complement other drought management tools

- Increases water supply flexibility, reliability and resiliency in drier periods when operated with Shasta, Oroville and Folsom
- Captures stormwater runoff and excess flood flows from the Sacramento River after all other water rights and regulatory requirements are met

Increases Northern California's Water Storage by

15%

Water for Drier Periods



Resilient to Climate Change

Will accommodate climate change and improve the water supply system's reliability

- Rising temperatures, declining snowpack, longer dry seasons with shorter, more intense storm seasons, and more volatile precipitation are impacting California
- Winter storm events are resulting in more precipitation falling as rain rather than snow
- Much of the rainfall from these storms runs off before it can be captured
- Sites Reservoir will capture a portion of that water for use, modernize our water infrastructure, and help reduce the impacts of drought

A Lost Opportunity

Had Sites Reservoir been operational in 2019, California would have been able to capture more than one million acre-feet of additional water

A Sustainable Storage Project

Will provide critical environmental benefits to help aquatic species and other habitat withstand drier conditions

- Allows Shasta, Oroville and Folsom to hold more cold water later into the summer for the benefit of fisheries
- Improves water quality and reliability in the Delta by releasing nutrient-rich water and improve conditions for Delta smelt and other species
- Stores water when plentiful for release when it is scarce

40%

Dedicated for state and federal environmental needs

37,000

Acre-feet for managed refuges and wetlands

Improved Water Supplies = Improved Economy

Construction will create hundreds of jobs, and partnerships with skilled trades and labor organizations will help train and build a local workforce

- Creates 60 permanent jobs to support operations and recreation features
- Ongoing operations will provide support for thousands of agricultural-related jobs
- Includes recreational facilities such as campgrounds, boat ramps, picnic areas and trails, providing opportunities for boating, water sports, camping, mountain biking and hiking
- Recreation-related economic benefits will include “spin off” spending at businesses in Colusa and Glenn counties

Provides Flood Protection

Will enhance the state's Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO), a management system designed to maximize the capture of flood flows while minimizing impacts to the region

- Sites Reservoir will not be subject to traditional winter flood control releases, like Shasta and Oroville, which adds resiliency during long, dry periods that often follow a wet winter
- The project will provide localized flood protection for the small community of Maxwell, as well as Interstate 5, a major north-south corridor that is essential to California's economy and the National Highway System

Sites Project Authority & Our Partners

Colusa County *

Colusa County Water Agency *

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 **

- Cortina Water District
- Davis Water District
- Dunnigan Water District
- LaGrande Water District

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

Desert Water Agency

Metropolitan Water District

San Bernardino Valley Municipal WD

San Gorgonio 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 Different?

Features	Benefits
Off-stream storage	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	Increases effectiveness and efficiency of existing water storage infrastructure
Sacramento Valley-led	Authority will be an integral part of community Fosters regional and statewide collaboration
Beneficiary pays	Provides equity among participating partners Improves accountability and value creation
Federal and state agencies manage environmental water	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	Operational flexibility ensures the water will be applied to the highest beneficial uses despite an uncertain future

Sites Reservoir Fast Facts

Creates additional **1.8 MILLION ACRE-FOOT** off-stream storage for drier periods

Increases Sacramento Valley water storage capacity by **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

29 PARTICIPATING AGENCIES representing communities across California

Broad Support for Sites

- California Agricultural Irrigation Association
- California Alliance for Jobs
- California Building Industry Association
- Cal Chamber
- California Farm Bureau
- California Rice Commission
- California State Council of Laborers
- California Waterfowl Association
- Ducks Unlimited
- Grasslands Water District
- Northern California Water Association
- Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
- Southern California Water Coalition
- State Water Contractors
- State Building & Construction Trades Council
- Western Growers

Partial List – April 2019

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Sites