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Water Storage Investment Program: Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project Update

Introduction

Over the next few Commission meetings, the Commission will receive project updates from Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) projects that have not recently been before the Commission to request early funding. These updates are intended to provide background information about WSIP projects before the project appears before the Commission for a feasibility determination, which, per statute, must be made by January 1, 2022. Contra Costa Water District is proposing to enlarge an off-stream reservoir, Los Vaqueros, in southeastern Contra Costa County. The Los Vaqueros Expansion Project would provide ecosystem improvements, emergency response benefits, and recreation.

Background

Through the WSIP, the California Water Commission will invest nearly \$2.6 billion in the public benefits of water storage projects, consistent with the requirements of Proposition 1 (the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014), Chapter 8. In July 2018, the Commission made Maximum Conditional Eligibility Determinations, decisions that set the amount of Proposition 1 funding potentially available to a given project, for eight projects. Since then, one applicant has withdrawn from the program; the seven remaining applicants are working to complete the Proposition 1 requirements, which include obtaining permits and environmental documents, contracts for the administration of public benefits, and contracts for non-Proposition 1 funding, before returning to the Commission for a final award hearing.

This agenda item implements Goal Four of the Commission's Strategic Plan, which calls on the Commission to carry out its statutory responsibilities for WSIP.

Meeting Overview

At the June Commission meeting, Marguerite Patil, the Assistant General Manager, Policy and External Affairs with the Contra Costa Water District, will provide an overview and discuss the status of the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project. This is an informational item.

Contact

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