

February 2020

Delta Conveyance Environmental Review Update

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Discussion Topics

- Delta Conveyance Project Notice of Preparation
- Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA)
- Public Engagement
- Soil Investigations Environmental Compliance



Notice of Preparation Background

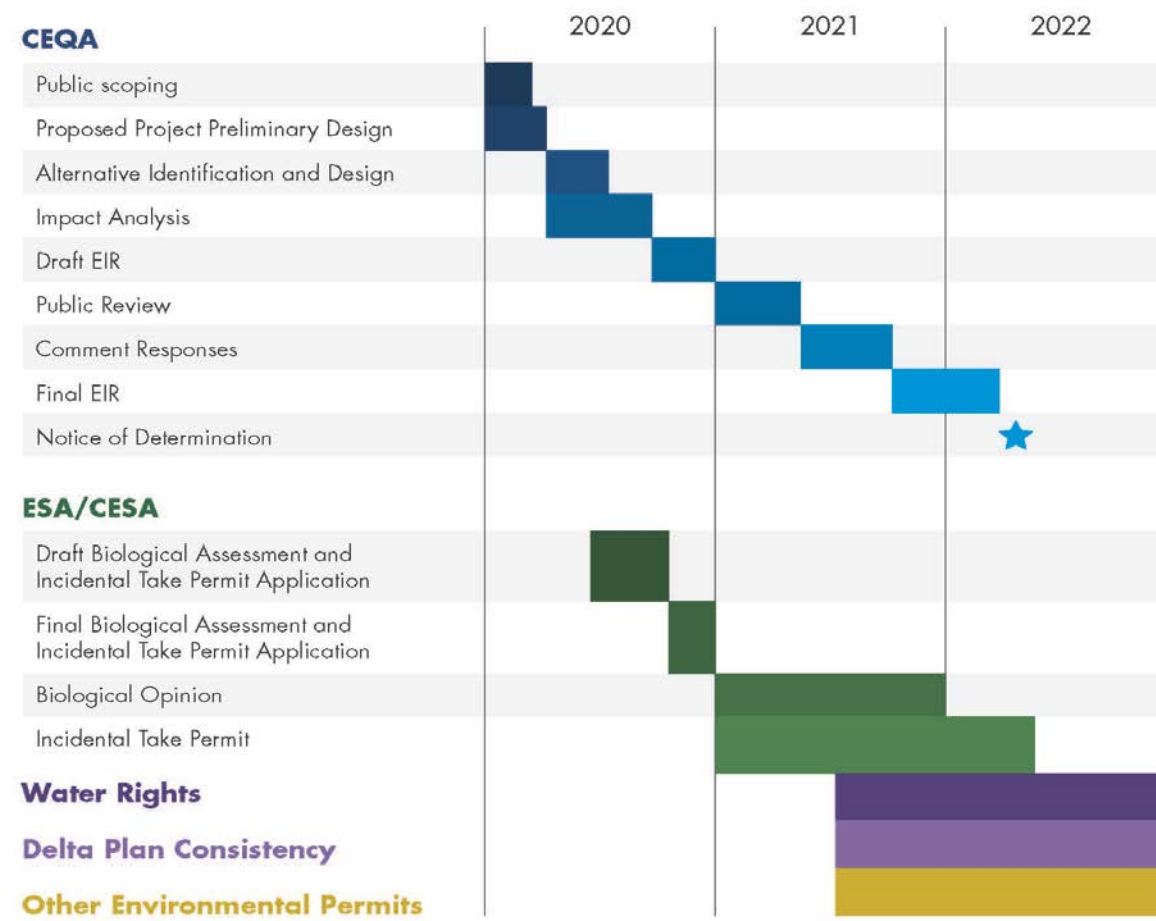
- **July 2017:** DWR approved a two-tunnel conveyance project (California WaterFix).
- **February 2019:** Governor Newsom announced his support for a single tunnel conveyance project.
- **April 2019:** Executive Order issued, directing DWR to assess planning for a single tunnel project.
- **May 2019:** DWR withdrew all California WaterFix approval and environmental compliance documentation.
- **January 2020:** State released draft Water Resilience Portfolio and DWR issued an NOP for a proposed single tunnel project.





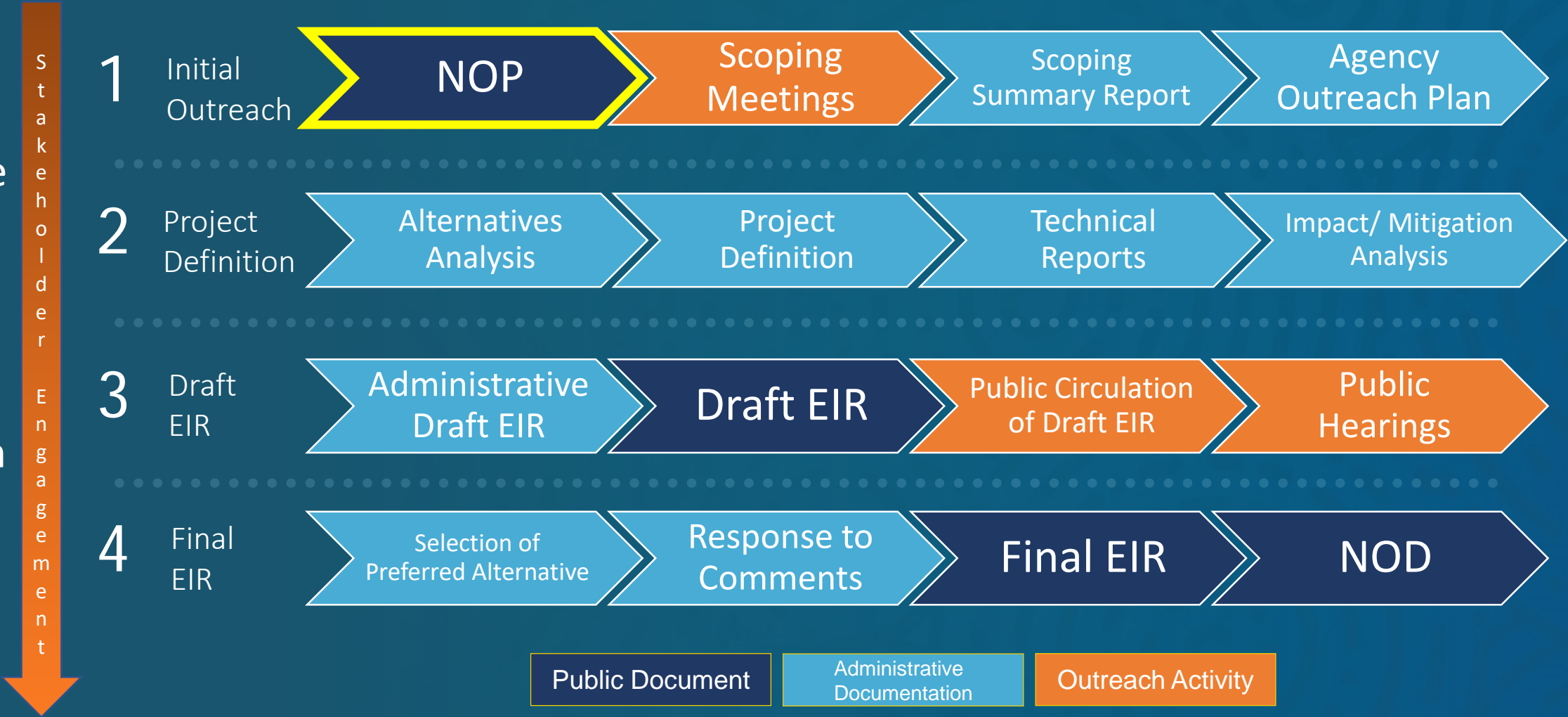
Key Milestones

Environmental Compliance Schedule



Delta Conveyance Environmental Review

Identify, analyze and disclose the potential significant adverse environmental impacts of a proposed project, and provide feasible mitigation measures and alternatives to avoid or reduce such effects.



Notice of Preparation Purpose

- Documents the intent to develop an EIR for the Delta Conveyance Project
- Triggers the start of scoping
- Describes the proposed project, including probable environmental effects
- Provides notice about scoping meetings and how to make a scoping comment

The NOP is not a decision document.



Project Purpose and Objectives

Purpose: Develop new diversion and conveyance facilities in the Delta necessary to restore and protect the reliability of water deliveries in a cost-effective manner, consistent with the State's Water Resilience Portfolio.

Objectives:

- **Address** sea level rise and climate change
- **Minimize** water supply disruption due to seismic risk
- **Protect** water supply reliability
- **Provide** operational flexibility

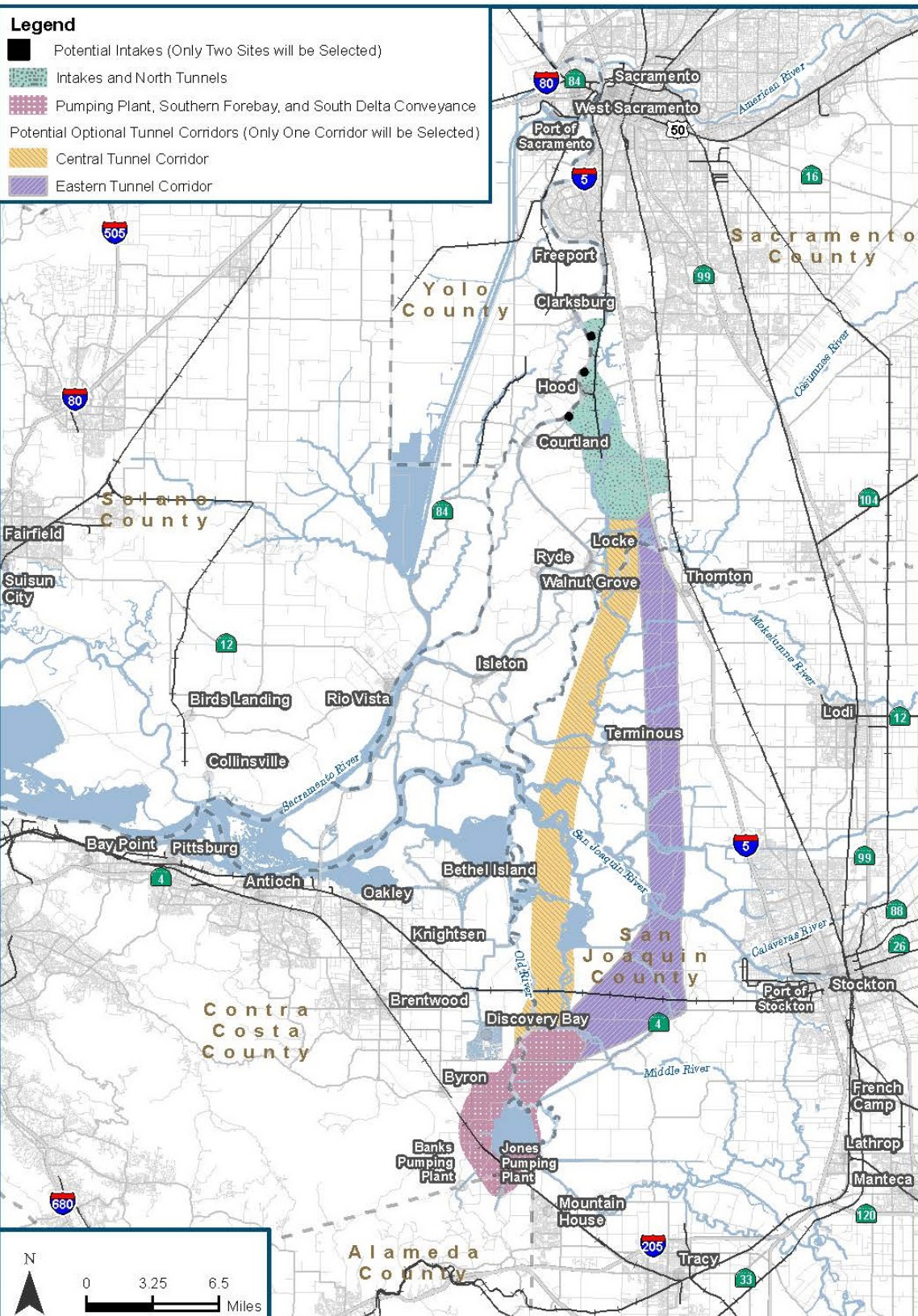


Proposed Project Area

- Upstream of the Delta region
- Statutory Delta
- South-of-Delta

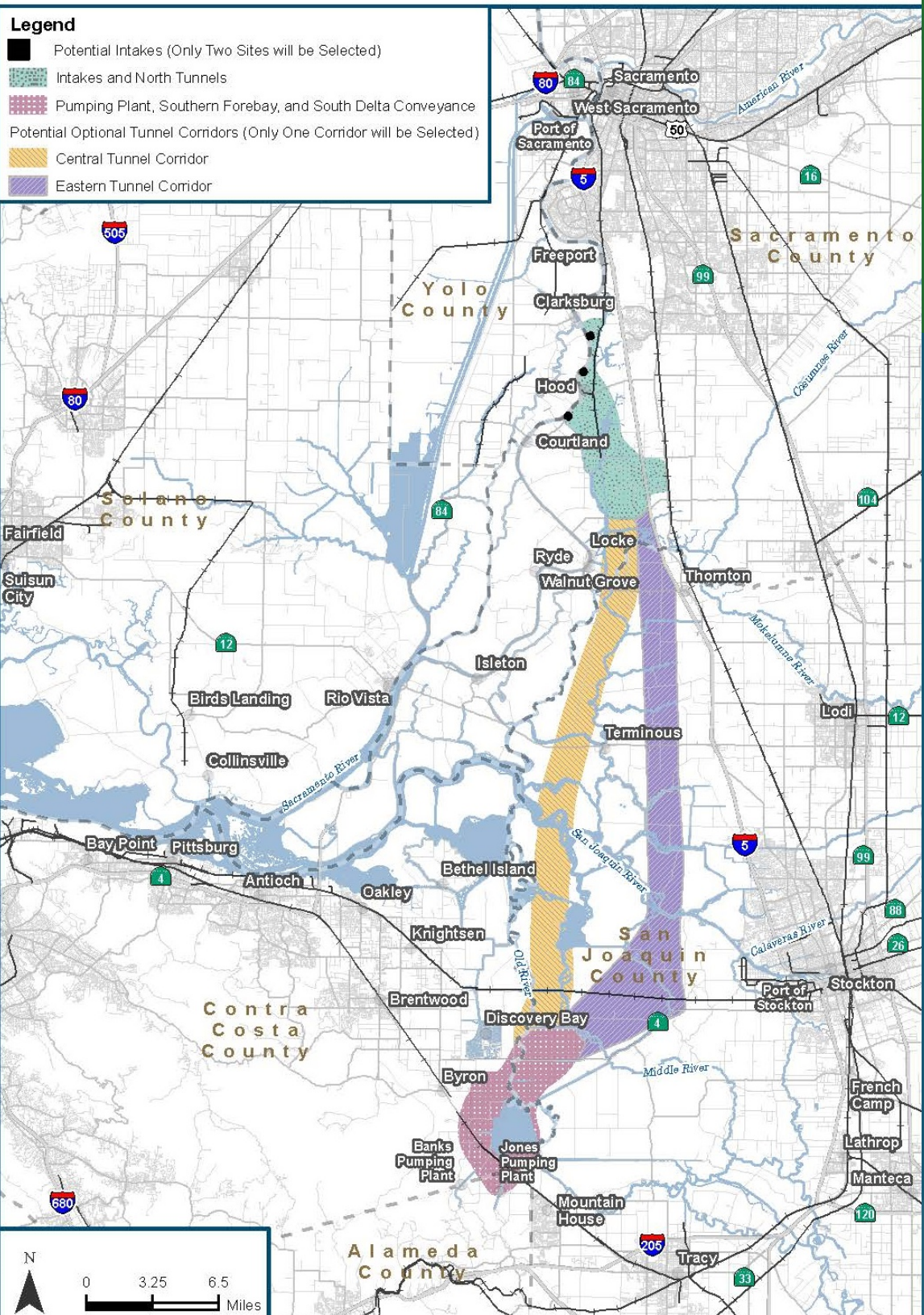


Proposed Project Facilities



- Intake facilities on the Sacramento River
- Tunnel reaches and tunnel shafts
- Forebays
- Pumping plant
- South Delta Conveyance Facilities

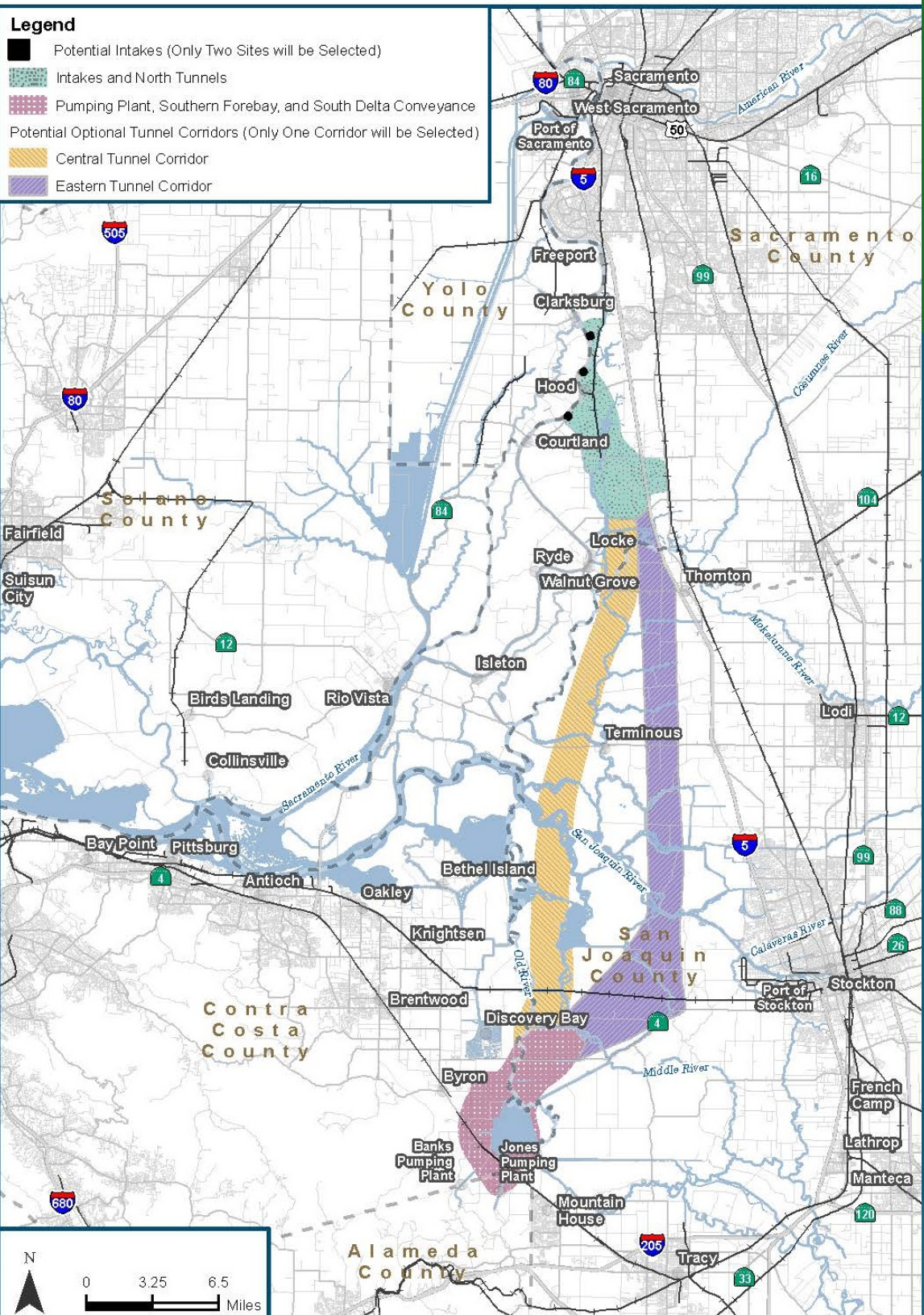
Proposed Project Corridors



Options:

- A single tunnel is proposed to follow one of two corridors in the central or eastern portion of the Delta.

Proposed Project Capacity



- 6,000 cubic feet-per-second (cfs) combined between two intakes (3,000 cfs each) located along the Sacramento River.
- Likely alternatives to the proposed project capacity will likely be considered within the range of 3,000 cfs – 7,500 cfs.

Operations

- A new diversion facility would be operated together with existing South Delta pumping facilities.
- Operations would increase DWR's ability to capture water during high flow events.
- Initial operating criteria will be formulated to assess impacts and mitigation.
- Final project operations would be determined after California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and permitting is complete.



Alternatives Development

- DWR will select a reasonable range of potentially feasible alternatives that meet project objectives and present opportunities to reduce impacts.
- The scoping period provides an opportunity for the public to comment on alternatives.
- Following scoping, DWR will publicize the alternatives it intends to include for detailed evaluation in the Draft EIR.





Public Scoping Meetings

Comments due by March 20, 2020

SACRAMENTO

Monday, February 3, 2020

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

LOS ANGELES

Wednesday, February 5, 2020

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

WALNUT GROVE

Monday, February 10, 2020

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

SAN JOSE

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

STOCKTON

Thursday, February 13, 2020

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

CLARKSBURG

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

BRENTWOOD

Thursday, February 20, 2020

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

REDDING

Monday, March 2, 2020

6 p.m. – 8 p.m.





Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA)

- Established as a Joint Powers Authority between participating public water agencies (PWAs)
- Board of Directors composed of elected officials from PWAs
- Board was established to have up to 7 members
 - Currently has 4 members



DCA and DWR Agreement

- DCA has a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement with DWR
 - Changed to provide design support for environmental planning
 - DWR is directing work and providing oversight
- DWR has asked the DCA to develop preliminary designs for the proposed project and alternatives (when developed) to avoid or minimize construction effects to local communities





DWR Role

- Lead environmental review and planning effort, including CEQA and other environmental permits
- Lead public outreach, public participation, and stakeholder engagement activities
- Ensure transparency
- Be responsible for managing the planning budget and planning schedule
- Report on progress to the state legislature and others
- Direct and oversee the work of the DCA



DCA Role

Under oversight of DWR, DCA will

- Conduct engineering and design work to inform the environmental review and planning process
- Identify potential engineering and design strategies to avoid and/or minimize impacts
- Assist in conducting public outreach, public participation, and stakeholder engagement activities





PWA Role

- Provide technical expertise to DWR and the DCA
- Collaborate on and contribute to public participation and public outreach
- Ensure that the planning and project development meet the financial, policy, technical, and long-term planning needs of their retailers, member agencies, and ratepayers





Delta Conveyance Public Engagement

- Scoping Meetings/Public Hearings
- Technical Workshops
- Disadvantaged Community Outreach
- DCA Stakeholder Engagement Committee
- California Water Commission



DCA Stakeholder Engagement Committee

- DCA Board has formed a Stakeholder Engagement Committee to help identify ways to design and construct the project that would avoid or minimize effects to local communities and the Delta as a place
- 17 members representing different key stakeholder groups in the Delta, up to 5 ex-officio members to provide information
- Members do not need to agree with the project



Committee Role

- As a committee of the DCA Board, topics limited to work completed by DCA
- Focus on design and construction-related activities
- Scheduled to meet once or twice a month
- Brown Act body
- Committee does not take the place of public involvement under CEQA



California Water Commission

- DWR does not have a regularly-scheduled public forum (such as a water district board meeting)
- Regular updates could help the Commission in their role related to the State Water Project
- Updates would also provide an opportunity to reach a larger public audience
- We propose to provide updates every 3-6 months



Soil Investigations

- DWR released an Initial Study/Proposed Negative Declaration on proposed soil investigations throughout the Delta
- Purpose to gather data to inform and evaluate alternatives for Delta Conveyance and provide information to increase understanding of Delta geology
- Investigations could include soil borings (on-land and over-water), cone penetration tests, and geophysical surveys
- DWR worked with the DCA to develop an updated approach to obtain temporary entry



Ways to Stay Informed

Learn more on the DWR website and stay up to date with news and other information on social media.



DWR Website

<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance>



Twitter

@CA_DWR



Project Hotline

866.924.9955



Project Email

DeltaConveyance@water.ca.gov



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Questions?