

Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project

California Water Commission April 17, 2024



Purpose of Update: Provide Project update, review the final funding agreement schedule, discuss environmental related updates, and address public comments provided on October 18, 2023

- Project Updates
- Final Funding Agreement Schedule
- Environmental Related Updates
 - Update on Impacts to Henry Coe State Park and Coordination with California State Parks
 - Tribal Cultural Resources
- Public Comments
 - \circ Incidental flood benefits
 - Project feasibility





Pictured above: Existing Pacheco Reservoir

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Project Updates

- Signed \$1.4 Billion WIFIA Master Agreement and \$92 million loan for Pacheco planning/design (November 2023)
- Development of 60% Designs (Ongoing)
- Development of CEQA Initial Study for Design-Level Geotechnical Investigations (Spring 2024)
- Environmental Field Data Collection (Ongoing)
- Entered into Option Agreement for Mitigation Property Acquisition (February 2024)

Schedule Considerations and WSIP Milestones

- Refinements to power transmission facilities (PG&E)
 - \circ $\,$ Preliminary and final design of updated/refined facilities $\,$
 - Change to project description requires recirculation of Draft EIR
- Delays in geotechnical investigations to support 60% design



Final Award Hearing Schedule Delays

- Delay range of approximately 3 to 6.5 years for suite of WSIP projects
- Pacheco similar to majority of WSIP projects (approximately 3.5 years)







Impacts to Henry W. Coe State Park

Operation of the reservoir at full pool (140,300 AF) would:

- Inundate up to 13.6 acres of the 87,000-acre Park
- Periodically impact 117 linear feet of the North Fork Trail

Inundation would increase reservoir capacity by 41 percent



Impacts to Henry W. Coe State Park

 Valley Water has been coordinating with State Parks

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- Inundation and trail impact mitigation is consistent with Public Resources Code (Section 5019.53) and Henry W. Coe State Park General Plan
- Comment letter provided by California State Parks to Draft EIR acknowledged impacts and stated that continued collaboration and coordination will be needed





Tribal Cultural Resources

- Types
 - o Records Search
 - Pedestrian surveys
 - Testing and evaluation
- Field Investigation Status
 - Upstream (green)
 - Results in Draft EIR
 - o Access & Utility Areas
 - Completed in 2023* (purple)
 - Planned 2024 (turquoise)
- AB 52 Tribal Consultation
 - o Amah Mutsun Tribal Band
 - Providing monitoring of cultural field investigations

*Pedestrian surveys and testing and evaluation of sites completed for properties where legal access was provided prior to 2024.



January 2017 Flooding along Pacheco Creek

Flood Control Benefits

- 2017 WSIP Application identified non-monetized Public Benefits for Flood Control along Pacheco Creek and included supporting technical analyses
- 2018 WSIP Technical Review Finding For Flood Control, the applicant discussed its proposed Flood Control benefit in depth and provided supporting documentation for its claim. Staff concurs with the following items: a) the project provides incidental flood benefits through the utilization of available surcharge reservoir storage when the reservoir is operating at the full operating pool level/elevation; b) the flood benefit is incidental and should not be monetized; and c) additional flood benefits may be achieved when additional reservoir storage is available and a flood event occurs before the reservoir is full.





Pictured above: Existing Pacheco Reservoir

Project Feasibility and Financing

- Project feasibility evaluated multiple times
 - \circ Technical
 - Economic
 - Environmental
 - \circ Financial
- Costs and benefits both anticipated to increase with inflation
- Multiple funding and financing streams





Based on modeling conducted for 2021 WSIP Supplemental Feasibility Documentation and 2021 Draft EIR



Reduces Flooding in **Downstream Communities**

The project will protect vulnerable communities against flooding

- Expanded reservoir will reduce peak flows:
 - Additional storage in expanded reservoir available to capture flood flows
 - Attenuation of flows/reduction of flood peaks due to routing of flows through larger reservoir and modified spillway configuration
- Reservoir expansion can reduce peak flood flows by up to 46 % in Pacheco Creek

Feasibility Findings

- 2021 WSIP Supplemental Feasibility Documentation included evaluation of both earthfill and hardfill dam alternatives
- Staff evaluation approved by CWC in December 2021
 - \$1.874 Billion Construction Cost (April 2021 \$)
 - \$2.161 Billion Total Costs (April 2021 \$)
 - \$2.375 Billion Quantified Benefits (April 2021 \$)
 - \circ 1.1 B/C Ratio
 - o \$214.5 million Net Benefits (April 2021 \$)
- Construction cost estimate decreased with refined level of design
 - \$2.279 Billion Feasibility-level design construction cost estimate (April 2022 dollars)
 - \$1.996 Billion 30% design construction cost estimate (April 2022 dollars)



Pictured above: Pacheco Creek below Existing North Fork Dam



Financing Considerations



Pictured above: Existing Pacheco Reservoir

- WSIP Maximum Conditional Eligibility Determination of \$504 million
- EPA WIFIA Low Interest Loan

 Up to \$1.4 billion through Master Agreement
 - \$92 million loan signed in November
 2023 for planning and design
- Project Partners
 - San Benito County Water District
 - Pacheco Pass Water District
 - Ongoing Discussions with Multiple Agencies



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Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection

Changes to Capital Costs

Document Dam Type/ Reservoir Capacity	2021 WSIP Supplemental Feasibility Documentation		2021 WSIP Supplemental Feasibility Documentation		2022 Valley Water 30% Design
	Hardfill Dam/140 TAF		Earthfill Dam/140 TAF		Earthfill Dam/140 TAF
Capital Cost (Date)	\$1.875 billion (April 2021)		\$2.003 billion (April 2021)		\$1.996 (April 2022)
Escalated Capital Cost (April 2022)	\$2.093 billion		\$2.279 billion		\$1.996 billion
Change in Dam Type Increased Level of Design					

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