



Water Storage Investment Program: Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project Update

Introduction

The California Water Commission (Commission) administers the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) to fund the public benefits associated with water storage projects using funds from the Proposition 1 Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1). Currently, six projects have a WSIP maximum conditional eligibility determination (MCED), which is the amount of Proposition 1 funding potentially available to a given project.

At the October 2023 Commission meeting, Valley Water, the project proponent for the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project, provided a project update and responded to questions from Commissioners. Commissioners asked staff to schedule an update from Valley Water with the Commission at the November 2023 meeting. Commissioners specifically requested Valley Water to further respond to comments received at the October meeting regarding flood benefits, project costs and feasibility, impacts to the Henry Coe State Park, and impacts to tribal lands. The Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project is a regional surface storage project that would enlarge the existing reservoir from 6 thousand acre-feet (TAF) to 140 TAF and be operated to provide emergency water supply benefits and ecosystem benefits specifically for steelhead in Pacheco Creek as well as refuge water supplies. The project is located in southeast Santa Clara County.

Background

Through the WSIP, the Commission will invest nearly \$2.6 billion in the public benefits of water storage projects, consistent with the requirements of Proposition 1, Chapter 8. In July 2018, the Commission made MCED decisions that set the amount of Proposition 1 funding potentially available to each project. One project received a final award at the June 2023 Commission meeting. The six remaining WSIP applicants successfully met the feasibility deadline and are working to complete the remaining statutory requirements. These include obtaining permits and completed environmental documents, executing contracts for the administration of public benefits, and completing contracts for non-public benefit cost share. Once these requirements are complete, each WSIP applicant will return 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.

Agenda Item: 10

Meeting Date: April 17, 2024

Page 2

Meeting Overview

At the meeting, Ryan McCarter, Acting Deputy Operating Officer, and Julianne O'Brien, Engineering Unit Manager, of the Dam Safety and Capital Delivery Division at Valley Water will provide a status of the project and respond to comments from the October 2023 meeting.

This is an informational item.

Contact

Amy Young

Program Manager

California Water Commission

(916) 882-2399