



**Water Storage Investment Program: Sites Project Consideration of Supplemental Funding Determination (Action Item)**

**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), codified at Water Code section 79750 *et seq*, and supplemented by funds from Proposition 4, the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 (Proposition 4).

One of the WSIP projects, the Sites Project, will create a 1.5-million acre-foot (MAF) off-stream water storage facility in Glenn and Colusa Counties. This storage facility will capture and store excess stormwater flows from the Sacramento River system for later use by storage partners, including federal, State, and local agencies from across the state. The project will provide ecosystem improvements by delivering water to wildlife refuges north and south of the Delta. The project will also provide recreation and flood control benefits. The State, through WSIP, is investing in the ecosystem, recreation, and flood control benefits provided by the project. The Sites Project Authority has requested to add emergency response as a public benefit.

The Commission adopted [regulations](#) in November 2025, which provided a process for current projects to request a supplemental funding determination for inflation or additional public benefits. The supplemental funding determination is a conditional commitment of funds, additive to the project's current Maximum Conditional Eligibility Determinations, or amount of funding potentially available to the project. The Commission may only consider a supplemental funding determination if uncommitted WSIP funding is available. There is currently \$587,443,747 in uncommitted funds available.

In May 2026, the Sites Project Authority submitted a request to the Commission to receive a supplemental funding determination to account for additional inflationary increases and to consider a new public benefit related to emergency response. At this meeting, Commission staff will present an evaluation of additional inflation increases and the new emergency response benefit. The Commission will decide whether to make a supplemental funding determination, deny the increase, or defer the decision to a later meeting.

**Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends providing a supplementary funding determination to account for inflation and the new emergency response benefit. The current MCED for the Sites Project is

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\$1,094,373,507. A supplemental funding determination for inflationary adjustments and the new emergency response benefit would bring the total conditional amount up to \$1,363,277,550, which is \$268,904,043 in supplemental conditional funding.

### **Background**

Through the WSIP, the Commission will invest \$2.65 billion in the public benefits of water storage projects, consistent with the requirements of Proposition 1 and Proposition 4. The Commission made Maximum Conditional Eligibility Determinations in July 2018, which 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 four remaining WSIP applicants successfully met Proposition 1 interim requirements and were found feasible by the deadline of January 1, 2022, and are working to complete the remaining statutory requirements. These include obtaining permits and completing environmental documents, executing contracts for the administration of public benefits, and completing contracts for non-public benefit cost share. When the applicant completes these requirements, the applicant will return to the Commission for a final award hearing at which the Commission will decide whether to award final funding.

This agenda item is related to Goal One of the [Commission's Strategic Plan](#), which calls on the Commission to implement the WSIP to achieve public benefits.

### **Meeting Overview**

At this meeting, Amy Young, WSIP Manager for the Commission, will provide information related to the supplemental funding determination for the Sites Project.

Following the presentation, the Commission will hear Tribal and public comment on the information presented. Commissioners will then have an opportunity to ask questions and make comments before taking action.

This is an action item.

### **Contact**

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