

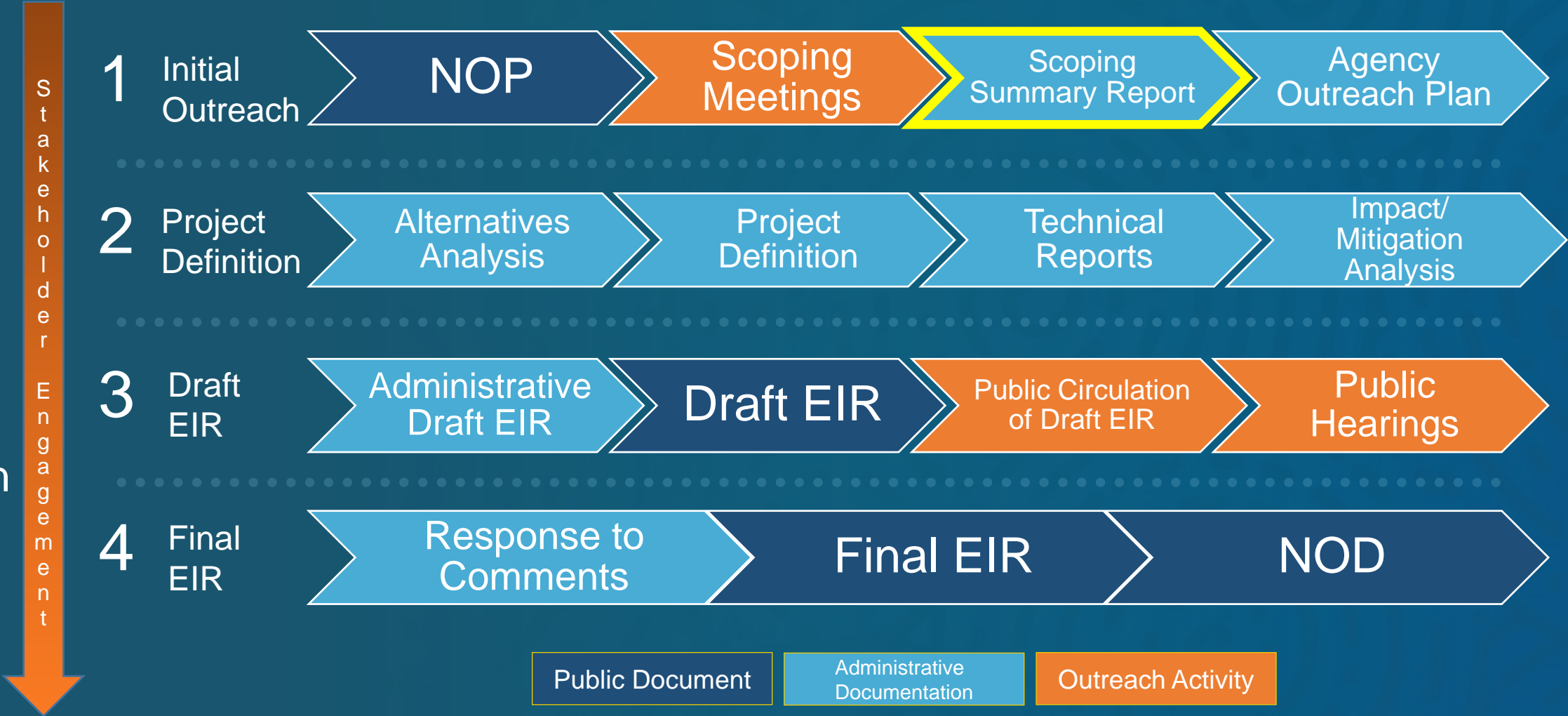
July
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Delta Conveyance Project: *Environmental Review Update*

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Environmental Review Process

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.





Delta Conveyance 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 to improve aquatic conditions



Alternatives

- The Draft EIR will look at a reasonable range of potentially feasible alternatives that can achieve the project objectives and avoid or reduce potential significant environmental impacts, consistent with the requirements of CEQA
- DWR is currently screening alternatives for consideration in the EIR
- July 22 SEC meeting – overview of alternative screening process and alternatives currently under consideration

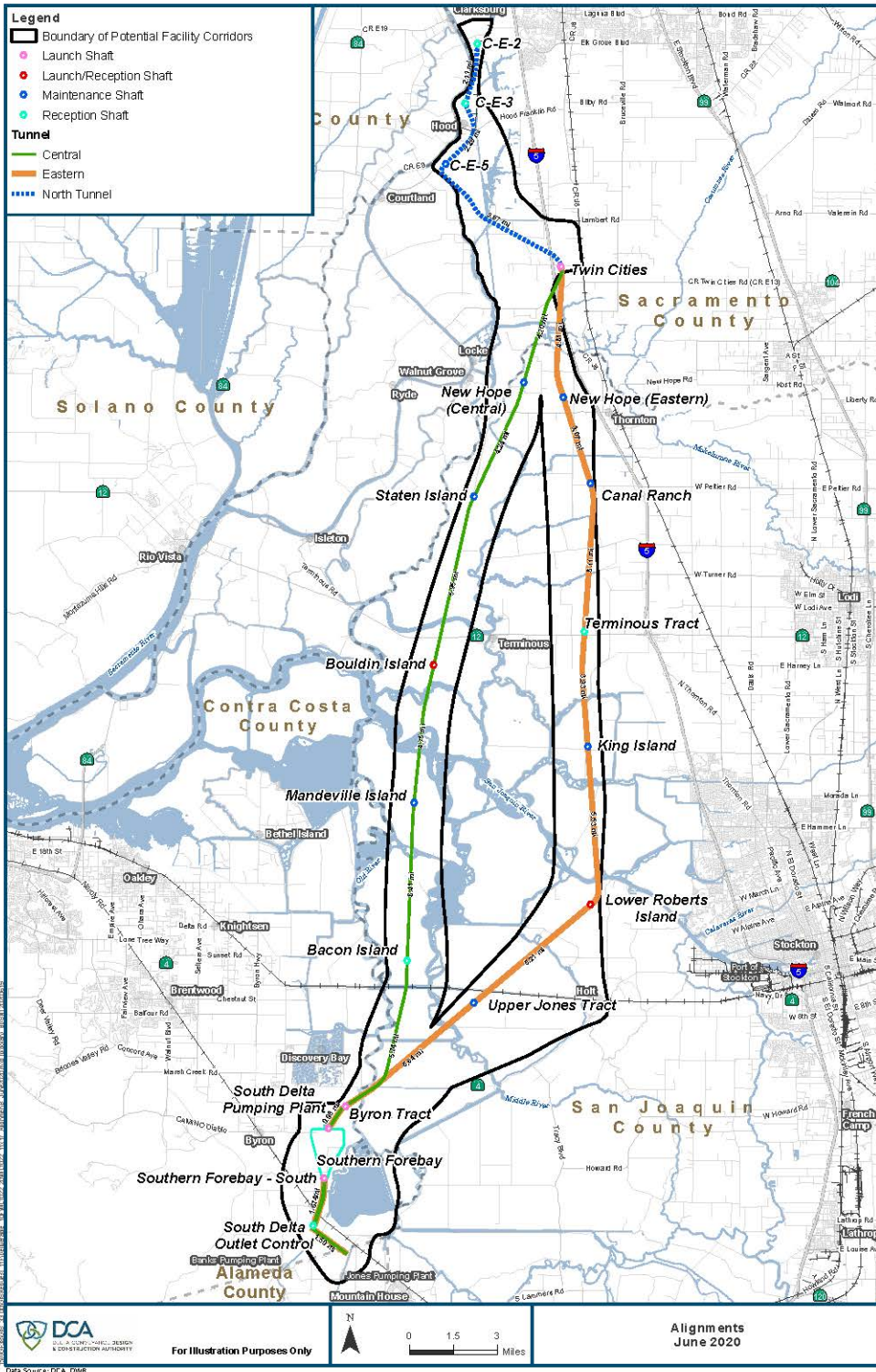


Proposed Project Facilities

- Intake facilities on the Sacramento River
- Tunnel reaches and tunnel shafts
- Forebay
- Pumping plant
- South Delta conveyance facilities

Options:

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



Scoping Process

FAST FACTS

- 93-day public comment period: January 15, 2020 – April 17, 2020
- 8 public meetings: 735 total attendees combined
- Approximately 850 comment letters received
 - Over 3,500 individual comments



Current Activities

- **Draft Scoping Summary Report:** report captures scoping-related information including comments received and scoping meeting transcripts (released on July 10, 2020)
- **Section 404/Section 10 Application:** DWR submitted Department of the Army permit application pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act
- **Draft Environmental Impact Report:** work continues on initial steps for development of the EIR
- **Soil Investigation IS/MND:** DWR has approved the IS/MND for the soil investigations project and released a NOD on July 9, 2020



Section 404 Application

- Application includes a project description, an assessment of impacts to wetlands and waters, and avoidance and minimization measures.
- Timing: DWR submitted the application now to initiate selection of NEPA lead agency. No permit will be issued until after CEQA, NEPA, and other permitting are complete.
- Project description: the application includes only one alignment because USACE requested that DWR identify one corridor for purposes of preparing a complete application under Section 404/Section 10. This does not constitute a decision; no decision will be made until after environmental process is complete.





National Environmental Policy Act Compliance

- DWR formally engaged the Corps to allow federal agencies to determine the NEPA lead
 - Flood management: requires initiation letter from the local sponsor to initiate the Section 408 process
 - Wetlands and waters: Section 404 application
- The Corps has indicated that they will prepare an EIS for NEPA compliance
- DWR anticipates that the USACE will initiate the EIS process and release an NOI later this summer



EIR and EIS Planning and Schedule

- DWR is currently working with the Corps to determine the needs for the EIS process
- DWR would like to line up the planning efforts for the EIR and the EIS, including schedule
- DWR anticipates releasing the Draft EIR concurrent with the Draft EIS



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