

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Between the California Water Commission and State Agencies Administering the Water Storage Investment Program

WHEREAS the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1), Chapter 8 (Water Code Sections 79750-79759) continuously appropriates \$2.7 billion to the California Water Commission (Commission) for public benefits associated with water storage projects that improve the operation of the state water system, are cost effective, and that provide a net improvement in ecosystem and water quality conditions.

WHEREAS Water Code section 79754 requires consultation with the Department of Water Resources (DWR), the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) (referred to herein as the Administering Agencies) and Water Code section 79755(a)(3) requires Administering Agencies to make findings regarding public benefits and enter into contracts with applicants for administration of public benefits associated with water storage projects.

WHEREAS the Commission adopted regulations for the quantification and management of the public benefits of water storage projects in accordance with the requirements of Proposition 1 (California Code of Regulations, Title 23, Sections 6000 et seq.) for implementing the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) and these regulations contain specific roles for Administering Agencies regarding technical review of applications and issuance of findings.

WHEREAS the period of time from project funding to realization of public benefits and the duration of administration of public benefits will be far longer than the terms of current Commission members and directors of the Administering Agencies. Consequently, processes that ensures close coordination amongst the Commission and the Administering Agencies must be equally enduring.

WHEREAS the Commission and the Administering Agencies wish to enter into this Memorandum of Agreement to establish a mutual agreement regarding their long-term roles and responsibilities with regard to the WSIP, and thereby ensure the Program's success, consistent with statutory and regulatory requirements.

WHEREAS coordination with Commission processes and the terms of this MOA do not alter the responsibilities, jurisdictions or authorities of the Administering Agencies.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that with this MOA, the signatories commit to a high level of long-term cooperation and coordination between the agencies involved in

the Water Storage Investment Program to effectively function as a coordinated State entity for applicants and stakeholders in implementation of the WSIP.

The Administering Agencies will coordinate on activities within the Commission's charge to manage the WSIP including program timelines related to technical review and Commission decision making process to maintain program timelines for efficient award and disbursement of funding.

The Commission and Administering Agencies are committed to problem solve, define, develop and implement the administration of public benefit contracts.


Administering Agencies recognize that the Water Commission provides the primary public forum for public participation in the WSIP. Administering Agencies are committed to working with the Commission's public process to maintain efficient interactions with stakeholders and to promote consistency throughout the extensive public implementation of WSIP.

The Commission and Administering Agencies are committed to working together at appropriate levels of agency management and staff to address inter-agency issues that may arise during implementation of the WSIP, including administration of public benefits.

The Commission and Administering Agencies agree the commitments in this MOA are subject to the availability of sufficient funding and staff resources.

The Commission and Administering Agencies agree that they will amend this MOA as future needs or circumstances require.

CALIFORNIA WATER COMMISSION



Armando Quintero, Chair

10/16/17

Date

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE



Charlton H. Bonham, Director

10/16/17

Date

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES



Grant Davis, Director

10-16-17

Date

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD



Eileen Sobeck, Executive Director

October 16, 2017

Date