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# Call to Order

Board of Directors Workshop – Resources/Engineering  
Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Chairperson – Director Hayes  
Vice-Chair – Director Harrison



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# Introductions

Following the introduction of Directors and District staff, participants may use this time to state their name and agency/affiliation in order to be included in the formal record of attendees.



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# Public Comment

Members of the public may address the Board regarding any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board; however, no action may be taken on off-agenda items except as authorized by law. Each speaker is limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes.



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# Discussion and Possible Action Items

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# Discussion Item 3.1 (pg. 3)

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**Greg Woodside, PG, CHg** - Chief of Planning and Watershed Resilience

## Update on FIRO Study and Review of Process for Potential Deviation to Seven Oaks Dam Water Control Manual

### **Staff Recommendation:**

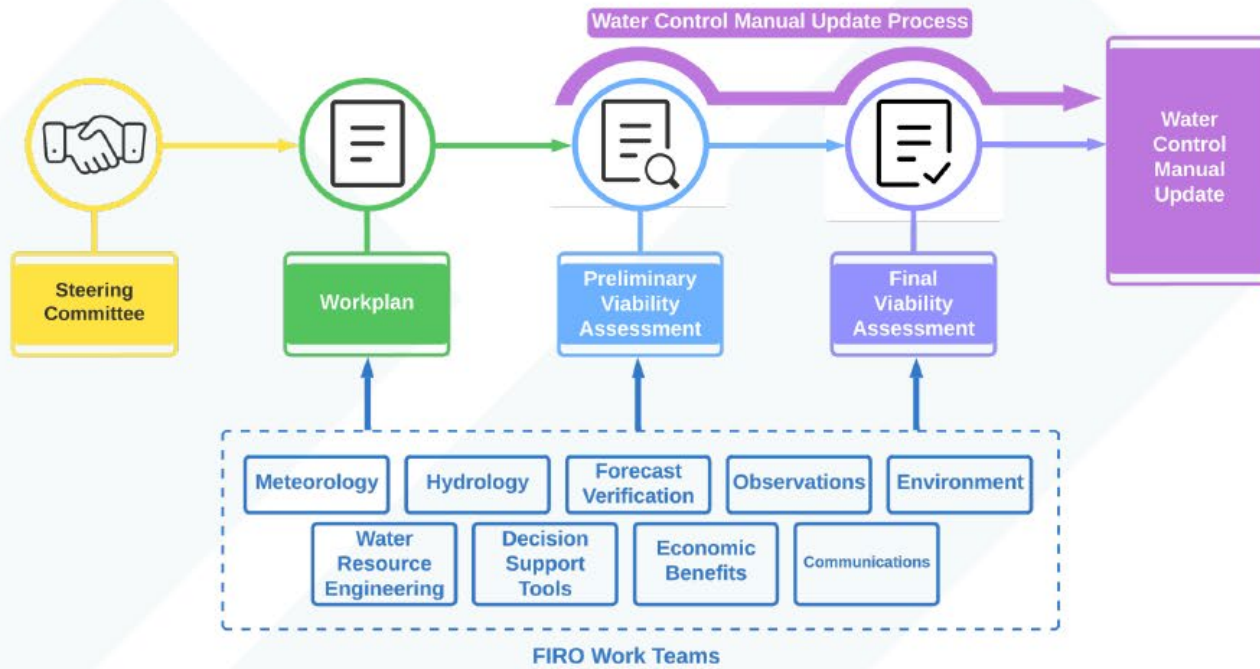
Receive and file.

# Major Topics Covered in Presentation

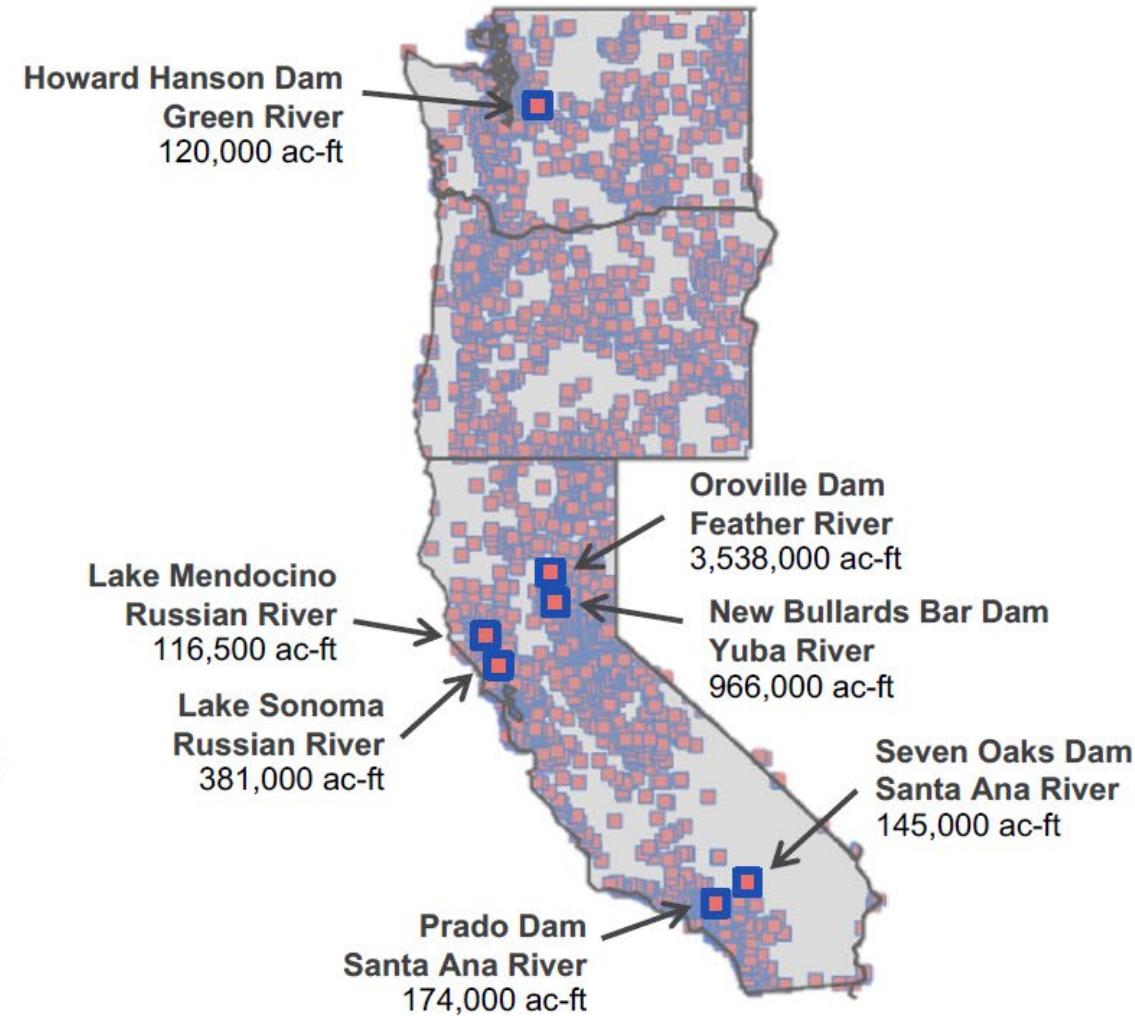
1. Overview of FIRO Process
2. Summary of activities to prepare Work Plan
3. Process for Deviation to Water Control Manual



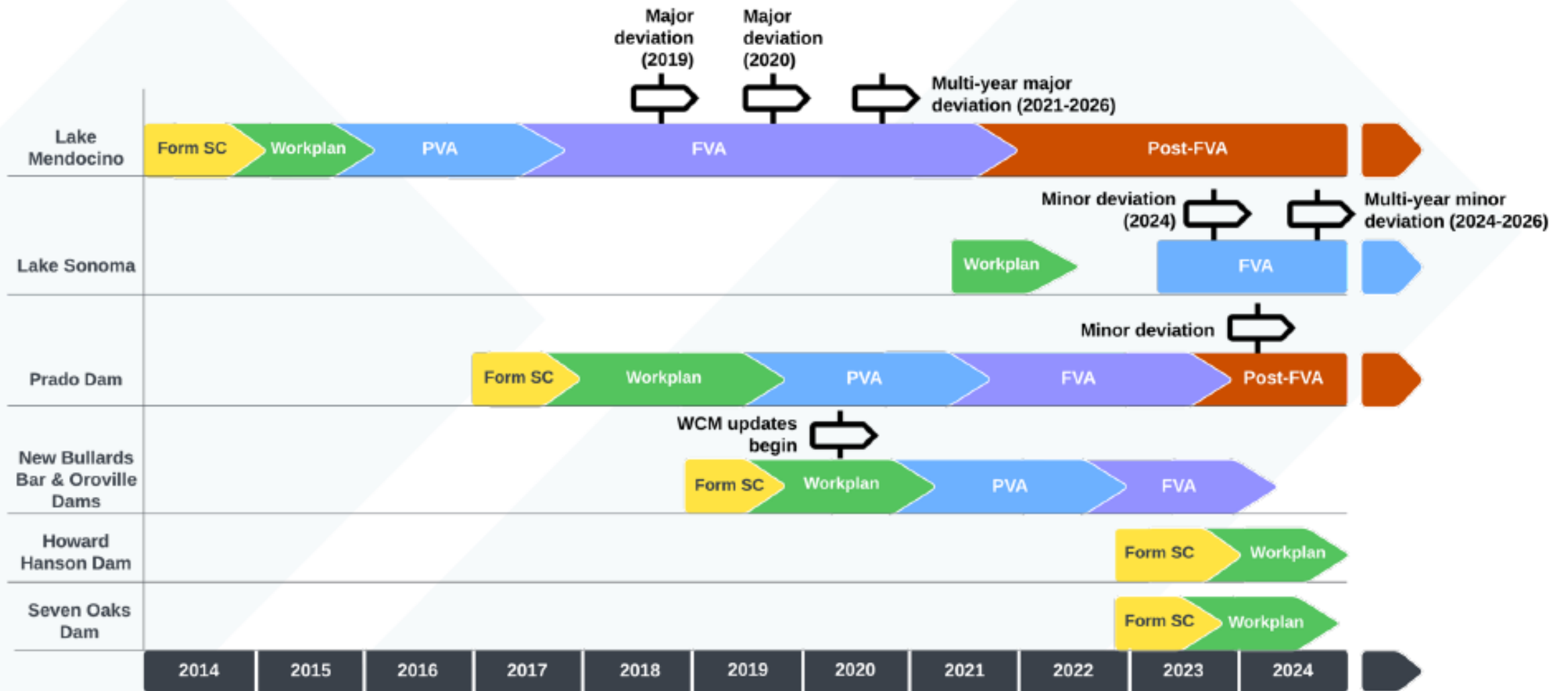
# FIRO viability assessment process – a collaborative process



If the viability assessment demonstrates that FIRO results in better outcomes than existing operations, then the Steering Committee pursues implementation of FIRO via an update to the Water Control Manual (WCM).







Source: CV3E, 2023

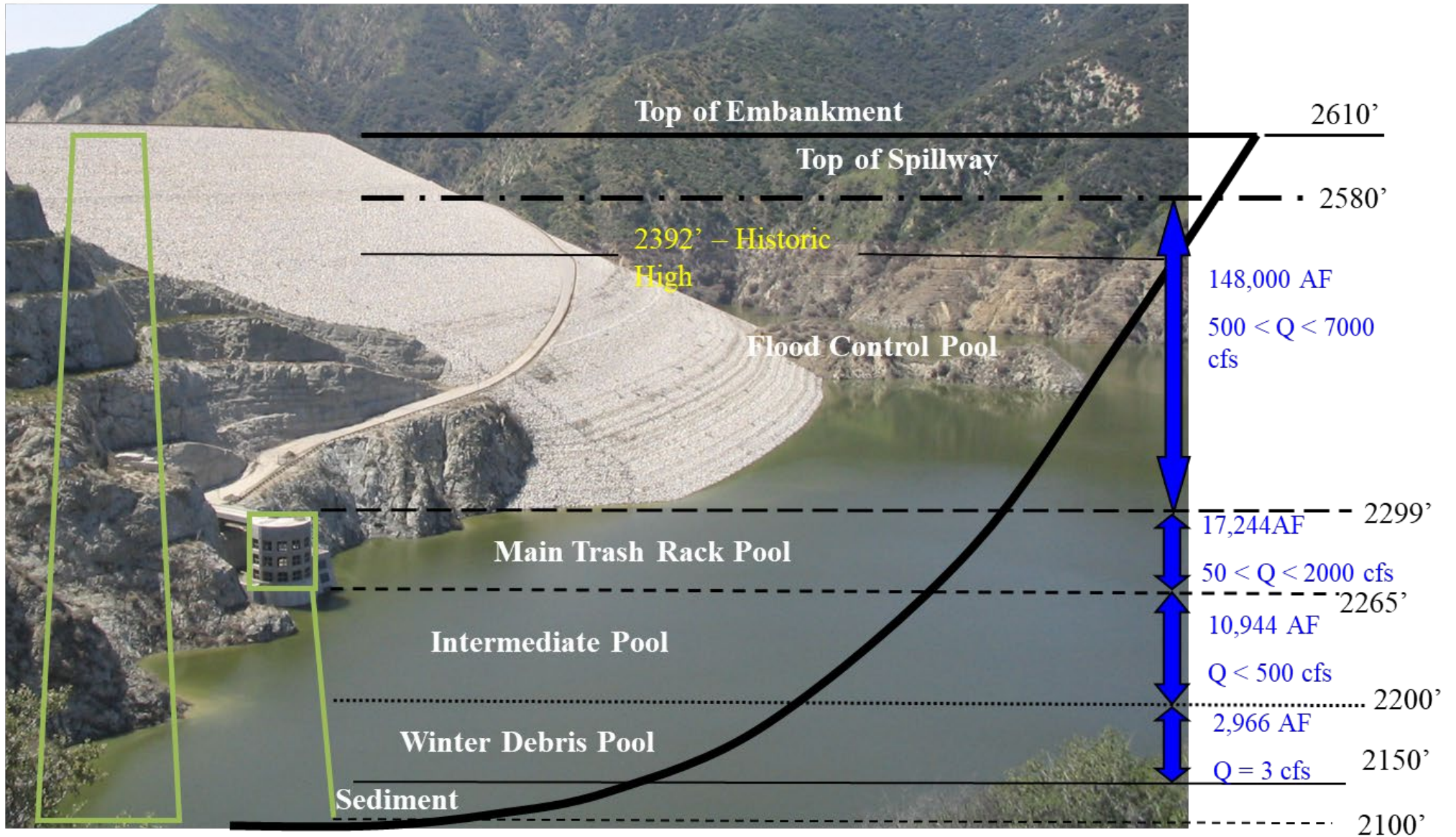
# Summary of Activities to Prepare Work Plan

- 1. Three meetings of Steering Committee and approval of Terms of Reference**
- 2. Two Workshops**
  - Environmental**
  - Dam Operations and Water Resources**
- 3. Good participation from Local Sponsors and Army Corps**
- 4. Forming work teams and conducting work team meetings to prepare Work Plan.**
- 5. Ongoing CW3E technical studies re meteorology**

# High-Level Summary of Work for Approval of Deviation to Water Control Manual

- 1. Understand Seven Oaks Dam operations, inflow characteristics, precipitation and inflow forecast accuracy, environmental considerations, and other related items to propose a WCM deviation to test FIRO.**
- 2. Work with FIRO Steering Committee to propose, evaluate and approve the deviation (Army Corps has ultimate approval authority).**
  - 1. For other dams in FIRO program, Steering Committee has proposed deviation to Corps**
- 3. Complete environmental documentation.**
- 4. Develop agreements to implement the deviation (including cost-share agreements).**

# Schematic of Seven Oaks Dam and Pool Elevations











Source:  
OC Public Works,  
2023



# Major Steps for Water Control Manual Deviation

- 1. Technical work re potential impacts of deviation (dam safety, maintaining flood risk management, dam operations, environmental considerations, estimated benefits, and related evaluations).**
- 2. Determining if a 'Minor' or 'Major' Deviation should be requested.**
- 3. Demonstrating deviation will not impact flood risk management.**
- 4. Estimating additional expenses, if any, to implement the deviation.**
- 5. Determining which agencies will fund those costs & prepared agreement(s) to fund any additional expenses.**
- 6. Close coordination and reaching consensus with Local Sponsors on proposed deviation.**
- 7. Preparing environmental documentation for NEPA/CEQA; may include a new Biological Opinion from US Fish and Wildlife Service.**
- 8. Approval of the deviation by Army Corps South Pacific Division.**

# Local Sponsors and Army Corps Seven Oaks Dam Roles and Responsibilities

Activity/ Role / Responsibility	Local Sponsors	Army Corps of Engineers
Operate and maintain dam		
Environmental Items		
Participate in FIRO Study		
Review proposed deviation or WCM update		
Approve proposed deviation or WCM update		



# Director Comments and Discussion

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**Paul Kielhold**  
President



**June Hayes**  
Vice President



**T. Milford  
Harrison**  
Treasurer



**Gil J. Botello**  
Director



**Susan Longville**  
Director

## **Staff Recommendation:**

Receive and file.

# Discussion Item 3.2 (pg. 7)

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**Leo Ferrando, PE, MS** - Assistant Chief Engineer

## **Consider First Amendments to MOU and Cost Share Agreement for the Bunker Hill-B Coalition and a Professional Services Contract with WSC, Inc. for the Feasibility Study**

### **Staff Recommendation:**

Authorize the CEO/General Manager to execute the First Amendments to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Cost Share Agreement for the Bunker Hill-B (BH-B) Coalition respectively, and a Professional Services Contract with WSC, Inc. for the Feasibility Study.

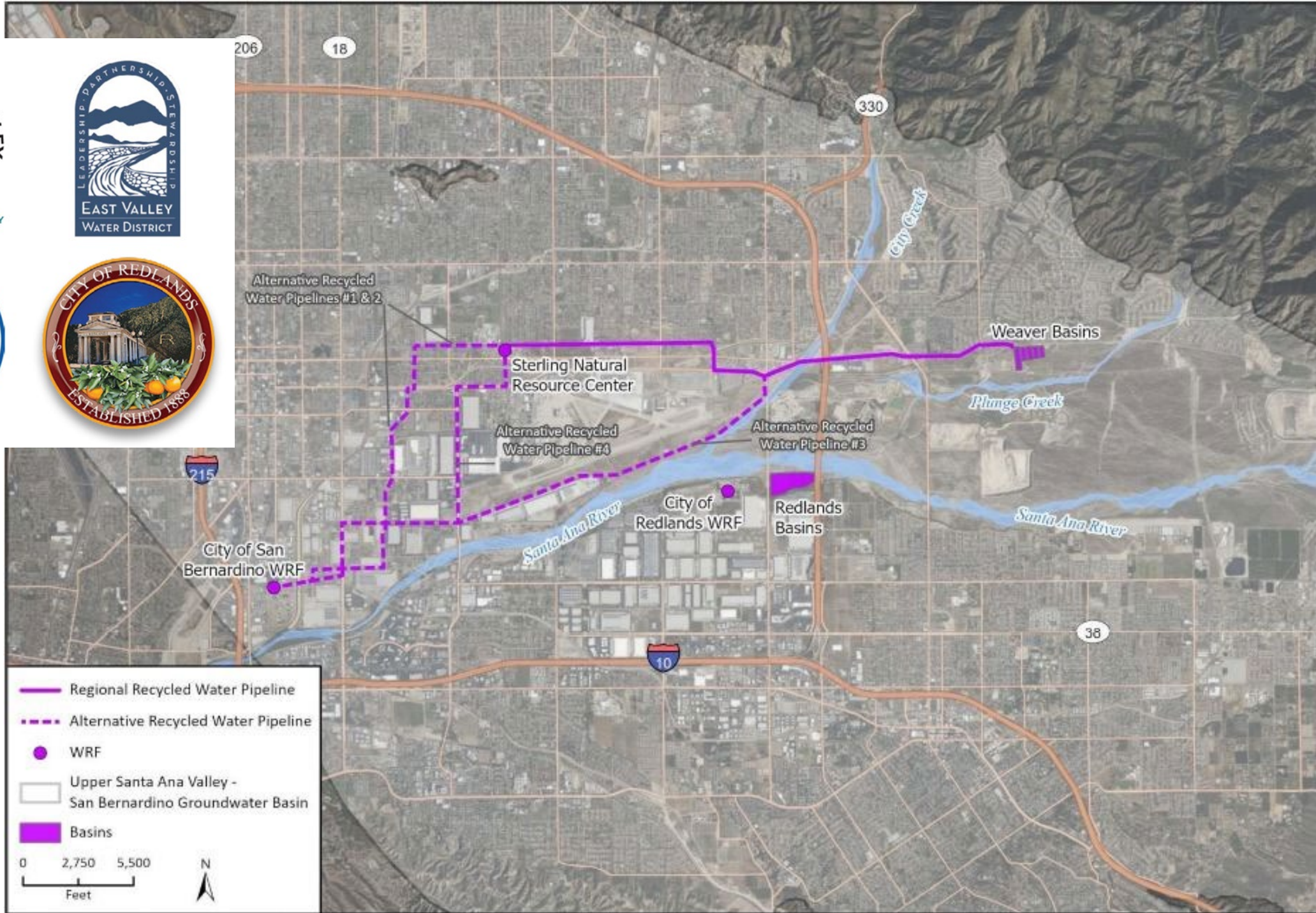


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— Regional Recycled Water Pipeline  
- - - Alternative Recycled Water Pipeline  
● WRF  
□ Upper Santa Ana Valley - San Bernardino Groundwater Basin  
■ Basins

0 2,750 5,500  
Feet

N



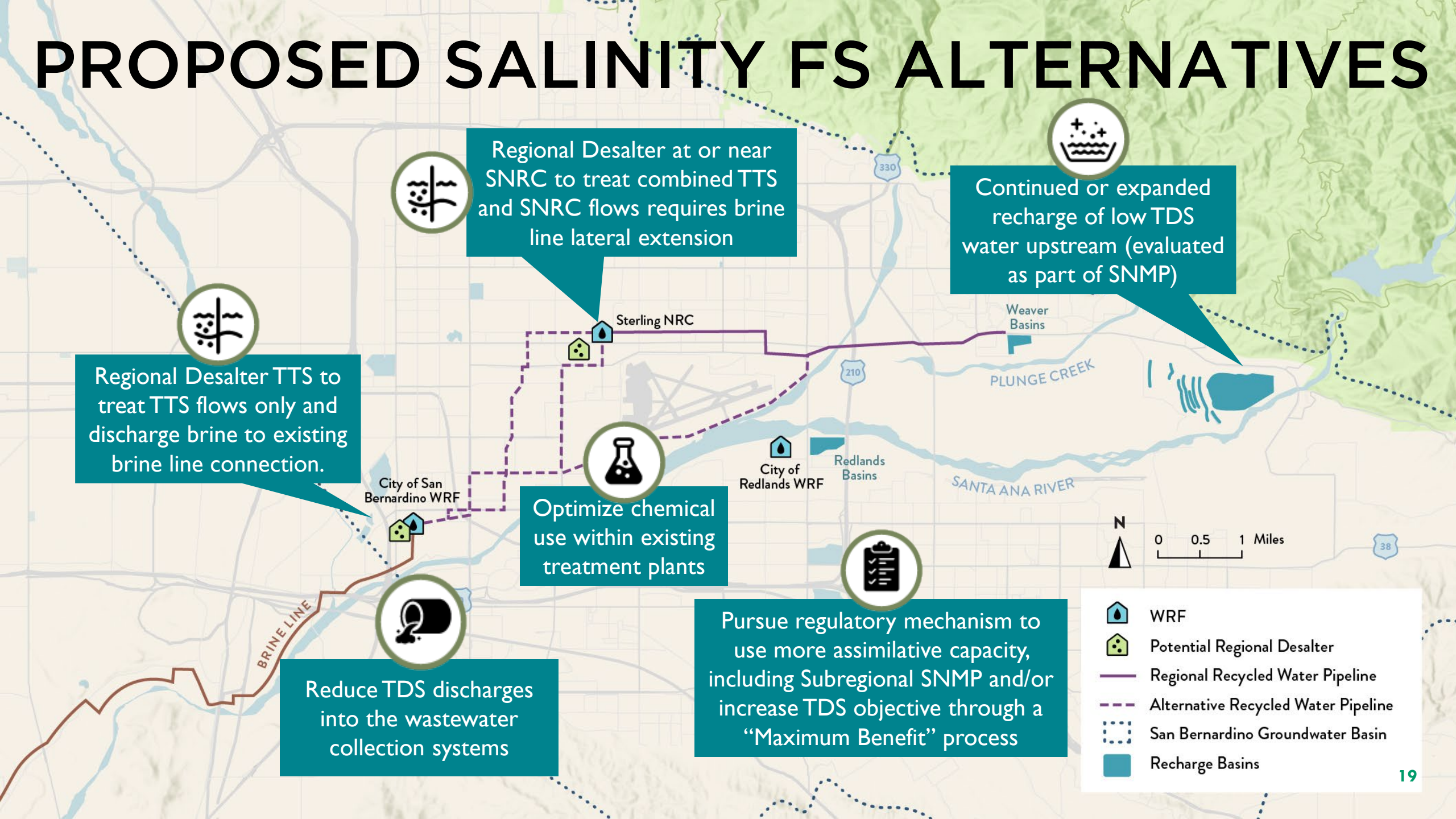
# MOU & COST-SHARE BACKGROUND



1. Status Update on 10/10 at Workshop
2. MOU To collaborate on the mitigation efforts of salt loading in the basin (SNMP)
3. Regional recycled water desalter Feasibility Study:
  - Conceptual design, alternative mitigation strategies, benefit analysis, and economic modeling for cost share.
4. Each Discharger is responsible for their Water Quality
5. Respective Boards approved in March 2023



# PROPOSED SALINITY FS ALTERNATIVES



# FIRST AMENDMENT MOU & COST-SHARE



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- MOU Amendment is for further outlining the decision-making
- Valley will continue being the facilitator but will not bring new capital dollars to a potential desalter
- Cost-share Amendment includes the final scope of work and final budget



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# REGIONAL SHARED COSTS

<u>Item</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Actual Cost</u>
Feasibility Study (WSC/Trussel)	\$250k - \$350k	\$304,731
Facilitation Services (Rincon)	\$100,000	\$99,962
Grant Assistance (KJ)	\$50,000	\$16,395*
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$421,088</b>
Valley's Share at 25%	\$125,000	\$105,272
Share w/ <u>\$247k</u> USBR Grant	\$61,750	\$43,522

\* Grant Assistance costs are not eligible for reimbursement



# NEXT STEPS ON REGIONAL FEASIBILITY STUDY



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November 2023 - FS Kickoff

April 2025 - FS Completion

June 2025 - FS Findings to  
the RWQCB

December 2025 - Salt  
Mitigation Plan to the RWQCB  
based on FS

# Director Comments and Discussion

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**Paul Kielhold**  
President



**June Hayes**  
Vice President



**T. Milford  
Harrison**  
Treasurer



**Gil J. Botello**  
Director



**Susan Longville**  
Director

**Staff Recommendation:** Authorize the CEO/General Manager to execute the First Amendments to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Cost Share Agreement for the Bunker Hill-B (BH-B) Coalition, respectively, and a Professional Services Contract with WSC, Inc. for the Feasibility Study.

# Discussion Item 3.3 (pg. 41)

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**Joanna Gibson, MS** – Executive Director Upper SAR Habitat Conservation Program  
**Kai Palenscar, Ph.D.** – Environmental Compliance Program Manager

## Consider Adoption of Resolution No. 1181: Funding Agreement with California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Awarded Traditional Section 6 Grant: Development of Alternative Sampling Methodologies for Year-Round Santa Ana Sucker Monitoring

### Staff Recommendation:

Adoption of Resolution No. 1181 (Attachment 1) authorizing San Bernardino Valley to:

1. Enter into a funding agreement with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for the awarded Traditional Section 6 Grant: Development of Alternative Sampling Methodologies for Year-Round Santa Ana Sucker Monitoring, and accept and expend federal grant monies in the amount of \$117,858.35;
2. Provide non-federal matching funds totaling \$43,600.00; and
3. Authorize the CEO/General Manager to execute the funding agreement with CDFW, and any amendments thereto.



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# Justification for Need

## Limitations of SAR Native Fish Survey (2015-2023)

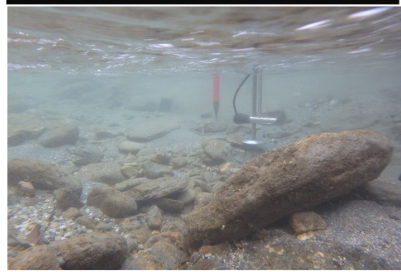
- Single Timepoint
  - late summer/fall (limited dataset)
- Expense
  - High (laborious)
- Climate Change
  - Summer Storms? (impacts dataset)
- Expertise
  - Needed to capture/handle fish



Inland Empire water agencies pool resources to save Santa Ana sucker



Dave Mills (L), Tawny Hoenke (C), both of Southwest Resource Management Association and Heather Dyer (R), water resources project manager for San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, look to remove non-native predators that are threatening the Santa Ana sucker fish, in the Rapid Channel portion of the Santa Ana River, Tuesday, March 3, 2018. The goal is to ...







# Benefit of Grant Research

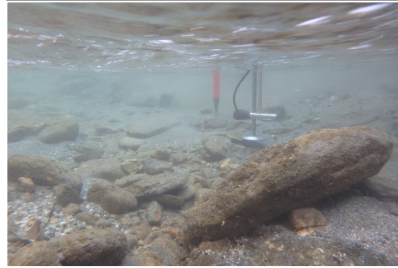
- Research: Test alternative survey techniques at RCRC native fish raceways (camera/fish tagging)
- Multiple Timepoints – no restrictions on timing
- Expense – Moderate to Low
- Climate Change – Multiple timepoints reduce effect
- Expertise – Lower threshold



Inland Empire water agencies pool resources to save Santa Ana sucker



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# Breakdown of Budget

Total Project Cost: \$117,858  
 Non-Federal Match: \$43,600 (SBVMWD portion)

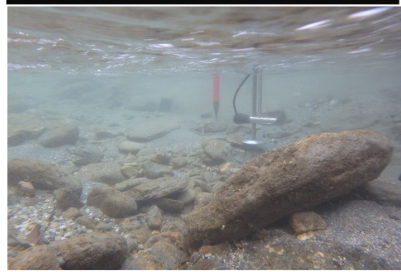
- Non-Federal Match
  - \$36,000 (dedicated to native fish raceways over the next two fiscal years)
  - \$7,600 (San Bernardino Valley Staff time and equipment)



Inland Empire water agencies pool resources to save Santa Ana sucker



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# Staff Recommendations

Adoption of Resolution No. 1181 authorizing San Bernardino Valley to:

1. Enter into a funding agreement with CDFW for the awarded Traditional Section 6 Grant: “Development of Alternative Sampling Methodologies for Year-Round Santa Ana Sucker Monitoring”, and accept and expend federal grant monies in the amount of \$117,858.35;
2. Provide non-federal matching funds totaling \$43,600.00;
3. Authorize the CEO/General Manager to execute the funding agreement with CDFW, and any amendments thereto.

# Director Comments and Discussion

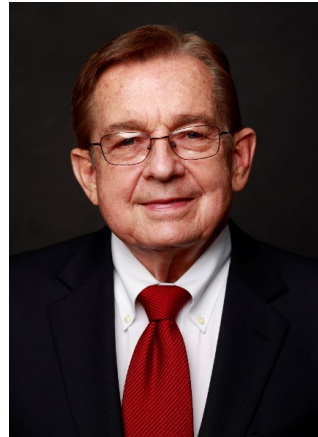
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# Future Business

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# Closed Session



**5.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION** Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Govt. Code Section 54956.9: Two potential cases.

**5.2 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS** Property: APN 0264-201-31, APN 0281-041-67 Agency negotiator: Heather Dyer Negotiating parties: Diversified Pacific Development Group, LLC Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

**5.3 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS** Property: APN 0269-171-34 Agency negotiator: Heather Dyer Negotiating parties: Riverside Highland Water Company Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

**5.4 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION** - Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(a),(d)(1) - Endangered Habitats League v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Case No. 2:16-CV-09178 (U.S. District Court, Central District of California)



# Adjourn



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