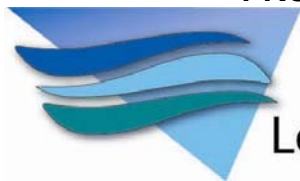


PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET



San Luis Reservoir Low Point Improvement Project

Project Lead

Santa Clara Valley Water District (district) in cooperation with the US Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)

Relationship with Tribes

Under the guidelines of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the district must assess the effects of the project on historical resources, including effects on Native American cultural resources. As a CALFED Agency, the district acknowledges the CALFED Record of Decision paragraph on Tribal Consultation.

The Bureau of Reclamation is a federal agency under the U.S. Department of Interior. As an Executive Branch agency, Reclamation acknowledges and affirms the special relationship between the United States and Federally recognized Indian tribes; Reclamation has a trust responsibility to such tribes to evaluate the potential impacts of its undertakings on Indian trust assets and to consult with federally recognized tribes when such evaluations reveal impacts that may occur to those assets.

Location

San Luis Reservoir is located in Merced County, just East of the Diablo Range and West of the city of Los Banos. Please see attached location map.

Purpose

The goal of the Low Point Improvement Project is to increase the operational flexibility of storage in San Luis Reservoir and ensure a high quality, reliable water supply for the San Felipe Division contractors. To achieve this goal, the project incorporates the following specific objectives:

1. Increase the operational flexibility of San Luis Reservoir by increasing the effective storage.
2. Ensure that the San Felipe Division contractors are able to use their annual Central Valley Project contract allocation to meet their water supply and water quality commitments.
3. Provide opportunities for project-related environmental enhancements.
4. Provide opportunities for other project-related improvements.

Benefits

- Increased operational flexibility of San Luis Reservoir: The project would provide up to 200,000 Acre-Feet of additional storage to State and Federal Water Projects.
- Increased supply reliability: The project would ensure the quality and availability of Central Valley Project supplies to the San Felipe Division contractors.

Alternatives Under Consideration

The project is currently in the planning phase. Six feasible alternatives and the No Project alternative are being evaluated in a draft environmental impact report/environmental impact statement (EIR/EIS), which is scheduled for public distribution in late 2004. The alternatives are described below.

1. **Algae Management** – Control algae populations in San Luis Reservoir using algicide application or algae harvesting
2. **DAF Treatment** – New water treatment facility at the Pacheco Pumping Plant using dissolved air flotation (DAF) technology to remove algae from the water
3. **Lower San Felipe Intake** – Extension and lowering of the San Felipe intake pipe to a deeper location in the reservoir
4. **Bypass San Luis Reservoir** – Construction of a new bypass conveyance corridor that would route water deliveries around San Luis Reservoir
5. **Expand Pacheco Reservoir** – Construction of an expanded Pacheco Creek reservoir to store San Luis water in the winter months for the San Felipe Division to use in the summer low point months.
6. **Combination Solution** – A combined solution, which could include modified operations of existing reservoirs and other regional water planning efforts
7. **No Project Alternative** – No project, as required under CEQA and NEPA, to compare the impacts of approving the project with the impacts of not approving the project.

Interested Federally Recognized Tribes

None identified

Potentially Interested Tribes

Ohlone

Northern Valley Yokuts

Opportunities for Tribal Participation

1. All tribes can request from the lead agency to be placed on mailing lists to receive notices of future public outreach activities regarding CALFED projects.
2. All tribes can provide comment at potential public meetings, workshops and hearings about CALFED projects.
3. All tribes can obtain copies of Environmental Impact Statements/Environmental Impact Reports to review and provide written comments about their contents.
4. All tribes can review CALFED lead agency internet sites on CALFED projects and provide input by email.
5. All tribes can contact the CALFED lead agency, project contact, identified on this sheet for project information updates.
6. All tribes can participate in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as an interested party, relating tribal concerns about possible adverse effects to historic and Traditional Cultural Properties.
7. Federally recognized tribal governments can be engaged in the planning and development of specific CALFED projects in their areas by CALFED lead agencies.
8. CALFED Agencies can and will consult with federally recognized tribal governments on a government-to-government basis, to the extent permitted by law, prior to taking actions that affect such tribal governments.
9. Upon request, federally recognized tribes can enter into Memorandums of Understanding with CALFED Agencies to specify how the federal, state and tribal

governments will work together, on a government-to-government basis, in developing CALFED projects.

Use of Information

Information about specific CALFED projects provided by CALFED project lead agencies is intended to be used by tribes to formulate their own opinions about (1) the social, economic and environmental worthiness of the specific undertaking, (2) the potential impact such an undertaking may have on the character, use or nature of trust assets, and (3) to convey the tribe's opinions to the lead agency for analysis.

Schedule

- Notice of Intent/Notice of Preparation July/August 2002
- Public Scoping Meetings August 2002
- Identify Feasible Alternatives May 2003
- Public Meeting on Feasible Alternatives September/October 2003
- Public Review of Draft EIR/EIS Late 2004
- Final EIR/EIS and Public Hearing Mid 2005

Project Website

<http://www.valleywater.org>

Project Contact

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Project Area Map

