

Item 10-4
Battle Creek Salmon and Steelhead
Restoration Project

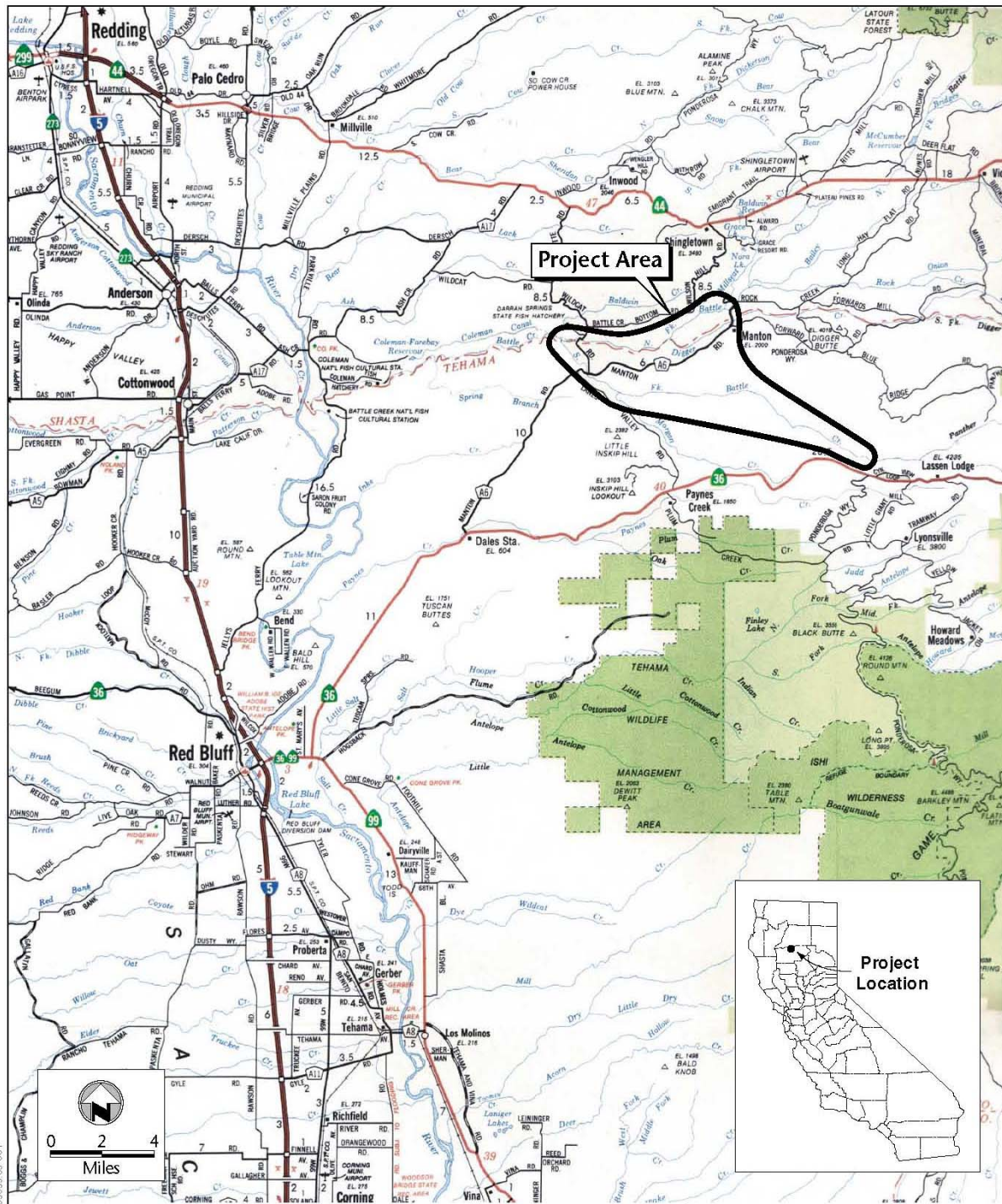
Information Item

Bay Delta Authority and Public Advisory
Committee

February 10, 2005

Briefing Purpose

- Provide information on the Battle Creek Salmon and Steelhead Restoration Project
- Highlight the release of Draft Supplemental EIS/Revised EIR for 60-day public review
- Prepare Authority for funding decision later this year



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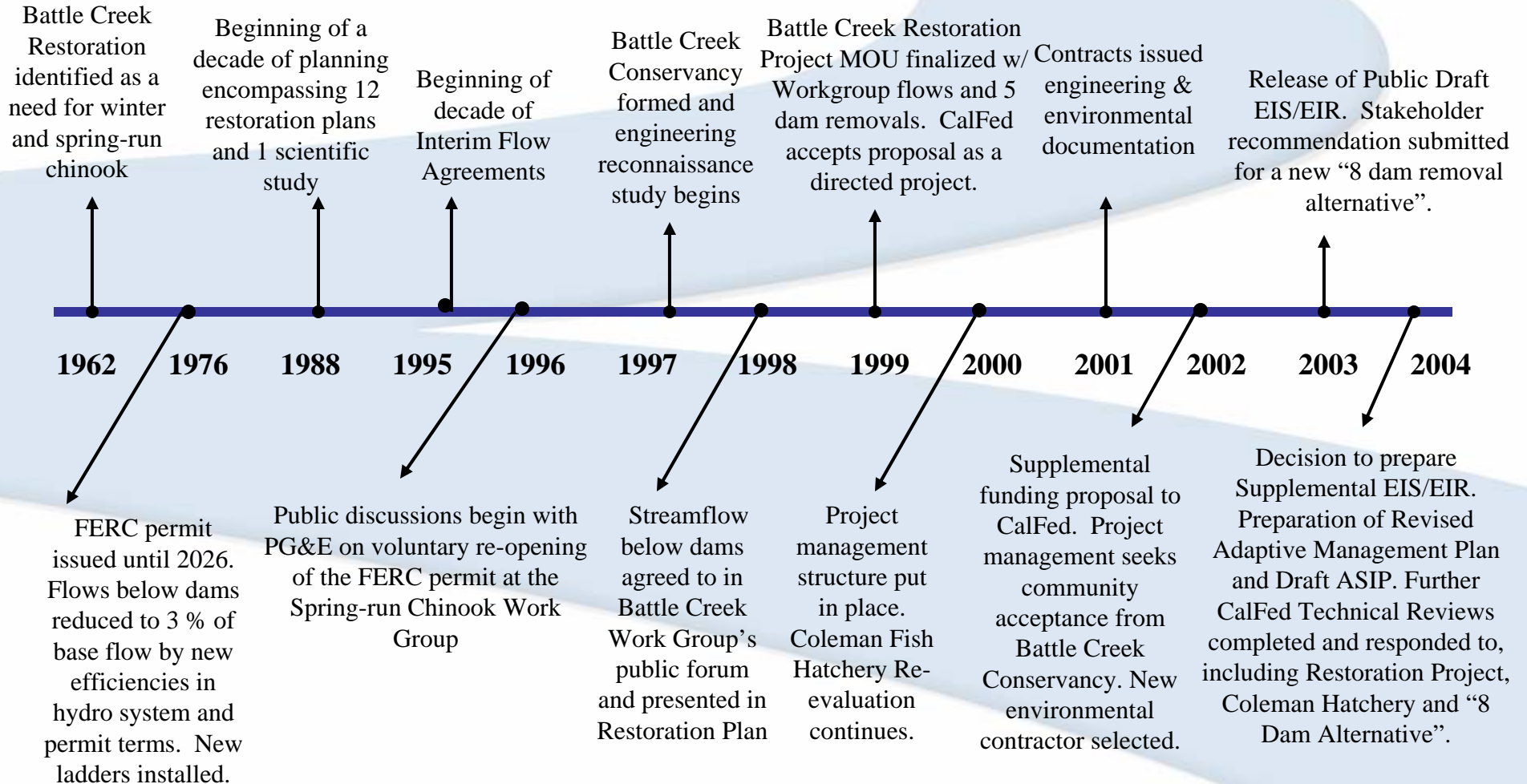
History

- Significance of Battle Creek
- Actions leading to the development of the 1999 MOU
- Restoration Project purpose
- Proposed action components
- Risks if MOU is not implemented

Significance of Battle Creek

- Battle Creek offers the geologic and hydrologic conditions to support the state and federally-listed spring-run Chinook salmon, winter-run Chinook salmon, and steelhead
- Restoration of habitat in Battle Creek would allow for improvement of these fish populations
- Improvement of these fish populations would improve the reliability in state and federal water project operations and salmon harvest

Battle Creek Restoration Effort Timeline



1999 MOU Signatories

- Pacific Gas and Electric Company
- US Bureau of Reclamation
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- NOAA Fisheries
- Department of Fish and Game

Restoration Project Purpose

To restore approximately 42 miles of habitat in Battle Creek and an additional 6 miles of habitat in its tributaries while minimizing the loss of clean and renewable energy produced by the Battle Creek Hydroelectric Project.

Restoration Project Proposed Action Components

- Removal of five hydropower diversion dams
- Installation of screens and ladders on three hydropower diversion dams
- Increases in flow releases
- Dedication of water diversion rights for instream purposes at dam removal sites
- Elimination of mixing between North Fork Battle Creek and South Fork Battle Creek

Risks in Not Implementing MOU

- Possible Outcomes
 - Have to Renegotiate MOU
 - Contested Reopening FERC License
 - Wait Until 2026 for Traditional Process
- Further Delays and Increased Costs
- Less Robust Restoration Project

Project Decision Process

- 1999: MOU signed
- July 2003: Draft EIS/EIR
- February 2005: Release of Draft Supplemental EIS/Revised EIR for 60-day public review
- June 2005: Final EIS/EIR
- July 2005: NEPA Record of Decision/CEQA Findings
- August – October 2005: FERC Determination

Funding Decision Process

- Project funded as a directed action in 1999 (\$28 million in Federal funds)
- October 2001 proposal requests additional funds
- Experts provide input, Project Team revises proposal
- Final revised proposal to be submitted (March 2005)
- ERP Selection Panel makes an initial recommendation
- 30-day public comment period
- ERP Selection Panel makes a final recommendation
- Authority makes a funding decision (August 2005)

Schedule

- Complete Environmental Compliance
- August 2005 Funding Decision Pivotal.
If Successful:
 - Procurement scheduling begins
 - FERC-coordinated design review
 - Complete design review by March/April 2006
- Spring 2006 – Summer 2009: Project Construction