

January 11, 2021

Delta Conveyance Project

Water Association of Kern County

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Director, Department of Water Resources

Building a Water Resilient California



“The state must protect the state’s largest supply of water as well as invest in local projects. Under Governor Newsom’s leadership, California has proposed a broad new portfolio approach that prioritizes conservation, recycling, groundwater management, and much more, which will build the resilience of local water systems across the state.”

— Water Resilience Portfolio (July 2020)





3 of 5 Californians Depend on Water that Flows Through the Delta

The Delta is where rain and snowmelt from the Sierra Nevada mountains collect. It is where the state's main water distribution infrastructure — the State Water Project (SWP) — is located, distributing essential fresh water to homes, businesses and farmlands throughout California, allowing our state to become the 5th largest economy in the world.

State Water Project

2/3 of California's water originates in the Sierra Nevada mountains

50% of California's water supply flows through the Delta

29 State Water Contractors purchase and distribute water through the SWP

27m people receive clean, affordable water from the SWP

Millions of people in disadvantaged communities depend on the SWP as an affordable water supply

750k acres of farmland are irrigated with SWP water

\$5 trillion California's economy that is sustained by a reliable water supply





SWP Water Reaches Taps and Farms from North to South

High-quality, affordable water supplied by the SWP through the Delta is a primary source of water security for regions throughout California.



Percentage of Regional Water Supplies Dependent on Reliable Delta Infrastructure

11%	North Bay
33%	South Bay
25-33%	Central Valley
47%	Central Coast
28%	Inland Empire
30%	Southern California
30%	Desert Communities



Local Water Resiliency Depends on a Reliable SWP

- The SWP is an important foundation for an entire suite of water supply and resiliency programs implemented by local water agencies, including:
 - Local storage
 - Recycling
 - Conservation
 - Groundwater recharge
 - Water quality management
- Continued stability of the SWP helps agencies develop and maintain these important programs and provides a high-quality source for blending with local sources.





Time to Modernize Now – Risks are Mounting

The infrastructure that protects, collects and moves water through the Delta to California communities is outdated and at risk. A major disruption would result in a catastrophic public health crisis.

Primary risks to SWP conveyance infrastructure in the Delta:



Seismic activity and risk of major earthquake



Climate change and sea level rise



Subsidence of Delta islands puts increased pressure on levees



Delta Conveyance Project

Purpose

- Modernize the aging SWP infrastructure in the Delta to restore and protect the reliability of SWP 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





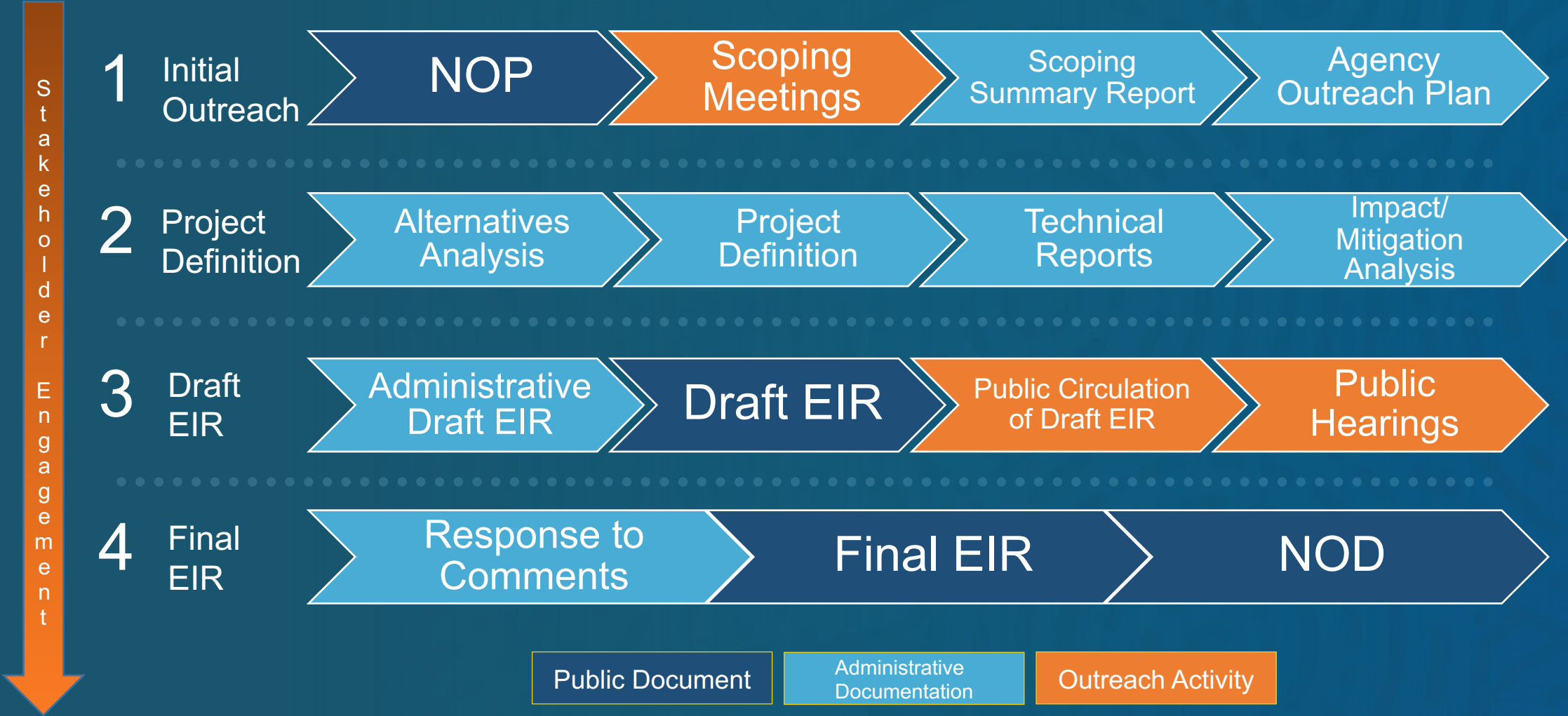
Current Planning Efforts

Regulatory	Community Benefits	Public Engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CEQA• NEPA• Endangered Species Act• Clean Water Act• Water rights• Delta Plan consistency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community engagement and input• Developing program framework for inclusion in Draft EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC)• Tribal consultation and engagement• Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Community outreach and engagement

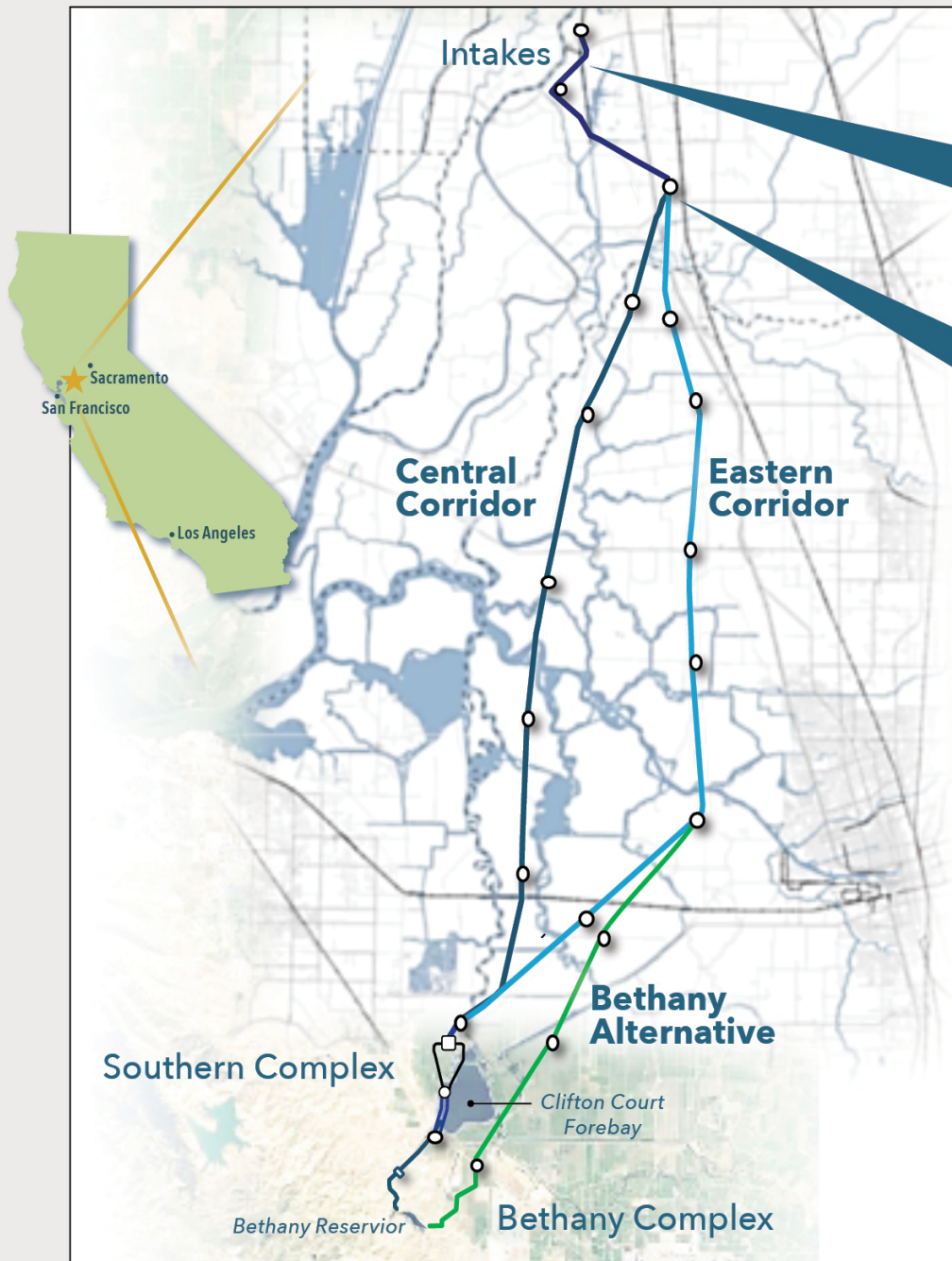


Environmental Review Process

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.



PROJECT DETAILS



Proposed Facilities*

Two new intakes in the north Delta, each with 3,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) capacity.

One below ground tunnel, following an eastern or central corridor, designed to protect California's water supplies from sea level rise, earthquakes, subsidence and levee failure.

Operational Flexibility



A new diversion facility would be operated together with existing South Delta pumping facilities

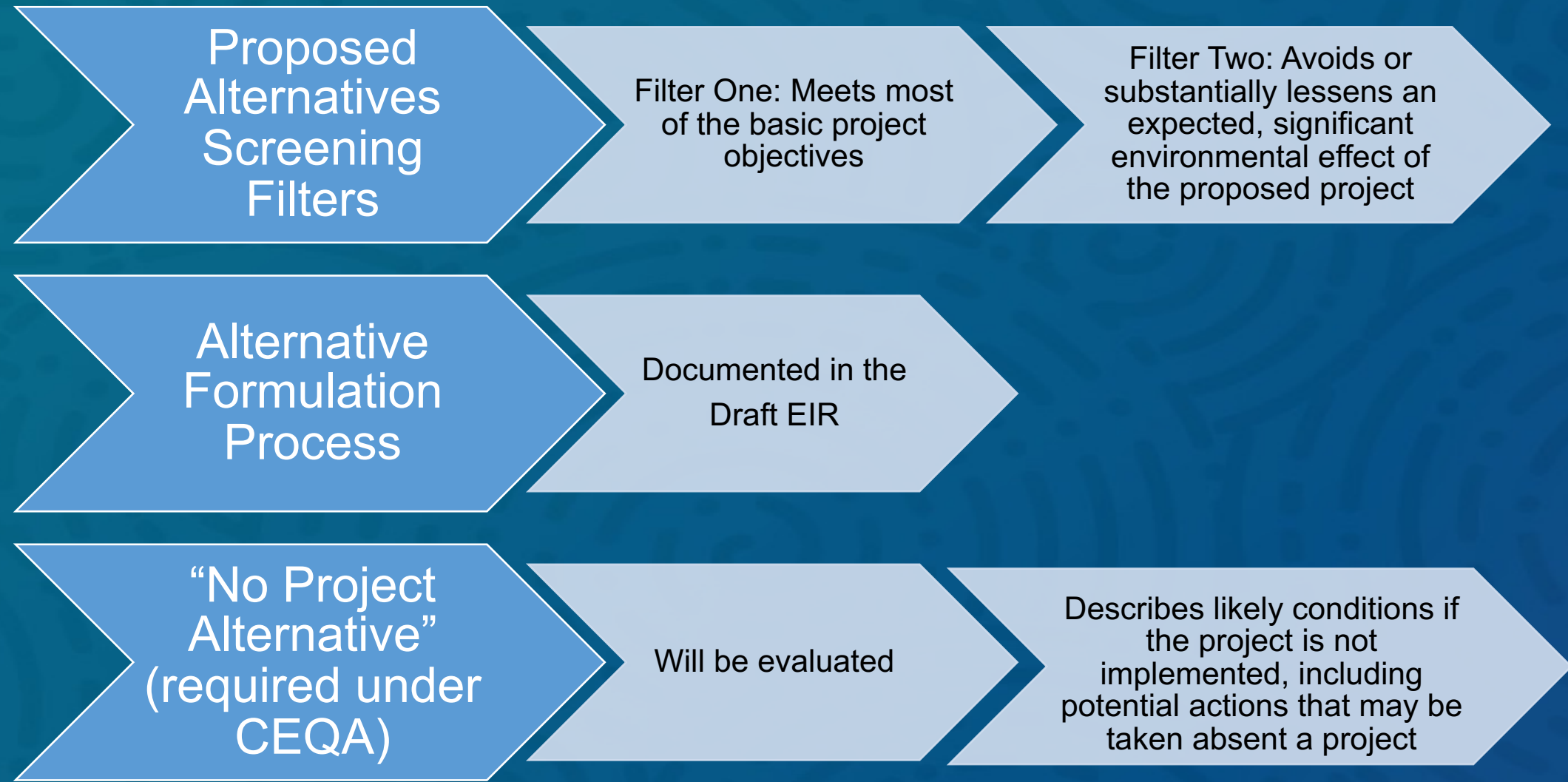


Operations would increase DWR's ability to capture water during high flow events

**All project details are consistent with the proposed project as described in the Notice of Preparation, released on January 15, 2020. No final decisions will be made until the conclusion of the environmental review process.*



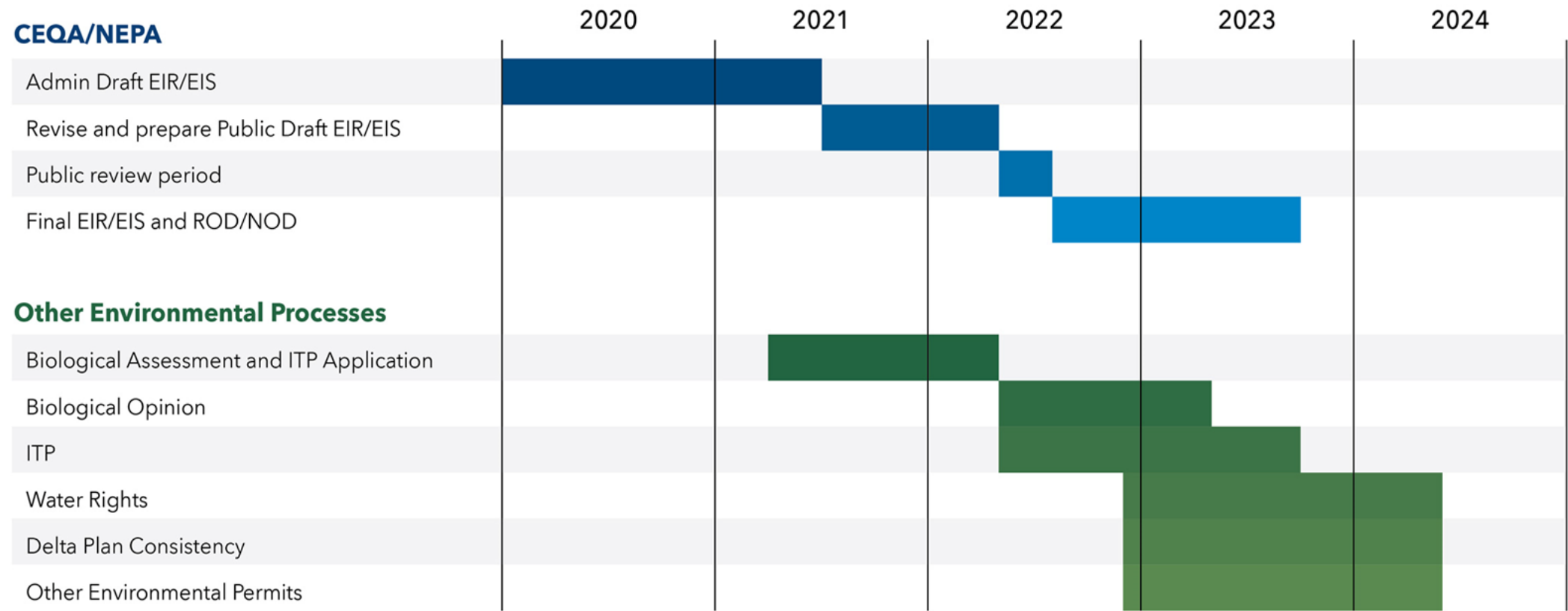
Project Alternatives





Current Project Schedule

Delta Conveyance Project Schedule



Roles and Responsibilities

Department of Water Resources (DWR)

- Leads environmental review and planning efforts, including CEQA and coordination with USACE
- Leads public outreach, public participation and stakeholder engagement activities
- Ensures transparency
- Responsible for managing planning budget and schedule
- Reports on progress to State Legislature and others
- Directs and oversees work of DCA

Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA)

Under oversight of DWR:

- Conducts engineering and design work to inform the environmental review and planning process
- Identifies potential engineering and design strategies to avoid and/or minimize impacts
- Assists in conducting public outreach, public participation and stakeholder engagement activities
- Board of Directors comprised of PWA representatives

Public Water Agencies (PWA)

- Provide technical expertise to DWR and DCA
- Collaborate on and contribute to public participation and public outreach
- Ensure that planning and project development meet the financial, policy, technical, and long-term planning needs of their retailers, member agencies and ratepayers



Initial State Water Project Allocation 2021 Water Year



- Record-low 0% of average rainfall in October and 53% in November
- Most of the state's major reservoirs are lower than historical average to date compared to 2019:
 - Lake Shasta 75% compared to 119% its historical average
 - Lake Oroville 61% compared to 90% of its historical average
 - San Luis Reservoir 76% compared to 72% of its historical average
- The 10% initial allocation amounts to 422,848 acre-feet of water, distributed among the 29 long-term SWP contractors
- Last year's initial allocation was 10%, with a final allocation of 20% set in May
- December 30, 2020 manual survey recorded a snow water equivalent of 10.5 inches – 93% of the January 1 average for this location. While conditions were positive at Phillips Station, statewide the snowpack is just 52% of average for this date.



DWR Prop 1 Grant Awards for Kern County

Grantee	Project Title	Grant Award
Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association	Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation and Groundwater Protection	\$881,208
Antelope Valley - East Kern Water Agency	Blending Intertie at Rosamond Water Treatment Plant	\$350,000
Buena Vista Water Storage District	Cummings Basin Westerly Recharge Project	\$921,966
Buena Vista Water Storage District	James Groundwater Storage and Recovery Project (Phase 1)	\$4,482,750
Buena Vista Water Storage District	Kern Water Bank Recharge Enhancement Project	\$4,529,750
Buena Vista Water Storage District	Weldon Regional Water Supply Project	\$445,352
North Kern Water Storage District	Calloway Canal Lining and Water Delivery Improvements	\$2,476,639



DWR Prop 1 Grant Awards for Kern County

Grantee	Project Title	Grant Award
North Kern Water Storage District	City of Delano Recharge Basin	\$244,442
North Kern Water Storage District	In-District Recharge	\$3,137,509
North Kern Water Storage District	Leonard Intertie and Distribution System	\$4,953,277
North Kern Water Storage District	Lost Hills Utility District (LHUD) Well No. 3	\$1,277,250
North Kern Water Storage District	SSJMUD In-District Spreading Facility	\$474,939
County of Kern	Kern County Sustainable Groundwater Planning and Technical Support	\$501,300
Kern River Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Support	\$1,336,761
Tejon-Castac Water District	White Wolf Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development	\$557,998



Ways to Stay Informed



water.ca.gov

- Programs
 - State Water Project
 - Delta Conveyance



Project Hotline

866.924.9955



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Project Email

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