

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR
CLEAN WATER ACT 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
APPLICATION BEFORE THE STATE WATER RESOURCES
CONTROL BOARD**

A request for a water quality certification (certification) under section 401 of the Clean Water Act for the following project was filed with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 requires the Executive Director of the State Water Board to provide public notice of an application for certification at least twenty-one (21) days before taking certification action on the application. The notice period may be shortened in an emergency.

Written questions and/or comments regarding the application should be directed to Oscar Biondi:

By email:

Oscar.Biondi@waterboards.ca.gov

or

By mail:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights – Water Quality Certification Program
Attn: Oscar Biondi
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RECEIVED:	September 15, 2025
PROJECT:	Sites Reservoir Project
APPLICANT:	Sites Project Authority
APPLICANT CONTACT:	Alicia Forsythe (aforsythe@sitesreservoir.org)
COUNTIES:	Glenn and Colusa Counties
PUBLIC NOTICE:	October 30, 2025

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Sites Reservoir Project consists of the construction of an off-stream surface water reservoir located in the Antelope Valley within Glenn and Colusa counties to provide water supply for environmental, municipal, industrial, and agricultural needs throughout the State of California. The Sites Reservoir Project construction work includes:

- Pre-construction geotechnical testing to identify and characterize relevant geological structures, rock integrity, and soil structure and stability.
- Diversion of water from the Sacramento River at the existing Red Bluff Pumping Plant (RBPP) into the existing Tehama-Colusa (TC) Canal and at the existing Hamilton City Pump Station into the existing Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID) Main Canal, including new pumps added into an existing pump house at RBPP and a new head gate structure on the GCID Main Canal.

- Construction/modification of regulating reservoirs (Funks Reservoir and Terminal Regulating Reservoir [TRR]) and construction of pipelines (TRR and Funks Reservoir), pumping generating plants (PGPs) (TRR PGP and Funks PGP), switchyards, and administration and maintenance buildings to control the conveyance of water between Sites Reservoir, TC Canal, and GCID Main Canal.
- Construction of an administration and operations building and a maintenance and storage building along the existing gravel access road to the Funks PGP.
- Construction of two main dams (Golden Gate Dam on Funks Creek and the Sites Dam on Stone Corral Creek) and a series of saddle dams along the eastern and northern rims of reservoir to close off topographic saddles in the surrounding ridges and form Sites Reservoir.
- Construction of the Inlet/Outlet (I/O) Works for the reservoir south of Golden Gate Dam in Sites Reservoir, including a low-level intake, multi-level I/O tower, and an I/O tunnel.
- Construction of a new delivery pipeline (Dunnigan Pipeline) to convey water released from Sites Reservoir from the TC Canal to the Colusa Basin Drain approximately 40 miles south of the reservoir.
- Development of two primary recreation areas, a day-use boat ramp, and a network of new roads and upgrades to existing roads for maintenance and local access.
- Construction/modification of approximately 46 miles of new paved and unpaved roads to provide construction and maintenance access to the proposed facilities, as well as public access to the proposed recreation areas.

The total construction area for the Project is approximately 27,000 acres and the reservoir has been designed to impound up to 1.5 million acre-feet of water. The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has identified the Sites Reservoir Project need as providing off-stream surface water storage north of the Delta in a manner that is consistent with Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act requirements and Reclamation law. The United States Army Corps of Engineers will permit the Project in five separate stages/work packages, from 2026 to 2032, to cover the construction activities detailed above.