

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Reinitiation of Consultation Stakeholder Meeting

February 14, 2017



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Agenda

- **Introduction**
- **Meeting Purpose and Objectives**
- **CVP and SWP Overview**
- **Project Scope**
- **Overview of Regulatory Steps and Products**
- **Role of Stakeholder Engagement**

Meeting Guidelines

- **Q&A following each section of the agenda**
 - First - we will ask for comments from attendees in the room
 - Second - we will ask for comments from attendees on the telephone
- **Respect for presenters and meeting participants**
- **Please help us to stay on topic and on schedule**

Meeting Guidelines

- **Listen first to understand**
- **Allow speakers to finish**
- **Avoid personal attacks**
- **Avoid disruptions from personal devices**
- **Respect agenda scope, topics, and start and end times**
- **Share question time with others**
- **Honor meeting participation guidelines and facilitator requests**

Meeting Purpose

1) Communicate Reinitiation of Consultation (ROC) on the Coordinated Long-Term Operation (LTO) of the CVP and SWP:

- objectives
- scope
- process

2) Solicit input on the stakeholder engagement process

Introductory Remarks

Reinitiation

- **8/2/2016: Reclamation (Federal agency for Section 7), and DWR as the applicant, requested reinitiation of consultation on the LTO**
- **8/3/2016: USFWS responded**
- **8/17/2016: NMFS responded**

ROC on LTO Objectives

Why did we reinitiate consultation?

- new information regarding multiple years of drought
- low populations of listed species
- new information from collaborative science processes

What are our goals?

- Joint or highly coordinated non-jeopardy Biological Opinion(s)
- Durable Biological Opinion(s)
- Incorporating new science
- Support long-term water contract renewals

ROC on LTO Status

- **December 30, 2016: An MOU was signed by Reclamation, USFWS, NMFS, DWR and DFW outlining tasks, processes and schedules to complete the new BA and BOs**
- **Reclamation is in the process of hiring a contractor**
- **Planning preliminary analyses, agency coordination, and stakeholder engagement**

ROC on LTO Objectives

How will we accomplish our goal?

- **Fresh Look Concept**
- **Biological objectives**
- **Best available science**
- **Science-based adaptive management**
- **Transparency**
- **Peer review and Collaborative Science Coordination**
- **Climate change**



Questions?



Central Valley Project Overview

- **Trinity Division**
- **Shasta Division**
- **Sacramento River Division**
- **American River Division**
- **Delta Division**
- **East Side Division**
- **West San Joaquin Division**
- **Friant Division**
- **San Felipe Division**

CVP Overview



State Water Project Overview

- Oroville Dam
- Banks Pumping Plant
- Skinner Fish Protection Facility
- Clifton Court Forebay

SWP Overview



Questions?



Project Scope

- **Extended study period**
- **Consideration of climate change and sea level rise**
- **Explore adaptive management**

Project Scope

Extent of Study Area

- CVP and SWP service areas
- Rivers downstream of CVP and SWP reservoirs
- Reservoirs in CVP and SWP service areas that store CVP and/or SWP water

Project Scope

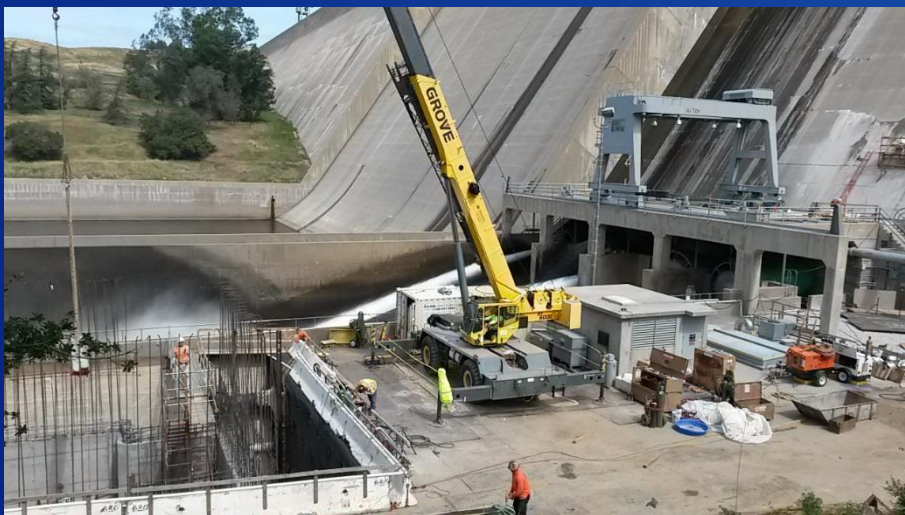
Approach

- **Address potential new improvements**
- **Explore new components**
- **Fresh look concept**
- **Increase operational flexibility and feasibility while meeting objectives**

Project Scope

Types of Actions Included

- Operations
- Habitat
- Construction



Questions?



Regulatory Context

National Environmental Policy Act

- **Scoping Process**
- **Purpose and Need**
- **Alternatives Development**
 - No Action
 - Action Alternatives
- **Impact Analysis**
 - Analytical Tools

Regulatory Context

Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation

- **Biological Assessment**
 - **Scope**
 - **Proposed Action**
 - **Environmental Baseline**

Regulatory Context

Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation

- **Biological Opinion**
 - **Analysis of jeopardy and adverse modification**
 - **The Services will closely coordinate with the goal of a joint BiOp**
- **Consultation Approach**
- **Goal: Heavy reliance on the BA**
- **Recovery is an important consideration in the jeopardy analysis**
- **Peer review?**

RECLAMATION

Regulatory Context

- DFW Perspective

Regulatory Context

NEPA and ESA Interplay

- **Concurrent but meaningful NEPA guidance**

Questions?



Stakeholder Engagement

Goal

- **Find common ground and work collaboratively together**

Overall

- Meetings with all stakeholders at least quarterly
- Stakeholders will receive NEPA and ESA schedules, when developed
- Coordination with collaborative science processes

Stakeholder Engagement

NEPA

- **Stakeholders will review alternatives**
- **Stakeholders provide input for the EIS**
- **Cooperating agencies and stakeholders review admin draft EIS**
- **Stakeholders and general public review public draft EIS**

Stakeholder Engagement

ESA

- **A plan will be developed for review of the proposed action**
- **Designated Non-Federal Representatives review admin draft BA**
- **Peer review**

Questions

<https://www.usbr.gov/mp/BayDeltaOffice/Ito.html>

Information Stations

<https://www.usbr.gov/mp/BayDeltaOffice/Ito.html>