



January 15, 2108

Subject: Humboldt County's Comments on the Proposed Sites Reservoir Project

Dear Mr. Sundberg:

Thank you for letter of January 9, 2018 regarding the Sites Project Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). We are in receipt of your EIR/EIS comment letter and will formally respond to your comments as part of the Final EIR/EIS.

In regard to relationship of the Sites Project and your goals of achieving net ecosystem and water quality conditions in the Trinity River downstream of Lewiston Dam, the Sites Project has never planned or proposed to divert water that was released by Reclamation and conveyed to the Sacramento River watershed. Such water is covered by existing water rights and would not be available for diversion by the Sites Project. Hence, **the Sites Project Authority commits to the construction and operations that will result in no additional demands for diversions from the Trinity River to the Sacramento River basin.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'FRITZ DURST' in all caps.

Fritz Durst, Chair
Sites Project Authority

Cc: David Murillo, Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region, Bureau of Reclamation





January 15, 2020

Mr. Rex Bohn, Chairman
Board of Supervisors
County of Humboldt
825 5th Street, Suite 111
Eureka, CA 95501-1153

Subject: Request to Protect Humboldt County's Trinity River Interests from Adverse Impacts
that may be Caused by Sites Reservoir Project

Dear Chairman Bohn:

Thank you for your letter of December 17, 2019 and for the opportunity for Alicia Forsythe of the Sites Project Authority (Authority) to come speak at your December 10, 2019 Board of Supervisors meeting.

The Authority remains committed to the assurances that we provided in our January 15, 2018 letter – the construction and operation of the Sites Reservoir Project will result in no additional demands for diversions of Trinity River water to the Sacramento River Basin or otherwise adversely affect the Trinity River. We remain committed to continue working with Humboldt County to address your concerns as the Project's facilities and operations are refined. Ms. Forsythe, Sites Project Authority Environmental Planning and Permitting Manager, will contact you to determine how best to move forward with this effort.

The Sites Project Authority, as the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) State lead agency, and the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Federal lead agency, have prepared the Sites Reservoir Project Draft Environmental Impact Report / Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIR/EIS) to address the environmental effects of the Sites Project, including the No-Action Alternative and four action alternatives. The Draft EIR/EIS was made available for a 154-day public review and comment period, from August 14, 2017 to January 15, 2018. In your recent letter, you identify a January 21, 2019 report prepared by Kamman Engineering and Hydrology in which Mr. Kamman identifies two concerns affecting the Trinity River based on information and analyses in the Project's Draft EIR/EIS. We are reviewing the Kamman Report in detail and will consider your December 17, 2019 letter, as well as the January 21, 2019 Kamman Engineering and Hydrology Report, as a comment to the Site Project's Draft EIR/EIS and respond to both in detail in the Final EIR/EIS.



P.O. Box 517
Maxwell, CA 95955
530.438.2309



We appreciate the continued support from the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors and are committed to working collaboratively to resolve your concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'FRITZ DURST' in all capital letters. The signature is fluid and cursive in style.

Fritz Durst, Chair

cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Kamala Harris
Congressman Jared Huffman
Congressman John Garamendi
Congressman Doug LaMalfa
Senator Mike McGuire
Trinity County Board of Supervisors
Karuk Tribal Council
Hoopa Valley Tribal Council
Yurok Tribal Council
California Water Commission
Charles Bonham, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Karla Nemeth, California Department of Water Resources
Ernest Conant, Bureau of Reclamation



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