

# Sites Reservoir Project

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)  
Process and Authority's Preferred Project

April 16, 2021

# CEQA Purpose

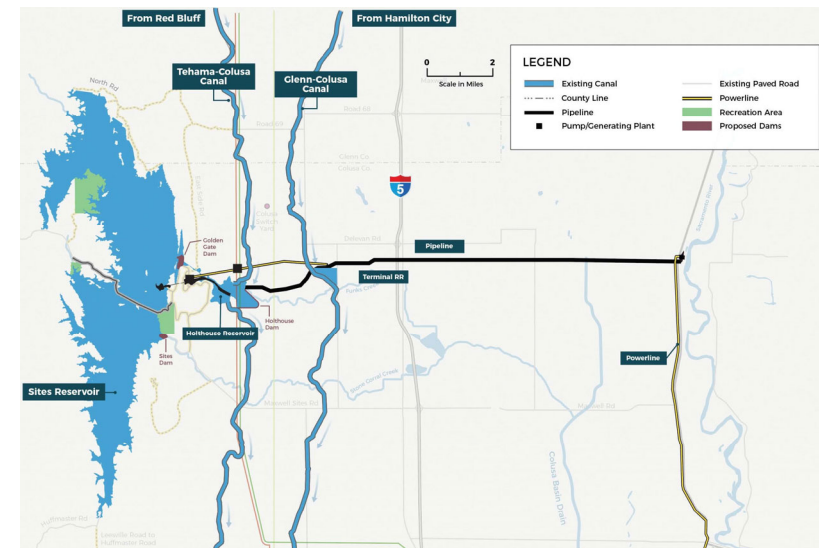
- CEQA is intended to provide decision makers and the public with information about a proposed project's **significant** effects on the environment and to:
  - Prevent significant, avoidable damage to the environment
  - Foster informed public decision making
  - Ensure transparency in governmental decision-making process
  - Encourage public participation
- CEQA applies to:
  - Discretionary approvals by California governmental agencies
  - “Projects” - an activity which may cause either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment

# Agency Roles under CEQA

- Lead Agency
  - Principle responsibility for carrying out or approving a project
  - Prepares CEQA document: Notice of Exemption, Negative Declaration, Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- Responsible Agency
  - Discretionary approval authority over project
  - Typically relies on the CEQA document prepared by the Lead Agency
- Trustee Agency
  - State Agency with jurisdiction by law over natural resources held in trust for the people of California

# Proposed Project and 2017 Draft EIR/EIS

- Sites Authority – Lead Agency for the Sites Reservoir Project
- Original Project:
  - 1.8 million acre-foot reservoir
  - 3 intakes (about 6,000 cfs diversion capacity in total)
  - New Delevan Pipeline and intake
  - Pump/generation facility
- 2017 Draft EIR/EIS
  - Released August 2017
  - 137 Comments Letters



# Value Planning and Decision to Revise and Recirculate Draft EIR

- Value Planning Process resulted in the identification of new alternatives not previously analyzed in the 2017 Draft EIR/EIS
- Preparation of a Revised Draft EIR allows the Authority to:
  - Address changes to the project
  - Update modeling baseline
  - Update existing conditions and cumulative projects
  - Prepare an analysis that takes into consideration all of the comments received on the 2017 Draft EIR/EIS

# Environmental Impact Report Process

Sites Reservoir Project EIR Process	Schedule
Issue Notice of Preparation	February 2017
Conduct Scoping	February 2017
Prepare Draft EIR	August 2017
Public and Agency Review	August 14, 2017 – January 15, 2018
Prepare and Recirculate Revised Draft EIR	August 2021
Public and Agency Review	September – October 2021
Prepare Final EIR	November 2021 – June 2022
Review by Commenting Agencies	June 2022
Authority Decision	July 2022
File Notice of Determination	July/August 2022

# Opportunities for Your Input

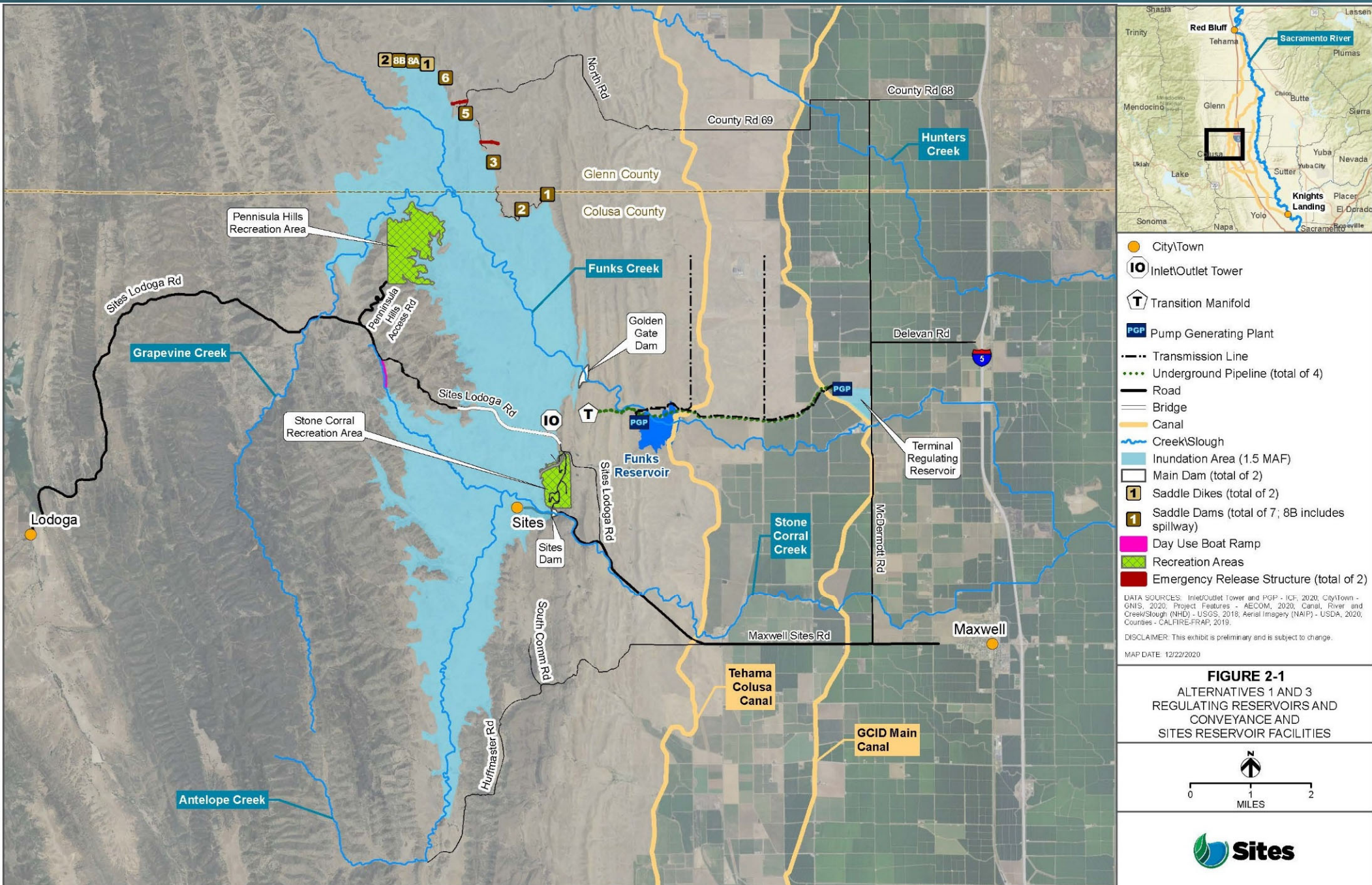
- Ongoing Meetings
  - Direct Contact with Authority Staff
  - Public Comments during Authority Board Meetings
- CEQA Process
  - Formal Comments on the Revised Draft EIR
  - Public Workshops during the Public Review Period

# Alt 1 – Authority’s Preferred Project

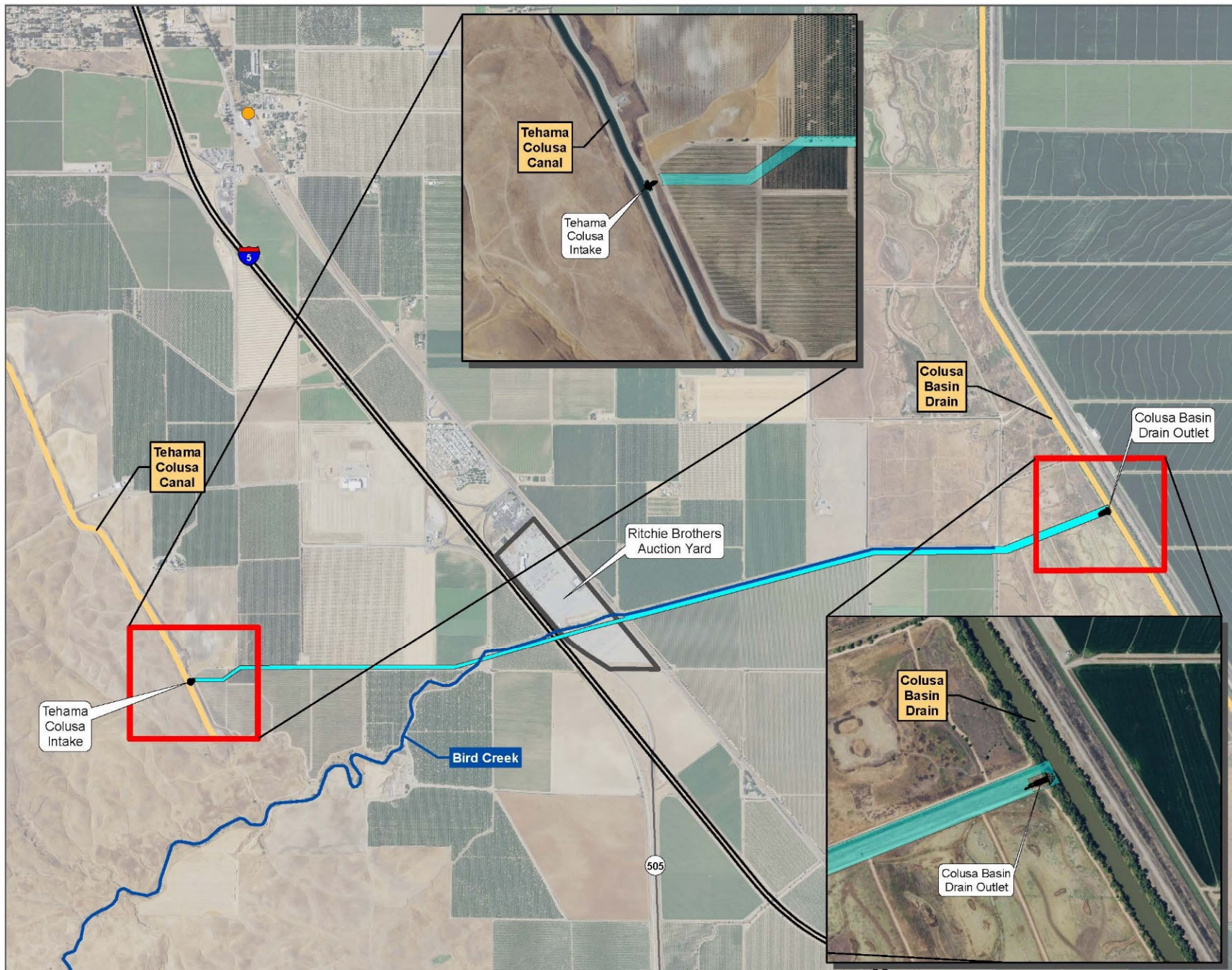
Facilities / Operations	Alternative 1
Reservoir Size	1.5 MAF
Diversion(s)	Diversion from Sacramento River into existing TC Canal at Red Bluff and the existing GCID Main Canal at Hamilton City
Conveyance Release / Dunnigan Release	Release 1,000 cfs into new pipeline to the Colusa Basin Drain
Releases into Funks and Stone Corral Creeks	Specific flow criteria to maintain flows to protect downstream water right holders and ecological function
Reclamation Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding Partner up to 7% Cost-Share</li> <li>• Operational exchanges</li> </ul>
DWR Involvement	Operational Exchanges with Oroville and use of SWP facilities South-of-Delta
Hydropower	Incidental power generation up to 40 megawatts each at Funks PGP and TRR PGP



# Alt 1 – Preferred Project



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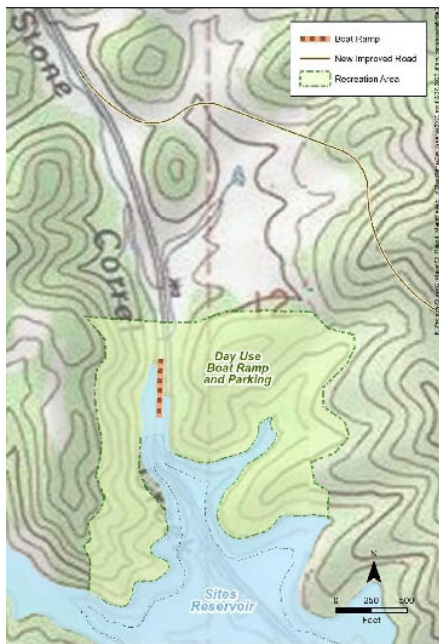
- LEGEND**
- City/Town
  - Bird Creek
  - Dunnigan Underground Pipeline

DATA SOURCES: City/Town - GNIS, 2020; Project Features - AECOM, 2020; Canals (NHD) - USGS, 2018; Aerial Imagery (NAIP) - USDA, 2020.  
 DISCLAIMER: This exhibit is preliminary and is subject to change.  
 MAP DATE: 12/22/2020

**FIGURE 2-2**  
 ALTERNATIVE 1 AND 3  
 CONVEYANCE TO SACRAMENTO  
 RIVER COMPONENTS



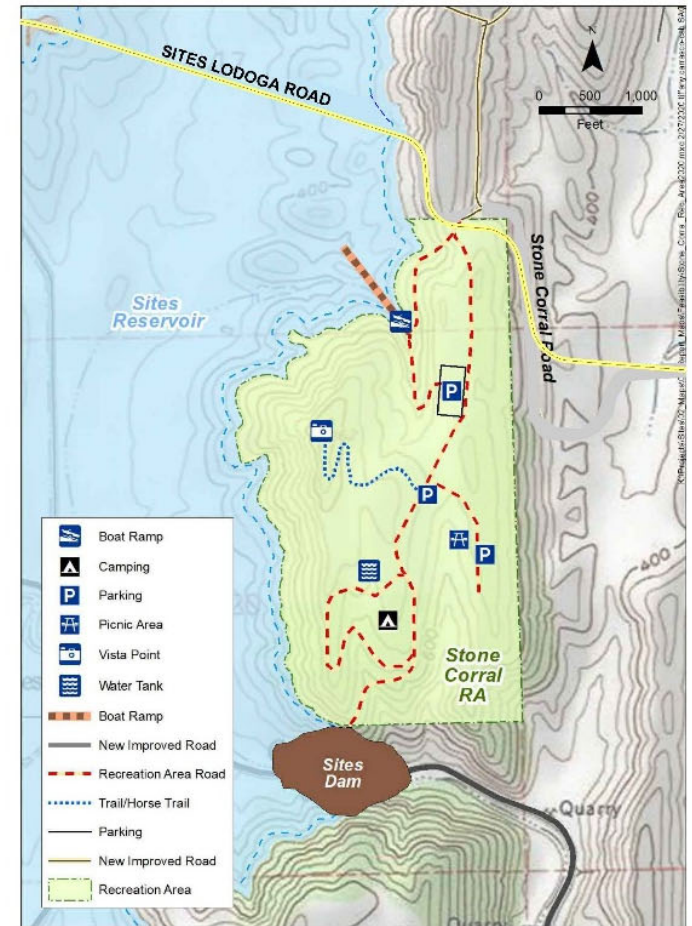
# Recreation Area Schematics



DAY USE BOAT RAMP



PENINSULA HILLS RECREATIONAL AREA



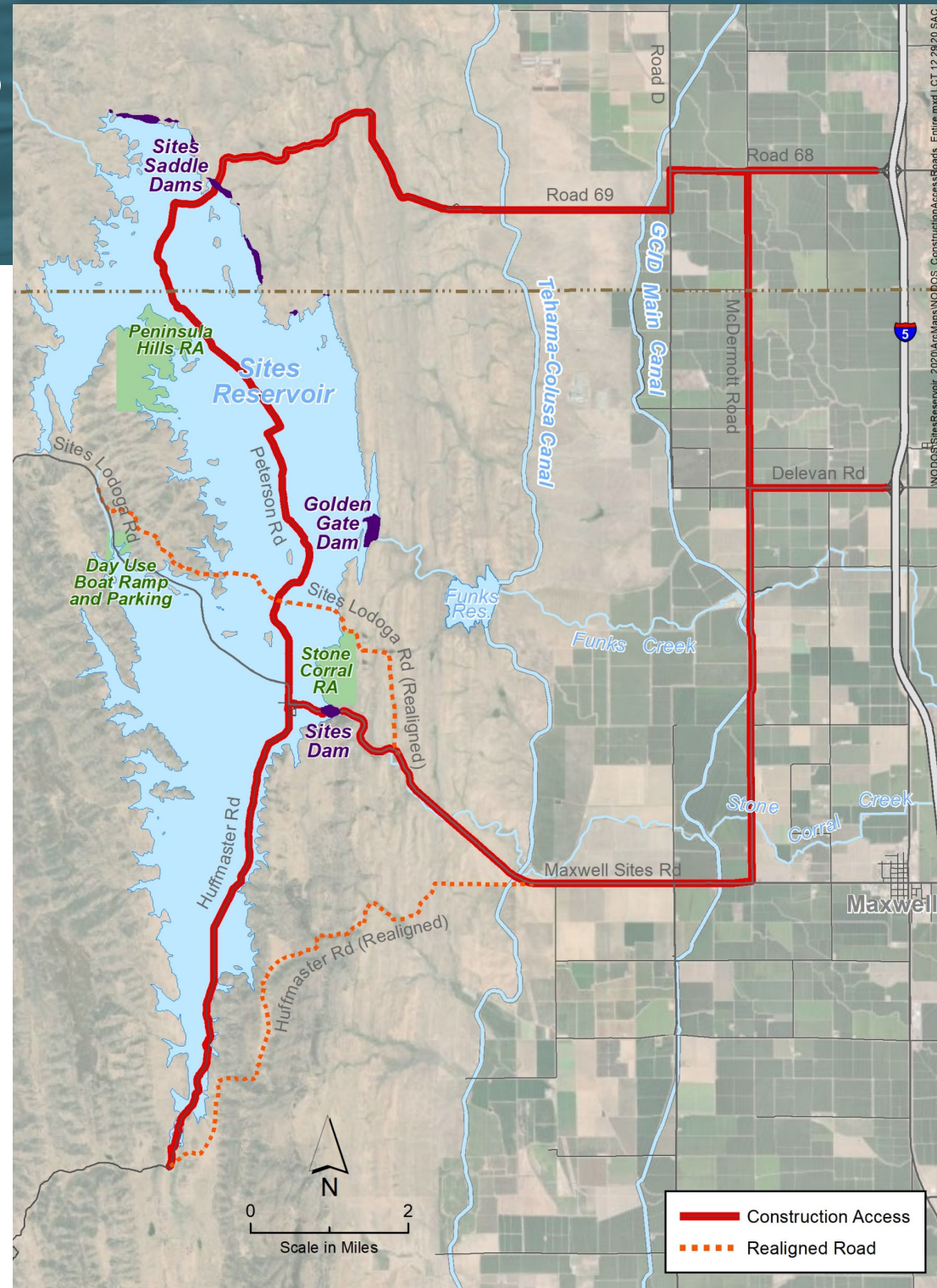
STONE CORRAL RECREATIONAL AREA

# Construction Schedule

	Description	2024				2025				2026				2027				2028				2029			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Roads and Bridges	Northern Construction Access Roads																								
	Southern Construction Access Roads																								
	Sites Lodoga Road Realignment and Bridge																								
	Huffmaster Road Alignment																								
	Process and Haul Filter Materials to Project																								
Dams and Dikes	Golden Gate Dam																								
	Sites Dam																								
	Saddle Dam 3																								
	Saddle Dam 5																								
	Minor Saddle Dams (1,2,6,8A)																								
	Saddle Dam 88 – Spillway																								
	Emergency Release Structure No. 1																								
	Emergency Release Structure No. 2																								
	Inlet Outlet Facilities																								
Reservoir Site Development	Reservoir Footprint Mitigation Actions																								
	Site Access and Staging Development																								
	Demolition and Clearing																								
Conveyance to Sacramento River	Dunnigan Pipeline – Alt 1																								
	Dunnigan Pipeline – Alt 2																								
Regulating Reservoirs and Conveyance	Funks/TRR Pipelines																								
	Funks Reservoir																								
	Funks Pumping Generating Plant																								
	TRR East Reservoir																								
	TRR East Pumping Generating Plant																								
	Transmission Powerlines																								
	Substations																								
Sacramento River Diversion and Conveyance	Red Bluff Pumping Plant Improvements																								
	GCID Improvements																								

# Construction Routes Overview

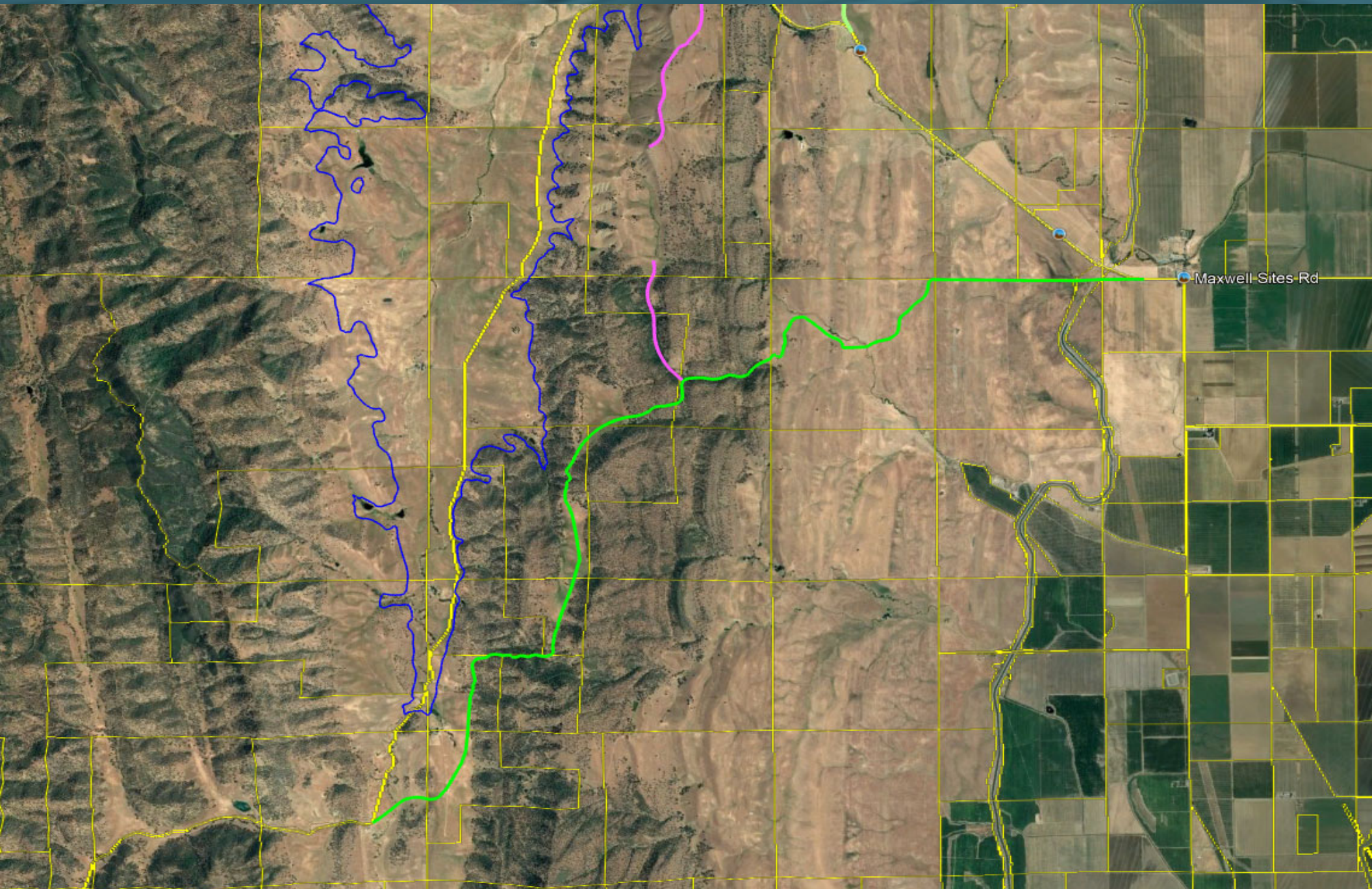
- Avoid Maxwell
- Road 68/ D/ 69/ Peterson
- Delevan/ McDermott/ Maxwell Sites/ Huffmaster



# Sites Lodoga Rd, Post Construction



# Huffmaster Road Realignment



# Long-term Benefits for Local Communities

- Recreational Opportunities
- Permanent Road Improvements
- Indirect Economic Development



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