

FISCAL YEAR 2019

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION (RECLAMATION)

Renewed Federal State Partnership

CALFED Program Management, Oversight, and Coordination

Authority: P.L. 108-361, Title I, Section 103 (f)(4)

FY 2019 Budget Request: \$1,700,000

Project Description: Activities include Program support; program-wide tracking of schedules, finances, and performance; agency oversight and coordination of Program activities to ensure program balance and integration; development of agency crosscut budget; coordination of public outreach and involvement, including tribal, environmental justice, and public advisory activities; and Reclamation’s administration of the storage, conveyance, water use efficiency, ecosystem restoration, science, and water transfer programs.

Smarter Water Supply & Use

Water Conservation

Authority: P.L. 97-293 Section 210, P.L. 102-575, Section 3405 (e), P.L. 111-11

FY 2019 Budget Request: \$2,250,000

Project Description: The Mid-Pacific Regional Office’s Water Conservation Team (Team) administers the Central Valley Project (CVP) Water Conservation Program (Program) activities with assistance from the Area Offices. The Team performs duties required under the Central Valley Project Improvement Act of 1992 (CVPIA) (P.L. 102-575) and the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (RRA) (P.L. 97-293), which include the development and administration of various Criteria – the Standard Criteria for Evaluating Water Management Plans, the Regional Criteria for the Sacramento Valley, and the Criteria for Developing Refuge Water Management Plans. Section 3405 (e) of the CVPIA, P.L. 102-575, directs the Secretary of the Interior to establish and administer an office of Central Valley water conservation best management practices that shall “. . . develop criteria for evaluating the adequacy of all water conservation plans developed by project contractors, including those plans required by Section 210 of the RRA, P.L. 97-293.”

In FY 2017, the Team implemented water conservation measures through two competitive, water use efficiency Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) offered to water districts, irrigation districts, resource conservation districts, urban water agencies, *etc.* that have a CALFED Bay-Delta connection. Each year, the FOAs enable Reclamation to encourage and match local funding of water conservation projects that implement Best Management Practices and the objectives of the CALFED Water Use Efficiency Program. Funded projects contribute to ecosystem restoration and increase both water supply

reliability and water quality.

Since FY 2011, Reclamation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) have partnered to release an FOA, “California Bay-Delta Restoration Program: Agricultural Water Conservation and Efficiency Grants,” that funds water conservation activities that have an on-farm component. Through USDA programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program, NRCS provides farmers accelerated technical and financial assistance.

Current Status: The Team continues to provide Federal leadership and expertise to implement locally-funded and supported water conservation activities that have a CALFED Bay-Delta connection. Such activities include, but are not limited to: water management plans, canal lining, meter installation, rebates, and technological innovations that better manage water deliveries and quickly detect leaks and other inefficiencies. Through multiple public outreach efforts, such as funding fairs, trade fairs, site visits, the Conservation Connection Newsletter, and the WaterShare website (www.usbr.gov/mp/watershare), the Team maintains a pro-active, efficient, and creative water conservation program for Reclamation’s contractors and the public. For FY 2017, the competitive grant selection process was completed in June 2017. Through both FOAs, 4 projects were awarded in the first quarter of FY 2018; the average water savings per grant was 965 acre-feet per year with an estimated total amount of water saved over the lifetime of all four projects is 187,200 acre-feet.

Proposed Actions for FY 2019: A majority of the funding will fund and administer water conservation and efficiency projects through the two competitive FOAs: the water use efficiency FOA and the agricultural water conservation FOA. These FOAs fund projects that support local efforts to conserve water through more efficient delivery systems, better water management, and on-farm conservation activities. The remaining funds will support the Team’s outreach to water users and the public.

Los Vaqueros (LV) Expansion Feasibility Study

Authority: P.L. 108-7, Section 215, Title II, Division, February 20, 2003; P.L. 108-137, Title II, Section 211, December 1, 2003

FY 2019 Budget Request: \$300,000

Project Description: Reclamation initiated the feasibility study in 2003 in cooperation with non-Federal partners, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), and Contra Costa Water District (CCWD). Reclamation and CCWD are studying the potential expansion of Los Vaqueros (LV) Reservoir to 275 thousand acre-feet (TAF) and related conveyance facilities. The 2010 Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (FEIS/R) included a phased approach to expand LV Reservoir, with an initial reservoir expansion to 160 TAF. The CCWD completed the initial expansion in 2012 without the benefit of a Federal feasibility report. The current phase of the feasibility study will evaluate the expansion of the reservoir to 275 TAF to provide additional regional water supply reliability and statewide environmental benefits.

Current Status: Activities in FY 2018 will continue environmental and feasibility studies that were funded in prior years and prepare a Public Draft Feasibility Report for release by January 2018. Additionally, oversight and review of activities under existing contracts to revise feasibility analyses, additional engineering of the Neroly High Lift Pump Station and other features, conduct an Independent Design, Estimate and Construction review, cost allocation and ability to pay analysis, and compile public

comments and draft responses for consideration into the Final Feasibility Report (FFR) are scheduled.

Proposed Actions for FY 2019: Funds will be used to complete most of the FFR and Supplement to the Final EIS/R for Administration review and transmittal to the Congress. The CCWD and Reclamation plan to release the FFR and Supplement by November 30, 2018.

Upper San Joaquin River Basin Storage Investigation

Authority: P.L. 108-7, Section 215, Title II, Division, February 20, 2003; P.L. 108-137, Title II, Section 211, December 1, 2003

FY 2019 Budget Request: \$75,000

Project Description: Reclamation is amending and completing the Final Feasibility Study in cooperation with the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority (SJVWIA) for the Upper San Joaquin River Basin Storage Investigation. The purpose of the study is to determine the type and extent of Federal interest in a multiple purpose project to provide additional storage in the upper San Joaquin River watershed. The primary planning objectives are to improve water supply reliability and enhance water temperature and flow conditions in the San Joaquin River downstream from Friant Dam, which will be beneficial for salmon and other fish. Secondary objectives include flood damage reduction, water quality, recreation, and hydropower.

Current Status: The FFR and EIS were reviewed by the Secretary of the Interior's Office in January 2017. Subsequently, the SJVWIA decided to request that a new operational alternative be added to the FR. The Amended Final Feasibility Report and EIS will be re-submitted to the Secretary in August 2018, for review. The current funding level will meet the needs to respond to questions on the Final FR/EIS and coordinate with Reclamation's cost-sharing partners as described below.

Proposed Actions for FY 2019: Consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's direction to seek cost-share partners for the storage projects prior to authorization, Reclamation has signed a cost-sharing agreement with the SJVWIA. Reclamation is working with the cost-share partner on operational refinements to meet local needs and completion of an Amended Final FR and EIS. Funding will be used to address questions and followup on the Amended Final Feasibility Report and EIS.

North of Delta Off-Stream Storage (Sites Reservoir) Investigation

Authority: P.L. 108-7, Section 215, Title II, Division, February 20, 2003; P.L. 108-137, Title II, Section 211, December 1, 2003

FY 2019 Budget Request: \$875,000

Project Description: Reclamation is conducting the investigation with Sites Joint Powers Authority (JPA) as the non-Federal cost sharing partner to determine the feasibility and extent of Federal interest in a multiple purpose project to construct and operate a 1.3 to 1.8 million acre-foot off-stream reservoir in the Sacramento Valley. The proposed project would increase water supply to help meet existing and new contract requirements, including improved water supply reliability and greater flexibility in water management for agricultural, municipal, and environmental purposes; increase the survival of

anadromous fish populations in the Sacramento River, as well as the survivability of other aquatic species; improve drinking and environmental water quality in the Delta; and provide flexible generation through a daily pump-back operation which would help integrate wind, and solar energy into the electrical grid. The investigation includes planning and technical analyses and determinations of engineering, environmental, economic, and financial feasibility as the basis for any recommended Federal investment in a new storage project.

Current Status: Activities in FY 2018 include continued collaboration with the Sites JPA, governmental agencies and stakeholders. Key activities include refining and responding to public comments and developing work

Proposed Actions for FY 2019: Public involvement and outreach is essential to completing a Final Feasibility Report and EIS. Funding will be used to coordinate with the Sites JPA, government agencies and stakeholders.

Shasta Lake Water Resources Investigation (SLWRI)

Authority: P.L. 96-375, 1980

FY 2019 Budget Request: \$75,000

Project Description: Reclamation completed a Final Feasibility Report and EIS for the SLWRI that was forwarded to Congress by the Secretary of the Interior in July 2015. The report identified additional actions required in order to develop a Recommended Plan. The purpose of the SLWRI is to determine the type and extent of Federal interest in a multiple purpose project to modify Shasta Dam and Reservoir to increase survival of anadromous fish populations in the upper Sacramento River; increase water supplies and water supply reliability to agricultural, municipal and industrial, and environmental purposes; and to the extent possible through meeting these objectives, include features to benefit other identified ecosystem, flood damage reduction, and related water resources needs. The potential effects of a final array of alternative plans and mitigation requirements have been evaluated and are consistent with the CALFED Bay-Delta Program objectives to improve water supply reliability, ecosystem restoration, and water quality.

Current Status: Activities in FY 2018 include limited ongoing coordination with Reclamation and the Department, agency and public stakeholder outreach, developing and accessing new operation and financing plans with potential cost share partners and other activities consistent with Secretarial direction.

All alternatives were found to be technically feasible in the Final Feasibility Report, the Final Feasibility Report did not provide a recommendation to Congress due to outstanding considerations, primarily related to cost-sharing. However, the Final Feasibility Report identified CP4A as the NED Plan and provided representative financial feasibility evaluations for CP4A. Completion of the feasibility study phase activities is pending Congressional action and resolution of unresolved issues specified in the final documents. Westlands Water District has signed an agreement in principle to share construction costs. The California Department of Water Resources and the California Water Commission remain unable to participate, partner in, or fund any potential Shasta Enlargement due to their interpretation of the State Public Resources Code, Proposition 1 provisions, and current State water law.

Proposed Actions for FY 2019: Funds will be used to support the on-going alternative operations studies, seeking cost share partners, responding to Congressional inquiries, and developing construction cost share agreements with beneficiaries, consistent with the Final Feasibility Report. Reclamation is actively working with stakeholders to identify cost share partners and alternative sources of funding and to update operational studies as needed.

San Luis Low Point Improvement Project (SLLPIP)

Authority: P.L.108-361, Section 103(f)(1)(A), as amended by P.L. 114-322 to extend all Title 1 provisions from 2017 to 2019

FY 2019 Budget Request: \$260,000

Project Description: Reclamation is continuing a Feasibility Study in coordination with the Santa Clara Valley Water District, and other cooperating agencies for the SLLPIP. The purpose of the project is to determine the type and extent of Federal interest in a multiple purpose project to address water delivery reliability, water quality issues caused by algae blooms at low water levels

Current Status: Reclamation completed an Administrative Draft Feasibility Report and EIS/EIR in April 2014, which includes the No Action/No Project Alternative and four action alternatives. A December 2013 Appraisal Report completed by Reclamation concluded that detailed studies were warranted to increase storage as part of the SLLPIP feasibility study. In response, the Administrative Draft SLLPIP feasibility report and EIS/EIR were revised and the Public Draft was completed in August 2017. In September of 2017 Reclamation received a Congressional request to study the feasibility of expanding Pacheco Reservoir as a solution for meeting the project objectives and to revise the study documents by adding the Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Alternative.

Proposed Actions for FY 2019: Funds will be used to continue partner and stakeholder coordination and public involvement and outreach.

Habitat Restoration

Suisun Marsh Protection

Authority: P.L. 99-546, 100 Stat. 3052, October 27, 1986

FY 2019 Budget Request: \$1,304,000

Project Description: The Suisun Marsh Preservation Agreement (SMPA) was executed on March 2, 1987, between Reclamation, California Department of Water Resources (DWR), California Department of Fish and Game (now California Department of Fish and Wildlife), and Suisun Resource Conservation District. The revised SMPA was executed on November 24, 2015, to reflect significant events and changed conditions that had occurred since the original SMPA was signed. The objective of the SMPA is to assure that a dependable water supply is maintained to mitigate the adverse effects on Suisun Marsh from the CVP and State Water Project (SWP) and a portion of the adverse effects from other upstream diversions. Reclamation (CVP) is responsible for up to 40 percent of the construction and annual operation and maintenance costs associated with implementation of the SMPA; the State of California (SWP) is responsible for 60 percent of the implementation costs.