

# ESA Consultation on the Long-term Operation of the CVP and SWP



Michelle Banonis  
Manager of Strategic Affairs

# Alphabet Soup... A Primer





# Recent History



- October 2019: New BiOps (federal ESA)
- February 2020: Record of Decision, after Final EIS and BiOps (federal)
- March 2020: New ITP (State CESA)
- January 2021: Presidential Executive Order
- September 2021: Reinitiation of consultation on the BiOps (federal ESA)
- Litigation pending on both BiOps and ITP

# Current Circumstances

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- Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(3)(C), the three cultural items described above are specific ceremonial objects needed by traditional Native American religious leaders for the practice of traditional Native American religions by their present-day adherents.

- Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(3)(D), the three cultural items described above have ongoing historical, traditional, or cultural importance central to the Native American group or culture itself, rather than property owned by an individual.

- Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between the sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony and the Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico, & Utah.

#### Additional Requestors and Disposition

Lineal descendants or representatives of any Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice that wish to claim these cultural items should submit a written request with information in support of the claim to Wendy G. Teeter, Ph.D., Fowler Museum at UCLA, Box 951549, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1549, telephone (310) 825-1864, email [wteeter@arts.ucla.edu](mailto:wteeter@arts.ucla.edu), by March 30, 2022. After that date, if no additional claimants have come forward, transfer of control of the sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony to the Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico, & Utah may proceed.

The Fowler Museum at the University of California Los Angeles is responsible for notifying the Navajo Nation, Arizona, New Mexico, & Utah that this notice has been published.

Dated: February 16, 2022.

**Melanie O'Brien,**  
Manager, National NAGPRA Program.  
[FR Doc. 2022-04107 Filed 2-25-22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4312-52-F**

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

##### Bureau of Reclamation

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**Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Hold Public Scoping Meetings on the 2021 Endangered Species Act Reinitiation of Section 7 Consultation on the Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Reclamation intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for analyzing potential modifications to the Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project (CVP) and the State Water Project (SWP). The authorized purposes of the CVP include, first, river regulation, improvement of navigation and flood control; second, irrigation and domestic uses and fish and wildlife mitigation, protection and restoration; and third, power and fish and wildlife enhancement. Reclamation is seeking suggestions and information on the alternatives and topics to be addressed and other important issues related to multi-year operations of the CVP and SWP.

**DATES:** Submit written comments on the scope of the EIS on or before March 30, 2022.

Reclamation will hold virtual public scoping meetings at the following dates and times. The virtual public scoping meetings are identified geographically; however, virtual attendance is open at all meetings. Comments during the scoping meetings will be recorded. If you do not wish to be recorded, you may submit written comments to the mailing address or email address below

1. Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Sacramento, CA, virtual meeting.
2. Wednesday, March 9, 2022, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Red Bluff, CA, virtual meeting.
3. Thursday, March 10, 2022, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Fresno, CA, virtual meeting.
4. Tuesday, March 15, 2022, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Los Banos, CA, virtual meeting.
5. Wednesday, March 16, 2022, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Tracy, CA, virtual meeting.
6. Thursday, March 17, 2022, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Chico, CA, virtual meeting.

Information on participation will be posted at [www.usbr.gov/mp/bdo](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/bdo) by the day prior to the meeting.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written scoping comments, requests to be added to the mailing list, or requests for other special assistance needs to Cindy Meyer, Bureau of Reclamation, Bay-Delta Office, 801 I Street, Suite 140, Sacramento, CA 95814-2536; or by email to [sha-MPB-BDO@usbr.gov](mailto:sha-MPB-BDO@usbr.gov).

To attend the virtual meetings, please go to [www.usbr.gov/mp/bdo](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/bdo) to find the web links to specific meetings dates.

- Reclamation is holding virtual scoping meetings this week and next
  - [www.usbr.gov/mp/bdo](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/bdo)
- Schedule shows development of ESA-related documents from 2022 to 2024

# Why It Matters



- Important to SWP/CVP and non-SWP/CVP contractors
- Important to all Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta tributaries
- Turning a knob in one part of the system can effect other parts of the system
- Current conditions may influence administrative decisions
- Ripples into other important decisions/regulation