



For Immediate Release

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Fremont Weir Groundbreaking: Statement from Sites Executive Director Jim Watson

Sites Project Designed to Improve Conditions for Delta Smelt in Yolo Bypass

Maxwell, CA – The Sites Project Authority (Authority) today joined state, federal and local officials and environmental organizations in celebrating the groundbreaking of the Fremont Weir Adult Fish Passage Modification Project as a step towards reconnecting the Yolo Bypass with the Sacramento River. The Authority’s General Manager Jim Watson released this statement regarding the groundbreaking:

“The Yolo Bypass is an important area for habitat improvements and is essential for native fish migration. The Sites Project Authority applauds the Fremont Weir modification project as a necessary tool to enhance fish passage and survival.”

“When complete, the Sites Project will operate in cooperation with state and federal water facilities to provide a variety of environmental benefits that will be managed by the state to provide water for ecosystem and water quality purposes. We look forward to working with the state and federal administrations and various partners to further explore, design and operate Sites Reservoir in a way that helps reconnect the Yolo Bypass with the Sacramento River and provide public benefits to the State of California.”

Review our [Executive Summary](#) for more information on how Sites Reservoir can be operated in conjunction with the Yolo Bypass to provide public benefits.

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About Sites

Sites is an offstream reservoir proposed north of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, where it would not dam a major river or block fish migration in any watershed. The reservoir would only be filled by major storm runoff and would provide unique environmental benefits during dry and critical water years, and especially during extended drought periods, by conserving coldwater releases for salmon and delivering water through the Yolo Bypass to support delta smelt. Additional information can be found at: <https://www.sitesproject.org>. Follow the Sites Project on social media @SitesProject.