# **California NEEDS Sites Reservoir**

As we approach a warm summer in California, now is a good time to think about longer-term solutions that will help California during dry years. The past two years were very different in Northern California with respect to precipitation... yet, both years show why California needs Sites Reservoir.

2016

#### **GOOD SNOWPACK AND RAINFALL**

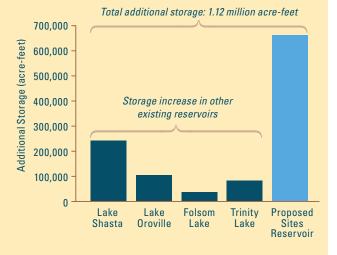
This year saw good snowpack and rainfall in Northern California that filled existing reservoirs. If Sites Reservoir were online, the California Department of Water Resources has estimated that it could have already stored an additional **1 million acre-feet** of water, or nearly **350 billion gallons**.

## 2015

### LOWEST SNOWPACK AND RAINFALL

Last year during one of the driest years ever in Northern California, Sites Reservoir could have captured **660,000 acre-feet** of precious water from two storm events.

More importantly, water available from Sites Reservoir could ease the necessary releases from other reservoirs effectively increasing the total storage in Northern California to more than **1.12 million acre-feet**, or about **365 billion gallons**.



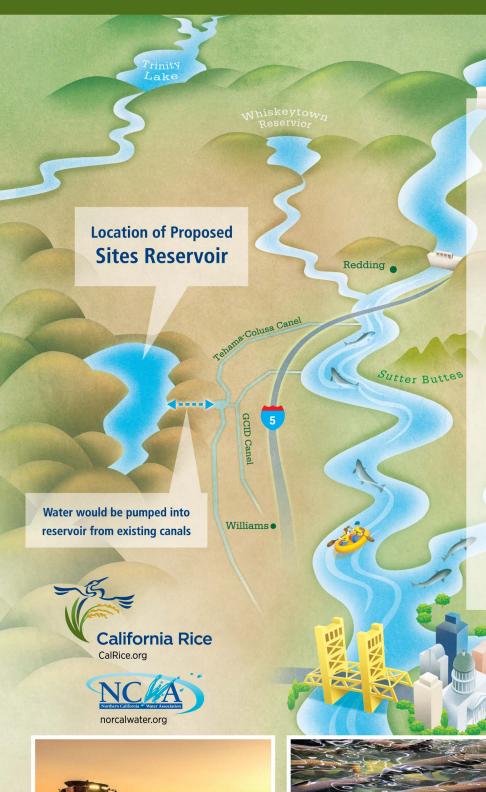
Source: California Department of Water Resources







### Building the Sites Reservoir water for our cities, farms and wildlife



**The ongoing drought** has cost our state billions of dollars of farm production, diminished wildlife habitat and reduced urban water supplies. For our future prosperity, we need to capture water in rainy years through offstream storage to help the state survive future dry years. Every Californian will benefit from the increased water storage and flexible water management that will come from Sites Reservoir.

#### **Benefits:**

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- More reliable water supplies for millions of households, farms, birds and migrating salmon
- Greater flexibility to save water during surplus conditions for use during dry periods
- Stores water during the winter to generate clean and renewable power for peak summer demands
- Helps recharge groundwater supplies
- Recreational opportunities including boating, camping, fishing and hiking

