

LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR EXPANSION PROJECT

- Alternative 1B -

As proposed, Alternative 1B includes building a connection pipeline between Contra Costa Water District's (CCWD) Transfer Facility and the California Aqueduct at Bethany Reservoir, and expanding the reservoir capacity to 275,000 acre-feet. The benefits of this alternative are realized through a combination of water deliveries, storage and transfers. Alternative 1B also provides the maximum environmental benefits supplying water to South of Delta wildlife refuges.

KEY FACTS:

COST: \$800 million

STORAGE: 275,000 acre-feet

CONSTRUCTION TIME: 6 years

AVERAGE BENEFITS: 100,000 acre-feet

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS: 46,000 – 90,000 acre-feet

PROJECT BENEFITS

CCWD has partnered with a diverse group of agencies to identify the most cost-effective project that would provide benefits in all water year types.

**Average year:
(over 100,000 acre-feet of benefits to partnering agencies)**

Deliveries = 31,000 acre-feet

Transfers = 41,000 acre-feet

Refuges = 46,000 acre-feet (Incremental Level 4)

In the extreme years, Los Vaqueros would perform favorably for all project partners. Balancing the unique needs of different water users in varying types of water years allows us to maximize the benefits to partners when they need them most.

Wet year:

**Refuges = 90,000 acre-feet (almost
90% of their need)**

Dry / Critically Dry year:

**Deliveries = about 20% of partnering
agencies deficits***

* Recent study shows Bay Area agencies needing 200,000 – 300,000 acre-feet in extended drought periods

CONSTRUCT IN STEPS

Alternative 1B can also be constructed in a reasonable timeframe of about six years from start to finish – this includes necessary time to drain the reservoir and allow the construction area to dry. The project would be constructed in a series of steps to minimize impacts to customers and allow for immediate use of new/upgraded facilities:

Step 1 (2 years): Construct Transfer-Bethany Pipeline. Begin deliveries through pipeline upon completion

Step 2 (2 years): Drain / dry reservoir – water delivered to CCWD customers and partner agencies through new pipeline.

Step 3 (2 years): Construct new dam expanding storage capacity from 160,000 acre-feet to 275,000 acre-feet.