

Public Scoping Meetings

GRASS VALLEY

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Holiday Inn Express

121 Bank Street

Grass Valley, CA 95945

AUBURN

Thursday, March 10, 2016

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Forest Lake Christian High School

12515 Combie Road

Auburn, CA 95602



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Agenda

- Welcome / Meeting Format
- Ground Rules / Quick Tips
- CEQA Scoping Meeting
- Project Details
- Study Area
- Environmental Issues / Concerns
- Anticipated Permits and Approvals
- Project Communications
- Next Steps / Schedule Review



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Ground Rules/Quick Tips

MEETING FORMAT

6:15 pm – Presentation

7:00 pm – Public Comment Period

To provide input this evening, fill out a speaker card or comment card or visit the court reporter

Quick Tips on submitting comments on environmental scope:

- Objectively evaluate project environmental scope
- Avoid submitting opinion comments
- Be specific
- Identify concerns and interests
- Include suggestions for improvement
- Submit comments before deadline

Comments at this phase of the CEQA process should focus on the scope of the environmental analysis to ensure nothing is missed and concerns and interests can be considered.



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California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

- Informs decision-makers and public of potential environmental effects
- Increases public understanding and participation in environmental review process
- Discloses potential impacts to environment
- Identifies measures to avoid impacts and mitigation measures to reduce impacts



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CEQA Scoping Process

- Provide information on Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Process
- Identify environmental issues for analysis in EIR
- Solicit community input
- NID is seeking comments on the Proposed Project and range of:
 - Actions
 - Alternatives
 - Significant effects
 - Mitigation measures

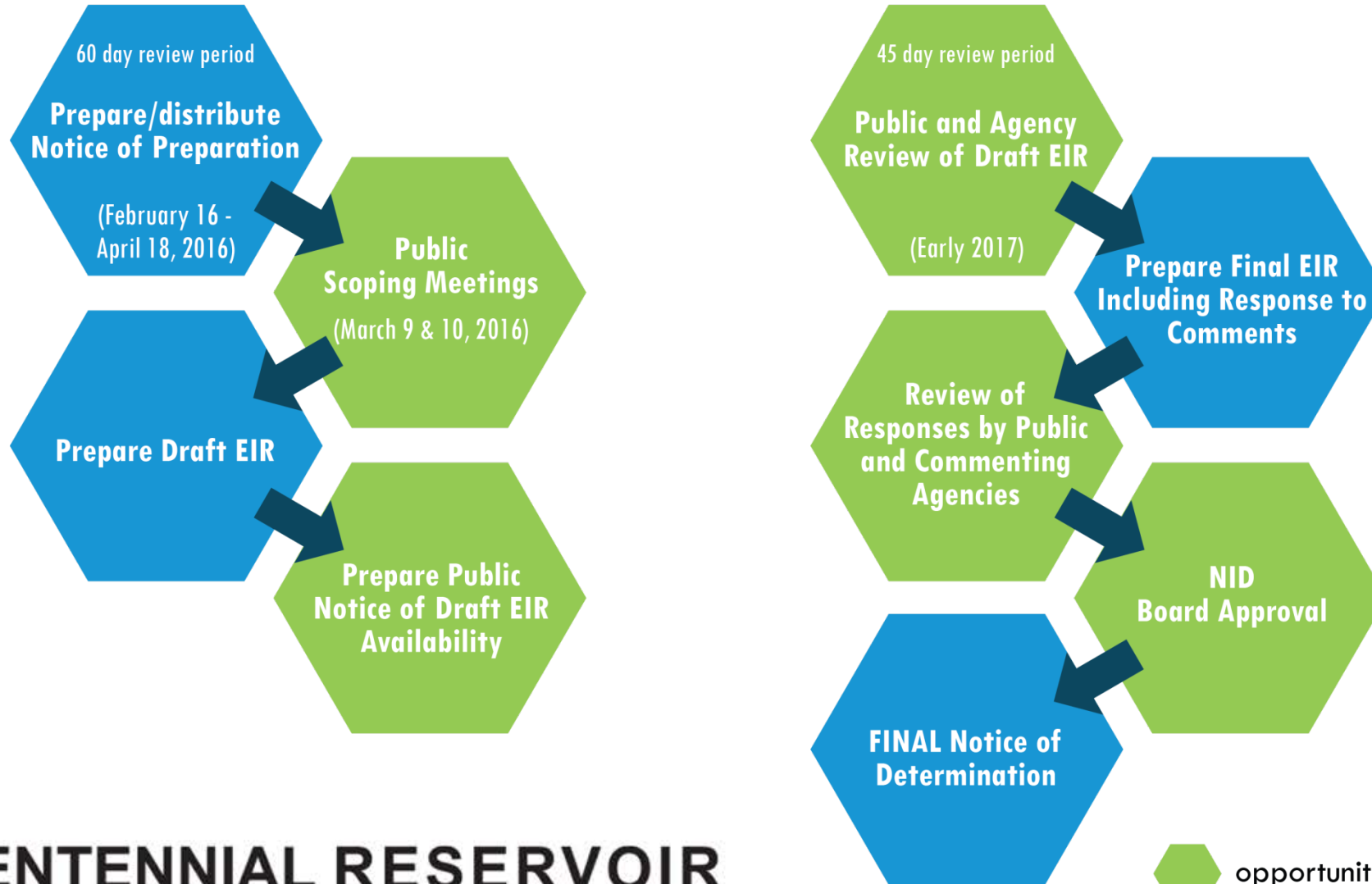
Scoping is the first step. This meeting is for community input on the environmental review process.



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CEQA Process/Schedule



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NID Background



NID formed in 1921:

- Independent Special District operated by and for the landowners
- Primarily supplies water for irrigation, municipal, domestic, and industrial purposes
- Boundaries include Nevada, Placer, and Yuba counties



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NID Background



- Water collection on over 70,000 acres of mountain watershed within the Yuba River, Canyon Creek, Bear River, and Deer Creek watersheds
- Owns and operates extensive water delivery system including:
 - Reservoirs
 - Canals
 - Water Treatment Plant Network



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Project Background

- Water supply system is “**store and release**”
Snow melt and rain storage / released during dry seasons
- Water supply relies on snowmelt and rain to fill storage reservoirs
- Irrigation season demand is primarily met by reservoir storage
- Water rights for this project set in 1927
- In 2014, NID supported \$105M of agricultural revenue within Nevada and Placer counties
- The environment is NID’s single largest customer
- Environmental releases almost equal to treated water demand



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Project Purpose & Need

NEED:

- As water demand increases, anticipated climate change and periodic drought create imminent challenges for maintaining a sustainable water system
- NID evaluated current practices and recent climatic changes that have impacted the natural runoff volume
- The margin between average watershed runoff volume and demand is diminishing

Source: NID Raw Water Master Plan

- Current water system is over-reliant on runoff from the annual mountain snowpack

During summer months there is diminishing natural runoff



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Project Purpose & Need

NEED (cont.):

- Increased future demands = Greater draw down of NID's reservoirs
- Resulting in urgent and greater need for mid elevation storage to capture runoff from rain and snow storms

PURPOSE:

NID is proposing to implement the Centennial Reservoir Project (Proposed Project) to provide:

- Drought and climate change-mitigation
- Meet projected future water supply needs
- Improve water supply reliability for NID's customers



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Project Description

The Proposed Project will:

- Construct a new 110,000 acre-foot reservoir
- Located on Bear River
 - Between Rollins and Combie reservoirs
 - Extending upriver from just above Combie Reservoir to two miles downstream of Rollins Dam (west of Colfax)
- Just over six miles long



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Project Description

- Considering roller-compacted concrete and rockfill dam options
Anticipated water depth of 255 feet with height at 275 feet
- Low impact public recreational opportunities
5 mph maximum speed on the reservoir, pedestrian trails, swimming, and kayaking
- Installation of new raw water pipeline within Dog Bar Road
- Construction of pump station, tank, and extraction wells/pump intake area in northern portion of reservoir



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Benefits

The Centennial Reservoir Project will provide economic, environmental, and social benefits including:

- Improved water supply reliability
- Enhanced groundwater recharge
- Managed flows from the reservoir for aquatic species protection
- Enhanced carbon sequestration
- A six-mile long firebreak
- Enhanced water resources to support local food production
- Development of a reservoir that will provide both recreational activity and fish habitat



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Environmental Issues/Concerns

Resource Areas to be evaluated for impacts:



Aesthetics



Air Quality



**Agriculture &
Forestry**



**Cultural
Resources**



Geology & Soils



**Greenhouse
Gas Emission**



**Hazards &
Hazardous
Materials**



**Hydrology &
Water Quality**



**Land Use
Planning**



**Mineral
Resources**



Noise



**Population &
Housing**



Public Services



Recreation



**Terrestrial &
Aquatic
Biological
Resources**



**Transportation
& Traffic**



**Tribal &
Cultural
Resources**



Utilities



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Anticipated Permits and Approvals

Agency	Type of Approval
Federal	
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit
National Marine Fisheries Service	Section 7 Consultation for Federal Endangered Species Act compliance
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Section 7 Consultation for Federal Endangered Species Act compliance
State Historic Preservation Officer	Section 106 Compliance for the National Historic Preservation Act
State	
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	Consultation for State Endangered Species Act compliance Streambed Alteration Agreement (CDFG code 1602)
California Native American Heritage Commission	Consultation for effects on Native American burials or artifacts
Regional Water Quality Control Board	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General Permit for Stormwater Discharge Associated with Construction Activities Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification
Local	
Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District and Placer County Air Pollution Control District	Consultation for Authority to Construct Permits

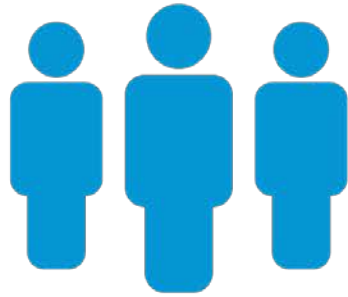


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Project Communications

Committed to providing timely information using a number of tools:



Briefings/Large meetings



Regular e-mails



Direct Mailings



Multi-Media Coordination

Project Specific Website: www.centennialreservoir.org

Email: feedback@centennialreservoir.org



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Next Steps/Schedule



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Stay Involved!

Comment Period: February 16 to April 18

Send written comments and suggestions to:

Lisa Francis Tassone

Board Secretary

Nevada Irrigation District

1036 W. Main Street

Grass Valley, CA 95945

Phone: 530-273-6185 ext. 222

Fax: 530-477-2646

tassone@nidwater.com

Questions should be addressed to:

Doug Roderick, P.E.

Nevada Irrigation District

Phone: 530-271-6866

Fax: 530-477-2646

roderick@nidwater.com

Visit: www.centennialreservoir.org



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