

**Shoemaker, Brianna@DWR**

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**From:** Caty Wagner <caty.wagner@sierraclub.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 17, 2023 12:27 PM  
**To:** California Water Commission  
**Subject:** Comment Item 11 5/17/23

Good afternoon, I believe I may have missed item 11 this morning and my chance to comment. I would still like to pass along my comment to the commission for future consideration, thank you.

We request that the Commission not increase Sites' early funding award.

Diminishing natural flows in our rivers and streams are exacerbated by an overallocated water system, and inadequate protections for fish and wildlife. Climate projections indicate these conditions will continue to worsen over time.

Building Sites Reservoir will not address these problems.

New diversions must be considered in light of the pending update and implementation of the Bay Delta water quality control plan. Additional freshwater flows are needed to support migrating fish in the watershed - in particular as climate change affects the frequency and severity of dry conditions. Sites proposes to divert water not only during the types of high flow conditions that we experienced this winter, but also during dry years.

There are open questions about the availability of water under potential future climate scenarios and how Sites operations would impact the health of the Bay-Delta that must be resolved. Sites is currently working to conduct additional modeling for its water right application as requested by the Water Board.

The Water Storage Investment Program was intended to fund projects that improve water quality and the ecological health of the Delta. This project has the potential to do the opposite, and increase stress to an ecosystem that is already in decline.

We urge you to consider these impacts and not allocate additional early funding to Sites Reservoir.

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In solidarity,

**Caty Wagner, MPA**

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