

Water Storage Investment Program Quarterly Report

The quarterly reporting covered by this template documents an applicant's progress toward complying with [California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 6013\(d\)](#) in preparation for a final WSIP funding hearing with the Commission. This report also documents any changes to the physical quantity and type of public benefit being provided by the project. Commission staff relies on this report to keep the Commission informed of the project's progress, challenges and timeline. It is expected that each Applicant will be forthright and transparent in its reporting.

Applicants must provide an update of the project status for the requirements and milestones listed below. Applicants may deviate from this fill-in format, however, please provide the information requested in this template. Applicants must ensure this report is consistent with other publicly available project information, such as materials presented to the Applicant's governing body.

Project Information

Project name:

Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project

Applicant name:

Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority (GBJPA)

Date:

October 30, 2025

Reporting period:

July 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025

Provide a brief project description:

The Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project (Kern Fan Project) is a proposed regional water bank with a storage capacity of 100,000 acre-feet located in the Kern Sub-Unit of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin in Kern County, California. The Project would be constructed and owned by the Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority (GBJPA). The GBJPA is comprised of members Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) and Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (Rosedale). The Kern Fan Project would capture, recharge and store wet-year surface water that would otherwise be lost to the ocean for water use as needed.

Proposed project facilities include approximately 1200 acres of recharge basins, up to 12 wells, and associated pipelines. Water will be conveyed from the California Aqueduct to and from the Project sites via a newly proposed turnout at the California Aqueduct and a new conveyance canal with up to 500 cubic feet per second conveyance capacity.

Project storage capacity will be split between three storage accounts for Public and Non-Public Benefits. 25,000 AF will be allocated to an Ecosystem account, 37,500 AF to an IRWD account and the remaining 37,500 AF to a Rosedale account. The Project would be operated to store Article 21 water during wet years for the administration of Public and Non-Public Benefits. When Article 21 is not available, Project facilities would be used to recharge other sources of water including Section 215 water. During dry years, the stored water would be recovered for use

Provide a brief description of public benefits:

Ecosystem Benefit- Fish Species Recovery: Approximately 25% of the Article 21 water stored by the Project would be dedicated for ecosystem benefits. The water would be used by DWR in an exchange that would provide short-term pulse flows to generate ecosystem benefits by improving habitat for fish species in the Feather and Sacramento Rivers and San Joaquin-Sacramento Delta.

Ecosystem Benefit- Incidental Wetland Habitat: The Central Valley is a crucial area along the Pacific Flyway for waterfowl. During recharge events, the inundated basins provide temporary habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors and other migratory birds.

Emergency Response Benefits- Extended Drought and Delta Failure: Groundwater stored as part of the project will be available to call on during a drought emergency or as an alternative supply in the case of a local supply outage. A separate emergency response benefit of the Project is the water supply provided by the Project in event of levee failure in the Delta that curtails water deliveries.

Water Supply Benefits: Water stored in the IRWD and Rosedale storage accounts would provide water supply benefits to IRWD, Rosedale and Dudley Ridge Water District. This water would be used for M&I and Agricultural purposes.

Increased Groundwater Level Benefit: The groundwater basin in Kern County is operated such that a portion of banked groundwater is not recovered by the banking entity and remains in the ground to bolster local groundwater levels. This "leave behind" water will improve water levels and provide a groundwater level benefit.

Agricultural Impact Benefit: An additional agricultural benefit from the Kern Fan Project is the preservation of permanent agricultural crops that would need to be replaced with low-value crops if the water from the Project were not available. The Article 21 water stored by the Project would allow for preservation of 600 acres of permanent crops.

Current total project cost:

\$353.75 million (2024 dollars)

General Update and Key Issues

Provide a general update and describe any **key issues** that occurred during this reporting period. You may attach additional documents or pages if more space is needed:

During the current reporting period, the GBJPA and its modeling consultants met with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to discuss ecosystem public benefits that will be provided by the project and next steps to develop a contract to administer the benefits. During the next reporting period, it is expected that CDFW will review a copy of the recent Kern Fan Project modeling results and meet with the GBJPA to discuss their findings.

The GBJPA also met with the Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) and Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee to initiate preliminary design work on conveyance facilities from the California Aqueduct, also known as the Joint Works Project or Alt5. The workgroup formed two teams: one team focused on permitting, agreements and right-of-way, and the other team focused on engineering, budgeting, and schedule.

During the current reporting period, the GBJPA Engineering Team met to continue to work on development of preliminary designs and costs for conveyance alternatives that will serve the Kern Fan Project. At the meetings, representatives of the GBJPA, design firms, and KCWA focused on an alternative that includes constructing a lined canal parallel to the Cross Valley Canal. A preliminary design for alternatives is expected in Summer of 2026.

Attach latest project schedule. In addition, describe below how the actual schedule is progressing in comparison to the schedule provided in the last reported schedule:

Attached as Exhibit "A" is the Funding Agreement Milestone Schedule entitled "Project Schedule (CWC Table 1)". The schedule provides the milestones stipulated in the Maximum Conditional Eligibility Determination Letter dated July 27, 2018.

Attached as Exhibit "B" is an updated Kern Fan Project overall schedule, which includes the Commission requirements, as well as planning and project studies, environmental documentation, design, and construction. The schedule has been modified to reflect timing of ongoing discussions regarding the proposed turnout on the California Aqueduct and the Joint Works Project.

Note any milestones or accomplishments that occurred since submitting the prior Quarterly Report:

During the current reporting period, construction of the West Enos and Stockdale North Recovery Facilities was initiated. Conductor casings at Stockdale North Well #1, Stockdale North Well #2, and West Enos Well #1 were installed in July. Mobilization at West Enos Well #1 occurred in August and the pilot hole was drilled and completed to a depth of 760-ft below ground surface (bgs). Mechanical development and pump development of West Enos Well #1 was completed during the current reporting period. Mobilization at Stockdale North Well #1 occurred in September and the pilot hole was drilled and completed to a depth of 680 ft-bgs.

Provide an update on Tribal consultation, and Tribal and community engagement, if any. Please note any ongoing issues with Tribal communities, including differences of opinion or opportunities to work together:

N/A

Items Required Prior to Scheduling a Final Award Hearing

Provide the date (month/year) that you expect to request a Final Award Hearing from the Commission. Note: the request should be received at least 2 months before the anticipated Final Award Hearing date and after all items required by California Water Code section 79755 are completed:

January 2028

Provide the date (month/year) that you anticipate a Final Award Hearing with the Commission:

March 2028

The following items must be provided prior to scheduling a final award hearing. Please describe the status and include the estimated completion date for the following items. These dates should align with any attached project schedule:

1. Contracts for non-public benefit cost share:

List all required contracts for non-public benefit cost share, and provide the amount of associated funds, the status and estimated completion date. Please note any issues or concerns that have, will, or could affect the timing of executing contracts for non-public benefit cost share.

Contract Name	\$ Amount	Status	Est Completion Date
GBJPA Agreement	\$233.6 million (estimated)	The Groundwater Banking Authority JPA agreement executed in 2020 includes a provision that IRWD and Rosedale will each fund 50% of the non-grant funded project cost. No contracts, other than the executed Joint Powers Authority Agreement between Rosedale and IRWD, are anticipated. A funding commitment letter to the Director of the Department for the non-public benefits was submitted in October 2021. The current estimated project cost is \$353.75 million in 2024 dollars. The Kern Fan Project has been awarded approximately \$120.1 million in grant funding. The GBJPA will fund the remaining cost of the Project.	October 2021

2. Contracts for administration of public benefits (CAPB):

Provide an estimated date when all Draft CAPBs will be complete. The Draft CAPB completion date is when the agreement is ready and available to post for public review at a subsequent Commission meeting:

In August 2023, the GBJPA met with CDFW to discuss development of the CAPB agreement. At that time, CDFW staff recommended that work on the CAPB agreement be deferred until the location of the Aqueduct turnout has been finalized with updated modeling of pulse flows. The GBJPA met again with CDFW in August 2025 to provide an update, and will be submitting updated modeling results to CDFW during the next quarter that will be used to support and move the CAPB agreement discussions forward.

Provide a status for each applicable administering agency's Draft CAPB. Please note any issues or concerns that have, will, or could affect the timing of the Draft CAPBs:

Status

Draft CAPB	Pending determination of the location of the turnout (anticipated in 2025) and review of updated modeling. In August 2025, the Kern Fan Project proponents met with CDFW to discuss ecosystem benefits provided by the project and next steps for the development of the draft CAPB. It is anticipated that CDFW will review the updated modeling during the next reporting period and that a technical meeting will be scheduled afterwards. It is anticipated that the work on the Chino Basin project pulse flow CAPB can be leveraged to expedite the process for the Kern Fan Project.
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Provide an estimated date when all Final CAPBs will be complete. The Final CAPB completion date is when it will be executed:

10/30/2026

Provide a status for each applicable administering agency's Final CAPB. Please note any issues or concerns that have, will, or could affect the timing of executing CAPBs:

	Status
Final CAPB	Discussions with DWR and CDFW will resume once final Aqueduct turnout and updated modeling of the pulse flows from the Kern Fan Project have been finalized (see Draft CAPB status above).

List all public benefits, including quantity of benefit (e.g., acres of habitat, acre-feet of water for pulse flows, etc.):

Benefits	Description and Quantity of Benefits
Ecosystem Benefit – Fish Species Recovery	Approximately 25% of the Article 21 water stored by the Project would be dedicated for ecosystem benefits. The water would be used by DWR in an exchange that would provide short-term pulse flows to generate ecosystem benefits by improving habitat for fish species in the Feather and Sacramento Rivers and San Joaquin-Sacramento Delta.
Ecosystem Benefit – Incidental Wetland Habitat	The Central Valley is a crucial area along the Pacific Flyway for waterfowl. During recharge events, the inundated basins provide temporary habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors and other migratory birds.
Emergency Response Benefits – Extended Drought and Delta Failure	Groundwater stored as part of the project will be available to call on during a drought emergency or as an alternative supply in the case of a local supply outage. A separate emergency response benefit of the Project is the water supply provided by the Project in event of levee failure in the Delta that curtails water deliveries.
Water Supply Benefits	Water stored in the IRWD and Rosedale storage accounts would water supply benefits to IRWD, Rosedale and Dudley Ridge Water District. This water would be used for M&I and Agricultural purposes.
Increased Groundwater Level Benefit	The groundwater basin in Kern County is operated such that a portion of banked groundwater is not recovered by the banking entity and remains in the ground to bolster local groundwater levels. This "leave behind" water will improve water levels and provide a groundwater level benefit.
Agricultural Impact Benefit	An additional agricultural benefit from the Kern Fan Project is the preservation of permanent agricultural crops that would need to be replaced with low-value crops if the water from the Project were not available. The Article 21 water stored by the Project would allow for preservation

	of 600 acres of permanent crops.
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Indicate if there are any anticipated changes to the benefit or quantity of the benefit since the original application and whether these changes affect the cost allocation:

Not at this time. Benefits will be updated and recalculated as warranted based on future modeling once turnout location is finalized.

3. Completed feasibility studies:

Completion Date:

November 22, 2021

4. Complete environmental documentation:

Provide the status and estimated completion date for all required environmental documentation (draft and final) for the project, including all Board resolutions adopting or certifying CEQA environmental documents, CEQA findings, mitigation monitoring and reporting program, Notice of Determination (NOD), and CEQA Addenda, and all NEPA completion documents, including the Record of Decision (ROD). Please note any issues or concerns that have, will, or could affect the timing of providing complete environmental documentation at the state or federal level.

Environmental Document	Status	Est Completion Date
State Document	Draft:	
	Final: Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project Final EIR	12/20/2020
	NOD: Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project Final EIR	1/22/2021
	Pulse Flow Component of WSIP Groundwater Projects SEIR	5/20/2024
	Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project Supplemental EIR (Turnout/Conveyance)	10/1/2026
Federal Document	Draft:	
	Final: Phase 1 No Effect Determination	5/20/2024
	ROD	

5. All required federal, state, and local approvals, certifications, and agreements:

List permits needed for project to begin construction, describe status in acquiring them, and include estimated date to be acquired. Please note any issues or concerns that have, will, or could affect the timing of acquiring all federal, state, and local approvals, certifications, agreements, and permits necessary to begin project construction.

Approvals / Certifications / Agreements / Permits	Status	Est Date Acquired

Permits	Provided as Exhibit C Timing to obtain all project permits tied to Delta benefits is expected by January 2028, based on revised anticipated schedule for DWR permitting of the new turnout on the California Aqueduct. Therefore final award date is expected March 2028.	
Right of Way and Easements	Provided as Exhibit C	
Agreements	Provided as Exhibit C	

Items Required to Execute a Funding Agreement

Provide an update on the following documents needed to execute a funding agreement for the project and indicate if any significant change has occurred. The Commission may request updated information prior to executing a funding agreement.

	Status	Significant Change?
Applicant's audited financial statements	Audited financial statements are available and will be submitted at prior to the funding agreement hearing.	No
Final project costs, schedule, and scope of work	The most recent Project cost and scope of work is available in the Feasibility Study submitted to the CWC November 2021. Updated Project schedules are provided as Attachments A and B. Final project costs, scope of work, and schedule will be provided to the CWC prior to the funding agreement hearing. The Kern Fan Project is preparing a project cost, scope and schedule update in the next quarter.	No
Evidence of bilateral communications with operators and owners of potentially impacted facilities regarding potential impacts of the proposed project to their facilities	n/a	n/a
Limited waiver of sovereign immunity	n/a	n/a

Status Update

Provide a status update for the following and indicate if any significant change has occurred. The Commission may request updated information prior to executing a funding agreement.

	Status	Significant Change?
Labor Compliance	n/a	n/a
Urban Water Management Plans	IRWD is an urban water supplier and is required to submit an Urban Water Management Plan. IRWD's most recent Urban Water Management Plan was submitted to DWR on June 29, 2021.	No
Agricultural Water Management Plans	Rosedale is an independent special district under the provisions of the California Water Storage District Law and therefore is not required to complete an Agricultural or Urban Water Management Plan.	n/a
Potential effect of other conditional eligible projects on the applicant's public benefits	A Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for proposed pulse flow benefits provided by the Kern Fan Project, Willow Springs Water Bank and Chino Basin Program has been released. A Final SEIR was completed and certified by DWR in July 2024, reported in last quarterly report.	No

Other Pertinent Information:

1. Sources of Funding

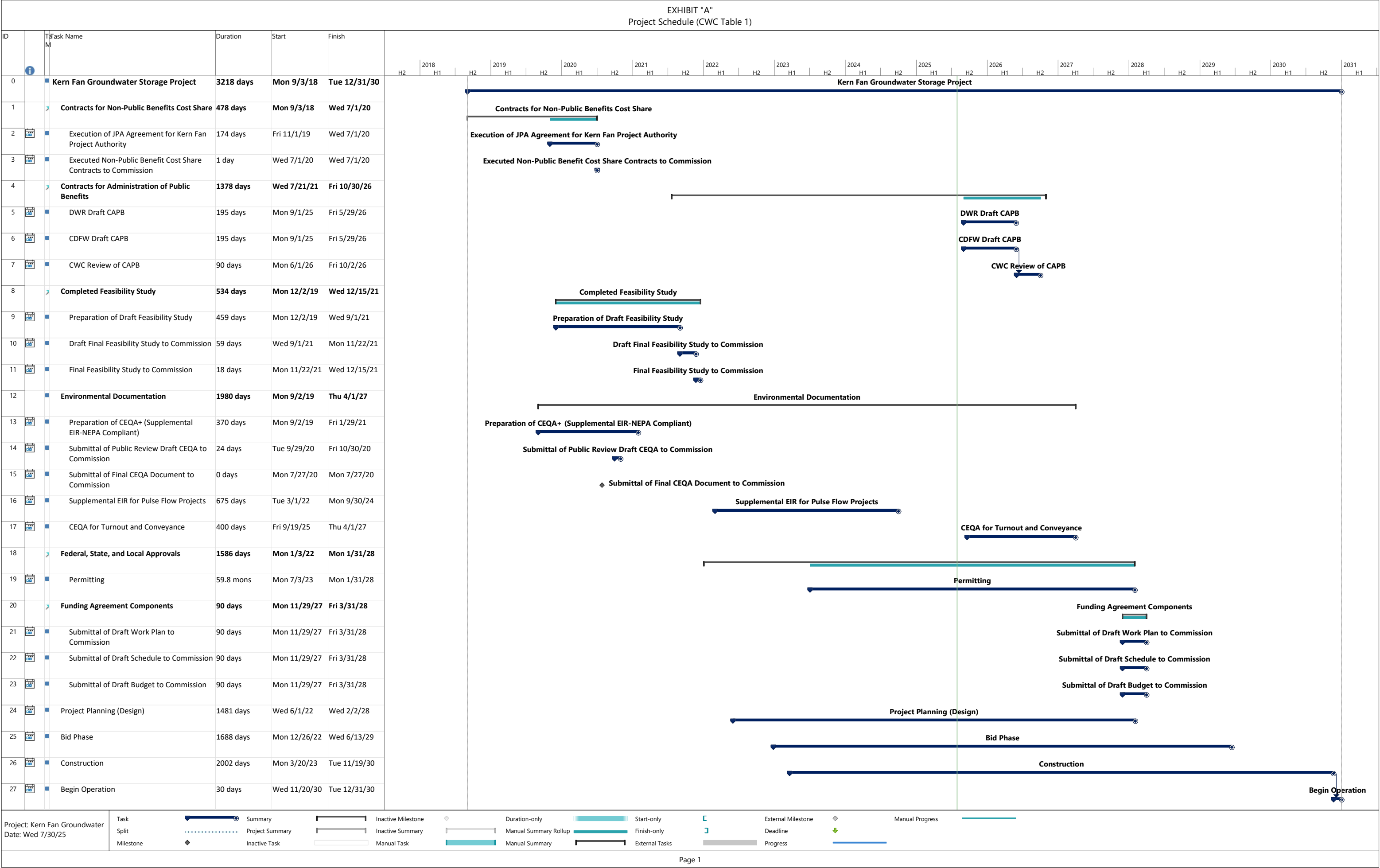
List sources of funding (e.g., Federal, State grants, local partnerships, rate payers, loans...) to move the project to construction and provide the associated amount of funds from that source and a status of obtaining that funding source below:

Funding Sources	\$ Amount	Status	Est Award Date
GBJPA	\$233.6 million	Under the GBJPA, both IRWD and Rosedale will fund the Project. IRWD and Rosedale have established funding plans for their share of Project costs.	Completed
State of California	\$111.4 million	The GBJPA expects to have a Funding Agreement with the CWC in early 2028. In August 2025, the California Water Commission voted to provide a \$22.3 million increase in conditional funding for the Kern Fan Project to offset inflationary cost impacts.	Mar-2028
Bureau of Reclamation	\$8.7 million	IRWD has an executed funding agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation for \$8.7 million for work on Phase 1 of the Project.	May-2024

2. Early Funding Agreement Status

Provide the status of the Early Funding Agreement (EFA), as applicable, and the percentage of EFA funds expended. If the EFA has been closed, describe how the remaining work needed to move the project to a final award hearing will be financed.

Status	Percentage of EFA funds expended
The GBJPA plans to request early funding, and intends to prepare a request for consideration by the Commision in the first quarter of 2026.	n/a



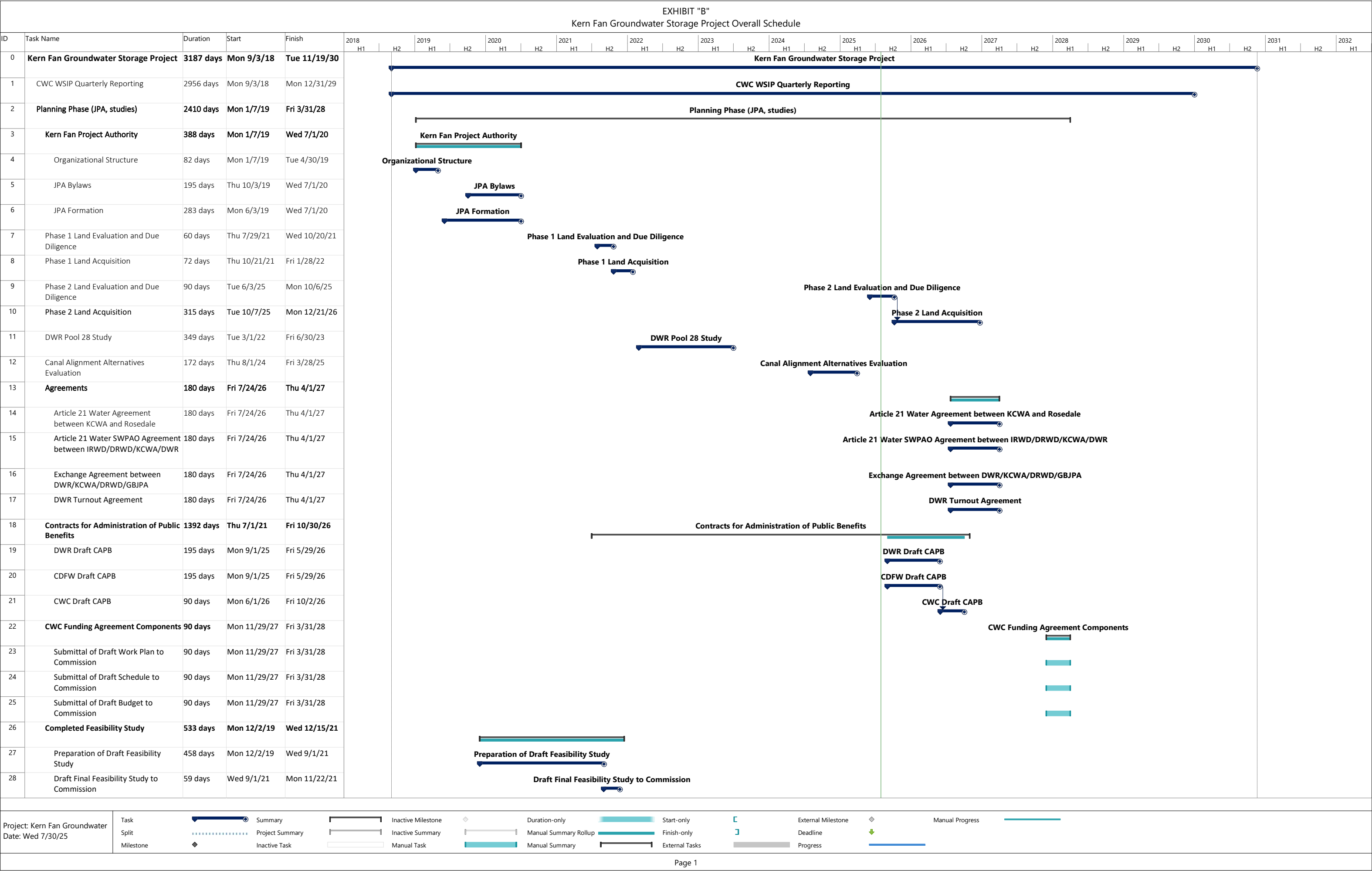


EXHIBIT "B"
Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project Overall Schedule

ID	Task Name	Duration	Start	Finish	Timeline																															
					2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025		2026		2027		2028		2029		2030		2031		2032			
					H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2	H1	H2		
29	Final Feasibility Study to Commission	18 days	Mon 11/22/21	Wed 12/15/21																																
30	Environmental	1849 days	Mon 9/2/19	Thu 10/1/26																																
31	Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project EIR	601 days	Mon 9/2/19	Mon 12/20/21																																
32	Supplemental EIR for Pulse Flow Projects	110 days	Thu 4/18/24	Wed 9/18/24																																
33	CEQA for Aqueduct Turnout and Conveyance	400 days	Fri 9/19/25	Thu 4/1/27																																
34	Right-of-Way & Easements	1451 days	Thu 3/10/22	Thu 9/30/27																																
35	Aqueduct Turnout and Alignment Evaluations	990 days	Thu 3/10/22	Wed 12/24/25																																
36	Right-of-Way Evaluation & Document Review	74 days	Fri 12/26/25	Wed 4/8/26																																
37	Preliminary Meetings with Landowners	45 days	Tue 3/3/26	Mon 5/4/26																																
38	Appraisals/Valuations	60 days	Tue 5/5/26	Mon 7/27/26																																
39	Establish Survey Control and Monumentation	75 days	Thu 4/9/26	Wed 7/22/26																																
40	Prepare Permanent and Temporary Easement Plats & Descriptions	251 days	Thu 7/23/26	Thu 7/8/27																																
41	Executed Easements & Rights-of-Way	60 days	Fri 7/9/27	Thu 9/30/27																																
42	Permitting	1175 days	Wed 7/3/24	Tue 1/2/29																																
43	Caltrans Permit- Enos Lane (Phase 1)	90 days	Wed 7/3/24	Tue 11/5/24																																
44	Caltrans Permit- Stockdale Hwy Crossing (Phase 1)	90 days	Wed 11/6/24	Tue 3/11/25																																
45	DWR Permitting for Aqueduct TO	510 days	Thu 3/12/26	Wed 2/23/28																																
46	Outlet Canal Crossing - Army Corp, CVFPB, Buena Vista, CDFW, DWR	449 days	Thu 3/12/26	Tue 11/30/27																																
47	Caltrans Permit - I5 Crossing	180 days	Tue 5/25/27	Mon 1/31/28																																
48	Caltrans Permit - Stockdale Hwy Crossing	180 days	Tue 5/25/27	Mon 1/31/28																																
49	County Encroachment Permit	90 days	Tue 9/28/27	Mon 1/31/28																																
50	Well Drilling Permits	915 days	Mon 7/1/24	Fri 12/31/27																																
51	RFP for CM Firm	741 days	Mon 6/20/22	Mon 4/21/25																																
52	RFP for Design Firm	105 days	Mon 12/6/21	Fri 4/29/22																																
53	Design Phase	1495 days	Wed 6/1/22	Tue 2/22/28																																
54	Phase 1 Recharge Basins	805 days	Wed 6/1/22	Tue 7/1/25																																
55	Goose Lake Channel Pump Station, Check Structure, Interbasin Structures, Well Pipelines and Intertie	395 days	Mon 7/1/24	Fri 1/2/26																																
56	Phase II Recharge Basins, Well Pipelines and Interbasin Structures	395 days	Mon 7/1/24	Fri 1/2/26																																
57	Phase I and II Well Drilling and Equipping	320 days	Mon 3/4/24	Fri 5/23/25																																

Project: Kern Fan Groundwater Date: Wed 7/30/25	Task		Summary		Inactive Milestone		Duration-only		Start-only		External Milestone		Manual Progress	
	Split		Project Summary		Inactive Summary		Manual Summary Rollup		Finish-only		Deadline		Manual Progress	
	Milestone		Inactive Task		Manual Task		Manual Summary		External Tasks		Progress		Manual Progress	

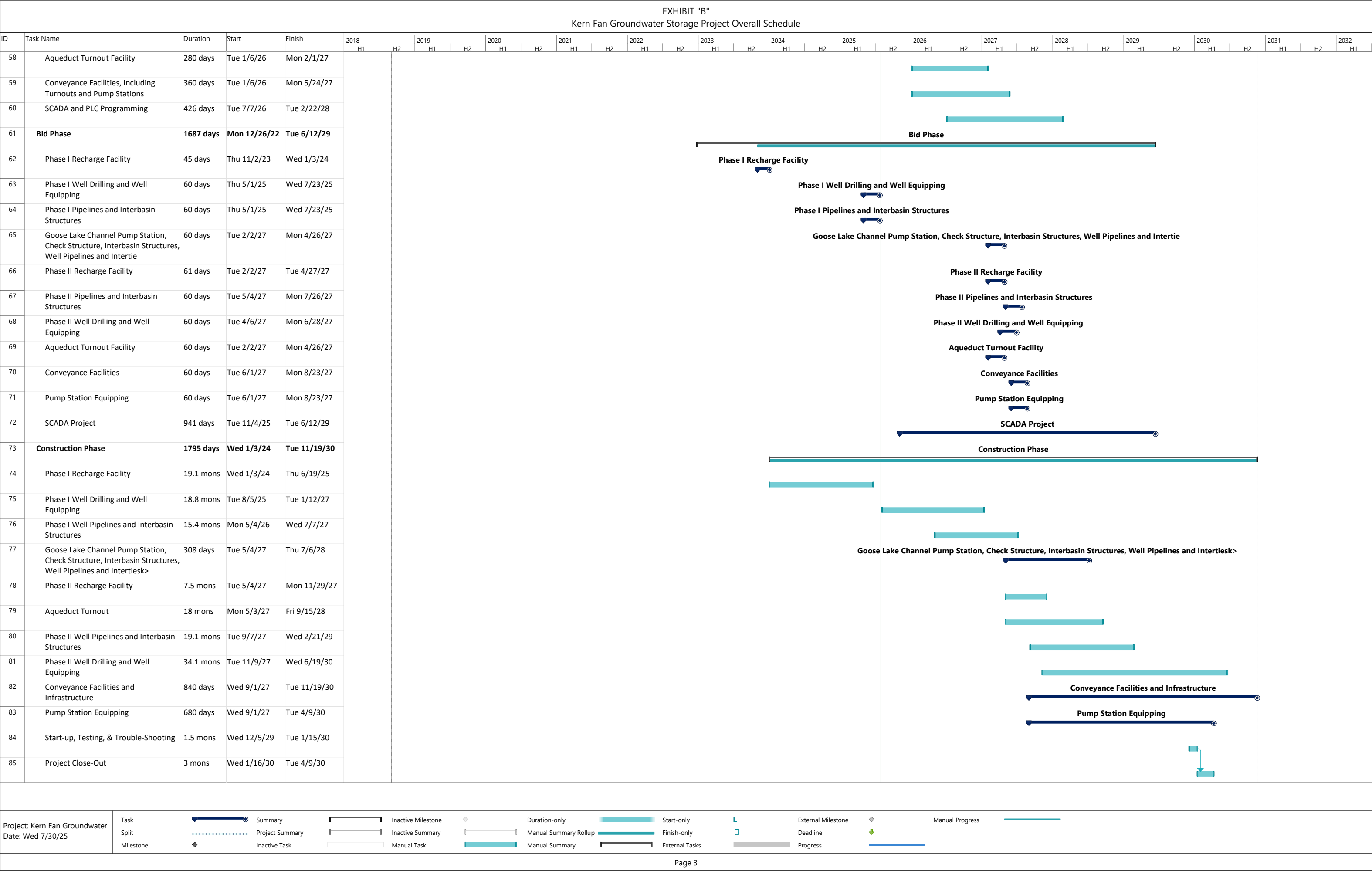


Exhibit "C"

All Required Federal, State, and Local Approvals, Certifications, and Agreements

	Start		Required to Initiate Phase 2/ Deliver Public Benefits to the Delta	
Permits		Complete		Notes
Caltrans Permit - Enos Lane Crossing Phase 1	Jul-24	Nov-24	N/A	Permit Issued
Caltrans Permit - Stockdale Hwy Crossing Phase 1	Jul-24	Nov-24	N/A	Permit Issued
Petition for Instream Flow Dedication (1707)	Oct-24	Oct-25	N/A	As of April 2025 per David Okita, State Board has indicated it will not be required.
Outlet Canal Crossing - Permits and Approvals:	Mar-26	Nov-27	Yes	
<i>Army Corps of Engineers</i>				Section 404
<i>Regional Water Quality Control Board</i>				Section 401
<i>California Dept of Fish and Wildlife</i>				Section 1601 Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement
<i>DWR Turnout</i>				Encroachment Permit/Right of Entry
<i>State Parks - Tule Elk Preserve</i>				Encroachment Permit - need depends on final alignment of conveyance
<i>Central Valley Flood Protection Board</i>				
Caltrans Permit I-5 Crossing	May-27	Jan-28	Yes	
Caltrans Permit - Stockdale Hwy Crossing	May-27	Jan-28	Yes	
Incidental Take Permit - CDFW	Nov-26	Jul-27	Yes	
County of Kern - Encroachment Permit	Sep-27	Jan-28	Yes	
Kern County Environmental Health Dept - Well Drilling Permits	Jul-24	Jan-28	No	Wells are phased in. Permits can be secured earlier.
Right of Way and Easements	Start	Complete	Required to Initiate Phase 2/Deliver Public Benefits to the Delta	Notes
Executed Right of Way and Easements for Conveyance	Mar-22	Sep-27	Yes	Requirements for easements and right of way will depend on property acquisition locations and final canal alignment
California Dept of Fish and Wildlife				Approval of conveyance easement across Kern Water Bank Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) area (could be part of ITP approval above)
Kern Water Bank Authority				Conveyance easement across Kern Water Bank property
U.S. Fish and Wildlife				Approval of conveyance easement across HCP area. Possible concurrence with CDFW ITP approval.
Kern County Water Agency				Cross Valley Canal easement and/or crossing. Approval for Aqueduct turnout.
Buena Vista Water Storage District				Outlet canal crossing and main canal crossing
Agreements	Start	Complete	Required to Initiate Phase 2/Deliver Public Benefits to the Delta	Notes
Article 21 Agreement between KCWA and Rosedale	Jul-26	Apr-27	Yes	
Article 21 Agreement between DRWD/IRWD/KCWA/DWR	Jul-26	Apr-27	Yes	Approval of a change in Point of Delivery of a portion of DRWD SWP supplies (consent by Metropolitan Water District of Southern California)
Pulse Flow Exchange Agreement between DWR/KCWA/DRWD/GBJPA	Jul-26	Apr-27	Yes	
DWR/KCWA Turnout Agreement	Jul-26	Apr-27	Yes	
CDFW - Public Benefits Agreement	Jul-26	Apr-27	Yes	