MICUP Quarterly Meeting #1
January 25, 2024
Summary

Advisory Water Commission

Agenda Item III C – MICUP Update

March 20, 2024

MICUP Background (1 of 2)

- Mokelumne River Water and Power Authority (JPA) Water Rights Application 29835
  - Develop Facilities to Capture Unappropriated Flows on the Mokelumne River
  - Provide New Surface Water Supply for Groundwater Recharge Operations
  - Reduce Groundwater Overdraft in Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin (ESJSB)
  - Further Sustainability Goals Identified in the ESJ Groundwater Sustainability Plan
- Funded by a $3.3M Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Grant
- Estimated project completion date is fall 2025
- Goal to Support a Water Right Appropriation from State Water Resources Control Board

MICUP Background (2 of 2)

- Mokelumne Integrated Conjunctive Use Project
  - Identify Preferred Project Alternatives
  - Provide Conceptual Design-level Detail of Preferred Alternatives
  - Develop Environmental Compliance Strategy
  - Produce Environmental Documentation for Preferred Alternatives
- Goal to Permit Water Rights Application 29835

MICUP Quarterly Meeting #1 Summary

- Meeting held January 25, 2024
  - 37 attendees representing the Project Coordinating Committee and consultant team
- Communication & Engagement Update
- Groundwater Setting
- Water Availability Analysis
- Project Formulation and Feasibility Study
- Environmental Review and Regulatory Compliance

Communication & Engagement Update

- Conducted Partnership Charter Workshop
  - Established purpose and goals of Charter
  - Reviewed Partnership Team, Roles & Responsibilities
  - Discussed Success Factors and Barriers to Success, established Success Statements
  - Established Values and Guiding Principles with engagement protocols to reinforce commitment to MICUP
- Established C&E Coordinating Committee to meet and prioritize interested parties engagement

Groundwater Setting

- Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Subbasin (ESJGSB) is considered a critically-overdrafted basin by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)
- The ESJGSB Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) estimated at 78,000 acre-feet per year
- The ESJGSB has been evaluated for conjunctive use potential since the 1990's
- Some groundwater recharge projects have been identified in ESJGSB in past documents, but more projects will need to be identified

Water Availability Analysis (1 of 2)

- Simulation Period is 1953 to 2021
- Diversion Period is December 1 to June 30
- Seasonal Diversion Amount totals 110,000 acre-feet to direct use or underground storage
- Maximum Diversion Rate is 620 cubic feet per second
- Current WAA averages about 43,000 acre-feet per year (about half of the annual ESJGSB overdraft estimate)

Water Availability Analysis (2 of 2)

- WAA is considered on MICUP critical path
- Ongoing WAA analysis has been coordinated with EBMUD and WID
- WAA accounts for senior upstream and downstream water rights holders, flood control, and channel losses
- Includes environmental flows (Voluntary Agreements and Joint Settlement Agreement)
- Follow-up meetings taking place with EBMUD and WID to resolve remaining details

Project Formulation and Feasibility

- Identification of projects to fully utilize supplies available from WAA
- Projects will be evaluated several criteria:
  - Technical
  - Environmental/Permitting
  - Legal/Regulatory
  - Economic/Financial
  - Stakeholder Acceptance
  - Implementation Horizon

Environmental Review and Regulatory Compliance

- Front-Loaded Integration of Environmental Analysis in Feasibility Study
- Program/Project EIR for Beneficial Use of Entire Water Right
- Preferred Alternative would be:
  - Feasible
  - Meet MICUP Objectives
  - Minimize Impacts

Schedule: Milestones & Key Decisions

Phase and Activity		Deliverable	2023			2024										2025								
			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q5			Q6			Q7			Q8		
			Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
1.0	**MOBILIZATION & ONGOING SUPPORT**																									
1.1	Project Management	Monthly Invoices and Progress Reports																								
1.2	Committee Support	Materials for Quarterly Meetings and Outreach		KO	QM1			QM2			QM3			QM4			QM5			QM6			QM7			QM8
1.3	Goals & Objectives	G&O, Screening Criteria				G&O																				
1.4	MICUP Concept	Range of Concepts Graphics																								
1.5	MICUP Concept Plan Technical Memorandum	Technical Memorandum			O		DF		F																	
1.6	Communication & Engagement (C&E) Plan	C&E Plan																								
1.7	Partnership Agreement	Signed Partnership Agreement																								
1.8	C&E Implementation	TBD																								
2.0	**PROJECT FORMULATION & FEASIBILITY**																									
2.1	**Project Formulation and Reconnaissance Level Screening**																									
2.1.1	MICUP Elements	Menu of Projects and GIS Maps					O			DTM																
2.1.2	Project Formulation and Preliminary Alternatives	Element Combinations																								
2.1.3	Project Screening	Project Dashboards																								
2.1.4	Alternatives Formulation and Initial Actions Checkpoint	Alternative Dashboards																								
2.1.5	Project Formulation & Preliminary Alternatives Report	Reconnaissance Report								DF		F														
2.1.6	Environmental Constraints Analysis & Mapping/Tables	Constraints Maps and Tables					CA																			
2.2	**Feasibility Study and Preliminary Design**																									
2.2.1	Engineering Feasibility: Design, Construction, O&M																									
2.2.2	Water Quality Characterization	Water Quality Evaluation									DTM															
2.2.3	Legal/Regulatory Requirements & Feasibility	Compliance and permitting plan								CPP	DTM															
2.2.4	Economic Feasibility	Cost estimates (Engineering), Financing Strategy (Econ)									DTM															
2.2.5	Permitting Feasibility										DTM															
2.2.6	Synthesis/Decision: Preferred Alt/Proposed Project											DTM														
2.2.7	Feasibility Report										O					D			F						
2.2.8	Environmental Compliance & Permitting Plan	Compliance and Permitting Plan								CP																
3.0	**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE**																									
3.1	Initial Environmental Assistance	Constraints Analysis, Mapping, Permitting Plan																								
3.2	Preparation Notices and Initial Consultation	Notice of Preparation									NP															
3.3	Scoping Meetings	Scoping Meeting Presentation										SM														
3.4	Prepare Administrative Draft EIR	Project Description; Tech Studies; Admin Draft P/EIR															AD		AD							
3.5	Draft EIR	CEQA+ Draft P/EIR																			D					
3.6	Public and Agency Review Process	Public Meeting Presentation																								
3.7	Final EIR	CEQA+ Final P/EIR																						F		
3.8	Decision Documents	Notice of Determination; MMRP; Findings of Fact/SOC																						F		

Abbreviations

AD	Administrative Draft	D	Draft	G&O	Goals & Objectives	O	Outline
AO	Annotated Outline	DF	Draft-Final	KO	Kickoff Meeting	QM	Quarterly Meeting
CA	Constraints Analysis	DTM	Draft Technical Memorandum	NP	Notice of Preparation	SM	Scoping Meeting
CPP	Compliance and Permitting Plan	F	Final				

Next Quarterly Meeting Goals

- March 22, 2024
- Topics:
  - Water Availability Analysis
  - Groundwater Recharge Conditions
  - Recharge Project Identification

If you have questions or comments, contact:

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