

## ***H.R. 4300***

### ***The Sacramento Valley Water Storage and Restoration Act of 2014***

H.R. 4300, the “Sacramento Valley Water Storage and Restoration Act of 2014,” authorizes federal support for the construction of Sites Reservoir, a water storage project that is projected to yield approximately 500,000 acre-feet of water annually and would increase the amount of water that can be stored north of the Delta from one year to the next by approximately 1,300,000 acre-feet (1,000,000 acre-feet in Sites Reservoir and another 300,000 acre-feet of water, due to coordinated operations and integration efficiencies, that can be stored in the existing Trinity, Shasta, Oroville and Folsom reservoirs). ***The Sites Project has the largest projected water yield of any reservoir currently under review anywhere in the State of California.***

H.R. 4300:

- Requires the completion of the final federal feasibility study and environmental impact statement for the Sites Project no later than June 30, 2015;
- Pending a favorable recommendation in the final feasibility study, authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation to construct the Sites Project;
- Authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation to support the construction of Sites Reservoir as a non-Federal Project, including assuming responsibility for securing all federal permits needed to allow construction of the facility, if such support is requested by the Sites Project Joint Powers Authority, which includes the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, Reclamation District 108, the Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority, Maxwell Irrigation District, the County of Glenn, the County of Colusa and Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District; and
- Directs the Federal Agencies to work with the Sites Project Authority, which has been established under laws of the State of California as an independent joint powers authority to, among other things, study, promote, develop, design, finance, acquire, construct, manage, and operate Sites Reservoir and related facilities, in order to advance the Sites Project in the most expeditious and cost-effective manner possible.

#### **Background:**

The Sites Project has been identified by the State of California and the United States as an important component to improving integrated water management in the Sacramento Valley in a manner that will advance the equally important objectives of improving water supply reliability and restoring the Sacramento River watershed and the ecological health of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Among other things, the Sites Project will provide a more reliable water supply for the State of California that will benefit agricultural, municipal and industrial water users, as well as fish, including anadromous fish in the Sacramento River, waterfowl and wildlife.