



Water Storage Investment Program Quarterly Update on Projects

California 
WATER COMMISSION August 2026

Agreement/Permitting Overview

WSIP project proponents are responsible for obtaining all agreements and permits to construct and operate their project. The table below highlights common agreements and permits typically required for WSIP projects.

Type	Approval Agency(ies)
Clean Water Act Section 401 & 404	State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) & U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Endangered Species Acts	California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service
Section 106 Historic Preservation Act	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, USACE, State Historic Preservation Office, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Tribes
Water Rights and Petitions	SWRCB
Streambed Alteration Agreement	CDFW
Division of Safety of Dam Permit	Department of Water Resources
Exchange/Article 21 Agreements	Project Proponent, Water Contractors, DWR
Encroachment Permits	Various State Agencies
Turn-in, Turn-out Agreements on Aqueduct	DWR
Local Building Permits	Various Local Agencies

Agreement/Permitting Overview

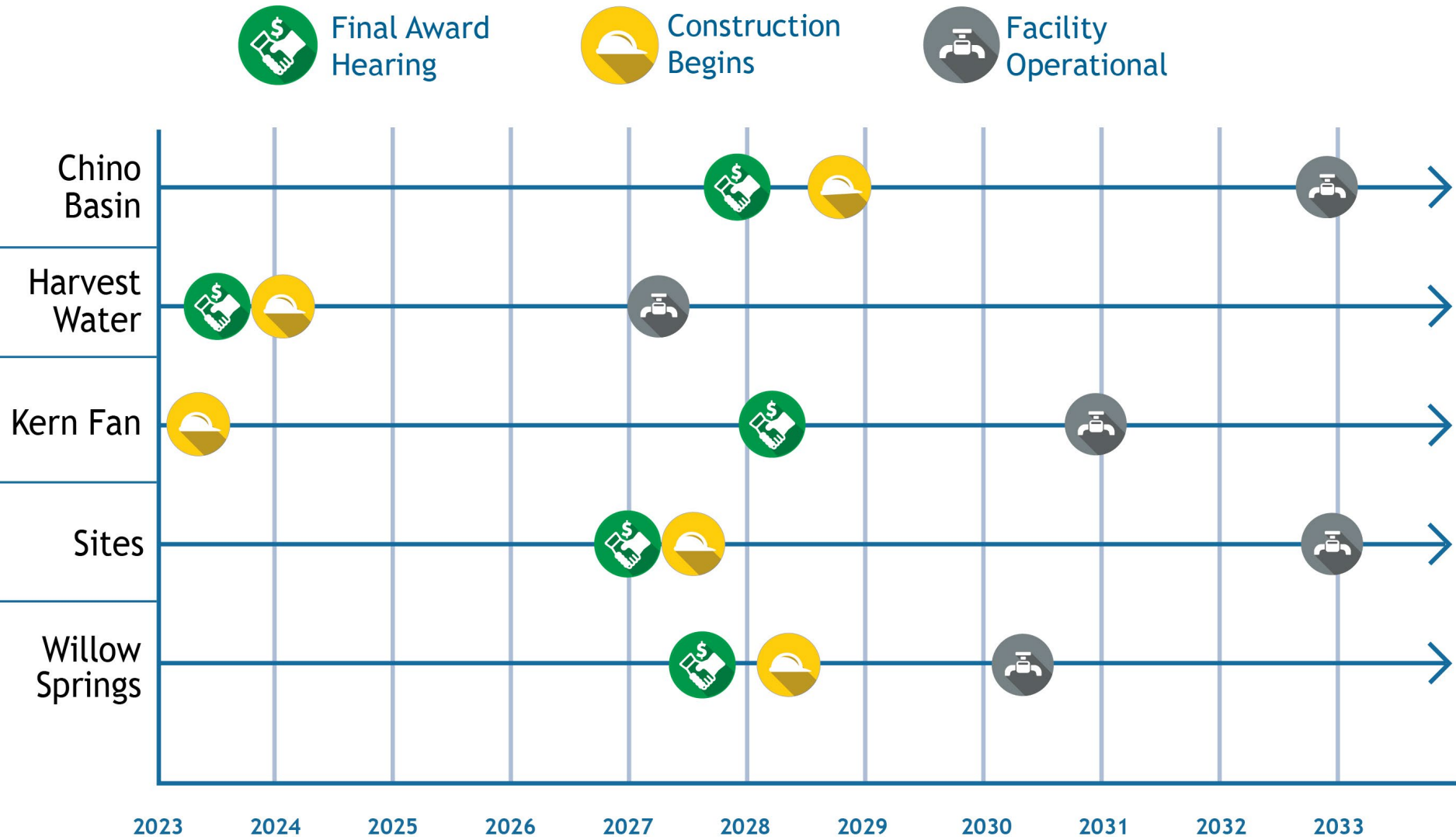
Process

- Project proponents submit applications for permits
 - Requires some design or environmental documentation completed
- Some agencies mandate timelines for processing permit applications
- Project proponent need agreements between agencies to move water
 - Dependent upon operational decisions and design

Steps taken to track and support progress

- WSIP regulations require quarterly reports
 - Includes status of agreements and permits required for final funding
- California Natural Resources Agency and California Environmental Protection Agency established an interagency strike team to facilitate state permitting
- Water Commission staff meet monthly with the project proponents to check-in on status of agreements and permits, identify issues, and recommend solutions
- Water Commission staff facilitate discussions with project proponents and State agencies, where necessary, to support project progress.
- Project proponents provide annual updates to the Commission and are available at Commission meetings to answer questions

Estimated Timelines



Completion dates are Commission staff's best estimates based on applicants' quarterly reports and other public information. Updated Aug 2026.

Harvest Water Program

Funding Recipient: Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer)

Project Overview

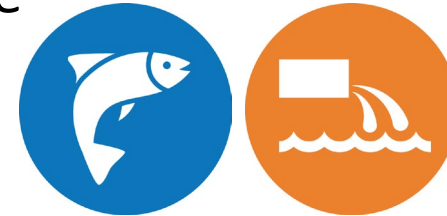
- Total Project Cost: \$597,200,000
- Program Cost Share: \$416,963,404
- 370 thousand acre-feet (TAF) in groundwater storage
- Total of \$226M (54%) spent, including early funding
- Invoice Pending: \$13M
- Construction: 2024 - 2027

Recent Activity

- Construction continues
- Amendment in progress – additional construction tasks include Harvest Water Pumping Station, On-Farm Connection Assemblies Phase 1, additional Eco-Plan funding and continuation of work plan tasks

Public Benefits:

- Ecosystem Improvements
- Water Quality Improvements



Chino Basin Program

Applicant: Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA)

Project Overview

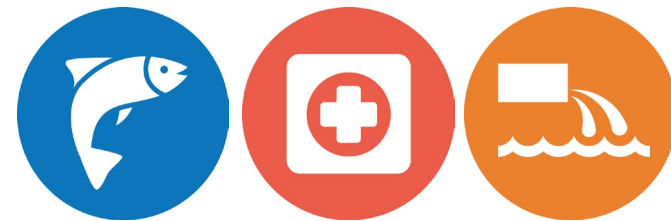
- MCED: \$269,113,244
- Early Funding: \$10,763,270 (98% spent)
- Total Project cost: \$1.01 billion
- 100 TAF storage in water bank

Recent Activity

- Submitted wastewater change petitions to SWRCB
- Recirculated Program Environmental Impact Report recertified in July
- Work continued on Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility
 - On June 16 presentation to celebrate \$1.1 million in federal funding for the facility occurred

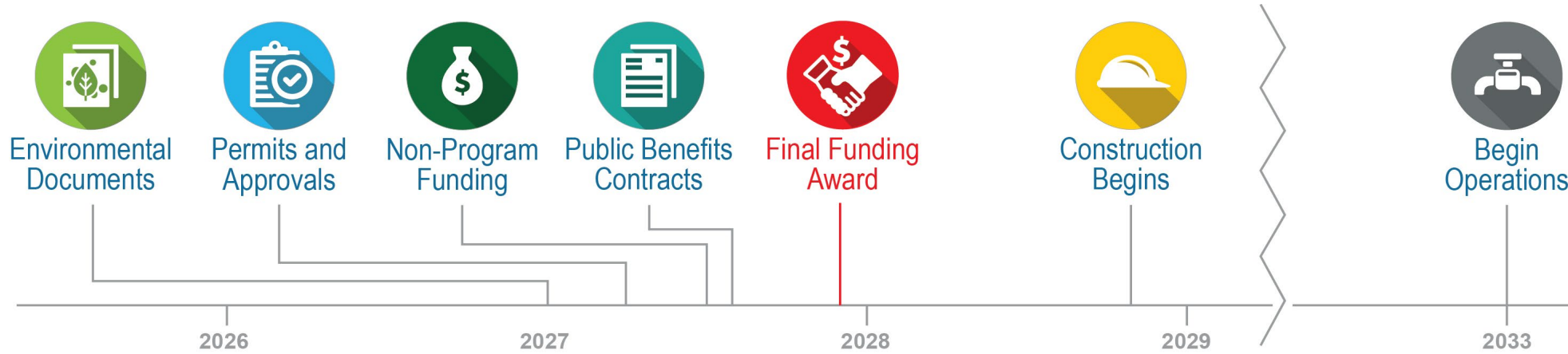
Public Benefits:

- Ecosystem Improvements
- Emergency Response
- Water Quality Improvements



Chino Basin Program

Applicant: Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA)



WSIP Final Award Requirements Status:

- Complete Environmental Documentation – Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) completed in 2022, recertification of Program EIR which incorporates Pulse Flow EIR recertified July 2026; additional project level documentation at end of 2026
- Permits and Approvals – Pulse flow exchange agreements, wastewater change petition; other permits possible pending completion of preliminary design reports. All expected by late 2026 or early 2027.
- Non-Public Benefit Contracts – IEUA and local participating agencies agreements in 2027
- Public Benefit Contracts – CDFW, SWRCB and DWR finalizing details in 2026 and executing contracts in 2027

Chino Basin Program

Applicant: Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA)

Things that can affect success of project or project timeline:

- Need to complete Preliminary Design Reports – will determine permitting requirements, if any
- Need to account for State Water Project incidental costs to provide pulse flows

Next Steps

- Draft public benefit contracts to Commission in September
- Late Summer 2026 – Complete remaining preliminary design reports
- Winter 2026 – Final pulse flow related agreements and finalized environmental documents

Kern Fan Project

Applicant: Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority (GBJPA)

Project Overview:

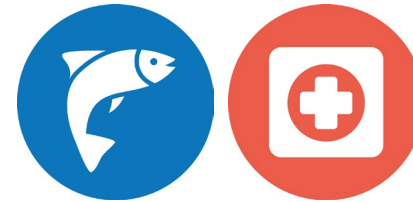
- MCED: \$111,417,305
- Early Funding: \$5,570,865
- Total Project Cost: \$183,000,000
- Up to 100 TAF storage in water bank

Recent Activity:

- Submitted first invoice under Early Funding Agreement
- Completed feasibility report on turnout and conveyance from California Aqueduct
- Continued construction on Phase 1 recovery wells
- Closed escrow on land purchases (242 acres) for Phase 2

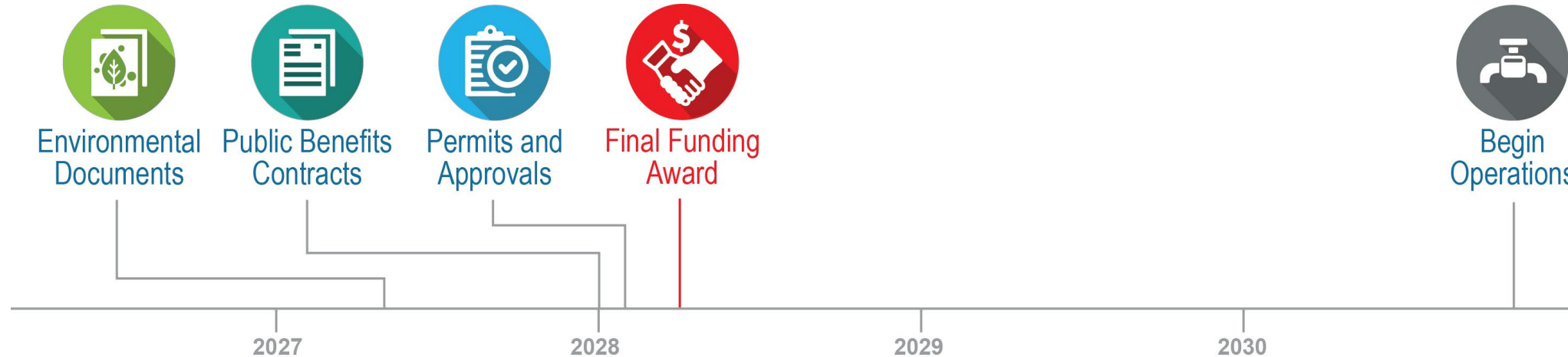
Public Benefits:

- Ecosystem Improvements
- Emergency Response



Kern Fan Project

Applicant: Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority (GBJPA)



WSIP Final Award Requirements Status:

- Complete Environmental Documentation – EIR prepared in 2020. Addenda to EIR for aqueduct turnout in Spring 2027. Pulse Flow EIR certified by DWR, needs to be adopted by Project.
- Public Benefit Contracts – CDFW and DWR by end of 2027
- Permits and Approvals – Exchange agreements, turnout agreements, conveyance easements, Clean Water Act permits, CDFW Streambed Alteration Agreement and Incidental Take Permit. All expected by early 2028.
- Non-Public Benefit Contracts – The GBJPA will fund the remaining costs of the project. JPA agreement was completed in 2020.

Kern Fan Project

Applicant: Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority (GBJPA)

Things that can affect success of project or project timeline:

- Continued coordination with Kern County Water Agency and Cross Valley Canal participants is vital to secure turnout agreement and determine conveyance to project site

Next Steps:

- August 2026 - GBJPA to select preferred alternative for turnout and conveyance facilities
- August 2026 - Present pulse flow modeling results to CDFW to advance public benefit contract
- End of 2026 - Complete Phase 1 construction

Sites Reservoir

Applicant: Sites Project Authority

Project Overview

- MCED + supplemental funding \$1,363,277,550
- Early Funding \$54,718,675 (98% spent)
- Total Project Cost: Range of \$6.2 - \$6.8 billion
- 1.5 MAF surface storage

Recent Activity:

- Created a Tribal engagement webpage
- Draft SWRCB Clean Water Act 401 Certification released for public review
- Draft public benefit contracts released for public review
- Project Labor Agreement signed and adopted template for future use

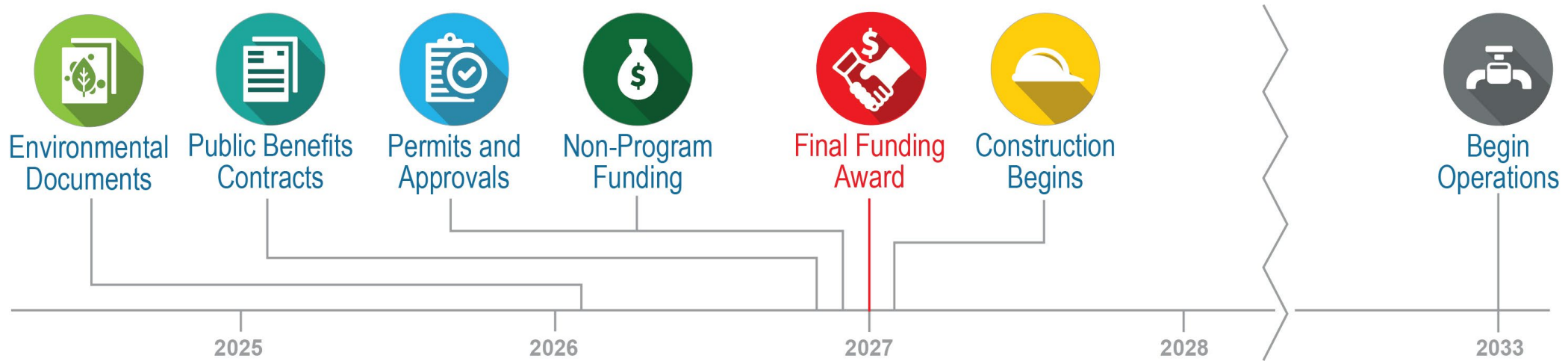
Public Benefits:

- Ecosystem Improvements
- Flood Control
- Recreation
- Emergency Response



Sites Reservoir

Applicant: Sites Project Authority



WSIP Final Award Requirements Status:

- Complete Environmental Documentation –EIR completed in 2023, federal Record of Decision (ROD) completed January 2026
- Public Benefit Contracts – Draft CDFW & DWR contracts in June 2026; final contracts in October
- Permits and Approvals – Clean Water Act (CWA) Sections 404 & 401 permits and Water Rights. All expected by November 2026.
- Non-Public Benefit Contracts – Signed agreements with project participants & U.S. Bureau of Reclamation partnership agreement by December 2026

Sites Reservoir

Applicant: Sites Project Authority

Things that can affect success of project or project timeline:

- Many complicated permits and agreements needed to meet WSIP requirements
 - Water rights timeline could take longer than Project anticipates
 - Agreements and additional information needed for public benefit contracts (i.e., agreements to move water for refuge benefit)

Next Steps:

- September 2026 – Second draft Water Right decision expected for public review
- By September 2026 – CWA 404 & 401 permits; Bald and Golden eagle permits; MOU's for air quality mitigation w/Glenn & Colusa Co.
- December 2026 – Benefits and Obligations Contracts with participants
- December 2026 – Final funding hearing

Willow Springs Water Bank

Applicant: Southern California Water Bank Authority

Project Overview

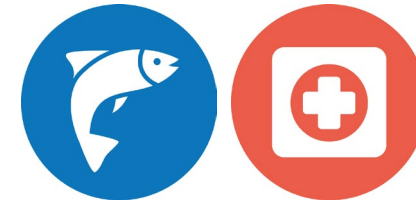
- MCED: \$128,274,876
- Early Funding: \$6,413,744 (48% spent)
- Total Project Cost: \$581.2M
- Up to 1 Million Acre Feet (MAF) storage in water bank

Recent Activity:

- Continued discussions with participating contractors; one MOI signed
- Environmental documentation for turnout and conveyance facilities underway; project description complete
- Finalized build of groundwater model

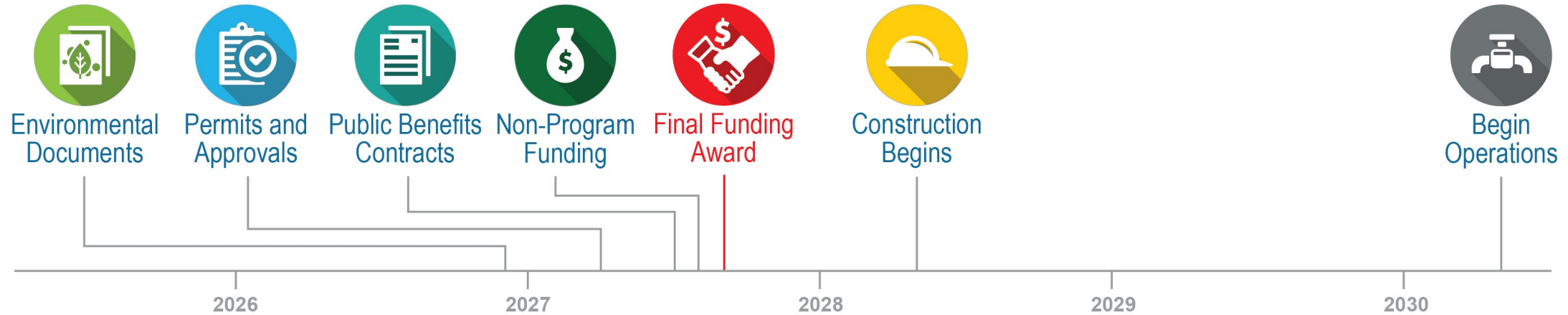
Public Benefits:

- Ecosystem Improvements
- Emergency Response



Willow Springs Water Bank

Applicant: Southern California Water Bank Authority



WSIP Final Award Requirements Status:

- Complete Environmental Documentation –EIR completed in 2016, Pulse Flow EIR certified by DWR, needs to be adopted by Project. Additional environmental documentation for conveyance by December 2026.
- Permits and Approvals – Exchange agreement for pulse flows, unknown if additional agreements are needed until final pipeline alignment determined. All expected by March 2027.
- Public Benefit Contracts – CDFW and DWR by mid-2027
- Non-Public Benefit Contracts – Agreement with AVEK and interested contractors by July 2027

Willow Springs Water Bank

Applicant: Southern California Water Bank Authority

Things that can affect success of project or project timeline:

- Partners to store water at bank in progress, could affect size of project
- Size of project could affect the total project costs and size of turnout on CA Aqueduct
- Project proponent needs to initiate pulse flow agreements to provide ecosystem public benefits

Next Steps:

- By December 2026 - Environmental document for turnout and conveyance facilities
- December 2026 - Begin drafting storage and extraction agreement with Antelope Valley Watermaster
- Spring 2027 - Turnout/turn-in agreement on CA Aqueduct with DWR