

Seven Oaks Dam

Energy and Water Appropriations



Securing Your Water Supply



Project Description

Specifically, these funds will be used for the following:

- Update the nearly completed environmental documents relating to water conservation at Seven Oaks.
- Address the problem of anaerobic conditions that developed during the summer of 2004 to ensure that such conditions do not impair quality of water stored for human consumption in the future.
- Address turbidity issues that make it difficult for local water purveyors to maximize beneficial use of water temporarily stored behind Seven Oaks Dam.
- Jump start mitigation efforts for the impacts of water conservation on sensitive species by studying the feasibility of using high pressure hoses and sand to mimic the effects of flood flows on bank areas.

Background

An historic agreement was signed in February 2008 between San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBVMWD), Western Municipal Water District and San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District (SBVWCD) to use Santa Ana River Water under agreement with the State



Water that's captured at Seven Oaks Dam can be used by Western and other agencies in dry years.

of California. Water from the river would be stored in facilities downstream from the Seven Oaks Dam north of Redlands. The agreement was signed in the wake of significant court-mandated reductions in water deliveries from Northern California and a 30 percent reduction in Metropolitan Water District agricultural water deliveries due to severe drought.

New Water for a Drought-Prone Region Through Conservation

In preparing for the future impacts of global climate change on our limited water supplies, this project grows ever more important. Models for our region produced by the University of California predict that climate change will produce less-frequent, but more intense rain storm events. In that scenario, without progressive water resource management strategies like conserving stormwater at Seven Oaks, this region will face ever-worsening droughts.

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Federal Nexus



By better managing our precious imported water supplies, the project supports the Secretary of the Interior's role as Watermaster of the Lower Colorado River.



Further, projects like Seven Oaks will be integral to the implementation of the new "Seven States Agreement" in the Colorado River Basin. We are all very pleased that this accord has been signed. It is now time to build projects that help address shortages on the Colorado River and help to augment the rise of water storage levels in both Lake Powell and Lake Mead under the newly minted Colorado River Basin reservoir management criteria.



For more information,

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