

# Proposed Centennial Reservoir Public Scoping Meeting

**Kara Hellige**

Senior Project Manager

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US Army Corps of Engineers  
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# Scoping Meeting Format

- Overview of PowerPoint is at 5:00 p.m.
- Remainder of meeting is workshop style
- Lead Agency and Applicant are available for questions
- Court recorder available to take oral comments
- Written comments can be submitted at meeting or mailed/e-mailed



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# Scoping Meeting Topics

- Applicant's Proposed Action
- Applicant's Proposed Purpose
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process
- Proposed Action Alternatives
- Public Involvement



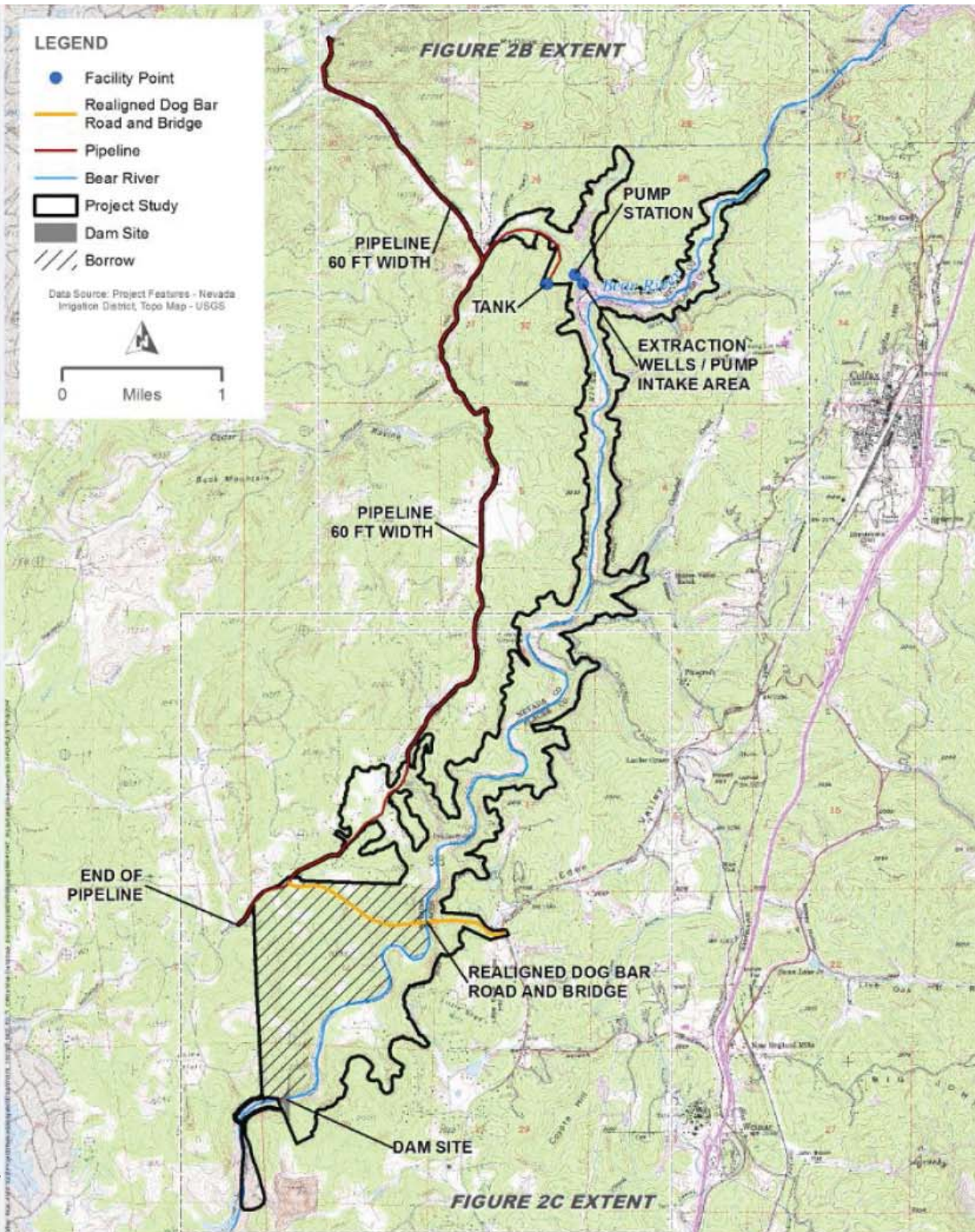
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# Proposed Action

- April 25, 2016 - Nevada Irrigation District (NID) (applicant) submitted a permit application under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for the construction of Centennial Reservoir
  - ▶ A new 110,000 acre-foot water supply reservoir
  - ▶ Located on the Bear River, downstream of Rollins Reservoir and upstream of Combie Reservoir, west of the Town of Colfax, Nevada and Placer Counties, California



# Proposed Action Overview Map



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# Proposed Action

- Dam height would be approximately 275 feet
- Reservoir would support low impact public recreational activities
- Require rerouting of Dog Bar Road along with other smaller roadways



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# Proposed Action

- Approximately 2,200 acres of land would be affected including over 6 miles of river channel
- Dam construction would permanently impact approximately 0.97 acre of Waters of the US and would permanently inundate approximately 190 acres of Waters of the US



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# Applicant's Proposed Purpose

- Increase demand within NID's service area and prolonged drought and climate change create challenges for NID in maintaining a sustainable water system
- NID's Raw Water Master Plan indicates that the margin between average watershed runoff volume and demand is diminishing



# Applicant's Proposed Purpose

- NID believes that there is an increased need for mid-elevation storage due to regional changes in climate and precipitation patterns
- NID's purpose for the proposed action is to mitigate the effects of water lost due to reduced snowpack, provide greater reliability during extended droughts, and provide more flexibility in meeting the future water supply needs of customers in all parts of NID's service area



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# National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- Requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions
- Lead Federal agency – Corps of Engineers (Corps)
- Cooperating agencies – US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Corps' Federal action – determination regarding permit issuance under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- The Corps determined the Proposed Action may result in significant impacts to the environment and the preparation of an EIS is required



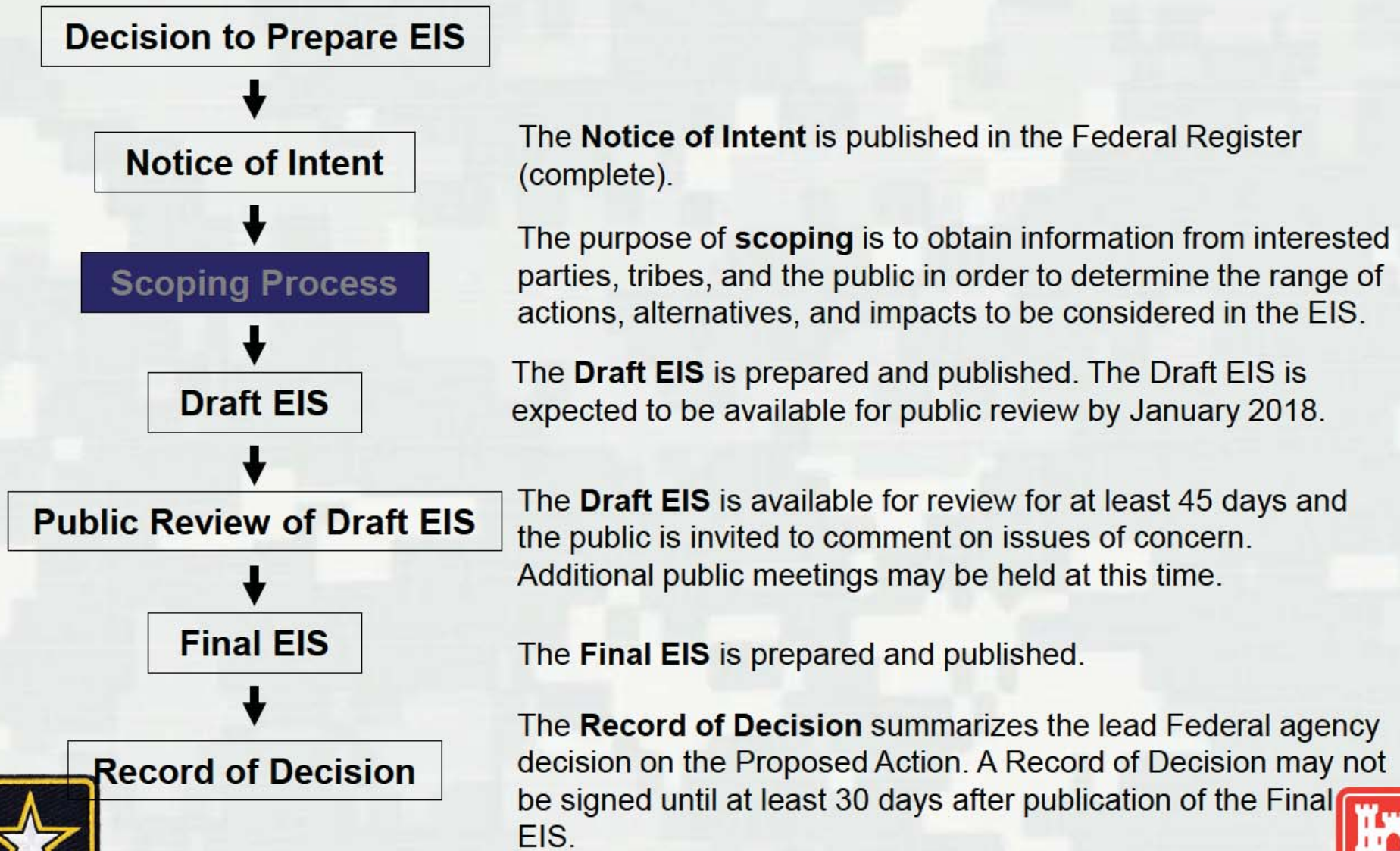
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# Federal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process



# EIS Process

## Standard Format

- Cover sheet
- Summary
- Table of contents
- Purpose and need for action
- Alternatives including proposed action
- Affected environment
- Environmental consequences
- List of preparers
- Entities receiving copies of the EIS
- Index
- Appendices



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# Proposed Action Alternatives

- NEPA requires, at a minimum, the Corps to assess the proposed action and the no action alternative
- According to NID, other alternatives are, but are not limited to:
  - ▶ alternative dam sites and types
  - ▶ expansion of existing storage reservoirs
  - ▶ modification of existing water supply operations
  - ▶ conservation
- The specific alternatives to be evaluated within the Draft EIS have not yet been developed



# Proposed Action Alternatives

- No Action Alternative – No Department of the Army permit is required
- Water Conservation (beyond existing conditions and measures)
  - ▶ Measures include reducing untreated water deliveries; imposing irrigation limits; greater conservation pricing; reducing treated water usage; and fallowing of agricultural land
- Operational Changes (within NID service area)
  - ▶ Include reducing surplus sales to increase carryover storage allocations; increasing purchase contracts and water transfers to NID; updating drought contingency plan; producing additional supply at existing facilities; additional use of recycled water
  - ▶ Other water supply operations alternatives to improve the efficiency of existing water supply and conveyance infrastructure include lining existing water supply canals and rehabilitating aged infrastructure



# Proposed Action Alternatives

## Potential Outcome of the No Action Alternative

- Inability to meet anticipated future NID customer demands
- District-wide system deficiencies
- Inability to meet summer peak demands due to climate change
- Impacts to local economy



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# EIS Public Involvement

## ■ Scoping

- ▶ Purpose - obtain information from interested parties, tribes, and the public in order to determine the range of actions, alternatives, and impacts to be considered in the EIS
- ▶ Written and oral comments accepted.
- ▶ Submit by April 10, 2017
- ▶ Comments can be submitted up to the date the Draft EIS is published



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# EIS Public Involvement

- The Corps will provide notification to interested parties and tribes once Draft EIS is available
- The Draft EIS is available for the public to review and comment for at least 45 days.
  - ▶ If determined necessary, additional public meetings may be held at this time
- Final EIS & Record of Decision will be available for review

