

CENTRAL DELTA WATER AGENCY

235 East Weber Avenue • P.O. Box 1461 • Stockton, CA 95201 Phone 209/465-5883 • Fax 209/465-3956

October 24, 2013

Craig Wilson
Delta Watermaster
State Water Resources Control Board
P. O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Re:

2013 SWP and CVP Violations of D-1641

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Thank you for your September 20, 2013, response to mine of August 13, 2013.

Our concern continues to be that actions of the operators of the SWP and CVP reflect a plan and practice of violating the Water Quality Standards to facilitate greater exports from the Delta. It is also our view that the SWRCB should enforce the Standards as against the SWP and CVP as they would as against any diverter not affiliated with the State or Federal government.

D-1641 which includes the water year classifications was adopted after CEQA review and more than eighty (80) days of quasi-adjudicatory proceedings. The water quality standards and other provisions are basically those put forth by the Department of Water Resources and the Bureau of Reclamation and their contractors. Balancing of the ability of the SWP and CVP to meet the water quality standards was a part of the SWRCB decision process. Meeting D-1641 is a condition to the SWP and CVP right to export water from the Delta and there should be no further balancing and changes to the standards except through an appropriate SWRCB proceeding with CEQA compliance. The water quality criteria are geared to water year classifications based on unimpaired runoff for the current year and the index for the prior year. A final determination is made in May by and published by the Department of Water Resources in Bulletin 120. The determination is based on hydrologic conditions to date plus forecasts of future runoff assuming normal precipitation for the remainder of the water year. As of May 1st. the actual forecast is limited to the months of May through July and is required to be based on runoff assuming normal precipitation. The variations due to depletions and droughts were well understood by the Water Year Hydrologic Classifications designers. The weighting of the Index Formula coupled with the inclusion of the previous year's index more than adequately accounted for variables in hydrology and the ability of the projects to meet the criteria. The flexibility is in

DIRECTORS

George Biagi, Jr. Rudy Mussi Edward Zuckerman

COUNSEL

Dante John Nomellini Dante John Nomellini, Jr. the amount of surplus water available for export not balancing the degree of violation of the standards.

THIS MATTER MERITS FURTHER INVESTIGATION.

The absence in the correspondence of the project operators, the fish agencies and the SWRCB of any consideration or even mention of the possibility of reduction of exports to save cold water in Shasta for fish is disturbing and raises the possibility of a concerted plan to violate the water quality standards to favor exports from the Delta.

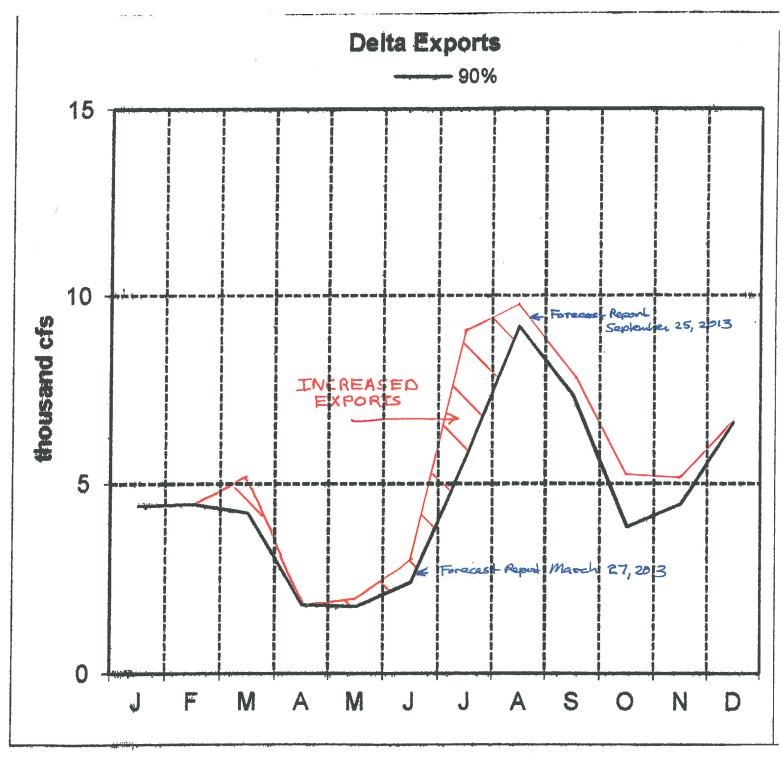
Your letter cites "the ability of the Projects to curtail contract water deliveries during the middle of the irrigation system is also problematic." By May 17, 2013, water contractors were on notice that water deliveries would be curtailed. On March 22, 2013, the DWR gave notice to its contractors that the projections for meeting the State Water Project (SWP) contractors' 2013 Table A requests were being reduced from 1,668,958 acre feet to 1,460,342 acre feet (see Attachment A). Of the 1,460,342 acre feet, 1,359,674 acre feet were to be exported from the Delta by way of the Bank's Pumping Plant.

During the period of January through September of 2013, the State diverted 1,540,496 acre feet through the Bank's Pumping Plant. This is 180,822 acre feet more than was projected. For the Water Year, the Bank's State pumping totaled 2,186,452 acre feet which is 826,778 acre feet more than was projected. It would appear that not only did the State not curtail exports to save cold water for fish but it appears that they increased exports.

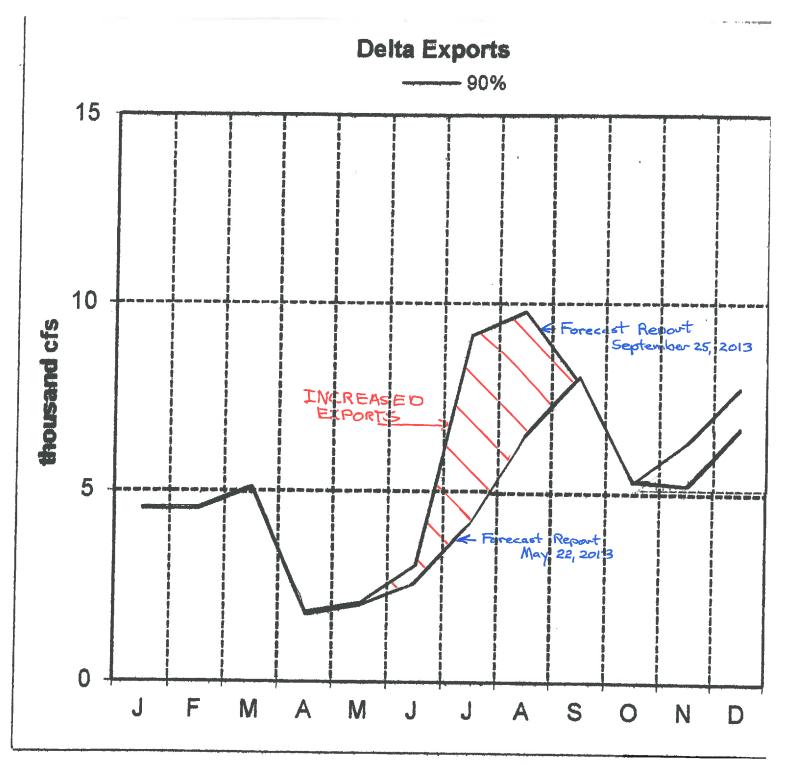
On the CVP side, it appears that they met their allocations without any curtailment to preserve additional cold water for fish. Attachment B shows the CVP March 22, 2013, Water Supply Allocation Update and Attachment C with a revised date of 7-17-13 shows the allocations were as projected on March 22, 2013, with the "South of Delta" total of 1,639,639 acre feet. The CVO Delta Operations Reports show the Jones Pumping Plant totals for the water year to be 1,647,981 acre feet.

The CALFED Operations Group website contains some agendas, reports and notes for their meetings. The reports include forecasts of Delta exports.

Figure One is an overlay of the Delta Exports forecast chart included in the report for the March 27, 2013, meeting (Attachment D based on March Water Supply Forecast) with the Delta Exports chart in the report for the September 25, 2013, meeting (Attachment E based on Historical Water Supply Forecast). The red crosshatching reflects the increase in exports as compared to the March Forecast. This shows an increase in exports during the April to June 15 period of violation of the D-1641 standards as well as an overall increase. Figure Two is an overlay of the Delta Export forecast chart included in the report for the May 22, 2013, meeting (Attachment F based on May Water Supply Forecast) with the Delta Exports chart in the report



Flows are monthly averages.



Flows are monthly averages.

FIGURE TWO

for the September 25, 2013, meeting (Attachment E based on Historical Water Supply Forecast). The red crosshatching reflects the increase in exports as compared to the May Forecast. This again reflects an increase in exports during the period of violation and an overall increase in exports.

The Agenda for the CALFED Operations Coordination Group May 22, 2013, meeting (Attachment G) contained the following:

"6. Potential Adjustment of D-1641 Standards for 2013 (P. Fujitani)."

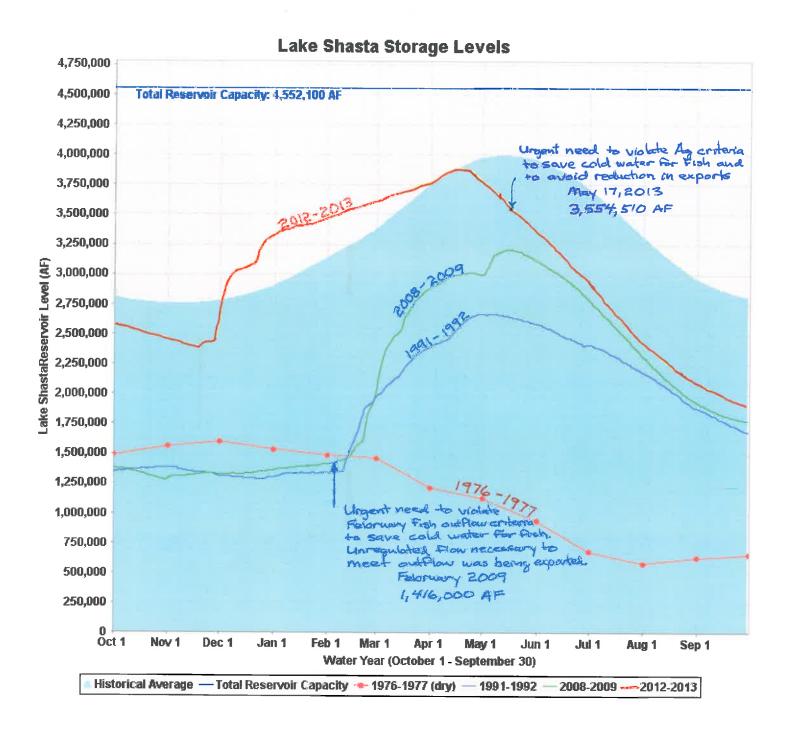
The CALFED Operations Meeting Notes for May 22, 2013, reflects that the SWRCB staff member, R. Satkowski, was present (Attachment H). Perhaps he can shed some light on the discussion if any regarding increasing exports or the reasoning for not reducing exports to save cold water for fish. The CALFED Operations Group was apparently headed towards adjustment of the Standards. It would be interesting to know if they were planning to bring the matter to a SWRCB hearing similar to 2009 and at what point and pursuant to who's suggestion was it planned to allow violation of the Standards with an assurance of no enforcement.

COLD WATER FOR FISH

The correspondence from the project operators and fish agencies on or about May 17, 2013, seeking to violate the western Delta agricultural standards was based on the purported urgency to save cold water for fish.

Figure Three is a graph showing Shasta storage as compared to the historical average storage, and the storage for the years 1976-1977, 1991-1992, 2008-2009 and 2012-2013. This graph was produced from the CDEC Reservoir Reports.

On May 17, 2013, Shasta storage was 89% of the historic average and at 3,554,510 acre feet. A cold water urgency at this level is surprising and suggests the need for consideration of a new May minimum storage requirement in addition to the end of the water year (September) storage requirement for preservation of cold water for fish. This new urgency level for protection for fish can be compared to the February 2009 level of about 1,416,000 acre feet when the SWP and CVP claimed an urgency to preserve cold water in Shasta for fish. At that time the project operators claimed that violation of the D-1641 February outflow requirement to protect fish was needed to preserve cold water in Shasta for salmon. The SWRCB noticed a hearing and the evidence was clear that the projects were at the time exporting unregulated flow which if not exported would have caused the February fish outflow requirement to be met. The SWRCB took no action and did not even admonish the operators to refrain from such conduct in the future. The huge difference in the storage levels at which cold water preservation becomes an urgency needs further examination. The unfortunate result of the May 17, 2013, urgency has been a violation of the western Delta Water Quality Standards for agriculture, a relaxation of the cold



water requirements for fish and an increase in exports from the Delta. If the May urgency for cold water preservation is real, then there is a need for additional carryover storage with a May minimum Shasta storage level. The project operators should be required to set forth a plan for future operation that will meet water quality standards and fish requirements and limit project exports accordingly.

We request that you further investigate the circumstances related to project operations this year and determine the following:

- 1) Was there an increase in project exports from the Delta over the forecasted quantities?
- 2) If there was an increase, did any part of this increase occur during the period when the western Delta agriculture water quality standards were being violated?
- What amount of export curtailment would have been required to avoid the violation of the western Delta agricultural water quality standards and achieve 55,000 acre feet of cold water preservation?
- 4) What amount of cold water was preserved in Shasta, if any, by reason of the change in the location of the cold water requirement for salmon on the Sacramento River?
- What amount of export curtailment would have been required to achieve the same quantity of cold water preservation as that achieved by the change in location of the cold water requirement for salmon on the Sacramento River?
- What discussion, if any, took place at the CALFED Operations Meetings or otherwise with SWRCB staff during the months of April and May of 2013 regarding not curtailing and/or increasing exports from the Delta?
- 7) What examination, if any, was made as to the impacts of reducing Delta outflow to preserve the cold water for fish as compared to a reduction or avoiding an increase in exports?

Hopefully, you will further investigate this matter and the results of your investigation will help avoid a future re-occurrence.

Yours very truly,

DANTE JOHN NOMELLINI
Manager and Co-Counsel

DJN:ju Enclosures cc:

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NOTICE TO STATE WATER PROJECT CONTRACTORS



Date:

March 22, 2013

Number: 13-09

Subject: 2013 Table A Allocation Decrease

From:

Carl A. Torgersen

Deputy Director

Department of Water Resources

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is adjusting its projection for meeting the State Water Project (SWP) contractors' 2013 Table A requests.

DWR is reducing its projected delivery capability from 1,668,958 acre-feet to 1,460,342 acre-feet. This reduction equates to a drop in allocations from 40 percent to 35 percent for long-term SWP contractors. Enclosed is the revised 2013 SWP Allocation Table.

This decrease is primarily due to the well below average statewide snowpack and precipitation. DWR will continue to monitor the situation and may revise the allocations if warranted by the year's developing hydrologic and water supply conditions.

Based on this updated allocation, DWR will use the contractors' current 40 percent delivery schedules in developing new schedules, unless revised schedules are submitted. DWR will send an approved monthly water delivery schedule to each long-term contractor in April.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Robert Cooke, Chief of DWR's State Water Project Analysis Office, at (916) 653-4313.

Enclosure

2013 STATE WATER PROJECT ALLOCATION (ACRE-FEET)

				I BESASUE
				PERCENT
		15117181	455001/50	INITIAL
		INITIAL	APPROVED	REQUEST
SWP CONTRACTORS	TABLE A	REQUEST	ALLOCATION	APPROVED
I COM COMITACIONS		(0)	(0)	(3)/(2)
FEATHER RIVER	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
County of Butte	27,500	07.500	0.005	0.00
Plumas County FC&WCD	2,410	27,500	9,625	35%
City of Yuba City	9,600	2,410 9,600	844 3,360	35%
Subtot		39,519	13,829	35%
NORTH BAY	00,010	26,010	10,048	
Napa County FC&WCD	29,025	29,025	10,159	35%
Solano County WA	47,656	47.656	16,680	35%
Subtot		76,681	26,839	3370
SOUTH BAY		10,001	<u> </u>	
Alameda County FC&WCD, Zone 7	80,619	80,619	28,217	35%
Alameda County WD	42,000	42,000	14,700	35%
Santa Clara Valley WD	100,000	100,000	35,000	35%
Subtot		222,619	77,917	3370
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY		Aldering Co.	11,911	
Oak Flat WD	5,700	5,700	1,995	35%
County of Kings	9.305	9,305	3,257	35%
Dudley Ridge WD	50,343	50,343	17,620	35%
Empire West Side ID	3,000	3,000	1,050	35%
Kern County WA	982,730	982,730	343,956	35%
Tulare Lake Basin WSD	88,922	88,922	31,123	35%
Subtot	3 Permitter and the same a company of the same and the same	1,140,000	399,001	
CENTRAL COASTAL				
San Luis Obispo County FC&WCD	25,000	25,000	8,750	35%
Santa Barbara County FC&WCD	45,486	45,486	15,920	35%
Subtota	al 70,486	70,486	24,670	
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA				- Wind
Antelope Valley-East Kern WA	141,400	141,400	49,490	35%
Castaic Lake WA	95,200	95,200	33,320	35%
Coachelia Valley WD	138,350	138,350	48,423	35%
Crestline-Lake Arrowhead WA	5,800	5,800	2,030	35%
Desert WA	55,750	55,750	19,513	35%
Littlerock Creek ID	2,300	2,300	805	35%
Metropolitan WDSC	1,911,500	1,911,500	669,025	35%
Mojave WA	82,800	82,800	28,980	35%
Palmdale WD	21,300	21,300	7,455	35%
San Bernardino Valley MWD	102,600	102,600	35,910	35%
San Gabriel Valley MWD	28,800	28,800	10,080	35%
San Gorgonio Pass WA	17,300	17,300	6,055	35%
Ventura County WPD	20,000	20,000	7.000	35%
Subtota	2,623,100	2,623,100	918,086	· • • · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
TOTAL	4,172,396	4,172,396	1,460,342	

Central Valley Project Water Supply

~ Interpreting Water Supply Foregrats ~



Up-To-Date

- Reservoir Conditions Mag
- CVP Operations
- Daily CVP Reports
- Monthly Delta Operations
- Hydro Cond Exec Summ
- Water Delivery Fact Sheet
- Water Contracts Fact Sheet
- Water Transfer Fact Sheet

Statistical Information

- CVI Contractors
- CVP Historical Water Allocations
- CVP Quantities/2013 Allocation
- Central Valley Water Contractors
- Water Delivered 2008 2011
 Water Transfers 2005-2011
- Annual Federal-State Operations Info

Water Year Carry Over Announcement 2013



NOAA Precipitation Predictions

1 Month 3 Months

Download Map PDF JPG

Central Valley Project Water Pian 2013 - March Update

Annual Federal-State Operations:

2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |

- 2013 Rescheduling Guidelines San Luis Reservoir (pdf 59 KB)
- July 15, 2013 Priant Division Allocation Increased New

Mid Pacific Region - CVP Water Year 2013 Water Supply Allocation Update: March 22, 2013 Sacramento North of Delta South of Delta (percentages Valley Water (percentages of contracted of contracted water supply) Year Type water supply) and Percentage of Average Runoff AG M&I R WR AG M&I R WR Conservative Critical 65% 100* 100** 75 100*** 20 100** 70 100*** Forecast (90%) of Average Median Forecast Dry 78% of 100 100 100 100 30 100 75 100 (50%)Average 5 Yr Average Allocation 90 76 100 100 43 77 100 100

Ag = Agriculture M&I = Municipal and Industrial R = Refuges WR = Water Rights

News Release (click to go to press release)

July 15, 2013

Reclamation Announces Update to the 2013 Central Valley Project Water Supply Allocation

Allocations Increased for Friant Division Contractors

The full CVP allocation follows, including the increased allocation for Friant Division Contractors.

North of the Delta Contractors

Sacramento River

- Agricultural water service contractors North-of-Delta are allocated 75 percent of their contract supply of 443,000 acre-feet.
- M&I water service contractors North-of-Delta who are serviced by Shasta Reservoir on the Sacramento River are allocated 100 percent of their contract supply.
- Sacramento River Settlement Contractors, whose water supply is based upon senior water rights and is subject to pre-established Shasta Reservoir inflow criteria, are allocated 100 percent of their contract supply of 2.2 million acre-feet.

American River

 M&I water service contractors North-of-Delta who are serviced by Folsom Reservoir on the American River are allocated 75 percent of their historic use.

In-Delta

• The Contra Costa Water District, which receives water directly from the Delta, is allocated 75 percent of its historic use amount of 170,000 acre-feet.

^{*} North-of-Delta M&I water service contractors who are serviced by Folsom Reservoir on the American River are allocated 75 percent of their historic use.

^{*} North-of-Delta M&I water service contractors who are serviced by Folsom Reservoir on the American River are allocated 75 percent of their historic use.

^{**}Contra Costa Water District, which receives water directly from the Delta, is allocated 75 percent of its historic use amount of 170,000 acre-feet.

**The allocation shown in the table for wildlife refuges applies to Level 2 water supplies. A full refuge water supply (including Level 2 and incremental Level 4 water) is 555,515 acre-feet. Level 2 is 422,251 acre-feet which accounts for approximately three-fourths of annual refuge needs.

**The allocation for water rights contractors are based upon pre-CVP held water rights and wildlife refuge contractors are based upon pre-established Shasta inflow criteria.

South of the Delta Contractors

- The allocation for agricultural water service contractors South-of-Delta is decreased from 25 to 20 percent of their contract supply of 1.965 million acrefeet.
- The allocation for M&I water service contractors is decreased from 75 to 70 percent of their historic use.
- San Joaquin River Exchange and Settlement Contractors, whose CVP water supply allocation is subject to pre-established Shasta Reservoir inflow criteria, are allocated 100 percent of their contract supply of 875,000 acre-feet.

Wildlife Refuges

 Wildlife refuges (Level 2) North- and South-of-Delta, which also have allocations subject to pre-established Shasta inflow criteria, are allocated 100 percent of their contract supply of 422,000 acre-feet.

Friant Division Contractors

• CHANGED July 15, 2013: Friant Division contractors' water supply is delivered from Millerton Reservoir on the upper San Joaquin River. The first 800,000 acrefeet of water supply is considered Class 1 and the next 1.4 million acrefeet is considered Class 2. The Friant Division water supply allocation is increased from 55 percent to 62 percent of Class 1. Class 2 water remains at 0 percent.

Eastside Water Service Contractors

• Eastside water service contractors (Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District and Stockton East Water District), whose water supplies are delivered from New Melones Reservoir on the Stanislaus River, are allocated their full contract supply of 155,000 acre-feet.

Reclamation determines the water allocation for agricultural, environmental and municipal and industrial purposes based upon many factors, including water quality requirements, flow objectives, relative priority of water rights, and Endangered Species Act protection measures, including operational adjustments in accordance with biological opinions to protect threatened and endangered fish species.

Water supply updates will be made as appropriate and will be posted on http://www.usbr.gov/mp/pa/water. For additional information, please contact the Public Affairs Office at 916-978-5100 (TTY 916-978-5608) or email mappublicaffairs@usbr.gov.

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Reclamation is the largest wholesale water supplier and the second largest producer of hydroelectric power in the United States, with operations and facilities in the 17 western states. Its facilities also provide substantial flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits.

Visit our website at http://www.usbr.gov.

Тор

Learn more about the Central Valley Project

Related websites include...







NOAA

Calif DW

For assistance or additional information about this website, please contact <u>Public Affairs</u>
Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region
2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento CA 95825-1898
Main (916) 978-5100 | FAX (916) 978-5114 | TTY (916) 978-5608
Reclamation Officials' Telephone Numbers

July 31, 2013



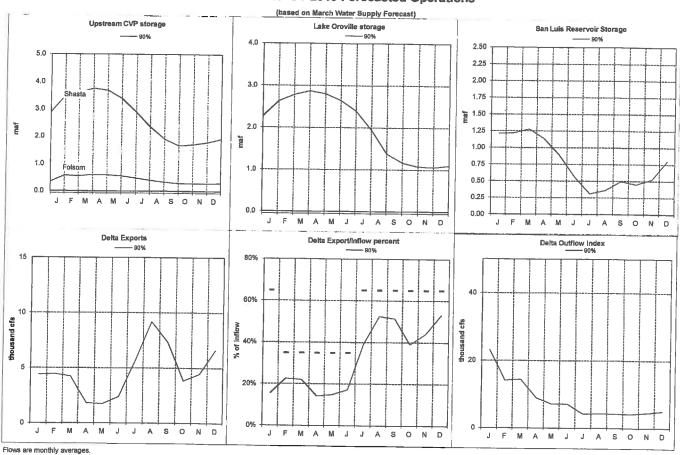
Central Valley Project (CVP) Water Quantities w/2013 Allocation

Contractors	Maximum per Contract or Agreement (acre-feet)	M&I Historical Use (1) Agricultural Use (2) (acre-feet)	Agricultural Use (2)	2013 Allocation by %	2013 Allocation by acre-feet
North of the Delta					
American River M&I	313,750	178 077		75%	122 EE0
Sacramento River				20	000,000
Water Service	468,990				
Agriculture			423.538	75%	317 654
M&I		45,452		100%	45 459
Water Rights (3)	2,115,620			100%	2 115 620
Refuge - Level 2 (4)	151,250			100%	151.020
South of the Delta					002,101
Water Service	2,110,648				
Agriculture			1 967 677	2000	200
M&I		142.971		20.02	100 080
Water Rights	875,023			100%	975 033
Refuge - Level 2 (4)	271 001			1000	073,023
Contra Costa In Delta	105,000	170 000		200%	1,001
New Melones East Side (5)	155,000			10%	127,500
East-Side Water Rights (8)	600,000			%00L	155,000
Friant					000,000
Class 1	800.000			K20%	406 000
Class 2	1,401,475			%0	430,000
Buchanan Unit	24,000				000 76
Hidden Unit	24,000			.8	000,45
					000,1-2
lotal Contracted Water (7) (8)	9.505,757				5.829 672

- 1. M&I historical use is computed when the M&I allocation is less than 100% and is based upon the average of actual deliveries made the last 3 years of unconstrained CVP delivery. The historical use for Contra Costa Water District is 170,000 acre-feet as agreed upon in contract renewal negotiations. 2. Agricultural use computed as maximum contract amount less M&I historical use, if any. 3. Sacramento River Water Rights includes: base supply (1,775,509 a.f.) & Project supply (340,111 a.f.)

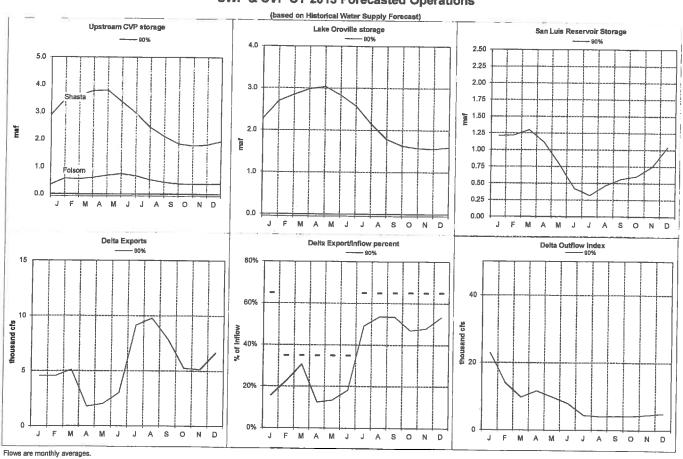
- Project also acquires up to 133,264 a.f. incremental Level 4 from willing sellers subject to availability and funding.
 New Melones East Side allocation is computed as a quantity, rather than a percent, since only one group receives the water allocation.
- Oakdale I.D. and South San Joaquin I.D. receive up to 600,000 a.f. of water annually based upon a 1988 Agreement and Stipulation in recognition of the Districts Melones water rights. The Districts are not allocated water, but rather receive water based upon in-flows into New Melones and application of a formula in the 1988 Agreement.
 Water supplied to City of Sacramento under operations agreement not included: Amer. R. (245,000 a.f.) & Sacramento R. (90,000 a.f.)
 Total does not include 800,000 CVPIA b(2) water provided out of Project yield for mitigation purposes.

SWP & CVP CY 2013 Forecasted Operations



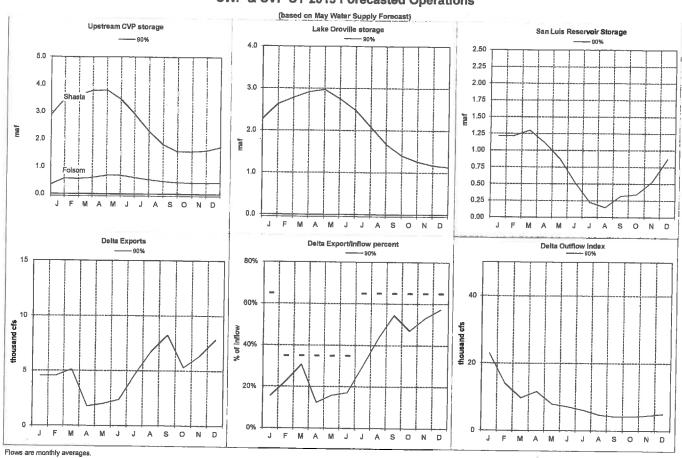
PRELIMINARY DATA - SUBJECT TO REVISION

SWP & CVP CY 2013 Forecasted Operations



PRELIMINARY DATA - SUBJECT TO REVISION

SWP & CVP CY 2013 Forecasted Operations



PRELIMINARY DATA - SUBJECT TO REVISION

CALFED OPERATIONS COORDINATION GROUP AGENDA

Wednesday, May 22, 2013 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Conference Call Number (916) 574-2008

- 1. Announcements
- 2. SWRCB Activities Update (P. Fernandez)
- 3. Fishery Status
 Chinook (B. Oppenheim)
 Steelhead (B. Oppenheim)
 Green Sturgeon (B. Oppenheim)
 Delta Smelt (E. Gleason)
 Longfin Smelt (DFG)
- 4. Work Groups
 DOSS (B. Oppenheim)
 SWG (E. Gleason)
 SOG (B. Byrne)
 WOMT (M. Ford/P. Fujitani)
- 5. CVP/SWP Operations CVP (R. Yaworsky) SWP (A. Chu) Delta Criteria (A. Chu)
- 6. Potential Adjustment of D-1641 Standards for 2013 (P. Fujitani)

CALFED OPERATIONS MEETING NOTES Wednesday, May 22, 2013 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

SWRCB Update (R. Satkowski)

The Final Report prepared by Brock Bernstein on the Workshops held to support Phase 2 of the SWRCB Process has been finished.

The next steps after the Phase 2 workshops are to request input into the SWRCB process from the Delta Stewardship Council and the Delta Science Program. Information received from them will be distributed to stakeholders in the Phase 2 process.

The SED for Phase 1 will be finalized by summer/fall of 2013 in response to comments received so far.

Water transfers in 2013 will be expedited per Governor Brown's most recent Executive Order

Fisheries Update

Chinook Salmon, Steelhead and Green Sturgeon (B. Byrne) — A good indicator of salmon populations in the San Joaquin River is provided through the Mossdale trawls. 4500 juvenile Chinook salmon have been caught in the trawls since April of this year.

Chinook salmon and steelhead have been released at Durham Ferry in the last several weeks; survival estimates will be made later. Other studies are being done to provided data which will support VAMP data from previous studies.

Sacramento River: Winter-run and late fall run migrate past Chipps Island in April and May. Chipps Island catch showed an increase in April.

Salvage at Project Export Facilities for 2013 to date: Steelhead ITL = 3000, Actual Take = 1742. Winter Run ITL = 10,656, Actual Take = 731. No green sturgeon taken during 2013.

Delta smelt (E. Gleason) – Juvenile smelt take for 2013 is greater than 30% of the 2013 ITL so far; SWG expects to see a drop in salvage in the next week or two.

Longfin smelt (C. Dibble) – OMR no more negative than -5000 cfs is adequately protective of longfin smelt; conditions appear favorable given the current distribution of longfin.

DOSS – The Inflow/Export ratio for April and May of 2013 is 1:1 per the Biological Opinion. The OMR flow limit has been tripped occasionally during April and May by the

salvage density triggers at the export facilities but is has never limited project operations with the I/E ratio in place

SOG – The water year type has been classified as Dry on the Stanislaus River requiring a base flow of 200 cfs at Goodwin Dam from now on; the April-May pulse flow per the BiOp was modified in response to the OID/SSJID sale of 80TAF for environmental purposes.

Water Project Operations

 $\mbox{CVP}-\mbox{Keswick} \ @\ 13000 \mbox{ cfs};$ Nimbus @ 1000 \mbox{ cfs}; Goodwin @ 300 \mbox{ cfs} , Jones PP @ 800 \mbox{ cfs}

SWP - Oroville @3000 cfs, Clifton Court @ 700 cfs, and Delta Outflow approx. 7,100 cfs