



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Central Valley Operations Office
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 300
Sacramento, California 95821

IN REPLY
REFER TO:

CVO-100
ENV-7.00

FEB 04 2014

Ms. Maria Rea
National Oceanic &
Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service
650 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA

Subject: Action IV.2.1 San Joaquin River Inflow to Export

Dear Ms. Rea:

Per the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA) Action IV.2.1, in the 2009 Biological Opinion and Conference Opinion for the Long-term Coordinated Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project (2009 BiOp), the Bureau of Reclamation and the State Department of Water Resources shall implement the Vernalis flow-to-combined export ratio (I:E ratio) from April 1 through May 31. The I:E ratio is determined using the San Joaquin Valley water year type Index (Index) and the associated ratio table listed under Phase II of the RPA action. The Index was originally specified in the 1995 State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Water Quality Control Plan and is used to determine the San Joaquin Valley water year type as implemented in SWRCB Decision 1641.

Typically the final I:E ratio determination is made using the DWR May 1 runoff forecast. The DWR January runoff forecast resulted in an Index of 1.2 MAF at the 75 percent probability of exceedance, resulting in a designation of critical. The range for a critical classification is 0 MAF – 2.1 MAF. The hydrologic conditions have not improved over the month of January and therefore the upcoming February runoff forecast is not expected to result in a wetter Index. In this difficult hydrologic year, Reclamation proposes to establish a 1:1 ratio based on the January forecasted Index and the predicted February runoff forecast results. Although additional forecasts are still expected before finalizing the Index, Reclamation feels it is extremely unlikely that a ratio other than 1:1 will be realized in this difficult hydrologic year.

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2

If hydrologic conditions and runoff forecasts change in the coming months, and it appears that a modification to the I:E ratio is warranted, Reclamation will coordinate with National Marine Fishery Service staff. Please contact me at 916-979-2197 or pfujitani@usbr.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Paul Fujitani
Deputy Operations Manager

cc: Mr. David Murillo
Regional Director
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