



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-700

MAY 01 2014

MEMORANDUM

To: Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Attn: Michael A. Chotkowski

From: Ronald Milligan
Operations Manager

Subject: Continuing Drought Response Measures Under the 2008 Coordinated Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project (CVP) and State Water Project (SWP) Biological Opinion (2008 BiOp)

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is requesting concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) that the drought response actions proposed by Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in the CVP and SWP Drought Operations Plan and Operational Forecast (Plan) Dated April 8, 2014, will result in no additional adverse effects to delta smelt or its critical habitat from June 1 through November 15, 2014, beyond those analyzed in the 2008 BiOp.

Reclamation submitted the Plan to the Service on April 8, 2014, and by memorandum dated April 8, 2014, from the Service to Reclamation, the Service concurred with Reclamation's determination that the proposed modifications for April and May will have no additional adverse effects on delta smelt or critical habitat. However, the Service determined that additional information was needed to adequately assess the effects of the June 1 through November 15 drought related actions.

Since submitting the Plan on April 8, DWR announced that they do not anticipate the need to install the Emergency Drought Barriers in 2014 to protect water quality and minimize impacts on stored water supplies. Therefore, the CVP and SWP operations would follow the actions described in the Plan under Scenario 2: Without Emergency Drought Barriers in Place. Reclamation and DWR have updated the hydrologic modeling and revised the operations plans to match the current conditions and objectives. The updated information for the Plan is included in the attached letter from DWR to the California State Water Resources Control Board (Board) dated April 29, 2014, requesting a modification and extension to the Order Modifying an Order that Approved a Temporary Urgency Change in License and Permit Terms and Conditions Requiring Compliance with Delta Water Quality Objectives in Response to Drought Conditions.

Subject: Continuing Drought Response Measures

2

Per our discussions during the Real Time Drought Operations Management Team, we understand that DWR's letter to the Board and attachments satisfy your request for additional information regarding the June 1 through November 15 period.

We appreciate your assistance we have received from the Service and look forward to your response. Please contact me at 916-979-2199 if you have any questions.

Attachment - 1

cc: Mr. Chuck Bonham
Director
California Department of Fish and
Wildlife
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ms. Maria Rea
Assistant Regional Administrator
California Central Valley Area Office
National Marine Fisheries Service
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-110
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Mark Cowin
Director
California Department of Water
Resources
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Ren Lohofener
Regional Director
Pacific Southwest Region
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Mr. Dean Messer
Chief, Environmental Services
California Department of Water
Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Mr. David Murillo
Regional Director
Mid-Pacific Region
Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825
(w/att to each)

Mr. John Leahigh
Operations Control Office
California Department of Water
Resources
3310 El Camino Avenue, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95821