

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## **New Melones Reservoir Revised Plan of Operation**

**Public/Stakeholder Forum  
December 16, 2005**



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation

# **New Melones-Revised Plan of Operation (RPO)**

## **Meeting Purpose:**

- **Introduce the overall process**
- **Initiate stakeholder and public involvement**

## **Meeting Objectives:**

- **Introduce points of contact**
- **Inform stakeholders**
- **Gather contact information**

# **New Melones RPO-Background**

## **Basic History of New Melones Reservoir:**

- 1944 and 1962 authorized
- 1978 construction completed
- 1983 reservoir filled

## **Existing Plan of Operation:**

- Interim Plan
- Allocations for authorized purposes
- Addresses most hydrologic conditions

# **New Melones RPO-What is it?**

**A Plan of Operation specifies how to:**

- Meet regulations**
- Address hydrology**
- Allocate supply**

**Revision may address:**

- Level of risk/drought protection**
- Fishery needs**
- Water quality**
- Reliability**

# **New Melones RPO-Why Now?**

## **Needs/conditions not currently addressed:**

- **Improved salinity management**
- **Fish & Game Agreement**
- **Dry/Critical conditions**
- **New hydrology**

## **Commitment to Effective Management:**

- **Regional Director and Area Manager commitment**
- **Stakeholder need/desire/request**

## **Legislation:**

- **Original operations authorized**
- **CVPIA modified operations**
- **PL 108-361 requires a new operations plan**

# **New Melones RPO-Relationship to Program to Meet Standards**

**CALFED Bay-Delta Authorization Act:**

- **Program to Meet Standards (PTMS):**
  - **CVP water quality standards**
  - **Initiate before increasing deliveries**
  - **New actions to reduce releases**
  - **Update New Melones Operating Plan**

# **New Melones RPO-Overall Process**

## **New Melones RPO:**

- **Account for actions to reduce releases:**
  - **Recirculation**
  - **BMP Plan for refuges**
  - **Water acquisition**
- **Incorporate best available science**
- **Incorporate new information**
- **Include transitional operation**

# **New Melones RPO-Overall Process**

## **Long Term Plan (RPO)**

- **Complete 1987 DF&G agreement**
- **Develop flow standard**
- **Incorporate changes from PTMS actions**
- **Complete 2010-12**

## **Transitional Operation Plan (TOP)**

- **Incorporate new information**
- **Specify drought risk**
- **Complete in 2007**

# **New Melones RPO-Long Term Plan**

## **Technical Tasks:**

- Frame and focus questions**
- Field surveys & fish habitat data**
- Flow, temperature, chemical, and habitat relationships**
- Upstream hydrology**
- Groundwater modeling**
- Updated yield study**
- Alternative operations**

# **New Melones RPO-Transitional Plan**

## **Technical Tasks:**

- CALSIM II model**
- Alternative drought risk scenarios**
- Alternative operations**
- Documentation**
- Implementation**

# **New Melones RPO-Stakeholder Involvement**

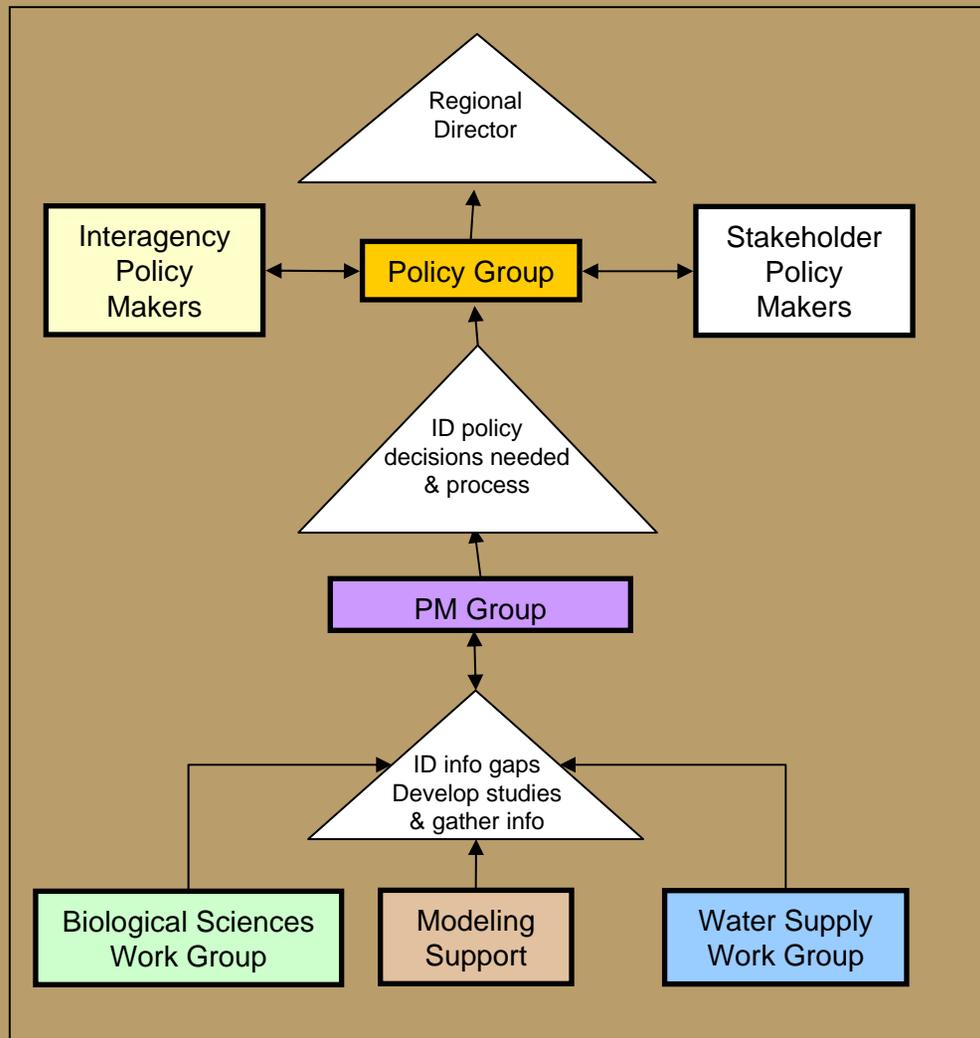
## **Stakeholder Technical Teams:**

- **Biological Sciences Team**
- **Water Supply Team**

## **Stakeholder/Public Involvement:**

- **Periodic management meetings/updates**
- **Regular technical meetings**
- **Share technical information**
- **Receive comment**
- **Propose operations & alternatives for study**
- **Explain implications/impacts on uses**

# New Melones RPO-Organization



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## Contact Information

- Email [2NMRPO@mp.usbr.gov](mailto:2NMRPO@mp.usbr.gov)
- Brian Deason, Biological Sciences Lead
- Paul Fujitani, Water Supply Lead
- Michelle Light, Program Manager

# New Melones RPO-Process

## Meeting Structure and Protocols

- Overview meetings formal & facilitated
- Technical meetings informal & facilitated as needed
- Official note-takers
- Technical teams to develop protocols/norms

## Communication and information sharing

- <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/cca0/nmrpo>
- [2nmrpo@mp.usbr.gov](mailto:2nmrpo@mp.usbr.gov)
- Contact information

# **New Melones RPO-Next Steps**

## **Provide contact information**

- **Contact information sheet;**
- **Technical team preference, if any;**
- **Meeting schedule preferences**

## **Schedule of first technical team meetings**

- **Dates**
- **Draft agendas**
- **Locations**

# New Melones RPO-Q & A