

United States Department of the Interior



MAY 9 2003



**Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825**

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
California/Nevada Operations Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825**

Dear Interested Parties:

Attached is the Department of the Interior's (Interior) Final Decision on Implementation of Section 3406(b)(2) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Decision). Additional copies of the decision may be obtained by:

- downloading a PDF version from Reclamation's website at www.mp.usbr.gov, or
- calling 916-978-5100, TDD 916-978-5608, to request a copy.

Interior has carefully considered comments received on the Draft Decision, dated December 18, 2002, in making this Decision. Responses to all comments received on the Draft Decision are also attached. Interior believes that these revisions serve to clarify provisions of the Draft Decision.

Interior intends for this Final Decision to be effective immediately and to be implemented in the 2004 Water Year, beginning October 1, 2003. Interior will use the interim period to continue discussions with the State of California and other CALFED agencies to coordinate the Environmental Water Account and other CALFED Record of Decision activities with this Final Decision on CVPIA Section 3406(b)(2) implementation. For the remainder of the 2003 Water Year, Interior will implement (b)(2) as described in the October 5, 1999, Decision, making operational decisions consistent with the Federal District Court Order.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kirk C. Rodgers in black ink.

Kirk C. Rodgers
Regional Director
Bureau of Reclamation

Handwritten signature of Steve Thompson in black ink.

Steve Thompson
Manager, California-Nevada Operations
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Attachments