

Draft CVPIA Fiscal Year 2013 Annual Work Plan

June 27, 2012

Program Title

San Joaquin River Comprehensive Plan – CVPIA Section 3406(c)(1)

Responsible Entities

Staff Name	Agency	Role
Alicia Forsythe	Reclamation	Program Lead
Robert Clarke	USFWS	Program Co-Lead
Rhonda Reed	NMFS	Federal Partner
Kevin Faulkenberry	CA Department of Water Resources	State Partner
Gerald Hatler	CA Department of Fish and Game	State Partner

Program Goals and Objectives for FY 2013

- A. Develop a comprehensive plan to reestablish and sustain naturally reproducing salmon in the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam, consistent with the September 13, 2006 Stipulation of Settlement (Settlement) for *NRDC, et al., v. Rodgers, et al.*, and with Section 3406(c)(1).**

The San Joaquin River Restoration Program (Restoration Program) is a comprehensive, long-term effort to restore flows to the San Joaquin River from Friant Dam to the confluence of the Merced River, in order to create a self-sustaining Chinook salmon fishery in the river, while reducing or avoiding adverse water supply impacts from restoration flows. The Program implements the Stipulation of Settlement in *NRDC, et al., v. Rodgers, et al.* that resolved 18 years of litigation related to Reclamation's operation of Friant Dam. The Program has two primary goals: Restoration and Water Management. The Restoration Goal is to restore and maintain fish populations in the main stem of the San Joaquin River below Friant Dam to the confluence of the Merced River, including naturally reproducing and self-sustaining populations of salmon and other fish. The Water Management Goal is to reduce or avoid adverse water supply impacts to all of the Friant Division long-term contractors that may result from implementation of the Settlement.

The San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Title X, Subtitle A, Part I of Public Law 111-11), authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Interior to implement the Settlement. Section 10007 of the Act states that Congress finds and declares that the Settlement satisfies and discharges all of the obligations of the Secretary contained in Section 3406(c)(1).

Actions to implement the Settlement are anticipated to be funded using four different funding sources in FY 2013. These include mandatory and appropriated funds in the San Joaquin River Restoration Fund, funds from the State of California, and funds from the CVPIA Restoration Fund. Actions to implement the Settlement will also be accomplished with in-kind services conducted by the State of California through the Department of Water Resources and Department of Fish and Game. This description of program goals and objectives is intended to focus on those activities that are anticipated to be implemented using funds from the CVPIA Restoration Fund. See the Annual Report published by the San Joaquin River Restoration Program for a description of all of the Program's activities (annual reports are available at www.restoresjr.net).

The objective for those Program activities that are anticipated to be carried out using funds from the CVPIA Restoration Fund is to further assist in implementing the Program's Restoration Goal. The activities include the timely release of the Program's Interim Flows quality controlled monitoring data and upcoming monitoring activities for public review and comment and improvements to in-stream structures to convey water and accommodate fish passage. One of the components necessary to achieve the Restoration Goal is to increase releases from Friant Dam into the San Joaquin River to provide flows necessary to restore and maintain fish populations in the main stem of the San Joaquin River. Initial releases from Friant Dam to re-wet the San Joaquin River and collect a range of information regarding river and channel characteristics, including flows, temperatures, fish needs, seepage losses, and water recirculation, recapture and reuse began in 2009. These initial releases are termed Interim Flows. These activities facilitate the continuation of Interim Flows, the monitoring and analysis efforts related to Interim Flows, and complete some of the requirements necessary to increase Interim Flows to the higher releases called for in the Settlement starting in 2014, termed Restoration Flows. These activities are described in more detail below.

Annual Technical Report and Annual Monitoring and Analysis Plan coordination and preparation for 2013/2014 – The Program's Implementing Agencies have developed and are implementing an annual cycle of identifying study needs and monitoring activities and providing for timely release of all quality controlled monitoring data. The Annual Technical Report presents an incremental update for monitoring and analysis results from the year. The Annual Technical Report is released twice yearly with a draft released to the public in late summer providing the monitoring data from the spring Interim Flow period. The final Annual Technical Report is released early the following year, providing the monitoring data from the previous Restoration Year (March 1 to February 28). The Monitoring and Analysis Plan (formerly known as Agency Plan) presents studies designed by the Implementing Agencies to manage Interim Flows for the next Restoration Year. A draft Monitoring and Analysis Plan is released to the public in September with a final in November. This effort also includes coordination of the Program's Restoration Goal Technical Feedback Group meetings that facilitate the timely release and discussion of monitoring data, upcoming monitoring efforts, and provide for early

input in the Program's high priority construction projects.

Arroyo Canal Fish Screen and Sack Dam Fish Passage Project – The project is located in Fresno and Madera counties, approximately 7 miles southeast of Dos Palos, California. Key components of the project include: Demolish the existing Sack Dam structure and recontour the resulting disturbed channel and provide stabilization improvements to the east side of the San Joaquin River channel between the east abutment of Sack Dam and the adjacent levee; construct a new Sack Dam to accommodate fish passage and improve operational control under the scheduled Restoration Flow regime; construct a new 700-cubic-foot-per-second positive barrier fish screen structure within the Arroyo Canal in a single vee configuration with profile bar screens; construct a new trash-rack structure at the head of the Arroyo Canal, upstream of the new fish screen structure, with an automated raking mechanism; and construct a new transport channel/fish ladder, beginning at the downstream end of the vee screen and terminating at the west abutment of Sack Dam. The transport channel/fish ladder would convey downstream migrating fish and accommodate upstream migrating fish past Sack Dam. This project is the first construction project for the Program and is critical to conveying Interim and Restoration Flows and accommodating fish passage along the main-stem of the Upper San Joaquin River.

Status of the Program

In 1988, a coalition of environmental groups, led by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), filed a lawsuit challenging Reclamation's renewal of the long-term water service contracts between the United States and the Central Valley Project, Friant Division contractors. On September 13, 2006, the Settling Parties (United States, NRDC, and Friant Water Users Authority) lodged a Stipulation of Settlement that provides for a "Restoration Goal" and a "Water Management Goal". On October 23, 2006, the Court approved the Stipulation of Settlement. Legislation authorizing the implementation of the Settlement (Public Law 111-11) was signed into law on March 30, 2009. The Restoration Program will implement the Settlement consistent with Public Law 111-11. Section 10007 of Public Law 111-11 states that Congress finds and declares that the Settlement satisfies and discharges all of the obligations of the Secretary contained in Section 3406(c)(1).

In working towards the Restoration Goal in the Settlement, the Restoration Program will complete its third year of Interim Flows, or initial flow releases, from Friant Dam to the San Joaquin River on September 30, 2012. In March 2010, the San Joaquin River was reconnected to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, a stretch of roughly 330 miles. This has not occurred in more than 60 years, with the exception of flood flows. The Restoration Program continues to expand its extensive monitoring efforts during Interim Flow releases. This includes continued expansion of the Program's groundwater well network to assess changes in the shallow groundwater table associated with increased flows in the river.

The Restoration Program's Draft PEIS/R was released in April 2011, and is scheduled to be finalized in July 2012. The PEIS/R provides program-level analysis of the implementation of the future construction actions required in the Settlement and a project-level analysis of the reoperation of Friant Dam, including the release and recapture of Interim and Restoration flows. Site-specific planning, environmental compliance, and design efforts continue for nine of the ten high priority Phase 1 channel improvements identified in the Settlement. These nine actions have been grouped into three projects: the Mendota Pool Bypass and Reach 2B Channel Improvements Project; the Reach 4B, Eastside Bypass, and Mariposa Bypass Channel and Structural Improvements Project; and the Arroyo Canal Fish Screen and Sack Dam Fish Passage Project.

Actions to prepare for fish reintroduction also continue. The USFWS submitted a permit application to NMFS on September 30, 2010, for the reintroduction of spring-run Chinook salmon. Consistent with the Settlement and Public Law 111-11, NMFS is currently reviewing the permit application and preparing the necessary permits and rules for the reintroduction of spring-run with permit approval expected by the end of the year.

The Restoration Program has made progress on several actions in working towards the Water Management Goal in the Settlement. These actions include the recapture and recirculation of 52,000 acre-feet of Interim Flows in Water Year 2010 and 29,600 acre-feet in Water Year 2011. The Program also continues to develop operational guidelines for releasing Restoration Flows, a framework for the Recovered Water Account (RWA), and a plan for long-term recapture and recirculation of Restoration Flows. Additionally, the Public Draft Feasibility Report and Environmental Assessment for the Friant-Kern Canal Capacity Restoration Project were released. Progress continued also on the Madera Canal Capacity Restoration Feasibility Study. Finally, guidelines for financial assistance to local projects are underway.

Table 1. FY2013 Proposed Activities and Costs

CVPIA Section 3406 (c)(1), San Joaquin Comprehensive Plan

	3406 (c)(1) Requested Funding for Fiscal Year 2013				
	Restoration Fund	Water and Related Resources	State Cash	State In-Kind	Total All Sources
Total Funding	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000,000
Reclamation	\$2,000,000	\$0			\$2,000,000
Service	\$0	\$0			\$0
CA DFG			\$0	\$0	\$0
CA DWR			\$0	\$0	\$0

1.1 Program Management											
AWP Activity Number	Activity Name	Activity Description	Agency		Program Performance Goal	FY2013 Projected Performance	3406 (c)(1) Requested Funding for Fiscal Year 2013				
			Name	Fractional FTE			Restoration Fund	Water and Related Resources	State Cash	State In-Kind	Total All Sources
1.1.1	BOR Program Lead	Program Management- funded with San Joaquin River Restoration Program (H38-1987)	BOR	1.00							\$0
1.1.2	BOR Program Manager	Program Management- funded with San Joaquin River Restoration Program (H38-1987)	BOR	1.00							\$0
							Sub-Total for Program Management, FY2013				
							Restoration Fund	Water and Related Resources	State Cash	State In-Kind	Total All Sources
Subtotal Funding							\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Reclamation							\$0	\$0			\$0
Service							\$0	\$0			\$0
CA DFG									\$0	\$0	\$0
CA DWR									\$0	\$0	\$0

1.2		Program Support									
AWP Activity Number	Activity	Activity Name & Description	Agency		Program Performance Goal	FY2013 Projected Performance	3406 (c)(1) Requested Funding for Fiscal Year 2013				
			Name	Fractional FTE			Restoration Fund	Water and Related Resources	State Cash	State In-Kind	Total All Sources
1.2.1	USFWS Program Co-Lead	USFWS Program Management - Interagency Agreement, contract number R11PG20082, funded with San Joaquin River Restoration Program (H38-1987).	FWS	0.25			\$0				\$0
							Sub-Total for Program Support, FY2013				
							Restoration Fund	Water and Related Resources	State Cash	State In-Kind	Total All Sources
							\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
							Subtotal Funding				
							Reclamation	\$0	\$0		\$0
							Service	\$0	\$0		\$0
							CA DFG			\$0	\$0
							CA DWR			\$0	\$0

2.7		Construction/Implementation											
AWP Activity Number	Activity	Activity Name & Description	Agency		Program Performance Goal	FY2013 Projected Performance	3406 (c)(1) Requested Funding for Fiscal Year 2013						
			Name	Fractional FTE			Restoration Fund	Water and Related Resources	State Cash	State In-Kind	Total All Sources		
2.7.1	Arroyo Canal Fish Screen/Sack Dam	Construct a new Sack Dam to accommodate fish passage and improve operational control under the scheduled Restoration Flow regime. Construct a new transport channel/fish ladder, beginning at the downstream end of the vee screen and termination at the west abutment of Sack Dam. The transport channel/fish ladder would convey downstream migrating fish and accommodate upstream migrating fish past Sack Dam. Construct a new trash-rack Structure a the head of the Arroyo Canal, upstream of the new fish screenstructure, with an automated raking mechanism. Total project cost is \$25 million with \$1.4 million coming from Central Valley Project Improvement Act (H37-1591) and the balance of funding coming from San Joaquin River Restoration Program (H38-1987).	BOR	0.00	Restore and maintain fish populations	0	\$1,498,895					\$1,498,895	
							Sub-Total for Construction/Implementation, FY2013						
							Restoration Fund	Water and Related Resources	State Cash	State In-Kind	Total All Sources		
							Subtotal Funding	\$1,498,895	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,498,895	
							Reclamation Service	\$1,498,895	\$0			\$1,498,895	
							CA DFG	\$0	\$0			\$0	
							CA DWR			\$0	\$0	\$0	

4.1		Monitoring (Programmatic)										
AWP Activity Number	Activity	Activity Name & Description	Agency		Program Performance Goal	FY2013 Projected Performance	3406 (c)(1) Requested Funding for Fiscal Year 2013					
			Name	Fractional FTE			Restoration Fund	Water and Related Resources	State Cash	State In-Kind	Total All Sources	
4.1.1	Annual Technical Report	The Program's Implementing Agencies have developed and are implementing an annual cycle of identifying study needs and monitoring activities and providing for timely release of all quality controlled monitoring data. The Annual Technical Report presents an incremental update for monitoring and analysis results from the year. The Annual Technical Report is released twice yearly with a draft released to the public in late summer providing the monitoring data from the spring Interim Flow period. The final Annual Technical Report is released early the following year, providing the monitoring data from the previous Restoration Year (March 1 to February 28). Central Valley Project Improvement Act (H37-1591)	BOR	0.00	n/a	0	\$501,105					\$501,105
							Sub-Total for Monitoring (Programmatic), FY2013					
							Restoration Fund	Water and Related Resources	State Cash	State In-Kind	Total All Sources	
							<i>Subtotal Funding</i>	\$501,105	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$501,105
							<i>Reclamation Service</i>	\$501,105	\$0			\$501,105
							<i>CA DFG</i>	\$0	\$0			\$0
							<i>CA DWR</i>			\$0	\$0	\$0

Table 2 – Intentionally left blank