

## United States Department of the Interior

**BUREAU OF RECLAMATION** South-Central California Area Office 1243 N Street Fresno, CA 93721-1813



SCC-400 2.2.1.06

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Erik Ekdahl Deputy Director of Water Rights Attention: Mr. Arvin Chi State Water Resources Control Board P.O. Box 2000 Sacramento, CA 95812-2000 Erik.Ekdahl@waterboards.ca.gov Arvin.Chi@waterboards.ca.gov

Subject: Notification of Unexpected Streamflow Loss in Santa Ynez River at Refugio Road Site

downstream of Highway 154 Bridge

Dear Mr. Ekdahl:

We are writing to inform you that Reclamation has learned that the Santa Ynez River streamflow requirement at Highway 154 listed in Order 2019-0148 Term 15(a) may not have been met as measured on July 9, 2021.

State Water Resources Control Board Order 2019-0148 Term 15(a) established a requirement for flows to be maintained at 2.5 cfs at the Highway 154 Bridge when lake storage is less than 120,000 acre-feet but greater than 30,000 acre-feet (page 134). The lake storage on July 9, 2021 was 107,778 acre-feet, thus the flow per Term 15(a) should be maintained at 2.5 cfs. On July 9, 2021 the measured rate at the Refugio Road site (downstream of Highway 154 Bridge) was 1.99 cfs.

This deviation from Table 1 flow requirements listed in Term 15(a) was addressed on July 9, 2021 with releases from Bradbury Dam that were initially increased by 2 cfs to account for the unexpected drop in measured flows at the Refugio Road site. On July 10, 2021 a readjustment was made to a 1 cfs increase in releases to maintain the flow requirement. At the current time, releases from Bradbury Dam are resulting in Term 15(a) being met.

Reclamation is awaiting the collection of data from river stage data loggers to further analyze the conditions resulting in the deviation.

Subject: Notification of Unexpected Streamflow Loss in Santa Ynez River at Refugio Road Site downstream of Highway 154 Bridge

If you have any further questions, please contact David Hyatt at (559) 262-0334 or via electronic mail dhyatt@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Jackson, P.E.

Area Manager