
State Water Resources Control Board

TO: Interested Persons

FROM: Eileen Sobeck
Executive Director
State Water Resources Control Board

DATE: September 20, 2019

SUBJECT: BAY-DELTA PLAN: INITIAL UNIMPAIRED FLOW COMPLIANCE MEASURES

Pursuant to requirements of the 2018 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan) establishing updated Lower San Joaquin River flow objectives for the mainstem river and its three salmon bearing tributaries (LSJR), attached are initial LSJR flow compliance measures. These initial compliance measures do not have regulatory effect. The initial compliance measures provide the general conceptual basis the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) plans to use to develop regulatory compliance measures in the future as necessary, through a full public process, including receipt of public comments. Alternative compliance methods for any voluntary agreements may also be developed and presented to the State Water Board for consideration as part of any voluntary agreements process.

For the purpose of implementing the flow objectives in the future, the Bay-Delta Plan requires the State Water Board or Executive Director to identify measures to achieve the objectives and to monitor and evaluate compliance within 180 days of approval of the Plan amendments by Office of Administrative Law (OAL). Attachment A, Initial LSJR Flow Compliance Measures, meets this requirement. Attachment A generally describes how compliance is measured consistent with footnote 14 of the Bay-Delta Plan. Attachment A also identifies additional issues that will require further consideration prior to implementation of compliance measures. The initial compliance measures will be further refined to address these issues as part of a full public process before they are used for implementation purposes as discussed in Attachment A.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The State Water Board looks forward to working with the public further in the future to refine the initial compliance measures. In the interim, questions related to this matter may be directed to Erin Foresman at (916) 341-5359 or erin.foresman@waterboards.ca.gov.

Attachment A. Initial Unimpaired Flow Compliance Measures