

DROUGHT RELATED PUBLIC WORKSHOP

FEBRUARY 18-19, 2014



CALIFORNIA

Water Boards

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

Governor's Proclamation (January 17, 2014)

- Expedite transfers
 - SWP/CVP Consolidated Place of Use
- Put water right holders throughout the state on notice that they may be directed to cease or reduce water diversions
- Modify requirements to conserve water upstream for cold water pool, water supply, water quality

Topics for Today

- Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP) for Central Valley and State Water Projects
- Curtailments
- Transfers and Other Temporary Urgency Changes
- FERC Hydropower Projects

Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP) Central Valley and State Water Projects

- January 29, 2014 Petition for Temporary Urgency Change (TUCP) of Decision 1641 (D-1641) Water Right Terms:
 - Requested Changes:
 - Delta Cross Channel Gate Closure Requirements- open as needed to maintain salinity in the Delta
 - Delta outflow- operate to level needed to maintain 1,500 cfs health and safety exports
 - Modify these and other requirements as needed
 - Purpose: Conserve upstream storage for health and safety and fish, prevent significant sea water intrusion
- January 31, 2014: State Water Board Order
- February 7, 2014: modified Order

February 7 Order Conditions

- February Delta Outflows: $\geq 3,000$ cfs and pulse flow
- Delta Cross Channel Gate: Flexible operation Feb 1-May 20
- Export limits:
 - If D-1641 requirements not met then Exports $\leq 1,500$ cfs or public health and safety pumping levels; not applicable to transfers
 - If D-1641 requirements are met then Exports may be $>1,500$ cfs, if amount over 1,500 cfs is from natural or abandoned flows, or transfers
- Real-Time Drought Operations Management Team
- Conserved Water: to be stored for later critical uses
- Other Requirements: water balance, modeling, monitoring
- Determine what export levels needed for health and safety

Real-Time Drought Operations Management Team

- **Purpose:** Decide real-time operations under TUCP Order based on actual conditions
- **Members:** State Water Board, Department of Water Resources, US Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Fish and Wildlife, National Marine Fisheries Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service
- **Actions:** Any changes to TUCP Order will be noticed for public comment

Central Valley and State Water Projects TUCP Order - Next Steps

- Continued coordination through Real-Time Drought Operations Management Team
- Deadline for filing objections to Order: March 3, 2014 at noon
- If necessary, evidentiary hearing on any objections may be held at a later date
- Future Order modifications may occur based on public input or changed circumstances

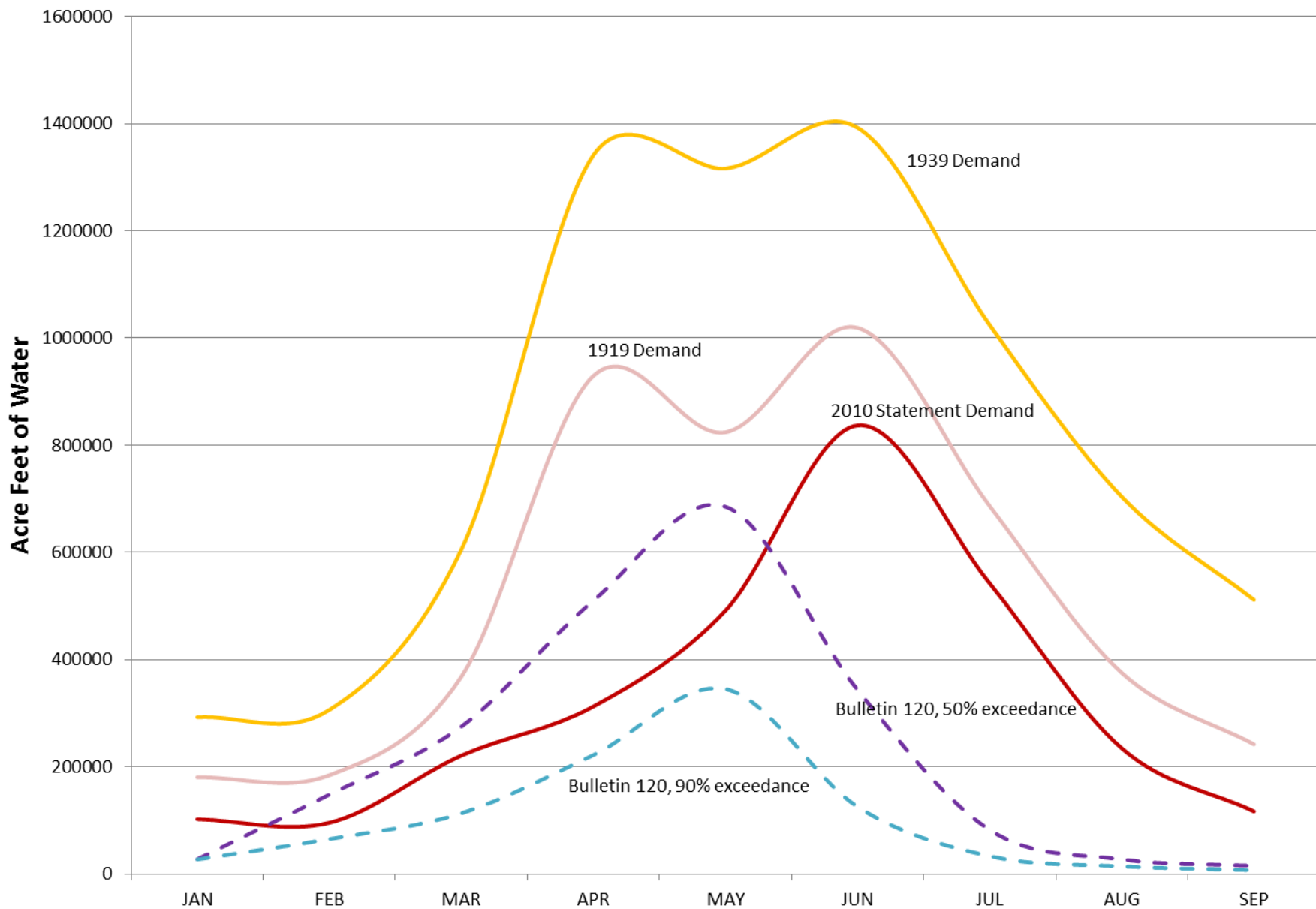
Potential Curtailment Notice

- January 17, 2014 – Notice of Surface Water Shortage and Potential for Curtailment of Water Right Diversions

Factors to Consider in Prioritizing Watersheds for Curtailement

- Water supply forecast will not meet estimated water demand
- Presence of water distressed communities in a watershed
- Critical public trust in-stream flow needs such as for endangered species

Example Watershed Supply & Demand



Transfers and Other Change Petitions

- Received several petitions since mid-January
- Most are Urgency Changes (last 180 days, renewable)
- Change requests vary, such as:
 - Fish flow (bypass flow) relief
 - Add a point of re-diversion

Sonoma County Water Agency

- Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP) due to urgent need to preserve storage in Lake Mendocino
- Modifications to hydrologic index for upper Russian River
 - Based on Lake Mendocino storage values in lieu of current Lake Pillsbury index

Short Term Water Transfers

- Enables water to flow where needed most
- Expedite transfers
- Coordination with DWR/USBR
- Short term transfers received to date
- Consolidated Place of Use

FERC Hydropower Project Flows

- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC):
 - Responsible for issuing licenses for non-federal hydropower projects
- State Water Board:
 - Responsible for issuing water quality certifications for these hydropower projects
 - Certifications outline conditions to ensure compliance with Clean Water Act and other appropriate requirements of State law
 - Certification becomes part of FERC license
- Licenses and certifications contain flow requirements

FERC Hydropower Projects: Drought Related Activities

- Review requests for changes to certification requirements
- Consult with licensees interested in potential changes to flow requirements
- Coordination with FERC and Department of Water Resources
- Participation on Governor's Hydropower Working Group

Additional Information

Drought Webpage:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/drought/index.shtml

From home page click on:
“Drought Year Info”

Future Updates

- To receive future updates sign up to receive emails online at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/

- Select “State Water Resources Control Board”
- Enter email address and full name
- Under Categories, select “Water Rights”
- Select box for “Drought Updates”
- Click “Subscribe” button at top

Questions or Comments

