

## Memorandum

Date: June 1, 2015

To: Ms. Barbara Evoy, Deputy Director  
Division of Water Rights  
State Water Resources Control Board  
P.O Box 2000  
Sacramento, CA 95812-200

From: Neil Manji, Regional Manager   
Region 1 – Northern

Subject: **Deer Creek Monitoring Results and Local Cooperative Solution**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) has been conducting weekly snorkel surveys in lower Deer Creek below Stanford Vina Irrigation Company (SVRIC) Dam since April 23, 2015, to determine the presence/absence and relative abundance of juvenile salmonids utilizing this stream section. The Department's latest survey showed a significant decrease in juvenile salmonid abundance relative to previous surveys. In addition, the Department has reviewed the video data at SVRIC through May 25, 2015, and adult spring-run Chinook (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) haven't passed since May 21, 2015.

Drought conditions have resulted in uncharacteristically low flows well below 100 cubic feet per second (cfs) and high water temperatures in Deer Creek.

Per section 878.2 of the Emergency Regulation, the Department, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Deer Creek Irrigation District have entered into a local cooperative solution to provide a pulse flow and ramp down schedule to pass any remaining salmonids before water quality conditions deteriorate further. After discussing the solution with SVRIC, they are not willing to enter into a local cooperative solution, but are not currently diverting water.

Please accept the flow schedule below to protect specific fisheries resources during the drought:

- Closure of all Deer Creek diversions on June 1, 2015, at 3:00 pm until June 3, 2015, at 8:00 am.
- Ramping down schedule starting on June 3, 2015, at 8:00 am, such that each adjustment in flow reduction will not exceed 10 cfs, with a minimum 3 hour period between adjustments until base flow below SVRIC is zero.

If you have any questions, please contact Northern Region Fisheries Program Manager Curtis Milliron at (530) 225-2280.

Ms. Barbara Evoy

June 1, 2015

Page 2

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