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Sent: Friday, May 24, 2013 4:04 PM

To: Marcus, Felicia@Waterboards; Howard, Tom@Waterboards; Wilson, Craig@Waterboards; Grober, Les@Waterboards

Cc: Riddle, Diane@Waterboards; Leahigh, John@DWR; [pfujitani@usbr.gov](mailto:pfujitani@usbr.gov); Dibble, Chad@Wildlife; Maria Rea - NOAA Federal; [Garwin.Yip@noaa.gov](mailto:Garwin.Yip@noaa.gov); [Jennifer.norris@fws.gov](mailto:Jennifer.norris@fws.gov); [Kim\\_S\\_Turner@fws.gov](mailto:Kim_S_Turner@fws.gov)

Subject: CDFW concurrence with proposed changes to Delta WQ standards requested by DWR and Reclamation

Board Chair Marcus,

This e-mail is to provide California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) support/concurrence regarding the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) and California Department of Water Resources' (DWR) proposal that the SWRCB change the Sacramento Valley Water Year Hydrologic Classification Index (40-30-30) water year type from "dry" to "critical" as it pertains to the Water Quality Objectives for Agricultural Beneficial Uses under D-1641 at the following Western Delta and Interior Delta monitoring stations:

- \* Sacramento River at Emmaton, Station D-22;
- \* San Joaquin River at Jersey Point, Station D-15;
- \* South Fork Mokelumne River at Terminus, Station C-13; and
- \* San Joaquin River at San Andreas Landing, Station C-4.

This request is to support applying the new water year classification as soon as possible, through August 15, 2013. The biggest benefit to changing the water year type for the specific water quality stations is increased storage in (or conversely, reducing the rate of drawdown of) Shasta Reservoir. This will likely benefit the life history needs of the 2013 cohorts of Chinook salmon, in addition to providing higher carryover storage (than otherwise would be realized) to begin water year 2014.

The proposal was discussed on a conference call today, Friday, May 24, among members of the SWRCB, Reclamation, DWR, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), CDFW, and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). In addition, the fish agencies conferred on the proposal and concur. The USFWS and NMFS will send separate e-mails expressing their support for the proposal. It is our understanding that a letter making the subject request will be forthcoming this afternoon. CDFW is providing this email concurrence to allow for a timely decision to maximize protection of Shasta storage to protect Chinook salmon. Any change in the formal submission by DWR and Reclamation to the SWRCB this afternoon from what is described above, will require re-evaluation by the CDFW before we could provide our concurrence.

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