



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

IN REPLY REFER TO:

MP-440
WTR-4.10

JUN 17 2015

Ms. Barbara Evoy
Deputy Director for Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Subject: Petition for Temporary Urgency Change – CVP Permits 14858A et al, New Melones Project
California

Dear Ms. Evoy:

Please find enclosed four Petitions for Temporary Change (Petitions) for four New Melones Project permits filed pursuant to Water Code Section 1435. The Bureau of Reclamation requests that the State Water Resources Control Board temporarily change the dissolved oxygen condition in Permits 16597, 16598, 16599, and 16600 from a minimum of 7.0 mg/l to a minimum of 5.0 mg/l through November 30, 2015, due to the continuing drought. The Stanislaus River experienced a jump in water temperatures late last week at Ripon and the dissolved oxygen values correspondingly dropped. On June 8, the minimum dissolved oxygen was 6.9 mg/l and Reclamation expects to see values below 7.0 mg/l whenever water temperatures are elevated in the Stanislaus River this season.

This request has been considered and is supported by the Real Time Drought Operations Management Team, which was established to recommend additional changes to D-1641 and temporary urgency changes necessary to address risks presented by the ongoing and severe drought. The enclosed Petitions indicate that legal users of water will not be injured by the requested change. Also, the requested change should not have an unreasonable impact to fish and wildlife. Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) have prepared a Biological Review that includes this requested change for Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultation purposes with the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. When the ESA consultations are completed and determinations are made, DWR will seek a consistency determination from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The final consultation information will be submitted to the SWRCB once it is complete.

Subject: Petitions for Temporary Change – Permits 273 et al, Central Valley Project

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Reclamation appreciates the assistance that the Division will be providing in processing these Petitions. Reclamation's point of contact for these Petitions is Ms. Lisa Holm, Water Rights Specialist. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Holm at 916-978-5252 or by e-mail lholtm@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Woodley
Regional Resources Manager

Enclosures