Attachment A

Water Transfer Description and Environmental Information for 2015 EID to WWD Temporary Water Transfer Project

Attachment A

Introduction

This document (Attachment) provides details, analyses, maps, figures and graphics in support of a proposed 2015 water transfer for up to 3,100 acre-feet from El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) to Westlands Water District (WWD). The information is intended to facilitate review and approval of the transfer by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), as required for a portion of the proposed transfer.

Organization

The remainder of this Attachment is organized as follows:

1. Overview of Transfer Parties –a brief introduction to both EID and WWD, with relevant information regarding the basis for the transfer
2. Summary of the Proposed Transfer – a summary of the proposed transfer, including sources of water, method to make water available, and requested changes to a water right license for a portion of the transfer
3. Requested Changes to the Point of Diversion and Place of Use for Water Right License 2184 (A001692)
4. Transfer Details –information regarding the proposed timing of releases, flow rates and other relevant details, including graphs, maps and tables and proposed measurement/compliance metrics
5. Demonstrating Compliance with Water Code Statutes - information regarding no injury to other legal users or to fish and wildlife, as required under Water Code Section 1727
6. Other relevant information

1. Overview of Transfer Parties

The proposed transfer is between EID and WWD for delivery of the water during summer and fall of 2015. The following provides a brief overview of each public water supplier.

El Dorado Irrigation District

El Dorado Irrigation District was organized in 1925 under the Irrigation District Law (Water Code Section 20500, et seq.). EID provides water to a population of more than 100,000 people within its service area for municipal, industrial, and irrigation uses, as well as wastewater treatment and recycled water services, to meet the growing needs of its customers. It also operates recreational facilities as a condition of its Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license. As such, EID is one of the few California districts that provide a full complement of water services.

EID is located in El Dorado County on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The service area is bounded by Sacramento County to the west and the community of Strawberry to the east. The area north of the communities of Coloma and Lotus establishes the northern-most part of the service area, while the communities of Pleasant Valley and South Shingle Springs establish the southern boundary. EID's contiguous service area spans 220 square miles and ranges from 500 feet in elevation, at the Sacramento County line, to more than 4,000 feet in elevation in the eastern part of EID. Two hundred pressure-regulating zones are required for reliable operation. The water system contains more than 1,295 miles of pipeline, 27 miles of ditches, 5 treatment plants, 34 storage tanks and reservoirs, and 38 pumping stations.

EID owns and operates a FERC-licensed hydroelectric power generation system consisting of a powerhouse, 5 reservoirs (Echo Lake, Lake Aloha, Caples Lake, Silver Lake, and El Dorado Forebay), and over 22 miles of flumes, canals, siphons, and tunnels. Project facilities are located east of Placerville in El Dorado, Alpine, and Amador counties. EID also owns and operates several other water facilities including Jenkinson Lake and numerous other water rights and reservoirs acquired in the 1900's including Weber Reservoir and many pre-1914 water rights.

Westlands Water District

Westlands Water District was formed in 1952 and encompasses more than 600,000 acres of farmland in western Fresno and Kings Counties. WWD serves approximately 600 family-owned farms that average 900 acres in size.

Water is delivered to WWD through the Central Valley Project (CVP), a federal water project that stores water in large reservoirs in Northern California for use by cities and farms throughout California. After it is released from CVP reservoirs, the water is typically pumped from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) via U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation's) Bill Jones Pumping Plant (Jones) and delivered 70 miles through the Delta-Mendota Canal to San Luis Reservoir. During spring and summer, the water is released from San Luis Reservoir and delivered to WWD farmers through the San Luis Canal and the Coalinga Canal. Once it leaves the CVP canals, water is delivered to farmers through 1,034 miles of underground pipe and more than 3,300 water meters.

WWD farmers produce more than 60 commercial food and fiber crops sold for the fresh, dry, canned, and frozen food markets, both domestic and export. More than 50,000 people live and work in the communities dependent on the WWD's agricultural economy. The communities in and near the WWD's boundaries include Mendota, Huron, Tranquility, Firebaugh, Three Rocks, Cantua Creek, Helm, San Joaquin, Kerman, Lemoore, and Coalinga.

WWD is interested in augmenting its water supply through this transfer based on the non-availability of their CVP contract water (zero percent south-of-Delta contracted CVP

allocations in 2015) to provide their agricultural customers a critical water supply for irrigating their crops during the 2015 growing season. Transfer water that EID provides to WWD will be used entirely within the WWD service area for irrigation of agricultural crops (**Attachment B**).

2. Summary of the Proposed Transfer

EID proposes to transfer up to 3,100 acre-feet (AF) of water during August and September 2015 to WWD through re-operations of EID reservoirs.

Under the proposed transfer, EID would release approximately 700 AF from Weber Reservoir, which stores water pursuant to Water Right License 2184 (Application 1692). This portion of the transfer requires approval of a Petition for Change Involving Water Transfers from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to temporarily add a Place of Use (POU) and Point(s) of Rediversion (PORD) under License 2184. The portion of the water transfer subject to the change petition is exempt from the CEQA under California Water Code (CWC) Section 1725 and CEQA Guidelines 15282(u) as long as the transfer would not injure any legal user of the water or unreasonably affect fish, wildlife, or other instream beneficial uses. Information regarding potential effects of the Weber Reservoir re-operation portion of the proposed transfer is included in Section 5 of this Attachment.

To accomplish the portion of this transfer associated with the Water Right License 2184, EID seeks the following temporary (one year or less) changes in the POU and PORD, consistent with California Water Code §1725-§1732, to Water Right License 2184:

1. The temporary addition of the United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) Central Valley Project (CVP) Bill Jones Pumping Plant (Jones) intake facility as a PORD,
2. The temporary addition of San Luis Reservoir (SLR), a Reclamation CVP facility, as a PORD; and
3. The temporary addition of the WWD service area POU.

Maps demonstrating the locations of EID's water sources, existing POD and POU under Water Right License 2184, the proposed flow paths to Folsom Reservoir and from Folsom Reservoir to WWD, and the requested PORDs and POU are provided in **Attachment B**.

In the proposed transfer, EID will also release approximately 2,400 AF from Silver Lake Reservoir, which stores water pursuant to a pre-1914 water right (Statement 004708). Transfer of the stored pre-1914 water is subject to CEQA review, but does not require a petition to the SWRCB. EID has prepared an Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND) to comply with CEQA requirements. The IS/ND is available on the EID website at www.eid.org.

Weber Reservoir Re-Operation

For approximately a decade, EID has made discretionary releases from Weber Reservoir to provide non-federal supplies for its own use through a Warren Act Contract at Folsom Reservoir. Due to the availability of other supplies in 2015 that have not previously been available and strategic management of reservoir operations, EID does not anticipate releasing stored water currently available in this reservoir during 2015. Therefore, absent the transfer, EID would only make minimum releases as required by law in 2015, thereby retaining water diverted under Water Right License 2184 in storage.

For the proposed transfer, EID would re-operate Weber Reservoir to draw it down under a schedule approved by Reclamation and deliver this water to Folsom Reservoir for transfer to WWD. EID would release approximately 700 AF from Weber Reservoir starting August 1st and ending on or about September 23rd, with flows essentially consistent during a three week period within this timeframe. Details are provided in Section 4.

EID is seeking SWRCB approval of the aforementioned temporary changes to its Weber Reservoir licensed water right (License 2184; Application 1692) under CWC Section 1725, et seq. EID will enter into a refill agreement with Reclamation to protect Folsom Reservoir storage in 2016. WWD is responsible for obtaining a Warren Act Contract and conveyance agreement with Reclamation to allow the delivered transfer water to be collected at Folsom Reservoir and conveyed to WWD.

Silver Lake/Jenkinson Lake Re-Operation

The transfer also would include approximately 2,400 AF made available through the re-operation of water previously stored in EID's Silver Lake pursuant to pre-1914 water rights, and managed during the year between Silver Lake and Jenkinson Lake. EID operates Jenkinson Lake and upstream Project 184 reservoirs, including Silver Lake, cooperatively so as to optimize available water supplies and provide desired carry-over for subsequent years.

In the absence of the proposed transfer, EID's 2015 operation plan is to release water previously stored under Silver Lake's pre-1914 water rights in summer and early fall for immediate consumptive use and/or delivery into Jenkinson Lake (which is within the Cosumnes River watershed). This planned without-transfer action would re-divert releases of water previously stored in Silver Lake via EID's Kyburz Diversion Dam and El Dorado Canal, from which it would flow either directly to EID's water treatment plant or into Jenkinson Lake via the Hazel Creek Tunnel.

Under the proposed transfer, EID would instead use water already stored in Jenkinson Lake to meet demands during this time period in lieu of using water from Silver Lake, and EID would also not operate the Hazel Creek Tunnel to replenish Jenkinson Lake from Silver Lake. This re-operation would allow water previously stored in Silver Lake to instead be released and re-diverted at Folsom Reservoir between August 1 and September 23, 2015 for transfer to WWD by September 30, 2015. EID would draw on Jenkinson Lake storage for

meeting demands, resulting in a lower than planned end-of-season storage in Jenkinson Lake. The decrease in Jenkinson Lake storage would be approximately equal to the water released from Silver Lake for transfer. This proposed re-operation is detailed in Section 4.

Transfer of the Silver Lake water stored under a pre-1914 water right (S004708) would not require a petition to the SWRCB. EID would conduct all September releases from Silver Lake in accordance with all applicable requirements and in coordination with Reclamation. As described in Section 2.4.3 below, WWD is responsible for obtaining a Warren Act Contract from and conveyance agreement with Reclamation delivery of transfer water to and conveyance from Folsom Reservoir.

Temporary Storage in Folsom Reservoir and San Luis Reservoir

Because Folsom Reservoir is an existing POD under Water Right License 2184, the use of Folsom Reservoir to temporarily store and subsequently release transfer water will be covered under a Warren Act Agreement between WWD and Reclamation. Folsom Reservoir would be the Point of Delivery from EID to WWD.

Reclamation would provide the transfer water from the Point of Delivery to WWD on a schedule that is mutually agreeable and/or beneficial to Reclamation, WWD, and the environment such that it will not disrupt normal CVP or State Water Project (SWP) operations and will adhere to all current flow standards for the lower American River (LAR) from Lake Natoma to the confluence with the Sacramento River, as well as the most up-to-date requirements for the Delta as directed by the SWRCB.

WWD would divert the transfer water at the Bill Jones Pumping Plant (Jones) intake facility (see map in **Attachment B**) and conveyed south for approximately 70 miles via the Delta Mendota Canal to San Luis Reservoir. WWD would temporarily store transferred water in San Luis Reservoir, a PORD sought under this petition, and then deliver the water within its service area via the San Luis Canal, thence the Coalinga Canal (see map in **Attachment B**).

WWD will coordinate with Reclamation's Central Valley Operations (CVO) staff to determine the timing and flow rate of transfer water releases from the POD in Folsom Reservoir for rediversion at the Jones intake facility.

3. Requested Changes to POD and POU for Weber Reservoir

As previously discussed, the transfer water includes water released from Weber Reservoir under License 2184 (Application 1692) and from Silver Lake Reservoir under pre-1914 right S004708. This petition only seeks approval from the SWRCB under CWC §1725-§1732 for the Weber Reservoir portion of the transfer water quantity.

Current Point of Diversion for License 2184 (Application 1692)

Current points of diversion and rediversion of Weber Reservoir include:

- Point of Diversion: Weber Reservoir Dam – North 27° 32' East 1,595 feet from the S1/4 corner of Section 18, T10N, R12E, MDB&M, being within the NW1/4 of SE1/4 of Section 18.
- Point of Rediversion: Folsom Reservoir Pump Station – North 25° 06' East, 2,358 feet from the SW corner of Section 1, T10N, R8E, MDB&M, being within the NW1/4 of SW1/4 of Section 1.

Proposed Point(s) of Rediversion for License 2184 (Application 1692)

EID proposes to temporarily add the following points of rediversion to Water Right License 2184:

1. Bill Jones Pumping Plant - This CVP Point of Rediversion is located 37°47'47.22"N/ 121°35'8.06"W, California Coordinate System, Zone 3, NAD 83, being within the SW 1/4 of Section 35, T1S, R3E, MDB&M. This proposed point of rediversion is identified on maps filed with the Division under Application 9368, and shown in **Attachment B**.
2. San Luis Reservoir - This CVP Point of Rediversion is located 37° 4'27.36"N/121° 0'54.55"W California Coordinate System, Zone 3, NAD 83, being within the SE 1/4 of Section 7, T10S, R9E, MDB&M. This proposed point of temporary storage and rediversion is identified on maps filed with the Division under Reclamation Application 15764 (Permit 12860) for the use of San Luis Reservoir, and shown in **Attachment B**.

Current Place of Use of License 2184 (Application 1692)

The current POU for water in Weber Reservoir under License 2184 (Application 1692) includes:

1. Fish and Wildlife Preservation and Enhancement and Fire Protection uses at Weber Reservoir within SW1/4 of Section 17 and SE1/4 of Section 18, T10N, R12E, MDB&M, and Fish and Wildlife Preservation and Enhancement and Recreation uses within North Fork Weber Creek, Weber Creek and South Fork American River from Weber Reservoir Dam to Folsom Reservoir.
2. Municipal, Industrial, Irrigation and Fire Protection uses within the boundaries of EID comprising 30,702 acres as shown on map dated April 8, 1927 filed with the SWRCB and El Dorado Hills area as shown on map dated January 26, 2006, filed with the SWRCB.

Proposed Place of Use of License 2184 (Application 1692)

EID proposes to add the service area of WWD as an additional POU for Water Right License 2184 in order to facilitate the temporary water transfer to WWD. This proposed temporary (one year) addition to the POU includes the WWD service area as shown in **Attachment B**.

Current Purpose of Use of License 2184 (Application 1692)

Water rights associated with Weber Reservoir under License 2184 (Application 1692) are granted for the following purposes of use as described under the POU: 1) Fish and Wildlife Preservation and Enhancement, 2) Fire Protection, 3) Recreation, 4) Municipal and Industrial, and 5) Irrigation.

Proposed Purpose of Use of License 2184 (Application 1692)

The petition requests no change to the existing purposes of use; WWD would use the transfer water predominantly for irrigation uses in its service area.

4. Transfer Details

The section provides important details regarding the planned reservoir operations with and without the proposed transfer.

Weber Reservoir Proposed Re-operation

To achieve the targeted 700 acre-feet (AF) water transfer from Weber Reservoir during the months of August and September, the District would release water from storage at a flow rate equal to or less than the observed maximum monthly flow (10.5 cfs in September 2011) that has occurred during the proposed transfer period over the past five years in Weber Creek (Table 1). Modeling results indicate that approximately 700 AF can be released from Weber Reservoir beginning on August 1 and ending on or about September 23 while maintaining releases at rates less than 10.5 cfs. The maximum release rate during the period of the transfer release would not exceed approximately 10 cfs, though may be as low as 7.5 cfs.

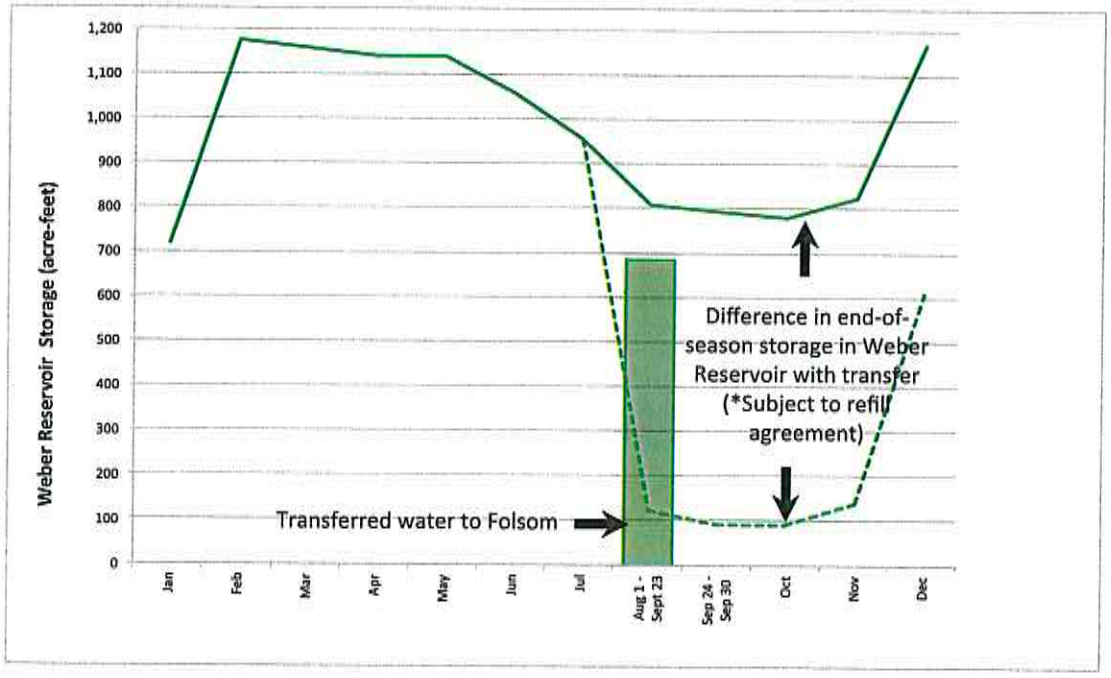
Table 1: Weber Reservoir 2015 storage conditions with/without the proposed transfer

Weber Reservoir Releases 2010 through 2014 Historical Data and Planned Reservoir Operations (all values in CFS)												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Transfer Period Aug 1 to Sep 23	Sep 24 to Sep 30	Oct	Nov	Dec
Maximum	94.8	82.3	134.2	99.6	68.8	46.4	20.7	10.5	9.5	8.2	3.3	148.1
Minimum	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.2	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.9
Average	13.1	17.1	40.8	36.2	21.9	14.1	3.6	3.8	4.2	1.9	1.6	19.3
2015 Actual	2.3	14.1	25.8	1.3	1.2	1.1	---					
2015 Planned without Transfer Condition												
Released from Weber Reservoir							1.3	1	1	1	1.1	1.1
2015 Planned with Transfer Condition												
Released from Weber Reservoir (max)							1.3	10	1	1	1.1	1.1

Storage in Weber Reservoir at the beginning of August 2015 is expected to be approximately 915 AF. With the water transfer occurring through September 23, 2015, the resulting storage would decline to approximately 121 AF by September 23.

The capacity of Weber Reservoir is 1,125 AF. Water Right License 2184 authorizes diversion of up to 1,000 AF per year, and requires an annual minimum storage of 200 AF on September 1, and minimum releases not less than 1 cubic foot per second (cfs) to protect and enhance fish, wildlife, and recreation in Weber Creek downstream of Weber Reservoir when reservoir storage is available. With the proposed transfer of approximately 700 AF from Weber Reservoir, the September 1 storage requirement would be met, and the planned carryover storage would be managed to ensure sufficient continued outflow releases beyond October 1. Based upon modeling of recent hydrology, Weber Reservoir storage would likely drop to approximately 110 AF, but may go as low as 80 AF depending on fall weather patterns, prior to refilling during the fall and winter of 2015/2016. Actual refill following the transfer will be subject to an agreement to be entered into with Reclamation. However, even using hydrologic conditions from 2013/14 and 2014/15 as proxy conditions, Weber Reservoir would easily refill following the transfer, and sufficient carryover storage is expected to be available in future years to provide required minimum flows. Figure 1 demonstrates expected with and without the transfer storage conditions.

Figure 1: 2015 Storage Conditions with and without the proposed transfer



Silver Lake/Jenkinson Lake Proposed Re-operation

As described in Section 2, this portion of the proposed transfer changes operations at two reservoirs. Figure 2 provides a schematic representation of the with-transfer and without-transfer operations of Silver Lake and Jenkinson Lake during the transfer period.

The targeted 2,400 AF water transfer from Silver Lake was modeled with the concept of providing transfer release flow at rates less than the observed maximum rate occurring during the past five years in Silver Fork. EID would release transfer water from Silver Lake from August 1st through September 23rd at a flow rate equal to or less than observed maximum monthly rate flow during that same time period over the past five years (i.e., 133.3 cfs in September 2011); the maximum modeled transfer release rate would be approximately 84.9 cfs over the 8-day time period between September 16 and 23 (Table 2).

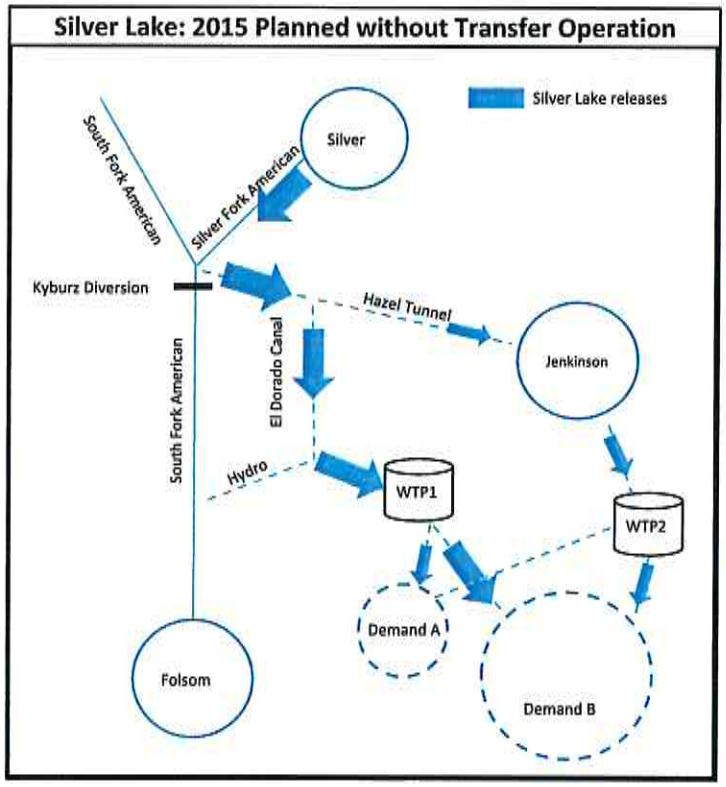
EID would release approximately 1,500 AF of water from Silver Lake into the Silver Fork during August and through September 15th, consisting of 'minimum release plus leakage' flows (13.8 cfs average flow)[1]. As such, storage in Silver Lake during the August 1st through September 15th time-period was calculated to be approximately 5,333 AF, both with and without transfer flows. During September 16 through 23, 2015, resulting storage in Silver Lake would be reduced to approximately 4,082 AF, as compared to approximately 4,569 AF without the transfer release. During the following week (September 24th through 30th), storage in Silver Lake, with and without the transfer release, was calculated to be 3,772 and 3,852 AF, respectively (Figure 3).

Table 2: Silver Lake and Jenkinson Lake 2015 storage conditions with/without the proposed transfer

1. The proposed transfer would result in releases from Silver Lake being directed to Folsom Reservoir rather than diverted for direct consumption or diversion to storage in Jenkinson Lake. As a result, the minimum flow releases required by EID's operating license agreement, coupled with leakage recognized as part of the contributing flows into Silver Fork American River would contribute the initial quantities of the transfer to WWD. These would be augmented by higher releases during September 16 through September 23, when EID is allowed to increase releases above the minimum flow and leakage rates.

2010 through 2014 HistoricData and Planned Reservoir Operations (all values in CFS)													
								Transfer Period		Sep 24			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug 1 to Sep 15	Sep 16 to Sep 23	to Sep 30	Oct	Nov	Dec
Maximum	46.8	98.1	41.9	250	262.7	672.1	286.6	33.1	133.3	139.1	208.4	33.9	208.5
Minimum	5.7	3.5	0.5	4.9	23	19	13.7	9.4	10.2	20.3	5.3	5	4.9
Average	17.9	18.4	14.9	46.5	79.2	104.6	44.8	15.9	52.7	50.6	21.9	10.9	27
2015 Actual	9.5	29.3	18	17.2	20	21.1	---						
2015 Planned without Transfer Condition													
Released from Silver Lake							18.3	13.8	49.9	48.6	7.5	6.7	6.2
routed to Jenkinson or directly to WTP							18.3	13.8	49.9	48.6	7.5	6.7	6.2
Increased Jenkinson release to meet WTP demand							0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2015 Planned with Transfer Condition													
Released from Silver Lake							18.3	13.8	84.9	8.1	7.5	6.7	6.2
routed to Jenkinson or directly to WTP							18.3	0	0	8.1	7.5	6.7	6.2
Increased Jenkinson release to meet WTP demand							0	13.8	84.9	0	0	0	0

Figure 2: Schematic of Silver Lake and Jenkinson Lake interactions



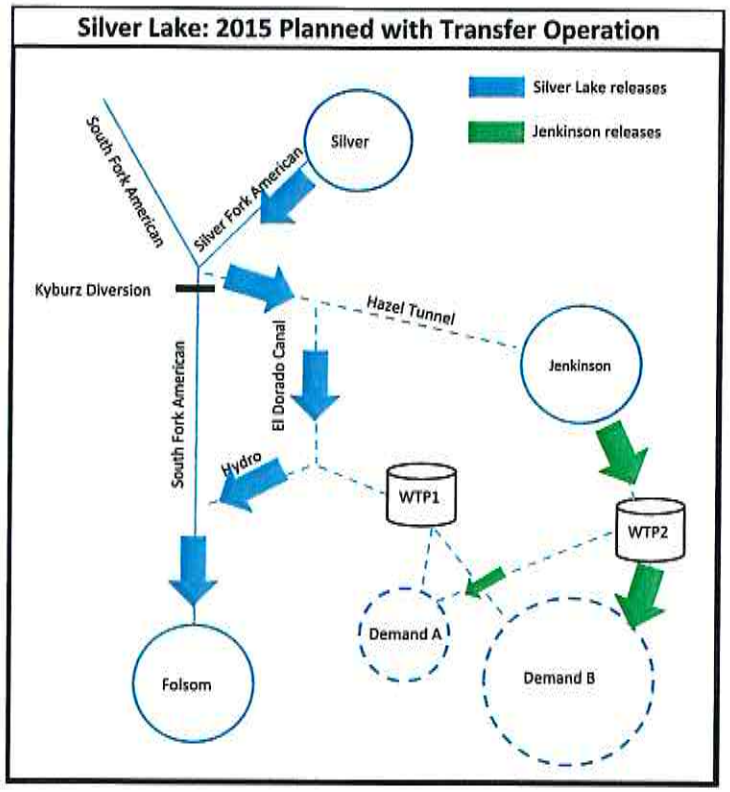
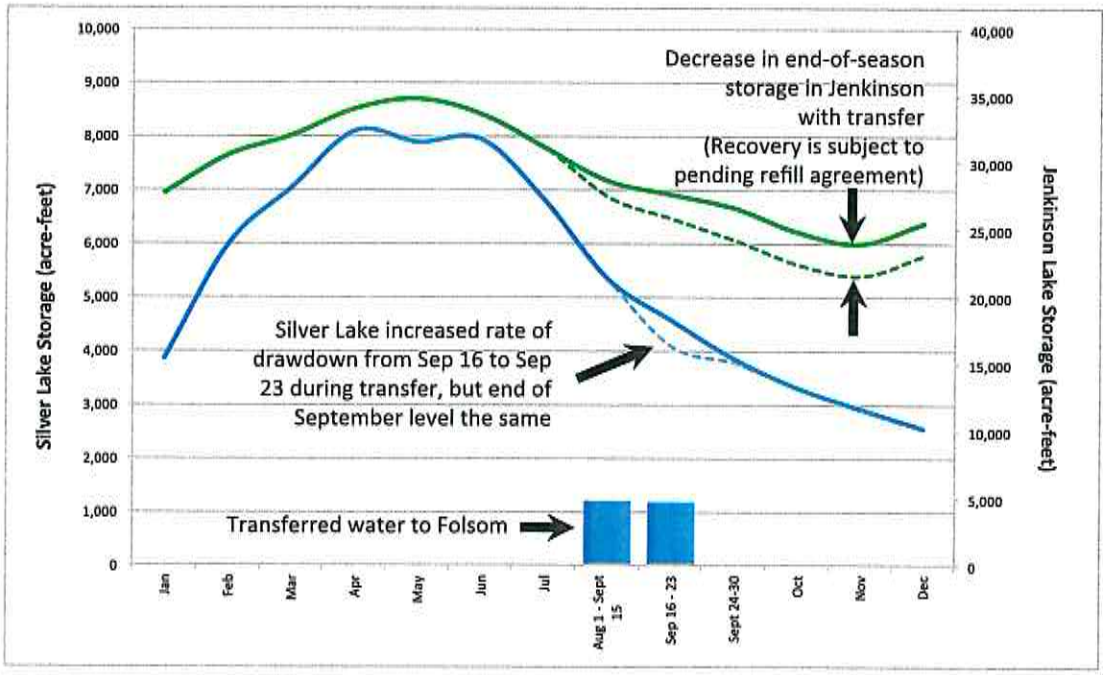


Figure 3: 2015 Storage Conditions with and without the proposed transfer for Silver Lake and Jenkinson Lake



5. Demonstrating Compliance with Water Code Statutes

The following provides the SWRCB with necessary information to answer the key questions articulated in Water Code §1727, namely:

- §1727(b)(1) The proposed temporary change would not injure any legal user of the water, during any potential hydrologic condition that the board determines is likely to occur during the proposed change, through significant changes in water quantity, water quality, timing of diversion or use, consumptive use of the water, or reduction in return flows.
- §1727(b)(2) The proposed temporary change would not unreasonably affect fish, wildlife, or other instream beneficial uses.

Information to Support Finding of No-Injury from Proposed Changes to Weber Reservoir Re-operation

No legal user of water would be injured with the proposed project because EID's transfer of water would only slightly increase, not decrease, streamflow in Weber Creek and the South Fork American River below the El Dorado Powerhouse. Any such increase would be minor and would not cause any water flows to increase above seasonal levels when compared to the past 5 years.

Reclamation would provide the transfer water from the Point of Delivery to Jones on a schedule that is mutually agreeable and/or beneficial to Reclamation, WWD, and the environment such that it would not disrupt normal CVP or SWP operations and would adhere to all current flow standards for the LAR from Lake Natoma to the confluence with the Sacramento River, as well as the most up–to–date requirements for the Delta as directed by the SWRCB, the CVP Biological Opinion and other applicable standards.

The diversion of Transfer Water at the Jones intake facility would also comply with current standards and all state and federal regulations and permits that apply to the proposed PORDs. The proposed transfer of approximately 700 AF from Weber Reservoir, as well as the supply available from Silver Lake for a total proposed transfer of up to 3,100 AF, is currently in storage in accordance with EID's water rights and, with or without this proposed transfer, would not be available to any other legal user of water. The Water Transfer would not affect EID's ability to meet future obligations.

In addition, as part of the proposed project, EID and Reclamation would enter into a refill agreement for Weber Reservoir and Jenkinson Lake with conditions acceptable to both parties. One such condition is that CVP and WWD water system operations would not be adversely affected during the 2016 refill period by the transfer of previously stored water in 2015.

Information to Support Finding of No Unreasonable Affects on the Environment from Weber Reservoir Re-operation

An analysis of effects from EID's proposed Water Transfer on fish and aquatic wildlife in Weber Reservoir, Weber Creek, and downstream watercourses indicates that less-than-significant effects (*no unreasonable effects*) on those resources would likely occur. **Attachment C** details this finding.

6. Other Relevant Information

In addition to Reclamation and SWRCB, EID and WWD are coordinating with appropriate local, state and federal agencies to obtain all necessary approvals, consultations or noticing for the proposed transfer including:

1. California Department of Fish and Wildlife
2. California Regional Water Quality Control Board
3. All Counties affected by the transfer, including: Amador, El Dorado, Fresno, Kings.

California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)

Consistent with Water Code § 1726, a copy of this Petition will be sent prior to Public Notice to the CDFW North Central Region Sierra District Fisheries Supervisor Kevin Thomas at 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 Phone: (916) 358-2945, FAX: (916) 358-2912.

EID expects CDFW to indicate that the transfer will not unreasonably affect fish or wildlife resources because very similar transfers from other purveyors within the American River watershed have occurred in the past with no adverse impacts identified by CDFW. Furthermore, as detailed in **Attachment C**, the transfer has been determined to not have unreasonable effects.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

EID has not formally contacted the Regional Board staff, but intends to send a copy of this Petition prior to the posting of the Public Notice and opening of the comment period. The water proposed for transfer is very high–quality runoff derived predominantly from snowmelt and rains falling in largely undeveloped higher elevation portions of El Dorado County in the Sierra Nevada mountains.

Specifically, the proposed transfer would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. The proposed transfer would use existing reservoirs, streams, and rivers operating within all applicable requirements. Given the low ambient flow conditions during the drought, and the relatively small amount of transfer water released, there would not be any existing water quality standards or waste discharge requirements that would not be met. The small amount of the transfer (approximately 3,100 AF) being added to Folsom Reservoir would not violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements. Agricultural activities in the WWD service area would not change as a result of the proposed

project, and no new violations in water quality standards or waste discharge requirements would occur. No impact would occur

County Notifications

EID will provide a copy of the petition to the counties of El Dorado, Amador, Fresno and Kings, as required by Water Code Section 1726(c) [*A petitioner shall provide a copy of the petition to...the board of supervisors of the county or counties in which the petitioner currently stores or uses the water subject to the petition, and the board of supervisors of the county or counties to which the water is proposed to be transferred.*]

Attachment B

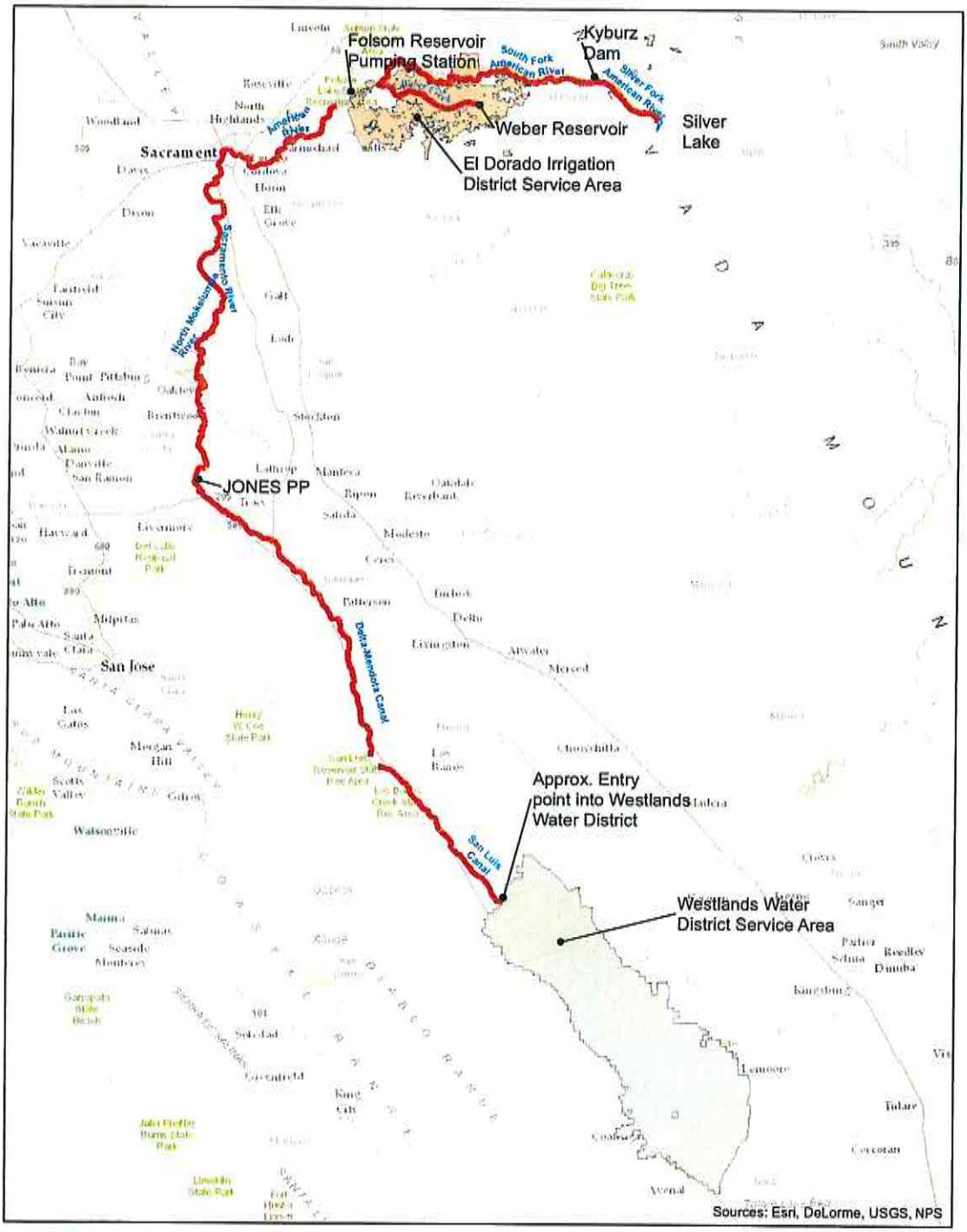
Water Transfer Maps

Attachment B

Introduction

This attachment provides the following maps referenced in Attachment A to the petition:

1. Water Transfer Overview – representing the entire flow path of the transfer, and the location of the requested changes to Point(s) of Rediversion and Place of Use.
2. Proposed Weber Reservoir Re-operation – representing the existing Point(s) of Diversion and Rediversion and Place of Use for Weber Reservoir License 2184 (Application 1692).
3. Proposed Silver Lake Re-operation – representing the Silver Lake pre-1914 water right (S004708) [*not subject to the SWRCB petition, but included for overall representation of the proposed transfer*].



El Dorado Irrigation District

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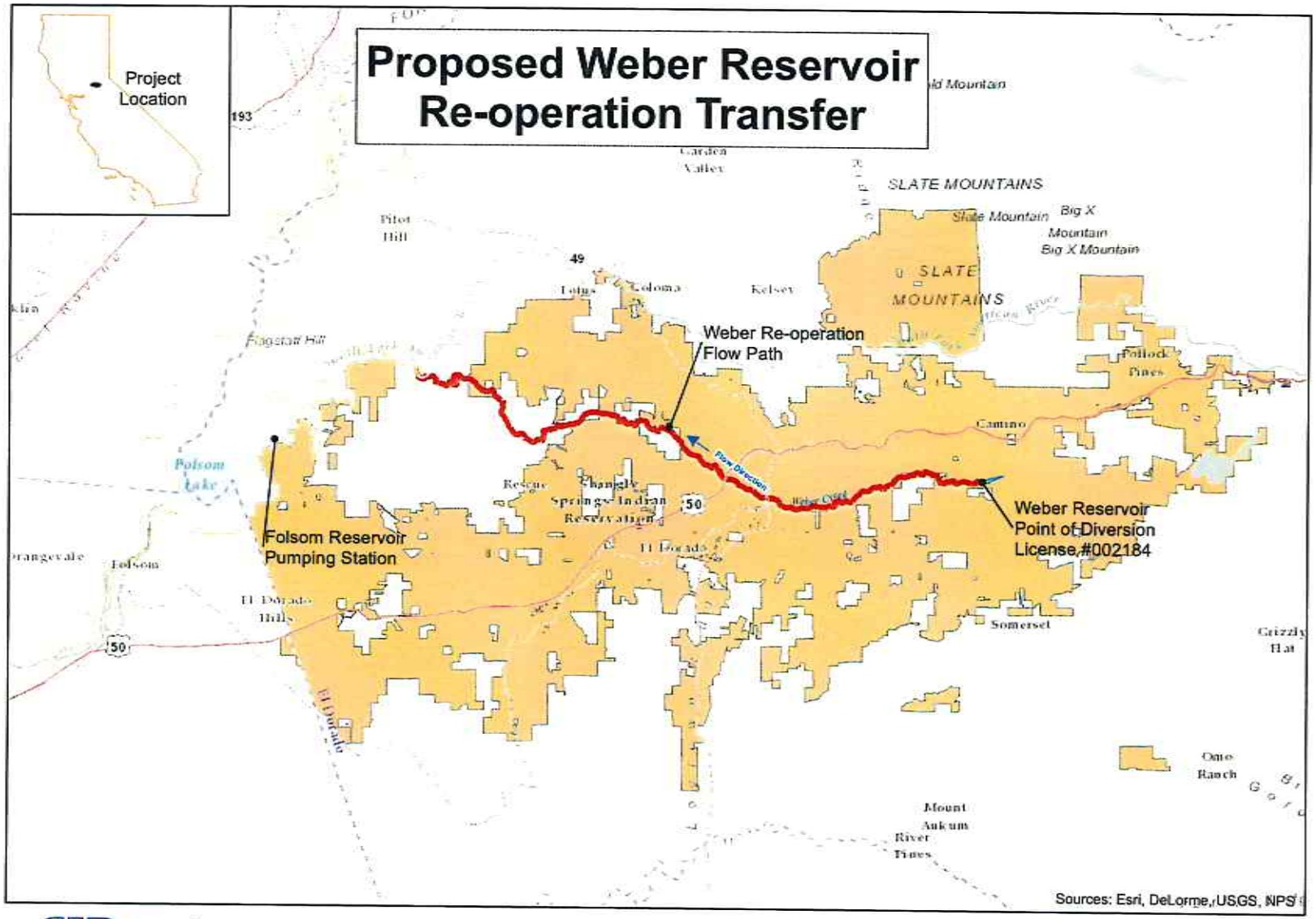
Transfer Overview


Proposed Weber Reservoir
Re-operation Transfer
Project
Location
Weber Re-operation
Flow Path
Folsom Reservoir
Pumping Station
Weber Reservoir
Point of Diversion
License,#002184
Flow Direction
SLATE MOUNTAINS
Slate Mountain
Big X
Mountain
Big X Mountain
Pilot
Hill
Garden
Valley
Coloma
Kelsey
Folsom
Lake
Rescue
Shingle
Springs Indian
Reservation
El Dorado
Hills
Somerset
Pollock
Pines
Camino
Mount
Aukum
Ono
Ranch
Grizzly
Flat
Sources: Esri, DeLorme, USGS, NPS
Place of Use License No. 002184
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El Dorado Irrigation District
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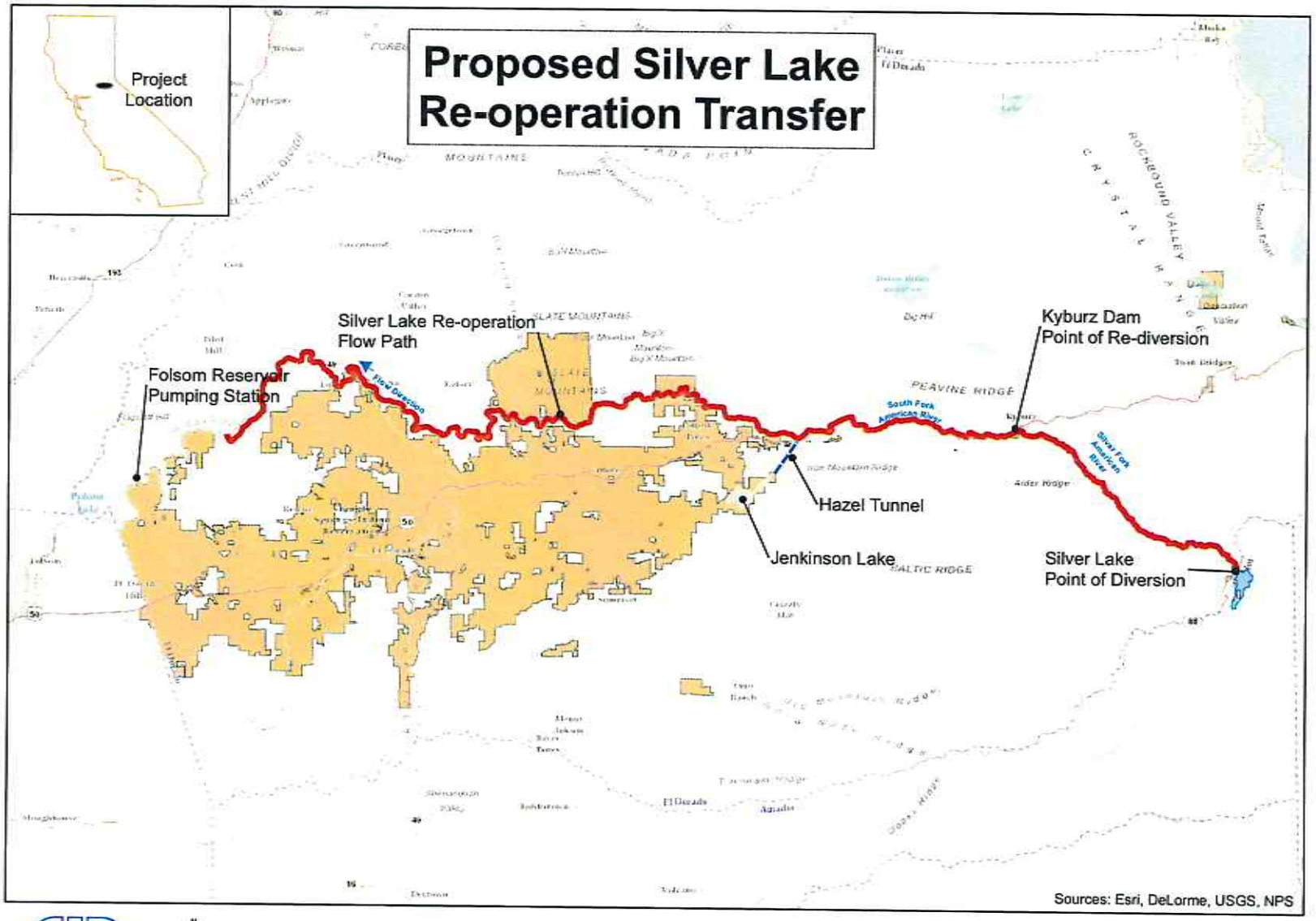

El Dorado Irrigation District

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Place of Use Statement 004708

Attachment C

Environmental Effects of Release from Weber Reservoir

Attachment C

As detailed in Attachment A, El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) proposes to transfer up to 3,100 acre-feet (AF) of water that would otherwise be maintained in storage, during summer and fall 2015 to Westlands Water District (WWD) through re-operations of EID reservoirs (Water Transfer). The total 3,100 AF of water to be transferred is comprised of sources in EID's Weber Reservoir and Silver Lake. Approximately 700 AF of the total transferrable water would be released from EID's Weber Reservoir, which stores water pursuant to Water Right License 2184 (Application 1692). Absent the proposed transfer, the 700 AF would remain in Weber Reservoir and not be released to Weber Creek during 2015. Under California Water Code (CWC) Section 1725, the Weber Reservoir portion of the transfer requires a California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) determination that the proposed release of water from Weber Reservoir into Weber Creek, thence Folsom Reservoir and lower American River for eventual delivery to WWD would not unreasonably affect fish, wildlife, or other instream beneficial uses. Although the Silver Lake portion of the transfer utilizes pre-1914 water rights and is not subject to this Department determination, both the Weber Reservoir and Silver Lake portions of the transfer were jointly analyzed in an Initial Study/Proposed Negative Declaration released for public and agency review on June 22, 2015. A copy of that document has been attached hereto.

California Water Code Section 1725 states that *a permittee or licensee may temporarily change the point of diversion, place of use, or purpose of use due to a transfer or exchange of water or water rights if the transfer would only involve the amount of water that would have been consumptively used or stored by the permittee or licensee in the absence of the proposed temporary change, would not injure any legal user of the water, and would not unreasonably affect fish, wildlife, or other instream beneficial uses* (underline added). CEQA requires the evaluation of significant impacts. For this analysis, it was assumed that any less-than-significant effect under CEQA would likewise not be considered an unreasonable effect under California Water Code Section 1725.

An analysis of effects from EID's proposed Water Transfer on fish and aquatic wildlife in Weber Reservoir, Weber Creek, and downstream water courses indicates that effects would be less-than-significant, and therefore, not unreasonable..

Weber Reservoir

Weber Reservoir is characterized as open water habitat and Weber Creek downstream of Weber Reservoir is considered a perennial drainage that flows from a relatively constant discharge from the reservoir. When water is stored in the reservoir the discharges are at least 1 cubic foot per second (cfs) from Weber Reservoir as required by a Department-approved streamflow plan. EID also makes discretionary releases in larger volumes for diversion of this supply from Folsom Reservoir under a Warren Act Contract with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Lower Weber Creek provides cover and foraging habitat for a variety of aquatic and water-dependent wildlife, including resident native and nonnative fish. Weber Creek flows into the South Fork American River (SFAR), just upstream of its entrance into Folsom Lake. No

migratory fish species are present in the Weber Creek drainage due to the presence of both Folsom Lake Dam and Nimbus Dam on Lake Natoma.

The fish fauna of Weber Reservoir predominantly consists of rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss)* and several non-native centrarchid (bass and sunfish) species. Other native fish species that may potentially be present in Weber Reservoir include Sacramento sucker (*Catostomus occidentalis*), California roach (*Hesperoleucus symmetricus*), and prickly sculpin (*Cottus asper*). Non-native fish species may include brown trout (*Salmo trutta)*, largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), smallmouth bass (*M. dolomieu*), spotted bass (*M. punctulatus*), bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*), green sunfish (*L. cyanellus*), and common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*).

No special-status fish or amphibian species are present in Weber Reservoir. California red-legged frog (CRLF) (*Rana draytonii*) were historically (but not currently) sighted in lower Weber Creek. However, the only current population of CRLF in the upper Weber Creek watershed is located in a 63-acre area known as Spivey Pond, owned by the American River Conservancy. Bullfrogs and non-native predatory fish are abundant in Weber Reservoir, precluding the possibility of the presence of CRLF in the reservoir. CRLF breeding occurs from mid-December through early April along the margins and shallow parts of natural or manmade ponds, or wide slow sections of streams without predatory, non-native fish species. Breeding sites require inundation into summer for tadpoles to reach a size for metamorphosis.

Weber Creek

No special-status fish or amphibian species are currently known to be present in Weber Creek. CRLF are present in the American River basin, and have been historically (but not currently) sighted in lower Weber Creek (see discussion of Weber Reservoir).

Rainbow trout, a spring spawner, is the only native trout species in Weber Creek, with non-native brown trout, a fall spawner, potentially present. Other fish species that may occur in Weber Creek are as described for Weber Reservoir, however Sacramento sucker, California roach, and prickly sculpin are likely the more abundant species, along with rainbow trout. The benthic macroinvertebrate (BMI) community in Weber Creek is somewhat less diverse and abundant than compared to other west slope streams, due at least partially to consistently low stream flows. BMI are the primary prey for trout and native fish species. Though most BMI species are present as various instars (life history stages) throughout the year, BMI production is highest in spring.

Water Transfer Effects on Weber Reservoir

The targeted 700 acre-feet (AF) Water Transfer from Weber Reservoir was modeled with the concept of providing transfer release flow at rates less than the observed maximum monthly flow (10.5 cfs in September 2011) that has occurred during the proposed transfer period over the past five years (since 2010) in Weber Creek (Table 1). Modeling results indicate that approximately 700 AF can be released from Weber Reservoir beginning on August 1st and ending on or about September 23rd while maintaining releases at rates less than 10.5 cfs. Therefore, the maximum release rate during the period of Water Transfer release would be approximately 10.0 cfs.

Storage in Weber Reservoir at the beginning of August 2015 is expected to be approximately 915 AF. With the Water Transfer occurring through September 23, 2015, the resulting storage would decline to approximately 121 AF by September 23rd. A minimum of 200 AF will be maintained as of September 1st per California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights Order WR 2007-0035-DWR. Traditionally, Weber Reservoir easily refills as evident during even the most recent historically dry periods of 2014 and 2015 when the reservoir refilled. Actual refill in winter 2015 will be subject to an agreement to be entered into with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. However, even using hydrologic conditions from 2013/14 and 2014/15, Weber Reservoir would easily refill and sufficient carryover storage is expected to be available in future years to provide required minimum flows.

Table 1. Weber Reservoir Releases 2010 through 2014 Historical Data and Planned Reservoir Operations (all values in CFS)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Transfer Period Aug 1 to Sep 23	Sep 24 to Sep 30	Oct	Nov	Dec
Maximum	94.8	82.3	134.2	99.6	68.8	46.4	20.7	10.5	9.5	8.2	3.3	148.1
Minimum	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.2	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.9
Average	13.1	17.1	40.8	36.2	21.9	14.1	3.6	3.8	4.2	1.9	1.6	19.3
2015 Actual	2.3	14.1	25.8	1.3	1.2	1.1			---			
2015 Planned without Transfer Condition												
Released from Weber Reservoir							1.3	1	1	1	1.1	1.1
2015 Planned with Transfer Condition												
Released from Weber Reservoir (max)							1.3	10	1	1	1.1	1.1

Because the proposed project would be temporary and would not result in fluctuations in the reservoir and streamflow levels that are outside of historic range, the potential for adverse effects on aquatic/riparian habitat, fish and wildlife would be minimal to negligible. Such potential impacts would be limited primarily to vegetation immediately adjacent to the Weber Reservoir high water line; however, vegetation would not be substantially affected by the proposed single year water transfer because water levels typically fluctuate based on precipitation, and the transfer would occur during the summer when the reservoir is typically drawn down on an annual basis. Plant species that occur within the reservoir high water line are acclimated to historic fluctuations in water levels. Reduced reservoir elevations in Weber Reservoir would also not significantly affect movements or migrations of any fish or wildlife species. Weber Reservoir typically has little to no inflow during the August to September timeframe of the proposed Water Transfer. Adherence to minimum pool requirements (Division of Water Rights Order WR 2007-0035-DWR) would further protect habitat for those fish species that are resident to Weber Reservoir. Therefore, the Water Transfer would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. The impact would be less than significant (i.e., not unreasonable).

Water Transfer Effects on Weber Creek

The proposed Water Transfer would likely have temporary beneficial effects to aquatic resources in Weber Creek, due to an increase in magnitude of the low flows currently released from Weber Reservoir; minimum reservoir release to Weber Creek is approximately 1 cfs throughout the year, depending on the previous month's inflow and reservoir storage conditions. The maximum flow observed during the proposed transfer period (August 1st through September 23rd) over the past five years was 10.5 cfs (in 2011), with an average monthly flow of 3.8 cfs over that time period (see Table 1). The entire Weber Reservoir Water Transfer would be approximately 700 AF, and would occur from August 1st through September 23rd, resulting in maximum streamflows of approximately 10.0 cfs, though may be as low as 7 cfs. Average monthly flows after September 23rd and for the remaining months in 2015 (through December) are expected to be at minimum flow (about 1 cfs).

Differences in wetted channel width and wetted area along the stream margins between the proposed Water Transfer and historic (over the past five years) conditions would be negligible, as average water depth is expected to increase only up to a few inches. Such changes in depths and water velocities to microhabitats (riffles, pools, runs) in Weber Creek would not significantly affect existing cover values for fish, or negatively affect the quality of food-producing (BMIs) riffles in those habitats. Direct adverse effects to aquatic resources would also be negligible, as potential effects to existing instream habitats would be minimal to negligible.

In addition to the magnitude of flows, the ramping rate of increased or decreased flows may also have the potential to adversely affect aquatic resources if it occurs at a rate that could immediately displace or strand fish or other aquatic resources. The Weber Dam and Reservoir Operations Manual identifies a ramping rate from the reservoir such that changes in Weber Creek in-stream depth would not exceed 0.5 feet per hour as measured at Weber outlet gage W-3. This rate was approved by California Department of Fish and Wildlife as being suitable for minimizing or preventing stranding or displacement of those fish species present below Weber Dam. The Water Transfer would follow this specified ramping rate. Additionally, potential effects of ramping would be further ameliorated with distance downstream from the release point.

The proposed project would temporarily provide slightly more water (approximately 700 AF) in Weber Creek and into SFAR, Folsom Lake, lower American River, lower Sacramento River, and into the Delta. This slight flow increase, spread over August through September 23, would have negligible effects on river flows, aquatic habitats, water temperatures, and resulting movements or migrations of any fish or wildlife species. Therefore, the Water Transfer would not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede fish spawning, fish rearing, and the use of native wildlife nursery sites. This impact would not be an unreasonable effect on fish and wildlife.

Other instream beneficial uses include water quality, which would not be significantly affected by the proposed water transfer. All water quality standards would be met with the transfer.

The Water Transfer would allow for slightly increased flows in affected streams and reservoirs that would be beneficial, especially during a drought year. The high refill capacity of EID's reservoirs and lakes ensures that sufficient carryover storage is available in future years to provide required minimum flows, though the refilling of Weber Reservoir will be subject to a refill agreement with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Benefits to the aquatic environment downstream of Folsom Reservoir as a result of the Water Transfer are anticipated to be nominal even in a year like 2015 when CVP/SWP deliveries are significantly cut given the small volume of water being transferred. Assuming the total Transfer Water was released either in August or in September 2015 from Folsom Reservoir, the proposed project's releases from Folsom Reservoir would account for between approximately 1.5 percent and 2.6 percent of projected LAR flows during August and September 2015 (respectively) under Reclamation's Central Valley Operations 50 percent operational forecast, or between approximately 3.2 percent and 7.4 percent of projected LAR flows during August and September 2015 (respectively) under the 90 percent operational forecast (http://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvo/).