

Master Responses and Index of Form Masters

Master Responses

This chapter provides master responses to comments made on the Recirculated SED. Master responses were crafted for comments that were typically made multiple times by different agencies, organizations, entities, or members of the public or were prepared because multiple but related subtopics could be address by one topical master response. Table 2-1 summarizes the master response numbers, titles, and topics covered.

If a master response is referenced in a comment response table for a particular individual comment in Volume 3, Chapter 4, *Responses to Comments Tables*, the response to that particular comment is found within the identified master response. Due to their size, the master responses are provided as separate pdf files, rather than one combined file.

Please note: the reference numbers for the master responses are used for convenience. There is no significance to the assignment of a particular number. To help readers navigate, all of the master responses are listed in Table 2-1, and unused numbers, or the first number in an unused series, are identified.

Table 2-1. Summary of Master Responses

| Master Response Number | Master Response Title | Topics Addressed |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 1.1 | <i>General Comments</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description and objectives of the plan amendments • Regulatory context for responses regarding public review, public outreach, and voluntary agreements • General detail regarding relationships with other plans, programs, and agencies (e.g., collaboration with other agencies, California WaterFix Project, Delta Reform Act, The Delta Plan/Delta Stewardship Council, Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), California Action Plan, Exports to South of Delta users) • General discussion of State Water Board authorities (water rights, beneficial use, public trust, Clean Water Act) • Concerns about the length and complexity of the SED • Discussion of the development of the LSJR and SDWQ alternatives • General discussion about the approach to analysis (program-level, geographical scope, modeling, baseline, mitigation measures) • General discussion of resource areas analyzed • General discussion of economic considerations |

| Master Response Number | Master Response Title | Topics Addressed |
|------------------------|--|--|
| 1.2 | <i>Water Quality Control Planning Process</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorities related to the water quality control planning process • Bay-Delta Plan implementation and water rights • Water quality certification and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission process • Scope of Bay-Delta Plan proceedings • Consideration of beneficial uses • 2010 Delta Flow Criteria Report • Peer review process • Consultation process |
| 2.1 | <i>Amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project description • Plan area and extended plan area • Lower San Joaquin River (LSJR) flow objectives and program of implementation • Southern Delta salinity water quality (SDWQ) objective and program of implementation • Justification for plan amendments • Modifications to the plan amendments |
| 2.2 | <i>Adaptive Implementation</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptive implementation description • STM Working Group structure and governance • Adaptive implementation products, plans, and process • Non-flow measures • Adaptive implementation information needs • Examples of adaptive implementation • Monitoring and assessment • Modeling conceptualization of adaptive implementation |
| 2.3 | <i>Presentation of Data and Results in SED and Responses to Comments</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of data • General discussion of statistics and summarizing data in the SED • Water year types |
| 2.4 | <i>Alternatives to the Water Quality Control Plan Amendments</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEQA requirements for the discussion of alternatives • Feasibility of commenter-suggested plans and proposals for the LSJR flow objectives • Feasibility of commenter-suggested plans and proposals for the SDWQ objective |
| 2.5 | <i>Baseline and No Project</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice of preparation • Baseline conditions • No Project Alternative |
| 2.6 | [Not used] | |
| 2.7 | <i>Disadvantaged Communities</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of disadvantaged communities (DACs) • Assistance programs |

| Master Response Number | Master Response Title | Topics Addressed |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 3.1 | <i>Fish Protection</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidation or extension of service • SGMAs role in the protection of DACs • Current fish decline and the need for increased and more variable flows • Purpose of the Bay-Delta Plan Update and the narrative objective • Justification and description of the plan amendments for protecting fish • SED use of best available science • Adequacy of modeling to support the analyses • Other stressors |
| 3.2 | <i>Surface Water Analyses and Modeling</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General approach • Modeling assumptions • Calculation of percent unimpaired flow • The Water Supply Effects (WSE) model water balance components • Hydrologic modeling process • HEC-5Q temperature model • Climate change • Hydropower and hydrology • Flooding, sediment, and erosion • Presentation and summary of results for district surface water supply |
| 3.3 | <i>Southern Delta Water Quality</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justification for updating the southern Delta salinity objective • Southern Delta leaching fractions • Responsibilities of DWR and USBR • Measuring compliance with the salinity objective in the interior Delta • Indirect effects of the LSJR alternatives on southern Delta salinity • Methodology and area evaluated |
| 3.4 | <i>Groundwater and the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical groundwater use and overpumping • SGMA • Method and approach of the groundwater resource impact analysis • Groundwater-dependent ecosystems |
| 3.5 | <i>Agricultural Resources</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographic area, baseline, acreage, and crop mix • Method and approach of the agricultural resource impact analysis • Permanent crops and dry years • Potential effects on existing dairy uses and cattle • Reductions in water demand |
| 3.6 | <i>Service Providers</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal water supply • Water conservation during the recent drought • Compliance with SGMA and the plan amendments |

| Master Response Number | Master Response Title | Topics Addressed |
|------------------------|--|---|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential effects of SDWQ alternatives on wastewater treatment plants |
| 3.7 | <i>Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Analysis</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct and indirect impacts • Greenhouse gas-related conclusions • Threshold of significance • Mitigation measures |
| 4.1 | [Not used] | |
| 5.1 | [Not used] | |
| 5.2 | Incorporation of Non-Flow Measures | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship between flow and non-flow measures • Incorporation of non-flow measures in the plan amendments • Non-flow measure costs |
| 6.1 | <i>Cumulative Analysis</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach to cumulative analysis • Cumulative impacts and service providers • Cumulative impacts and Groundwater and SGMA • Cumulative impacts and Climate change and drought evaluation • Growth-inducing effects and housing factors |
| 7.1 | [Not used] | |
| 8.0 | <i>Economic Analyses Framework and Assessment Tools</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing an appropriate analytical framework and applying assessment tools to consider economic effects • Key considerations in developing an analytical framework and appropriate assessment tools to consider economic effects |
| 8.1 | <i>Local Agricultural Economic Effects and the SWAP Model</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope of the local agricultural economic analysis • The Statewide Agricultural Production (SWAP) model • Revised SWAP model description and results • Other costs associated with crop production |
| 8.2 | <i>Regional Agricultural Economic Effects</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional economic setting • Revised results for the regional economic analysis • Consideration of economic effects on industries supported by the agricultural industry • Commenters' regional economic analyses |
| 8.3 | [Not used] | |
| 8.4 | <i>Non-Agricultural Economic Considerations</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic contribution of plan amendments to fish and wildlife habitat and other beneficial uses • Municipal economic considerations and effects • Effects on hydropower generation and revenues • Recreation-related economic considerations and effects |
| 8.5 | <i>Assessment of Potential Effects on the San Francisco Bay Area Regional Water System</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmatic analysis and adequacy of the SED • Assessment of potential effects of plan amendments on SFPUC water supply and key differences |

| Master Response Number | Master Response Title | Topics Addressed |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approaches to address potential water supply reductions Hydropower economic considerations and effects |

Form Masters

Form letters are defined as those that are identical in content but submitted by a large number of individuals. The following *form masters* were identified during the review of comment letters. The State Water Board received approximately 30,000 form letters and petitions. The form masters were selected as the representative letter for all identical letters received. Each form letter is responded to only once. Readers can locate the responses to each form letter using the letter number identified in the third column and locating that letter in Volume 3, Chapter 4, *Responses to Comments Tables*.

Table 2-2. Index of Form Masters

| Form Number | Form Description | Letter Number |
|-------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | KnowWho Service – 60% flows | 521 |
| 2 | Worth your fight | 28 |
| 3 | Sierra Club | 30 |
| 4 | Tuolumne River Trust | 1155 |
| 5 | Restore the Delta | 606 |
| 6 | Multiple central valley businesses | 1156 |
| 7 | Friends of the River | 1161 |
| 8 | Merced ID S.A.F.E. Plan | 1372 |
| 9 | CA salmon fishermen | 102 |
| 10 | Adam Gray petition | 1494 |
| 11 | 60% flows | 1495 |
| 12 | Oppose Increasing Flows | 1496 |
| 13 | Trout Unlimited | 1497 |
| 14 | Merced ID S.A.F.E. Plan | 1388 |
| 15 | Ballico Cressey | 1568 |
| 16 | American Rivers | 2451 |
| 17 | NRDC | 1015 |

References Cited

None.