



United States Department of the Interior



IN REPLY REFER TO:
FWS/RB/

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Pacific Southwest Region
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-2606
Sacramento, California 95825

FEB 10 2016

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Region
Sacramento, California

From: **Acting** Regional Director, Pacific Southwest Region
Sacramento, California

Subject: February 10, 2016 Determination under Component 1 of the 2008 OCAP Biological Opinion

Attached, please find the subject Determination. We find under Action 2 of the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative of the opinion that the 14-day average OMR should not be more negative than -5000 cfs.

We will work with you to closely monitor the situation over the coming days and make adjustments if needed. Using the process for making determinations, we will review conditions on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, accommodating the Monday holiday.

Thank you for your continued collaborative efforts to limit entrainment risk to Delta Smelt. Please call me if you have any questions or concerns at (916) 414-6469.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Pacific Southwest Region
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2606
Sacramento, California 95825-1846

In reply refer to:

February 10, 2016

Subject: Determination Under Component 1, Action 2 of the 2008 Coordinated Long-term Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project Biological Opinion

Determination: The Service determines that OMR flow should be no more negative than -5000 cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day running average no more negative than -6250 cfs (within 25 percent).

Previous Determination: On February 5, the Service determined that beginning Sunday, February 7, OMR flow should be no more negative than -4000 cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day running average no more negative than -5000 cfs (within 25 percent).

Rationale: The Service has reviewed all data and based on current conditions believes that OMR flow should be no more negative than -5000cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day running average no more negative than -6250 cfs (within 25 percent). The more negative OMR flow in this determination than in the previous determination is based on our assessment of current conditions, including a dry weather pattern, and the fact that we are now halfway through the adult salvage season. Action 2 remains in place given ongoing concern for entrainment risk of Delta Smelt documented in our previous determinations this year, including consistent confirmed presence of Delta Smelt at Prisoner's Point, fluctuating turbidities in the Old and Middle River corridors, and historically low abundance of Delta Smelt as evidenced by surveys in 2015 and 2016. The Service requests that Reclamation and DWR follow their proposal to slowly ramp to more negative flows throughout this week.

We will continue to monitor conditions, including weather forecasts, turbidity, Sacramento River flow levels, other Delta inflows, salvage, and the results of the EWS (particularly at Prisoner's Point) and the Department of Fish and Wildlife's February Spring Kodiak Trawl. If conditions change indicating increasing entrainment risk we will reevaluate this determination.