

Bureau of Reclamation  
Response to Comments Made By  
National Marine Fisheries  
Letter dated July 14, 1994

Comment #1: Your request for evidence showing historic water demands and delivery rates will accompany any future request by Reclamation for additional flexibility in operating RBDD. As a result of discussions between Reclamation representatives in the Willows office and NMFS, agreement has been reached to provide specific information, as requested by NMFS, whenever operating flexibility becomes necessary.

Reclamation would like to take this opportunity to clarify a few points addressed in this comment. The PPP will provide 270 cubic feet per second (cfs) water delivery once it is completed, not 300 cfs as stated. Thirty cfs will be redirected to the fish bypass. Also, the existing "temporary" pump facilities will provide only 100 cfs, not the 125 cfs as stated. Reclamation intends to operate only those pumps that can be screened. Therefore, it is anticipated that only 100 cfs capacity will be realized.

The Stony Creek CHO (constant head orifice) is not yet approved and will require a point of diversion permit, as well as a separate EA (and accompanying mitigation measures). Currently, it is not available for contributing to water demand. Therefore, a total of only 370 cfs (270 and 100 as discussed above) can be made available for delivery, not 785 cfs as stated.

Comment #2: Changes to clarify gate closures at RBDD during sheetpile cofferdam construction and removal will be added to the EA.

Comment #3: Monitoring and evaluation studies will be referred to in the EA and be included in the newly created Appendix F.

Comment #4: Phasing in of alternative methods for improving sweeping flows at the facility have been noted and will also be discussed in the EA.

Comment #5: The need to shut down two bypasses in the T-C screen facility for a two week period in June, 1994 is no longer correct. The bypass work will take place from November, 1993 to April, 1994 or from November, 1994 to the end of the construction period. These scheduled dates all fall within the period of gates-up operation at RBDD when the bypass is not operating. Therefore, no changes or additions will be made in the EA.