



# United States Department of the Interior

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

IN REPLY  
REFER TO:

CVO-400  
ENV-4.10

**JUL 13 1995**

Ms. Hilda Diaz-Soltero  
Regional Director  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200  
Long Beach CA 90802-4213

Subject: Compliance with the Biological Opinion for the Operation of the  
Federal Central Valley Project and the California State Water Project  
for the Winter-Run Chinook

Dear Ms. Diaz-Soltero:

We request reinitiation of consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service on the 1995 Central Valley Project (CVP) operations to meet the Sacramento River temperature objectives. Recent Sacramento River temperature forecasts and actual operations in June and early July have demonstrated that Reclamation cannot reasonably meet the temperature objectives as required by the Biological Opinion (BO) issued on February 12, 1993. The BO requires Reclamation to meet an objective of no greater than 56.0 degrees Fahrenheit (F) from Keswick Dam to Bend Bridge for this water year type. Reclamation requests that the temperature compliance point be moved upstream to Jelly's Ferry.

The daily average water temperature exceeded 56.0 degrees F at Bend Bridge for 6 days in June (A copy of the Temperature and Release Summary - June 1995 is enclosed for your reference). During the latter part of June, Keswick releases were at powerplant capacity and Shasta releases at or near 100 percent low level bypass in an effort to meet the Bend Bridge compliance point. Additional high Keswick Reservoir releases and Shasta Reservoir low level releases to meet the Bend Bridge compliance point would reduce the targeted Shasta Reservoir September carryover storage and rapidly deplete the existing cold water storage. Sacramento River temperature forecasts from our June Forecast of Operations indicate that even with 100 percent cold water bypass operations, river temperatures at Bend Bridge could exceed 56.5 degrees F from July through September.

Reclamation has been working with your staff through the Sacramento River Temperature Task Group in developing and implementing various operational plans in an attempt to meet the biological objectives. The operational plans have included varying outlet releases, more intensive temperature monitoring, and fishery monitoring. Spawning surveys have identified one winter-run salmon redd downstream of Jelly's Ferry, located several miles downstream of Red Bluff Diversion Dam. Changing the compliance point to Jelly's Ferry will not result in additional mortality and could prevent increased mortality by minimizing an early season depletion of the cold water resources.

D - 0 0 2 9 0 5

D-002905

The difficulties in meeting the temperature objectives this year appear to be caused by two significant factors. First, the reservoir is warmer than past years and there is less cold water storage to use for temperature control operations. The extremely high inflow and flood control releases from Shasta Reservoir in March may have contributed to the warmer storage. Secondly the tributaries entering the Sacramento River between Keswick Dam and the compliance point at Bend Bridge are flowing higher than normal. The warm inflow downstream of Keswick is reducing the effectiveness of the cold Keswick Reservoir release. The temperature forecast model has shown a high level of sensitivity to these warm tributary flows.

We will continue to work with the Sacramento River Temperature Task Group to utilize the Central Valley Project resources in the best manner to meet the temperature objectives. Staff from our Central Valley Operations Office will be available if you have questions regarding this request. You may contact Paul Fujitani at (916) 979-2197 or Chet Bowling at (916) 979-2193 for further concerns.

Sincerely,

  
ACTING FOR  
Roger K. Patterson  
Regional Director

Enclosure

cc: David Kennedy  
Director  
Department of Water Resources  
1416 Ninth Street  
Sacramento CA 94236-0001

Wayne White  
State Supervisor  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ecological Services  
Sacramento Field Office  
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1803  
Sacramento CA 95825-1846

C. F. Raysbrook  
Interim Director  
Department of Fish and Game  
1416 Ninth Street  
Sacramento CA 95814

Walt Pettit  
Executive Director  
State Water Resources  
Control Board  
901 "P" Street  
Sacramento CA 95814

MP-100, 105, 115

D - 0 0 2 9 0 6

D-002906