

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671		# of pages = 3	
To	Lester Snow	From	Kathy Kelly
Co.	CALFED	Co.	DWR
Dept.		Phone #	653-1099
Fax #	654-9780	Fax #	

To: Distribution List

From: Kathy Kelly  
DWR  
(916) 653-1099

Date: 3/25/99

Re: 1999 Installation of fish barrier in Old River near the San Joaquin River

The pulse flow target for the San Joaquin River this year is 7000 cfs. The maximum allowable flow for the fish barrier is 7500 cfs. Some involved in the installation and operation of the barrier are concerned that the 500 cfs margin between the target flow and the maximum flow for maintaining the integrity of the barrier is too small to be regulated effectively by reservoir operation. In addition, this year's barrier is a new design that includes 6 operable culverts and the associated platforms, railings, etc. The new design complicates an emergency removal. These two conditions as well as the possibility of a storm increasing river flow substantially have increased concern about the wisdom of installing the barrier at the target flow of 7000 cfs.

Attached is a letter from the South Delta Water Agency which conveys RD 544's denial of access to the construction site under the currently proposed conditions. The information in the letter regarding the Bureau or others seeking flows above 7000 cfs is incorrect. This misconception, as well as DWR's plan for monitoring the flows, emergency notification, and emergency removal of the barrier during the pulse flow period has been discussed with John Herrick. None of this has changed their view of the unacceptable risk associated with the operation.

DWR staff will be coordinating with the biological and hydrological sub-groups of the Technical Committee identified in the draft San Joaquin River Agreement to determine whether the barrier should be installed with a lower pulse flow or if the target flow should remain at 7000 cfs with no barrier in place.

**Distribution List:**

Steve Macaulay, State Water Contractors  
Allan Short, San Joaquin River Group Authority  
Lowell Ploss, USBR  
Chuck Hanson, Hanson Consulting  
Steve Kashiwada, DWR  
Wayne White, USFWS  
Ryan Broddrick, DFG  
Patrick Wright, Resources Agency  
Lester Snow, CALFED  
Randy Brown, DWR ESO  
Greg Gartrell, NoName Group