

X-Sender: ronott@goldeneye  
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.1  
Date: Mon, 21 Jun 1999 11:38:13 -0700  
To: rjenkins@water.ca.gov, lsnow@water.ca.gov  
From: Ron Ott <ronott@water.ca.gov>  
Subject: Fwd: Options for Delta Smelt Protection

Dave asked me to forward on to you.  
Ron

- >
- > X-Sender: nhidkf@synergy.transbay.net
- > X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.0
- > Date: Mon, 21 Jun 1999 11:30:56 -0700
- > To: ronott@water.ca.gov
- > From: David Fullerton <dfullerton@n-h-i.org>
- > Subject: Options for Delta Smelt Protection
- > Cc: lsnow@water.ca.gov, ritche@water.ca.gov
- >
- > Here are the items I thought of for the account. You might forward this to
- > Lester. This is basically what I would propose to say to the committee
- > tomorrow.
- > \* Demand Shifting by MWD and Santa Clara
- > \* We might have done reverse demand shifting earlier in the year w/ MWD,
- > especially once the East Side Reservoir is on line. That is, when SLR is
- > full or about to fill, we could have banked EWA water within MWD by
- > increasing deliveries above contract levels. We could then call on this
- > water now, via reduce deliveries to MWD (this is the same as standard
- > demand shifting, but includes predelivery, not post delivery of EWA water
- > to MWD).
- > \* Kern Water Bank/ Semi Tropic pumping. We identified extraction capacity
- > limits as a major problem in the game and that concern has now been borne
- > out. Even with a Kern deal, we could only get on the order to 40 kaf
- > before low point.
- > \* Expand Banks permit from Corps of Engineers for remainder of summer to
- > 7500 cfs or 8500 cfs. Simply allowing 8500 during the summer would
- > probably eliminate this year's problem, since it would allow an extra 120
- > kaf per month to be pumped. We could then shift the debt upstream, get
- > past the low point problem, then pay back the water this fall and (if the
- > winter is wet) through reduced spills this winter.
- > \* Exchanges from the Friant Unit
- > \* Run water down the San Joaquin River, deliver to exchange
- > contractors, then delay repayment to Arvin until after the low point.
- > An example of this was just approved by Policy Group last week.
- > \* Use a number of other contact points between the two systems (there

- > are contact points at the Cross Valley Canal, and within the Boswell
- > system on the Kings River). Use Friant water to meet demands until
- > low point is past, then compensate with additional Delta water after
- > low point.
- > \* Write a contract w/ districts or individual farmers within export ag to
- > go more heavily to pumps until low point. We pay for the pumping costs,
- > plus we replace the pumped water on a 1:1 basis later this year and next
- > year (this is a form of in lieu conjunctive use and would need to be in
- > place ahead of time). The advantage of this approach is that it may allow
- > us to go well beyond the pumping capacity limits from the groundwater
- > banks.
- > \* Following water transfers in the export area. It is too late in the
- > growing season to purchase following water, since the crops are already in
- > the ground. We could purchase water by paying farmers to abandon crops,
- > but this would be very expensive. A better approach for the future would
- > be to routinely buy water each year south of the Delta -- on the order of
- > 50 to 100 kaf -- from following. This water would then be prepositioned
- > should this scenario recur. In addition, even without the low point
- > problem, this water could be used to pay off export debts, or might be
- > backed upstream to provide fall flows. I would note that, in most of our
- > games, we routinely bought water in the export areas on the order of 100
- > kaf per year before the beginning of the growing season.
- > It appears to me that this sort of problem is manageable, once the EWA is up
- > and running, provided that the EWA hedges its bets and invests substantial
- > resources backup export supplies. However, it is also clear that we are
- > being forced to take a lot of expensive steps to compensate for the lack of
- > (1) export capacity and (2) south of Delta surface storage. If we had one or
- > the other, we would not be having such serious problems now.
- >
- > [I won't say this to the committee, but this episode reemphasizes the
- > importance of the isolated facility -- even a small version -- as a tool to
- > minimize conflict over water diversions.]

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