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Subject: RESULTS OF DAT CONFERENCE CALL WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1999

RESULTS OF DAT CALL WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1999

DAT concluded the Delta Cross Channel Gates need to be opened more than 6 hours a day for water quality control.

The operators proposed opening the gates fully today, waiting for water quality to improve, and ramp exports to optimize circulating higher quality water into the central and south Delta.

The fishery biologists requested an export schedule for the next week to ensure that pumping does not increase unchecked while the gates are open.

The operators provided the following schedule

- 1) leave the gates open starting today
- 2) exports remain at 1,600 cfs until
 - a) salinity at Jersey Point is relatively better than salinity in the south Delta, then begin ramping exports, or
 - b) salinity in the interior Delta is relatively better than in the south Delta.
Salinity at Jersey Point is expected to improve before the interior Delta.
- 3) beginning Saturday, gradually ramp exports by 500 cfs increments per day to optimize circulation of better quality water into the south Delta to a maximum of 4,100 cfs combined.
- 4) if the estimated conditions occur, combined exports would max out at 4,100 cfs next Wednesday, and will remain at a maximum of 4,100 cfs until further decisions. The fisheries biologists recommended if the operators plan to increase pumping beyond 4,100 cfs, then the gates be closed 2 days in advance.

The fisheries biologists preliminarily concur with this operation schedule through Wednesday, but asked the operators for salinity criteria to close the gates. The operators will work on a schedule and salinity criteria for the 2pm NoName conference call.

We have not been in the situation at this time of year of trying to balance water quality and fisheries protection. The tool to protect fisheries is closing

the Cross Channel gates and the tool to protect water quality is opening the Cross Channel Gates. The indicators for both water quality and fisheries are observed daily. Both the fishery biologists and operators are developing indicators appropriate for balancing water quality and fisheries protection, and will discuss them at the NoName conference call at 2pm today, 12/15/99.

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