

**NoName Group Conference Call
Friday, December 17, 1999
Draft Meeting Notes**

Attendees:

Greg Gartrell (Ag/Urban)	Victor Pacheco (DWR)	John Lehigh (DWR)
Jim Snow (WWD)	Bruce Herbold (EPA)	Tom Boardman (SLDMWA)
Marty Kjelson (USFWS)	Spreck Rosekrans (EDF)	Steve Hirsch (USBR)
Terry Erlewine (SWC)	Art Hinojosa (MWD)	John Burke (USBR)
Dave Briggs (CCWD)	Gary Stern (NMFS)	Nick Wilcox (SWRCB)
Dave Schuster (Ag/Urban)	Alex Hildebrand (SDWA)	Mark Pierce (USFWS)

The NoName Group held a conference call on December 17 to review recent operations and to develop recommendations for future operations.

Delta salinity conditions are not improving at a fast enough rate in response to the opening of the Delta Cross Channel (DCC) gates and to higher outflow to warrant an increase to SWP export pumping. The Delta will continue to experience an abnormally high spring tidal cycle through Dec. 22. Most interior Delta salinity stations remain near 1.0 mS/cm EC. Additionally, the salinity gradient between Jersey Point and the south Delta is very small which suggests that there would be little or no water quality benefit if exports increased.

Decisions related to DCC gate position will soon need to factor in the remaining open days that are available through January. SWRCB Order WR 98-9 allows (up to) 45 days of DCC gate closure between November and January. To date the gates have been closed for about 19 days.

DWR operations staff reported that SWP exports at Banks PP will most likely be ramped up starting on Sunday or Monday because of the salinity conditions. Regardless of the start day, the ramping will likely bring combined exports to 4,100 cfs on Dec. 22 (Weds.). Tracy PP will hold at about 800 cfs for the immediate future. If Delta inflows remain low then SWP exports may not substantially increase after Dec. 22 for the immediate future. River flows are currently dropping in response to reduced upstream reservoir releases. No significant precipitation is predicted in the next 7 days.

The USFWS requested DWR to develop criteria for closing the DCC gates after Dec. 22. The USFWS is also developing criteria for closing the gates based on fishery conditions. Monitoring in the Delta continues to suggest that spring-run are present in the Delta but not in high numbers. The fishery agencies are meeting later today to discuss implementation of the next B2 experiment.

Future NoName Group conference calls will be conducted Monday (Dec. 20) and Weds. (Dec. 22) at 9:00 am. Call details will be distributed.

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