

**Addendum to the
State Water Project and
Central Valley Project
Drought Contingency Plan
August 31, 2021**

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This Drought Contingency Plan (Drought Plan) Update has been prepared by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), in coordination with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), to provide the latest information about the operations forecast and drought actions being taken. This Update is being submitted by DWR to CDFW in response to Condition 8.21 of the ITP.

This Update includes the SWP and CVP (collectively referred to as Projects) August operations forecast, as well as updates on species status, the drought monitoring plan, and updates on planned drought actions that are known as of August 31, 2021.

DWR and Reclamation continue to provide weekly condition and Project operations updates through WOMT. In addition, DWR and Reclamation coordinate with the existing Long-term Operation Agency working groups and Drought Relief Year (DRY) Team to develop a robust drought monitoring program with updates to WOMT and other forums as necessary.

State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP) - Operations Update

The uncertainty surrounding inflows and depletions has diminished significantly from the beginning of the summer. Project operations are still tracking with the operations forecast included in the July Drought Plan addendum. August has been fairly typical, with operations primarily controlled by system-wide depletions and Delta salinity.

Depletions have decreased through August as the peak irrigation season tapers off. The Projects are assessing on a daily basis the opportunity to continue reducing releases at each of the upstream reservoirs as depletions decrease.

August 15 was the last day for western Delta ag salinity compliance under State Water Resources Control Board's Decision 1641, and with this change in Delta salinity requirements, New Melones releases have also been substantially reduced.

SWP and CVP Operations Forecasts

DWR and Reclamation have updated the attached operational forecasts through December 31, 2021. Although the final official Water Supply Index Bulletin 120 forecast was issued on May 1, 2021, the forecasts provided have been adjusted to account for observed conditions in June, July, and part of August, and they assume very dry conditions through December.

Approximately 200 thousand acre-feet (TAF) of transfer water stored in Shasta was initially planned to be moved in October, but, due to fishery conditions, a portion of the transfer water has been shifted into September. Reclamation continues to coordinate with the fisheries agencies on the transfer releases pattern through the fall. Additional information is provided below in the Shasta section.

Oroville

In early August, the Hyatt Powerplant went offline for the first time due to low lake levels, and at the end of August, Oroville storage is approaching 800 TAF, falling below the historic low of 882 TAF experienced in 1977. DWR is now using the River Valve Outlet System to release water from the base of Oroville Dam to maintain Feather River temperature requirements and outflows to the Feather River.

Shasta

In the July Drought Plan update, Reclamation's forecast for releases to the Sacramento River were 7,850 cfs in August, ramping down to a monthly average of 5,200 cfs in September, and then going back up to 7,550 cfs in October to move the transfer water referenced above. In late August, the fishery agencies reviewed updated data indicating that a flow of approximately 6,800 cfs was needed through early-October to protect several remaining winter-run Chinook salmon redds. As a result, Reclamation modified its previous plan and held releases at 6,800 starting August 26. The current forecast (as of 8/31) is included in this plan update; however, this schedule will continue to be reviewed with the fishery agencies and may be modified to minimize fishery impacts while moving the transfer water stored in Shasta. In addition, Reclamation forecasted releasing 120 TAF from Trinity Reservoir through the Spring Creek Power Plant and into Keswick Reservoir prior to releasing to the Sacramento River for the month of September. Due to the warm temperature of this water and the need to maintain colder temperatures in the Sacramento River, this approach has been modified to release approximately 60 TAF during the month of September. Both of these changes have resulted in a forecasted end-of-September carryover target of 966 TAF.

Folsom

Reclamation continues to target a minimum end-of-September storage of 200 TAF in order to protect municipal and industrial deliveries through a very dry fall. In addition, Reclamation is working with Placer County Water Agency to facilitate a transfer of 20 TAF released into Folsom Reservoir to be delivered south of the Delta in a manner that does not result in increased risk to Reclamation's operations needed to protect health and safety. Reclamation is currently evaluating exchanging this transfer water in Folsom Reservoir with water stored in New Melones Reservoir.

Updates on 2021 Drought Actions

Drought actions have not changed substantially, but there are some updates as follows.

Sacramento River Temperature Management

Reclamation performed a cold water power bypass test on August 29 to determine the feasibility of using the bypass to cool Sacramento River temperatures in the late summer and early fall.

The results of this test and any potential future partial bypass will be discussed with the fishery agencies through the Sacramento River Temperature Task Group to determine the potential benefits and impacts of taking the action and ultimately whether the group recommends a partial power bypass for consideration.

Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP)

Currently, the projects do not expect to submit a Temporary Urgency Change Petition for the modification of Rio Vista flow requirement this fall. This is primarily based on anticipated operations of the Delta Cross Channel Gates and the expected movement of transfer water throughout the fall.

Emergency Drought Salinity Barrier

The rock-filled channel closure, across West False River from Jersey Island to Bradford Island, has been in place since June 18, 2021. A delayed removal of the barrier has recently been approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the barrier will now be breached on October 15. The barrier is currently planned to be fully removed by November 30, 2021.

Next Steps

DWR and Reclamation continue to coordinate real-time and anticipated summer and fall operations with the SWRCB, CDFW, NMFS, USFWS, and other stakeholders through various weekly and monthly meetings.

MODELED FORECAST RESULTS

For the 2021 Drought Action Plan

Dry Hydrology

END OF MONTH STORAGES (TAF)					
RESERVOIRS	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Shasta	1,193	966	809	728	729
Folsom	219	215	190	169	160
Oroville	804	800	731	691	691
New Melones	925	856	794	791	790
MONTHLY AVERAGE RELEASES (CFS)					
RIVERS	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Sacramento	8,100	6,800	6,000	4,700	3,250
American	900	550	550	550	550
Feather	1,600	1,250	950	950	950
Stanislaus	700	600	827	200	200
DELTA SUMMARY (CFS)					
	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Sac River at Freeport	7,300	7,600	6,700	7,150	6,050
SJ River at Vernalis	850	750	1,000	350	400
Computed Outflow	3,550	3,300	3,600	4,100	4,000
Combined Project Pumping	1,250	2,850	3,050	3,150	2,300