

M e m o r a n d u m

Date : June 24, 2002
To : Management Agencies

From : Project Agencies
Department of Water Resources

Subject : Fish Action #1-02: Release of Placer County Water Agency Water
on the Lower American River

Description of Action

The Project and Management Agencies purchased 20,000 acre-feet of Environmental Water Account water from PCWA and received 11,000 AF in July and 9,000 AF in September. The water, held in Folsom Lake, was scheduled for release during a time that would coincide with providing benefits to the fish in the lower American River and also be able to be exported by the State Water Project. The water was released between October 1 and 5, and between October 28 and November 14, 2001.

The Management Agencies requested the release of the EWA water, stored in Folsom Lake, to supplement base flow releases to help maintain flows between 1,000 cfs and 1,500 cfs on the lower American River during October and November. The release of EWA water helped maintain adequate water temperatures for over-summering juvenile steelhead, as well as provide holding water habitat for fall-run chinook salmon waiting to spawn below Nimbus Dam.

Estimated Cost Of Action

Carriage water losses are applicable to water transported from areas upstream of the Delta on the Sacramento River and its tributaries to the export facilities. Based upon modeling results, a carriage water loss of 25 percent was assessed to this EWA water. Therefore, the amount of this EWA water exported by the SWP was 15 TAF and was subsequently stored in San Luis Reservoir by the end of November for future Delta fish actions.

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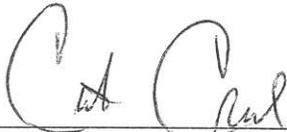
Method Of Accounting For Costs

The Department of Water Resources will provide to the Management Agencies an accounting of the actual water, energy, storage and conveyance costs or credits associated with the use of EWA water in a future settlement of all EWA costs and credits. The water cost analysis will include a comparison between the actual operation (with EWA action) and a base operation (without EWA action).

Disagreements regarding the analysis are to be discussed within the B2/EWA Interagency Team. If necessary, disputes will be elevated to the Water Operations Management Team for final resolution.

B(2)/EWA Assets

Since these EWA assets have a joint place of use, these assets can then be applied as payment for Delta fishery actions at either export facility. When these assets were released from Folsom Lake, they augmented the flow in the lower American River, thereby increasing fishery benefits.



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Management Agency Authorization provided by:

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