

## Memorandum

Date : July 11, 2002  
To : Management Agencies

### Project Agencies

From : Department of Water Resources  
Subject : Fish Action #6-02: April 15 through May 15, 2002  
(Vernalis Adaptive Management Plan)

### Description of Action

The Management Agencies requested an export reduction at the State Water Project and Central Valley Project facilities consistent with the San Joaquin River Agreement and the Vernalis Adaptive Management Plan. Pursuant to the VAMP study plan, and after an evaluation to determine the base flow, the target flow at Vernalis was set at 3,200 cfs with exports at the CVP and SWP established at a combined 1,500 cfs between April 15 and May 15, 2002. The purpose of the VAMP is to evaluate the relative effects of exports, inflow and the Head of Old River barrier on juvenile San Joaquin basin chinook salmon survival and assist in providing protection for both anadromous and estuarine species. An increase in the survival of juvenile salmon and steelhead emigrating from the Sacramento River basin and East-side tributaries to the Delta may also occur due to improved Delta hydrodynamic conditions created by the VAMP.

Installation of the temporary barrier at the Head of Old River barrier was completed on April 15, 2002. Two of the three agricultural barriers (Old River near DMC and Middle River) were also completed on April 15, 2002. The Delta Cross Channel gates were closed during this period.

### Estimated Cost Of Action

The Department of Water Resources has estimated that these actions could have reduced the State Water Project exports by approximately 45 TAF. The estimate assumes SWP exports would have continued at a level approximately between 1,024 and 1,800 cfs in the base operation. The actual amount could be either more or less dependent upon the actual operations allowed under D-1641.

The cost to CVP for implementing these actions will be included as part of the water year 2002 CVPIA 3406(b)(2) account.

Method Of Accounting For Costs

DWR 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 assets in a future settlement of all EWA costs and credits. The water cost analysis will include a comparison between the actual operation (with the fish action) and a base operation (based on planned exports).

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

The Management Agencies have concluded that this was an EWA action for the SWP. Therefore, EWA assets will be applied to the export reductions of the SWP. This fish action is not to impact the baseline delivery capability of the SWP. Therefore, DWR is to make operations and water allocation decisions based upon the base operations plan, absent the fish action.

There are adequate EWA assets available to cover this April/May fish action. The amount of water and the time it becomes available will be determined when DWR submits the final water cost analysis to the Management Agencies.



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Management Agency Authorization provided by:

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Spell Check: July 11, 2002