

DRAFT

Mutual Understandings between DWR and NMFS regarding Preferential Pumping April 2018

- Shifting of Banks Pumping [State Water Project (SWP)] to Jones Pumping Plant [PP, Central Valley Project (CVP)] under Stage 1 Joint Point of Diversion (JPOD)¹ to reduce the pre-screen loss of ESA-protected fish could occur anytime between January 1 and June 15.
- Old & Middle River (OMR) flows would be no more negative than -5,000 cfs, and exports would still be managed to meet the OMR flow requirement in place at the time.
- Reducing the Clifton Court Forebay (CCFB) inflow to zero is not practical for an extended period; approximately 300 cfs CCFB allotment is required to support Byron-Bethany and South Bay Aqueduct.
- Preferential pumping is subject to CVP concurrence.
- The physical capacity of Jones PP is approximately 4,200 cfs; however, operational capacity may be lower, depending on other physical constraints such as unit availability and regulatory requirements.
- In general, the amount of preferential pumping possible will be the operational capacity at Jones PP minus already planned exports through Jones PP that day. (Any remaining SWP export amount would still be exported through CCFB.)
- The SWP will issue notice to south Delta diverters seven days prior to shifting pumping. This notice includes model results showing water levels and water quality under the with- and without-JPOD cases. The SWP plans to continue issuing notices weekly for the rest of the period to maintain the ability to conduct preferential pumping as the opportunity and need arise.

Exceptions

Preferential pumping (JPOD) is not allowed if modeling indicates that any incremental changes to water quality or water levels (as a result of preferential pumping) will result in imminent exceedances of a water quality criteria or water surface elevation criterion. Likewise, if actual conditions do not meet the requirements of the Water Level or Water Quality response plans, preferential pumping must cease.

¹ Joint Point of Diversion is allowed under the State Water Resources Control Board's Revised Water Right Decision 1641 (D-1641). The three stages of JPOD are described on page 115 of the Decision, which can be viewed at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/board_decisions/adopted_orders/decisions/d1600_d1649/wrd1641_1999dec29.pdf.