



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR



MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board

May 29, 2015

Mr. Ron Milligan
Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Mr. Milligan:

SUSPENSION OF SACRAMENTO RIVER TEMPERATURE MANAGEMENT PLAN

On May 14, 2015, I sent you a letter provisionally approving the Sacramento River temperature management plan you submitted on April 14/15 and updated on May 4, 2015, pursuant to condition 6(c) of the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board or Board) April 6, 2015 Temporary Urgency Change Petition Order. In that letter I approved your plans for minimum end of month storage levels at Shasta Reservoir and maximum monthly Keswick releases from May through September based on the temperature modeling you submitted indicating that temperatures could be maintained throughout the temperature control season. I also indicated that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) was required to update this plan if conditions changed in order to assure that temperature compliance would be maintained.

Since that time, the State Water Board held a public workshop on May 20 to discuss this and other drought-related activities in the Bay-Delta watershed. At the workshop, the Board heard significant concerns with the provisional temperature management plan and, as a result, several Board members requested that a margin of safety be added to the temperature management plan. Since the workshop, the State Water Board has also received preliminary information from you indicating that temperatures in Shasta Reservoir are significantly warmer than expected and that these warmer temperatures will likely make it impossible to meet 56 degrees Fahrenheit at Clear Creek throughout the temperature control season as proposed in the provisional temperatures management plan. In addition, information provided this morning by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service shows water temperatures coming from Whiskeytown Dam into Clear Creek are about 2 degrees warmer than last year and 3 degrees warmer than average.

Next week staff from the fisheries agencies, Reclamation and the State Water Board will discuss these issues further and will work to develop an updated temperature management plan that takes this new information into consideration. Until that time, I am temporarily suspending my May 14 conditional approval of the temperature plan until further notice. Please maintain releases from Keswick Reservoir to no more than 7,500 cfs through June 10, and lower if possible to conserve additional cold water supplies. Also, please provide an updated Shasta

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Lake temperature profile as soon as possible and plan on updating the State Water Board at its meeting on Tuesday, June 2 on this and related matters.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Tom Howard
Executive Director