

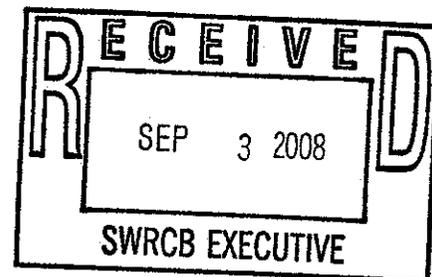
# Memorandum

Date: September 3, 2008

9/17/08 Bd. Wrkshp  
San Joaquin River Flows  
Deadline: 9/3/08 by 12:00 p.m.

To: Chris Carr, Environmental Scientist,  
Bay-Delta Unit  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, 24th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Via electronic mail to: [ccarr@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:ccarr@waterboards.ca.gov)  
[commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov)



From: Department of Water Resources

Subject: Comments for the September 17, 2008, San Joaquin River Flows Workshop

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments in response to the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Board) request for information regarding the various San Joaquin River flow objectives for fish and wildlife beneficial uses in the Bay-Delta and ongoing processes addressing those uses. The primary purpose of the workshop is to provide the State Board with background information and updates on San Joaquin River flow objectives. DWR has a limited role regarding these objectives and comments for the upcoming workshop are brief.

DWR's staff will be attending the September 17, 2008, workshop and will be available to answer questions or provide supplemental information as appropriate. At this time, however, DWR does not have any unique information regarding the Vernalis Adaptive Management Plan (VAMP) or the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) San Joaquin River Salmon Escapement Model (Escapement Model), other than DWR remains committed to funding the water for the VAMP pulse flow through 2009.

Nonetheless, DWR would like to bring to the State Board's attention the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel Demonstration Dissolved Oxygen Project (DO Project). While not directly related to the San Joaquin River flow objectives, the DO Project is related to the upcoming workshop because dissolved oxygen levels can affect aquatic life including the health and migration of anadromous fish (e.g., salmon).

Although the focus of the workshop is San Joaquin River flows and not water quality, if the DO Project is effective in raising the DO levels in the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel (Ship Channel), then a potential need for greater San Joaquin River flow in the Ship Channel may be lessened. Additionally, if DFG's Escapement Model assumes estimated DO levels in the Ship Channel, then consideration should be given to adjusting the model based on the DO Project's results. The DO Project is being tested for the first time this summer. Once completed, the test results will be fully analyzed to determine the effectiveness of the facility in raising DO levels. Information regarding the DO Project can be found at [http://baydeltaoffice.water.ca.gov/sdb/af/index\\_af.cfm](http://baydeltaoffice.water.ca.gov/sdb/af/index_af.cfm).

If you or your staff have questions on these comments or would like additional information please contact me at (916) 653-8826 or [esoderlu@water.ca.gov](mailto:esoderlu@water.ca.gov).



Erick Soderlund  
Staff Counsel

