



Pacific Fishery Management Council

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Mark Cedergreen, Chairman Donald O. McIsaac, Executive Director

December 1, 2010

Donald R. Glaser
Regional Director
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825-1898

Dear Mr. Glaser:

The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) appreciated your July 2, 2010 response to our May 19, 2010 letter.

We would like to invite the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to attend our Habitat Committee meeting in March 2011 to facilitate further discussion of the b(2) water allocation, and receive updated information from you. Council staff will contact you to schedule such a briefing.

In the interim, our Habitat Committee is revisiting the National Academy of Science Report and the b(2) water accounting details that you referenced. In preparation for that meeting, we would appreciate additional clarification from you on a few points:

1. How, specifically, is BOR using b(2) water (or other tools) under the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA) to improve conditions for smolts emigrating from their natal streams to the ocean? Will additional flows be utilized in the upcoming outmigration period (December 2010-June 2011) to improve in-river conditions? The Council is particularly concerned about the flow and temperature requirements of smolts transiting the Delta. What volume of water is allocated and when is it delivered to assist safe passage? Does the BOR collect data to assess the effectiveness of BOR water management measures? Are adaptive management procedures in place to allow changes to enhance effectiveness?
2. How is BOR implementing the reforms outlined in the 2008 independent review of the CVPIA fisheries program? We are interested in learning about the initiatives/projects that respond to this review and receiving a status update on each, a project contact, and a projected completion date.
3. Is b(2) water being used in a manner that will maintain the natural variability inherent in the flow regime? Such changes to the flow regime are critical cues to returning adults.

Can you provide more details on adult-specific measures?

Thank you for any clarification that you can provide in the interim. The Habitat Committee looks forward to meeting with you in March.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. McIsaac", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Donald O. McIsaac, Ph.D.
Executive Director

JDG:kam