FRIANT
WATER AUTHORITY

August 25, 2011

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Jerry Meral, PhD
Deputy Secretary
California Resources Agency
1416 ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: San Joaquin River Settlement River Releases – Delta Recirculation; Bay-Delta Conservation Plan

Dear Jerry,

Thank you for your continued leadership in advancing the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan. As you are aware, the Friant Water Authority (FWA) and its twenty member districts are supportive of the effort and have particular interests in the water supply reliability element of the BDCP co-equal goals, namely, the continued reliable delivery of Exchange Contractor water conveyed through the Delta so to avoid a call on Friant water supplies, improved reliability of Cross Valley Contractor (CVC) water supplies (three of the largest CVC contractors are members of the FWA), and recapture and recirculation of San Joaquin River Settlement (Settlement) river releases under the Water Management Goal of the Settlement.

Each of these water supplies have different priorities for delivery from/through the delta and thus have different risks associated with future deliveries and varying degrees of increased reliability from the conveyance improvement aspect of the BDCP.

To date, we are not aware of BDCP operational modeling efforts that take into account relative water supply reliability for different types of water deliveries, particularly with respect to recovery of Settlement river releases. While the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) has the primary responsibility for development of a plan of recapture and recirculation under the Settlement and implementing legislation,

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coordination of that effort by the USBR with the BDCP water operations analysis at the earliest possible time would seem prudent as opposed to trying to incorporate a recirculation plan into the BDCP analysis at a later date.

We respectfully request that you move forward with the proposed "BDCP Relationship to San Joaquin River Restoration Program" working group because there has been no real apparent progress by Reclamation relative to Delta recapture since you proposed the potential working group in May 2011. We think it is particularly important that BDCP operational modeling include specifics with respect to all of the FWA water supply interests noted above. We would anticipate that such modeling would include direct recapture (export) of Settlement water via the south delta facilities or by exchange with other delta water supplies, especially if environmental benefits can be gained in conjunction with the environmental goals of the BDCP (i.e., increased SJR flows may provide enhanced environmental benefits that result in increased water supply reliability).

Again, FWA appreciates your leadership in the BDCP effort and stands ready to assist in addressing this issue.

Sincerely,

Ronald D. Jacobsma
General Manager

cc: Don Glaser, Regional Director, USBR
Sue Fry, USBR
Ali Forsythe, USBR