To: Kathleen Goforth[Goforth.Kathleen@epa.gov]; Hanf, Lisa[Hanf.Lisa@epa.gov]; Skophammer, Stephanie[SKOPHAMMER.STEPHANIE@EPA.GOV]
From: Johnson, Kathleen
Sent: Tue 6/30/2015 8:10:54 PM
Subject: FW: Follow-up water quality information
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From: Enos, Cassandra@DWR [mailto:Cassandra.Enos@water.ca.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2015 11:44 AM
To: Johnson, Kathleen
Cc: Moon, Laura K.@DWR; Nemeth, Karla@CNRA; Olson, Theresa @usbr.gov
Subject: Follow-up water quality information

Kathleen – Hi, I just wanted to follow-up on our conversation last week. I mentioned that I would send you the mitigation measures that were developed to mitigate for water quality impacts in the western Delta and at Prisoner's point. These measures are included below. Additionally, you inquired about the work that has been done for selenium and mercury. Attached is a portion of the forthcoming Recirculated Draft EIR/ Supplemental Draft EIS. This excerpt describes what revisions were made to various resource areas, including: Fish and aquatic habitat; Effects downstream of the Plan Area; Water Quality including selenium, mercury, and bromide; and updates to NEPA effects determinations. I know all these are areas you had comments on, so I thought you might be interested to see what revisions have been made. Please let me know if you have any questions. Also, please feel free to forward to other EPA staff on the call as I don't have everyone's email.

Thanks, Cassandra

Mitigation Measure WQ-11: Avoid or Minimize Reduced Water Quality Conditions

The implementation of mitigation actions shall be focused on avoiding or minimizing those incremental effects attributable to implementation of Alternative 4A operations only. Mitigation actions to avoid or minimize the incremental EC effects attributable to climate change/sea level rise are not required because these changed conditions would occur with or without implementation of Alternative 4A. The goal of specific actions is to reduce/avoid additional exceedances of Delta EC objectives and reduce long-term average concentration increases to levels that would not adversely affect beneficial uses within the Delta. Implementation of Mitigation Measure WQ-11 would be expected to reduce effects on EC to a less than significant level.

Mitigation Measure WQ-11a: Adaptively Manage Diversions at the North and South Delta Intakes to Reduce or Eliminate Water Quality Degradation in Western Delta

Modeling results for Alternative 4A indicated water quality degradation in the Sacramento River at Emmaton during May-September of dry and critical water year types, relative to the No Action Alternative (ELT). Additional flow in the Sacramento River at Emmaton would be expected to reduce EC levels under Alternative 4A to levels closer to the No Action Alternative (ELT) that would not be expected to adversely affect beneficial uses. By reducing diversions from the north Delta intakes during these periods (and consequently increasing diversions from the south Delta intakes), additional flow would be available in the Sacramento River to reduce water quality degradation with respect to EC. The BDCP proponents shall adaptively manage the split between north and south Delta diversions during May-September of dry and critical water years to limit EC in the Sacramento River at Emmaton to levels consistent with the No Action Alternative.

Mitigation Measure WQ-11b: Adaptively Manage Head of Old River Barrier and Diversions at the North and South Delta Intakes to Reduce or Eliminate Exceedances of the Bay-Delta WQCP Objective at Prisoners Point

Modeling results for Alternative 4A indicated additional exceedances of the Bay-Delta WQCP objective for protection of striped bass between Jersey Point and Prisoners Point at Prisoners Point. It is expected that by adaptively managing the Head of Old River Barrier and the fraction of south Delta versus north Delta diversions, exceedances of the EC objective at Prisoners Point could be avoided, and EC levels at Prisoners Point would be decreased to a level that would not adversely affect aquatic life beneficial uses. The BDCP proponents shall adaptively manage the Head of Old River Barrier and the split between north and south Delta diversions during April-May to avoid exceedances of the objective at

Prisoners Point. These actions would not be required in critical water years, when the objective does not apply. The BDCP proponents will consult with CDFW, USFWS, and NMFS to ensure that such actions are warranted to avoid adverse impacts of salinity on striped bass spawning in the San Joaquin River, and to minimize adverse effects these mitigation actions may have on other species.

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