



## MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** SLDMWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** TOM BOARDMAN, WATER RESOURCES ENGINEER  
**SUBJECT:** APRIL PROJECT OPERATIONS UPDATE  
**DATE:** APRIL 1, 2019

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### Project Operations

- Jones has been pumping at about 1800 cfs since CVP San Luis filled during the second week of March. Although a salmon BiOp action went into effect today that limits exports to 25% of the San Joaquin flow, the allowable export capacity may be enough to meet demands and keep CVP San Luis full through at least April. Jones pumping will be reduced to 1 unit for a few days this week as part of a predator removal experiment and trash-rack maintenance work. The short outage is not expected to cause a sustained draw down in CVP San Luis.
- Banks pumped near its capacity of 6,680 cfs during the latter half of March as State Water Contractors used surplus water to recharge groundwater banks and refill southern reservoirs. Banks will be pumping CVP's unpumped share of export this week followed by a reduction later this month to allow Jones to recover its share of pumping.
- Projected median April-July inflow to San Joaquin river tributary reservoirs is about 45% above average. Forecasters are now estimating that the current snow pack below 8,000 feet is more than what existed for the same date in 2017. As such, flood flows to the Mendota Pool could be enough to meet Pool demand well into June. Additionally, flood releases from other San Joaquin tributaries during late April and May could be enough to support enough exports to meet demands and keep CVP San Luis full into May.
- Shasta storage is at 4 MAF and is about 300 TAF encroached into its flood pool reservation. Releases are scheduled to increase to 20,000 cfs later this week in anticipation of the incoming storm. Reclamation's latest operations forecast projects Shasta filling by late May under median hydrology. Reclamation also estimates storage is enough to maximize exports this summer without a risk to meeting temperature objectives for salmon.
- The allowable storage in Folsom is increasing by 5 TAF per day, but the current storage of 734 TAF is still about 100 TAF above the allowable flood control limit. The current release of 5,200 cfs may increase later this week as inflows increase with the incoming storm. Reclamation's median forecast shows Folsom filling by late May and remaining full until early July.
- Reclamation's latest operations forecast under median hydrology estimates that a fall X2 requirement under the delta smelt BiOp may reduce CVP exports to 1-2 units during October and November. The current Sac Valley year-type is Above Normal and may change to Wet with the next Bulletin 120 in early April. Under a Wet year-type

classification, the X2 requirement could be especially restrictive on fall pumping if the fall period is dry and Reclamation has to rely solely on Shasta and Folsom storage to comply. Having a significant export cut in the fall could reduce the chances of refilling CVP San Luis next spring.

- CVP demands were about 130 TAF during March; on par with the 15-year average.

## **2019 San Luis Operations and Allocation Projection**

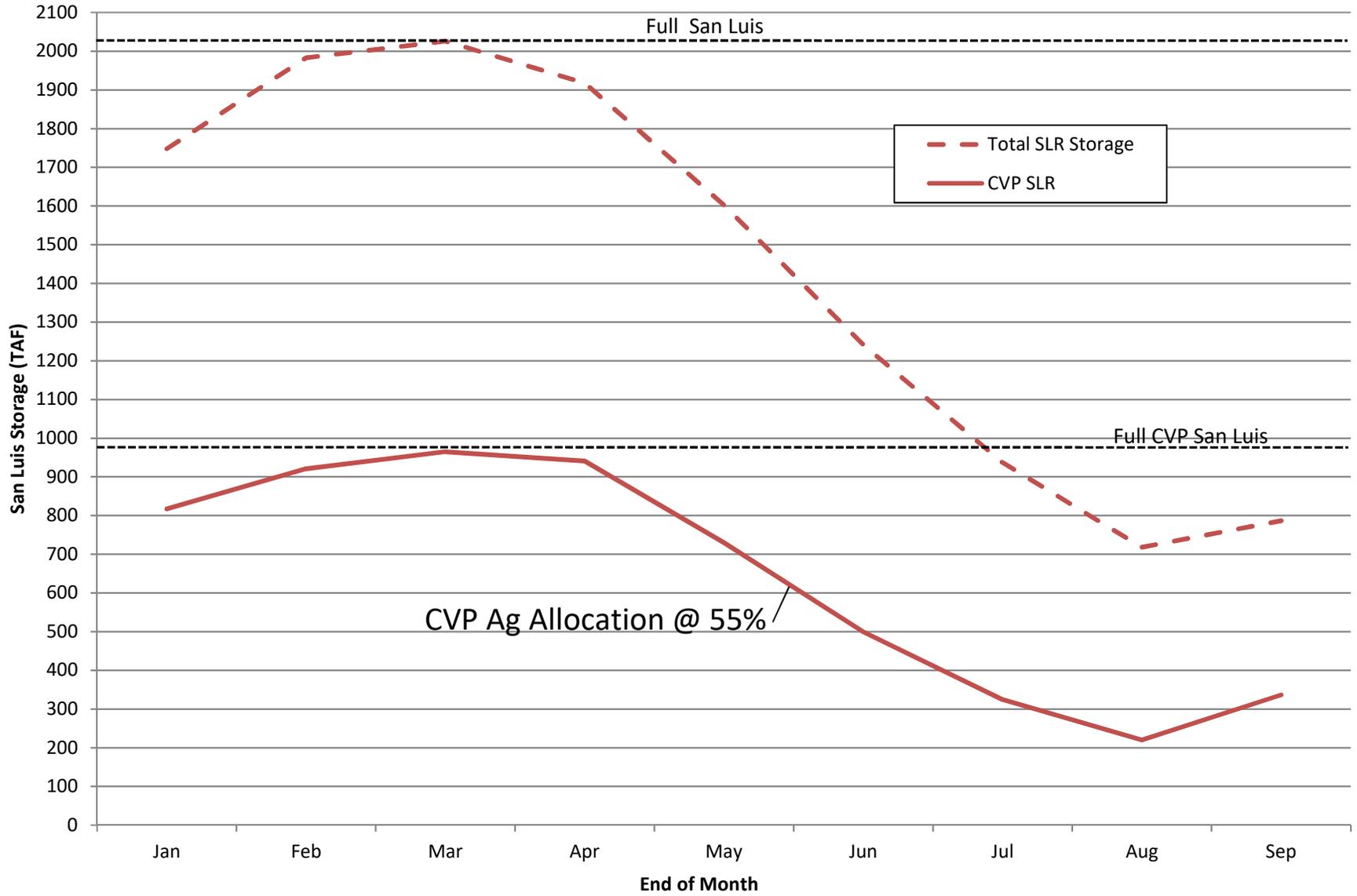
The current Ag allocation of 55% was based on having a sustained draw down in CVP San Luis by early April caused by Jones pumping at only 22% of capacity during the salmon BiOp Inflow/Export action period. However, it now appears that a sustained draw down in CVP San Luis may be delayed because the allowable export plus flood flows to the Mendota Pool may be enough to meet direct demands almost entirely until late May. If CVP San Luis does not begin its draw down until at least mid-May and with flood flows to the Pool into June, the available supply for 2019 allocations could increase by at least 350 TAF; enough to support an Ag allocation of 100%.

## **Rescheduling Opportunities**

Due to some contractors choosing to take Section 215 water in lieu rescheduled water, total delivery of rescheduled water during March is estimated to be about 50 TAF. As a result, about 160 TAF of the total 210 TAF rescheduled remains in CVP San Luis. An estimated 125 TAF of foregone pumping has accumulated since CVP San Luis filled on March 10. Assuming a sustained CVP draw down is delayed into May, the balance of undelivered rescheduled water will be lost at that time since the accumulated foregone pumping will exceed the amount of rescheduled water stored in CVP San Luis.

# 2019 San Luis Storage Projection

## 90% Exceedance Hydrology



# 2019 San Luis Storage Projection

## 50% Exceedance Hydrology

