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**SUBJECT**: MAY PROJECT OPERATIONS UPDATE

**DATE:** MAY 9, 2018

## **Project Operations**

- Jones pumping averaged about 2000 cfs during April thanks to elevated flows on the San Joaquin River. CVP pumping during early May has been about 1000 cfs as the salmon BiOp limits total exports to the greater of one third of the flow at Vernalis or 1500 cfs through the end of month. With a section of the Aqueduct out of service for repairs through May and the SWP owing the CVP about 25 TAF under the export sharing account, the CVP will be pumping a larger share of the allowable export rate until early June.
- Banks pumping has been limited to about 500 cfs during the Aqueduct outage. With
  the use of DMC-Aqueduct Intertie, wheeling capacity for the SWP has been about 450
  cfs, but could increase to 900 cfs.
- The current delta outflow rate is about 14,000 cfs and declining as Sac Valley diverters complete their flood up season. The Bulletin 120 update released today shows that the Sac Valley year type remaining at a Below Normal. This means that the Projects will not be required to meet more stringent delta standards above what was assumed in the forecasts supporting the current allocations.
- Shasta storage reached its peak of 4,200 TAF by late April and has since dropped to 4,163 TAF. Actual storage is tracking about 40 TAF higher than Reclamation's 50% exceedance projection. However, current releases are about 1000 cfs higher than anticipated due to recent warm conditions. Cold water volume appears to be sufficient to meet the temperature objective on the upper Sacramento River. As such, summer Keswick releases should be enough to support maximum exports by July.
- Folsom storage is at 900 TAF; rising by about 3.6 TAF per day and is expected to nearly fill later this month. The current release of 2,000 cfs is needed to meet downstream requirements and manage about 4000 cfs of reservoir inflow.
- CVP demands were about 126 TAF during April which is about 15% below the 15 year average.

## 2017 Operations Outlook

## **Project Allocation**

Improved snow pack in the American River basin and increased certainty of Shasta's cold water pool were the primary factors that helped support the recent allocation increase. However, Reclamation remains somewhat uncertain about its export projections for June and July due to possible OMR restrictions in June, Sac Valley depletions trending above average, and delta salinity requirements.

The attached San Luis Reservoir projection charts show a CVP San Luis low point of about 100 TAF by late August. The projections reflect export levels near the amounts in Reclamation's latest Operations Studies, but with demand estimates more reflective of the current 40% Ag allocation. As such, there is sufficient San Luis storage to support an allocation increase of at least 5%. The allocation could increase to about 55% as Reclamation's confidence level increases on the factors listed above – possibly by early June.



