



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
MP-100  
WTR- 4.03

JUL 31 2015

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AUG 5 2015

Byron-Bethany  
Irrigation District

Mr. Rick Gilmore  
General Manager  
Byron Bethany Irrigation District  
7995 Bruns Road  
Byron, CA 94514

Subject: Operations Plan and Borrowing of Stored Water

Dear Mr. Gilmore:

I am responding to your letter of July 7, 2015, requesting the Bureau of Reclamation provide assurance that any water borrowed in San Luis Reservoir this summer to meet critical demands will be available in the future when it is needed by your district. The continuing drought situation in California has created unprecedented challenges in the operation of the Central Valley Project (CVP), with extremely limited water supplies, operational constraints and multiple competing demands. As we have discussed, meeting the timing of demands has been especially difficult this summer. Reclamation fully recognizes the great financial resources that CVP contractors have expended to acquire and conserve the water placed in storage in the CVP share of San Luis Reservoir.

The continuing drought conditions of 2015 have highlighted the complex water supply relationship that exists among our water rights exchange contractors, water rights settlement contractors, and other CVP water contractors, as well as fishery management and the wildlife refuges needs. Unfortunately, due to the complex relationships among these competing demands and the uncertainties in the availability and timing of CVP water supplies, Reclamation has had to temporarily borrow water stored in the Federal share of San Luis Reservoir that is committed for delivery to your district in the future.

Be assured that sufficient water remains within the CVP system to offset the water that was borrowed and the obligation to deliver this water will continue to be factored into our operational decisions. Reclamation is committed to the delivery of this water as previously agreed and will work with you to be sure that this water will be available to meet your demands when it is needed.

Reclamation also intends to continue periodic coordination with all the CVP contractors south of the Delta to provide operations updates through current established communication forums and conference calls. Later in August we will also provide a detailed briefing to CVP contractors on overall CVP operations and the Sacramento River Temperature Management Plan this year.



Reclamation appreciates your cooperation and values our partnership with your district and others as we manage through these extraordinary times. If you have any questions or thoughts, please contact Mr. Ron Milligan, Operations Manager, at 916-979-2199.

Sincerely,



**ACTING FOR**

David G. Murillo  
Regional Director

Identical Letter Sent To:

Mr. Jeff Cattaneo  
General Manager  
San Benito County Water District  
30 Mansfield Road  
Hollister, CA 95023

Mr. Steve Chedester  
Executive Director  
San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors  
Water Authority  
541 H Street  
Los Banos, CA 93635

Mr. Dennis Falaschi  
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Mr. Rick Gilmore  
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Byron Bethany Irrigation District  
7995 Bruns Road  
Byron, CA 94514

Mr. Jose Gutierrez  
Deputy General Manager  
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Ms. Anthea G. Hansen  
General Manager  
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17840 Ward Ave.  
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Ms. Cindy Kao  
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Santa Clara Valley Water District  
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Mr. Lon Martin  
General Manager  
San Luis Water District  
1015 6th St  
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Mr. Daniel G. Nelson  
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Mr. Bobby Pierce  
General Manager  
West Stanislaus Irrigation District  
1800 E West Stanislaus Road  
Westley, CA 95387

Identical Letter Sent To:

Continued from previous page.

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948 Orange Ave  
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Mr. David Weisenberger  
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Mr. Chris White  
General Manager  
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