

**Summary of Stanislaus River Forum Meeting**  
**January 20, 2016 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Objective:** To provide opportunities for the public to present information to Reclamation regarding the Stanislaus River.

Introductions

On the call:

Reclamation: Carolyn Bragg, Amanda Bahls

NMFS: Barb Byrne

Current operations

Releases out of Goodwin Dam are at 200 cfs, meeting the minimum flow requirements per the 2009 NMFS BiOp (Critical yeartype flow schedule).

New Melones storage is at 343 TAF (25% of average). The elevation is at 820'.

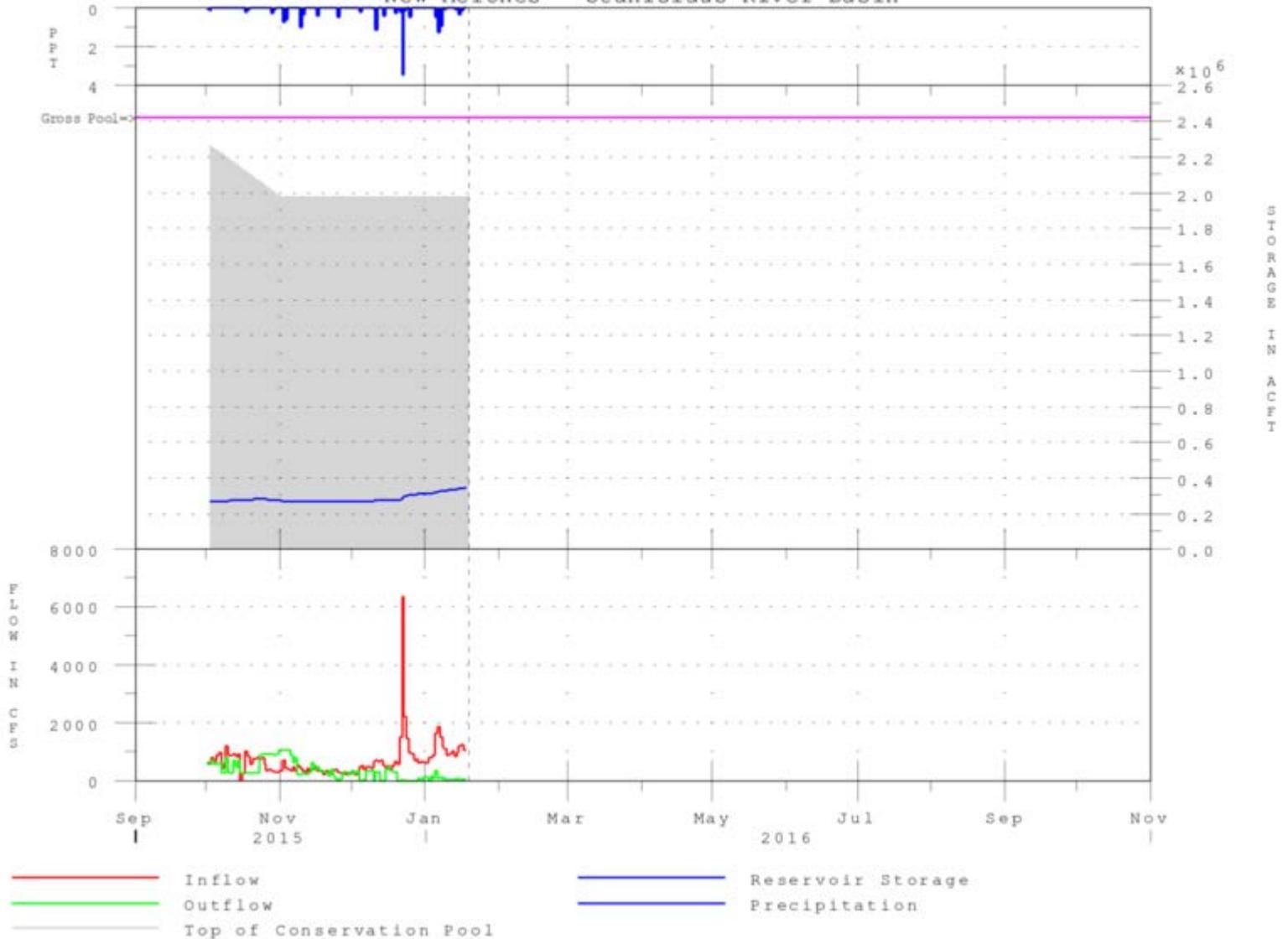
Details on recent operations and conditions are provided in the attached *Operations Handout*

Update on NMFS RPA Implementation

Please refer to the attached *RPA Implementation Update*.

Next Meeting: February 17, 2016

### New Melones - Stanislaus River Basin



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION-CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT-CALIFORNIA

**JANUARY 2016**

**TULLOCH RESERVOIR DAILY OPERATIONS**

RUN DATE: 01/18/2016

DAY	ELEV	STORAGE ACRE-FEET RES.	CHANGE	COMPUTED* INFLOW C.F.S.	NEW MELONES RELEASE	POWER	RELEASE - C.F.S. SPILL	OUTLET	EVAP C.F.S. (1)
		55,812							
1	500.35	55,682	-130	152	149	217	0	0	1
2	499.97	55,271	-411	9	8	215	0	0	1
3	499.94	55,239	-32	203	196	215	0	0	4
4	499.73	55,015	-224	98	81	210	0	0	1
5	500.74	56,105	+1,090	757	354	207	0	0	0
6	501.61	57,060	+955	689	109	207	0	0	1
7	502.04	57,535	+475	451	120	209	0	0	3
8	501.94	57,424	-111	156	34	209	0	0	3
9	501.85	57,325	-99	166	89	209	0	0	7
10	501.60	57,049	-276	72	21	211	0	0	0
11	501.40	56,828	-221	102	63	209	0	0	4
12	501.13	56,530	-298	63	33	209	0	0	4
13	500.93	56,311	-219	100	56	208	0	0	2
14	500.73	56,094	-217	101	76	208	0	0	2
15	500.54	55,888	-206	123	65	209	0	0	18
16	500.32	55,650	-238	94	41	211	0	0	3
17	500.05	55,357	-293	65	34	211	0	0	2
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>-455</b>	<b>3,401</b>	<b>1,529</b>	<b>3,574</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>ACRE-FEET</b>			<b>-455</b>	<b>6,746</b>	<b>3,033</b>	<b>7,089</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>111</b>

\*COMPUTED INFLOW IS SUM OF CHANGE IN STORAGE, RELEASES, AND EVAPORATION.

**SUMMARY  
RELEASE (ACRE-FEET)**

POWER	7,089	OUTLET	0
SPILL	0	TOTAL	7,089

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
 U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION-CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT-CALIFORNIA

JANUARY 2016

NEW MELONES LAKE DAILY OPERATIONS

RUN DATE: January 18, 2016

DAY	ELEV	STORAGE		COMPUTED* INFLOW C.F.S.	POWER	RELEASE - C.F.S.			EVAPORATION		PRECIP INCHES
		1000 ACRE-FEET IN LAKE	CHANGE			SPILL	OUTLET	C.F.S.	INCHES		
		310.2									
1	811.35	311.2	+0.9	612	149	0	0	2	.02	.00	
2	811.80	312.7	+1.6	811	8	0	0	5	.04	.00	
3	812.12	313.9	+1.1	779	196	0	0	14	.12	.00	
4	812.56	315.4	+1.6	872	81	0	0	5	.04	.00	
5	813.29	318.0	+2.6	1,661	354	0	0	0	.00	.52	
6	814.26	321.5	+3.5	1,858	109	0	0	2	.02	1.30	
7	815.03	324.3	+2.8	1,521	120	0	0	8	.07	1.02	
8	815.63	326.4	+2.2	1,135	34	0	0	8	.07	.06	
9	816.17	328.4	+2.0	1,098	89	0	0	23	.20	.11	
10	816.64	330.1	+1.7	883	21	0	0	0	.00	.02	
11	817.10	331.8	+1.7	919	63	0	0	12	.10	.00	
12	817.63	333.7	+1.9	1,023	33	0	0	12	.10	.00	
13	818.06	335.3	+1.6	858	56	0	0	7	.06	.14	
14	818.54	337.0	+1.8	973	76	0	0	6	.05	.04	
15	819.12	339.2	+2.1	1,204	65	0	0	60	.50	.40	
16	819.76	341.6	+2.4	1,248	41	0	0	10	.08	.18	
17	820.31	343.6	+2.0	1,072	34	0	0	6	.05	.01	
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>+33.5</b>	<b>18,527</b>	<b>1,529</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>1.52</b>	<b>3.80</b>	
<b>ACRE-FEET</b>			<b>+33,500</b>	<b>36,748</b>	<b>3,033</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>357</b>			

COMMENTS:

\* COMPUTED INFLOW IS THE SUM OF CHANGE IN STORAGE, RELEASES AND EVAPORATION.

SUMMARY

	RELEASE (ACRE-FEET)				PRECIPITATION
POWER	3,033	OUTLET	0	THIS MONTH =	3.80
SPILL	0	TOTAL	3,033	JULY 1, 2015 TO DATE =	16.14

OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
 SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
 TRI DAMS PROJECT-CALIFORNIA

JANUARY 2016

GOODWIN RESERVOIR DAILY OPERATIONS

RUN DATE: January 18, 2016

DAY	ELEV	STORAGE		TULLOCH	RIVER		RELEASE - C.F.S.	
		ACRE-FEET	CHANGE		RELEASE	OUTLET	SPILL	JOINT MAIN
		524						
1	359.83	525	+1	217	0	203	0	0
2	359.83	525	+0	215	0	200	0	0
3	359.81	524	-1	215	0	204	0	0
4	359.81	524	+0	210	0	202	0	0
5	359.81	524	+0	207	0	218	0	0
6	359.83	525	+1	207	0	214	0	0
7	359.81	524	-1	209	0	205	0	0
8	359.81	524	+0	209	0	202	0	0
9	359.81	524	+0	209	0	201	0	0
10	359.81	524	+0	211	0	202	0	0
11	359.81	524	+0	209	0	201	0	0
12	359.81	524	+0	209	0	201	0	0
13	359.81	524	+0	208	0	201	0	0
14	359.83	525	+1	208	0	201	0	0
15	359.83	525	+0	209	0	204	0	0
16	359.83	525	+0	211	0	204	0	0
17	359.83	525	+0	211	0	202	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>+1</b>	<b>3,574</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,465</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ACRE-FEET</b>			<b>+1</b>	<b>7,089</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,873</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

JOINT MAIN OPERATED BY SSJID AND OID.  
 SOUTH MAIN OPERATED BY OID.

**SUMMARY**  
 RELEASE (ACRE-FEET)

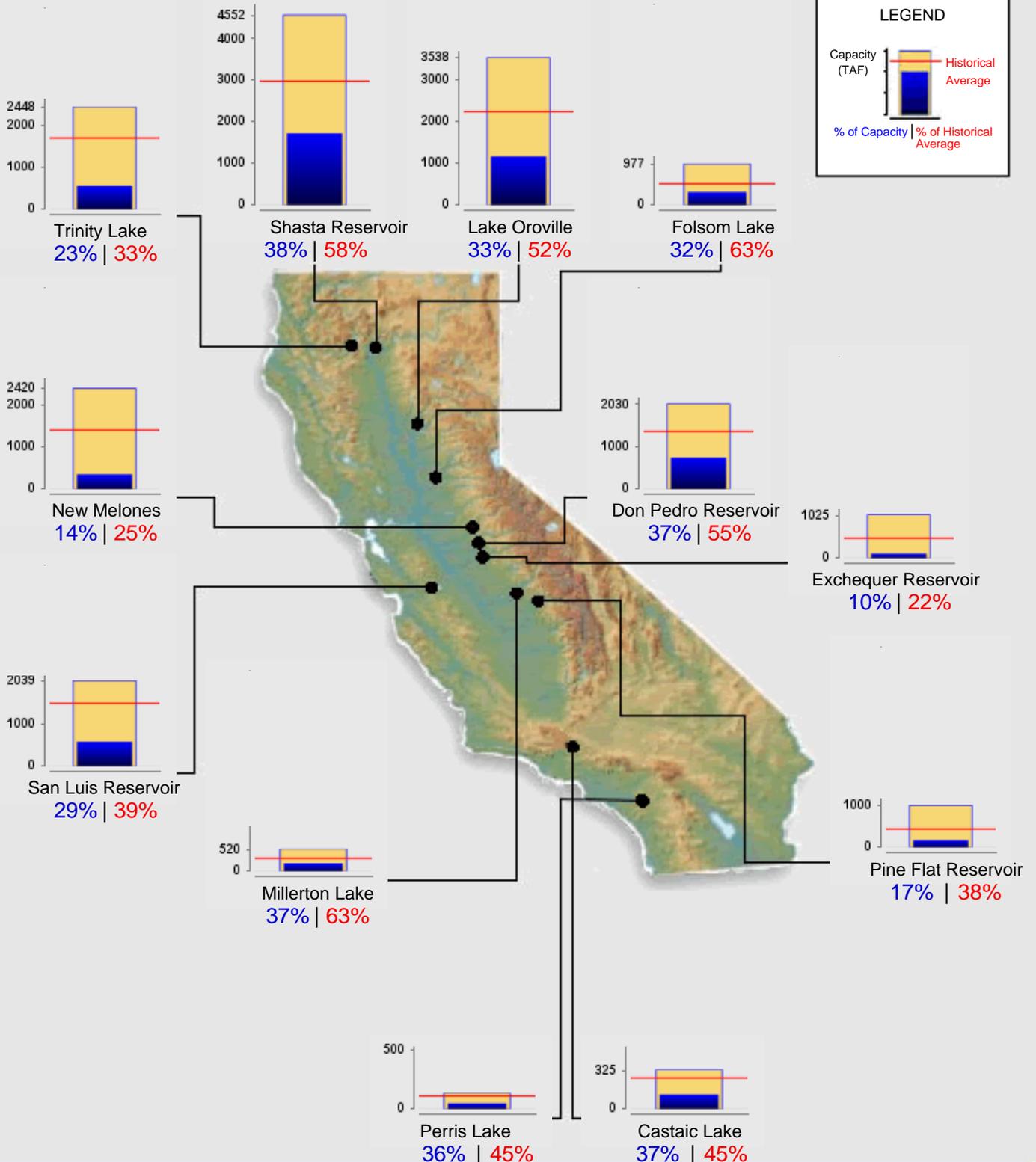
JOINT MAIN CANAL	0	OUTLET	0
SOUTH MAIN CANAL	0	SPILL	6,873
		TOTAL	6,873



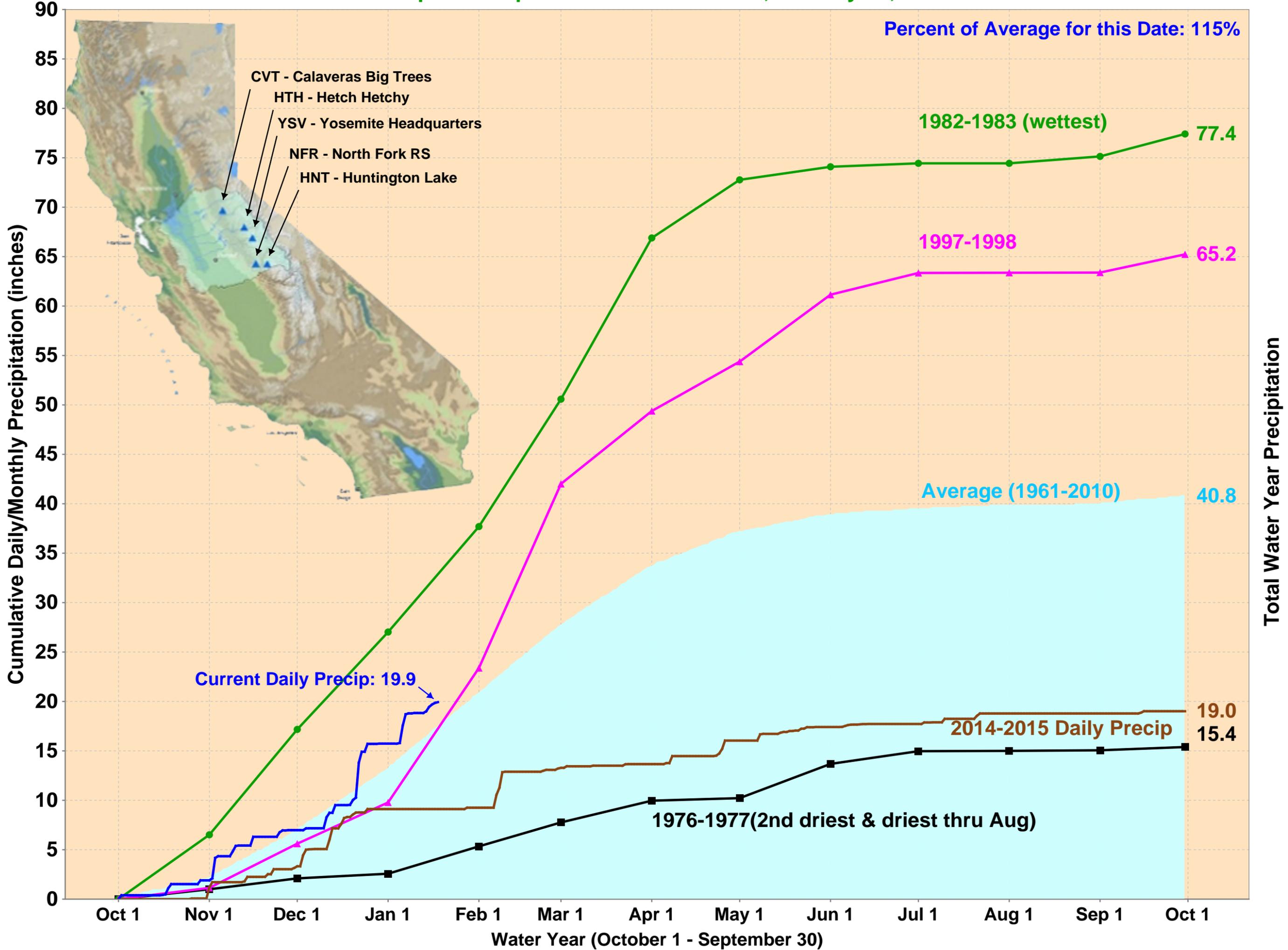
# Reservoir Conditions

Ending At Midnight - January 18, 2016

## CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS



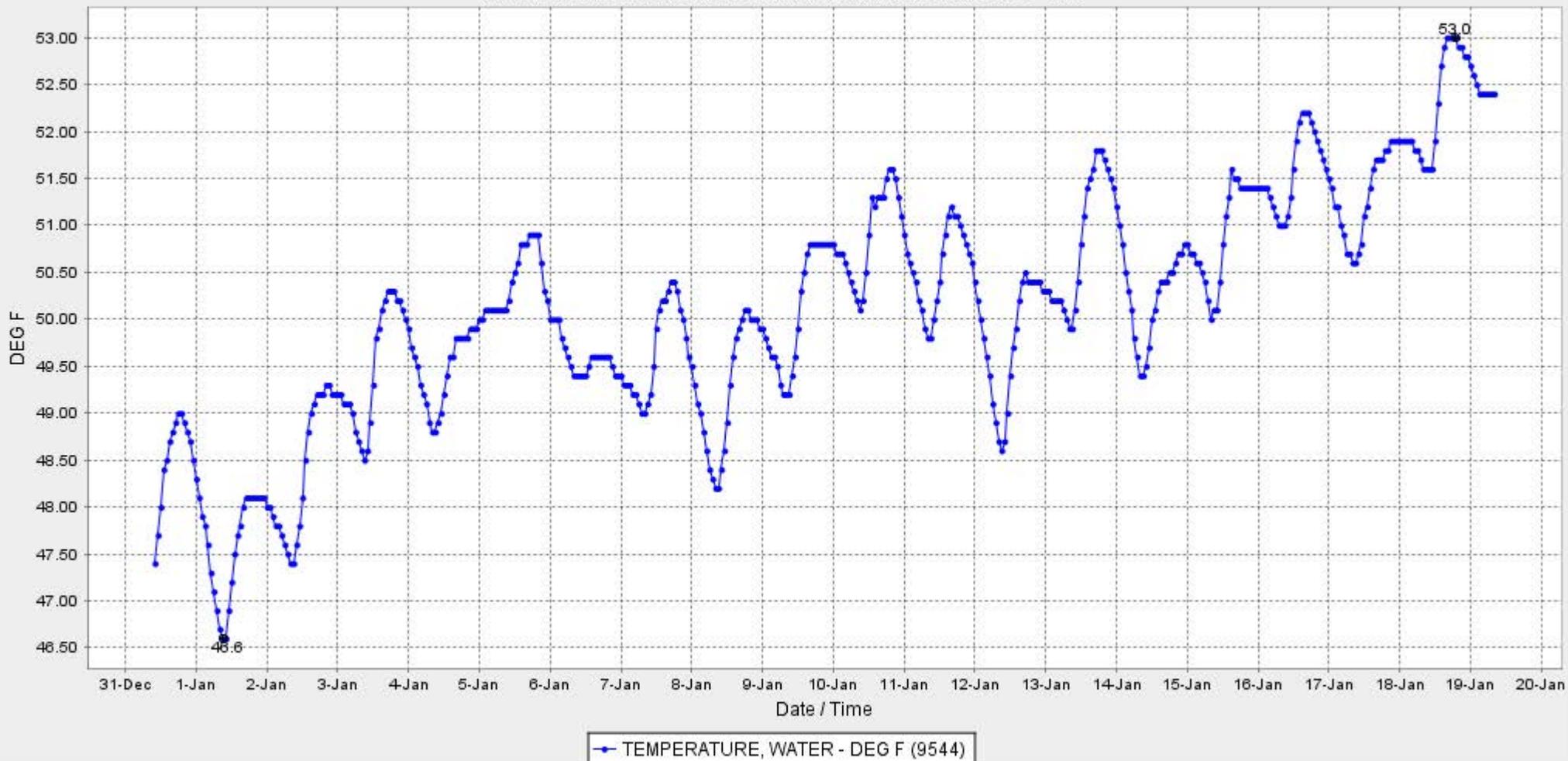
# San Joaquin Precipitation: 5-Station Index, January 18, 2016



# STANISLAUS R AT ORANGE BLOSSOM BRIDGE ( OBB )

Date from 12/31/2015 09:49 through 01/19/2016 09:49 Duration : 19 days

Max of period : (01/18/2016 19:00, 53.0) Min of period: (01/01/2016 09:00, 46.6)



1/20/2016

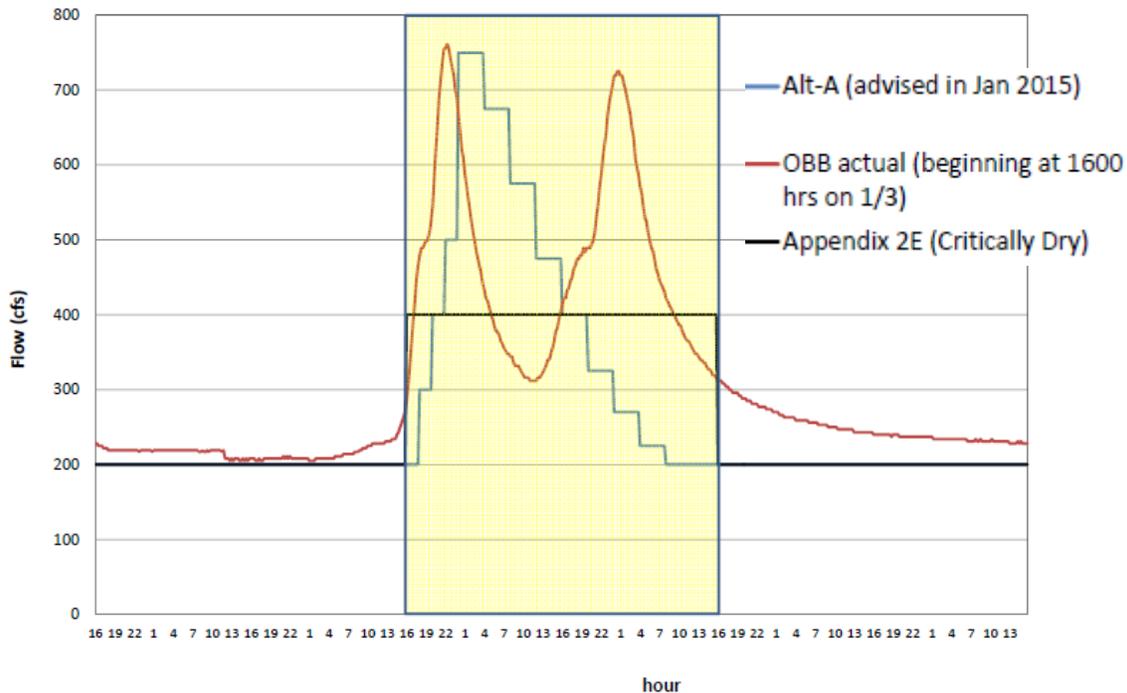
**Update on NMFS RPA Implementation:**

Reasonable and prudent alternative (RPA) Action III.1.3

October through mid-April, the Appendix 2-E minimum flow schedule for the Critical yeartype (based on the New Melones Water supply parameter, not the San Joaquin “60-20-20” Index) requires minimum instream flows of 200 cfs. In January and February, the Critical year schedule requires one small winter instability flow (793 AF in addition to the 200 cfs base flow) in each month. The Stanislaus Operations Group (SOG) met to discuss the winter instability flows on 12/16/15 and again on 1/13/16.

SOG advised, and NMFS approved, that for January 2016, the natural storm pulse January 5-7, 2016 (realized storm flow in-river at Orange Blossom Bridge was 1169 AF in addition to the 200 cfs base flow; see Figure 1) be considered to satisfy the January winter instability flow (Critically Dry yeartype) in the Appendix 2-E flow schedule.

SOG anticipates providing final advice on the February winter instability flow by 2/19/16, after reviewing the latest storage conditions, inflow forecasts, and observed flow events at the February SOG meeting on 2/17/16. NMFS approved a request to maintain the base flows of 200 cfs during February until that advice is finalized.



**Figure 1:** Comparison of January storm to the winter instability flow advised by SOG in 2015 (Alt-A) and to the default Appendix 2-E winter instability flow for a Critically Dry yeartype.

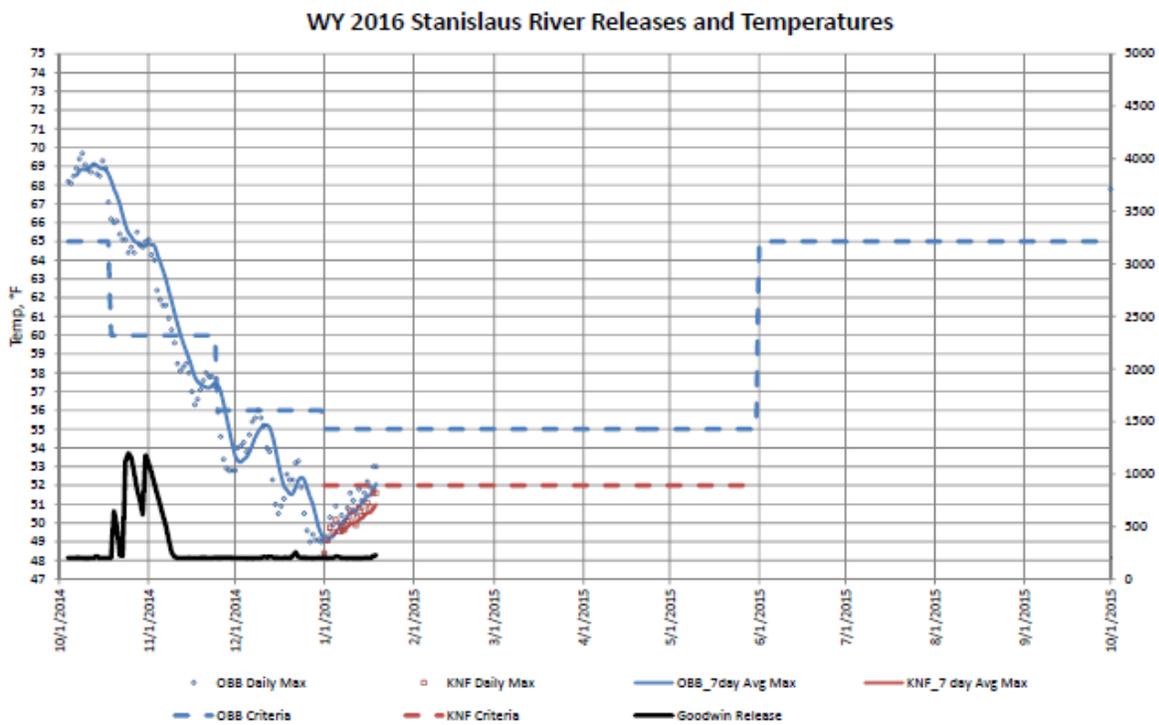
### RPA Action III.1.2

Temperature management through 12/31/15 was guided by the temperature management plan developed by Reclamation in consultation with the fishery agencies and the local irrigation districts. That plan, consistent with the exception procedures in the 2009 NMFS BiOp, targeted the following water temperatures during late November and December<sup>1</sup> (measured as the seven day average of daily maximum temperature, or 7DADM):

**November 20-December 31: 7DADM not to exceed 56°F at Orange Blossom Bridge** (measured at CDEC station OBB).

Provides water temperatures suitable for spawning and incubation by fall-run Chinook salmon, adult migration and holding of Central Valley steelhead.

The 7DADM at Orange Blossom Bridge dropped below 56 °F on 11/28/16 (Figure 2).



**Figure 2:** Stanislaus water temperatures at Orange Blossom Bridge (measured) and Knights Ferry (estimated). . The 7DADM targets October through December are per the temperature management plan submitted to the SWRCB in August 2015; the 7DADM targets January through September are per Action III.1.2 in the NMFS BiOp.

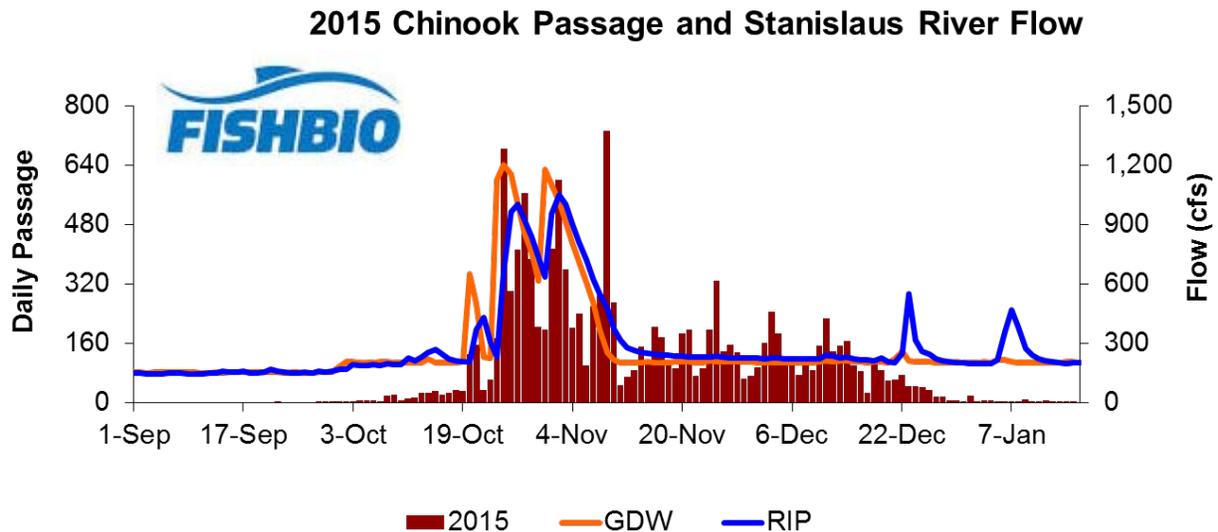
<sup>1</sup> That plan also noted that “given the severe drought conditions and uncertainty about operations this year, the following temperature targets might not be achieved on the targeted timeframe, but real-time blending decisions will be guided by these general targets with the limited resources available.”

Since 1/1/16, temperature management has been guided by the temperature criteria in Action III.1.2 of the 2009 NMFS BiOp. From January 1 to May 31, the temperature criteria in Action III.1.2 are that water temperature (measured as the 7DADM) be below 55°F at Orange Blossom Bridge (OBB) for steelhead spawning and incubation and be below 52°F at Knights Ferry for steelhead smoltification. The 7DADM temperatures at Orange Blossom Bridge and Knights Ferry since 1/7/15 (the first day for which a 7DADM under the 55°F BiOp criterion is available) have been below the temperature criteria (Figure 2).

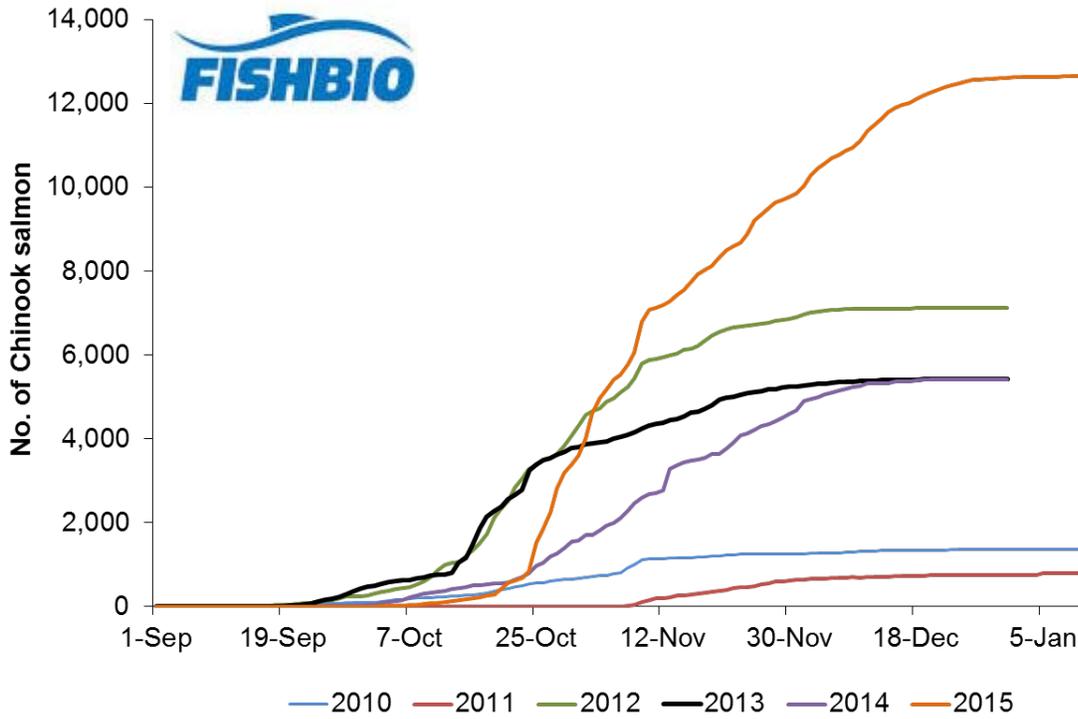
**Update on Fish Monitoring**

The California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) began conducting fall-run Chinook carcass and redd surveys the week of 9/28/15. Through the week of 1/11/16, CDFW has observed 5,246 redds on the Stanislaus River (compared to 244 on the Tuolumne and 1,174 on the Merced).

The Stanislaus weir near Riverbank began sampling on Friday, 9/15/15. Through 1/17/16, the net upstream passage of adult fall-run Chinook salmon at the weir just downstream of Riverbank was 12,675 – nearly double the next-highest passage (seasonal total of 7,248 in 2012) observed since the weir sampling began in 2003. A net upstream passage of three *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (all <16”, two of three were ad-clipped) has been observed at the weir. The figures below were provided by FISHBIO in their 1/18/16 Stanislaus weir update.



### Cumulative Chinook Passage at the Stanislaus River Weir



Rotary screw trapping at Oakdale and Caswell began in early January. Chinook catch at these sampling locations is summarized in the figures below, provided by FISHBIO in their 1/18/16 San Joaquin Basin Update.

