

**Addendum to DRAFT  
Technical Information  
For  
Preparing Water Transfer Proposals  
(Water Transfer White Paper)**

**Information to Parties Preparing Proposals for Water  
Transfers Requiring Department of Water Resources or  
Bureau of Reclamation Approval**

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AND  
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## 2015 WATER TRANSFER WHITE PAPER ADDENDUM

California has entered its fourth consecutive year of drought. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) are dedicated to assisting buyers and sellers in executing transfers in a timely fashion. To aid water transfer proponents and help expedite water transfers, DWR and Reclamation jointly prepared the Draft Technical Information for Preparing Water Transfer Proposals (Water Transfer White Paper) most recently updated on November, 2014. The Water Transfer White Paper provides the technical information DWR and Reclamation use to evaluate water transfers requiring DWR or Reclamation approval.

[http://water.ca.gov/watertransfers/docs/2015 Water Transfer White Paper.pdf](http://water.ca.gov/watertransfers/docs/2015_Water_Transfer_White_Paper.pdf) .

On March 20, 2015, Reclamation and the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority released the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Report on the effects of long-term water transfers from 2015 to 2024 Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Study (EIS/EIR), which evaluates the potential impacts associated with implementation of voluntary water transfers from willing sellers north of the Delta to willing buyers south of the Delta and in the San Francisco Bay Area. The transfers consist of Central Valley Project or non-CVP water that would be conveyed through CVP or State Water Project facilities.

Reclamation issued its Record of Decision on May 1, 2015. Modeling of the potential effects of groundwater pumping associated with groundwater substitution transfers was conducted as part of the EIS/EIR analysis. Groundwater substitution transfers may decrease flows in neighboring surface water bodies following a transfer while groundwater basins recharge. The modeling results showed a minimum long-term streamflow depletion of 13 percent.

[http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa\\_projdetails.cfm?Project\\_ID=18361](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa_projdetails.cfm?Project_ID=18361)

Consistent with the information contained in the Final EIS/EIR, DWR and Reclamation are issuing this Addendum to the Water Transfer White Paper to revise the stream flow depletion factor discussed in Section 3.4.3 from 12 percent to 13 percent.

Based on the results of the modeling completed to address the potential streamflow depletion effects the CVP and SWP water supply, Reclamation and DWR will now apply a streamflow depletion factor of 13 percent (except where a different SDF has been previously approved or where groundwater monitoring data or other available data has demonstrated that 13 percent is not appropriate.)