

# Cachuma Project Water Rights Hearing

October 2003

## Panel V

Presenter:

David Young

Bureau of Reclamation



# Introduction

- Describe the consultation process
- Define working relationship between Reclamation and NMFS
- Explain role of Adaptive Management Committee



# Conferencing

- Designed to help federal agencies
  - identify and resolve conflicts
- Two Projects
  - Cachuma Project Contract Renewal
  - Bradbury Dam Safety of Dam Corrective action



# Conferencing

- Recommendations
  - Enhance steelhead access and use in the tributaries and the mainstem river
  - Provide flow for habitat
  - Implement habitat modification
  - Provide a permanent supply of water for Hilton Creek



# Informal Consultation

- Bureau began early implementation of conservation actions in 1997
- Reclamation reviewed its O&M activities for Bradbury Dam and informally consulted with NOAA Fisheries.



# Formal Consultation

- Biological Assessment used information from the SYRTAC (1998)
- Biological Assessment revised from NOAA comments (1999)
- Worked collaboratively with NOAA Fisheries on adult passage in lower river
- A BO was issued in September 2000



# Implementation

- Instream flows ranging between 2-5 cfs in Hilton Creek.
- One (1) fish impediment has been modified Salsipuedes Creek.
- Provide flows for management area between Bradbury Dam and Hwy 154.
- Prepare draft plan refining supplemental releases for fish passage
- Implemented ramping procedures for 89-18 releases



# Challenges

- Challenges at Hwy154 measuring location
- 9/02 Measuring station found to be on private property
- No suitable measuring location in bridge easement
- Depositional area upstream of HWY 154 bridge
- Beaver Dams impounding water
- Releases increased to meet target flows





# Adaptive Management Committee

- AMC established in BO and in FMP
  - Chaired by Reclamation, David Young
  - NOAA Fisheries, Matt McGoogin
  - CDF&G, Mary Larson
  - CCRB, Jean Baldrige
  - ID#1, Chuck Hanson
  - SYRCD, Bruce Wales
  - FWS, Bridgett Fahey
  - City of Lompoc, Paul Bratovich



# AMC Duties

- Modify fish passage supplementation operation
- Monitor critical riffles relative to minimum passage
- Oversee monitoring studies
- Implement BO and FMP



**End**

Exhibit 246

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