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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Sacramento Area Office
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 8-300
Sacramento, California 95814-4706

November 2, 2007

Mr. Lester Snow
Director
California Department of Water Resources
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Snow:

This letter is being provided to you as a statement of support by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for the proposed Yuba Accord and the associated Water Purchase Agreement. The Yuba Accord resulted from efforts to resolve state water law claims under the jurisdiction of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). While neither a party to the original complaint commencing the SWRCB proceedings nor a signatory to any of the agreements comprising the Yuba Accord, NMFS has nonetheless been an active participant in the development of several elements of the Yuba Accord. NMFS' primary involvement has centered on the creation of the Yuba River Fisheries Agreement, including development of the flow schedules, River Management Team provisions, and biological studies program. In addition, NMFS' staff has participated in meetings and other communications involving the development of the proposed Water Purchase Agreement.

NMFS believes that the Water Purchase Agreement is an important component of the Yuba Accord and helps to facilitate the implementation of enhanced Yuba River fish flows under the Fisheries Agreement. The Water Purchase Agreement will provide water supplies in dry years to State Water Project and Central Valley Project water users. The water purchased under the agreement will be released down the Yuba River on a schedule that has been developed by the Fisheries Agencies and designed to enhance and protect habitat conditions for native fish in the lower Yuba River.

A portion of the fees paid to Yuba County Water Agency under the proposed Water Purchase Agreement will fund the Yuba River Management Fund. This fund will support important biological studies and research and habitat restoration actions on the lower Yuba River. A collaborative River Management Team, including representatives from NMFS, the California Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and a coalition of environmental groups (along with other Accord members) manage this fund and direct which studies and restoration projects will be implemented. The Water Purchase Agreement is, therefore, tightly interwoven with the Fisheries Agreement.

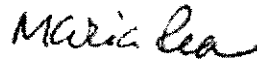


EXHIBIT YCWA-30

For these reasons, NMFS supports the implementation of the Water Purchase Agreement and acknowledges the California Department of Water Resources' leadership as a key participant in the development of the Yuba Accord.

Please contact Mr. Michael Tucker at (916) 930-3604, or via e-mail at michael.tucker@noaa.gov, if you have any questions concerning this correspondence or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Maria Rea
Supervisor, Sacramento Area Office

cc: Copy to file – ARN 151422SWR2005SA00376
NMFS-PRD, Long Beach, CA