

The details of these calculations are described in Appendix B section B.5.3.5.

### **A.1.8.3 Alternate evaluation criteria for onstream reservoirs on Class II and Class III Streams**

The alternate regional criteria described below can be used to measure the cumulative effects of onstream reservoir projects on Class II or Class III streams. These criteria measure cumulative effects in percent change to seasonal flow volume.

#### Class III Streams

Projects located on Class III streams may be allowed to operate without a minimum bypass flow, maximum rate of diversion, or season of diversion if the cumulative depletion of the project and all senior projects is not more than 5 percent of the seasonal (November 1 to March 31) volume measured downstream at the upper limit of anadromy and points of interest below.

Projects located on Class III streams that contribute to a cumulative depletion greater than 5 percent but not more than 10 percent of the seasonal volume measured at the upper limit of anadromy and points of interest below may be allowed to operate with only a February median bypass flow and without a rate of diversion limitation or season of diversion limitation provided either:

1. CDFW and NMFS concur that the proposed diversion will not adversely affect fishery resources, or
2. The applicant prepares a study acceptable to CDFW and NMFS that demonstrates the diversion will not adversely affect fishery resources, and CDFW and NMFS concur that the study demonstrates the proposed project will not adversely affect fishery resources. If the applicant and CDFW or NMFS do not agree on the study design or results, the applicant may utilize the Pre-decisional Review Trial Program described in section 3.4.3; or
3. The State Water Board has completed a study consistent with the language in section 10.4.1 to determine whether or not additional conditions are necessary to protect fishery resources from the effects of diversion and the applicant agrees to those conditions.

#### Class II Streams

Projects located on Class II streams may be allowed to operate with a bypass flow equal to the February median flow and without a maximum rate of diversion or season of diversion if the cumulative depletion of the project and all senior projects is not more than 5 percent of the seasonal (November 1 to March 31) volume measured downstream at the upper limit of anadromy and points of interest below.

Projects located on Class II streams that contribute to a cumulative depletion greater than 5 percent but not more than 10 percent of the seasonal volume measured at the upper limit of anadromy and points of interest below may be allowed to operate with only a February median bypass flow and without a rate of diversion limitation or season of diversion limitation provided either:

1. CDFW and NMFS concur that the proposed diversion will not adversely affect fishery resources, or
2. The applicant prepares a study acceptable to CDFW and NMFS that demonstrates the diversion will not adversely affect fishery resources, and CDFW and NMFS concur that the study demonstrates the proposed project will not adversely affect fishery resources. If the applicant and CDFW or NMFS do not agree on the study design or results, the applicant may utilize the Pre-decisional Review Trial Program described in section 3.4.3; or
3. The State Water Board has completed a study consistent with the language in section 10.4.1 to determine whether or not additional conditions are necessary to protect fishery resources from the effects of diversion and the applicant agrees to those conditions.

Where the cumulative depletion is found to be greater than 10 percent, the applicant may evaluate the cumulative effects of diversion by referring to the criteria described in sections A.1.8.1 and A.1.8.2 above with completion of a daily flow study, as described in Appendix B section 5; or the applicant may proceed to site-specific studies to further evaluate the cumulative effects of diversion as described in Appendix C.

#### **A.1.8.4 Diversions on Class I streams**

Proposed diversions on Class I streams shall be allowed to operate using the minimum bypass flow and maximum rate of diversion that demonstrates compliance with all conditions below. Successful completion of the analysis may require iteration.

If regional criteria are used, minimum bypass flows that are at least equal to the regional criteria at the proposed POD and the POIs shall be used in the analysis.

If site-specific criteria are used, the analysis at the POIs may use the site-specific minimum bypass flows and maximum cumulative diversion obtained in lieu of the regional criteria, and the proposed POD may be allowed to operate with the minimum bypass flow and maximum rate of diversion values that result in compliance with all three conditions.

1. Cumulatively the project and all senior diverters of record will not reduce the number of days the unimpaired flow needed for spawning, rearing, or passage is exceeded at the POIs by more than 10 percent in each month during the diversion season over the period of record for the analysis. This analysis shall