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CHAPTER 3

Additional Water Supply Arrangements & Deliveries

The SJRA includes a provision (Paragraph 8.4) stating that “Merced Irrigation District (Merced) shall provide, and the USBR shall purchase 12,500 acre-feet of water...during October of all years.” The SJRA also states in Paragraph 8.4.4 that “Water purchased pursuant to Paragraph 8.4 may be scheduled for months other than October provided Merced, DFG and USFWS all agree.” Pursuant to Paragraph 8.5 of the SJRA, “Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) shall sell 15,000 acre-feet of water to the USBR in every year of (the) Agreement...In addition to the 15,000 acre-feet, Oakdale will sell the difference between the water made available to VAMP under the SJRGA agreement and 11,000 acre-feet.” This water is referred to as the Difference water. The purpose of additional water supply deliveries in the fall months is to provide instream flows to attract and assist adult salmon during spawning.

MERCED IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Paragraph 8.4 of the SJRA states that “Merced Irrigation District (Merced) shall provide, and the USBR shall purchase 12,500 acre-feet of water...during October of all years.” The SJRA also states in Paragraph 8.4.4 that “Water purchased pursuant to Paragraph 8.4 may be scheduled for months other than October provided Merced, DFG and USFWS all agree.” This water is referred to as the Fall SJRA Transfer Water. The daily schedule for the Fall SJRA Transfer Water is developed by the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) and Merced ID.

The schedule for the 2004 Fall SJRA Transfer was finalized on September 28, 2004, with the transfer commencing on October 1, 2004. The transfer of the 12,500 acre-feet was completed by October 26, 2004. A daily summary of the final accounting for the 2004 Fall SJRA Transfer is provided in Appendix A, Table A-4.

The 2003 Fall SJRA Transfer was in progress at the time of publication of the 2003 Annual Technical Report and therefore only preliminary data was provided in that report. The final data for the 2003 Fall SJRA Transfer are included in Appendix A, Table A-5 of this report.

OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Pursuant to Paragraph 8.5 of the SJRA, “Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) shall sell 15,000 acre-feet of water to the USBR in every year of (the) Agreement...In addition to the 15,000 acre-feet, Oakdale will sell the difference between the water made available to VAMP under the SJRGA agreement and 11,000 acre-feet.” This water is referred to as the Difference Water.

OID provided 5,880 acre-feet of supplemental water for the 2004 VAMP operation, resulting in 5,120 acre-feet of Difference Water (11,000 minus 5,880). Therefore, pursuant to Paragraph 8.5 of the Agreement, OID sold a total of 20,120 acre-feet of water (15,000 plus 5,120) to the USBR in 2004. The OID additional water is made available in New Melones reservoir for use by the USBR for any authorized purpose of the New Melones project.

The USBR has used and has scheduled to be used the additional OID water as follows: 1,934 acre-feet was used to provide supplemental flow in the Stanislaus River from July 16, 2004 through July 21, 2004; 3,186 acre-feet is scheduled to be used to provide an additional 25 cfs per day of flow in the Stanislaus River from November 1, 2004 through January 3, 2005; 6,694 acre-feet was used to provide a pulse flow of 800 cfs in the Stanislaus River from October 24, 2004 through October 31, 2004; and 8,306 acre-feet is scheduled to be used to provide an additional 50 cfs in the Stanislaus River from November 1, 2004 until it runs out, around January 23, 2005.

