

**San Joaquin River Restoration Program
Restoration Administrator**

August 21, 2009

Mr. Jason Phillips
Program Manager, SJRRP
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825-1898

Subject: Restoration Administrator Recommendations for the Fall 2009 Program of
Interim Flows (October 1 through November 20, 2009)

Dear Mr. Phillips:

I am pleased to forward the attached Restoration Administrator (RA) recommendations for the Interim Flows that are scheduled to commence October 1 and continue through mid-November, 2009.

These RA recommendations have been prepared consistent with Paragraph 15 of the Settlement Agreement. Accordingly, prior to completing these RA recommendations I consulted closely with and have been advised on technical issues by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). I also consulted with outside agency, local government and other interests, as noted in the enclosed Recommendations.

The RA recommendations are largely based on the excellent technical analyses and advice provided by the Technical Advisory Committee (the TAC), including a June 2009 TAC Technical Memorandum addressing the October and November Interim Flows that provided recommended objectives, study priorities, modeling and monitoring protocols, and flow volumes, magnitudes and duration. After discussing these technical recommendations with the TAC and consulting with outside agencies, local officials and other interests, I prepared and am submitting the enclosed RA recommendations to the Secretary.

The enclosed RA recommendations confirm and pass on many of the TAC recommendations as they were submitted to me. However, some TAC recommendations have been modified as part of the RA recommendations in response to comments received during consultation with downstream water users, landowners and other interests. The RA modifications to the June TAC recommendations change the timing and duration of Interim Flow releases and are explained in

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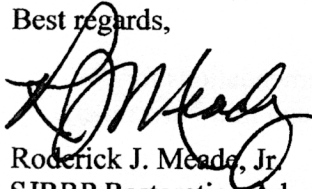
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the enclosure and, briefly, below.

The RA changes address concerns expressed during consultation with downstream users that focused on potential impacts associated with TAC-recommended 700 cfs Interim Flow releases From Friant Dam that would have continued until November 18 or 19 and continued arriving at the Mendota for the following 5 to 7 days. As explained by the operators of the Mendota Pool, this is a particularly sensitive time of year for Mendota Pool operations and the dewatering of the Pool for required semi-annual Mendota Dam safety inspections is scheduled to commence November 26, 2009. To alleviate these concerns, the RA recommends that timing of 700 cfs releases from Friant Dam occur earlier, with Friant Dam 700 cfs releases commencing October 31 and ending November 13.

I look forward to discussing these recommendations with you, the Program Management Team and other interested parties. Please call or email me with any questions or concerns. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,



Roderick J. Meade, Jr.
SJRRP Restoration Administrator

Enclosure: Recommendations to the Secretary of Interior: Interim Flow Releases from Friant Dam for October 1 through November 20, 2009 to the Upper San Joaquin River

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