



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING | Agenda**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2023**  
**FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY**  
**854 N. HARVARD AVE., LINDSAY, CA 93247**  
**8:30 AM (CLOSED SESSION) 10:00 AM (OPEN SESSION)**

Members of the public may access the open session portion of the meeting remotely through the following link:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 226 678 628 413 Passcode: uPinJU

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – (Erickson)**

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA – (Erickson)**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS – (Davis)**

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

**1. CLOSED SESSION**

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**  
(Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1))

1. *NRDC v. Rogers*, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California (Sacramento Division), Case No. 88-CV-1658-JAM-GGH.
2. *California Natural Resources Agency v. Raimondo*, United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, Case No. 1:20-CV-00426-DAD-EPG.
3. *CDWR Water Operations Cases*, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. JCCP 5117.

**B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**  
(Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2))  
Significant Exposure to Litigation: Four potential matters.

**C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- INITIATION OF LITIGATION**  
(Government Code section 54956.9(d)(4))  
Initiation of Litigation: Two potential cases.

- D. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS  
(Government Code section 54956.8)  
Property: Friant-Kern Canal facilities and right-of-way  
Agency negotiator: CEO, COO, CFO, General Counsel  
Negotiating parties: United States (Bureau of Reclamation)  
Under negotiation: Middle Reach Capacity Correction Project Cost Share Agreement  
(price and terms of payment)

### **RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION (10:00 AM)**

Announce reportable action taken during closed session.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS – (Erickson)**

Public comment is welcome at this time on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Board that is not on the agenda. Under the State's open meeting law - the Brown Act - no action may be taken on any item not on the agenda. Public comment on items on the agenda will be allowed at the time the Board considers the item.

### **2. ACTION ITEMS (5 Minutes)**

- A. Approval of the Minutes – Executive Committee meeting of September 18, 2023.  
(Erickson)

### **3. DISCUSSION / DIRECTION (30 MINUTES)**

- A. Water Operations Update. (Buck-Macleod) (15 minutes)
- B. Water Quality Guidelines and Reverse-Flow Pump-Back Project Update. (Duncan/Buck-Macleod) (10 minutes)
- C. San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Update. (Orvis/Phillips) (10 minutes)
- D. CEO Report. (Phillips) (5 minutes)

### **ADJOURNMENT**

#### **Public Participation Information**

Agenda reports and other disclosable public records related to each Open Session agenda item are available on FWA's website under "Calendar" at [Friantwater.org](http://Friantwater.org) and at FWA's main office, 854 N. Harvard Ave., Lindsay, CA 93247, during regular business hours. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you require a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aides or services, please contact Vivian Felipe at 559-562-6305 or [vfelipe@friantwater.org](mailto:vfelipe@friantwater.org) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING | Minutes**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**  
**FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY**  
**854 N. HARVARD AVE., LINDSAY, CA 93247**  
**8:30 AM (CLOSED SESSION) 10:00 AM (OPEN SESSION)**

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** – Jim Erickson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.  
Committee members present: Borges, Erickson, Loeffler, Leider, and Pitigliano.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** - The agenda was approved unanimously. Ayes – Borges, Erickson, Loeffler (1<sup>st</sup>), Leider (2<sup>nd</sup>), and Pitigliano; Nays – None; Absent – Camp, and Miller.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS** – There was no public comment on any closed session items.

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

**1. CLOSED SESSION**

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

(Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1))

1. *NRDC v. Rogers*, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California (Sacramento Division), Case No. 88-CV-1658-JAM-GGH.
2. *California Natural Resources Agency v. Raimondo*, United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, Case No. 1:20-CV-00426-DAD-EPG
3. *Tehama Colusa Canal Authority v. California Dept. of Water Resources*, Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2021-80003665-CU-WM-GDS

**B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

(Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2))

Significant Exposure to Litigation: Four potential matters.

**C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-INITIATION OF LITIGATION**

(Government Code section 54956.9(d)(4))

Initiation of Litigation: Two potential cases.

**D. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS**

(Government Code section 54956.8)

Property: Friant-Kern Canal facilities and right-of-way

Agency negotiator: CEO, COO, CFO, General Counsel

Negotiating parties: United States (Bureau of Reclamation)

Under negotiation: Middle Reach Capacity Correction Project Cost Share Agreement (price and terms of payment)

## RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

There was no reportable action taken during closed session. (9:02 a.m.)

## PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

There was no public comment on any closed session items.

### 2. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the Minutes – Executive Committee meeting of August 14, 2023.

The minutes were approved. Ayes – Borges (2<sup>nd</sup>), Erickson, Loeffler (1<sup>st</sup>), Leider, and Pitigliano; Nays – None; Absent – Camp, and Miller.

### 3. DISCUSSION/DIRECTION

- A. Water Operations Update- WRM Buck-Macleod provided the update per the agenda report. He reported that the remnants of Hurricane Hilary and thunderstorm activity made Central/Southern Sierras and the southern half of the State see record (for this time of year) precipitation.
- B. San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Update – CFO Orvis provided an update on current activities of SLDMWA. He reported that the conversations continue on FWA issues under the MOU. FWA will continue to participate in their O&M Committee to provide feedback.
- C. CEO Report – CEO Phillips reported on his trip with his son in the Navy.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

### OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Aaron Fukuda	Tulare I.D.
Alan Doud	Young Wooldridge
Alex Peltzer	PR Law Corp
Austin Ewell	California Blueprint
Bill Stretch	Fresno I.D.
Bill Luce	Luce Consulting
Brandon Tomlinson	Chowchilla W.D.
Brian Thomas	FWA Consultant
Chris Hickernell	FWA
Chris Hunter	LSID
Craig Wallace	Lindsay-Strathmore I.D.
David Cameron	Hanson Bridgett Counsel
David Dees	FWA
David Wierenga	Delano-Earlimart I.D.
Don Davis	FWA General Counsel
Doug DeFlicht	Douglas DeFlicht Consulting LLC.
Eric Limas	Lower Tule River I.D., Tea Pot Dome W.D.
Eric Quinley	Delano-Earlimart I.D.
Fergus Morrissey	OCID
Gene Kilgore	EID, IID, SCIT
Ian Buck-Macleod	FWA
Jason Phillips	FWA
Jeevan Muhar	Arvin-Edison W.S.D.
Johnny Amaral	FWA

Katie Duncan	FWA
Kris Lawrence	SWID
Maggie Suarez	FWA
Mike Hagman	LSID
Shane Smith	KDWCD
Sean Geivet	SID, PID, Terra Bella I.D.
Steve Ottemoller	Ottemoller Consulting Services
Vivian Felipe	FWA
Wilson Orvis	FWA

**DATE:** October 16, 2023

**TO:** Executive Committee

**FROM:** Ian Buck-Macleod, Water Resources Manager  
Katie Duncan, Water Resources EIT

**SUBJECT:** Water Operations Update

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**SUMMARY:**

September temperatures were generally near average across most of the State, with some areas in the northern half of the State seeing their first winter storm of the season. Precipitation in the Upper San Joaquin for water year 2023 ended at approximately 200% of average. Precipitation so far has been limited to one minor storm. Friant uncontrolled season ended on July 29<sup>th</sup> with a residual allocation for Class 2 set at 15%. Reclamation provided updated CVP operations forecasts at the end of September which continued to show high carryover into next year.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Inflow Forecasts**

October precipitation in the San Joaquin watershed has been limited. Temperatures for the last month or so have generally been near to slightly below average. Precipitation for the water year in the Upper San Joaquin watershed is approximately 28% of average. Elsewhere, water year precipitation currently ranges from 27% to 42% of average. Over the next two weeks temperatures are generally expected to be near normal with minor fluctuations above and below, and little to no precipitation forecasted. Table 1 shows the unimpaired inflow forecasts for Shasta Lake and Millerton Lake from the California Nevada River Forecast Center (CNRFC) and California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for the 2024 water year. At this point in the water year, there is a wide range of possible runoff volumes. Unimpaired Millerton inflow for water year 2023 ended at 4,500 TAF (251% of average) and unimpaired Shasta inflow ended at 5,580 TAF (99% of average).

**Table 1. Unimpaired Inflow Forecasts for WY 2024**

Item	Exceedance		
	90%	50%	10%
CNRFC Shasta Unimpaired Inflow (TAF) <sup>1</sup>	761	1,590	3,500
CNRFC Millerton Unimpaired Inflow (TAF) <sup>1</sup>	3,110	5,220	8,970

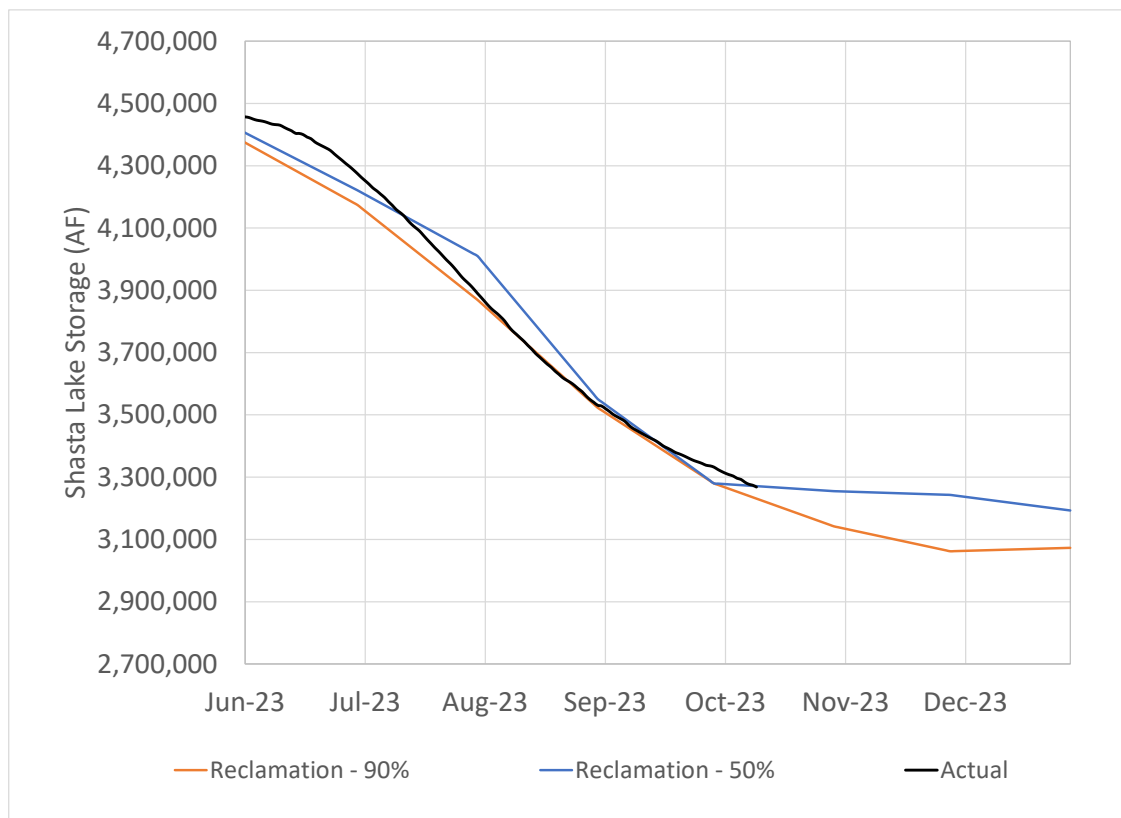
Notes:  
<sup>1</sup> As of October 12.

**North-of-Delta Operations**

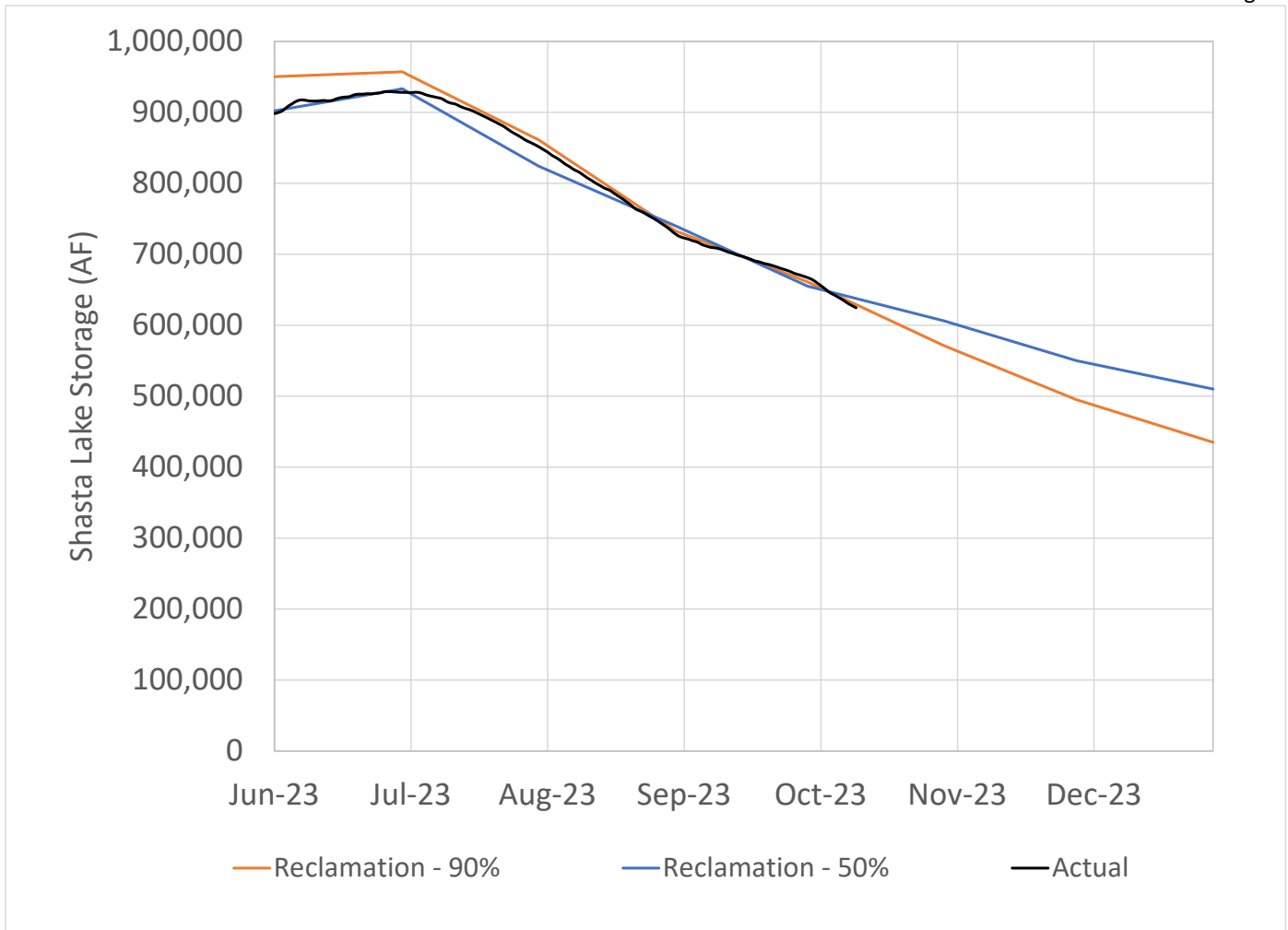
Overall Central Valley Project (CVP) North-of-Delta (NOD) reservoirs are transitioning to fall operations with storage levels based on the 15-year average at Trinity, Shasta, and Folsom at 101%, 140%, and 143% of average, respectively. Current storage is over 4.5 MAF higher than this time last year. Releases from all

upstream reservoirs are being made to meet downstream demands and Delta water quality requirements, with releases starting to be cut back at Shasta and Folsom as demands are reduced. CVP Ag service and State Water Project (SWP) Table A allocations both remain at 100%.

Reclamation prepared forecasted operations at the 90% and 50% exceedance levels in September based on updated hydrologic forecasts, which use 90% and 50% historical hydrology for October onwards. Figures 1 and 2 show the projected Shasta Lake and Folsom Lake storage through December based off these projections, as compared to actuals to date. End of September storage was 3.33 MAF at Shasta and 667 TAF at Folsom. Shasta storage is currently trending near the 50% projection due to slightly greater than expected inflow and more imports from Trinity than forecasted. Folsom storage is trending right at the September 90% and 50% forecasts, as both forecasts have fairly small differences through October. Conditions at both reservoirs under the 50% forecast would likely require flood control operations beginning in December.



**Figure 1. Shasta Lake Storage – October Reclamation Projections**



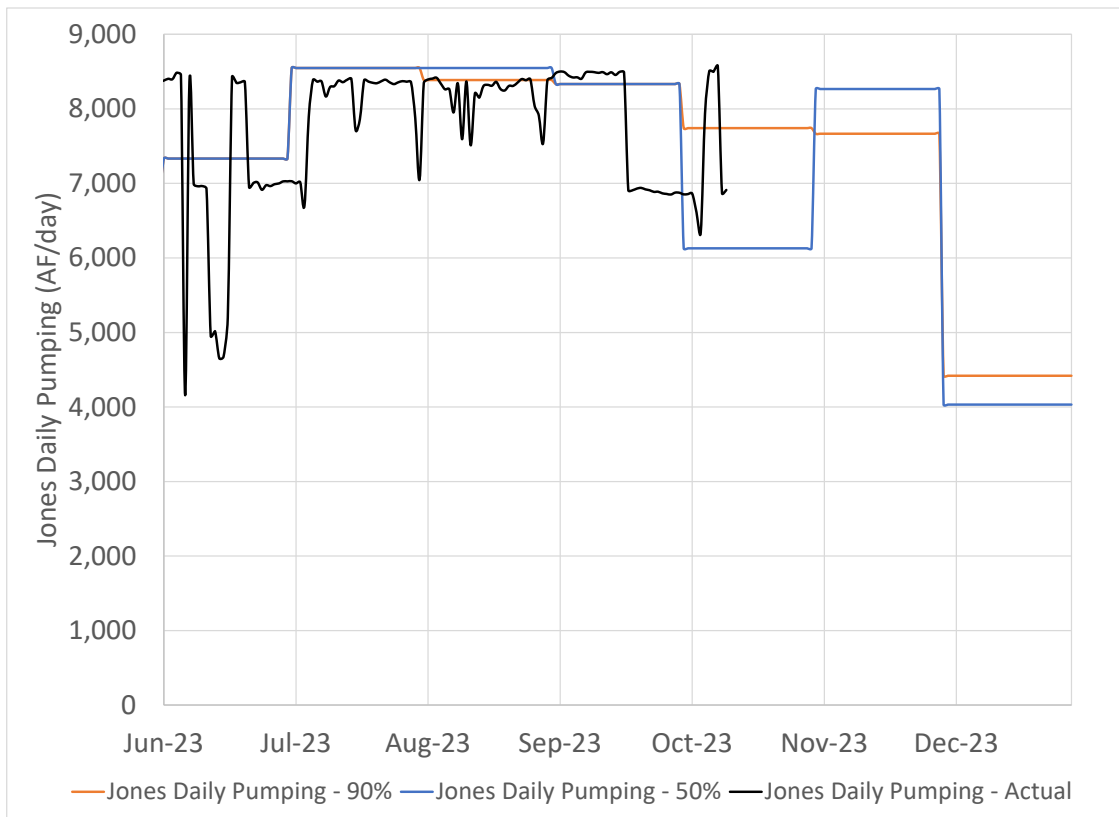
**Figure 2. Folsom Lake Storage – October Reclamation Projections**

### South-of-Delta Operations

#### *Delta Operations*

Until late-September exports had been at a near constant 5-unit operation since the end of June. At that time Jones exports were reduced to a 4-unit operation due to scheduled maintenance. Upon completion of the maintenance, exports briefly increased back to a 5-unit operation but have since been reduced to a 3-unit operation to help meet the Fall X2. In September and October, the CVP and SWP are required to operate to a 30-day average X2 requirement of 80 km. The target has largely been met, but X2 is currently at 81 km, hence the need to reduce exports. Banks exports are currently at minimum levels and the Delta Cross Channel gates have been closed during the week to also help meet the X2 requirement. It is not expected that upstream reservoirs will increase releases to help meet X2, thus any additional effort to meet the X2 requirement will likely require additional cuts to Jones exports. Figure 3 shows the projected daily Jones pumping through December as compared to actuals to date. Both the 90% and 50% forecasts show decreased exports in December as CVP San Luis is refilled.

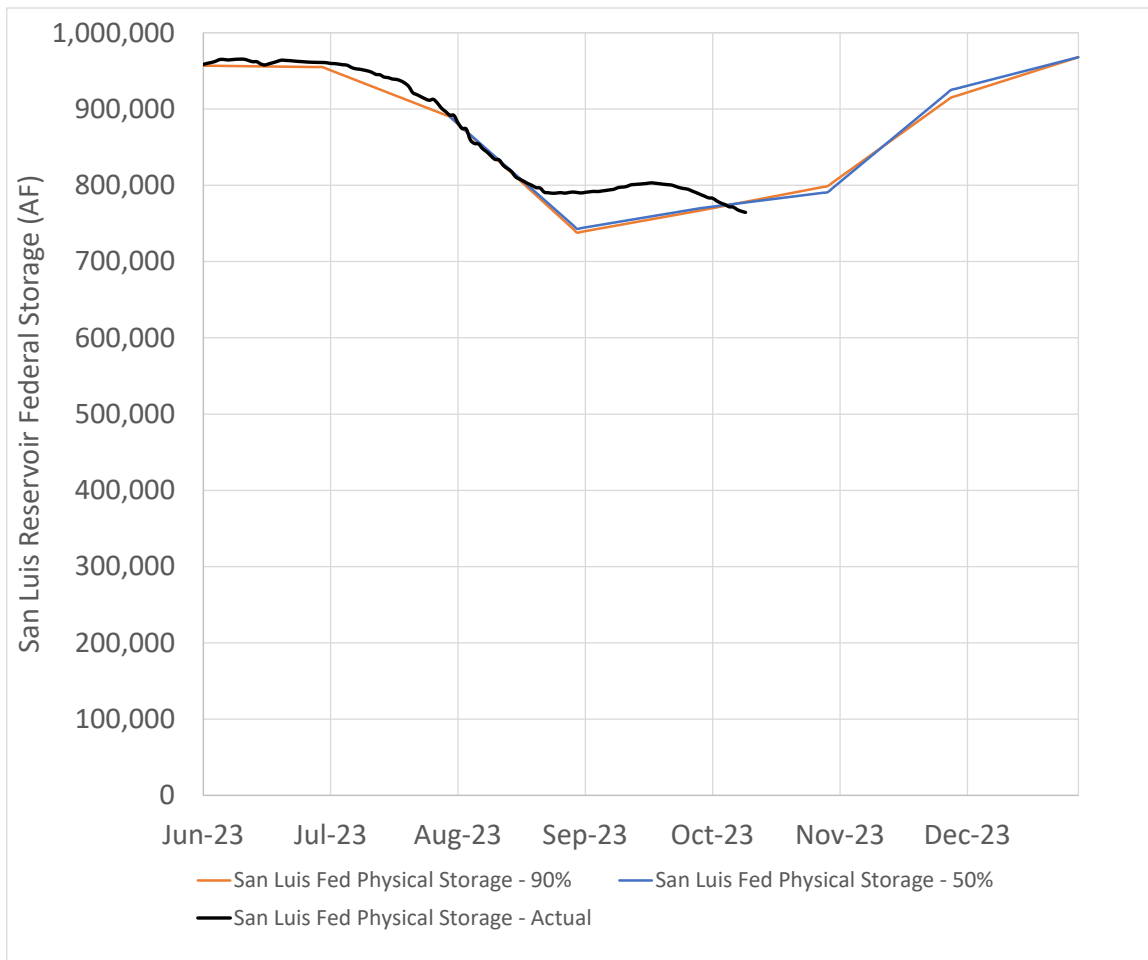




**Figure 3. Daily Jones Pumping – October Reclamation Projections**

*San Luis Operations*

CVP San Luis storage is at 764 TAF—223% of its 15-year average. With the recent cut to Jones exports, storage levels have reduced relative to high demands forecasted for October. Figure 4 shows the Reclamation projection for San Luis Federal storage through December. Current storage is trending slightly below Reclamation’s September 50% projection. CVP San Luis is expected to fill under both the 90% and 50% forecasts, with storage reaching capacity as early as December. Both forecasts also show CVP San Luis remaining full into the spring.



**Figure 4. San Luis Federal Storage – October Reclamation Projections**

**Friant Division**

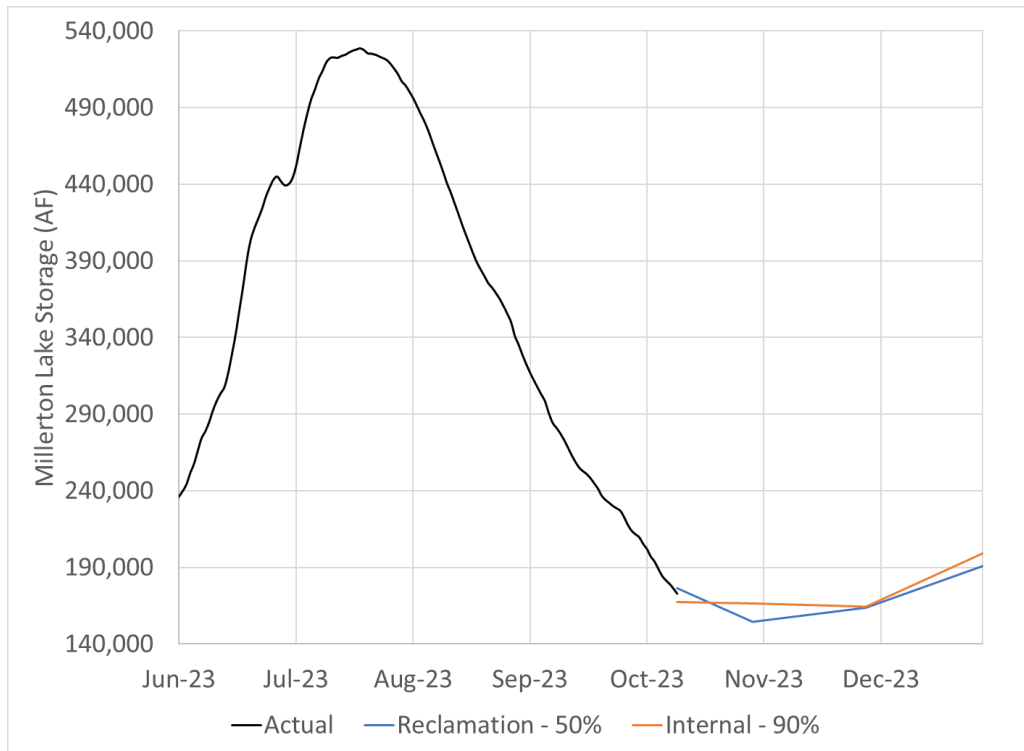
*Millerton and Friant Allocation*

Friant uncontrolled season ended on July 29<sup>th</sup> with a residual allocation for Class 2 set at 15%. All URFs (totaling over 350 TAF) needed to be used by this date. River releases from Friant Dam have held at 385 cfs since October 1<sup>st</sup> to meet Holding Contract demands and Restoration Flows. Millerton storage continues to drop as releases to the canals and the river continue to exceed reservoir inflow.

Reclamation’s most recent forecast from the beginning of September showed Millerton storage would be at 154.5 TAF at the end of October, the lowest anticipated storage point, and refill to almost 234 TAF by end of January (45% capacity) but decrease to 224 TAF by the end of February as Contractors have scheduled use of supply once the dewatering has concluded and the canal is back online. The forecasted storage trend is highly dependent on storage reservoirs, managed by SCE and PG&E, upstream of Millerton Lake as well as scheduled use of both Class 1 and Class 2 supplies. Reclamation has been working closely with SCE on an adjusted storage schedule to help inflows to Millerton, and will weekly through low point.

Our internal 90% CNRFC forecast, which accounts for the latest adjusted SCE storage schedule and Contractor schedules, shows fall end-of-month storage volumes remaining above low point. Staff are

watching daily demand trends and changes to reservoir storage to track actual use versus modeled and are closely coordinating with Reclamation to address any potential low point concerns and work through scheduling challenges.



**Figure 5. Millerton Storage – October Reclamation and Internal Projections**

*San Joaquin River Restoration Allocation*

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, Reclamation issued the final 2023 Restoration Allocation, which showed no change from the previous 556,542 AF Wet Year allocation (as measured at Gravelly Ford). On June 30<sup>th</sup> the RA submitted a final flow recommendation which utilizes base flow and URF exchange water to maintain a connected river through October and then generally returns to Exhibit B flows for the remainder of the 2023 Restoration Year, including a shifted fall pulse flow into late December. The Recommendation anticipates the release of 187 TAF of Restoration Flows and 10 TAF of URF Exchanges to the river. 210 cfs of Restoration flows are currently scheduled to be at Gravelly Ford. Total Restoration flows at Gravelly Ford were 206 cfs on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

*San Joaquin River Restoration Recapture*

Approximately 579 acre-feet of incidental recapture (subject SLDMWA verification) occurred at Mendota Pool from July 25<sup>th</sup> through August 4<sup>th</sup> (the transition between flood management releases and solely Restoration flows). FWA is working with PID and BCID on an extension to the Conveyance Agreement which expires on October 31<sup>st</sup>. 2,021 AF was recaptured in September, and we are currently recapturing at about a rate of 30-60 cfs. Reclamation submitted a petition for a new temporary transfer permit because the current permit expires in early November.

**DATE:** October 16, 2023

**TO:** Executive Committee

**FROM:** Ian Buck-Macleod, Water Resources Manager  
Katie Duncan, Water Resources EIT

**SUBJECT:** **Water Quality Guidelines and Reverse-Flow Pump-Back Project Update**

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### BACKGROUND:

The Friant-Kern Canal (FKC) Reverse-Flow Pump-Back Project (Pump-Back) was initiated in 2017 and proposes to increase pumping capacity at the check structures in the southern portion of the FKC to facilitate reverse-flow pump-back operations to convey and deliver water introduced via the Friant-Kern Canal-Cross Valley Canal Intertie. For the last 5+ years, FWA has been coordinating with the Pump-Back Steering Committee to develop the scope of Pump-Back and alternatives for feasibility and environmental review purposes. Thus far, work has been completed under both Reclamation and DWR grant funding. FWA has recently confirmed a no-cost extension of the remaining Reclamation funding, totaling \$2.7 million.

Completing the development and CEQA compliance of the *Guidelines for Accepting Water into the Friant-Kern Canal* (Guidelines) was a key milestone for Friant Contractors to continue development of Pump-Back. The Guidelines will be analyzed as part of the baseline condition for Pump-Back. Following the action by the Friant Water Authority Board of Directors in July to approve the Guidelines, FWA staff is continuing to move forward with implementation of the program.

### PUMP-BACK STATUS AND NEXT STEPS:

FWA staff have been working with the San Joaquin River Restoration Program office to confirm the status of existing but expired Reclamation funding for Pump-Back and on September 14<sup>th</sup> received confirmation that a no-cost extension of the remaining \$2.7 million of funding was granted and is available for use through fiscal year 2025. Remaining funding will support finalization of Pump-Back effects analyses and development of a joint CEQA/NEPA document. Following environmental review and subject to approval from the Board, the remaining funding could be applied towards Pump-Back construction and implementation. Staff are working directly with project consultants, CDM Smith and Stantec, to update scope and budget and are planning on bringing consultant contract modifications to the Finance Committee next week.

### WATER QUALITY GUIDELINES STATUS:

FWA staff have been coordinating with Friant Contractors and other participating agencies to obtain signatures for the FKC Water Quality Guidelines (Guidelines) Cooperative Agreement. At present, twenty-three agencies have executed the Cooperative Agreement or have advised that they intend to do so. Staff plans to finalize the Cooperative Agreement to be effective as of November 1, 2023. In preparation for Guidelines implementation, staff have been working with local water quality laboratories as well as

operations staff and Epic IO to establish a plan for required and expanded water quality monitoring and water quality communications. Because of the planned dewatering and canal outage activities, any other requirements of the Guidelines including water quality testing or mitigation for pump-ins of Non-Millerton water will not be needed until after the new year and FWA staff will coordinate as necessary with affected contractors.



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