CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Severity of Past Droughts Quantified by New Streamflow Reconstructions

SACRAMENTO – As part of ongoing work to improve California's drought preparedness and better adapt to climate change, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) today released a report examining tree-ring data to help better understand historic periods of drought. The report helps develop long-term reconstructions of streamflow or precipitation for the Klamath, Sacramento, and San Joaquin river basins. The report, prepared for DWR by researchers at the University of Arizona, is available is available here. Funding for part of the Klamath Basin work was provided by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation under its WaterSMART program.

Initial work on the reconstruction project began in 2010, at a time when California was just emerging from the 2007-09 drought. Completion of the final report coincides with a new three-year drought and a Water Year 2014 that so far is one of the driest years in the historical record.

California's roughly one hundred years of observed data are, however, only a small subset of the hydrologic record that can be reconstructed by measuring tree rings and calibrating them to observed data. The tree-ring measurements made for this project allowed development of reconstructions that begin in the year 900 for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River systems, and in the 1500s for various sites in the Klamath Basin.

"Streamflow reconstruction from tree rings takes advantage of the great longevity and climate sensitivity of several tree species in California and Oregon," said lead author David Meko, a University of Arizona research professor of dendrochronology. "The tree-ring patterns record unusual climate events and modes of variability that occurred before the short period of gaged streamflow."

Exhibit "D"

Drought is a recurring part of California's climate. The report's reconstructions show numerous periods of four or more years when streamflows were below median conditions.

In addition, the report reveals that all three river basins share common major periods of extreme low flow conditions, although the degree of severity varies from river to river. The most severe shared periods were the 1100s (20 – 50 year sustained dry periods), 1570 to early 1580s (up to decades-long periods), and 1920s -1930s (up to 20-year periods). The Sacramento and San Joaquin basins shared 1580 as the single driest year of record. The driest single year for Klamath River streamflow was 1655 (1580 was 17th driest). The graphic below illustrates notable low-flow periods in the river basins. A tabulation listing all dry periods of four or more years is attached.

Paleoclimate information such as these reconstructed streamflows captures a broader range of hydrologic variability than provided in the historical record, thereby putting our short period of observed droughts in perspective.

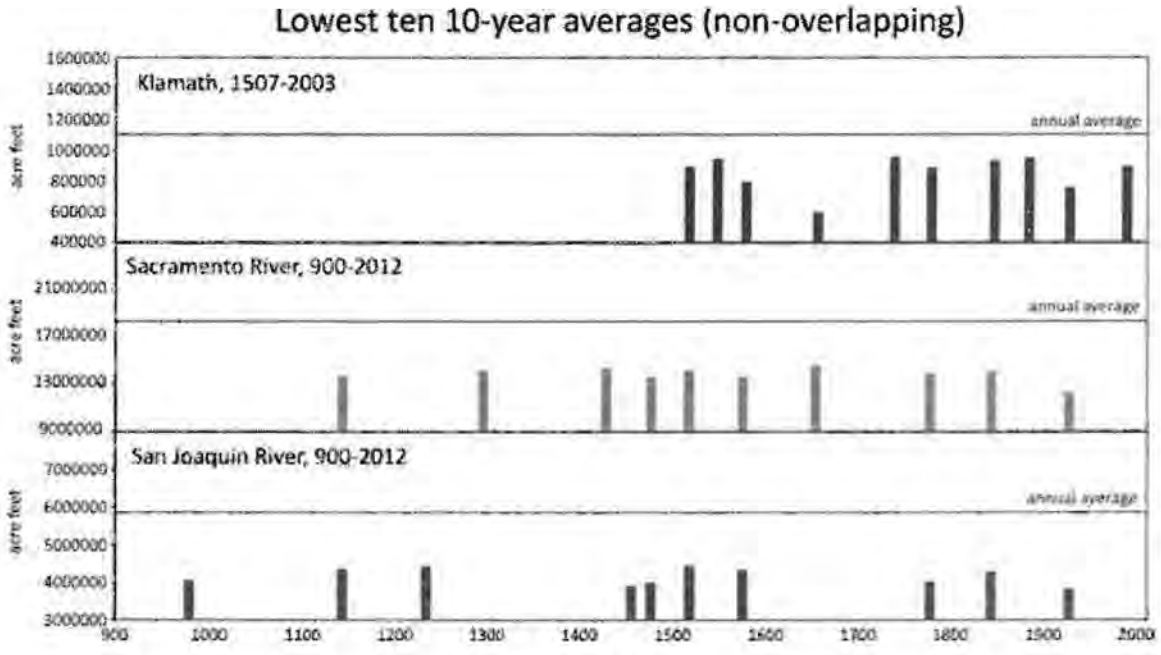
A repeat of the "Dustbowl Drought" of the 1920s and 1930s (our most severe historical event in terms of duration) with today's urban and agricultural development would sorely challenge California's infrastructure and institutional framework for water management. That challenge would pale in comparison to the time of the Medieval Climate Anomaly, when sustained severe drought gripped much of the western United States.

Paleoclimate information is useful in helping to understand and model natural variability in the climate system that may provide clues for improving drought prediction at the seasonal time scales important for water management.

Jeanine Jones of DWR said, "Drought prediction skillful enough to use for water management decision-making remains a research challenge for the science community. Having improved climate forecasting capabilities at time scales of months to a year in advance would provide great benefit for drought preparedness."

Looking into the future, the reconstructions also help provide context for expected impacts of climate change. The report compares drought durations seen in the paleoclimate record with those projected by downscaled global climate change models run to simulate conditions by the end of the century. The results indicate that the paleoclimate data may be useful for assessing future climate projections in the context of past centuries.

Report co-author Connie Woodhouse, professor and interim head of the University of Arizona School of Geography and Development, said, "These tree-ring records document the range of drought characteristics, including duration, that have occurred in the past, under natural climate variability. These droughts could occur in the future, but under warmer temperatures that will further exacerbate their impacts."



Klamath = Klamath River at Keno

Sacramento River = Sacramento River runoff

San Joaquin River = San Joaquin River runoff

Sacramento River runoff is the sum of unimpaired flow in million acre-feet at:
Sacramento River above Bend Bridge

Feather River at Oroville (aka inflow to Lake Oroville)
Yuba River near Smartville

American River below Folsom Lake

San Joaquin River Runoff is the sum of unimpaired flow in million acre-feet at:

Stanislaus River below Goodwin Reservoir (aka inflow to New Melones Res.)

Tuolumne River below La Grange (aka inflow to New Don Pedro Reservoir)

Merced River below Merced Falls (aka inflow to Lake McClure)

San Joaquin River inflow to Millerton Lake

Runs[a] with length ≥4 years in three flow reconstructions

Klamath[b]		Sacramento4c		San Joaquin4[d]	
Years	N	Years	N	Years	N
1515-1522	8	921- 924	4	946- 950	5
1540-1543	4	945- 950	6	977- 981	5
1547-1552	6	975- 981	7	1072-1075	4
1578-1582	5	1072-1075	4	1143-1148	6
1592-1597	6	1130-1136	7	1155-1158	4
1642-1646	5	1143-1148	6	1172-1177	6
1648-1668	21	1150-1158	9	1210-1213	4
1738-1744	7	1170-1177	8	1233-1239	7
1756-1761	6	1233-1239	7	1294-1301	8
1764-1767	4	1292-1301	10	1395-1402	8
1775-1779	5	1390-1393	4	1407-1410	4
1783-1787	5	1395-1400	6	1425-1428	4
1792-1798	7	1407-1410	4	1450-1461	12
1843-1846	4	1425-1432	8	1463-1466	4
1848-1852	5	1451-1457	7	1471-1483	13
1873-1876	4	1475-1483	9	1505-1508	4
1880-1884	5	1515-1521	7	1518-1523	6
1912-1915	4	1540-1543	4	1540-1545	6
1917-1920	4	1569-1572	4	1569-1572	4
1924-1935	12	1578-1582	5	1578-1582	5
1987-1992	6	1592-1595	4	1592-1595	4
		1636-1639	4	1629-1632	4
		1645-1648	4	1645-1648	4
		1652-1655	4	1652-1655	4
		1753-1760	8	1688-1691	4
		1780-1783	4	1753-1757	5
		1843-1846	4	1780-1783	4
		1856-1859	4	1793-1796	4
		1917-1922	6	1843-1846	4
		1926-1935	10	1855-1859	5
		1946-1951	6	1928-1931	4
		1959-1962	4	1946-1950	5
		1987-1992	6	1959-1962	4
				1987-1992	6
				2000-2004	5

[a] runs defined as consecutive years below median
[b] Klamath River at Keno, 1507-2003; median =1113 thousand acre-feet (TAF)
[c] Sacramento River runoff, 900-2012, median=17800 TAF
[d] San Joaquin River runoff, 900-2012, median=5598 TAF

With California facing one of the most severe droughts on record, Governor Brown declared a drought State of Emergency and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for water shortages. The Governor signed legislation to immediately help communities deal with the devastating dry conditions affecting our state and to provide funding to increase local water supplies after it was passed with bipartisan support in the legislature.

Governor Brown met with President Obama about crucial federal support during the ongoing drought, and the state continues to work with federal partners to ensure coordinated drought monitoring and response. Governor Brown and the administration have also expressed support for federal legislation introduced by Senators Feinstein and Boxer and Representatives Jim Costa, Tony Cárdenas and Sam Farr.

Across state government, action is being taken. The Department of General Services is leading water conservation efforts at state facilities, and the California State Architect has asked California school districts and Community Colleges to act on the Governor's call to reduce water usage. The Department of Transportation is cutting water usage along California's roadways by 50 percent. Caltrans has also launched a public awareness campaign, putting a water conservation message on their more than 700 electronic highway signs.
In January, the state took action to conserve water in numerous Northern California reservoirs to meet minimum needs for operations impacting the environment and the economy, and recently the Department of Water Resources and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation announced they would seek the authority to make water exchanges to deliver water to those who need it most. The State Water Resources Control Board announced it would work with hydropower generators and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to preserve water in California reservoirs, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the California Fish and Game Commission restricted fishing on some waterways due to low water flows worsened by the drought.

The state is working to protect local communities from the dangers of extreme drought. The California Department of Public Health identified and offered assistance to communities at risk of severe drinking water shortages and is working with other state and local agencies to develop solutions for vulnerable communities. CAL FIRE hired additional firefighters and is continuously adjusting staffing throughout the state to help address the increased fire threat due to drought conditions. The California Department of Food and Agriculture launched a drought website to help farmers, ranchers and farmworkers find resources and assistance programs that may be available to them during the drought.

Even as the state deals with the immediate impacts of the drought, it's also planning for the future. In 2013, the California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency and CDFA released the California Water Action Plan, which will guide state efforts to enhance water supply reliability, restore damaged and destroyed ecosystems and improve the resilience of our infrastructure.

Governor Brown has called on all Californians to voluntarily reduce their water usage by 20 percent, and the Save Our Water campaign launched four public service announcements encouraging residents to conserve and has resources available in Spanish. Last December, the Governor formed a Drought Task Force to review expected water allocations and California's preparedness for water scarcity. In May 2013, Governor Brown issued an Executive Order to direct state water officials to expedite the review and processing of voluntary transfers of water.

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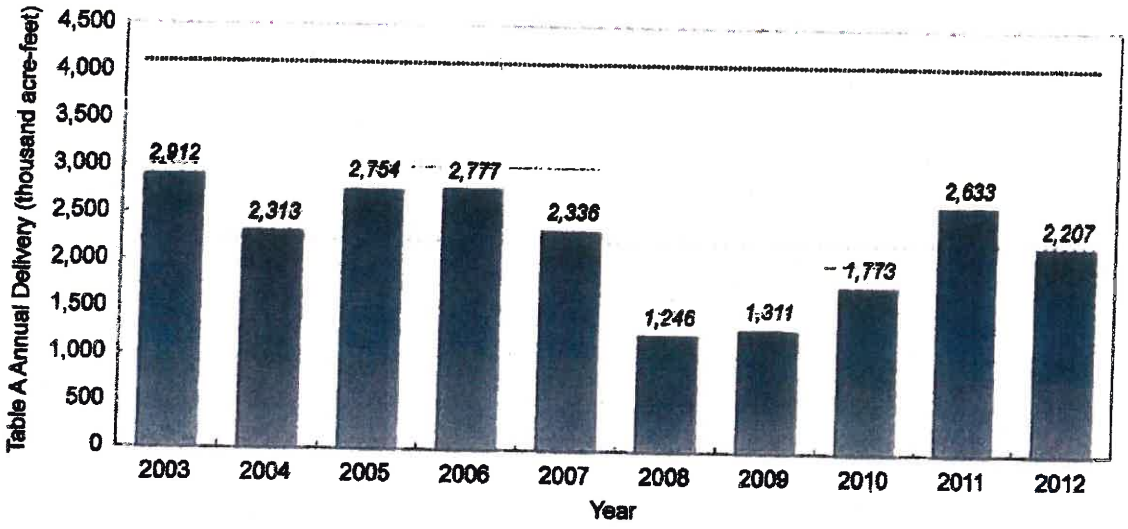
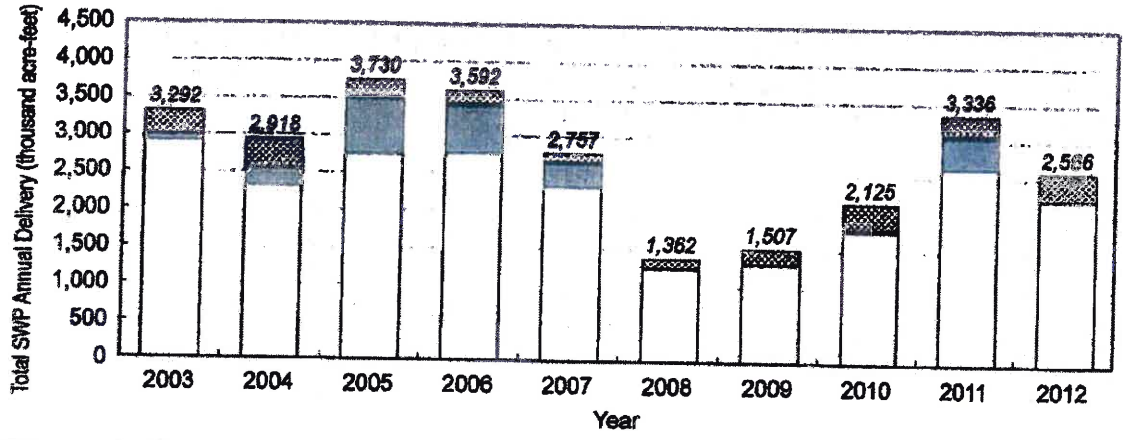
The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.



Note: The differences in historical deliveries from the State Water Project Delivery Reliability Report 2011 are due to reclassification of the various components of water delivered to SWP contractors.

Figure 2-3. Historical Deliveries of SWP Table A Water, 2003-2012



	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Carryover	290	370	207	160	95	110	188	333	251	350
Turnback	30	17	38	34	16	3	2	11	31	8
Article 21	60	218	731	621	310	3	6	8	421	1
Table A	2,912	2,313	2,754	2,777	2,336	1,246	1,311	1,773	2,633	2,207

Note: The differences in historical deliveries from the State Water Project Delivery Reliability Report 2011 are due to reclassification of the various components of water delivered to SWP contractors.

Figure 2-4. Total Historical SWP Deliveries, 2003-2012 (by Delivery Type)

Dry-Year Deliveries of SWP Table A Water under Future Conditions

Table 6-3 and Figure 6-3 present estimates of future SWP Table A water deliveries during possible drought conditions and compare these estimates with the corresponding delivery estimates calculated for the 2011 Report. Drought scenarios for future conditions are analyzed using the historical drought-period precipitation and runoff patterns from 1922–2003 as a reference, while accounting for future conditions (e.g., land use, climate change).

The results of modeling future conditions under potential drought-year scenarios provide an estimated range of Table A deliveries that can be expected during drought periods.

The 2-year drought period (1976–1977) shows significantly lower Table A deliveries in the 2013 Report than in the 2011 Report (see Figure 6-3), because of modeling refinements (see the technical addendum at http://baydeltaoffice.water.ca.gov) and reclassification of 1975 into a wet year rather than an above-normal year, as was used in the 2011 Report (due to the change in the assumed climate change model). Because 1975 is now considered a wet year in this 2013 Report's model, there are higher fall X2 requirements to meet and more Delta outflow is required in September. This leads to lower reservoir levels at the start of the new water year and smaller deliveries during the upcoming 2-year dry period.

Table 6-3. Estimated Average and Dry-Period Deliveries of SWP Table A Water (Future Conditions, in taf/year) and Percent of Maximum SWP Table A Amount, 4,133 taf/year

	Long-term Average (1921-2003)		Single Dry Year (1977)		Dry Periods							
					2-Year Drought (1976-1977)		4-Year Drought (1931-1934)		6-Year Drought (1987-1992)		6-Year Drought (1929-1934)	
2011 Report	2,465	60%	441	11%	1,457	35%	1,401	34%	1,226	30%	1,365	33%
2013 Report	2,400	58%	453	11%	978	24%	1,263	31%	1,055	26%	1,251	30%

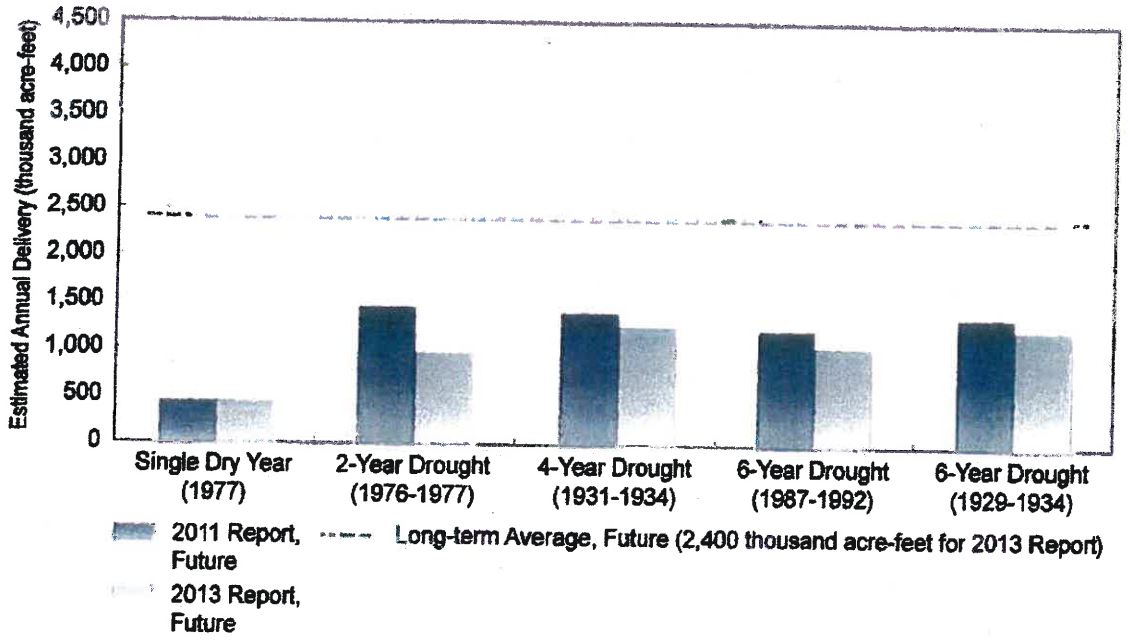


Figure 6-3. Estimated Dry-Period SWP Table A Water Deliveries (Future Conditions)

Title THE CALIFORNIA WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT BOND ACT
Year/Election 1960 general
Proposition type bond (leg)
Popular vote Yes: 3,008,328 (51.5%); No: 2,834,384 (48.5%)
Pass/Fail Pass
Summary This act provides for a bond issue of one billion, seven hundred fifty million dollars ($1,750,000,000) to be used by the Department of Water Resources for the development of the water resources of the State.

For **Argument in Favor of California Water Resources Development Bond Act**

Your vote on this measure will decide whether California will continue to prosper.

This Act, if approved, will launch the statewide water development program which will meet present and future demands of all areas of California. The program will not be a burden on the taxpayer; no new state taxes are involved; the bonds are repaid from project revenues, through the sale of water and power. In other words, it will pay for itself. The bonds will be used over a period of many years and will involve an approximate annual expenditure averaging only $75 million, as compared, for example with $600 million a year we spend on highways.

Existing facilities for furnishing water for California's needs will soon be exhausted because of our rapid population growth and industrial and agricultural expansion. We now face a further critical loss in the Colorado River supply. Without the projects made possible by this Act, we face a major water crisis. We can stand no more delay.

If we fail to act now to provide new sources of water, land development in the great San Joaquin Valley will slow to a halt by 1965 and the return of cultivated areas to wasteland will begin. In southern California, the existing sources of water which have nourished its tremendous expansion will reach capacity by 1970 and further development must wholly cease. In northern California desperately needed flood control and water supplies for many local areas will be denied.

This Act will assure construction funds for new water development facilities to meet California's requirements now and in the future. No area will be deprived of water to meet the needs of another. Nor will any area be asked to pay for water delivered to another.

To meet questions which concerned, southern California, the bonds will finance completion of all facilities needed, as described in the Act. Contracts for delivery of water may not be altered by the Legislature. The tap will be open, and no amount of political maneuvering can shut it off.

Under this Act the water rights of northern California will remain securely protected. In addition, sufficient money is provided for construction of local projects to meet the pressing needs for flood control, recreation and water deliveries in the north.

A much needed drainage system and water supply will be provided in the San Joaquin Valley.

Construction here authorized will provide thousands of jobs. And the program will nourish tremendous industrial and farm and urban expansion which will develop an ever-growing source of employment and economic prosperity for Californians.

Our Legislature has appropriated millions of dollars for work in preparation, and construction is now underway. It would be tragic if this impressive start toward solution of our water problems were now abandoned.

If we fail to act now to insure completion of this constructive program, serious existing water shortages will only get worse. The success of our State is at stake. Vote "Yes" for water for people, for progress, for prosperity!

Public Law 86-488

June 3, 1960
[S. 44]

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct the San Luis unit of the Central Valley project, California, to enter into an agreement with the State of California with respect to the construction and operation of such unit, and for other purposes.

Central Valley Project, Calif. San Luis unit. Construction.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) for the principal purpose of furnishing water for the irrigation of approximately five hundred thousand acres of land in Merced, Fresno, and Kings Counties, California, hereinafter referred to as the Federal San Luis unit service area, and as incidents thereto of furnishing water for municipal and domestic use and providing recreation and fish and wildlife benefits, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the Secretary) is authorized to construct, operate, and maintain the San Luis unit as an integral part of the Central Valley project. The principal engineering features of said unit shall be a dam and reservoir at or near the San Luis site, a forebay and afterbay, the San Luis Canal, the Pleasant Valley Canal, and necessary pumping plants, distribution systems, drains, channels, levees, flood works, and related facilities, but no facilities shall be constructed for electric transmission or distribution service which the Secretary determines, on the basis of an offer of a firm fifty-year contract from a local public or private agency, can through such contract be obtained at less cost to the Federal Government than by construction and operation of Government facilities. The works (hereinafter referred to as joint-use facilities) for joint use with the State of California (hereinafter referred to as the State) shall be the dam and reservoir at or near the San Luis site, forebay and afterbay, pumping plants, and the San Luis Canal. The joint-use facilities consisting of the dam and reservoir shall be constructed, and other joint-use facilities may be constructed, so as to permit future expansion; or the joint-use facilities shall be constructed initially to the capacities necessary to serve both the Federal San Luis unit service area and the State's service area, as hereinafter provided. In constructing, operating, and maintaining the San Luis unit, the Secretary shall be governed by the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388), and Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto). Construction of the San Luis unit shall not be commenced until the Secretary has (1) secured, or has satisfactory assurance of his ability to secure, all rights to the use of water which are necessary to carry out the purposes of the unit and the terms and conditions of this Act, and (2) received satisfactory assurance from the State of California that it will make provision for a master drainage outlet and disposal channel for the San Joaquin Valley, as generally outlined in the California water plan, Bulletin Numbered 3, of the California Department of Water Resources, which will adequately serve, by connection therewith, the drainage system for the San Luis unit or has made provision for constructing the San Luis interceptor drain to the delta designed to meet the drainage requirements of the San Luis unit as generally outlined in the report of the Department of the Interior, entitled "San Luis Unit, Central Valley Project," dated December 17, 1956.

43 USC 371 and note. Preliminary measures.

Conditions.

(b) No water provided by the Federal San Luis unit shall be delivered in the Federal San Luis service area to any water user for the production on newly irrigated lands of any basic agricultural commodity, as defined in the Agricultural Act of 1949, or any amendment thereof, if the total supply of such commodity as estimated by the Secretary of Agriculture for the marketing year in which the bulk

63 Stat. 1051. 7 USC 1421 note.

Exhibit "G"

PL 99-546, October 27, 1986, 100 Stat 3050

UNITED STATES PUBLIC LAWS
99th Congress - Second Session
Convening January 21, 1986

DATA SUPPLIED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. (SEE SCOPE)
Additions and Deletions are not identified in this document.

PL 99-546 (HR 3113)
October 27, 1986

An Act to implement the Coordinated Operations Agreement, the Suisun Marsh Preservation Agreement, and to amend the Small Reclamation Projects Act of 1956, as amended, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

TITLE I -- COORDINATED OPERATIONS
PROJECT OPERATION POLICY

SEC. 101. Section 2 of the Act of August 26, 1937 (50 Stat. 850) is amended by --

(a) inserting at the beginning "(a)"; and
(b) inserting the following new subsection:
"(b)(1) Unless the Secretary of the Interior determines that operation of the Central Valley project in conformity with State water quality standards for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Estuary is not consistent with the congressional directives applicable to the project, the Secretary is authorized and directed to operate the project, in conjunction with the State of California water project, in conformity with such standards. Should the Secretary of the Interior so determine, then the Secretary shall promptly request the Attorney General to bring an action in the court of proper jurisdiction for the purposes of determining the applicability of such standards to the project.
"(2) The Secretary is further directed to operate the Central Valley project, in conjunction with the State water project, so that water supplied at the intake of the Contra Costa Canal is of a quality equal to the water quality standards contained in the Water Right Decision 1485 of the State of California Water Resources Control Board, dated August 16, 1978, except under drought emergency water conditions pursuant to a declaration by the Governor of California. Nothing in the previous sentence shall authorize or require the relocation of the Contra Costa Canal intake.".

REIMBURSABLE COSTS

SEC. 102. Section 2 of the Act of August 26, 1937 (50 Stat. 850) is amended by inserting the following new subsection:

"(c)(1) The costs associated with providing Central Valley project water supplies for the purpose of salinity control and for complying with State water quality standards identified in exhibit A of the 'Agreement Between the United States of America and the Department of Water Resources of the State of California for Coordinated Operation of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project' dated May 20, 1985, shall be allocated among the project purposes and shall be reimbursed in accordance with existing Reclamation law and policy. The costs of providing water for salinity control and for complying with State water quality standards above those standards identified in the previous sentence shall be nonreimbursable.
"(2) The Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to undertake a cost allocation study of the Central Valley project, including the provisions of this Act, and to implement such allocations no later than January 1, 1988.".

COORDINATED OPERATIONS AGREEMENT

Exhibit "H"

SEC. 103. Section 2 of the Act of August 26, 1937 (50 Stat. 850) is amended by inserting the following new subsection:

"(d) The Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to execute and implement the 'Agreement Between the United States of America and the Department of Water Resources of the State of California for Coordinated Operation of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project' dated May 20, 1985: Provided, That --

"(1) the contract with the State of California referred to in subarticle 10(h)(1) of the agreement referred to in this subsection for the conveyance and purchase of Central Valley project water shall become final only after an Act of Congress approving the execution of the contract by the Secretary of the Interior; and

"(2) the termination provisions of the agreement referred to in this subsection may only be exercised if the Secretary of the Interior or the State of California submits a report to Congress and sixty calendar days have elapsed (which sixty days, however, shall not include days on which either the House of Representatives or the Senate is not in session because of an adjournment of more than three days to a day certain) from the date on which said report has been submitted to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate for reference to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate. The report must outline the reasons for terminating the agreement and, in the case of the report by the Secretary of the Interior, include the views of the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Governor of the State of California on the Secretary's decision.".

REFUGE WATER SUPPLY INVESTIGATION

SEC. 104. The Secretary of the Interior shall not contract for the delivery of more than 75 percent of the firm annual yield of the Central Valley project not currently committed under long-term contracts until one year after the Secretary has transmitted to the Congress a feasibility report, together with his recommendations, on the "Refuge Water Supply Investigations, Central Valley Basin, California.".

ADJUSTMENT OF RATES AND ABILITY TO PAY

SEC. 105. The Secretary of the Interior shall include in all new or amended contracts for the delivery of water from the Central Valley project a provision providing for the automatic adjustment of rates by the Secretary of the Interior if it is found that the rate in effect may not be adequate to recover the appropriate share of the existing Federal investment in the project by the year 2030. The contracts shall also include a provision authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to adjust determinations of ability to pay every five years.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE DEFICITS

SEC. 106. The Secretary of the Interior shall include in each new or amended contract for the delivery of water from the Central Valley project provisions ensuring that any annual deficit (outstanding or hereafter arising) incurred by a Central Valley project water contractor in the payment of operation and maintenance costs of the Central Valley project is repaid by such contractor under the terms of such new or amended contract, together with interest on any such deficit which arises on or after October 1, 1985, at a rate equal to the average market yields on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States with remaining periods to maturity comparable to the applicable reimbursement period of the project, adjusted to the nearest one-eighth of 1 percent.

TITLE II -- SUISUN MARSH PRESERVATION AGREEMENT
AUTHORITY TO ENTER AGREEMENT

SEC. 201. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to execute and implement the agreement between the Department of the Interior, the State of California and the Suisun Resources Conservation District (dated November 1, 1985).

COST-SHARING PROVISIONS

(iii) evaluation of lower Mokelumne River floodway improvements.

(C) INTERTIES.—Activities under this subparagraph consist of—

(i) evaluation and construction of an intertie between the State Water Project California Aqueduct and the Central Valley Project Delta Mendota Canal, near the City of Tracy, as an operation and maintenance activity, except that the Secretary shall design and construct the intertie in a manner consistent with a possible future expansion of the intertie capacity (as described in subsection (f)(1)(B)); and

(ii) assessment of a connection of the Central Valley Project to the Clifton Court Forebay of the State Water Project, with a corresponding increase in the screened intake of the Forebay.

(D) PROGRAM TO MEET STANDARDS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Prior to increasing export limits from the Delta for the purposes of conveying water to south-of-Delta Central Valley Project contractors or increasing deliveries through an intertie, the Secretary shall, not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, in consultation with the Governor, develop and initiate implementation of a program to meet all existing water quality standards and objectives for which the Central Valley Project has responsibility. Deadline.

(ii) MEASURES.—In developing and implementing the program, the Secretary shall include, to the maximum extent feasible, the measures described in clauses (iii) through (vii).

(iii) RECIRCULATION PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall incorporate into the program a recirculation program to provide flow, reduce salinity concentrations in the San Joaquin River, and reduce the reliance on the New Melones Reservoir for meeting water quality and fishery flow objectives through the use of excess capacity in export pumping and conveyance facilities.

(iv) BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES PLAN.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop and implement, in coordination with the State's programs to improve water quality in the San Joaquin River, a best management practices plan to reduce the water quality impacts of the discharges from wildlife refuges that receive water from the Federal Government and discharge salt or other constituents into the San Joaquin River.

(II) COORDINATION WITH INTERESTED PARTIES.—The plan shall be developed in coordination with interested parties in the San Joaquin Valley and the Delta.

(III) COORDINATION WITH ENTITIES THAT DISCHARGE WATER.—The Secretary shall also coordinate activities under this clause with other entities that discharge water into the San Joaquin River to reduce salinity concentrations discharged into

Exhibit "I"

the River, including the timing of discharges to optimize their assimilation.

(v) ACQUISITION OF WATER.—The Secretary shall incorporate into the program the acquisition from willing sellers of water from streams tributary to the San Joaquin River or other sources to provide flow, dilute discharges of salt or other constituents, and to improve water quality in the San Joaquin River below the confluence of the Merced and San Joaquin Rivers, and to reduce the reliance on New Melones Reservoir for meeting water quality and fishery flow objectives.

(vi) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the authority and direction provided to the Secretary under this subparagraph is to provide greater flexibility in meeting the existing water quality standards and objectives for which the Central Valley Project has responsibility so as to reduce the demand on water from New Melones Reservoir used for that purpose and to assist the Secretary in meeting any obligations to Central Valley Project contractors from the New Melones Project.

(vii) UPDATING OF NEW MELONES OPERATING PLAN.—The Secretary shall update the New Melones operating plan to take into account, among other things, the actions described in this title that are designed to reduce the reliance on New Melones Reservoir for meeting water quality and fishery flow objectives, and to ensure that actions to enhance fisheries in the Stanislaus River are based on the best available science.

(3) WATER USE EFFICIENCY.—

(A) WATER CONSERVATION PROJECTS.—Activities under this paragraph include water conservation projects that provide water supply reliability, water quality, and ecosystem benefits to the California Bay-Delta system.

(B) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Activities under this paragraph include technical assistance for urban and agricultural water conservation projects.

(C) WATER RECYCLING AND DESALINATION PROJECTS.—Activities under this paragraph include water recycling and desalination projects, including groundwater remediation projects and projects identified in the Bay Area Water Plan and the Southern California Comprehensive Water Reclamation and Reuse Study and other projects, giving priority to projects that include regional solutions to benefit regional water supply and reliability needs.

(D) WATER MEASUREMENT AND TRANSFER ACTIONS.—Activities under this paragraph include water measurement and transfer actions.

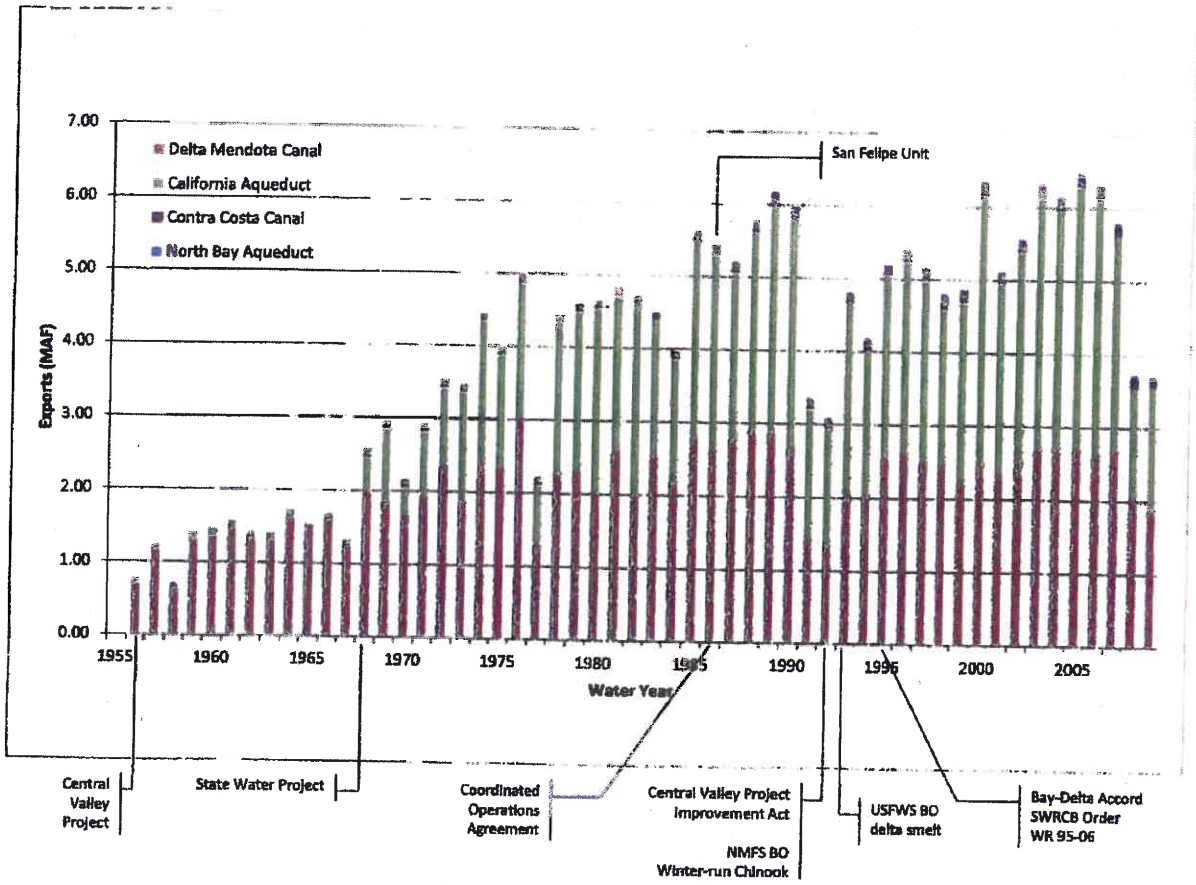
(E) URBAN WATER CONSERVATION.—Activities under this paragraph include implementation of best management practices for urban water conservation.

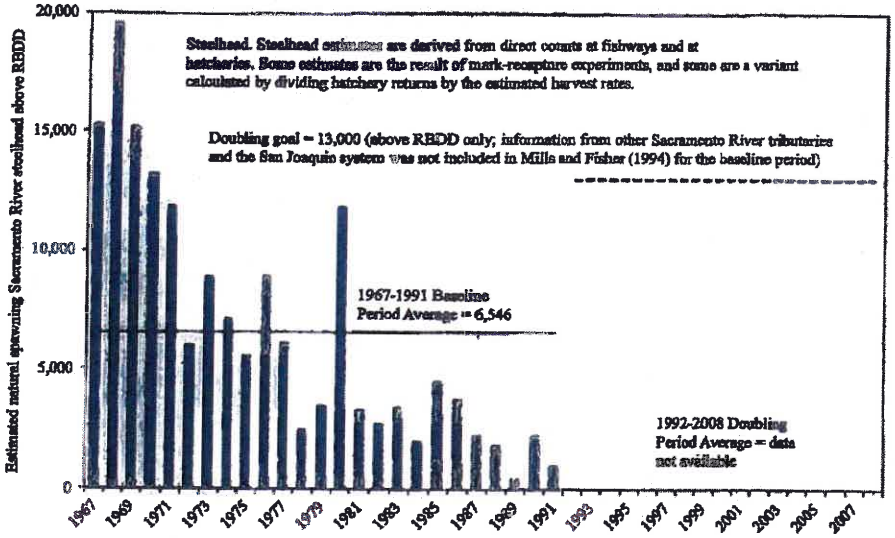
Applicability.

(F) RECLAMATION AND RECYCLING PROJECTS.—

(i) PROJECTS.—This subparagraph applies to—

(I) projects identified in the Southern California Comprehensive Water Reclamation and Reuse Study, dated April 2001 and authorized by


Delta Mendota Canal
California Aqueduct
Contra Costa Canal
North Bay Aqueduct
San Felipe Unit
Exports (MAF)
7.00
6.00
5.00
4.00
3.00
2.00
1.00
0.00
1955
1960
1965
1970
1975
1980
1985
1990
1995
2000
2005
Water Year
Central Valley Project
State Water Project
Coordinated Operations Agreement
Central Valley Project Improvement Act
NMFS BO Winter-run Chinook
USFWS BO delta smelt
Bay-Delta Accord SWRCB Order WR 95-06


Steelhead. Steelhead estimates are derived from direct counts at fishways and at hatcheries. Some estimates are the result of mark-recapture experiments, and some are a variant calculated by dividing hatchery returns by the estimated harvest rates.
Doubling goal = 13,000 (above RBDD only; information from other Sacramento River tributaries and the San Joaquin system was not included in Mills and Fisher (1994) for the baseline period)
1967-1991 Baseline Period Average = 6,546
1992-2008 Doubling Period Average = data not available
Estimated natural spawning Sacramento River steelhead above RBDD
20,000
15,000
10,000
5,000
0

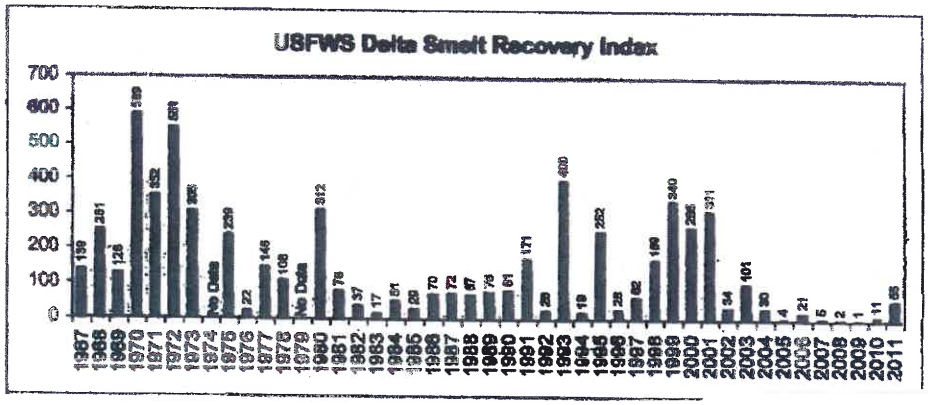

USFWS Delta Smelt Recovery Index
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0

Exhibit "J"

2-1-13

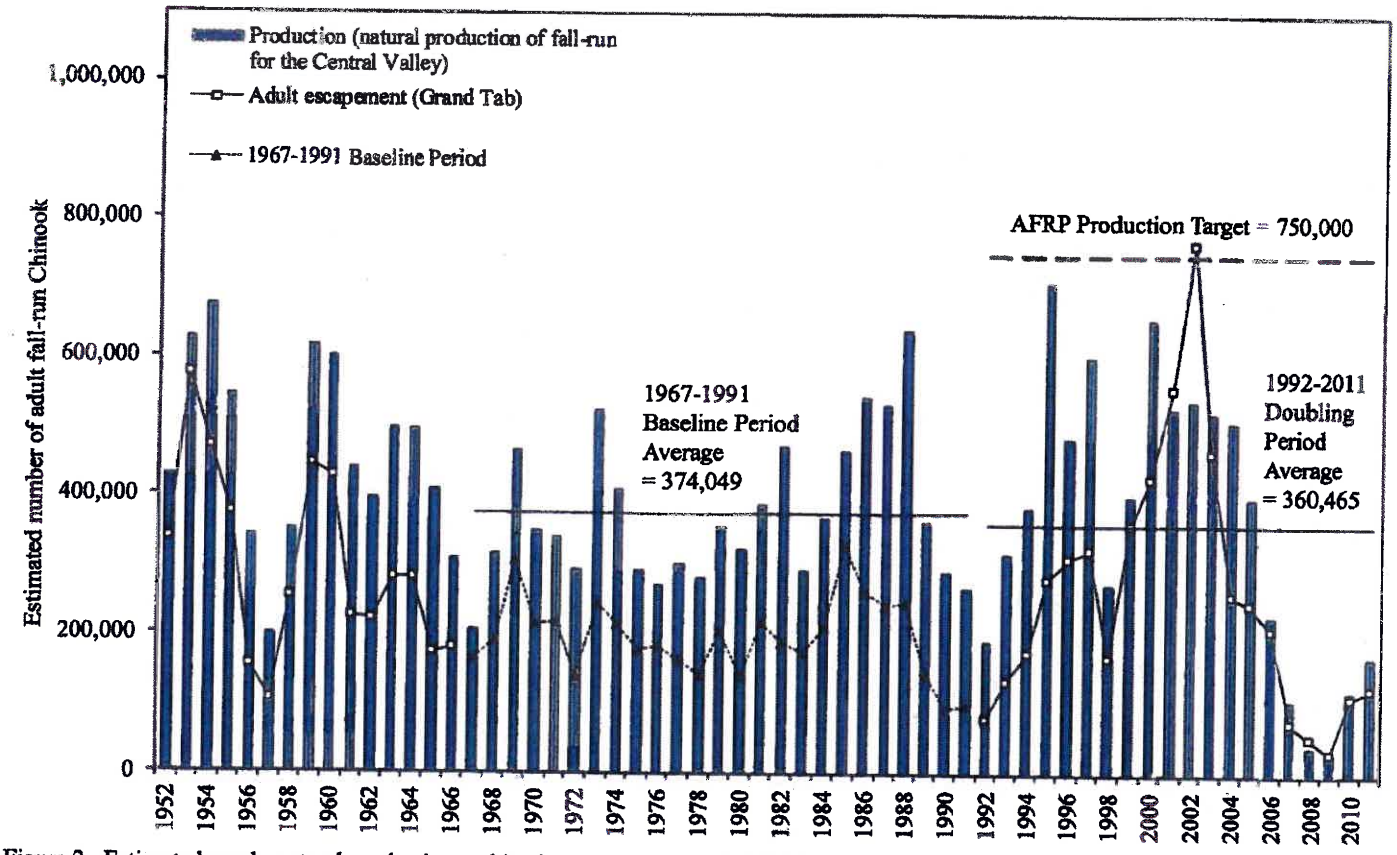


Figure 2. Estimated yearly natural production and in-river escapement of adult fall-run Chinook salmon in the Central Valley rivers and streams. 1952 - 1966 and 1992 - 2011 numbers are from CDFG Grand Tab (Apr 24, 2012). 1967-1991 Baseline Period numbers are from Mills and Fisher (CDFG, 1994).

Exhibit "K"

2-1-13

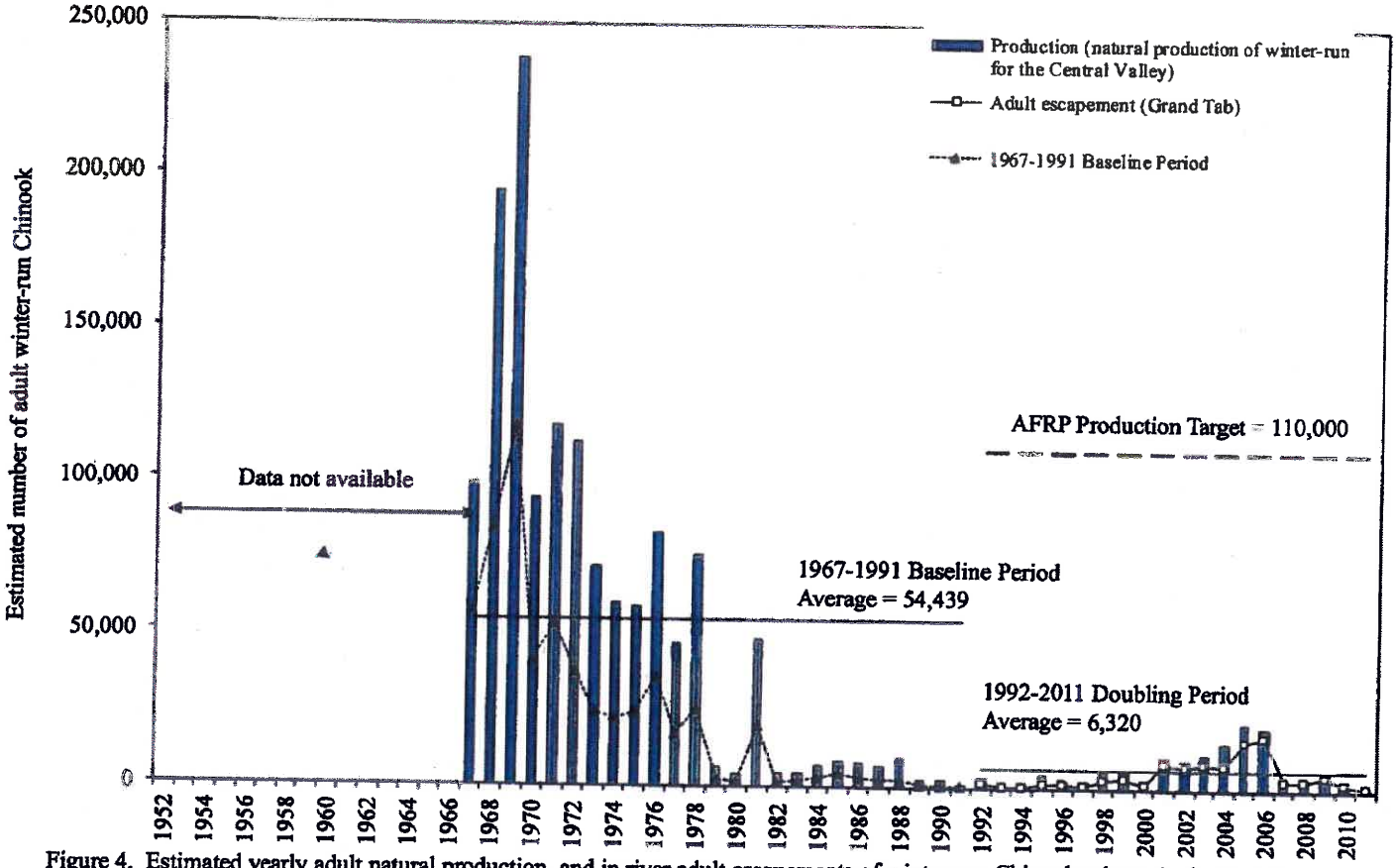


Figure 4. Estimated yearly adult natural production, and in river adult escapements of winter-run Chinook salmon in the Central Valley rivers and streams. 1992 - 2011 numbers are from CDFG Grand Tab (Apr 24, 2012). 1967-1991 Baseline Period numbers are from Mills and Fisher (CDFG, 1994).

Exhibit "L"

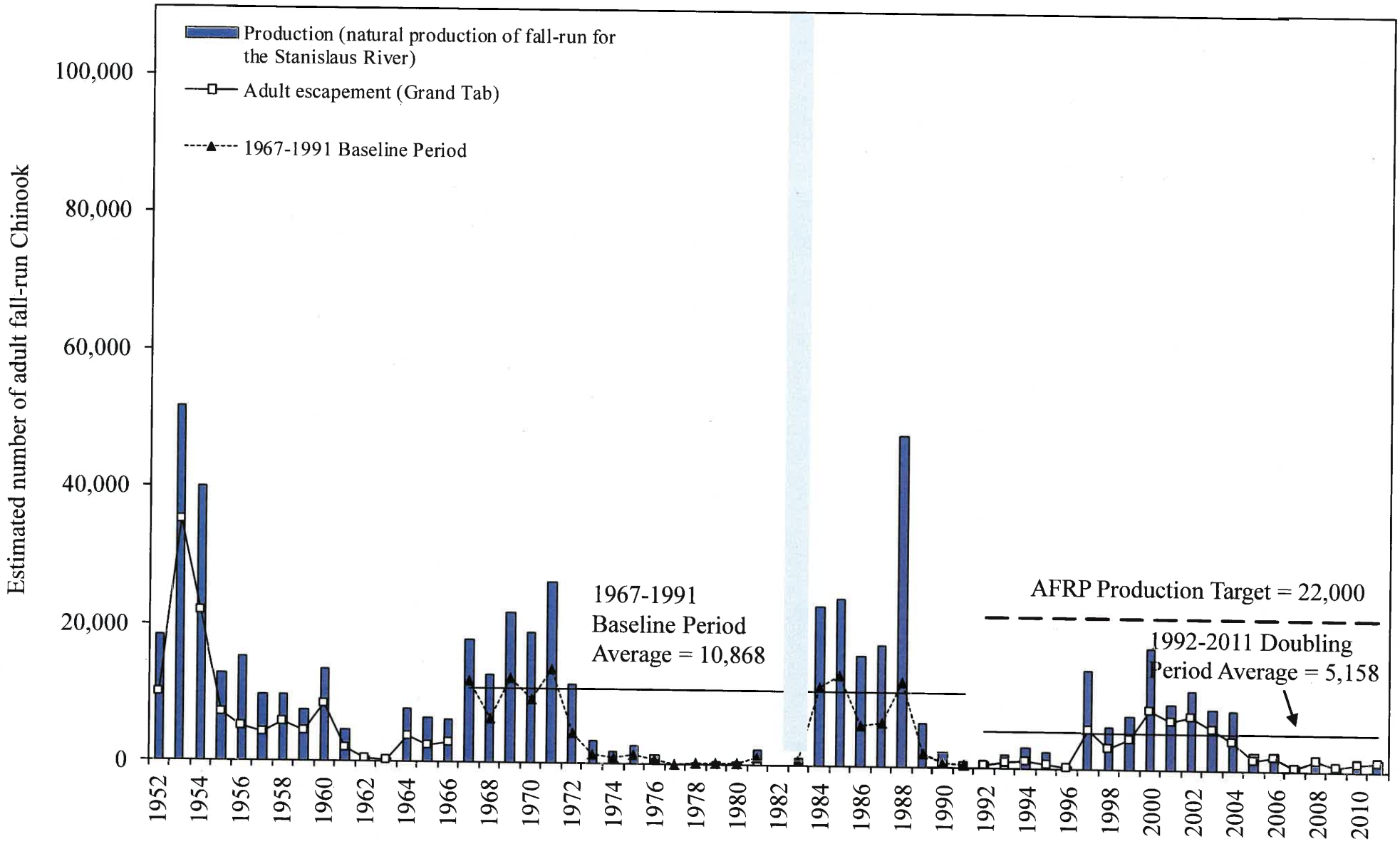


Figure 32. Estimated yearly natural production, and in river escapements of Stanislaus River adult fall-run Chinook salmon. 1952 – 1966, and 1992 - 2011 numbers are from CDFG Grand Tab (Apr 24, 2012). 1967-1991 Baseline Period numbers are from Mills and Fisher (CDFG, 1994). ▭ = data was not available for 1982.

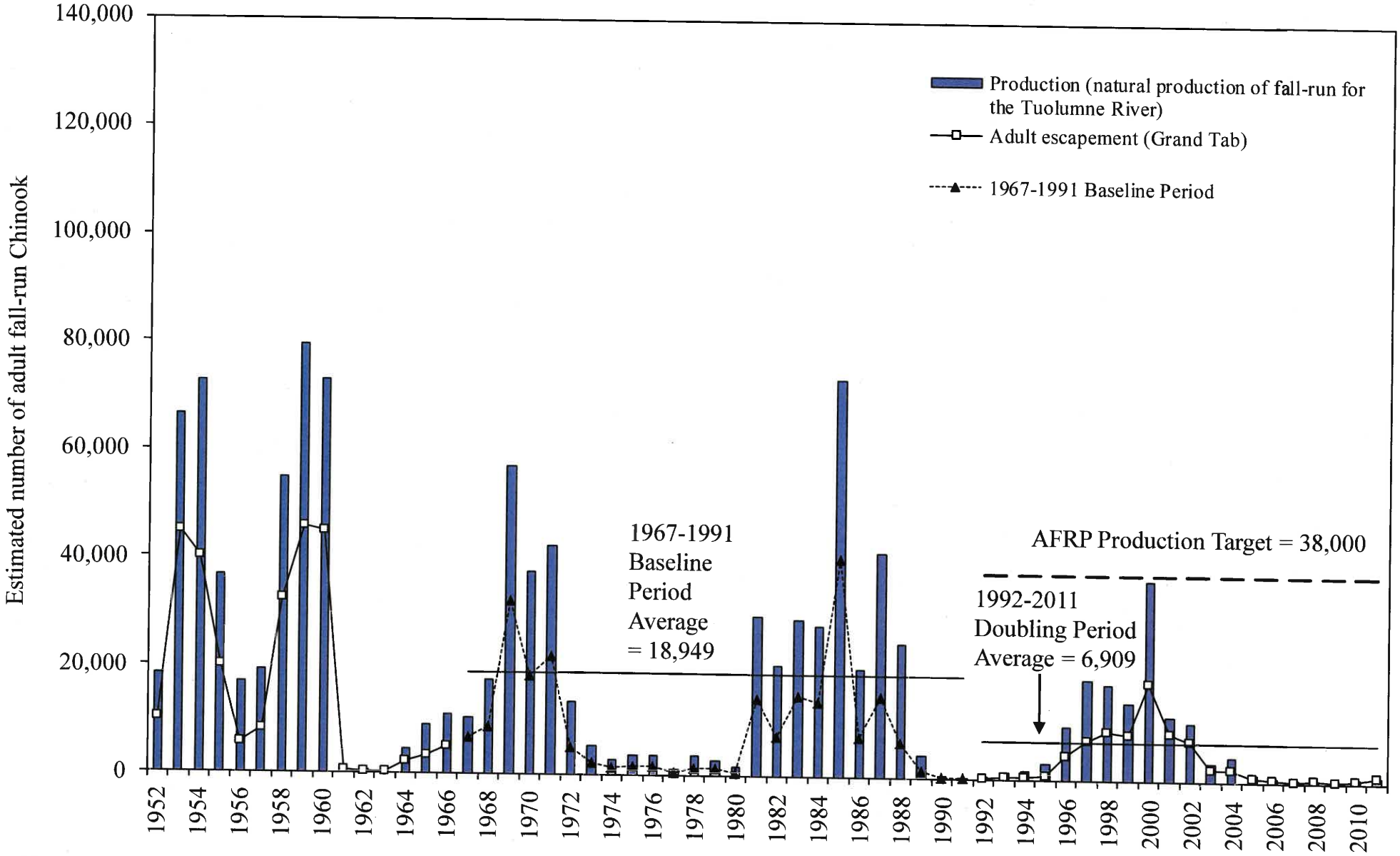


Figure 33. Estimated yearly natural production, and in river escapements of Tuolumne River adult fall-run Chinook salmon. 1952 - 1966, and 1992 - 2011 numbers are from CDFG Grand Tab (Apr 24, 2012). 1967-1991 Baseline Period numbers are from Mills and Fisher (CDFG, 1994).

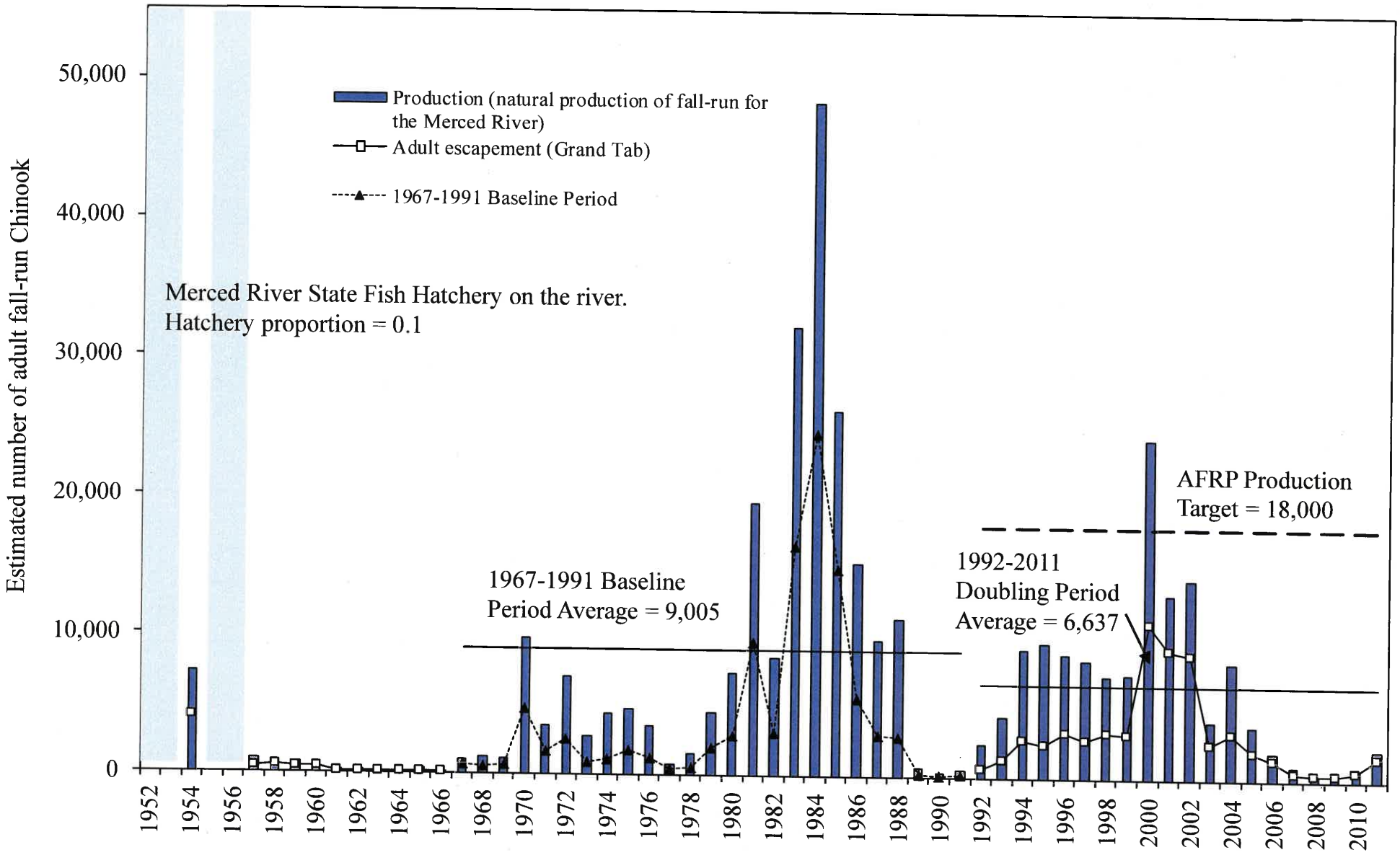


Figure 34. Estimated yearly natural production, and in river escapements of Merced River adult fall-run Chinook salmon. 1952 - 1966, and 1992 - 2011 numbers are from CDFG Grand Tab (Apr 24, 2012). ▭ data was not available for 1952 - 1953, and 1955 - 1956. 1967-1991 Baseline Period numbers are from Mills and Fisher (CDFG, 1994).

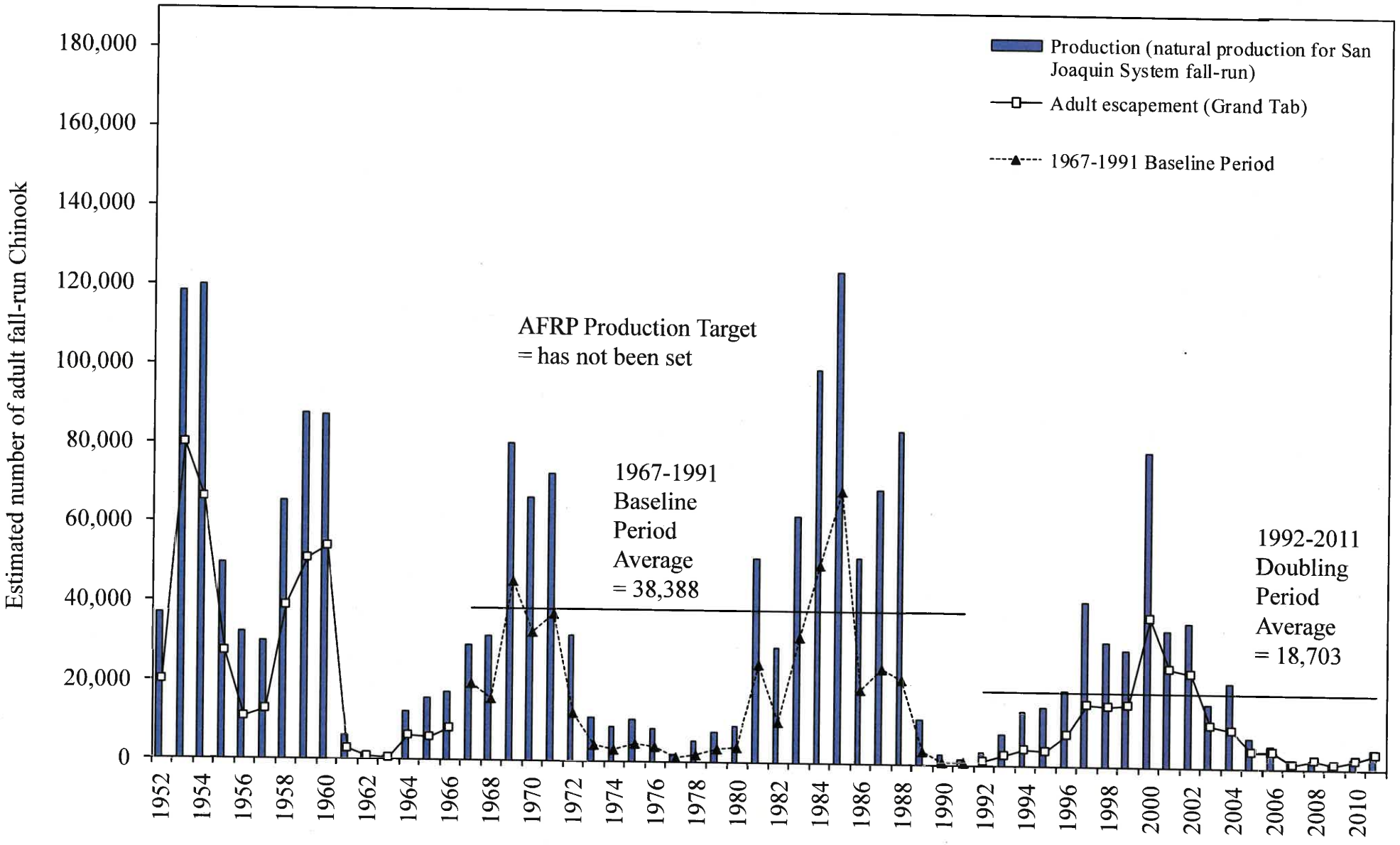
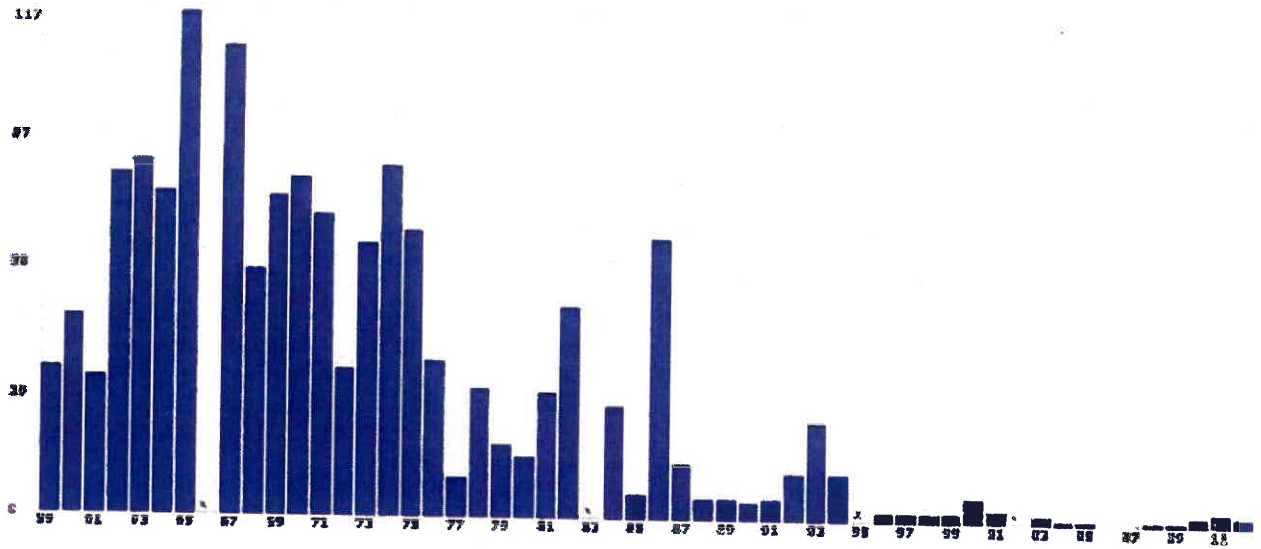


Figure 35. Estimated yearly natural production, and in river escapements of San Joaquin System adult fall-run Chinook salmon. The San Joaquin System is the sum of the Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and Merced Rivers. 1952 - 1966, and 1992 - 2011 numbers are from CDFG Grand Tab (Apr 24, 2012). 1967-1991 Baseline Period numbers are from Mills and Fisher (CDFG, 1994).

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH and WILDLIFE

Striped Bass Indices



Striped Bass Indices

YEAR	INDEXDATE	DELTA INDEX	SUISUN BAY INDEX	TOTAL INDEX
1959	12-Jul	30.7	3.0	33.7
1960	16-Jul	32.0	13.6	45.6
1961	21-Jul	25.2	6.4	31.6
1962	26-Jul	46.8	32.1	78.9
1963	3-Aug	38.2	43.5	81.7
1964	1-Aug	54.7	20.7	75.4

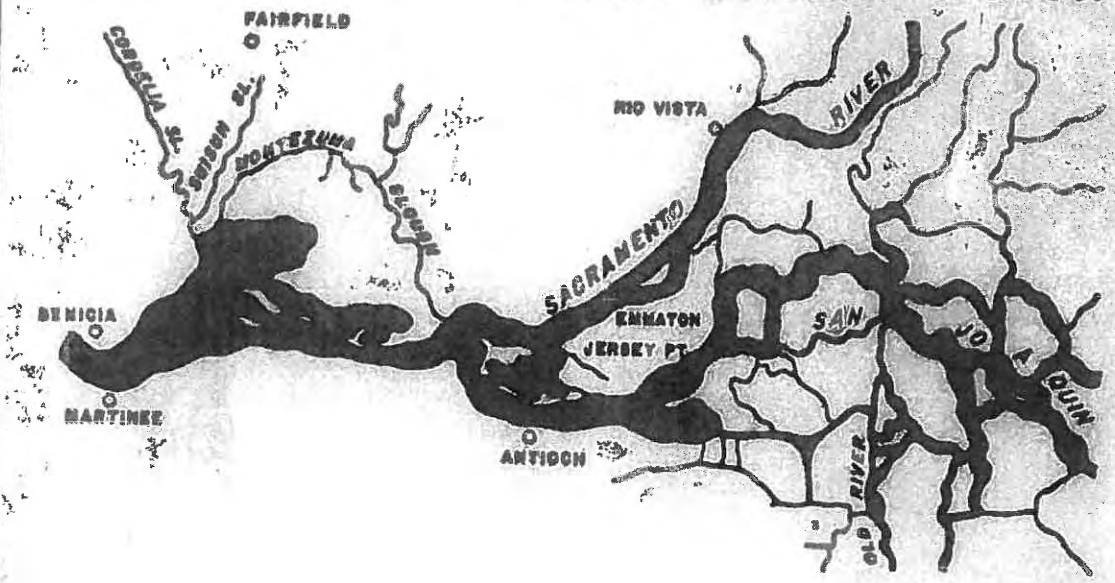
Exhibit "M"

Water Right Decision 1485

In the Matter of Permit 12720 (Application 5625) and Other Permits of United States Bureau of Reclamation for the Federal Central Valley Project and of California Department of Water Resources for the State Water Project.

DECISION IN FURTHERANCE OF JURISDICTION RESERVED IN DECISIONS D 893, D 990, D 1020, D 1250, D 1275, D 1291, D 1308, D 1358, and PERMIT ORDER 124

Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh



August 1978

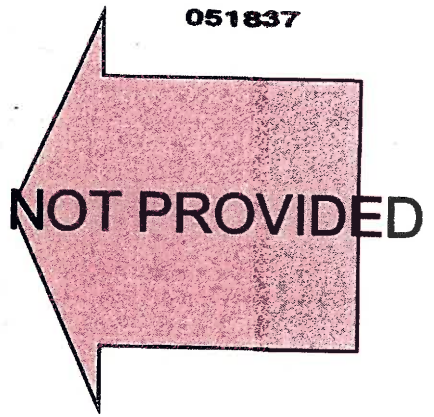
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

Exhibit "N"

executed. The criteria in the draft agreement were recommended by Fish and Game and endorsed by the Department, and were extensively analyzed by the Board staff. Based on our most current assessment, the fishery standards provide significantly higher protection than existing basin plans. The Striped Bass Index is a measure of young bass survival through their first summer. The Striped Bass Index would be 71 under without project conditions (i.e., theoretical conditions which would exist today in the Delta and Marsh in the absence of the CVP and SWP), 63 under the existing basin plans, and about 79[3/] under this decision.

While the standards in this decision approach without project levels of protection for striped bass, there are many other species, such as white catfish, shad and salmon, which would not be protected to this level. To provide full mitigation of project impacts on all fishery species now would require the virtual shutting down of the project export pumps. The level of protection provided under this decision is nonetheless a reasonable level of protection until final determinations are made concerning a cross-Delta transfer facility or other means to mitigate project impacts.

3/ There is some indication that factors other than those considered in the Board's analysis of without project levels may also affect striped bass survival. The effects of these factors are such that the without project levels would be greater than 71. However, the magnitude of this impact is unknown and cannot be quantified at this time.



Suisun Marsh. Full protection of Suisun Marsh now could be accomplished only by requiring up to 2 million acre-feet of freshwater outflow in dry and critical years in addition to that required to meet other standards. This requirement would result in a one-third reduction in combined firm exportable yield of State and federal projects. In theory, the existing Basin 5B Plan purports to provide full protection to the Marsh. However, during the 1976-77 drought when the basin plan was in effect, the Marsh received little if any protection because the system almost ran out of water and emergency regulations had to be imposed. This decision balances the limitations of available water supplies against the mitigation responsibility of the projects. This balance is based on the constitutional mandate "...that the water resources of the State be put to beneficial use to the fullest extent of which they are capable..." and that unreasonable use and unreasonable diversion be prevented (Article 10, Section 2, California Constitution).

The Bureau, the Department, Fish and Game, and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service are working together to develop alternative water supplies for the Marsh. Such alternative supplies appear to represent a feasible and reasonable method for protection of the Marsh and mitigation of the adverse impacts of the projects. Under this decision the Department and Bureau are required, in cooperation with other agencies, to develop a plan for Suisun Marsh by July 1, 1979. The Suisun Marsh plan should ensure that the

Jeff Opperman
Final Report for Fellowship R/SF-4

My CALFED fellowship (R/SF-4) had three primary research areas: (1) how native fish use California floodplains; (2) developing a method to identify and quantify a particular type of floodplain in the Sacramento Valley; and (3) a white paper for CALFED that reviews, summarizes, and synthesizes research on floodplains generally, and Central Valley floodplains specifically.

1. Native fish and floodplains.

For this research I collaborated with Carson Jeffres, a graduate student at UC Davis (this research was his Master's thesis). We compared the growth rates of juvenile Chinook salmon between various floodplain and riverine habitats. This study built on previous work; (1) in the Yolo Bypass that found that juvenile Chinook grew faster in the flooded Bypass than in the nearby Sacramento River and; (2) in the Cosumnes Preserve which showed that native, wild juvenile Chinook salmon appeared to use the Cosumnes floodplain for rearing when it was inundated.

Juvenile salmon were obtained from a hatchery on the Mokelumne River and placed in enclosures within the Cosumnes River and floodplain (ten fish per enclosure). For two flood seasons (2004 and 2005), six enclosures were placed in each of three different habitat types in the floodplain and two locations in the river (30 enclosures total). Floodplain habitats included an ephemeral pond, flooded terrestrial herbaceous vegetation, and a pond that was permanent during the first year of the study and ephemeral during the second. The river locations were the river channel above the floodplain and the river channel below the floodplain.

The fish were measured at one week intervals, although measurement frequency declined during large flood events that made access difficult. In 2004 fish were measured three times over 4.5 weeks and in 2005 they were measured four times over 8 weeks. After the final measurement the fish were sacrificed and a sub-set were saved for a gut-content analysis.

In general, fish had faster growth rates in floodplain habitats than in the river. During periods of low, clear water, fish growth rates in the river site above the floodplain were comparable to those in the floodplain. However, during higher flows, with more turbid water, growth in the river above the floodplain was significantly lower than on the floodplain. Fish in the river below the floodplain, which was representative of intertidal delta habitat, were consistently low.

The main channel of the Cosumnes River, like those of many Central Valley rivers, is incised and lacks complexity. There are few side channels, backwaters, or accessible floodplain habitats (other than the Cosumnes Preserve). Thus, juvenile fish will tend to be displaced downstream during high flow events. In the Cosumnes, juvenile fish will be flushed downstream to either the intertidal delta or the floodplain. Among these two

habitats, the floodplain appears to provide significantly better habitat for rearing (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Juvenile Chinook on the right were reared within an enclosure within the Cosumnes River floodplain while those on the left were reared within an enclosure in the river below the floodplain (intertidal Delta habitat).

This study confirms that juvenile Chinook benefit from access to floodplain habitats. While river habitats comparable to those above the floodplain can support similar growth rates as the floodplain, this habitat is more variable. During high flows the river offers poor habitat and fish living in this type of habitat will tend to be displaced downstream. The floodplain can provide optimal growing conditions during such floods and likely offers superior habitat conditions to the downstream Delta.

The risk of fish stranding on the floodplain merits further research. However, initial research on the Cosumnes suggests that native fish tend to respond to cues that facilitate emigration from the floodplain during draining and that primarily non-native fish become stranded. This work further supports the concept that floodplain restoration can be an important strategy for restoring Central Valley salmon populations.

This research is summarized in:

Jeffres, C., J. Opperman, and P. B. Moyle. *Submitted.* Ephemeral floodplain habitats provide best growth conditions for juvenile Chinook salmon in a California river. Submitted to Environmental Biology of Fishes.

This work has also been presented at the following conferences:

1. Floodplain Management Association 2005
2. Society for Ecological Restoration 2005
3. Riverine Hydroecology (Stirling, Scotland) 2006

2. Identifying and mapping the floodplain inundated by the Floodplain Activation Flood.

Working in collaboration with Phil Williams and Associates (PWA), we worked to define, identify, and quantify a particular type of floodplain: that which is inundated by a Floodplain Activation Flood (FAF). The FAF is a relatively frequent, long duration, spring-time flood that has particular value for native fish and food web productivity (see text on floodplain conceptual model below for further description of a Floodplain Activation Flood).

The FAF was defined as follows:

1. occurs in two out of three years (67% exceedance probability)
2. duration of at least one week
3. occurs between March 15 and May 15.

These criteria were applied to a series of paired gauges along the Sacramento River and within the Yolo Bypass. This process derived a flood stage elevation that corresponded to the FAF criteria. This flood stage was then used to develop a water surface that was applied to topography for the Sacramento River and surrounding floodplain (from US Army Corps of Engineers' Sacramento-San Joaquin Comprehensive Study), estimating the area of floodplain inundated during the FAF.

We found that there is very little floodplain area inundated by the FAF in the current Sacramento Valley. Nearly all floodplain that corresponds to the FAF is found within the Yolo Bypass.

This work is further described in:

Philip Williams & Associates, L., and J. J. Opperman. 2006. The frequently activated floodplain: quantifying a remnant landcape in the Sacramento Valley, San Francisco, CA.

Williams, P., J. Opperman, E. Andrews, S. Bozkurt, and P. Moyle. Quantifying activated floodplain on a lowland regulated river. *In preparation for* San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science.

3. The Central Valley Floodplain White Paper

I am continuing to work on the floodplain white paper along with my co-author, Peter Moyle. A central part of the white paper is a conceptual model for Central Valley floodplains, briefly described below.

This work has been presented at the following conferences:

1. Floodplain Management Association, 2005
2. American Geophysical Union and the North American Benthological Society, 2005
3. Society for Ecological Restoration, 2005

4. State of the Estuary Conference, 2005
5. CALFED Science Conference, 2006
6. Riverine Hydroecology (Stirling, Scotland), 2006
7. State of Washington, the Ecological Value of High Flows, 2006

Brief overview of conceptual model:

Floodplains support high levels of biodiversity and are among the most productive ecosystems in the world. They provide a range of ecosystem services to human society, including storage and conveyance of flood flows, groundwater recharge, open space, recreational opportunities, and habitat for a diversity of species, many of them of economic importance. Among the world's ecosystem types, Costanza et al. (1997) ranked floodplains second only to estuaries in terms of the ecosystem services provided to society. In the Central Valley, the most important ecosystem services provided by floodplains include reduction of flood risk and habitat for numerous species, including commercially and recreationally valuable species (e.g., chinook salmon and waterfowl) and for endangered species. Recent research has demonstrated that floodplains provide necessary spawning habitat for the Sacramento splittail, an endemic minnow (Sommer et al. 1997) and that juvenile chinook salmon grow faster on floodplains than in main-stem river channels (Sommer et al. 2001b) (Figure 1). Productivity from floodplains can be exported to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, where food limitation is likely one of the factors contributing to the decline of fish species (Jassby and Cloern 2000, Schemel et al. 2004). Further, in places such as the Yolo Bypass, ecologically valuable floodplains can be compatible with productive agriculture (Sommer et al. 2001a).

Recognizing these valuable services, state and federal agencies have expressed policy goals to restore floodplains in the Central Valley (CALFED Bay-Delta Program 2000). Further, flood management projects in the Central Valley now generally include a floodplain restoration component. To guide these restoration efforts, we convened a floodplain working group, composed of floodplain experts drawn from academia, agencies, NGOs, and the private sector, to define ecologically functional floodplains. This group described three primary components of ecologically functional floodplains:

- ***Connectivity*** between river and floodplain.
- ***Hydrological variability***
- ***Sufficient geographic scale*** for associated ecological benefits to be meaningful on a system- or population-scale.

We developed a conceptual model of floodplain processes based on the scientific literature, our collective experiences studying floodplains, and guidance from the floodplain working group (Figure 2). This conceptual model illustrates the linkages between physical and biological processes in floodplains and can be used to inform floodplain restoration projects.

Organization of the conceptual model.
A diverse range of flows influence floodplain geomorphic and ecological processes, ranging from flows below bankfull to large, rare, and highly erosive floods. Numerous aspects of these flows have geomorphic and ecological significance, including magnitude, frequency, duration, rates of change, and seasonality, as well as antecedent conditions on the floodplain. To simplify, our conceptual model focuses on three types of 'representative floods,' characterized by their frequency and magnitude, which are found in the blue boxes in the Hydrology portion of the model. These floods perform geomorphic work, described in the brown-outline boxes in the Geomorphology portion of the model. Hydrologic and geomorphic processes create the conditions for Ecosystem Responses and Processes to occur (green-outlined boxes). The Ecosystem Responses and Processes produce Ecological Benefits, the magnitudes of which are influenced by the geographic scale of floodplain. Two representative floods, the Floodplain Activation Flood and the Floodplain Reorganization Flood are illustrated in Figures 2 and 3 and described below.

Two representative floods
Floodplain Activation Flood. The floodplain activation flood (FAF) is a small-magnitude flood that occurs relatively frequently (e.g., almost every year) (Figure 3). The FAF can be further defined in terms of seasonality and duration—for example a flood that lasts at least one week and occurs in the Spring. The following article by Betty Andrews defines a FAF in terms of frequency, season, and duration and then describes a process to map the floodplain that corresponds to the FAF in the Sacramento Valley. A long duration flood produces characteristic ecological benefits such as habitat for native fish spawning and rearing (Figure 1) and food web productivity. The duration of the flood is important as these processes cannot occur during a short event. The seasonality of the flood also influences which ecological processes occur (see the temporal scale bar (Winter □ Late spring) in one of the ecological process boxes). The importance of duration and seasonality for a FAF is indicated by the question mark adjacent to the flood occurring in late January on the hydrograph in Figure 2 (a short, winter-time flood). Because floodplains can remain inundated for a period of time after the loss of direct connection with river flows, a series of short connections can also function as a floodplain activation flood.
Floodplain Reorganization Flood. The floodplain reorganization flood is a greater magnitude flood that occurs less frequently (Figure 3). This higher energy flood produces geomorphic work including extensive erosion and deposition on the floodplain which creates heterogeneous floodplain topography. In turn, these dynamic events and heterogeneous topography create a diverse ecosystem with vegetation patches of varying age, species composition and structure, and floodplain water bodies of varying successional stage and connectivity to the river. The ecosystem processes that occur during a Floodplain Activation Flood take place within the mosaic of habitat features created during Floodplain Reorganization Floods.

Conclusions
The model illustrates the importance of hydrological variability for an ecologically functional floodplain. For example, a floodplain that rarely is inundated by a Floodplain

Activation Flood will not produce the ecological benefits of food web productivity or spawning and rearing habitat for native fish. A floodplain that is not subject to Floodplain Reorganization Floods will not maintain the mosaic of habitats (e.g., vegetation and water bodies of varying successional stages) that help support floodplain biodiversity. Therefore, floodplain restoration projects should not only focus on reintroducing connectivity between rivers and floodplains. Floodplain managers should also ask the following questions about this connectivity: how often, for how long, in what season, and of what magnitude? The answers to these questions will strongly influence the range of ecological benefits that the restored floodplain can provide.

CALFED Bay-Delta Program. 2000. Ecosystem restoration program plan. Volume I: Ecological attributes of the San Francisco Bay-Delta watershed. Pages 532 pp. CALFED.

Costanza, R., R. dArge, R. deGroot, S. Farber, M. Grasso, B. Hannon, K. Limburg, S. Naeem, R. V. Oneill, J. Paruelo, R. G. Raskin, P. Sutton, and M. vandenBelt. 1997. The value of the world's ecosystem services and natural capital. *Nature* 387: 253-260.

Jassby, A. D., and J. E. Cloern. 2000. Organic matter sources and rehabilitation of the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta (California, USA). *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems* 10: 323-352.

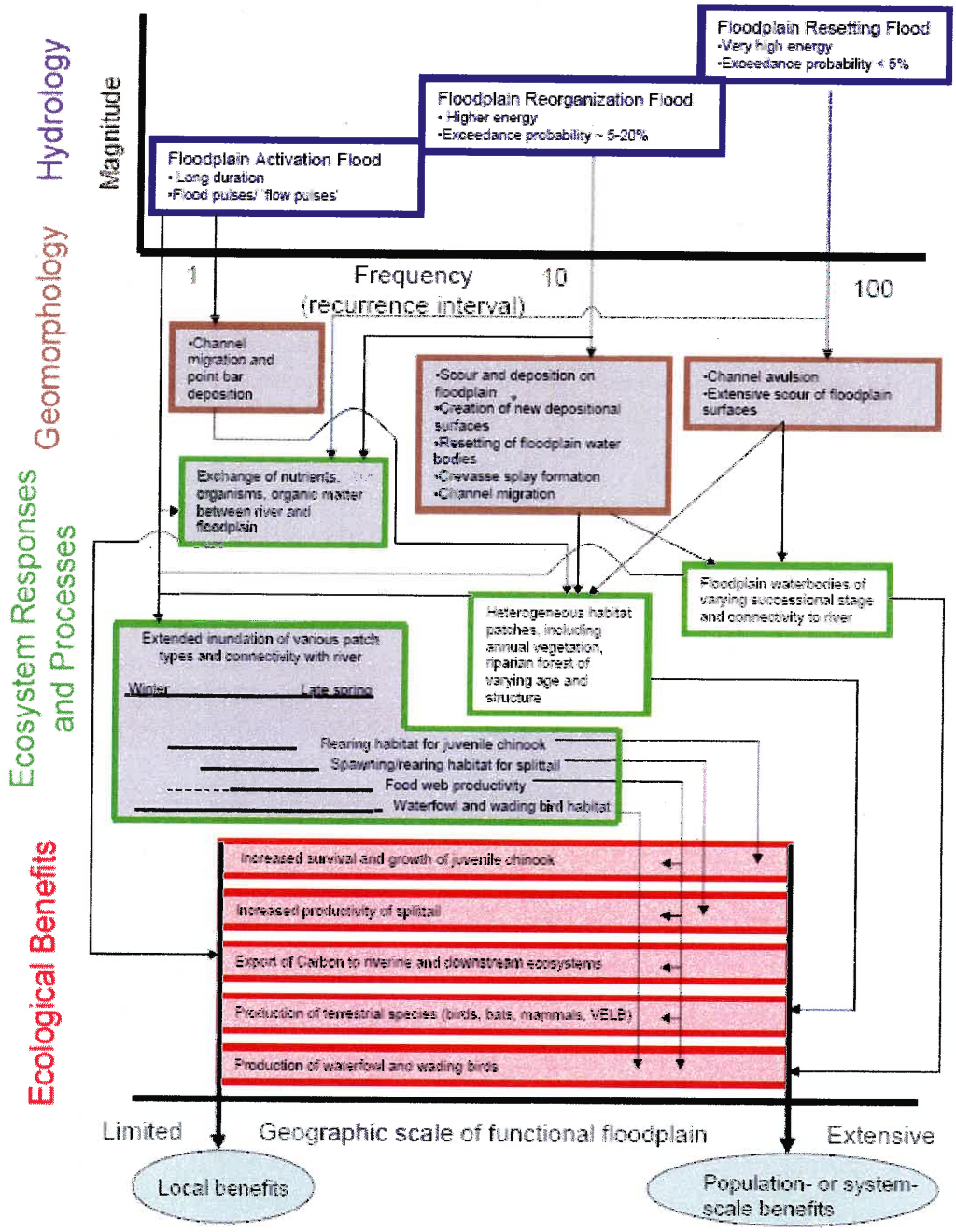
Schemel, L. E., T. R. Sommer, A. B. Muller-Solger, and W. C. Harrell. 2004. Hydrological variability, water chemistry, and phytoplankton biomass in a large floodplain of the Sacramento River, CA, USA. *Hydrobiologia* 513: 129-139.

Sommer, T., R. Baxter, and B. Herbold. 1997. Resilience of splittail in the Sacramento-San Joaquin estuary. *Trans. Am. Fish. Soc.* 126: 961-976.

Sommer, T., B. Harrell, M. Nobriga, R. Brown, P. Moyle, W. Kimmerer, and L. Schemel. 2001a. California's Yolo Bypass: evidence that flood control can be compatible with fisheries, wetlands, wildlife, and agriculture. *Fisheries* 26: 6-16.

Sommer, T. R., M. L. Nobriga, W. C. Harrell, W. Batham, and W. J. Kimmerer. 2001b. Floodplain rearing of juvenile chinook salmon: evidence of enhanced growth and survival. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences* 58: 325-333.

Figure 2. Floodplain Conceptual Model



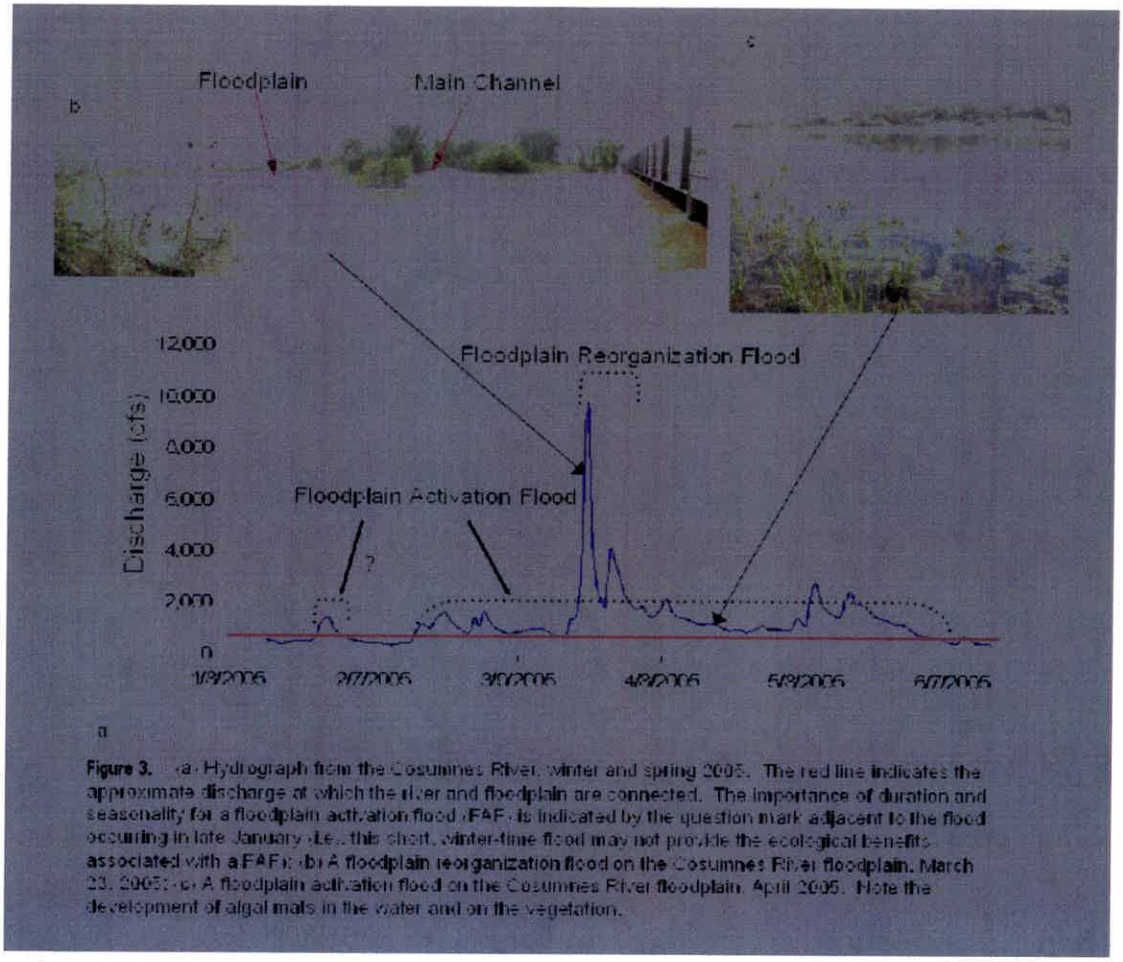


Figure 3. (a) Hydrograph from the Cosumnes River, winter and spring 2006. The red line indicates the approximate discharge at which the river and floodplain are connected. The importance of duration and seasonality for a floodplain activation flood (FAF) is indicated by the question mark adjacent to the flood occurring in late January (i.e., this short, winter-time flood may not provide the ecological benefits associated with a FAF). (b) A floodplain reorganization flood on the Cosumnes River floodplain, March 23, 2005. (c) A floodplain activation flood on the Cosumnes River floodplain, April 2005. Note the development of algal mats in the water and on the vegetation.