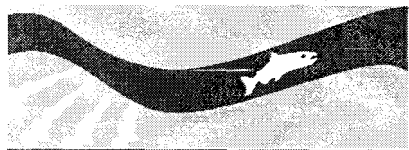


SAN JOAQUIN RIVER  
RESTORATION PROGRAM



Bureau of Reclamation  
2800 Cottage Way, MP-170  
Sacramento, Calif. 95825-1898

Department of Water Resources  
3374 E. Shields Avenue  
Sacramento, Calif. 93726-6911

**San Joaquin River Restoration Program**  
**Final Program Environmental Impact Statement/  
Environmental Impact Report**  
**Notice of Availability and Notice of Completion**

July 31, 2012

**To:** All Responsible and Trustee Agencies, Interested Parties, and Organizations

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) have prepared a joint Final Program Environmental Impact Statement/Report (PEIS/R) for the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP). The Final PEIS/R analyzes the potential environmental effects of implementing the Stipulation of Settlement (Settlement) in *NRDC, et al., v. Kirk Rodgers, et al.* Federal authorization for implementing the Settlement is provided in the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (Act) (Public Law 111-11).

Because of your expressed interest in the SJRRP and/or your official government or agency status, you are receiving this letter along with the Bureau of Reclamation's Notice of Availability (NOA) and DWR's Notice of Completion (NOC) regarding the Final PEIS/R; a bound copy of Chapters 1 and 2 of the document or the full document; and two compact discs containing the full document and related technical information used in preparation of the Final PEIS/R. The Final PEIS/R is also available on the SJRRP Web site at [www.restoresjr.net](http://www.restoresjr.net) or Reclamation's Web site at [www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa\\_projdetails.cfm?Project\\_ID=2940](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa_projdetails.cfm?Project_ID=2940).

The Final PEIS/R, which includes the entirety of the Draft PEIS/R made available for public comment on April 22, 2011, has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to respond to comments received during the agency and public review period for the Draft PEIS/R, and to present corrections, revisions, and other clarifications to the Draft PEIS/R. The Final PEIS/R presents six possible action alternatives, plus a No-Action (No-Project) Alternative, and identifies a preferred alternative.

Not less than 30 days after release of the Notice of Availability for this Final PEIS/R (40 CFR 1506.10), Reclamation will consider the proposed action and issue its Record of Decision (ROD). Not less than 10 days after providing copies of this Final PEIS/R to all commenting public agencies (Public Resources Code Section 21092.5(a)), DWR will consider certification of the PEIR and approval of the proposed project. DWR will also need to make written findings for each significant environmental effect of the SJRRP, accompanied by a brief explanation of the rationale for each finding (State CEQA

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Guidelines Section 15091); make a Statement of Overriding Considerations (State CEQA Guidelines 15093); adopt a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15097); file a Notice of Determination (State CEQA Guidelines Section 150940); and comply with other CEQA requirements for certifying an EIR and approving the project.

The SJRRP Implementing Agencies (Reclamation, DWR, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and California Department of Fish and Game) will provide informational presentations and be available to discuss thoughts, issues, concerns and information regarding the findings in the Final PEIS/R at public meetings to be held in late September, 2012, in Fresno, Los Banos and Sacramento. More information regarding the exact locations, dates, and times for the meetings will be posted on the SJRRP Web site as it becomes available.

For further information, contact Ms. Michelle Banonis, Reclamation, 2800 Cottage Way, MP-170, Sacramento, CA 95825, [mbanonis@usbr.gov](mailto:mbanonis@usbr.gov); or to Ms. Karen Dulik, Dept. of Water Resources, South Central Region Office, 3374 E. Shields Avenue, Fresno, CA 93726, [kdulik@water.ca.gov](mailto:kdulik@water.ca.gov). Additional information is also available at the SJRRP Web site, [www.restoresjr.net](http://www.restoresjr.net).

Enclosures:

Notice of Availability

Notice of Completion

Final PEIS/R and 2 compact discs

**ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE  
FROM CLERK**