

Tuolumne River Voluntary Agreement

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Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Background

- On December 12, 2018, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWB) adopted Phase 1.
- The Plan includes new and revised narrative and numeric flow and water quality objectives for the Lower San Joaquin River (LSJR) and Tuolumne River.
- SWB also recognized and encouraged ongoing negotiations between interested stakeholders and various State agencies to achieve voluntary agreements (VA).

VA Negotiations

- Tuolumne River partners have pursued a VA since 2015.
- Governor Newsom confirmed intention to complete efforts to reach VAs.
- March 29, 2022 – Several State agencies along with the State and Federal Water Contractors and many Sacramento Valley water agencies signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and term sheet.
- August 31, 2022 – Tuolumne River partners reached an agreement in principle with the State that would allow the Tuolumne River partners to become signatories to the March 29, 2022 MOU and term sheet.
- November 9, 2022 – State and Tuolumne River partners finalize and sign a Tuolumne Addendum to the March 29, 2022 MOU and term sheet.

Tuolumne River Voluntary Agreement

- TRVA Consistent with science based 2019 “TRMP”
 - Water supply reliability
 - Includes dry year off ramps
 - Compliance at La Grange Diversion Dam
 - No temperature or carryover storage requirements
 - Habitat benefits
 - Commitment to significant non-flow improvements on the Lower Tuolumne River
 - More instream flow in all water years
 - \$64M, self funded
- Key Differences
 - 8-year term with opportunity for extension
 - Flexible block of water
 - Capped additional flow contribution

Tuolumne River Voluntary Agreement (Cont.)

- Timeline
 - Winter/Spring 2023 – SWRCB notice possible amendment to the 2018 WQCP to incorporate the TRVA
 - Spring 2023
 - SWRCB issues a draft Scientific Basis Report for TRVA
 - SWRCB holds a public workshop on the TRVA
 - SWRCB accepts written comments on draft Scientific Basis Report

Tuolumne River Voluntary Agreement (Cont.)

- Fall 2023
 - Scientific Basis Report submitted for peer review
 - SWRCB issues draft Staff Report (SED) for 2018 WQCP amendment to incorporate TRVA for public review and comment
- Winter/Spring 2024
 - SWRCB issues final draft Staff Report (SED)
 - SWRCB holds workshop on TRVA
 - SWRCB considers TRVA for adoption

Next Steps

- Workgroup participation
- Continued discussions on clarifying terms.
- Begin habitat work
- Review and consideration by the SWRCB
- Stakeholder engagement
- Ongoing related litigation to continue in parallel until a final VA is approved by the Tuolumne River Partners and the SWRCB
- Any final VA to be reviewed and approved by MID Board of Directors



Questions?