

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001
(916) 653-5791



July 10, 2015

Mr. William Guthrie
Senior Project Manager, Sacramento Office
Regulatory Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
1325 J Street, Suite 1350
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Revised Aquatic and Terrestrial Biological Assessments, pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, for the West False River Emergency Drought Barrier Project (SPK-2014-00187)

Dear Mr. Guthrie:

On May 4, 2015, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) received authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, to construct the West False River Emergency Drought Barrier Project (Project) (SPK-2014-00187). In order to assist USACE's Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 consultation with NMFS and USFWS, DWR has revised the aquatic and terrestrial biological assessments (BAs). The revised BAs document installation of the rock barrier and associated affects to federally listed species. The revised BAs also document anticipated removal activities and associated affects to federally listed species. The revised BAs comply with Chapter 8 (Emergency Consultation) of the Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998 requirements.

We look forward to working with you to complete ESA Section 7 consultation. If you have questions, need further information, or DWR can provide assistance with the permitting process, please contact, me, at jacob.mcquirk@water.ca.gov or 916-653-9883.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacob McQuirk".

Jacob McQuirk
Supervising Engineer
West False River Emergency Drought Barrier Project

Enclosures

Mr. William Guthrie

July 10, 2015

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cc: Kim Squires
Section 7 Coordinator
US Fish and Wildlife Service
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Sacramento, California, 95814

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