

2015 DROUGHT WATER PROJECT OPERATIONS



MARCH 19, 2015

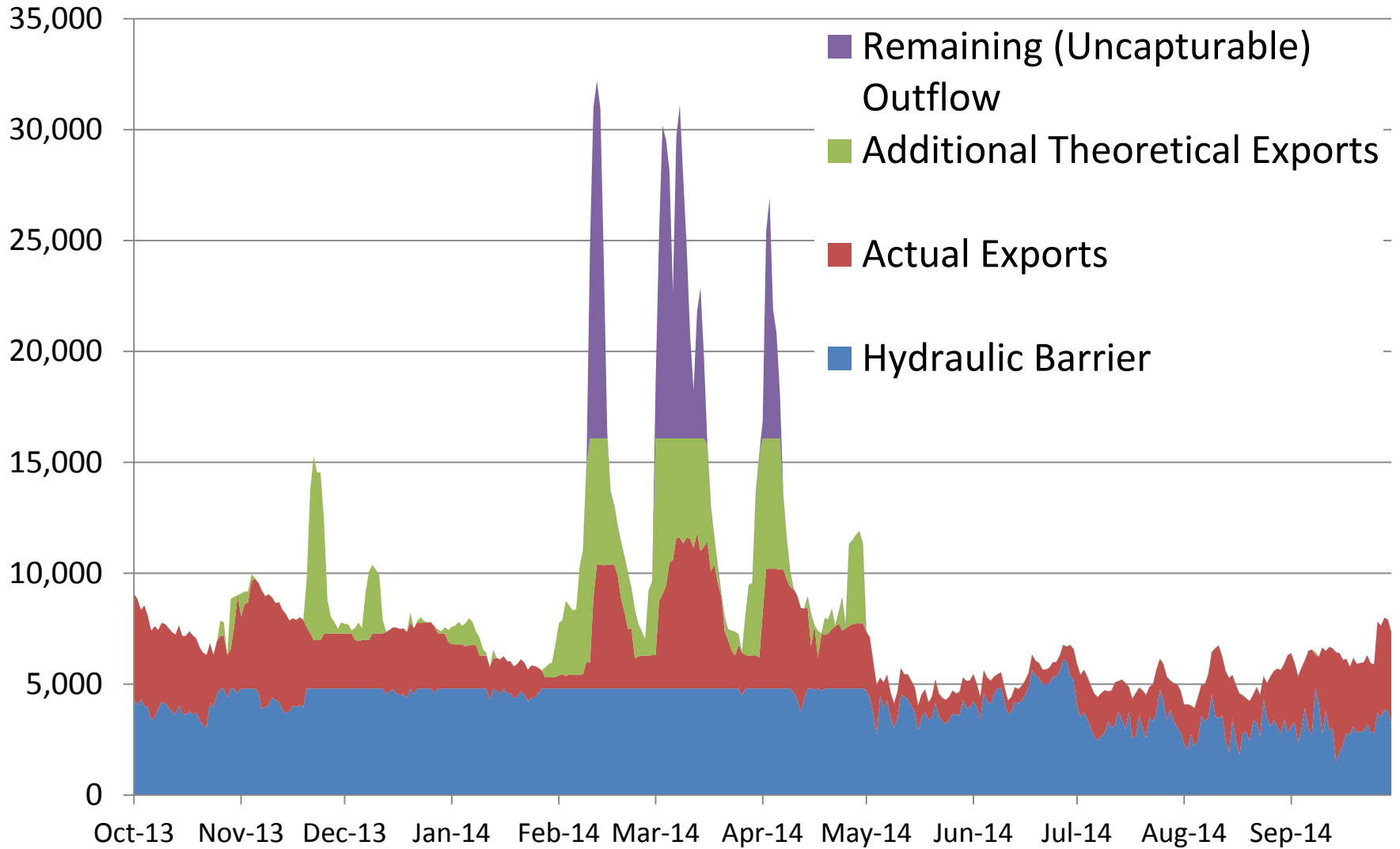
Lessons from 2014- Impacts on People

- Direct costs to ag totaled \$1.5 billion
 - 3% of state's total ag value
- Total economic costs of drought \$2.2 billion
- Loss of 17,100 jobs
 - 3.8% of farm employment
- 428,000 acres out of production (5%) in Central Valley, Central Coast & Southern California
- Central Valley, Tulare Basin hardest hit
 - \$800 mil in lost revenue & \$447 mil added pumping cost

Lessons from 2014- Impacts on the Ecosystem

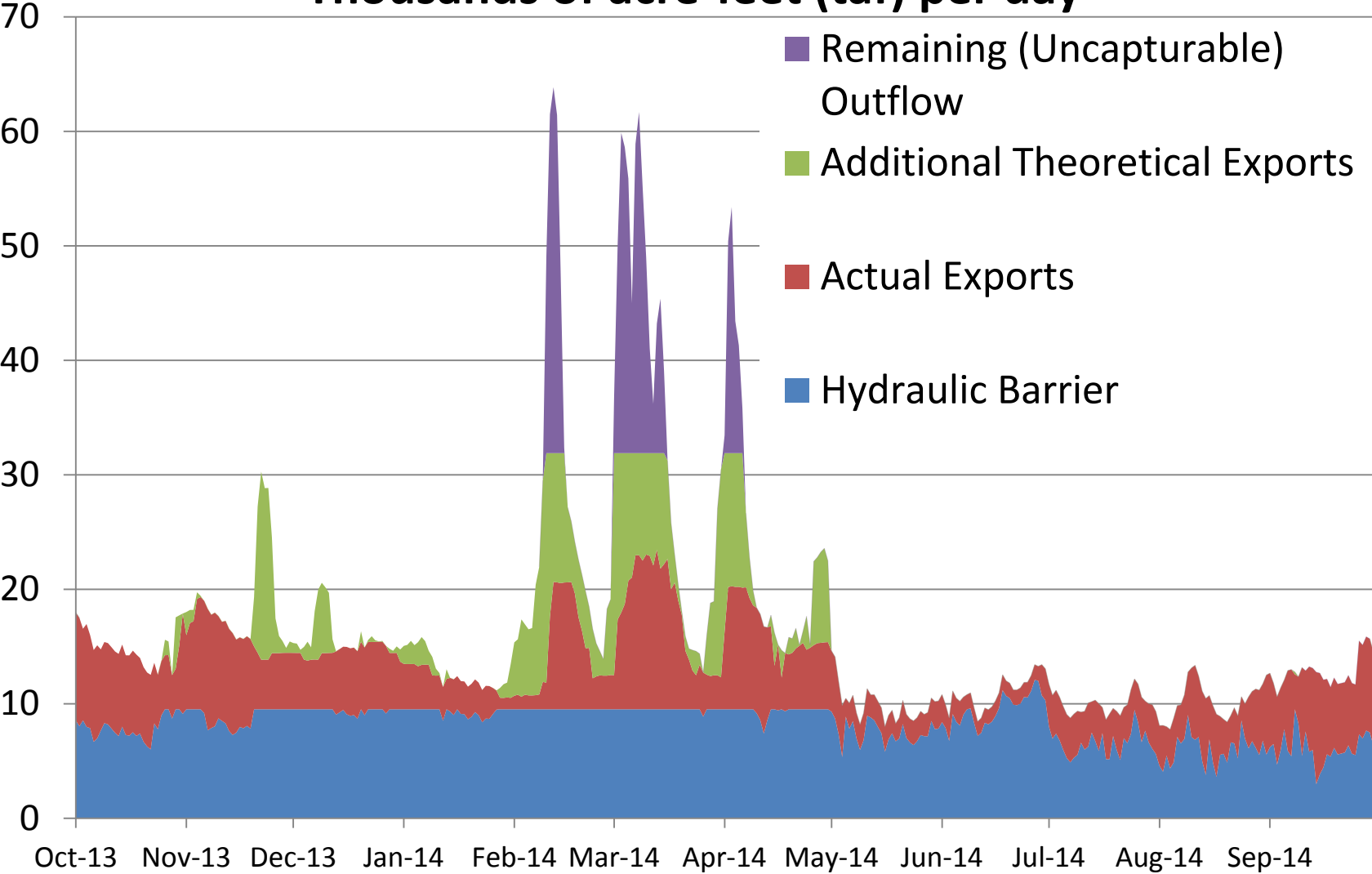
- 95% winter-run mortality due to high temp
- High spring-run mortality due to high temp
- Delta smelt at lowest level on record
- Longfin smelt at 2nd lowest level on record
- Striped bass, American shad, threadfin shad population indices at near record lows
- Potential impacts to commercial and recreational fishing, recreation, etc.

2014 Delta Outflow, Export, & Salinity Control (cfs)

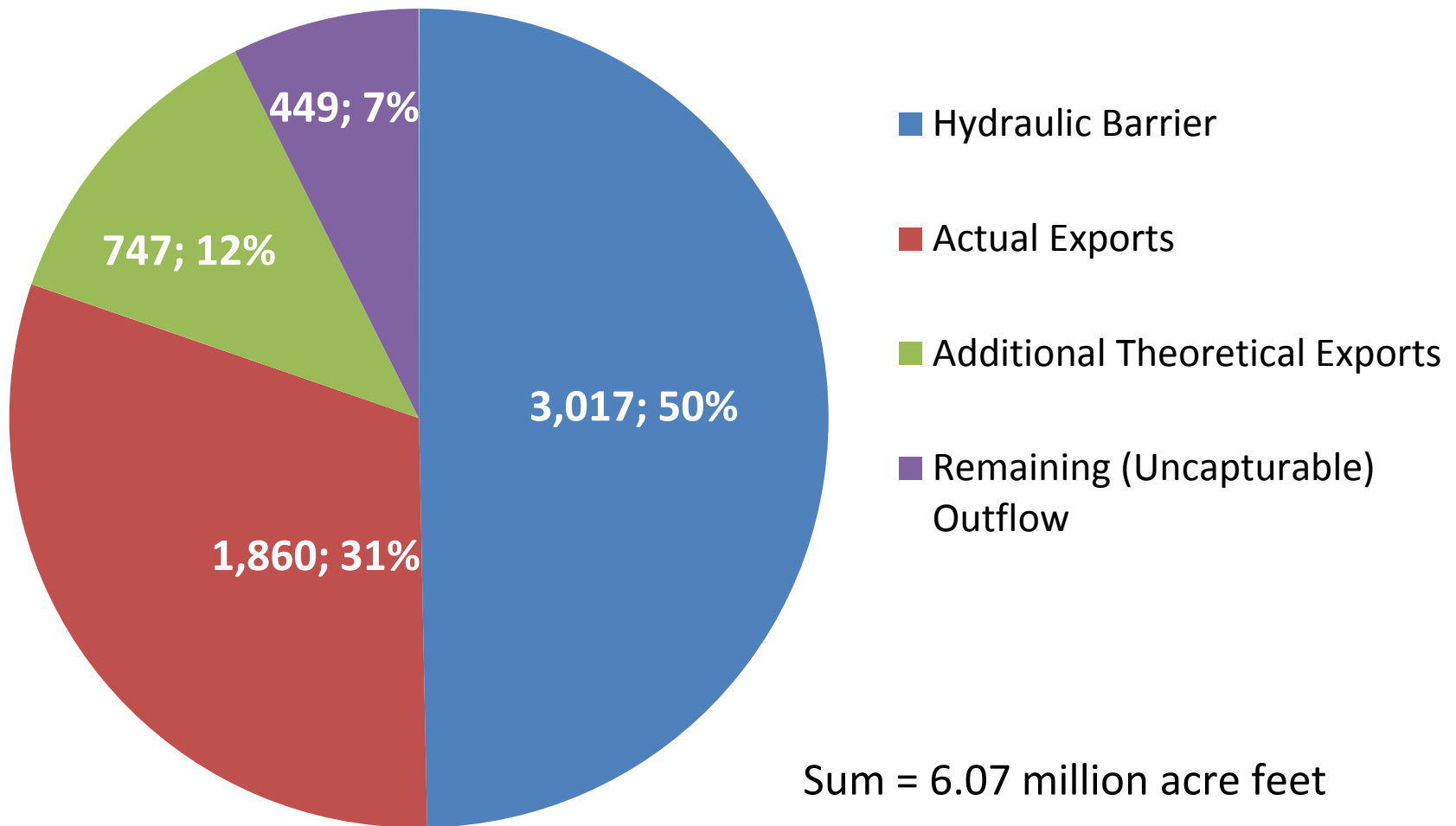


2014 Delta Outflow, Export, & Salinity Control

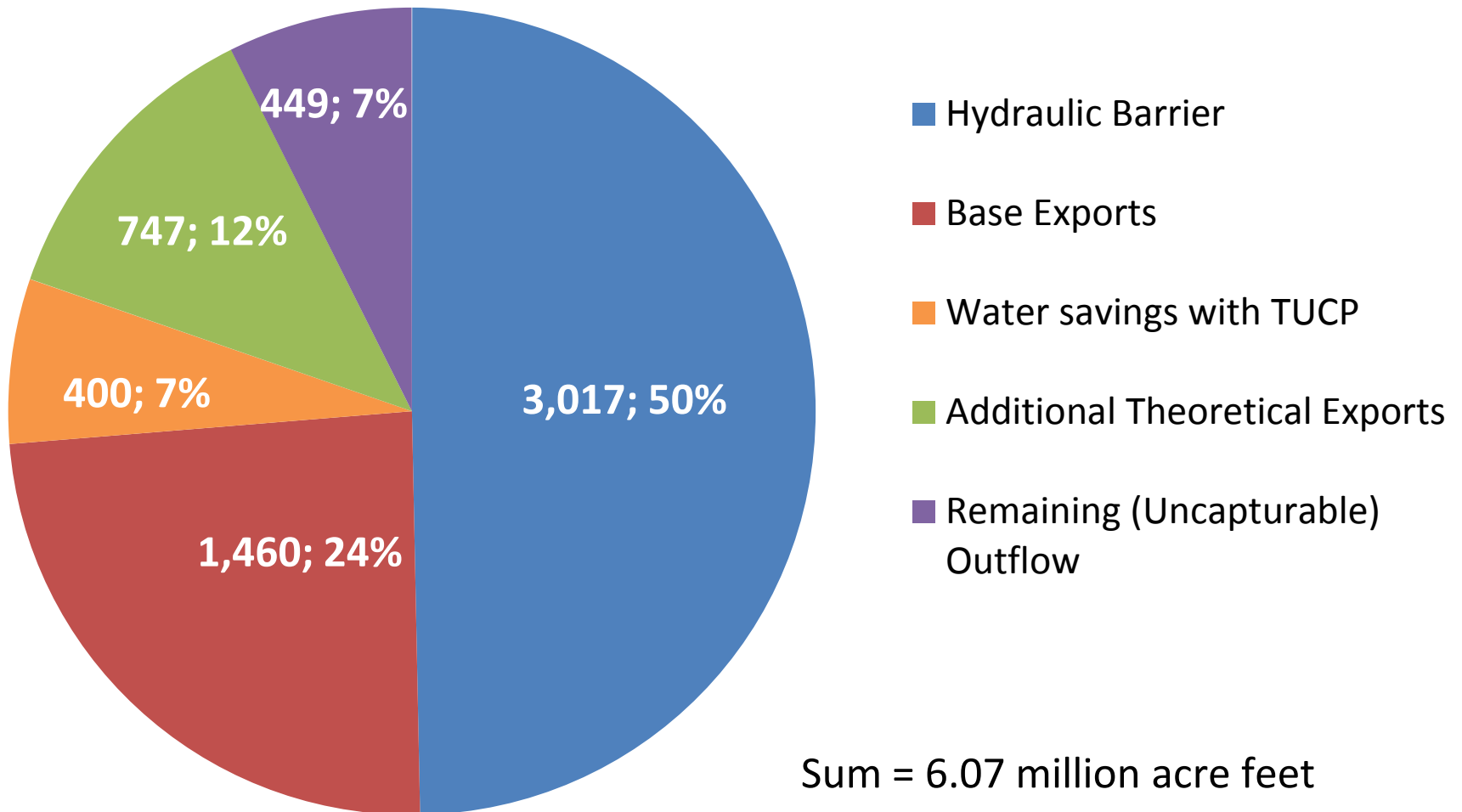
Thousands of acre-feet (taf) per day



2014 Delta Outflow, Exports, & Salinity Control (taf)



2014 Delta Outflow, Exports, & Salinity Control (taf)



Drought Contingency Plan

- Prepared by Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) & Department of Water Resources (DWR)
- Required by Board Order 2014-0029 on petitions for reconsideration & objections
- Received by Board on Jan. 15, 2015
- Purpose: Identify and justify future operations during drought

2015 TUCP Request

- Submitted January 23 to modify Decision 1641 (D-1641) Water Right Terms
- Requested changes for February and March:
 - DCC Gate Closures
 - SJR Flows
 - Delta Outflows
 - Export Limits
 - Potential future requests
- Conditionally approved February 3
- Order Modified March 5

January TUCP

- 2015 TUCP includes same requests as last year with added tiered export level
 - Outflow = 5,500 to 7,099 exports up to 3,500
- Tiered exports not approved in February 3 Order

Required TUCP Findings

- Urgent need to make the changes
- No injury to other lawful user of water
- No unreasonable effect on fish, wildlife, or other instream beneficial uses
- Changes are in the public interest

March 5 Executive Director Order

- Conditionally approves mid-step exports (with lower delta outflows); conditioned upon health and safety use
- Transfers not limited by Delta outflow / exports limits
- Conserved water shall be used in conformance with 2015 Drought Contingency Plan

Benefits of TUCP Approval

- Multiple benefits to non-consumptive uses
 - Reservoir storage (supply, recreation, fish)
 - Temperature control (fish, fishing)
 - Downstream flows (recreation, fish etc.)

Benefits of TUCP Approval cont.

- Multiple benefits to consumptive uses
- Benefits to those with the lowest water right priority still receiving water
 - New Melones: SEWD, OID/SSJID
 - Shasta/Folsom: CVP exporters, Friant contractors, refuges, potentially settlement contractors
 - Oroville: SWP exporters, potentially settlement contractors
 - Water Markets- transfers, exchanges

Comments on TUCP

- More than 56 comment letters, objections, petitions for reconsideration prior to February 18 workshop; more than 20 comments after
- Commenters include:
 - Elected representatives
 - The general public
 - Water agencies
 - Non-governmental organizations
 - Other agencies

Next Steps

- Executive Director Order end of March for changes needed in April and the rest of the year
- Executive Director Order in April in the event that Delta barriers are needed to control salinity
- Board Order to respond to petitions and objections

Additional Information

- State Water Board Drought Webpage:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/drought/index.shtml
 - Covers State Water Board Drought Year Water Actions

Future Updates

- To receive future updates sign up to receive emails online at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/

- Select “State Water Resources Control Board”
- Enter email address and full name
- Under Categories, select “Water Rights”
- Select box for “Drought Updates”
- Click “Subscribe” button at top

Questions or Comments

