

Presented to the DRBC Regulated Flow Advisory Committee on September 28, 2017. Contents should not be published or re-posted in whole or in part without the permission of DRBC.

Proposed New Program

**Regulated Flow
Advisory Committee
September 28, 2017**

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Program Summary

- Two-part, ten-year (plus) agreement that meets multiple objectives of basin
- Begins on signature (in midst of water year)
 - first part ends May 31, 2023
 - second part ends May 31, 2028
- Broad compromises involving all Decree Parties
- Responds more fully to public inputs and commentary

Flows and Diversions

- Montague flow targets same as 2016 (indexed to storage conditions)
- Trenton flow targets same as 2016 (based on storage and salinity positioning)
- NYC diversions same as 2016 in normal and drought conditions
- NJ diversions same as 2016 in normal and drought conditions

IERQ Banks

- Establishes 10 BG Interim Excess Release Quantity allocated to 4 water banks
 - 6.09 BG for the Trenton Equivalent Flow Objective
 - 1.62 BG for mitigation of water temperature spikes
 - 0.65 BG for mitigation of rapid recession (“yo-yo”) water releases
 - 1.65 BG to support NJ diversion during drought conditions
 - Preserves ability to reallocate any bank to an Extraordinary Needs Bank, if needed
- Allocates some Forecast Available Water (FAW) to offset the NJ diversion during drought condition

Reservoir Releases and Public Participation

- Discharge Mitigation
 - Increases voids for portion of year (15% rather than 10%)
 - CSSO applicable year round
- Requires focused studies to resolve outstanding issues with opportunities for public comment
- Opportunity for public comment during development of thermal release and rapid recession (“yo-yo”) amelioration guidance documents

Focused studies and evaluations

First 5 years:

- Detachment of releases from salt-front location during drought emergency with incorporation of projected sea-level rise in modeling scenarios
- NJ diversion during droughts
- Availability of storage for the lower basin

Second 5-years:

- Identify and stipulate method for computing the Excess Release Quantity

Additional topics possible based on adaptive management priorities and public comment and/or input

Next Steps

- Continue agency negotiations and legal review; refine and prepare for signatures.
- Prepare study plans (scope, timelines, milestones)
- Conduct studies
- Contingent on satisfactory progress during first 5-year plan, agree to second 5-year portion by May 31, 2023