



## Updated 2018 Restoration Allocation & Default Flow Schedule

March 16, 2018

### Introduction

The following transmits the updated 2018 Restoration Allocation and Default Flow Schedule to the Restoration Administrator for the San Joaquin River Restoration Program (SJRRP), consistent with the Restoration Flows Guidelines (version 2.0, February 2017). This Restoration Allocation and Default Flow Schedule provides the following:

- Forecasted water year Unimpaired Inflow: the estimated flows that would occur absent regulation on the river. This value is also known as the “Natural River” or “Unimpaired Runoff” or “Full Natural Flow,” and is utilized to identify the Water Year Type.
- Hydrograph Volumes: the annual allocation hydrograph based on water year unimpaired inflow, utilizing the Method 3.1 with the Gamma Pathway (RFG-Appendix C, Figure C-3) agreed to by the Parties in December 2008.
- Default Flow Schedule: the schedule of Restoration Flows in the absence of a recommendation from the Restoration Administrator.
- Additional Allocations: the hypothetical Restoration Allocations that would result from 10%, 50%, 75%, and 90% probability of exceedance Unimpaired Inflow forecast.
- Unreleased Restoration Flows: the amount of Restoration Flows not released due to channel capacity constraints and without delaying completion of Phase 1 improvements.
- Flow targets at Gravelly Ford: the flows at the head of Reach 2, and estimated scheduled releases from Friant Dam adjusted for the assumed Holding Contract demands and losses in Exhibit B.
- Restoration Budget: the volumes for the annual allocation, spring flexible flow, base flow, riparian recruitment, and fall flexible flow.
- Remaining Flexible Flow Volume: the volume of Restoration Flows released and the remaining volume available for flexible scheduling.
- Operational Constraints: the flow release limitations based on downstream channel capacity, regulatory, or legal constraints.

Consistent with Paragraph 18 of the Settlement, the Restoration Administrator shall make recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior concerning the manner in which the hydrographs shall be implemented. As described in the Restoration Flow Guidelines (Guidelines), the Restoration Administrator is requested to recommend a flow schedule showing

the use of the entire annual allocation during the upcoming Restoration Year, categorize all recommended flows by account, and recommend both an unconstrained and a capacity limited recommendation. If an unconstrained recommendation and a capacity limited recommendation are not provided by the Restoration Administrator, the Default Flow Schedule without constraints (Table 5a) and the Default Flow Schedule with constraints (Table 5b) will be used respectively.

## **Forecasted Unimpaired Inflow**

Unimpaired Inflow represents the natural water production of a river basin, unaltered by upstream diversions, storage, or by export or import of water to or from other watersheds. It is calculated for the period of a Water Year. The forecast of the Unimpaired Inflow determines the volume of Restoration Flows available for the Restoration Year (i.e. the Restoration Allocation). Information for forecasting the Unimpaired Inflow primarily includes:

- Reclamation estimate of Unimpaired Inflow (i.e. Natural River or Full Natural Flow) into Millerton Lake to support the water supply allocation<sup>1</sup>;
- The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Bulletin 120 latest update for San Joaquin River inflow to Millerton Lake Unimpaired Flow, and/or the most current DWR Bulletin Water Supply Index (WSI)<sup>3</sup>;
- The National Weather Service (NWS) Ensemble Streamflow Prediction (ESP) Water Supply Forecast for the San Joaquin River at Millerton Lake<sup>5</sup>.

Table 1 shows the water year 2018 (October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018) observed accumulated and forecasted water year Unimpaired Inflows at Millerton Lake. This table includes the published DWR forecast, the DWR forecast adjusted for expected runoff for the current month, the NWS forecast with and without a 7-day smoothing function applied to remove the day-to-day variance, and finally the NWS forecast with 7-day smoothing and adjusted for expected runoff for the current month. Figure 1a plots DWR and NWS forecast values over the entire water year, while Figure 1b shows the most recent period in detail.

**Table 1 — San Joaquin River Water Year Actuals and Forecasts at Millerton Lake**

|   | Forecast Exceedance Percentile |                      |           |                      |           |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
|   | 90%                            | 75%                  | 50%       | 25%                  | 10%       |
| Accumulated “Natural River” Unimpaired Inflow, February 14, 2018 <sup>1</sup> | 199.5 TAF                      |                      |           |                      |           |
| Accumulated Unimpaired Inflow as percent of normal                            | 49%                            |                      |           |                      |           |
| Total Unimpaired Inflow projected to end of water year <sup>2</sup>           | N/A                            |                      |           |                      |           |
| DWR, March 15, 2018 <sup>3</sup><br>(Published Value)                         | 720 TAF                        | 808 TAF <sup>7</sup> | 895 TAF   | 988 TAF <sup>7</sup> | 1,080 TAF |
| DWR, March 15, 2018 <sup>4</sup><br>(Runoff Adjusted)                         | 749 TAF                        | 825 TAF <sup>7</sup> | 900 TAF   | 979 TAF <sup>7</sup> | 1,060 TAF |
| NWS, March 15, 2018<br>(Published Daily Value <sup>5</sup> )                  | 931 TAF                        | 1,030 TAF            | 1,170 TAF | 1,360 TAF            | 1,820 TAF |
| Smoothed NWS, March 15, 2018<br>(7-day Smoothing <sup>6</sup> )               | 876 TAF                        | 993 TAF              | 1,141 TAF | 1,374 TAF            | 1,845 TAF |
| Smoothed NWS, March 15, 2018<br>(Runoff Adjusted <sup>4</sup> )               | 889 TAF                        | 997 TAF              | 1,134 TAF | 1,345 TAF            | 1,799 TAF |

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/cvo/vungvari/milfln.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Projected value only presented from May through September; based on USBR-SCCAO runoff regression method

<sup>3</sup> B120: <http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/iudir?s=b120>, or B120 Update: [http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/iudir\\_ss/b120up](http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/iudir_ss/b120up), or WSI: <http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/iudir/WSI.2017>

<sup>4</sup> The adjusted data has been updated with the actual unimpaired inflow through the current date and projected out for the remainder of the month.

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/water\\_resources\\_update.php?stn\\_id=FRAC1&stn\\_id2=FRAC1&product=WaterYear](http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/water_resources_update.php?stn_id=FRAC1&stn_id2=FRAC1&product=WaterYear)

<sup>6</sup> The NWS smoothed data uses a 7-day triangular weighted moving average, where the most recent day (n) is given greater weight than each previous forecast day (n-1, 2, 3, etc.); this reduces noise stemming from ESP model input. The following formula is used:  $((Forecast_n * 1) + (Forecast_{n-1} * 0.857) + (Forecast_{n-2} * 0.714) + (Forecast_{n-3} * 0.571) + (Forecast_{n-4} * 0.429) + (Forecast_{n-5} * 0.286) + (Forecast_{n-6} * 0.143)) / 4$

<sup>7</sup> These are interpolated values as the complete DWR forecast was not available at the time of issuance.

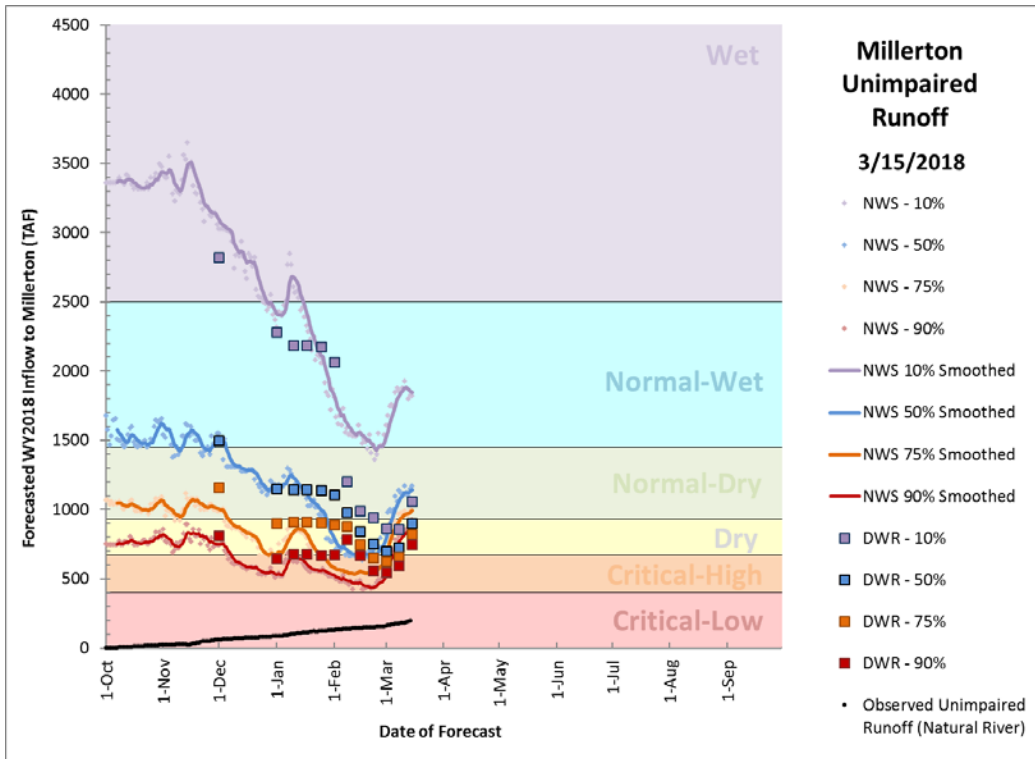


Figure 1a — Plot of 2018 Water Year forecasts, including both NWS Ensemble Streamflow Prediction Forecasts and DWR Forecasts

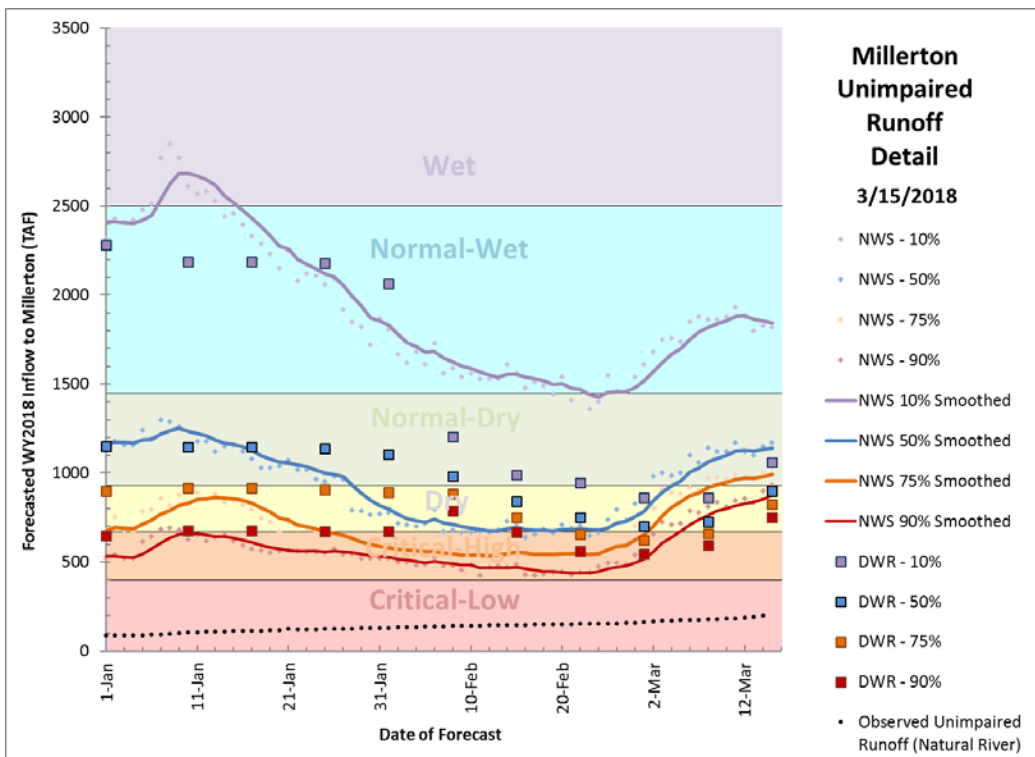


Figure 1b — Detail plot of most recent forecasts

With the available information, there is increased confidence in the current snowpack volume and distribution. The month of March is trending wetter than normal, and there remains a possibility that hydrologic conditions will catch up to median or near-median conditions.

Snow course measurements in the San Joaquin were mostly collected before the significant storm event of early March, and thus have little bearing upon the current condition. A few high elevation snow courses were sampled after the storm, and indicated a significant increase. This near-tripling of snowpack was confirmed by other rainfall and snow pillow stations, and measurements at Mammoth Mountain ski area.

With the most recent forecast updates, we have seen the DWR B120 and the NWS ESP forecasts converge. As is typical, the DWR is now the lower estimate among the two; for much of the year the DWR forecast was higher than the NWS. Also, as is common during and before significant storm events, the NWS forecast gives an even higher estimate due to its forward-looking model. The DWR forecast spread between the 90% and the 10% is much lower than previous years before the new statistical procedures were implemented. There is now confidence that the current hydrologic setting is bracketed by the two forecasts.

Conditions over the next 10-days are forecast to be wet, with a possible atmospheric river forecast for the March 21-23 time frame. By giving weight to the NWS forecast in the blending process, this allocation incorporates some, but not all, of the expected precipitation over the next several days.

NASA Airborne Snow Observatory survey flights from March 5 and 6 are available for a portion of the watershed. From this subbasin observation, we can extrapolate to the entire watershed with an estimated 550 TAF of snowpack SWE as of March 6. The expected runoff from this snowpack, plus baseflow and observed runoff to date, plus expected runoff from precipitation between March 6 and March 15, plus a very conservative estimate of future precipitation and associated runoff, results in a projected minimum unimpaired inflow in excess of 700 TAF. In support of this estimate, an experimental San Joaquin snowpack report by Agriculture Research Service on March 14 depicts basin-wide SWE of 580 TAF (this estimate captures the snow accumulated between March 6 and March 14). These two data products support other measurements and assumptions that have been made over the last few weeks, and provide confidence in the absolute lower bounds of unimpaired inflow for the water year. There is very high confidence that WY2018 unimpaired inflow will be above the threshold dividing Critical-High and Dry water year types.

## Combining Forecasts

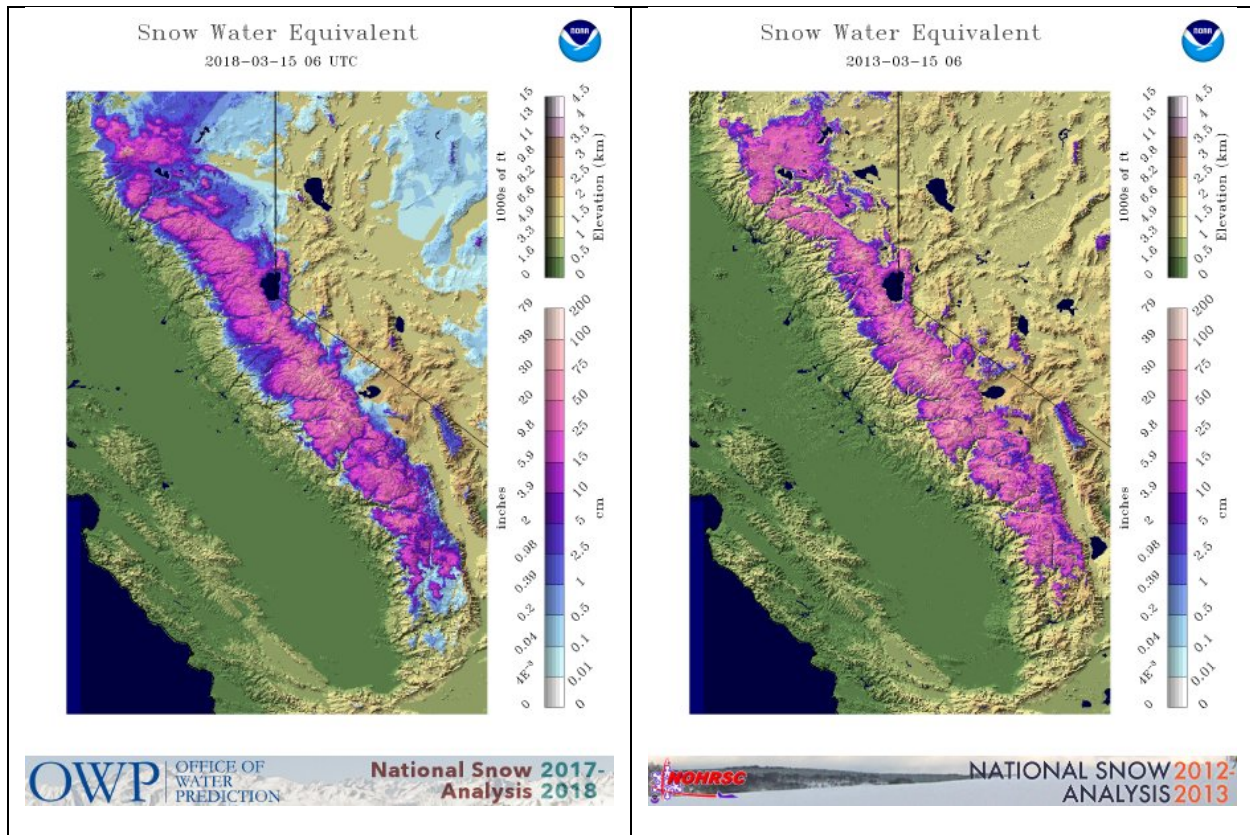
Staff from the South-Central California Area Office of Reclamation and SJRRP jointly track and evaluate the accuracy of runoff forecasts. Based on the age of these forecasts, the short-term and long-term weather forecasts, the climatological outlook, observed Unimpaired Inflow, and other available information, a hybrid forecast is generated. The weighting of the different components is regularly evaluated and selected using professional judgment and the best available information. **For the current allocation, the DWR “runoff adjusted” and NWS “smoothed runoff adjusted” forecasts are combined with a 40/60 blending respectively.** This results in the Hybrid Unimpaired Inflow Forecasts shown in Table 2.

**Table 2 — Current Blending and Hybrid Unimpaired Inflow Forecast**

|   | Forecast Probability of Exceedance using blending |     |      |      |      |
|---|---|-----|------|------|------|
|   | 90%   | 75% | 50%  | 25%  | 10%  |
| Blending Ratio                          | 40/60   |     |      |      |      |
| Hybrid Unimpaired Inflow Forecast (TAF) | 833   | 928 | 1040 | 1198 | 1504 |

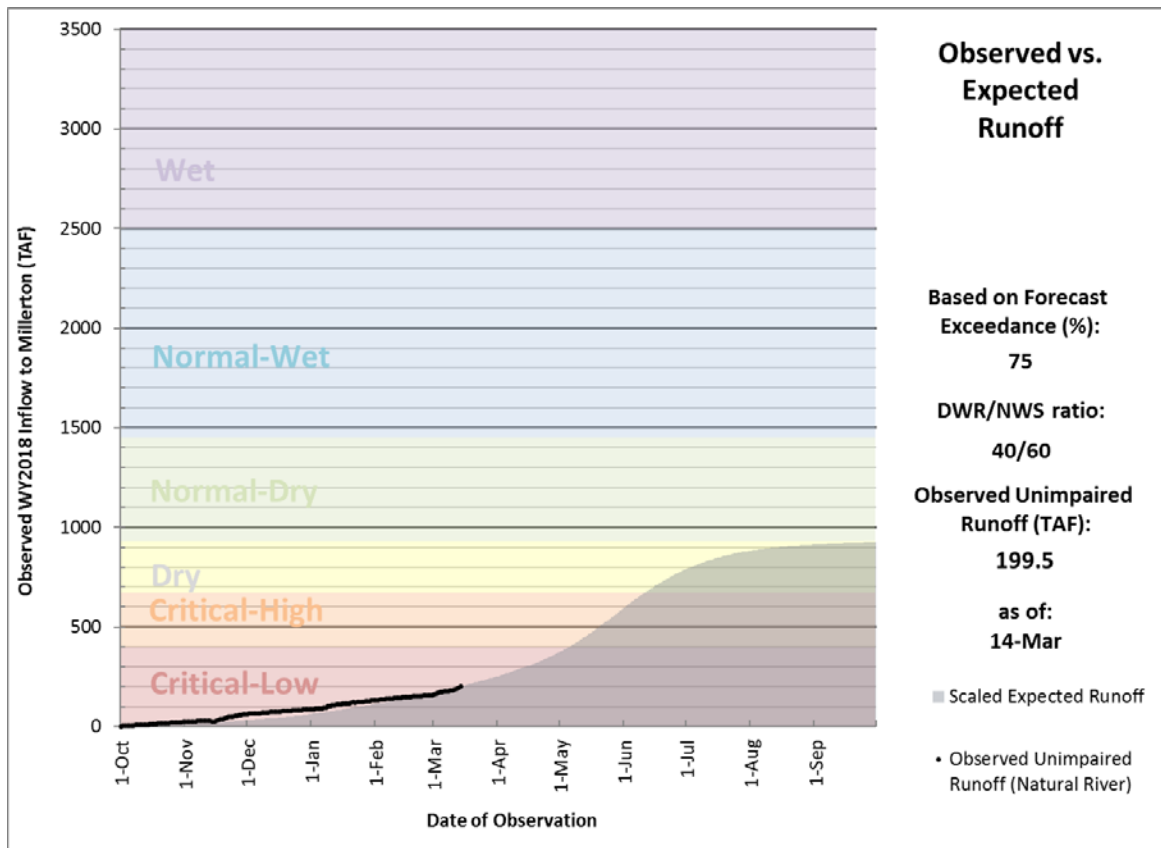
This 40/60 blending is chosen based on the historic performance of the DWR and NWS forecasts at this time of the year, the accuracy of these forecasts in predicting monthly unimpaired inflow over the recent months, the overall climate outlook for the remaining wet season, ASO measurements, snowpack models, and other forecast performance factors. The DWR weekly B120 update available on March 15 now incorporates the significant storm on March 1-4. Only one modest storm with precipitation across the watershed of 1-2” of water content was excluded from this forecast update.

Snow covered area now extends much lower in elevation, down to 4,000’ in the San Joaquin on March 5, with melt reducing areal coverage since that time. Snow water equivalent data from the National Snow Analysis is presented in Figure 2, comparing March 15, 2018 with the same date in 2013. WY 2013 is the most recent “Dry” water year type in the San Joaquin on record, with an observed natural river of 857 TAF.



**Figure 2 — Comparison of Snow Water Equivalent in the National Snow Analysis (NOHRSC) in the San Joaquin Watershed, with March 15, 2018 (left) and March 15, 2013 (right).**

Figure 3 traces the observed runoff and compares it to the expected runoff at the 75% exceedance hybrid forecast. As one can see from the plot, observed runoff is tracking nearly in unison with the scaled runoff pattern. Wet antecedent conditions from the near-record 2017 water year carried excess runoff into the 2018 water year. As the remaining water year develops, it will be important to track the trend in the observed runoff, as this will help verify runoff forecasts.



**Figure 3 — Observed Unimpaired Inflow trace shown with 30-year average Unimpaired Inflow curve scaled to the current hybrid forecast value**



## Restoration Allocation

As per the current Guidelines, the **75% exceedance** forecast is used for the allocation under current hydrologic conditions to set the Restoration Flow Allocation. Table 3 below, from the Guidelines version 2.0, depicts the progression of forecast exceedance used to set the Restoration Allocation.

**Table 3 — Guidance on Percent Exceedance Forecast to Use for Allocation**

|                         | Value (TAF)  | Date of Allocation Issuance |          |       |       |     |      |
|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|
|                         |              | January                     | February | March | April | May | June |
| If the 50% forecast is: | Above 2200   | 50                          | 50       | 50    | 50    | 50  | 50   |
|                         | 1100 to 2200 | 75                          | 75       | 50    | 50    | 50  | 50   |
|                         | 900 to 1099  | 75                          | 75       | 75    | 50    | 50  | 50   |
|                         | 700 to 899   | 90                          | 90       | 75    | 50    | 50  | 50   |
|                         | 500 to 699   | 90                          | 90       | 75    | 50    | 50  | 50   |
|                         | Below 500    | 90                          | 90       | 90    | 90    | 75  | 50   |

Applying the 40/60 forecast blending determined by Reclamation, and using the 75% exceedance forecast dictated by the Guidelines, Reclamation calculates an **Unimpaired Inflow hybrid forecast of 928 TAF** and a **Dry Water Year Type**. This provides a **Restoration Allocation of 212.908 Thousand Acre-Feet (TAF)** as measured at Gravelly Ford (GRF). Combined with Holding Contracts on the San Joaquin River, this equates to a **Friant Dam Release of 329.854 TAF**. Future updates to these forecasts and their blending will alter the Restoration Allocation multiple times before it is finalized at the end of June. Other hypothetical allocations are presented in Table 4 as grayed values, and indicate the range of probable forecasts and the resultant Restoration Allocation.

**Table 4 — SJRRP Water Year Type and Allocation for 2018 Restoration Year Shown with Other Hypothetical Values in Gray**

|   | Forecast Probability of Exceedance using proposed blending |                |            |            |            |
|---|--|----------------|------------|------------|------------|
|   | 90%  | 75%            | 50%        | 25%        | 10%        |
| Hybrid Unimpaired Inflow Forecast (TAF) | 833  | <b>928</b>     | 1040       | 1198       | 1504       |
| Water Year Type                         | Dry  | <b>Dry</b>     | Normal-Dry | Normal-Dry | Normal-Wet |
| Restoration Allocation at GRF (TAF)     | 191.709  | <b>212.908</b> | 228.162    | 249.431    | 290.920    |
| Friant Dam Flow Releases (TAF)          | 308.654  | <b>329.854</b> | 345.108    | 366.377    | 407.865    |

Reclamation will issue updates to the Restoration Allocation based on changing hydrology as needed through the coming months and will finalize the allocation based on the hydrologic conditions present on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Thus, the Restoration Allocation may increase or decrease, potentially substantially, over this period of time.

## Default Flow Schedule

The Default Flow Schedule, known as Exhibit B in the Settlement, identifies how Reclamation will schedule the Restoration Allocation for the current Water Year Type and Unimpaired Inflow volume absent a recommendation from the Restoration Administrator. The Guidelines provide detail on how a Default Flow Schedule is derived from the allocation volume. This approved method of distributing water throughout the year is referred to as “Method 3.1 with the gamma pathway.”

### *Exhibit B Method 3.1 Default Hydrograph*

Table 5a shows the Exhibit B Method 3.1 default hydrograph flows and corresponding Restoration Allocation volumes for the entire year absent channel capacity constraints, including total releases from Friant Dam and Restoration Flows releases in excess of Holding Contracts.

Table 5b shows the Exhibit B Method 3.1 default hydrograph volumes with operational constraints, primarily controlled by a 1,210 cfs channel constraint in Reach 2B. This default hydrograph depicted in Table 5b will be implemented in the absence of a specific recommendation by the Restoration Administrator. Due to levee stability related channel capacity constraints in Reach 2B that constrain Friant Dam releases, a Restoration Flow volume of **0 TAF** is generated that is not scheduled in the constrained Default Flow Schedule and would become Unreleased Restoration Flows (URFs) under the default hydrograph. This is an estimated volume of water, actual URF volumes will depend on the Restoration Administrator Recommendation and real-time assessment of groundwater seepage channel constraints.

**Table 5a — Default Hydrograph**

| Flow Period                 | Flow (cfs)         |                                |                    |                         | Volume (TAF)       |                         |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
|                             | Friant Dam Release | Holding Contracts <sup>8</sup> | Flow Target at GRF | Restoration Flow at GRF | Friant Dam Release | Restoration Flow at GRF |
| Mar 1 – Mar 15              | 500                | 130                            | 375                | 370                     | 14.876             | 11.008                  |
| Mar 16 – Mar 31             | 1500               | 130                            | 1375               | 1370                    | 47.603             | 43.478                  |
| Apr 1 – Apr 15              | 1310               | 150                            | 1165               | 1169                    | 38.978             | 34.515                  |
| Apr 16 – Apr 30             | 350                | 150                            | 205                | 200                     | 10.413             | 5.950                   |
| May 1 – Jun 30 <sup>9</sup> | 350                | 190                            | 165                | 160                     | 42.347             | 19.359                  |
| Jul 1 – Aug 31              | 350                | 230                            | 125                | 120                     | 43.041             | 14.757                  |
| Sep 1 – Sep 30              | 350                | 210                            | 145                | 140                     | 20.826             | 8.331                   |
| Oct 1 – Oct 31              | 350                | 160                            | 195                | 190                     | 21.521             | 11.683                  |
| Nov 1 – Nov 6               | 700                | 130                            | 575                | 570                     | 8.331              | 6.783                   |
| Nov 7 – Nov 10              | 700                | 120                            | 575                | 570                     | 5.554              | 4.522                   |
| Nov 11 – Dec 31             | 350                | 120                            | 235                | 230                     | 35.405             | 23.266                  |
| Jan 1 – Feb 28              | 350                | 100                            | 255                | 250                     | 40.959             | 29.256                  |
| <b>Totals</b>               |                    |                                |                    |                         | <b>329.854</b>     | <b>212.908</b>          |

**Table 5b — Default Hydrograph with Channel Constraints**

| Flow Period                 | Flow (cfs)         |                                |                    |                         | Volume (TAF)       |                         |                       |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|                             | Friant Dam Release | Holding Contracts <sup>7</sup> | Flow Target at GRF | Restoration Flow at GRF | Friant Dam Release | Restoration Flow at GRF | URF <sup>8</sup>      |
| Mar 1 – Mar 15              | 500                | 130                            | 375                | 370                     | 14.876             | 11.008                  | 0                     |
| Mar 16 – Mar 31             | 1500               | 130                            | 1375               | 1370                    | 47.603             | 43.478                  | 0                     |
| Apr 1 – Apr 15              | 1310               | 150                            | 1165               | 1169                    | 38.978             | 34.515                  | 0                     |
| Apr 16 – Apr 30             | 350                | 150                            | 205                | 200                     | 10.413             | 5.950                   | 0                     |
| May 1 – Jun 30 <sup>9</sup> | 350                | 190                            | 165                | 160                     | 42.347             | 19.359                  | 0                     |
| Jul 1 – Aug 31              | 350                | 230                            | 125                | 120                     | 43.041             | 14.757                  | 0                     |
| Sep 1 – Sep 30              | 350                | 210                            | 145                | 140                     | 20.826             | 8.331                   | 0                     |
| Oct 1 – Oct 31              | 350                | 160                            | 195                | 190                     | 21.521             | 11.683                  | 0                     |
| Nov 1 – Nov 6               | 700                | 130                            | 575                | 570                     | 8.331              | 6.783                   | 0                     |
| Nov 7 – Nov 10              | 700                | 120                            | 575                | 570                     | 5.554              | 4.522                   | 0                     |
| Nov 11 – Dec 31             | 350                | 120                            | 235                | 230                     | 35.405             | 23.266                  | 0                     |
| Jan 1 – Feb 28              | 350                | 100                            | 255                | 250                     | 40.959             | 29.256                  | 0                     |
| <b>Totals</b>               |                    |                                |                    |                         | <b>329.854</b>     | <b>212.908</b>          | <b>0 <sup>8</sup></b> |

<sup>7</sup> In recent years, Holding Contract demands have been higher than assumed under Exhibit B of the Settlement, in which case, flows at Friant are increased to achieve the Gravelly Ford Flow Target.

<sup>8</sup> This estimate of URF volume is based solely on Reach 2B channel capacity. Other flow and seepage constraints throughout the restoration area may result in higher actual URFs and is dependent on the Restoration Administrator's recommendation.

<sup>9</sup> Riparian Recruitment releases in Wet Water Year Types are included in the May 1 – June 30 flow period

### ***Exhibit B Restoration Flow Budget***

Table 6 shows the components of the restoration budget for March 1, 2018, through February 28, 2019 (i.e. the Restoration Year). The base flow allocation, spring flexible flow, fall flexible flow, and riparian recruitment flow reflect the Exhibit B hydrograph for the Restoration Allocation. The estimated total release at Friant Dam consists of 116,867 acre-feet release for Holding Contracts in addition to the Restoration Flows as measured at Gravelly Ford (GRF). The volume for Restoration Flows as well as various accounting flow components may change with any subsequent Restoration Allocation.

**Table 6 — Restoration Budget with Flow Accounts**

| Flow Period     | Holding Contract Demand <sup>10</sup> (TAF) | Restoration Flow Accounting Volumes (TAF)                |                  |                    |                  |   |               |  |       |
|-----------------|---|--|------------------|--------------------|------------------|---|---------------|--|-------|
|                 |   | Spring Flexible Flow                                     | Summer Base Flow | Fall Flexible Flow | Winter Base Flow | Riparian Recruitment Flow                         | Buffer Flow   | Flexible Buffer Flow   |       |
| Mar 1 – Mar 15  | 3.868                                       | 11.008   | –                | –                  | –                | –   | 1.488         | –  |       |
| Mar 16 – Mar 31 | 4.126                                       | 43.478   | –                | –                  | –                | –   | 4.760         | –  |       |
| Apr 1 – Apr 15  | 4.463                                       | 34.515   | –                | –                  | –                | –   | 3.898         | –  |       |
| Apr 16 – Apr 30 | 4.463                                       | 5.950  | –                | –                  | –                | –   | 1.041         | –  |       |
| May 1 – May 28  | 10.552                                      | 0  | 8.886            | –                  | –                | 0<br>within 60-<br>90 days of<br>flushing<br>flow | 4.235         | Of which<br>5.311<br>may be<br>applied<br>Mar 1–May<br>1, or Oct<br>1–Nov 30 |       |
| May 29 – Jun 30 | 12.436                                      | –  | 10.473           | –                  | –                |   |               |  |       |
| Jul 1 – Aug 31  | 28.284                                      | –  | 14.757           | –                  | –                |   |               |  | 4.304 |
| Sep 1 – Sep 30  | 12.496                                      | –  | 8.331            | 0                  | –                | –   | 2.083         |  |       |
| Oct 1 – Oct 31  | 9.838                                       | –  | –                | 11.683             | –                | –   | 2.152         | Of which<br>7.080<br>may be<br>applied<br>Sep 3–Dec<br>28                    |       |
| Nov 1 – Nov 6   | 1.547                                       | –  | –                | 6.783              | –                | –   | 0.833         |  |       |
| Nov 7 – Nov 10  | 0.952                                       | –  | –                | 4.522              | –                | –   | 0.555         |  |       |
| Nov 11 – Nov 30 | 4.760                                       | –  | –                | 9.124              | –                | –   | 1.388         |  |       |
| Dec 1 – Dec 31  | 7.379                                       | –  | –                | 0                  | 14.142           | –   | 2.152         |  |       |
| Jan 1 – Jan 31  | 6.149                                       | –  | –                | –                  | 15.372           | –   | 2.152         | –  |       |
| Feb 1 – Feb 28  | 5.554                                       | 0  | –                | –                  | 13.884           | –   | 1.944         | –  |       |
|                 | <b>116.867</b> <sup>10</sup>                | <b>94.951</b>  | <b>42.447</b>    | <b>32.112</b>      | <b>43.398</b>    | <b>0</b>  | <b>32.985</b> |  |       |
|                 |   | <b>212.908</b> (Restoration Flow Volume)                 |                  |                    |                  |   |               |  |       |
|                 |   | <b>329.854</b> <sup>10</sup> (Friant Dam Release Volume) |                  |                    |                  |   |               |  |       |

<sup>10</sup>In recent years, Holding Contract demands have been higher than assumed under Exhibit B of the Settlement, in which case, flows at Friant Dam are increased to achieve the Gravelly Ford Flow Target, and associated Friant Dam Release Volume is greater.

## Remaining Flexible Flow Volume

The amount of water remaining for flexible flow scheduling is the volume of flexible flow water released from Friant Dam in excess of releases required to meet Holding Contract demands, less past releases. Table 7 tracks these balances. The released to date volumes are derived from QA/QC daily average data when available, and partly from provisional data posted to CDEC, and thus may have future adjustments. This may affect the remaining flow volume as well.

**Table 7 — Estimated Flexible Flow Volume Remaining and Released to Date**

| Flow Account                       | Yearly Allocation <sup>11</sup><br>(TAF) | Released to Date <sup>12</sup><br>(TAF) | Remaining Flow Volume <sup>12,13</sup><br>(TAF) |
|------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Spring Period (Mar 1 – Apr 30)     | 94.951                                   | 5.294                                   | 89.657  |
| Riparian Recruitment               | 0  | 0                                       | 0   |
| Summer Base Flows (May 1 – Sep 30) | 42.446                                   | 0                                       | 42.446  |
| Fall Period (Oct 1 – Nov 30)       | 32.112                                   | 0                                       | 32.112  |
| Winter Base Flows (Dec 1 – Feb 28) | 43.398                                   | 0                                       | 43.398  |
| Buffer Flows                       | 32.985                                   | 0                                       | 32.985  |
| Unreleased Restoration Flows       | —  | 0                                       | 0   |
| Purchased Water                    | —  | 0                                       | 0   |
|                                    | <b>Total:</b>                            | <b>5.294</b>                            |   |

<sup>11</sup> These Flow Volumes assume no channel constraints, as measured at Gravelly Ford

<sup>12</sup> As of 3/14/2018.

<sup>13</sup> Restoration Flow Guidelines limit the application of the calculated Remaining Flow Volume to certain times, and thus all of this volume may not be available for use.

<sup>14</sup> This volume of Restoration Flows was met by flood flows

## Operational Constraints

Operating criteria, such as channel conveyance capacity, ramping rate constraints, scheduled maintenance, reservoir storage, contractual obligations, and downstream seepage concerns, may restrict the release of Restoration Flows. Table 8 summarizes known 2018 operational constraints.

**Table 8 — Summary of Operational Constraints**

| Constraint                              | Period              | Flow Limitation                                 |
|---|---------------------|---|
| Levee Stability                         | Currently in effect | 1,210 cfs in Reach 2B                           |
|   | Currently in effect | 580 – 1,070 cfs in Eastside Bypass              |
| Channel Conveyance / Seepage Limitation | Currently in effect | Approximately 300 cfs below Sack Dam / Reach 4A |

The 2018 Restoration Year Channel Capacity Report identifies a maximum flow in Reach 2B of 1,210 cfs. This results in a maximum release from Friant Dam between 1,390 cfs and 1,550 cfs depending on the time of year. The 2018 Restoration Year Channel Capacity Report also identifies a maximum flow in the Middle Eastside Bypass of 580 to 1,070 cfs, depending on the configuration of the weirs at the Merced National Wildlife Refuge. Reclamation will coordinate with the Restoration Administrator through the biweekly Flow Scheduling conference calls and on an as-needed basis to update these constraints.

In addition, flows are limited to approximately 300 cfs below Sack Dam into Reach 4A due to groundwater seepage constraints as per the current Seepage Management Plan. The exact flow rate which can be accommodated through Reach 4A is dependent on groundwater levels and will be determined through Flow Bench Evaluations. Flows are expected to be constrained to approximately 300 cfs through the spring period below Sack Dam, with the possibility of approximately 500 cfs below Sack Dam in Spring 2018 if additional seepage easements are obtained. If flows must be reduced at Sack Dam as compared to upstream flow rates, Reclamation will make arrangements to capture excess Restoration Flows at approved points of rediversion such as Mendota Pool, upstream of Sack Dam.

Reclamation will complete a Flow Bench Evaluation prior to any scheduled flow increases at or below Gravelly Ford to verify the scheduled increase is not anticipated to cause groundwater levels to rise above thresholds. Should the requested flow increase trigger projected groundwater level rises above seepage thresholds, Reclamation will inform the Restoration Administrator of the current constraint, and adjust releases accordingly.

## 2018 Allocation History

The Restoration Allocation will be adjusted, often many times, between the date of the initial allocation and the final allocation, based on the hydrologic conditions. The Restoration Administrator is responsible for contingency planning and managing releases to stay within current and anticipated future allocations. Table 9 summarizes the Allocation History for this Restoration Year.

**Table 9 — Allocation History**

| Allocation Type | Date              | Forecast Blending Applied | Unimpaired Inflow Forecast (at forecast exceedance) | Restoration Allocation at Gravelly Ford | Restoration Flows and URFs Released |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Initial         | January 23, 2018  | 20/80                     | 741 TAF (@ 75%)                                     | 171.178 TAF                             | 0 (as of 1/23/18)                   |
| Updated         | February 16, 2018 | 30/70                     | 525 TAF (@ 90%)                                     | 70.919 TAF                              | 0 (as of 2/15/18)                   |
| Updated         | March 16, 2018    | 40/60                     | 928 TAF (@ 75%)                                     | 212.908 TAF                             | 5.294 TAF (as of 3/15/18)           |

The next updated Restoration Allocation is planned for mid to late April.



## Appendix A: Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Glossary

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| af               | acre–feet   |
| CALSIM           | California Statewide Integrated Model                                     |
| CCID             | Central California Irrigation District                                    |
| CDEC             | California Data Exchange Center   |
| cfs              | cubic feet per second   |
| CVP              | Central Valley Project  |
| Delta            | Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta  |
| DWR              | California Department of Water Resources                                  |
| ESP              | Ensemble Streamflow Prediction  |
| Exhibit B        | Exhibit B of the Settlement depicting Default Flow Schedules              |
| GRF              | Gravelly Ford Flow Gauge  |
| Guidelines       | Restoration Flow Guidelines   |
| LSJLD            | Lower San Joaquin Levee District  |
| NWS              | National Weather Service  |
| QA/QC            | Quality Assurance/Quality Control (i.e. finalized)                        |
| Reclamation      | U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation                    |
| Restoration Year | the cycle of Restoration Flows, March 1 through February 28/29            |
| RWA              | SJRRP Reclaimed Water Account   |
| Secretary        | U.S. Secretary of the Interior  |
| Settlement       | Stipulation of Settlement in <i>NRDC, et al., v. Kirk Rodgers, et al.</i> |
| SJREC            | San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors                                    |
| SJRRP            | San Joaquin River Restoration Program                                     |
| SLCC             | San Luis Canal Company  |
| TAF              | thousand acre–feet  |
| URF              | Unreleased Restoration Flows  |
| WSI              | DWR Water Supply Index  |
| WY               | water year, October 1 through September 30                                |

## Appendix B: History of Millerton Unimpaired Inflow

Table B — Water Year Totals in Thousand Acre-Feet

| Water Year <sup>1</sup> | Unimpaired Inflow <sup>2</sup><br>(Natural River) | SJRRP Water Year Type <sup>3</sup> | Water Year <sup>1</sup> | Unimpaired Inflow <sup>2</sup><br>(Natural River) | SJRRP Water Year Type <sup>3</sup> | Water Year <sup>1</sup> | Unimpaired Inflow <sup>2</sup><br>(Natural River) | SJRRP Water Year Type <sup>3</sup> |
|-------------------------|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| 1931                    | 480.2   | Critical-High                      | 1961                    | 647.428   | Critical-High                      | 1991                    | 1,027.209   | Normal-Dry                         |
| 1932                    | 2,047.4   | Normal-Wet                         | 1962                    | 1,924.066   | Normal-Wet                         | 1992                    | 807.759   | Dry                                |
| 1933                    | 1,111.4   | Normal-Dry                         | 1963                    | 1,945.266   | Normal-Wet                         | 1993                    | 2,672.322   | Wet                                |
| 1934                    | 691.5   | Dry                                | 1964                    | 922.351   | Dry                                | 1994                    | 824.097   | Dry                                |
| 1935                    | 1,923.2   | Normal-Wet                         | 1965                    | 2,271.191   | Normal-Wet                         | 1995                    | 3,876.370   | Wet                                |
| 1936                    | 1,853.3   | Normal-Wet                         | 1966                    | 1,298.792   | Normal-Dry                         | 1996                    | 2,200.707   | Normal-Wet                         |
| 1937                    | 2,208.0   | Normal-Wet                         | 1967                    | 3,233.097   | Wet                                | 1997                    | 2,817.670   | Wet                                |
| 1938                    | 3,688.4   | Wet                                | 1968                    | 861.894   | Dry                                | 1998                    | 3,160.759   | Wet                                |
| 1939                    | 920.8   | Dry                                | 1969                    | 4,040.864   | Wet                                | 1999                    | 1,527.040   | Normal-Wet                         |
| 1940                    | 1,880.6   | Normal-Wet                         | 1970                    | 1,445.837   | Normal-Dry                         | 2000                    | 1,735.653   | Normal-Wet                         |
| 1941                    | 2,652.5   | Wet                                | 1971                    | 1,416.812   | Normal-Dry                         | 2001                    | 1,065.318   | Normal-Dry                         |
| 1942                    | 2,254.0   | Normal-Wet                         | 1972                    | 1,039.249   | Normal-Dry                         | 2002                    | 1,171.457   | Normal-Dry                         |
| 1943                    | 2,053.7   | Normal-Wet                         | 1973                    | 2,047.585   | Normal-Wet                         | 2003                    | 1,449.954   | Normal-Dry                         |
| 1944                    | 1,265.4   | Normal-Dry                         | 1974                    | 2,190.308   | Normal-Wet                         | 2004                    | 1,130.823   | Normal-Dry                         |
| 1945                    | 2,134.633   | Normal-Wet                         | 1975                    | 1,795.922   | Normal-Wet                         | 2005                    | 2,826.872   | Wet                                |
| 1946                    | 1,727.115   | Normal-Wet                         | 1976                    | 629.234   | Critical-High                      | 2006                    | 3,180.816   | Wet                                |
| 1947                    | 1,121.564   | Normal-Dry                         | 1977                    | 361.253   | Critical-Low                       | 2007                    | 684.333   | Dry                                |
| 1948                    | 1,201.390   | Normal-Dry                         | 1978                    | 3,402.805   | Wet                                | 2008                    | 1,116.790   | Normal-Dry                         |
| 1949                    | 1,167.008   | Normal-Dry                         | 1979                    | 1,829.988   | Normal-Wet                         | 2009                    | 1,455.379   | Normal-Wet                         |
| 1950                    | 1,317.457   | Normal-Dry                         | 1980                    | 2,973.169   | Wet                                | 2010                    | 2,028.706   | Normal-Wet                         |
| 1951                    | 1,827.254   | Normal-Wet                         | 1981                    | 1,067.757   | Normal-Dry                         | 2011                    | 3,304.824   | Wet                                |
| 1952                    | 2,840.854   | Wet                                | 1982                    | 3,317.171   | Wet                                | 2012                    | 831.582   | Dry                                |
| 1953                    | 1,226.830   | Normal-Dry                         | 1983                    | 4,643.090   | Wet                                | 2013                    | 856.626   | Dry                                |
| 1954                    | 1,313.993   | Normal-Dry                         | 1984                    | 2,042.750   | Normal-Wet                         | 2014                    | 509.579   | Critical-High                      |
| 1955                    | 1,161.161   | Normal-Dry                         | 1985                    | 1,135.975   | Normal-Dry                         | 2015                    | 327.410   | Critical-Low                       |
| 1956                    | 2,959.812   | Wet                                | 1986                    | 3,031.600   | Wet                                | 2016                    | 1,300.986   | Normal-Dry                         |
| 1957                    | 1,326.573   | Normal-Dry                         | 1987                    | 756.853   | Dry                                | 2017                    | 4,395.400   | Wet                                |
| 1958                    | 2,631.392   | Wet                                | 1988                    | 862.124   | Dry                                |                         |   |                                    |
| 1959                    | 949.456   | Normal-Dry                         | 1989                    | 939.168   | Normal-Dry                         |                         |   |                                    |
| 1960                    | 826.021   | Dry                                | 1990                    | 742.824   | Dry                                |                         |   |                                    |

<sup>1</sup> Water year is from Oct 1 through Sept 30, for example the 2010 water year began Oct 1, 2009.

<sup>2</sup> Also known as “Natural River” or “Unimpaired Inflow into Millerton” – This is the total runoff that would flow into Millerton Lake if there were no dams or diversions upstream. There was a lower level of precision prior to 1945.

<sup>3</sup> The six SJRRP Water Year Types are based on unimpaired inflow. Critical-Low= <400 TAF, Critical-High=400-669.999 TAF, Dry= 670-929.999 TAF, Normal-Dry 930-1449.999, Normal-Wet 1450-2500, Wet>2500

## Appendix C: Previous Year (2017) Flow Accounting

**Table C-1** — Restoration Flow Accounting and Unreleased Restoration Flows excluding Restoration Flows met by flood flows, Unreleased Restoration Flows lost to flood spill, and Holding Contracts during flood flows. For the period February, 2017 through February, 2018 (no 2017 Restoration Flows and some 2017 URFs were advanced into February of 2016).

| Flow Period     | Gravelly Ford 5 cfs requirement (TAF) | Released Restoration Flow Volumes (TAF)    |                  |                    |                  |                           |              |                      | URFs (TAF)     |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--|------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------|
|                 |                                       | Spring Flexible Flow                       | Summer Base Flow | Fall Flexible Flow | Winter Base Flow | Riparian Recruitment Flow | Buffer Flow  | Flexible Buffer Flow |                |
| Feb 1 – Feb 15  | –                                     | 0  | –                | –                  | –                | –                         | –            | –                    | 7.064          |
| Feb 16 – Feb 28 | –                                     | 0  | –                | –                  | –                | –                         | –            | –                    |                |
| Mar 1 – Mar 15  | –                                     | 0  | –                | –                  | –                | –                         | 0            | –                    | 45.484         |
| Mar 16 – Mar 31 | –                                     | 0  | –                | –                  | –                | –                         | 0            | –                    |                |
| Apr 1 – Apr 15  | –                                     | 0  | –                | –                  | –                | –                         | 0            | –                    | 81.815         |
| Apr 16 – Apr 30 | –                                     | 0  | –                | –                  | –                | –                         | 0            | –                    |                |
| May 1 – May 28  | –                                     | 0  | 0                | –                  | –                | 0                         | 0            | 0                    | 136.810        |
| May 29 – Jun 30 | –                                     | –  | 0                | –                  | –                |                           |              |                      | 79.228         |
| Jul 1 – Aug 31  | 19.188                                | –  | 9.997            | –                  | –                |                           | 0            |                      | 14.566         |
| Sep 1 – Sep 30  | 9.951                                 | –  | 8.331            | 3.792              | –                | –                         | 0            | –                    |                |
| Oct 1 – Oct 31  | 10.034                                | –  | –                | 11.873             | –                | –                         | 0            | 0                    | –              |
| Nov 1 – Nov 6   | 1.807                                 | –  | –                | 2.656              | –                | –                         | 0            |                      | –              |
| Nov 7 – Nov 10  | 1.174                                 | –  | –                | 1.801              | –                | –                         | 0            |                      | –              |
| Nov 11 – Nov 30 | 6.038                                 | –  | –                | 8.999              | –                | –                         | 0            |                      | –              |
| Dec 1 – Dec 31  | 8.934                                 | –  | –                | 0                  | 14.342           | –                         | 0            |                      | –              |
| Jan 1 – Jan 31  | 8.761                                 | –  | –                | –                  | 15.578           | –                         | 0            | –                    | –              |
| Feb 1 – Feb 28  | 8.309                                 | 0  | –                | 0.839              | 13.487           | –                         | 0            | –                    | 2.491          |
|                 | <b>74.196</b>                         | <b>0</b>                                   | <b>18.328</b>    | <b>29.933</b>      | <b>43.398</b>    | <b>0</b>                  | <b>0.000</b> |                      | <b>367.458</b> |
|                 |                                       | <b>91.659</b>                              |                  |                    |                  |                           |              |                      |                |
|                 |                                       | <b>91.659</b>                              |                  |                    |                  |                           |              |                      |                |
|                 |                                       | <b>459.117 (2017 Allocation = 556.542)</b> |                  |                    |                  |                           |              |                      |                |
|                 | <b>533.313</b>                        |  |                  |                    |                  |                           |              |                      |                |

**Table C-2** — Restoration Flow Accounting and Unreleased Restoration Flows including Restoration Flows met by flood flows, Unreleased Restoration Flows lost to flood spill, and Holding Contracts during flood flows. For the period February, 2017 through February, 2018 (no 2017 Restoration Flows and some 2017 URFs were advanced into February of 2016).

| Flow Period     | Gravelly Ford 5 cfs requirement (TAF) | Released Restoration Flow Volumes (TAF)    |                  |                    |                  |                           |              |                      | URFs (TAF)     |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--|------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------|
|                 |                                       | Spring Flexible Flow                       | Summer Base Flow | Fall Flexible Flow | Winter Base Flow | Riparian Recruitment Flow | Buffer Flow  | Flexible Buffer Flow |                |
| Feb 1 – Feb 15  | –                                     | 0  | –                | –                  | –                | –                         | –            | –                    | 7.064          |
| Feb 16 – Feb 28 | –                                     | 0  | –                | –                  | –                | –                         | –            | –                    |                |
| Mar 1 – Mar 15  | 11.139                                | 12.198                                     | –                | –                  | –                | –                         | 0            | –                    | 45.484         |
| Mar 16 – Mar 31 | -12.171                               | 13.012                                     | –                | –                  | –                | –                         | 0            | –                    |                |
| Apr 1 – Apr 15  | 9.947                                 | 12.198                                     | –                | –                  | –                | –                         | 0            | –                    | 81.815         |
| Apr 16 – Apr 30 | 16.864                                | 12.198                                     | –                | –                  | –                | –                         | 0            | –                    |                |
| May 1 – May 28  | 21.388                                | 13.884                                     | 8.886            | –                  | –                | 9.788                     | 0            | 0                    | 136.810        |
| May 29 – Jun 30 | 29.671                                | –  | 10.473           | –                  | –                |                           |              |                      | 79.228         |
| Jul 1 – Aug 31  | 14.071                                | –  | 14.757           | –                  | –                |                           | 0            |                      | 14.566         |
| Sep 1 – Sep 30  | 9.951                                 | –  | 8.331            | 3.792              | –                | –                         | 0            | –                    |                |
| Oct 1 – Oct 31  | 10.034                                | –  | –                | 11.873             | –                | –                         | 0            | 0                    | –              |
| Nov 1 – Nov 6   | 1.807                                 | –  | –                | 2.656              | –                | –                         | 0            |                      | –              |
| Nov 7 – Nov 10  | 1.174                                 | –  | –                | 1.801              | –                | –                         | 0            |                      | –              |
| Nov 11 – Nov 30 | 6.038                                 | –  | –                | 8.999              | –                | –                         | 0            |                      | –              |
| Dec 1 – Dec 31  | 8.934                                 | –  | –                | 0                  | 14.342           | –                         | 0            | –                    |                |
| Jan 1 – Jan 31  | 8.761                                 | –  | –                | –                  | 15.578           | –                         | 0            | –                    | –              |
| Feb 1 – Feb 28  | 8.309                                 | 0  | –                | 0.812              | 13.487           | –                         | 0            | –                    | 2.491          |
| <b>145.917</b>  |                                       | <b>63.490</b>                              | <b>42.447</b>    | <b>29.933</b>      | <b>43.398</b>    | <b>9.788</b>              | <b>0.000</b> |                      | <b>367.458</b> |
|                 |                                       | <b>189.056</b>                             |                  |                    |                  |                           |              |                      |                |
|                 |                                       | <b>189.056</b>                             |                  |                    |                  |                           |              |                      |                |
|                 |                                       | <b>556.514 (2017 Allocation = 556.542)</b> |                  |                    |                  |                           |              |                      |                |
| <b>702.431</b>  |                                       |  |                  |                    |                  |                           |              |                      |                |