

# Natural Heritage Institute

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February 14, 2007

*Via First Class Mail*

Larry Weis, General Manager  
Turlock Irrigation District  
P.O. Box 949  
Turlock, CA 95381

Allen Short, General Manager  
Modesto Irrigation District  
P.O. Box 4060  
Modesto, CA 95352

Re: Fisheries Monitoring Under Article 58

Dear Messrs. Weis and Short:

The Tuolumne River Preservation Trust, California Rivers Restoration Fund, and Friends of the River (collectively, "Conservation Groups") write regarding Modesto Irrigation District and Turlock Irrigation District's (collectively, "Districts") preparation of a Study Plan and schedule for additional monitoring under Article 58 of the license, as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) required by letter on December 20, 2006 (*see* e-Library no. 20061226-0019). We request that the Districts convene a meeting, facilitated by an independent facilitator, with interested stakeholders to discuss the draft Study Plan before the Districts finalize the plan and submit it to the Commission on March 20, 2007.

The Commission specified that the Districts should develop the Study Plan in cooperation with other interested stakeholders:

"The study plan to address the above tasks should be developed in cooperation with the Tuolumne River Technical Action Committee (TRTAC), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and representatives of the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that have participated in these proceedings. You should include with the plan documentation of consultation with the TRTAC, NMFS and the NGOs, copies of comments and recommendations on the plan, and specific descriptions of how the TRTAC, NMFS and NGOs' comments are accommodated by the plan. You should allow a minimum of 30 days for the TRTAC, NMFS and the NGOs to comment and to make recommendations, before filing the plan with the Commission. If you do not adopt a recommendation, the filing should include your reasons, based on project-specific information."

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FEB 20 2007

TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Bob  
+  
Randy

NOTED

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L. W. WEIS

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Thank you for considering this request. We sincerely hope the requested meeting will contribute to resolution of issues raised by the 10-year Monitoring Summary Report. Please contact us with any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



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Attorneys for the CALIFORNIA RIVERS  
RESTORATION FUND, TUOLUMNE  
RIVER PRESERVATION TRUST, AND  
FRIENDS OF THE RIVER

cc:

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