

112TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1837

To address certain water-related concerns on the San Joaquin River, and  
for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 11, 2011

Mr. NUNES (for himself, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, and Mr. DENHAM) in-  
troduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Nat-  
ural Resources

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## A BILL

To address certain water-related concerns on the San  
Joaquin River, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “San Joaquin Valley  
5 Water Reliability Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

7 The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT IMPROVEMENT ACT  
REFORMS

- Sec. 101. Amendment to purposes.
- Sec. 102. Amendment to definition.
- Sec. 103. Limitation on contracting and contract reform.
- Sec. 104. Water transfers, improved water management, and conservation.
- Sec. 105. Fish, wildlife, and habitat restoration.
- Sec. 106. Restoration Fund.
- Sec. 107. Additional authorities.
- Sec. 108. Compliance with Endangered Species Act of 1973.
- Sec. 109. Authorized service area.
- Sec. 110. Area of origin and prior rights.
- Sec. 111. Water storage.

#### TITLE II—SAN JOAQUIN RIVER RESTORATION

- Sec. 201. Reference.
- Sec. 202. Preemption of State law.
- Sec. 203. Repeal of the San Joaquin River Settlement.
- Sec. 204. Satisfaction and discharge of obligations.
- Sec. 205. San Joaquin River Habitat Restoration.
- Sec. 206. Restoration Fund.
- Sec. 207. Natural and artificially spawned species.

#### TITLE III—REPAYMENT CONTRACTS AND ACCELERATION OF REPAYMENT OF CONSTRUCTION COSTS

- Sec. 301. Repayment contracts and acceleration of repayment of construction costs.

# 1 **TITLE I—CENTRAL VALLEY** 2 **PROJECT IMPROVEMENT ACT** 3 **REFORMS**

## 4 **SEC. 101. AMENDMENT TO PURPOSES.**

5 Section 3402 of the Central Valley Project Improve-  
6 ment Act (106 Stat. 4706) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (f), by striking the period at  
8 the end; and

9 (2) by adding at the end the following:

10 “(g) to ensure that water dedicated to fish and wild-  
11 life purposes by this title is replaced and provided to Cen-  
12 tral Valley Project water contractors by December 31,  
13 2016, at the lowest cost reasonably achievable; and

1 “(h) to facilitate and expedite water transfers in ac-  
2 cordance with this Act.”.

3 **SEC. 102. AMENDMENT TO DEFINITION.**

4 Section 3403(a) of the Central Valley Project Im-  
5 provement Act (106 Stat. 4707) is amended to read as  
6 follows:

7 “(a) the term ‘anadromous fish’ means those native  
8 stocks of salmon (including steelhead) and sturgeon that,  
9 as of October 30, 1992, were present in the Sacramento  
10 and San Joaquin Rivers and their tributaries and ascend  
11 those rivers and their tributaries to reproduce after matur-  
12 ing in San Francisco Bay or the Pacific Ocean;”.

13 **SEC. 103. LIMITATION ON CONTRACTING AND CONTRACT**  
14 **REFORM.**

15 Section 3404 of the Central Valley Project Improve-  
16 ment Act (106 Stat. 4710) is amended by striking the lan-  
17 guage of the section and by adding:

18 “(a) RENEWAL OF EXISTING LONG-TERM CON-  
19 TRACTS.—Upon request of the contractor, the Secretary  
20 shall renew any existing long-term repayment or water  
21 service contract that provides for the delivery of water  
22 from the Central Valley Project for a period of 40 years,  
23 and renew such contracts for successive periods of 40  
24 years each.

1       “(b) DELIVERY CHARGE.—Beginning on the date of  
2 the enactment of this Act, a contract entered into or re-  
3 newed pursuant to this section shall include a provision  
4 that requires the Secretary to charge the other party to  
5 such contract only for water actually delivered by the Sec-  
6 retary.”.

7 **SEC. 104. WATER TRANSFERS, IMPROVED WATER MANAGE-**  
8 **MENT, AND CONSERVATION.**

9       Section 3405 of the Central Valley Project Improve-  
10 ment Act (106 Stat. 4710) is amended as follows:

11           (1) In subsection (a)—

12                   (A) by inserting before “Except as pro-  
13 vided herein” the following: “The Secretary  
14 shall take all necessary actions to facilitate and  
15 expedite transfers of Central Valley Project  
16 water in accordance with such Act or any other  
17 provision of law.”;

18                   (B) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking “to  
19 combination” and inserting “or combination”;

20                   (C) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end  
21 the following:

22                           “(E) The contracting district from which  
23 the water is coming, the agency, or the Sec-  
24 retary shall determine if a written transfer pro-  
25 posal is complete within 45 days after the date

1 of submission of such proposal. If such district  
2 or agency or the Secretary determines that such  
3 proposal is incomplete, such district or agency  
4 or the Secretary shall state with specificity  
5 what must be added to or revised in order for  
6 such proposal to be complete.

7 “(F) Except as provided in this section,  
8 the Secretary shall not impose mitigation or  
9 other requirements on a proposed transfer, but  
10 the contracting district from which the water is  
11 coming or the agency shall retain all authority  
12 under State law to approve or condition a pro-  
13 posed transfer.”; and

14 (D) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of  
16 law—

17 “(A) the authority to make transfers or ex-  
18 changes of, or banking or recharge arrange-  
19 ments using, Central Valley Project water that  
20 could have been conducted before October 30,  
21 1992, is valid, and such transfers, exchanges,  
22 or arrangements shall not be subject to, limited,  
23 or conditioned by this title; and

24 “(B) this title shall not supersede or re-  
25 voke the authority to transfer, exchange, bank,

1 or recharge Central Valley Project water that  
2 existed prior to October 30, 1992.”.

3 (2) In subsection (b)—

4 (A) in the heading, by striking “METER-  
5 ING” and inserting “MEASUREMENT”; and

6 (B) by inserting after the first sentence  
7 the following: “The contracting district or agen-  
8 cy, not including contracting districts serving  
9 multiple agencies with separate governing  
10 boards, shall ensure that all contractor-owned  
11 water delivery systems within its boundaries  
12 measure surface water at the district or agen-  
13 cy’s facilities up to the point the surface water  
14 is commingled with other water supplies.”.

15 (3) By striking subsection (d).

16 (4) By redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as  
17 subsections (d) and (e), respectively.

18 (5) By amending subsection (e) (as redesign-  
19 nated by paragraph (4)) to read as follows:

20 “(e) RESTORATION FUND.—All revenues received by  
21 the Secretary that exceed the cost-of-service rate applica-  
22 ble to the delivery of water transferred from irrigation use  
23 to municipal and industrial use under subsection (a) shall  
24 be deposited into the Restoration Fund, as established  
25 under section 3407.”.

1 **SEC. 105. FISH, WILDLIFE, AND HABITAT RESTORATION.**

2 Section 3406 of the Central Valley Project Improve-  
3 ment Act (106 Stat. 4714) is amended as follows:

4 (1) In subsection (b)—

5 (A) in paragraph (1), by amending sub-  
6 paragraph (B) to read as follows:

7 “(B) MODIFICATION OF PROGRAM.—

8 “(i) IN GENERAL.—As needed to  
9 achieve the goals of the program estab-  
10 lished under this paragraph, the Secretary  
11 may modify Central Valley Project oper-  
12 ations to provide reasonable water flows of  
13 suitable quality, quantity, and timing to  
14 protect all life stages of anadromous fish.  
15 Such flows shall be provided—

16 “(I) from the quantity of water  
17 dedicated for fish, wildlife, and habi-  
18 tat restoration purposes under para-  
19 graph (2);

20 “(II) from the water supplies ac-  
21 quired pursuant to paragraph (3); and

22 “(III) from other sources that do  
23 not conflict with fulfillment of the  
24 Secretary’s remaining contractual ob-  
25 ligations to provide Central Valley

1 Project water for other authorized  
2 purposes.

3 “(ii) INSTREAM FLOW NEEDS.—Rea-  
4 sonable instream flow needs for all Central  
5 Valley Project controlled streams and riv-  
6 ers shall be determined by the Secretary  
7 based on recommendations of the United  
8 States Fish and Wildlife Service and the  
9 National Marine Fisheries Service after  
10 consultation with the United States Geo-  
11 logical Survey.”;

12 (B) by amending paragraph (2) to read as  
13 follows:

14 “(2) upon October 30, 1992, dedicate and man-  
15 age annually 800,000 acre-feet of Central Valley  
16 Project yield for the purposes of implementing the  
17 fish, wildlife, and habitat restoration purposes and  
18 measures authorized by such Act; assisting the State  
19 of California in its efforts to protect the waters of  
20 the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin  
21 Delta Estuary; and helping to meet such obligations  
22 as may be legally imposed upon the Central Valley  
23 Project under State or Federal law following Octo-  
24 ber 30, 1992, including additional obligations under  
25 the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C.



1 1531 et seq.). For the purpose of this section, the  
2 term ‘Central Valley Project yield’ means the deliv-  
3 ery capability of the Central Valley Project during  
4 the 1928 to 1934 drought period after fishery, water  
5 quality, and other flow and operational requirements  
6 imposed by terms and conditions existing in licenses,  
7 permits, and other agreements pertaining to the  
8 Central Valley Project under applicable State or  
9 Federal law existing on October 30, 1992, have been  
10 met. All Central Valley Project water used for the  
11 purposes specified in this paragraph shall be cred-  
12 ited to the quantity of Central Valley Project yield  
13 dedicated and managed under this paragraph by de-  
14 termining how the dedication and management of  
15 such water would affect the delivery capability of the  
16 Central Valley Project during the 1928 to 1934  
17 drought period after fishery, water quality, and  
18 other flow and operational requirements imposed by  
19 terms and conditions existing in licenses, permits,  
20 and other agreements pertaining to the Central Val-  
21 ley Project under applicable State or Federal law ex-  
22 isting on October 30, 1992, have been met. To the  
23 fullest extent possible and in accordance with section  
24 3411, Central Valley Project water dedicated and  
25 managed pursuant to this paragraph shall be reused

1 to fulfill the Secretary’s remaining contractual obli-  
2 gations to provide Central Valley Project water for  
3 agricultural or municipal and industrial purposes.”;  
4 and

5 (C) by amending paragraph (2)(C) to read:

6 “(C) If by March 15th of any year the  
7 quantity of Central Valley Project water fore-  
8 casted to be made available to water service or  
9 repayment contractors in the Delta Division of  
10 the Central Valley Project is below 75 percent  
11 of the total quantity of water to be made avail-  
12 able under said contracts, the quantity of Cen-  
13 tral Valley Project yield dedicated and managed  
14 for that year under this paragraph shall be re-  
15 duced by 25 percent.”.

16 (2) By adding at the end the following:

17 “(i) SATISFACTION OF PURPOSES.—By pursuing the  
18 programs and activities authorized by this section, the  
19 Secretary shall be deemed to have met the mitigation, pro-  
20 tection, restoration, and enhancement purposes of section  
21 2 of the Act of August 26, 1937 (Chapter 832; 50 Stat.  
22 850).”.

23 **SEC. 106. RESTORATION FUND.**

24 Section 3407 of the Central Valley Project Improve-  
25 ment Act (106 Stat. 4714) is amended as follows:

1           (1) By amending subsection (a) to read as fol-  
2           lows:

3           “(a) RESTORATION FUND ESTABLISHED.—

4           “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the  
5           Treasury the ‘Central Valley Project Restoration  
6           Fund’, which shall be available for deposit of dona-  
7           tions from any source and revenues collected under  
8           sections 3404(c)(3), 3405(f), 3406(c)(1), and  
9           3407(d). Funds donated to the Restoration Fund by  
10          a non-Federal entity for a specific purpose shall be  
11          expended for such purpose only and shall not be  
12          subject to appropriation. Amounts deposited shall be  
13          credited as offsetting collections. Not less than 50  
14          percent of the amounts deposited to the Restoration  
15          Fund shall be expended for purposes of the Central  
16          Valley Project unit or division regarding which the  
17          amounts were collected.

18          “(2) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary may not—

19                 “(A) directly or indirectly require a dona-  
20                 tion or other payment to the Restoration Fund,  
21                 or environmental restoration or mitigation fees  
22                 not otherwise provided by law, as—

23                         “(i) a condition to providing for the  
24                         storage or conveyance of non-Central Val-

1           ley Project water pursuant to Federal rec-  
2           lamation laws; or

3                   “(ii) a condition to the delivery of  
4           water pursuant to section 215 of the Rec-  
5           lamation Reform Act of 1982 (Public Law  
6           97–293; 96 Stat. 1270); or

7                   “(B) require a donation or other payment  
8           to the Restoration Fund for any water that is  
9           delivered with the sole intent of groundwater re-  
10          charge.

11          “(3) USE OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS.—The Sec-  
12          retary shall use the amounts collected pursuant to  
13          section 3406(c)(1)—

14                   “(A) to assist in improving water quality,  
15          riparian values, and fish habitat in the San  
16          Joaquin River from Friant Dam to Mendota  
17          Pool; or

18                   “(B) to support other projects benefitting  
19          land within the Friant Division.

20          “(4) CERTAIN USE OF RESTORATION FUND.—  
21          Except as provided under paragraph (1), funds de-  
22          posited into the Restoration Fund may be appro-  
23          priated for the acquisition of water supplies and the  
24          construction of facilities used to implement projects

1 or programs undertaken pursuant to section  
2 3408(j).”.

3 (2) In subsection (c), by amending paragraph  
4 (1) to read as follows:

5 “(1) To the extent required in Acts of appro-  
6 priation, the Secretary shall assess and collect addi-  
7 tional annual payments, in addition to the charges  
8 collected under sections 3404(c)(3), 3405(a)(1)(C),  
9 3405(f), and 3406(c)(1), consisting of charges to di-  
10 rect beneficiaries of the Central Valley Project under  
11 subsection (d) of this section in order to recover a  
12 portion or all of the costs of carrying out programs,  
13 projects, plans, habitat restoration, improvement,  
14 and acquisition provisions of this title.”.

15 (3) By adding at the end the following:

16 “(g) REPORT ON EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS.—At the  
17 end of each fiscal year, the Secretary, in consultation with  
18 the Restoration Fund Advisory Board, shall submit to  
19 Congress a plan for the expenditure of all of the funds  
20 deposited into the Restoration Fund during the preceding  
21 fiscal year. Such plan shall contain a cost effectiveness  
22 analysis of each expenditure.

23 “(h) ADVISORY BOARD.—

24 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby estab-  
25 lished the Restoration Fund Advisory Board (herein-

1 after in this section referred to as the ‘Advisory  
2 Board’) composed of 12 members selected by the  
3 Secretary, each for four year terms, one of whom  
4 shall be designated by the Secretary as Chairman.  
5 The members shall be selected so as to represent the  
6 various Central Valley Project stakeholders, four of  
7 whom shall be from CVP agricultural users, three  
8 from CVP municipal and industrial users, three  
9 from CVP power contractors, and two at the discre-  
10 tion of the Secretary. The Secretary and the Sec-  
11 retary of Commerce may each designate a represent-  
12 ative to act as an observer of the Advisory Board.

13 “(2) DUTIES.—The duties of the Advisory  
14 Board are as follows:

15 “(A) To meet at least semi-annually to de-  
16 velop and make recommendations to the Sec-  
17 retary regarding priorities and spending levels  
18 on projects and programs carried out pursuant  
19 to the Central Valley Project Improvement Act.

20 “(B) To ensure that any advice or rec-  
21 ommendation made by the Advisory Board to  
22 the Secretary reflect the independent judgment  
23 of the Advisory Board.

24 “(C) Not later than December 31, 2012,  
25 and annually thereafter, to transmit to the Sec-

1           retary and Congress recommendations required  
2           under subparagraph (A).

3           “(D) Not later than December 31, 2012,  
4           and biennially thereafter, to transmit to Con-  
5           gress a report that details the progress made in  
6           achieving the goals of the Restoration Fund as  
7           identified in this Act.

8           “(3) ADMINISTRATION.—With the consent of  
9           the appropriate agency head, the Advisory Board  
10          may use the facilities and services of any Federal  
11          agency. Non-Federal members of the Advisory  
12          Board, while engaged in the performance of their  
13          duties away from their homes or regular places of  
14          business, may be allowed travel expenses, including  
15          per diem in lieu of subsistence under section 5703  
16          of title 5, United States Code. Funds from the Res-  
17          toration Fund may be used to carry out this para-  
18          graph.

19          “(4) FACA.—The Federal Advisory Committee  
20          Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Advisory  
21          Board.”.

22 **SEC. 107. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES.**

23          (a) AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN ACTIVITIES.—Section  
24          3408(c) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act  
25          (106 Stat. 4728) is amended to read as follows:

1       “(c) CONTRACTS FOR ADDITIONAL STORAGE AND  
2 DELIVERY OF WATER.—

3           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized  
4 to enter into contracts pursuant to Federal reclama-  
5 tion law and this title with any Federal agency, Cali-  
6 fornia water user or water agency, State agency, or  
7 private organization for the exchange, impoundment,  
8 storage, carriage, and delivery of non-project water  
9 for domestic, municipal, industrial, fish and wildlife,  
10 and any other beneficial purpose.

11           “(2) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this subsection  
12 shall be deemed to supersede the provisions of sec-  
13 tion 103 of Public Law 99–546 (100 Stat. 3051).

14           “(3) AUTHORITY FOR CERTAIN ACTIVITIES.—  
15 The Secretary shall use the authority granted by  
16 this subsection in connection with requests to ex-  
17 change, impound, store, carry, or deliver nonproject  
18 water using Central Valley Project facilities for any  
19 beneficial purpose.

20           “(4) RATES.—

21           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
22 develop rates not to exceed the amount required  
23 to recover the reasonable costs incurred by the  
24 Secretary in connection with a beneficial pur-  
25 pose under this subsection. Such rates shall be



1 charged to a party using Central Valley Project  
2 facilities for such purpose. Such costs shall not  
3 include any donation or other payment to the  
4 Restoration Fund.

5 “(B) REDUCTION IN OPERATIONS AND  
6 MAINTENANCE.—Any payment received in con-  
7 nection with the use of Central Valley Project  
8 facilities shall be applied to reduce the current-  
9 year operations and maintenance expenses, oth-  
10 erwise payable by Central Valley Project con-  
11 tractors, for such facilities used.

12 “(5) CONSTRUCTION.—This subsection shall be  
13 construed and implemented to facilitate and encour-  
14 age the use of Central Valley Project facilities to ex-  
15 change, impound, store, carry, or deliver nonproject  
16 water for any beneficial purpose.”.

17 (b) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 3408(f) of  
18 the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (106 Stat.  
19 4729) is amended—

20 (1) by striking “Interior and Insular Affairs  
21 and Merchant Marine and Fisheries” and inserting  
22 “Natural Resources”;

23 (2) in the second sentence, by inserting before  
24 the period at the end the following: “, including  
25 progress on the plan required by subsection (j)”; and

1           (3) by adding at the end the following: “The fil-  
2           ing and adequacy of such report shall be personally  
3           certified to the Committees referenced above by the  
4           Regional Director of the Mid-Pacific Region of the  
5           Bureau of Reclamation.”.

6           (c) PROJECT YIELD INCREASE.—Section 3408(j) of  
7           the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (106 Stat.  
8           4730) is amended to read as follows:

9           “(j) PROJECT YIELD INCREASE.—

10           “(1) PLAN REQUIRED.—In order to minimize  
11           adverse effects upon existing Central Valley Project  
12           water contractors resulting from the water dedicated  
13           for fish and wildlife under this title, and to assist  
14           the State of California in meeting its future water  
15           needs, the Secretary, on a priority basis and not  
16           later than September 30, 2012, shall submit to Con-  
17           gress a least-cost plan to increase, as soon as pos-  
18           sible but not later than September 30, 2016 (except  
19           for the construction of new facilities which shall not  
20           be limited by that deadline), the water of the Central  
21           Valley Project by the amount dedicated and man-  
22           aged for fish and wildlife purposes under this title  
23           and otherwise required to meet the purposes of the  
24           Central Valley Project including satisfying contrac-  
25           tual obligations.

1           “(2) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan required  
2           by paragraph (1) shall include—

3                   “(A) recommendations on appropriate cost-  
4                   sharing arrangements and authorizing legisla-  
5                   tion or other measures needed to implement the  
6                   intent, purposes, and provisions of this sub-  
7                   section; and

8                   “(B) a description of how the Secretary in-  
9                   tends to use the following options:

10                           “(i) Improvements in, modification of,  
11                           or additions to the facilities and operations  
12                           of the project and construction of new  
13                           water storage facilities.

14                           “(ii) Conservation.

15                           “(iii) Transfers.

16                           “(iv) Conjunctive use.

17                           “(v) Purchase of water.

18                           “(vi) Purchase and idling of agricul-  
19                           tural land.

20                           “(vii) Direct purchase of water rights.

21                           “(viii) Water banking and recharge.

22           “(3) IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.—Subject to  
23           the availability of appropriated funds, the Secretary  
24           shall implement the plan required by paragraph (1)  
25           commencing on October 1, 2012. In order to carry

1 out this subsection, the Secretary shall coordinate  
2 with the State of California in implementing meas-  
3 ures for the long-term resolution of problems in the  
4 San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta  
5 Estuary.

6 “(4) FAILURE OF THE PLAN.—Not with-  
7 standing any other provision of law, if by September  
8 30, 2016, the plan required by paragraph (1) fails  
9 to increase the annual delivery capability of the Cen-  
10 tral Valley Project by 800,000 acre-feet, implemen-  
11 tation of section 3406(b)(2) shall be suspended until  
12 the plan achieves an increase in the annual delivery  
13 capability of the Central Valley Project by 800,000  
14 acre-feet.”.

15 (d) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 3408(h) of  
16 the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (106 Stat.  
17 4729) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “paragraph  
19 (h)(2)” and inserting “paragraph (2)”; and

20 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking “paragraph  
21 (h)(i)” and inserting “paragraph (1)”.

22 **SEC. 108. COMPLIANCE WITH ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT**  
23 **OF 1973.**

24 (a) COMPLIANCE.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—All requirements of the En-  
2           dangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et  
3           seq.) shall be considered to be fully met for the pro-  
4           tection and conservation of the species listed pursu-  
5           ant to the Act for the operations of the Central Val-  
6           ley Project and the California State Water Project,  
7           if the Central Valley Project and the California  
8           State Water Project are operated in a manner con-  
9           sistent with the “Principles for Agreement on the  
10          Bay-Delta Standards Between the State of Cali-  
11          fornia and the Federal Government” dated Decem-  
12          ber 15, 1994.

13          (2) BIOLOGICAL OPINIONS AND MODIFICA-  
14          TION.—The Secretary of the Interior and the Sec-  
15          retary of Commerce shall issue biological opinions  
16          for coordinated operations of the Central Valley  
17          Project and the California State Water Project that  
18          are no more restrictive than provisions of the “Prin-  
19          ciples for Agreement on the Bay-Delta Standards  
20          Between the State of California and the Federal  
21          Government” dated December 15, 1994. Such bio-  
22          logical opinions may be modified only with the con-  
23          sent of the signatories to the “Principles for Agree-  
24          ment on the Bay-Delta Standards Between the State

1 of California and the Federal Government” dated  
2 December 15, 1994.

3 (b) PREEMPTION OF STATE LAW.—

4 (1) STATE LAW PREEMPTION.—Neither the  
5 State of California, an agency of the State, nor any  
6 political subdivision of the State shall adopt or en-  
7 force any requirement for the protection or conserva-  
8 tion of any species listed under the Endangered Spe-  
9 cies Act for the operations of the Central Valley  
10 Project or the California State Water Project that is  
11 more restrictive than the requirements of this sec-  
12 tion. Any provision of California State law that au-  
13 thORIZES the imposition of conditions or restrictions  
14 on the operations of the Central Valley Project or  
15 the California State Water Project for the protection  
16 or conservation of a species that is more restrictive  
17 than this section is preempted.

18 (2) NATIVE SPECIES PROTECTION.—Any re-  
19 striction imposed under California law on the take  
20 or harvest of any nonnative or introduced aquatic or  
21 terrestrial species that preys upon a native fish spe-  
22 cies that occupies the Sacramento and San Joaquin  
23 Rivers and their tributaries or the Sacramento-San  
24 Joaquin Rivers Delta shall be void and is preempted.

1 **SEC. 109. AUTHORIZED SERVICE AREA.**

2       The authorized service area of the Central Valley  
3 Project shall include the area within the boundaries of the  
4 Kettleman City Community Services District, California,  
5 as those boundaries exist on the date of the enactment  
6 of this title. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Act of  
7 October 30, 1992, (Public Law 102–575, 106 Stat. 4600  
8 et seq.) upon enactment of this title, the Secretary is au-  
9 thorized and directed to enter into a long-term contract  
10 in accordance with the Reclamation laws with the  
11 Kettleman City Community Services District, California,  
12 for the delivery of up to 900 acre-feet of Central Valley  
13 Project water for municipal and industrial use. The Sec-  
14 retary may temporarily reduce deliveries of the quantity  
15 of water made available pursuant to up to 25 percent of  
16 such total whenever reductions due to hydrologic cir-  
17 cumstances are imposed upon agricultural deliveries of  
18 Central Valley Project water.

19 **SEC. 110. AREA OF ORIGIN AND PRIOR RIGHTS.**

20       Nothing in this title shall affect the Secretary's duty  
21 to operate the Central Valley Project in a manner con-  
22 sistent with applicable provisions of State water law pro-  
23 tecting any area of origin, watershed of origin, county of  
24 origin, or any other water rights, such as senior appropria-  
25 tive rights, including rights appropriated prior to Decem-  
26 ber 19, 1914.

1 **SEC. 111. WATER STORAGE.**

2       The Secretary, acting through the Commissioner of  
3 the Bureau of Reclamation, may provide funds authorized  
4 to be appropriated to the surface storage projects identi-  
5 fied in section 103(d)(1) of the Water Supply, Reliability,  
6 and Environmental Improvement Act (Public Law 108-  
7 361) and Acts supplemental and amendatory of that Act,  
8 to local joint powers authorities formed pursuant to State  
9 law by irrigation districts and other local water districts  
10 and local governments within the applicable hydrologic re-  
11 gion, to advance those projects.

12       **TITLE II—SAN JOAQUIN RIVER**  
13                               **RESTORATION**

14 **SEC. 201. REFERENCE.**

15       Subtitle A of title X of Public Law 111-11 is hereby  
16 repealed.

17 **SEC. 202. PREEMPTION OF STATE LAW.**

18       Notwithstanding section 8 of the Reclamation Act of  
19 1902, except as provided herein, this title preempts and  
20 supersedes any State law, regulation, or requirement that  
21 imposes more restrictive requirements or regulations on  
22 the activities authorized under such title. Provided nothing  
23 herein shall exempt the Friant Division, Hidden Unit, and  
24 Buchanan Unit of the Central Valley Project from orders  
25 issued by the State Water Resources Control Board pursu-



1 ant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act  
2 (California Water Code Sections 13000 et seq.).

3 **SEC. 203. REPEAL OF THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER SETTLE-**  
4 **MENT.**

5 As of the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary  
6 shall cease any action to implement the San Joaquin River  
7 Restoration Settlement Act (subtitle A of title X of Public  
8 Law 111–11) and the Stipulation of Settlement (Natural  
9 Resources Defense Council, et al. v. Kirk Rodgers, et al.,  
10 Eastern District of California, No. Civ. S–88–1658 LKK/  
11 GGH).

12 **SEC. 204. SATISFACTION AND DISCHARGE OF OBLIGA-**  
13 **TIONS.**

14 Congress finds and declares that the enactment of  
15 this section satisfies and discharges all of the following  
16 obligations:

17 (1) Those of the Secretary contained in section  
18 3406(c)(1) of the Reclamation Projects Authoriza-  
19 tion and Adjustment Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–  
20 575), except that the Secretary shall continue to as-  
21 sess and collect the charges described in such section  
22 3406(c)(1).

23 (2) Those of the Secretary and all other parties  
24 to protect and keep in good condition any fish that  
25 may be planted or exist below Friant Dam, including

1 any obligations under section 5937 of the California  
2 Fish and Game Code and the public trust doctrine.

3 **SEC. 205. SAN JOAQUIN RIVER HABITAT RESTORATION.**

4 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to im-  
5 plement a program of increased water releases from  
6 Friant Dam to address environmental, habitat, fisheries,  
7 and water quality concerns on the San Joaquin River from  
8 Friant Dam to Sack Dam.

9 (b) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

10 (1) RESTORATION FLOWS.—The term “Res-  
11 toration Flows” means the minimum flow of 50  
12 cubic feet per second at Sack Dam, located approxi-  
13 mately 85 river miles downstream from Friant Dam.

14 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
15 the Secretary of the Interior.

16 (3) WATER YEAR.—The term “Water Year”  
17 means October 1 through the following September  
18 30.

19 (c) CRITICAL WATER YEAR.—For purposes of this  
20 section a Critical Water Year is when the total unimpaired  
21 runoff at Friant Dam is less than 400,000 acre-feet.

22 (d) RELEASE OF RESTORATION FLOWS.—In each  
23 Water Year, commencing in the Water Year starting on  
24 October 1, 2012, the Secretary—

1           (1) shall modify Friant Dam operations so as  
2 to release the Restoration Flows for that Water  
3 Year, except in any critical water year;

4           (2) shall ensure that the release of Restoration  
5 Flows are maintained at the levels prescribed by this  
6 section;

7           (3) shall release the Restoration Flows in a  
8 manner that improves the fishery in the San Joa-  
9 quin River below Friant Dam, but upstream of  
10 Gravelly Ford in existence as of the date of the en-  
11 actment of this section, and the associated riparian  
12 habitat, while improving water quality in the San  
13 Joaquin River at Vernalis and achieving such other  
14 environmental benefits as the Secretary may reason-  
15 ably determine; and

16           (4) may, without limiting the actions required  
17 under paragraphs (1) through (3) and subject to  
18 subsection (m), use the Restoration Flows to en-  
19 hance or restore a warm water fishery if the Sec-  
20 retary determines that it is reasonable, prudent, and  
21 feasible to do so.

22           (e) EFFECT ON EXISTING OBLIGATIONS.—Except as  
23 described in subsection (f), nothing in this section shall  
24 modify any existing obligation of the United States under  
25 Federal Reclamation law to operate the Central Valley

1 Project in conformity with State law and existing or to  
2 be renewed water service, repayment, purchase, or ex-  
3 change contracts.

4 (f) RECOVERY OF RESTORATION FLOWS.—Not later  
5 than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section,  
6 the Secretary shall develop and implement a least-cost  
7 plan to fully recover or replace all Restoration Flows and  
8 provide such recovered or replacement flows to those water  
9 service contractors within the Friant Division, Hidden  
10 Unit, and Buchanan Unit of the Central Valley Project  
11 that relinquished the Restoration Flows so recovered or  
12 replaced. Such a program shall not impact the water sup-  
13 ply or water rights of any entity outside the Friant Divi-  
14 sion, Hidden Unit, and Buchanan Unit of the Central Val-  
15 ley Project.

16 (g) GROUNDWATER IMPACT PLAN.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after  
18 the date of the enactment of this section, the Sec-  
19 retary, in cooperation with representatives of af-  
20 fected landowners, shall develop and implement a  
21 least-cost plan to fully mitigate the impact on  
22 groundwater resources within the service area of the  
23 Friant Division, Hidden Unit, and Buchanan Unit  
24 of the Central Valley Project caused by the release  
25 of Restoration Flows.

1           (2) MITIGATION.—The mitigation required  
2           under paragraph (1) may include one or more of the  
3           following: the development of new water supplies,  
4           land retirement, and groundwater banking and re-  
5           charge projects. To the extent Restoration Flows are  
6           recovered or replaced pursuant to subsection (g) in  
7           a manner that mitigates the impact on groundwater  
8           resources caused by the release of Restoration  
9           Flows, such recovery or replacement may be consid-  
10          ered to be a part of the plan to be implemented  
11          under this subsection.

12          (h) PRIVATE RIGHTS OF ACTION.—Nothing in this  
13          section shall confer upon any person or entity a private  
14          right of action or claim for relief to interpret or enforce  
15          the provisions of this section. Any Central Valley Project  
16          long-term water service or repayment contractor within  
17          the Friant Division, Hidden Unit, or Buchanan Unit ad-  
18          versely affected by the Secretary’s failure to comply with  
19          subsection (f) or (g) may bring an action against the Sec-  
20          retary for injunctive relief or damages, or both. Any action  
21          for damages shall be brought in the United States Court  
22          of Federal Claims.

23          (i) NO IMPACTS ON OTHER INTERESTS.—No Central  
24          Valley Project or other water other than San Joaquin  
25          River water impounded by or bypassed from Friant Dam

1 shall be used to implement subsection (d) unless such use  
2 is on a voluntary basis. No cost associated with the imple-  
3 mentation of this section shall be imposed directly or indi-  
4 rectly on any Central Valley Project contractor, or any  
5 other person or entity, outside the Friant Division, the  
6 Hidden Unit, or the Buchanan Unit, unless such costs are  
7 incurred on a voluntary basis. The implementation of this  
8 section shall not result directly or indirectly in any reduc-  
9 tion in water supplies or water reliability on any Central  
10 Valley Project contractor, any State Water Project con-  
11 tractor, or any other person or entity, outside the Friant  
12 Division, the Hidden Unit, or the Buchanan Unit, unless  
13 such reductions or costs are incurred on a voluntary basis.

14 (j) PRIORITY.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—All actions taken under this  
16 section shall be subordinate to the Secretary’s use of  
17 Central Valley Project facilities to make Project  
18 water, other than water released from the Friant  
19 Dam pursuant to this section, and the Secretary’s  
20 performance of the Agreement.

21 (2) DEFINITION OF AGREEMENT.—For the pur-  
22 poses of this subsection, the term “Agreement”  
23 means the Agreement of November 24, 1986, be-  
24 tween the United States and the Department of  
25 Water Resources of the State of California for the

1 coordinated operation of the Central Valley Project  
2 and the State Water Project as authorized by sec-  
3 tion 103 of Public Law 99–546, including any  
4 agreement to resolve conflicts arising from that  
5 Agreement.

6 **SEC. 206. RESTORATION FUND.**

7 There is hereby established within the Treasury of  
8 the United States a fund, to be known as the San Joaquin  
9 River Fishery Restoration Fund, into which the following  
10 funds shall be deposited and used solely for the purpose  
11 of implementing this title:

12 (1) All payments received pursuant to section  
13 3406(e)(1) of the Reclamation Projects Authoriza-  
14 tion and Adjustment Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–  
15 575; 106 Stat. 4721).

16 (2) Any non-Federal funds, including State  
17 cost-sharing funds, contributed to the United States  
18 for this purpose.

19 (3) Funds in the San Joaquin River Restora-  
20 tion Fund, (Public Law 111–11 section  
21 10009(e)(1)), on the day before the date of the en-  
22 actment of this Act.

23 **SEC. 207. NATURAL AND ARTIFICIALLY SPAWNED SPECIES.**

24 After the date of the enactment of this title, the Sec-  
25 retary shall not distinguish between natural-spawned and

1 hatchery-spawned or otherwise artificially propagated  
2 strains of a species in making any determination under  
3 the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et  
4 seq.) that relates to any anadromous fish species present  
5 in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers or their tribu-  
6 taries and ascend those rivers and their tributaries to re-  
7 produce after maturing in San Francisco Bay or the Pa-  
8 cific Ocean.

9 **TITLE III—REPAYMENT CON-**  
10 **TRACTS AND ACCELERATION**  
11 **OF REPAYMENT OF CON-**  
12 **STRUCTION COSTS**

13 **SEC. 301. REPAYMENT CONTRACTS AND ACCELERATION OF**  
14 **REPAYMENT OF CONSTRUCTION COSTS.**

15 (a) **CONVERSION OF CONTRACTS.—**

16 (1) Not later than 1 year after enactment, the  
17 Secretary of the Interior, upon request of the con-  
18 tractor, shall convert all existing long-term contracts  
19 with any Central Valley Project contracts entered  
20 under subsection (e) of section 9 of the Act of Au-  
21 gust 4, 1939 (53 Stat. 1196), to contracts under  
22 subsection (d) of section 9 of said Act (53 Stat.  
23 1195), under mutually agreeable terms and condi-  
24 tions.



1           (2) Upon request of the contractor, the Sec-  
2           retary is further authorized to convert, not later  
3           than 1 year after enactment, any Central Valley  
4           Project long-term contract entered under subsection  
5           (c)(2) of section 9 of the Act of August 4, 1939 (53  
6           Stat. 1194), to a contract under subsection (c)(1) of  
7           section 9 of said Act, under mutually agreeable  
8           terms and conditions.

9           (3) All contracts entered into pursuant to para-  
10          graph (1) shall—

11                 (A) require the repayment, either in lump  
12                 sum or by accelerated prepayment, of the re-  
13                 maining amount of construction costs identified  
14                 in the most current version of the Central Val-  
15                 ley Project Schedule of Irrigation Capital Allo-  
16                 cations by Contractor, as adjusted to reflect  
17                 payments not reflected in such schedule, and  
18                 properly assignable for ultimate return by the  
19                 contractor, no later than January 31, 2013, or  
20                 if made in approximately equal annual install-  
21                 ments, no later than January 31, 2016; such  
22                 amount to be discounted by  $\frac{1}{2}$  the Treasury  
23                 Rate. An estimate of the remaining amount of  
24                 construction costs as of January 31, 2013, as  
25                 adjusted, shall be provided by the Secretary of

1 the Interior to each contractor no later than  
2 180 days after enactment;

3 (B) require that, notwithstanding sub-  
4 section (c)(2), construction costs or other cap-  
5 italized costs incurred after the effective date of  
6 the contract or not reflected in the schedule ref-  
7 erenced in subparagraph (A), and properly as-  
8 signable to such contractor, shall be repaid in  
9 not more than 5 years after notification of the  
10 allocation if such amount is a result of a collec-  
11 tive annual allocation of capital costs to the  
12 contractors exercising contract conversions  
13 under this subsection of less than \$5,000,000.  
14 If such amount is \$5,000,000 or greater, such  
15 cost shall be repaid as provided by applicable  
16 Reclamation law, provided that the reference to  
17 the amount of \$5,000,000 shall not be a prece-  
18 dent in any other context; and

19 (C) provide that power revenues will not be  
20 available to aid in repayment of construction  
21 costs allocated to irrigation under the contract.

22 (4) All contracts entered into pursuant to para-  
23 graph (2) shall—

24 (A) require the repayment in lump sum of  
25 the remaining amount of construction costs

1 identified in the most current version of the  
2 Central Valley Project Schedule of Municipal  
3 and Industrial Water Rates, as adjusted to re-  
4 flect payments not reflected in such schedule,  
5 and properly assignable for ultimate return by  
6 the contractor, no later than January 31, 2016.  
7 An estimate of the remaining amount of con-  
8 struction costs as of January 31, 2016, as ad-  
9 justed, shall be provided by the Secretary of the  
10 Interior to each contractor no later than 180  
11 days after enactment; and

12 (B) require that, notwithstanding sub-  
13 section (c)(2), construction costs or other cap-  
14 italized costs incurred after the effective date of  
15 the contract or not reflected in the schedule ref-  
16 erenced in subparagraph (A), and properly as-  
17 signable to such contractor, shall be repaid in  
18 not more than 5 years after notification of the  
19 allocation if such amount is a result of a collec-  
20 tive annual allocation of capital costs to the  
21 contractors exercising contract conversions  
22 under this subsection of less than \$5,000,000.  
23 If such amount is \$5,000,000 or greater, such  
24 cost shall be repaid as provided by applicable  
25 Reclamation law, provided that the reference to

1           the amount of \$5,000,000 shall not be a prece-  
2           dent in any other context.

3           (b) FINAL ADJUSTMENT.—The amounts paid pursu-  
4           ant to subsection (a) shall be subject to adjustment fol-  
5           lowing a final cost allocation by the Secretary of the Inte-  
6           rior upon completion of the construction of the Central  
7           Valley Project. In the event that the final cost allocation  
8           indicates that the costs properly assignable to the con-  
9           tractor are greater than what has been paid by the con-  
10          tractor, the contractor shall be obligated to pay the re-  
11          maining allocated costs. The term of such additional re-  
12          payment contract shall be no less than 1 year and no more  
13          than 10 years, however, mutually agreeable provisions re-  
14          garding the rate of repayment of such amount may be de-  
15          veloped by the parties. In the event that the final cost allo-  
16          cation indicates that the costs properly assignable to the  
17          contractor are less than what the contractor has paid, the  
18          Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to  
19          credit such overpayment as an offset against any out-  
20          standing or future obligation of the contractor.

21          (c) APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS.—

22                (1) Notwithstanding any repayment obligation  
23                under subsection (a)(3)(B) or subsection (b), upon a  
24                contractor's compliance with and discharge of the  
25                obligation of repayment of the construction costs as

1 provided in subsection (a)(3)(A), the ownership and  
2 full-cost pricing limitations of any provision of Fed-  
3 eral Reclamation Law shall not apply to lands in  
4 such district.

5 (2) Notwithstanding any repayment obligation  
6 under paragraph (3)(B) or paragraph (4)(B) of sub-  
7 section (a), or subsection (b), upon a contractor's  
8 compliance with and discharge of the obligation of  
9 repayment of the construction costs as provided in  
10 paragraphs (3)(A) and (4)(A) of subsection (a), the  
11 Secretary of the Interior shall waive the pricing pro-  
12 visions of section 3405(d) of the Reclamation  
13 Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992  
14 (Public Law 102–575) for such contractor, provided  
15 that such contractor shall continue to pay applicable  
16 operation and maintenance costs and other charges  
17 applicable to such repayment contracts pursuant to  
18 the then-current rate-setting policy and applicable  
19 law.

20 (d) CERTAIN REPAYMENT OBLIGATIONS NOT AL-  
21 TERED.—Implementation of the provisions of this section  
22 shall not alter the repayment obligation of any other long-  
23 term water service or repayment contractor receiving  
24 water from the Central Valley Project, or shift any costs  
25 that would otherwise have been properly assignable to any

1 contractors absent this section, including operations and  
2 maintenance costs, construction costs, or other capitalized  
3 costs incurred after the date of enactment of this Act, to  
4 other such contractors.

5 (e) STATUTORY INTERPRETATION.—Nothing in this  
6 part shall be construed to affect the right of any long-  
7 term contractor to use a particular type of financing to  
8 make the payments required in paragraph (3)(A) or para-  
9 graph (4)(A) of subsection (a).

○